

President Rick Anderson's Thoughts

October 1: Lake level was minus 14 inches. November 1: I measured lake level at minus 7 inches. Quite a rise; maybe the 7.5 inches of rain in October combined with our lake pump pumping had something to do with that. Piles and piles of invasive Eurasian milfoil cuttings are still washing up on my beach. As discussed at the October 16 property owners meeting, involving our elected representatives in aquatic vegetation treatment approvals could be helpful. That subject could use further discussion and consideration.

As approved at the October 16 meeting, the Property Owners Second Pump Survey was sent out electronically on November 5 using our Property Owners' email distribution list. The U.S. mail is being used to notify our non email membership. **WHEN YOU RECEIVE YOUR SURVEY, PLEASE VOTE. THE VOTE DEADLINE IS NOVEMBER 30. YOU CAN VOTE ELECTRONICALLY, OR PRINT THE SURVEY AND SEND IT IN BY US MAIL.**

Around the lake: Two notable ceremonies took place. A ground breaking ceremony to begin Solar Farm construction took place Thursday, October 14; many local representatives and even our Governor was present along with over a hundred Starke County residents. The Ribbon Cutting Ceremony took place on Friday, October 22 for the two mile Erie Trail extension. It was a great event with about 75 people present. In 2022, perhaps a ride on the Erie extension can be part of the 5th Annual Property Owners' Bicycle Ride.

Sporty'z has new owners, remodeling is in progress and I'm told that landmark establishment will have another name change. Do you remember the old names? I noticed the Sporty'z sign on Toto Road and 625 East (Old Knox Road) has been removed.

Interesting November we are having. November 8 was 65 degrees and sunny and leaves are really staying on the trees. Many piers and shore stations are also still in the lake. I notice one pier is still getting a lot of use. That use would be fishing at "Piers End". Doesn't surprise me much, that is usually one of the last piers out. If you have time, take a walk and look at all the great 2021 jobs of pier stacking. Also, here is a tip: with the current price of lumber, it seems much cheaper to paint or stain your pier than to replace boards.

What about the Great American Game at the VFW? The new game with 50 new numbers started at \$400,000 with the first drawing on November 6. I think that is quite remarkable. I also find it remarkable, that no one has found the 2021 Easter egg yet. *Stay safe and healthy, Rick*

2021 Soup Social Winners

Kids' Choice—Creamy Chicken Noodle, Becca Ratliff

Miss Bass Lake Choice—Baked Potato, Jill Dahm

President's Choice—Ham and Bean, Mary Topelian

People's Choice—Broccoli Cheddar, Grace Hehemann



Property Owners Association—Saturday, February 5 at 9:00 a.m., BLPOA Building

Bass Lake Neighborhood Watch: Monday, December 13 at 6:30 p.m. BLPOA Building

Exercise Class—At the BLPOA Building each Monday, Wednesday and Friday at 8:00 a.m.

Prairie Trails Club—The next Membership meeting is Tuesday, November 16 at 5:30 p.m., CDT (6:30 p.m., EDT) in the BLPOA Building

Bass Lake Conservancy District: (sewers, pump & lake weeds) December 13, 6:00 p.m. CDT, BLPOA Building

Starke County Park Board (our Beach & Campground): December 14 at 6:00 p.m., Starke County Annex

Calling All Pizza Party Planners—One of our popular events is a "Taste of Bass Lake Pizza" which happens in May, as lake season begins. The planning committee of this 3-hour event is ready to hand it off to another team for 2022. Who would like to volunteer to coordinate this? We need a few families to take the helm and lead it. If you are willing to do this, we will train you fully! Contact Rick Anderson, barefootrun@mchsi.com.

New Member Welcome Folders—If you know anyone who is new to our Bass Lake community, we have a spiffy and updated welcome packet. Send all interested people to Mary Jesso, mary@jessolution.com.

How Bass Lake Was Named

Did you know that the name of our lake came from the railroads? The earliest reference to the name "Bass Lake" came from the June 3, 1892 edition of the Starke County Democrat, "The new station of the Chicago and Erie road, a mile and a half from Cedar Lake, will be called Bass Lake. Before long a new post office will be started there which will be named the same as the station, and perhaps the next legislature will consider the changing of Cedar to Bass Lake. Nothing like unison."

Although papers for a time would use both names, soon it was known as Bass Lake. Today many people don't even know it was originally called Cedar Lake. *Source: Starke County Historical Society Fall 2021 Newsletter*

Bass Lake Property Owners Association

President ~ Rick Anderson
 Vice President ~ Mary Topelian
 Treasurer ~A. J. Gappa
 Secretary ~ Kathy Laiter

Board Members

- Tom Busch
- Terry Chmiel
- Mary Jesso
- Rich Linkus
- Rik Ritzler
- Val Williams
- Ron Vendl

Board member contact information is on our website:

www.inbasslake.com

Christmas Marketplace at Bass Lake

BLPOA and the Bass Lake Festival are hosting a holiday market at the BLPOA:

December 4 from 9:00 a.m.—3:00 p.m.

All crafters, antique, vintage and third party vendors welcome. Contact Mary Topelian, mjtopelian@att.net.



Santa's Clauset Now Open—This local charity is open for Christmas shopping each weekend from November 12—December 12. Located at 7700 E. Toto Road, the farm house is filled with unique gifts and handmade items. www.facebook.com/santasclausetinknox

BLPOA Meeting Minutes— Our minutes, prepared by our Secretary Kathy Laiter, are posted on the BLPOA website, www.inbasslake.com.

BLPOA Building Rentals —If you are looking for space for a party or family reunion, the well maintained BLPOA building can be rented by members for \$125. Contact Rich Linkus for details, linkusr1@hotmail.com. Note that not-for-profits can use the building at no cost.

Bass Lake Lions



Join us for a Feather Party on Saturday, November 20, 7-10 PM at the Bass Lake Pub and Restaurant in Bass Lake, IN



No cost to enter. There will be a raffle for a Charbroil 4 burner gas grill, tickets 5.00 each or 5 for 20.00. Various drawings all evening, door prizes, gift baskets etc.

Veteran's Day Salute—The BLPOA would like to thank our veterans and families of veterans.

Bald Eagles at Bass Lake—Last week a bald eagle was again spotted at Bass Lake. The number of American bald eagles has quadrupled since 2009, with more than 300,000 birds soaring over the lower 48 states. The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service said bald eagles, the national symbol that once teetered on the brink of extinction, have flourished in recent years, growing to more than 71,400 nesting pairs. If you see a bald eagle at Bass Lake, take a photo and send it to kcarrier@briljent.com.



Starke County Parks Report—The Bass Lake Beach and Campground is now closed for the season. All of the water lines have been blown out and winterized. We will have a leaf clean-up weekend with the campers the end of November or beginning of December, just depends on when the leaves decide to fall. The pile of rocks to be used for erosion control have been put in place. We also had a horse and carriage group come to the beach and they did a ride around the lake. We look forward to working with them in the future for carriage rides and possible sleigh rides at the Starke County Forest.

The Starke County Parks Department will be having cross country skiing available at the Starke County Forest this year, this is if we have enough snow to ski. The Parks Department is purchasing a snow roller to smooth the snow for the skiers.

A lot of people have been asking about what is in store for the Starke County Parks Department. I would like to see the Bass Lake Beach House open next summer. I think a coffee shop and an ice cream shop inside would do very well. There is no other coffee shop on the lake, especially one that you can pull your boat up to. There is a lot of maintenance items that will need done to get the Beach and Campground in good working order. Hopefully we will have docks for the boat slips. This will be a 3-year process for replacing all of the boat slips. But we want to make sure it is safe for everyone utilizing the Bass Lake Beach boat slips.

Please be patient with the changes going on at the park. It will take time and money to get things back into working order, but with everyone working together we will get it there. If you have any suggestions I am always willing to listen. We are also always looking for volunteers for the park. Contact me at mvendl@co.starke.in.us. Submitted by Marc Vendl, Starke County Parks Director

Thanksgiving Dinner at Scoops and Smiles—On November 25, Scoops and Smiles will be serving free Thanksgiving meals "to go" in individual containers for people in need. Meals will be served from 11:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. If you have transportation problems, they will deliver.

Starke County Historical Society—The annual meeting will be held on November 18 at 6:30 p.m. at the Knox High School cafeteria. Also the Center has Christmas ornaments, Starke County Flags, mugs depicting local sites and Starkeopoly games for sale which make great holiday gifts. December History Center hours are Thursdays 10—4 and Saturdays 10—2.



A photo of the new extension of the Erie Trail crossing (our bike trail) at 600 E., near Scoops & Smiles and the Bass Lake Beach. Photo contributed by Kathy Lucas, Prairie Trails Club volunteer.

Bass Lake Conservancy District

Rainfall for October was 7.54 inches - bringing the YTD rainfall to 39.65 inches (average total is 38.29 inches). In addition, the pump added 34 million gallons into the lake. YTD total is 289 million gallons. The pump will remain operational until the lake begins to freeze. The next scheduled meeting of the BLCD is Monday, December 13, 2021. Meetings begin promptly at 6:00PM CST. *Larry Collura - Vice-Chairman BLCD*



A photo of the ribbon cutting for the new 2.1 mile extension to the Erie Trail. State and local dignitaries attended the Grand Opening on October 22. The extension allows a 22 mile round trip from CR 700 E to downtown North Judson.

Bike Trail Extension Is Complete!

The Prairie Trails Club is excited to report asphalt was laid in late September on the two-mile extension of the Erie Trail between Hwy 35 and CR 700E. The extension will make possible better trail connectivity to Bass Lake.

The opening celebration on October 22, was well attended. An INDOT employee with jurisdiction over US bike route 35 attended the ribbon cutting ceremony, commenting that we "knocked it out of the park." He was particularly pleased with the community involvement in the bike rack and benches programs. For the latest trail news, please check the PTC's website at www.prairietrilsclub.org



Submitted by Russ Blais, BLCD Board Member.