
The Lake Mitchell H.O.B.O.

Volume 4 Issue 3

THIRD QUARTER 1999

FROM THE PRESIDENT

Jim Woodrow

On Labor Day, September 6, 1999, the life of a young visitor to Lake Mitchell was spared, but not without extensive pain and potential long term side effects.

Two personal watercraft collided at high speed. Two boys were riding one PWC and there was one on the other. When the collision occurred, the passenger on one of the craft, Will Miller, received severe injuries to his leg. The boy that was severely injured was 11 years old. The other two boys, ages 15 and 13, suffered bruises, but were not seriously hurt.

Quick response by Mr. Jerry Groom and Mr. Lamar Cole, who observed the accident, provided assistance to the boys involved.

A call was placed to the Coosa County Sheriff's Office who in turn contacted Chilton County 911. The call went out and the fire / rescue boat Marine 9 was dispatched to the scene. Per discussion with East Chilton County Volunteer Fire Department personnel, from an operational standpoint everything worked great. There were three Paramedics and 5 First Responders on the scene with a twelve-minute response time for Marine 9. Dispatch time was 0811 and Marine 9 was on the scene at 0823.

The severely injured patient was rapidly evaluated and treated on the scene by fire / rescue personnel and was transported by Marine 9 to a waiting ambulance at Higgins Ferry Public Boat Launch. Fire / rescue personnel coordinated the arrival of the ambulance at Higgins Ferry and also contacted the LifeSaver Air Ambulance. The patient was transported from Higgins Ferry to the I-65



Jemison exit. The LifeSaver Air Ambulance picked him up at the Jemison exit and transported him to Birmingham, where he received treatment at Children's Hospital.

On that Monday the injured boy underwent twelve hours of orthopedic and vascular surgery. Additional procedures have been required since that time.

Through the efforts of Jerry Groom, Lamar Cole and the East Chilton County Fire / Rescue personnel and by utilizing the capability of Marine 9, valuable time was saved in getting assistance to the hurt boy.

I want to thank everyone who contributed to the rescue efforts on Labor Day and in addition, thank all who worked so hard and contributed so much, to put a piece of equipment like Marine 9 into the capable and caring hand of the volunteers with the East Chilton County Fire / Rescue Department.

Please continue to provide support to improve the capability of Marine 9.

It is the responsibility of all of us on Lake Mitchell to emphasize and practice safety in the operation of personal watercraft and boats. Education for young and old is a must to prevent accidents. Remember this time someone was seriously hurt, but "It Could Have Been Worse". Remember things like controlling speed, avoiding reckless operation, and being aware of your surroundings are critical when operating watercraft to prevent injury and possible loss of life.

AREA REPRESENTATIVES

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 823-2308
4	Cargile North	Ann Till	755-0669
5	Cargile to Bird	Duey Kerper	755-2527 979-1845
6	Bird Creek	Carol Willie	280-1133
7	Bird to Walnut	Sue Abernathy	755-6848
8	Walnut SW	Cecil "Bo" Austin	280-0838
9	Walnut Creek Peninsula		
10	Cove and Mountain	Bill Knowles	755-2038
11	Mountain to Dam Area	Rick & Mary Hurst	755-4687
12	Upper Hatchet and Weogufka	Fred Calloway	377-2333
13	Pennamotey	Sam Piccolo	377-4901
14	Hatchet to Big Airplane	Pat Croker	377-4528
15	Big Airplane to Dam	Mary Robbins	377-2475

AREA 14 by Pat Crocker

There are 46 homeowners from the mouth of Hatchet Creek through Upper and Lower Airplane sloughs, but spread out as we are, Area 14 stands among the top HOBO membership for 1997, 1998, and 1999. Congratulations to us!!! I hope everyone will remember to rejoin January and make 2000 a good year.

Since we do cover such a large area, a "get-together" as planned by other groups seemed such a daunting task, I've not undertaken it. Instead, we try to let our families know we are here through road clean up, badgering the Coosa County Engineering Office for road grading and being generally watchful of what is going on. Due to the excessive heat, very little trash has been picked up in the last month.

Our latest big "road adventure" was in the spring when someone scattered ten pounds of $\frac{3}{4}$ " roofing tacks from Highway 22 to the top of Goldmine Ridge. Helping in this latest clean-up from Area 14 were Ed & Cindy Smith, Paul

The Lake Mitchell H.O.B.O.

& Peggy Trawick, Don Mims, Charles & Connie Rueve plus their two out-of-town guests, my husband Bill and myself. Mike and Roxie Sherer came by and offered, but we were ready to pack it in for the day. Had we weighed everyone's collection, I am sure we were close to ten pounds.

Hope you were not one of the many who had flats. We think Charlie Robbins from Area 15 took the prize with better than 20 tacks in his tires.

WELCOME to Lake Mitchell Tony & Peggy Easterling, Joseph & Laura Curtis and the Green Family.

Seems there is always something going on over here in Coosa County.

AREA 6 by Carol Willie

The 1999 skiing season was a success for Maria, Stephen & Frank Priola Jr. of Bird Creek.

Stephen (13) had a spectacular last year in Boys 2. He finished 1st in jump and 2nd in slalom at the Alabama State Tournament in Mobile. He then went to the Southern Regional in Mulberry, Florida where he finished 4th in slalom and 5th in jump. This put him on his way to the National held in Bakersfield, California.

After completing practice rounds, walking out of the lake, Stephen was finned by a catfish. The fin went through his right big toe. After being rushed to the emergency room, Stephen was told he couldn't ski. He explained that he did not come all the way from Alabama not to at least try to ski. So, with a bandaged toe and a lot of spirit, he painfully hit the slalom course and jump course finishing 16th in slalom and 20th in jump. He is now known in Bakersfield, California as Stephen "Catfish" Priola.

Marie (15) was the Alabama State Overall Champion competing in slalom, trick, and jump. She finished 6th in Regional.

Frank (10) began his first year in Boys 2 after completing Boys 1 with a State record in slalom (broke Stephen's Boys 1 record), 1st in State, 2nd in Regional, and 6th in Nationals. This year he finished 3rd Overall at State and 9th at Regional.

The Priola's would like to thank everyone who helped and supported them.

AREA 3 by Judy Murchison

WELCOME to the Lake to Michael & Roberta Bias from Montgomery; Don & Chris Gutscher from Clanton; and Donald and Ellen Davis from Birmingham. Also, welcome to Area 3 to Norton & Lanni Dill who moved to the Cargile Creek area from Bird Creek. We are happy to have you as part of our Lake family.

AREA 4 by Ann Till

As of September 11th, the Cargile Water Project has obtained 96 of the 100 deposits required to obtain county water. The Cargile Water Committee will meet with the Chilton Water Authority in September to discuss the next steps. We will keep you informed of the final outcome. Meanwhile, we need 4 additional deposits to completely meet the goal. Please encourage your neighbors to participate. Thanks to everyone who has participated – we fully expect to have county water shortly.

Many thanks to the Chilton County Commissioners for their decision to pave the first 1.5 miles of County Road 472. If you have an opportunity, please give them your support. Hopefully, we can get the remainder paved in the near future.

Please remember Mr. James Dobbins in your prayers. Jimmy recently lost his wife Wanda.

WELCOME to new residents Fred Crawford, formerly from Montgomery; Art and Sue Anne Hoyt formerly of Clanton, (watch for Art when he is enjoying the lake in his kayak) and Bill, Julie Thomas and family.

MORE NEWS FROM AREA 4

CONGRATULATIONS to Embry Strong (16) and her brother L.B. Strong (14). They received the Silver Congressional Award and the Bronze Congressional Award respectively for their volunteer service and civic projects. Embry, an avid animal lover, worked summers at Oak Mountain with wildlife rescue, volunteers her weekends at the Chilton Humane Society, and owns and cares for the goats on Goat Island on Lake Mitchell. She has a new addition on the island – Sadie, the pot-bellied pig. L. B. chose water patrol and water safety for his topic and has designed a water-safety-coloring book for young children. This booklet has been published by the State of Alabama and copies of it will be included in our new Welcome-Bags and will be available at the HOBO General Meeting in November.

The Lake Mitchell H.O.B.O.**COMMITTEE REPORTS****PUBLICITY:**

Judy Murchison, Chairman

The Lake Mitchell H.O.B.O. brochure has been completed!!! A **big thank you** to all on our committee who worked so hard – Mac McMillan, Pennamotley Area, who spent many hours on the original draft, and to Duncan Austin, Mattress Slough, who volunteered his time getting print-bids. A very special thank you to Kristi Austin, Duncan and Jan's daughter, for the final copy and art work. The final product evidences Kristi's expertise as a graphic artist. The brochures are at all of the marinas on the Lake. Pick up your copy.

Our welcome bags are available and are being distributed to new residents on the Lake by each of the area representatives. A special thanks to The Insurance Network, Inc. of Pelham, Alabama for donating the bags. They are filled with useful information about the area, wildlife, even how to build birdhouses, and especially about HOBO.

The newsletter is now officially under the Publicity Committee and we have designated each of the area representatives as "reporters". Please let them know of any item you would like to see distributed to our mailing list.

The Publicity Committee is responsible for news releases to the local papers (Chilton & Coosa), promotional materials regarding the Association, including the brochure, the newsletter, scrapbook, etc. As you can see, we are one of the busiest committees of HOBO.

If you think you would be interested in serving in any capacity on our committee, please give me a call. We meet on random dates at the present.

LAKE CLEANUP/LITTER

Bo Warren, Chairman

Alabama Power will begin the lowering of our Lake on October 18, 1999 and it will be fully down around October 20, 1999. It will stay down for approximately 10 days. If any of you are interested in using this time to clean up around your water's edge, Alabama Power will furnish the garbage bags. They will not pick-up the full bags, and if

you are unable to dispose of them, you can transport them to the dumpster behind the Park Ranger's house at the Public Boat Launch. Please call me if you need bags

WATER QUALITY REPORT

Sam Piccolo, Chairman

PARAMETER	ACCEPTABLE	SEVEN SITE AVERAGE
Dissolved O ₂	5-9	7.07
PH	6.5-8.2	7.87
Alkalinity	20+	52.50
Hardness	10-120	52.70

Quarterly Report Average Water Quality

A low **dissolved oxygen** level indicates a demand on the oxygen in the system. Pollutants such as inadequately treated sewage as well as decaying natural organic matter can cause low oxygen levels. The **ph** scale ranges from very acidic such as battery acid to very basic such as household lye. The midsection of the scale between 6.5 to 8.2 is optimal for most organisms. If a body of water has an abundance of buffering materials causing high **total alkalinity**, it is more stable and resistant to ph changes. When alkalinity is above 20mg/l there is a marked increase in nutrient utilization. **Hardness** refers primarily to the amount of calcium and magnesium, which enters the water mainly by leaching of rocks. Both minerals are essential to the development and growth of aquatic plants and animals.

ENVIRONMENT/FISH RESEARCH

Dan Murchison, Chairman

H.O.B.O.'s by-laws state that our mission statement is "to preserve, protect, and improve the quality of life in and around Lake Mitchell." We have made great progress and many visible improvements towards our mission statement. Sometimes the "not so visible" improvements are most important. One way we can all help is by being better "watchdogs." How?

- Learn what a wetland is, where they are and how you can protect these vital filters of Lake Mitchell.
- Plan "No Erosion" or sediment loss into the river before you dig or cut trees.
- Plant native trees and shrubs on every part of your land possible. Grass is not

The Lake Mitchell H.O.B.O.

recommended except as a temporary soil loss preventer.

- If you have direct pipes of any kind into the lake – run them through a filtering device before they enter the lake.
- Make sure "yours" is not one of the many failing septic systems on the lake.
- Think a long time before you kill the natural weed beds around your lake home. They buffer wave action, filter runoff, and harbor many aquatic life forms.
- Report illegal dumpsites and those who continue to litter – call 755-1120.
- Volunteer to help chart one of the creeks flowing into Lake Mitchell-you need to know what is coming down the creek into your lake.

Doing these things just might make your fish taste better and you will certainly smell better after a swim!

THANK YOU FOR THE FIREWORKS

By Renae Powers

The McCormicks, Jim, Tricia and their sons, Jim and Greg, once again gave Lake Mitchell a spectacular fireworks show on July 4th. This tradition spans over more than eleven years. Every year the crowds continue to increase as it has become a tradition for many Lake Mitchell families. The burst of colorful fireworks against the backdrop of the night sky, as patriotic music plays, gives all that attend a rich remembrance to our heritage. Their tireless efforts and expense have added so much to everyone's 4th of July celebration. Thank you Jim, Tricia, Jim and Greg. We look forward to next year!

BULLETIN BOARD

Jim Woodrow, President is pleased to announce Ann Till, Area 4 as interim secretary; and Judy Thornton, Area 2 as interim treasurer. Their nominations will be presented at the annual meeting November 5, 1999.

Annual Business Meeting – 7:00 p.m. November 5, 1999 at the Alabama Power Building, Clanton. Mark your calendar to attend this important meeting. The nomination committee will present the year 2000 officers and directors, the treasurer will present the year 2000 budget, each committee and area representative will present their plans. This is your Association....

Photo-Contest has been extended. Please mail your favorite lake photos to Lake Mitchell HOBO, Publicity, P. O. Box 1324, Clanton, Alabama 35046. The winning photos will be used in future publications for the lake.

E-mail addresses will be included in the 2001 Lake Mitchell Homeowners directory. Businesses on the Lake, and those who service the Lake, are invited to include their information in the Welcome Bags at no charge. Contact Judy Murchison or Johnye Woodrow.

We have a vacancy for Area Representative for the Walnut Creek Peninsula to Cove Branch, Area 9. If you are interested in working with the Association and live in this area, please call Jim Woodrow.

Dan Murchison, Area 3, has been elected as President of Alabama Waterwatch Association. Sam Piccolo has been re-elected as a Board member for them as well. Congratulations Dan and Sam.

Jim Woodrow, Area 2, has recently trained a total of 30 water monitors for Lay Lake and for The Hatchet Creek Watershed.

Alabama Power will lower our lake beginning on October 18. It will be lowered until November 1, and will be completely filled on November 3.

Lake Mitchell HOBO
PO Box 1324
Clanton, AL 35046

Annual dues Homeowner \$25.00	Other	Firework Donation \$	Fireboat Donation \$
Name:			
Mailing Address:			
911 Address:			
E-mail Address:			
Phone: Home		Lake	
Lake Area:			

The Lake Mitchell H.O.B.O.

FEATURE:

The Marinas on the Lake – First in Series

The Beginning of Inman's Camp

By Sue Abernathy, Area 7

Don Inman, the present owner, has deeds for his land on Lake Mitchell dating back to the 1800's. He and his wife Dottie (Milburn) moved here in 1995 after purchasing his sister's share in 1993. He had someone else run the Camp in 1994. However, Inman's Camp goes back to 1954 when Don's father Millard Inman bought the land from Hiram Kicker; thus begins the history of Inman's Camp.

Millard Inman was born March 30, 1908 in Lawrence Co., Tn. He married Inez (Shook) who was born in Giles Co, Tn. They moved to Alabama, but before moving to Chilton County, Millard worked as a supervisor for Tennessee Coal & Iron Co in Jefferson County from 1936 to 1954. Having heart trouble, he became disabled and took an early retirement from T.C.I. Being as avid outdoorsman, fisherman and turkey hunter, he could not resist the magnetism of Chilton County's attractions. They packed up and headed south..to what would become home.

Not only did Millard make his own turkey calls, he taught many of the young area boys this art. (I bet some of them are still around and remember the fun.) This avid hunter not only held spots in the State's top ten for numerous years, he earned the title "Turkey Hunter of The year" in 1975. There was a time when one could hardly count the trophy feet decorating the store building. A few remain today, along with an old sign reading "iced coca-colas 10c". Also visible is the outline of a huge rattlesnake skin he killed in Sumpter County, Alabama; an old sign warning "No Spittin"; and a poplar stump carved similar to totem pole with eyes of "DIS-STINK-SHUN". (Ask Don about those eyes.) Inman's today has 14 places to let yearly, boatslips to let, and sits on the edge of its 43 acres. The original store still stands, but the 16-ft. fishing boats are no longer there and the café was converted to a home.

Inez (Shook) Inman really had a way with kids...Millard didn't have the market cornered on that. All of the children in the area knew her and she knew each and everyone by name. She watched them grow up and built fond memories along the way. Millard and Inez were as good with adults as children. Millard was somewhat of a politician and people would gather under the big tree with the "NO SPITTIN" sign and discuss the world affairs for

6

hours. There were several noted politicians who visited Inman's, one being "Big Jim" Folsom. On one of these visits, he finagled an invitation to supper when he discovered Inez was cooking turnip greens and cornbread.

Inez passed away on May 29, 1986 and Millard died November 21, 1991. They are both buried at the historic Chestnut Creek Church Cemetery. Both, sad times for the community.

Don Inman's request of this interview was to honor his parents. However, after spending a short time at the Camp one afternoon, I noted Don knew everyone that stopped by name and they all seemed to like him and called him by name!! It's quite obvious...the tradition lives on in Inman's Camp.

To Be Continued....

The Lake Mitchell H.O.B.O.

MARINE 9 EMERGENCY NUMBER

COOSA COUNTY:

1-205-755-1120

CHILTON COUNTY:

911

Please keep these numbers accessible.

Lake Mitchell H.O.B.O.

P. O. Box 1324

Clanton, Alabama 35046

Return Postage Guaranteed

Address Correction Requested

*To Rec.L -
9-27-99?
10-12-99*

Bulk Rate

U.S. Postage

PAID

Permit 12

Birmingham, AL

*****5-DIGIT 35226
DAN & JUDY MURCHISON
2635 FARGO CIR
BIRMINGHAM AL 35226-2306

11
3