

President Rick Anderson's Thoughts

Our pump and a little July rain helped lake level almost hold at minus seven. On August 1, level was at minus eight. I have seen many Bass Lake Augusts; lake level always went up and down; I expect that will happen this August too. Looking back, lake level was minus 10 inches on September 1, 2020.

I missed our Annual July Property Owners meeting; however, in a follow-up meeting, the Board agreed to revise the bylaws to improve future election procedures and to return to the practice of making the unapproved minutes of the previous meeting available prior to the next meeting. At our August 21 meeting we will do some 2022 planning. Who will be on which committee? What will be new? Will a new welcome sign be installed at the three way stop by Memorial Day 2022? Stuff like that. July did turn out to be pretty normal and I expect August we will also be normal. The Festival was great. My buddy Roger ended July with a pig roast on his 80th birthday. Previously unmarked rocks are being marked; that's a good thing.

The great American game at the VFW is again close to three-quarters of a million dollars. I find that quite remarkable; you may too. Rules of the game from the VFW website:

"Ok folks, we've been getting quite a few questions about our All American Raffle game. Tickets are \$1 each. Fill out ALL RED TICKETS. You do not keep any red tickets. If you're going to be present for the drawing you only have to put your name. If you're not going to be present we need your name, telephone number, and one of the numbers remaining on the game board. Tickets are available for purchase at the VFW post during business hours. (11am -9pm daily. 12-5pm Sunday.) You do NOT need to be a member to play. You must be 18 years old. You do NOT need to be present to win the whole jackpot amount. ALL ticket sales stop at 7:15 pm (15 minutes prior to the drawing.)"



The Bass Lake Festival included a Saturday morning run and walk with nearly 200 participants!

The friendly bartender answers game questions: No, tickets are not sold on the internet. No, tickets are cash only. No, the bartender will not fill out your tickets. Yes, yes, yes, yes; that is four times I have told you yes. Yes, the game may go down to the last number again. No, its not rigged; it just may go down to the last number again. Yes, the kitchen serves great food. With 4 numbers left, the August 14 "V" jackpot drawing will be for \$738,479.

The solar project with the redirection of irrigation water is still being engineered with no known roadblocks. Water visibility remains pretty good at about 2.5 feet and Bass Lake still has plenty of fish biting at the toes of swimmers. Finally, "The Easter Egg" remains in the lake. *Stay Safe and Healthy, Rick*

Editor's Note: I didn't know what the "Easter Egg" tradition was when I first heard about this. Here it is: A long-time lake resident puts a note inside a plastic Easter egg each April and drops it in the lake. The lucky person who finds the egg gets \$100. The 2021 egg has not yet been found, which means it is floating around Bass Lake or resting along the shore. If you find it, open the egg. The directions to retrieve your prize are inside. May the best chicken win!

Property Owners Association—Saturday, August 21 at 9:00 a.m., BLPOA building

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

Starke County Park Board (our Beach): Tuesday, September 14 at 6:00 p.m., Starke County Annex

Prairie Trails Club—The next Membership meeting is Thursday, August 26 at 5:30 p.m., CDT (6:30 p.m., EDT) in the BLPOA Building

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

Bass Lake Festival—Future of the Festival will be discussed, September 12 at 9:00 a.m., BLPOA Building

Bass Lake Bathers

A group of bathers is shown at Bass Lake around 1905. They may be out of town visitors that have come to the lake on one of the railroads from Chicago. The ladies are wearing fashionable bathing suits of the day. This consisted of a blouse and pants all in one piece, with a matching skirt buttoned at the waist to conceal the figure. A pair of stockings completed the outfit.

The lady in the center is wearing a very daring outfit, since it exposes her neck. As late as 1910, a lady might be arrested for exposing her lower legs, upper arms, or neck. It would be the 1920's before skirts and long pants were not worn when swimming. At the time of this picture, it was just becoming widely acceptable for women to go swimming. It would be 1930 before men dared to expose their chests at the beach.



Ron Vendl, Starke County Historical Society

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

Hats Off to Larry Wisner— The Grand Marshal of our Bass Lake Festival Parade was Larry Wisner. Wisner, the owner of Larry's Marine has been at our lake since the 50's. We love you, Larry!

BLPOA Soup Social - Join the Bass Lake community for some fun, fellowship, and wonderful homemade soups. This annual event will be at the BLPOA building on October 16 from 5:00—6:30 p.m., (or when the soup runs out!!) \$5 per person, children under 10 FREE. If you would like to donate a soup, please contact Mary Topelian: mjtopelian@att.net.

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.

BLPOA Welcome Folder—Mary Jesso is managing the new member welcome process. If you have input about what should go into the folder, send Mary an email: mary@jessolution.com.

Solar Farm Update—The BLPOA has a Solar Farm Irrigation Advisory Committee to represent our interests as the new solar farm is planned and built. For more information, attend the BLPOA member meetings or contact the Starke County Commissioners.



BLPOA Annual Bike Ride—Below is a photo from the July 17 bike ride. The participants enjoyed the new Solar System signs which were recently installed along the trail!

Bass Lake Festival Thank You— The Bass Lake Festival would like to thank the Bass Lake Community, the sponsors, the volunteers and the participants that made Festival 2021 a success! Help us make Festival 2022 a bigger success by attending our year-end meeting. It will be held on Sept 12 at 9:00 a.m. at the BLPOA building. All event coordinators are asked to attend, along with anyone interested in the future of the Festival. Contact Mary Topelian for more information mjtopelian@att.net



Cover Your Bass is a favorite Festival activity. Wooden fish were adorned and painted by adults and kids

2008 and have spread to more than 40 lakes across northern Indiana. Stop Aquatic Hitchhikers! is a growing effort that helps recreational water users be part of the solution to help prevent and slow the spread of aquatic invasive species.

Lake activities such as recreational boating, angling, waterfowl hunting, and diving may spread aquatic invasive species. Some aquatic invasive species can attach to boats, while others can become tangled on propellers, anchor lines, or boat trailers. Many species can survive in bilge water, ballast tanks, and motors or may hide in dirt or sand that clings to nets, buckets, anchors, and waders.

Fortunately, completing simple steps can prevent the transport of aquatic invasive species. Remember to Clean, Drain, Dry... In every waterbody, every time. Learn more at <https://stopaquatichitchhikers.org/>

Wanted All 2021 Festival Photos—If you are willing to share your 2021 Bass Lake Festival photos, please send them to newsletter editor, Kathy Carrier, Kcarrier@brijent.com. They will be used solely in future issues of this newsletter, Catch & Release.

Changes at Bass Lake Beach & Campground—If you'd like to give your input regarding the exciting changes to the Bass Lake Beach & Campground, attend the Park Board meeting on September 14 at 6:00 p.m. at the Annex Building or contact Park Board members. See Starke County website.

Bass Lake Conservancy District (BLCD) - Where is the rain? July rainfall, 2.55", July avg. rainfall, 4.60". YTD rainfall. 24.93". Looks like we are on track to be below our normal yearly average of 38.29"! The better news. After a second lake survey by Aquatic Control, 10.6 acres of Eurasian Milfoil was observed that was not found in the first survey. Aquatic Control submitted a request with the Indiana DNR for a permit amendment to treat this acreage. Approval was granted to treat 7.75 acres (see map on BLCD website, www.blcd-ind.org.) The areas were treated the week of August 9. This will be the last vegetation treatment approved this year. As they say, sumptin' is better than nuttin'!

Please visit the BLCD website to review what should and should not be flushed into the sewers. We recently experienced a major repair at the main pump. "Flushable" biodegradable wipes do not biodegrade before reaching the pumps so do not flush them. When the pump was pulled, an all night project, the bottom was clogged with wipes and other items. A reminder, the District maintains its own web server to keep you updated on important, current issues. Your email address will never be shared. The Board wishes you to enjoy the last month of summer! Submitted by BLCD Board Member Russ Blais

Movie Night at Historic Melody Drive-In Theatre—Our nearby drive-in movie theatre is a historic Indiana property that we are proud of. Grab your lawn chairs, bug spray and join the fun, or watch the movie from your car. Showing this weekend (August 13, 14 and 15) at the Melody Drive-In Theatre:

Early Showing at 8:00 p.m. Free Guy (PG-13) The Suicide Squad (R)
 Late Showing at 10:00 p.m. Jungle Cruise (PG-13) Conjuring: The Devil Made Me Do It ®

Call (574) 772-2042 for more information or www.melodydrivein.com.



The Festival corn hole tournament included local players as well as corn hole players who have been on ESPN!

