
The Lake Mitchell H.O.B.O.

Volume 4 Issue 1

First Quarter 1999

FIRE RESCUE BOAT IN SERVICE SOON!

On February 28, Lake Mitchell fire rescue boat became a reality! A much better boat with more equipment than originally planned was possible at a lower cost. The boat is 28' long with twin 225 hp engines. It is a one-year-old, *Marine 1* demonstrator. \$7000 was owed on the boat at the time of delivery. As soon as the final payment is made training and practice will begin. Your donations will help get the boat in operation by Memorial Day. Dedication ceremonies for the boat will be at the picnic June 5.

The boat committee would like to thank everyone who contributed in any way to make this project possible. They will appreciate your continued support to keep it in operation in the future.

This is the first boat of its kind on any Alabama lake.



Lake Mitchell Fire Rescue Boat

FROM THE PRESIDENT

Jim Woodrow

On March 12, 1999, the Lake Mitchell Community lost a well known and respected member of its neighborhood. Joe Till, Second Vice President of the Lake Mitchell HOB O Association, passed away.

On Wednesday of that week Joe was doing what all residents of this community enjoy doing. He was working to make his home on the lake better. Joe fell from a ladder and struck his head causing severe damage to his spinal cord. He was taken by Life Saver Helicopter to Carraway Hospital where his condition deteriorated rapidly over the next two days.

Joe enjoyed promoting the HOB O organization and improving his community. On Saturday, February 27, Joe had over one hundred of his neighbors and friends assembled to hear a presentation on the possibility of water for his neighborhood.

Joe was Area Representative for HOB O on the north side of Cargile Creek. He worked to increase membership, picked up responsibilities for other areas when needed, worked to increase participation in the association, and chaired the membership committee.

We can all learn a lesson from Joe Till. Work hard for something you believe in, work to improve your community, and get to know and help your neighbor. Joe Till loved Lake Mitchell. He was a role model for us all. He will be missed very much. I know I speak for everyone in extending our sympathy and prayers to Joe's wife Ann, son David, and daughter Annette.



BOAT OPERATOR'S LICENSE

Gary Buchanan

Anyone who does much boating knows that the hot topic right now is the boat operator's license. This is due to the fact that the deadline for having the license is almost here, April 28. If you do not have your license yet here is what you need to do to get it in time.

There is now only two ways to qualify for the license. One is to go to the driver's license examiner and request the test for the boat license. You will be given a 25 question test on which you need to score at least 80 to pass. The other option is to take an approved Boating Safety class. Around Clanton that means taking the two-night class the marine police offers. Other approved classes are taught by the Coast Guard and the Power Squadron. The marine police office in Montgomery discontinued the home study course as of December 31, 1998. Anyone who got the course from Montgomery but has not sent it in yet may still do so. They just stopped issuing new home tests.

There has been some mistake about who has to have the license. Anyone who drives a boat will have to have the license. There are no exceptions. A person 45 years old before April 28, 1999, is however exempted from taking the test to get the license. I am sure you have heard talk of the deadline being postponed for as much as two years. That is the talk of some politicians and may or may not happen. I do not think I would wait around and chance being stuck without a license. I can imagine how many people will have their Memorial Day holiday ruined when they get a citation for operating a boat without a license. To find out when and where the nearest Boating Basics class is call 1-800-272-7930. This is the marine police office in Montgomery. They can also assist you with any other questions you may have about boating safety.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

PICNIC

Mark your calendars: Saturday, June 5, 1999 – Picnic at Higgins Ferry Park. This picnic promises to be a special event with the dedication and demonstration of the Lake Mitchell fire rescue boat. You will receive a special mail-out with more information closer to the actual date. This annual event has proven to be more fun each year than the previous year. Please make your plans to attend.

JOHNYE WOODROW, CHAIRMAN

The Lake Mitchell H.O.B.O.

FIREWORKS

This is the last newsletter you will receive before July 4. Remember you may contribute to the July 4 fireworks show through HOBBO. Use the dues blank if you wish. The greater the contributions the better show.

JIM McCORMICK, CHAIRMAN

CLEAN-UP

Each area representative will run the spring clean-up in his area. Please try to conduct it April 1 through 17. This will cover three week ends. Call Bo Warren for trash bags. The collected trash should be placed on the flat area between the pavilion and the boathouse at Higgins Ferry Park.

BO WARREN, CHAIRMAN

FIRE RESCUE BOAT

In order to pay off the \$7000 owed on the boat, finish equipping it, and finance the maintenance and operation this year, the committee is holding another raffle. This time they are giving your choice of a Polaris personal watercraft or ATV. Both come with a trailer. Tickets are \$100 and only 150 tickets will be sold. Contact Aaron Little at 755-3700 or Wayne Hardy at 755-4858 for tickets. Thanks for your support.

WAYNE HARDY, CHAIRMAN

NEWSLETTER

Shortly our newsletter will be taking on a new look. Our area representatives will be acting as "reporters" filing through "Mac" McMillan, coordinator, in Coosa County and Renee Powers, coordinator, in Chilton County. By having coordinators and more reporters we hope to provide more articles if interest to all on the lake. If you have news or articles to share, please contact your area representative. You may also report directly to Missy Bailey (Mabailey@lakemitchell.com) or Carolyn Hardy (cwhardy@lakemitchell.com). In addition you may send items to HOBBO, PO Box 1324, Clanton, AL 35046. The deadlines for newsletter material are March 15, June 15, September 15 and December 15. MISSY BAILEY, CAROLYN HARDY CO-CHAIRMAN

SECURITY DECALS

We continue to encourage you to use our "Lake Mitchell HOB0" decals on your vehicles. Place them on the rear window. Remember to order decals for a new or different automobile. You may use them on boats, pontoons or personal watercraft. Please send your request with a self-addressed stamped envelope to HOB0, PO Box 1324, Clanton, AL 35046. Decals are one dollar each.

MISSY BAILEY, CHAIRMAN

WATER QUALITY REPORT

PARAMETER	ACCEPTABLE	SEVEN SITE AVERAGE
Dissolved O ₂	5-9	7.5
pH	6.5-8.2	8.2
Alkalinity	20+	33.5
Hardness	10-120	44

Quarterly Report Average Water Quality

H. L. McMILLAN, ACTING CHAIRMAN

LAKE PHONE DIRECTORIES

Lake telephone directories are still available to all paying members. Members may also purchase additional directories for \$5.00 each. If you have paid dues this year and have not received a directory see your area rep.

JUDY MURCHISON, CHAIRMAN

JOBS AVAILABLE

If you would like to be a working member of HOB0 there are many jobs available. Someone is needed to fill the many shoes of Joe Till. The job of Second Vice President is open. Area representatives are needed for Cargile North and a new position in Upper Hatchett. Some area reps could use an assistant. Besides these important jobs many of the committees could use help. Working in HOB0 is a rewarding experience. If you would like to get involved please call Jim Woodrow.

The Lake Mitchell H.O.B.O.

AREA REPRESENTATIVES

NEW AREA REPS

We welcome two new area representatives. Fred Calloway has taken the Upper Hatchett area which covers the east side of Pennamotley Creek and Upper Hatchett. We are glad to have Fred and his wife, Alice! Carol and Royce Willie are relatively new residents of Bird Creek. Carol has agreed to take responsibility for that area. She replaces Robin Cagle who has served since our beginning. Thank you Robin for your many hours of dedicated service

Area #	Area Name	Representative	Phone
1	Blue Creek	Gordon Beene	755-3834 879-4119
2	Blue to Cargile	Mary Olson	755-9561
3	Cargile South	Dan Murchison	755-0521
4	Cargile North		
5	Cargile to Bird	Dusy Kerper	755-2527 979-1845
6	Bird Creek	Carol Willie	280-1133
7	Bird to Walnut	Sue Abernathy	755-6648
8	Walnut SW	Cecil "Bo" Austin	280-0638
9	Walnut Creek Peninsula	Wayne Hardy	755-4858
10	Cove and Mountain	Bill Knowles	755-2038
11	Mountain to Dam Area	Rick & Mary Hurst	755-4687
12	Upper Hatchett and Weogufita	Fred Calloway	377-2333
13	Pennamotley	Sam Piccolo	377-4801
14	Hatchett to Big Airplane	Pat Croker	377-4528
15	Big Airplane to Dam	Mary Robbins	377-2475

When corresponding with us please use the above area names or numbers. Everyone has a different name for a slough, an island, or other landmarks. A good example is mattress slough, matrix slough or mistress slough. Are those one and the same? Where is it? How many goat islands do we have?

AREA 14

During early February Richard Baptist suggested a road clean-up leading into his home and Area 14. Over a two-day period he, Don Mims, and Pat and Bill Crocker spent over 40 hours picking up 3½ truck loads of trash. What they found was a big surprise and shock. The trash was not that left by hunters and campers but building scraps, old furniture and appliances as well as household garbage. Now that it is clean they need your help to keep it clean. Please help them pick up trash you see and watch for who might be using their road for a dump.

SPECIAL FEATURES

IN MEMORY OF JOE TILL

Joe Till, area rep for Cargile north, suggested months ago that residents post their house numbers at the beginning of their drives. He suggested a uniform system. Use a 4 x 4 extending 42 inches out of the ground. At the top of this post put your house number using 3 inch reflective numbers. This system will make it easier for emergency personnel to find you. As a salute to Joe for his dedication to Lake Mitchell and in memory of him we urge you to post these numbers. Joe never once thought he would be one of the first to benefit from this system. None of us expect to need help but we never know!

Some have asked if the fire rescue boat had been in service would it have responded to a call such as Joe's accident. The answer is yes. However East Chilton Fire and Rescue Department tells us that in this particular case things would have been handled exactly as they were even if the boat had responded.

RIVER CHURCH

Memorial Day, the beginning of another summer season on the lake and River Church will be here before we know it. Rev. John Trobough started the tradition of River Church many years ago and it has grown through the years. "Shall we gather at the River" again this summer? The time is 8:30-9:00 a.m. followed by Family Bible Time from 9:00-9:30 a.m. We encourage you, especially adults, to stay for Family Bible Time. This non-denominational service is sponsored by First United Methodist Church of Clanton.

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NEW MARINA ON THE LAKE

Deanna and William McMinn, lake residents, will open a new marina on the lake hopefully by Memorial Day. They have purchased the old Poconatchie site and are rebuilding. They plan to carry bait "guaranteed to catch fish," tackle, basic groceries, gas, plumbing and electrical supplies for most emergencies. There will be short order breakfast and lunch daily and carry out dinners on Friday and Saturday evenings. Lake Mitchell Marina is located at the mouth of Walnut Creek. They plan to be open from 6:00 a.m. until 8:00 p.m. every day.

ENGRAVERS ARE AVAILABLE

Your homeowners' association has purchased engravers for your use to identify valuables at your lake home. See your area representative to borrow an engraver. Mark appliances, televisions, VCRs, etc. with your social security number or your drivers' license number. This will not only deter a thief but will also enable you to identify property if it should be stolen.

FIRE FIGHTERS NEEDED

Volunteers for fire and emergency are needed in both Chilton and Coosa Counties. The Verbena Department is especially in critical need of help. With the added responsibility of the new fire rescue boat East Chilton Department needs more help. There are jobs for old and young, men and women. Jobs like delivering food and drink, directing traffic, drying and rolling hoses, cleaning equipment after a call require little training. This could relieve highly trained personnel for the skilled jobs. For those willing to train there are limitless jobs especially during the day when many volunteers are out of the area at work. The only restriction is you must live in the district you serve. Will you help? Call the fire department in your area for more information.

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MAYFLIES ON MITCHELL

Excerpts from an article by Bill Deutsch

Mayflies sometimes referred to as willow flies in Alabama are one stage in the life cycle of an aquatic insect. The nymph stage lives up to a year on the bottom of the lake. When the nymph "hatches" into a mayfly it lives for only one day. The sole function of the mayfly stage is to mate. Swarms are usually all one sex. A male swarm flies into a female swarm where mating takes place. Females lay their eggs on the surface of the water. The eggs sink to the bottom and hatch producing the nymph and the life cycle begins again. Large hatches of mayflies are an indicator of relatively good water quality.



Lake Mitchell H.O.B.O.

Post Office Box 1324

Clanton, Alabama 35046

Return Postage Guaranteed

Address Correction Requested

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Residents on the southwest side of Walnut Creek are trying to get city water. An estimate of cost is forthcoming. The more participation the less the cost. Those who wish to tap on at a later date will pay an additional \$1000. They hope to have water by summer.

Area representatives will have new flags this spring. They are still Kelly green with a white logo. There are many reasons to visit reps this season. Flags should make it easier to find them. They also add a festive touch to the lake.

FOUND – Floating swim deck with slide.
Call 755-4858 to identify and claim.

WEATHER SIRENS

Chilton County is the first county in Alabama to blanket the entire county with weather alert sirens. These sirens were put into operation on February 25 with an impressive ceremony at Enterprise Volunteer Fire Department. Four sirens were placed along the length of the lake for the benefit of residents as well as for lake visitors on the water. The sirens will sound in the event of a tornado warning. They will be tested around noon every Wednesday. HOB0 had a small part in financing this project with a \$400 donation. The Commissioners of the county went into debt in order to provide protection for the entire county from the beginning. Our hats are off to Chilton County Commissioners for their interest in our safety! Thank you gentlemen.

LITTER CONTROL

Chilton County has a new Litter Control Officer, George Wilkins. He is helping to clean up illegal dumps and writing citations for littering. You can help by reporting tag numbers and descriptions of anyone you see dumping to the Health Department. HOB0 has also furnished several "Pik Sticks" to those who are willing to take responsibility for regularly cleaning a section of roadside.

GOATS BACK ON ISLAND

Thanks to fifteen year old Embry Strong and her family, there are again goats on Goat Island near the old Boy Scout camp. Embry is a special teenager. She had been awarded a Congressional Bronze Award by Representative Bob Riley for her volunteer work in wildlife. She volunteers at the Wildlife Center in Birmingham and at the Humane Society in Clanton. Her brothers, Charlie and L. B. have helped with feeding and building a winter shelter for the goats. There is a male named "Sedrick" and two nannies called "The Satterfiled Sisters". The goats are there as guardians of the island. They are not tame so just observe from your boat. Embry, Charlie and L. B. are children of Robert and Stephanie Strong and grandchildren of Graves and Joanne Strong of Cargile Creek.

1999 MEMBERSHIP GOAL ACHIEVED

Our organization is growing and prospering beyond our wildest dreams. Your support through membership dues has played a major role in making all that we have accomplished possible. The list of our dues paying members is getting longer and longer each year. We are accomplishing our membership goal earlier and earlier each year. The 1999 budget is based upon 300 paying members. This goal was reached by the end of February this year. Thank you for joining and a special thank you for your other generous contributions to special projects.

We would like to hear from you regarding projects you would like for HOB0 to tackle. Our record shows no project is too large.

If you have not paid dues this year please do so. Remember our business year is based upon the calendar year. Dues are payable January 1. The organization is financed strictly through your dues. With more funds more projects can be added this year.

PO Box 1324
Clanton, AL 35046

Annual dues Homeowner \$25.00 (or)	Annual dues Supporter \$10.00	Firework Donation \$	Fireboat Donation \$
Name:			
Mailing Address:			
Lake 911 Address:			
Phone: Home		Lake	
Lake Area:			

Comments: