
The Lake Mitchell H.O.B.O.

Volume 2 Issue 1

March 1997

FROM THE PRESIDENT

How excited I am about HOBO and your response!

Six months from our beginning we are 220 members strong and growing. I would like to share with you *some* of our accomplishments. We have developed a mailing list of over 550 lake homes, formed a non-profit corporation, elected officers and directors, established a budget, purchased a computer, published three newsletters, certified 15 water monitors, acquired 8 water test kits, divided the lake into 15 areas and secured a rep for each. The following committees are at work: Security, Fire/Rescue, Clean up, Picnic, Water testing, and Fish research. We have established communication with 8 other lake associations, ADEM, Alabama Water Watch, Rivers Network, Auburn University, EPA and others.

We have acquired from ADEM the most current test results for Lake Mitchell water quality, fish tissue, and for all dumping permits. Our water monitors will complete their first test and submit a report by March 31.

If you have joined HOBO and have not been personally thanked, it is only because we have been so busy getting organized. You are very much appreciated and a big **THANK YOU** from all the officers and directors. As we move forward in our effort to *preserve, protect, and improve* Lake Mitchell, we need your help. Whatever your talent and time will permit you are needed. Come join us, "*Mitchell Matters!*"



FIRST HOBO MEETING

The first general meeting of HOBO will be at Clanton Alabama Power large auditorium on Saturday before Memorial Day, May 24, at 6:00 p.m. Please make plans to attend. We are so excited about the progress that has been made in these first few months, especially the 217 memberships. We need your support and input as we decide the direction and goals of this organization.

WATER TESTING BEGAN IN MARCH

Water monitoring for all the main tributaries entering Lake Mitchell began in March with eight sites. The sites and monitors are: Blue Creek, Gordon Beene; Main river south of Cargile Creek, Jim Woodrow; Cargile Creek, Tim Watley and Dan Murchison; Bird Creek, Robin Cagle

and Sue Abernathy; Walnut Creek, Wayne Hardy; Cove Branch to the Lay Dam, Wayne Caton; Upper Hatchett and Weogufka, Edsel Hughes; Pennymotley, Sam Piccolo. Pat Crocker, "Bo" Austin and Sam Moorer will become certified monitors in the near future. Sam Piccolo is serving as chairman of this committee. Monthly testing results will be sent to Auburn University for computation. Watch for regular reports of results in the newsletter.

THANK YOU ALABAMA POWER

HOBO has no affiliation with Alabama Power Company, however they have been our biggest supporter! We owe thanks to Alabama Power, their Clanton office and Mitchell Dam for assisting us with

printing and mailing our newsletters. This was the reason for the first newsletters in APCO envelopes.

Use of APCO conference rooms has been most helpful. The new security service, *POWERCALL*, has been offered only in larger cities up until now. At our request they have made it available to Lake Mitchell home owners. Making all of these resources available is Cecil Woodham, Manager at the Clanton office, Roger Yeargan, Superintendent at Mitchell Dam, and Stell Benefield, Manager of Recreational Sales and Leasing. They always have an open door and lend a hand with whatever we need. Thank you APCO! The next time we get a little ruffled with "The Power Company" remember their good neighbor contributions to our lake community!

BOATING RULES OF THE ROAD

Gary Buchanan

1. Boats passing head-on keep to the right.
2. When boats are crossing at right angles the boat on the left will yield right of way to the other boat.
3. Boats overtaking another boat may pass on either side but must grant right of way to the boat being overtaken.
4. Boats will not change course without first determining that it can be safely done without risk of collision.
5. Boats approaching a launch or pier shall yield right of way to a departing boat.
6. Boats departing the shoreline or a tributary shall yield right of way to through traffic and boats approaching.
7. When an operator fails to fully understand the course of an approaching boat he must slow down immediately.
8. In a narrow channel boats will keep to the right of mid-channel.
9. Boats yielding right of way shall reduce speed, stop, reverse, or alter course to avoid collision. Boats with right of way should hold course and speed.
10. Operator shall maintain a proper lookout

In addition a safe and courteous boater idles in and out of populated sloughs, maintains a safe distance from boats pulling skiers or from swimmers. Make sure navigation lights work properly and turn them on between sunset and sunrise. For more information pick up a copy of AL Boating Law Highlights from

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a local marina or call Alabama Marine Police at 1-800-272-7030.

THIS AND THAT

- In the future newsletter deadlines will be March 15, June 15, September 15 and December 15. We are still hoping for articles from you! If you have announcements or other materials for the newsletter, please send them to HOB0, P. O. Box 1324, Clanton, AL 35046.
- Regular Board of Directors Meetings will be held the first Thursday of March, June, September, and December. Unless otherwise notified these meetings will be at the Clanton Alabama Power building at 6:30 p.m. All committee chairmen should also attend. Any member or interested party is welcome.
- Gary Buchanan, Water Patrol Officer, will conduct Boating Basics classes 7:00 pm, April 14, 15, 17 and May 19, 20, 22, at the Alabama Power Building. Class completion qualifies you for a boat operator's license and maybe a discount on boat insurance. More info. 646-3486.
- Congratulations to Gary & Barbie Buchanan. They welcomed little Brett Morgan Buchanan into their family on February 6, at 8:50 p.m. He weighed 7 pounds and 9 ounces.
- Thank you, Melissa Bailey, for your donation of a nice Panasonic dot matrix printer! This is just the printer we needed for producing mailing labels for Alabama Power's automated mailing equipment.
- Thank you, Bill and Becky McCallum, for your donation of a personal computer received just this month! This donation will enable the president to have a computer also.
- We have received monetary donations from Rick & Bunni Miller, Jim & Tricia McCormick, Roger & Peggy Lowery, Walter Owens, Jimmy Plier, Eddie McMillan, Edward Warren Jr., Donald Herrod. THANK YOU!
- If you kept the Lake Officials Directory from the last "HOB0" issue, please change Dan Murchison's Birmingham phone number to 823-2308.

- There was some confusion about terms of the directors. The correct information follows: John McKinney and H. L. McMillan, 6 years; Jerry Kitchens and Edward Warren III, 4 years; Duncan Austin and Chris Speaks, 2 years.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

FIRE AND RESCUE COMMITTEE

East Chilton Fire Department has agreed to join with us to obtain and man a fire/rescue boat for the entire lake including the Coosa County side.

We are still working on some questions and exploring every possibility. This is a big project for HOB0 to undertake. However if it is something for which we as an organization feel a need and are willing to work it is within our reach!

Plan to attend our first general membership meeting on Saturday, May 24. At that time the Fire/Rescue Committee will present a detailed report, plan and proposal for a vote of the membership.

Call Wayne Hardy, Chairman, if you have questions, comments, suggestions, or want to help. 755-4858

JULY 4 FIREWORKS

The annual fireworks display will be held at 9:00 p.m. in Cargile Creek. **REMEMBER ALL BOATS MUST KEEP RUNNING LIGHTS ON AT ALL TIMES WHILE ON THE WATER.** Please be cautious and considerate of other boaters. As always the area will be congested. Lets have a fun, happy, and safe holiday. Jim McCormick is chairman.

This year you may contribute at the usual places, Blue Creek, Inman's, Cargile Creek and Pocatatchie Marinas. In addition HOB0 has set up a special separate fund for fireworks. (Not tax deductible) Fill out the registration blank on the back page and specify

"Fireworks Donation."

SPRING CLEAN UP

April 12 & 13 Areas* 1, 2, 3, 4, 15

Meet garbage barge at Inman's Marina

April 19 & 20 Areas* 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 12, 13, 14

Meet garbage barge at Pocatatchie Marina

April 26 & 27 Areas* 10 & 11

Meet garbage barge at old Lavada's

*See area rep chart in this issue for location.

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Please come out and help. Alabama Power will furnish garbage bags which will be delivered to area reps.

Contact Bo Warren, Chairman, if you have questions.

HOB0 PICNIC

The first annual lake wide picnic will be 6:00 p.m. Saturday, June 21 at the Higgins Ferry Pavilion. Bring covered dishes. Drinks will be provided by HOB0. Since boat docking space is very limited, please come by car, carpool and park in the remote parking area. Join in the fellowship, get to know your lake community neighbors, and just have fun. Contact George Jackins, Chairman, if you have questions. 822-2282 or 755-0567

SECURITY

This committee will help protect HOB0 members' property. Both county sheriffs agreed to work with us. If we receive reports of break in or other threats to property, the area rep will be contacted who will alert residents in that area. We also encourage residents to report thefts to area reps.

CONGRATULATIONS

KRISTI AUSTIN!

Did you notice our new logo? Kristi Austin is the winner of the logo contest! She is the daughter of Jan and Duncan Austin of the Mattress Slough area. Thanks to Kristi for all of her hard work in designing a logo and then helping us to fit it into the ship's wheel. As winner, Kristi gets a Lake Mitchell tee shirt.

ANNOUNCEMENT

The traditional July 4 parades will take place beginning at 10:00 a.m. from Higgins Ferry Launch for pontoons and at 2:00 p.m. for ski boats from Blue Creek. **Remember that a life jacket is required for every person on a boat or pontoon.** It is the law!

1997 PROPOSED BUDGET

MONEYS ON HAND 12-31-96

Item	Budget
OFFICE SUPPLIES	\$ 264
POSTAGE	256
LITERATURE	50
IRS NON-PROFIT APPLICATION	150
COMPUTER EQUIPMENT	1460
WATER TEST KITS - 5 AT \$200 EACH	1000
ATTORNEY FEE	160
E COLI TEST MATERIALS	85
TOTAL	\$3425

PROJECTED INCOME January-September 1997
FROM MEMBERSHIPS **\$2775**

PRIORITY

#1. E COLI TEST MATERIALS	\$ 130
#2. PRESIDENT'S EXPENCES	150
#3. CPA EXPENSES	145
#4. EMERGENCY FUND	500
#5. RESIDENCE ID TAGS	1200
#6. PICNIC	350
#7. FIREWORKS	200
#8. MEETINGS	100

HAVE YOU JOINED?

Membership now stands at 217. Thanks to these home owners and supporters! Our membership goal for 1997 is 250. If you have not joined, please send your dues today.

Lake Mitchell HOBO

PO Box 1324
Clanton, AL 35046

Annual Dues	Annual Dues	Fireworks
\$25.00	\$10.00	Donation
Homeowner	Supporter	\$ _____

Name _____

Mailing Address _____

Lake 911 Address _____

Phone: Home _____ Lake _____

Lake Area _____

The Lake Mitchell H.O.B.O.**CALENDAR OF EVENTS****April**

12 & 13 Clean up - Areas 1, 2, 3, 4, 15
19 & 20 Clean up - Areas 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 12, 13, 14
26 & 27 Clean up - Areas 10 and 11

May

24 First HOBO General Meeting, Alabama Power building at 6:00 p.m.

June

5 Board Meeting, Alabama Power building 6:30 pm
21 HOBO picnic, Higgins Ferry Pavilion, 6:00 p.m.
15 Second quarter newsletter deadline

July

4 Pontoon parade, Higgins Ferry Launch, 10:00am
4 Ski Boat parade, Blue Creek, 2:00 pm
4 Fire works display, Cargile Creek, 9:00 pm

DO YOU KNOW YOUR AREA REP?

Please note changes in some areas and some area reps. In the near future reps will fly green flags with a white logo. Hopefully this will help you to locate your rep as well as all other reps on the lake. Stop by and visit them.

Area #	Area Name	Representative	Phone
1	Blue Creek	Gordon Beene	755-3934 879-4119
2	Blue to Cargile	Mary Olson	755-9561
3	Cargile South	Dan Murchison	755-0521
4	Cargile North	Tim Whatley	755-6021
5	Cargile to Bird	Jim Ray	755-1595 987-3679
6	Bird Creek	Robin Cagle Rick & Bunni Miller	755-7952 991-8998 280-0063
7	Bird to Walnut	Sue Abernathy John McKinney	755-6848 755-1262
8	Walnut SW	Cecil "Bo" Austin	280-0838
9	Walnut Creek Peninsula	Wayne Hardy	755-4858
10	Cove and Mountain	Wayne Caton	755-4622
11	Mountain to Dam Area		
12	Upper Hatchet and Weogufka	Edsel Hughes	377-4728
13	Pennymotley	Sam Piccolo	377-4801
14	Hatchet to Big Airplane	Pat Croker	377-4528
15	Big Airplane to Dam	Duncan Austin	377-2745