
The Lake Mitchell H.O.B.O.

Volume 13 Issue 3 www.lakemitchellhobo.homestead.com **Third Quarter 2008**

FROM THE PRESIDENT Doug Martin,

dougmart@mindspring.com

Summer activities are over and reflecting back is a favorite pastime while the leaves fall. We were blessed this year with full water levels unlike some other Alabama reservoirs. The price of fuel deterred our family from making the normal rounds each weekend, but the good news is at least we could with renewed water levels.

As your president, we received an invitation to attend several area representative parties over the summer. Attendance at each event was robust and lively. If your area representative summons the energy to host such an event, please make plans to attend and voice your opinion on lake issues while getting the latest information on events and activities affecting our lake environment. At the least you will come away with new acquaintances, friends or neighbors. Our community is blessed with many warm, friendly people open to meeting new folks.

As an update on some of the activities spilling over from the summer; the calendar photo contest deadline has passed and 281 photos were submitted (more later). The Lake Mitchell Environmental Scholarship is proceeding; and communication between your association and Alabama Power Company regarding shoreline management is ongoing. My hope is to continue that communication to the annual meeting in November with an invited Alabama Power Company representative. Make plans to attend that annual event on November 21, 2008 at 6:30 p.m. at the Alabama Power Company office building in Clanton.

Also of note is the fall lake cleanup scheduled for Saturday, October 25th from 8-12 noon. A group of 25 Thompson High School students have made plans to attend and are excited about our event. This is the second time Thompson's Key Club has participated in a Lake Mitchell cleanup. We will have free t-shirts and a hot dog lunch following. If you can bring a pontoon boat, it will give our land-locked friends the chance to ride the water and pick up trash.

At the end of 2008 when you are considering charitable giving, please consider a donation to the Lake Mitchell

Environmental Scholarship. H.O.B.O. is a tax deductible organization and your contribution will benefit the good cause of education for a noteworthy student from Chilton or Coosa County. Any proceeds from the 2009 calendar will go to partially fund the scholarship, but other contributions will complete the fund. The fireboat and July fireworks are also eligible for similar contributions, and scholarship funding is not intended to take away from either worthwhile cause.

Lastly, the photo calendar judges have met and made some excellent selections for inclusion in the calendar. All photos were kept anonymous to the judges for fairness. The criteria for selections were to accept the best photos available. The results have been "hermetically sealed" and will be revealed at the annual meeting in November. Please contact your area representative for purchasing copies of the calendar. They will be on sale at the annual meeting and hopefully available at Coosa and Chilton Schools should they elect to display in the school offices. All proceeds of the calendar will go to benefit the H.O.B.O. scholarship. If the calendar is well received, it will be considered for 2010.

Please consider volunteering for an event or committee for 2009. You can contact your officers or board members for information. Have a great fall, stay safe, and we'll see you on the water.

AREA REPRESENTATIVE REPORTS

Area 5 Sonny & Peggy Bullard bullspad@localnet.com

Hello Area 5, They say "time flies when you are having fun" and when it comes to summer I suppose "They" are right since summer is always too short for us although we do look forward to all seasons here at the lake.

By the time you receive this news letter we would have had our 4th Area 5 luncheon and if you have not made it to one of these events we hope it will work out for you to be with us come spring.

New phone books will be published this next year and we need your help with any additions or corrections you may be aware of. Please check the existing book and make sure your home address, phone number and email address are correct. If they are not please advise us by phone or

email so that we may get the corrections in and also update our records. If you know of any other name or number in the existing book that needs changes please let us know about those as well. We would like for the book to be as accurate as possible when first published and we can't do that without your help.

Remember the annual meeting is November 21st. The photo contest winners will be announced and a slide show of all the photos will be shown. This will be a fun and informative meeting. Calendars will be for sale and the proceeds from them will go to our scholarship fund. They will make great Christmas gifts so plan to buy several and contribute to a great cause at the same time.

As this year will soon come to a close check your newsletter to see if you have the M08 by your name on the address label. If not it means you forgot to pay your dues for 2008 and it will soon be time for the 2009 dues. When we wait this late it sometimes feels as if we pay twice in one year so maybe we can all work toward the goal of paying in January for 2009 and get ourselves on a yearly schedule.

If you have anything you would like to share in our newsletter we would appreciate hearing from you. News from your family is always appreciated and suggestions are welcome. Have a blessed fall....Ya'll!

Area 9 Dale & Patty Vann RDVANN@bellsouth.net

I hope you all had a very pleasant and fun summer. I know by the time you read this newsletter, summer may be several weeks past. It is now football season and cooler days. This is my favorite time of the year.

Let me remind each of you who have not paid your H.O.B.O. dues to please do so. Sixty-five percent of our area has paid and it would be nice to have 100%.

Good news...bad news. The good news is that all of the pipe for county water has been laid and is ready for use. The bad news is that we do not have the water yet (as of 9/1/08).

Here's a short story told to me by Mary Louise Hodges, one of our area residents. The state of Alabama was going to build a place on the property where the Hodges, Wesson's and Morgan's place is today. The land was promised to then Governor John Patterson...this was around 1958. Lucky for us the Governor told the state that he did not want a place on the lake and to spend that money some other place. The Hodges, Wessons and Morgans were offered the land and have been our good neighbors ever since. I wonder if Governor Patterson would have demanded the road be paved and to have county water? Sure could have saved us a lot of money!

Area 15 Anita & Jerry Lawson anitalawson@bellsouth.net

We in Area 15 held our first area party. We had a great turnout on a hot humid night, plenty of good food and meeting of old and new friends. Usually we just wave as the boats pass but we were able to sit and talk to each other – what a nice change! Each of you should make it a point to meet a new person from our Lake Mitchell community soon.

Our lake cleanup will be October 25. Thompson High School in Alabaster has students wanting to help that day - we need adults wanting to help too. Call Jerry or me if you want any instructions or to participate. Hot dog lunch will be furnished at noon after the cleanup. Fox channel 6, Alabama Power Company, and Lake Mitchell residents are all joining together for this cleanup. Hope to see you there.

The H.O.B.O. general meeting will be in November at the Alabama Power Company building in Clanton. You really need to be at this meeting to be updated and informed about lake happenings. Special guests are being invited and the winners of the photo contest will be announced. Hopefully our calendars will be available by then.

Call to keep us informed on new neighbors, sickness, new additions or lake happenings so we can keep all areas informed.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Water Quality Report Sam Piccolo, Chairman

PARAMETER	ACCEPTABLE RANGE	SIX SITE AVERAGE
Dissolved O ₂	5-9	7.25
pH	6.5 - 8.2	8.16
Alkalinity	20+	65.5
Hardness	10 - 120	61.5

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.

Thanks to all the volunteers, contributors, and our Lake Mitchell family.

BULLETIN BOARD

October 25 is Lake Mitchell Fall Cleanup

Put the date on your calendars now! A fun way to fellowship and help your lake home remain beautiful. We have been asked to allow the Key Club at Thompson High School to again come help us collect trash. We need commitments from folks to bring a pontoon boat and allow a few of the students to ride along. Please let us know if we can count on you to do this. A hot dog lunch will be served to all participants.

Please contact Larry Waldron at (205) 987-7217, or Doug Martin (205) 755-0863 for more information.

New Phone Book 2009-2010

We will soon be compiling the new edition of our lake phone directory. Please check your listings **and those of your neighbors**. Many corrections have been made, but please notify us regardless. We would rather double-check one that has already been done than miss any change. It seems that when folks sell and leave the lake they don't inform us of transfer of ownership. If you don't have the 2007-2008 phone book to look through it might be that you are not up to date on your dues. If you don't see MO8 on your mailing label we don't have you in the database as a paid member. Let us know if there is an error. Jim Woodrow keeps the database info up to date and can be contacted at ajwking@aol.com.

Please note this is the last newsletter before the 2009-2010 books will be printed.

Any corrections should be sent to Judy Murchison at gugga4@bellsouth.net and Jim Woodrow at ajwking@aol.com. If you would like to place an ad in the new directory, please call Judy Murchison at 755-0521 or 408-7445, gugga4@bellsouth.net.

Plan to attend the annual meeting!

Make plans now to attend on November 21 at 6:30 and re-connect with your lake community. We will have refreshments, the photo contest winners will be announced, and calendars will be for sale. Most importantly, we hope to have a representative from Alabama Power Company to discuss shoreline management issues which have arisen over the past year.

Memorial Gifts

None received this quarter

The Lake Mitchell Memorial Fund is available for gifts in honor or in memory of a friend or loved one. Please send

your contributions to our post office box and note your check accordingly. The intent is to set aside these funds until there is a sufficient amount to fund special projects.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Email any submissions to beckmau@earthlink.net and gugga4@bellsouth.net for editing and inclusion.

Have a little fun and win a prize!

The first person to speak to Judy Murchison at the clean-up and give her the correct date and time for the annual meeting will be eligible for a prize visor or hat!

Sad news from Area 3 Judy Murchison

A dear lady and friend, Betty McCay (mother of Bill McCay) passed away on September 6th, 2008. Betty lived in the old Inman's Camp area when we bought our cabin almost 30 years ago. She was often down at the camp visiting when boaters came in for gas, etc. She always had a big smile on her face, ready to help out and to visit with you. She loved the lake and her neighbors here and will be missed.

You can now be a "Good Neighbor" in another way!

You now have an opportunity to give and take, or sell and buy with your lake neighbors. We are offering this opportunity to any current (annual dues paid) member of our organization. If you have an item to sell or give away, or are looking for an item, you may submit a written request to Becki McCallum at beckmau@earthlink.net. She will verify that you are a current member and reserve the right to edit the content. Any requests for publication need to be made by the newsletter deadline posted on the above calendar.