

# Catch and Release

# BASS LAKE

## PROPERTY OWNERS ASSOCIATION



*This photo was contributed by Grace Hehemann. She is the official photographer of our newsletter and her contributions are appreciated!*

## PRESIDENT RICK ANDERSON'S THOUGHTS...

On November 1, I measured the lake level at minus 10 inches from “the top of the Dam” mark on my boat ramp. Minus 10 is down 3 inches from the -7 inches I measured in 2021. Past November 1 lake levels were: 2020 @ -18, 2019 @ -4, 2018 @ -6, 2017 @ -7, 2016 @ -4, 2015 @ an unusual +4. It was January 16, 2016 at about 10:00 a.m. when the “Big Ice Crack” shook homes and caused a lot of shore damage. When the lake freezes with a high water level, shoreline damage can be expected.

So, are all the piers and boat lifts out? No, many are out but dozens remain in. I counted 17 piers and 17 lifts between the one mile from our home to The Woodshed Tap. Last year they all got out and this year they probably will too. What else? The clocks are changed and some think it gets darker sooner. It doesn't get darker sooner, the clock just reads later sooner. Most of the leaves are down and burned. When they started falling, they came down quickly.

What about the new “Welcome to Bass Lake” sign at the 600S/CR 210 intersection? At their Monday, November 7 meeting, the Starke County Commissioners approved placement of the new sign at the proposed intersection location. The Commissioners requested that I meet with the Highway Department to discuss possible visibility issues. That meeting has taken place and there are no issues. We will get the signs ordered, delivered and installed in the spring.

Anything new on the second pump? Doral is still considering potential well/pump locations. At this point in time, it may be best to wait until spring to do the well/pump installation. Some concerns have been expressed about the potential effects a second pump may have on nearby property owners' pumps. Before and after data can be helpful in determining and resolving any issues. After adding a new gage and calibrating our pump pressure switch, I did two quick tests. We have a 4-inch submersible pump installed by Davis Drilling in 1999. I ran the water until our pump turned on. I shut the water off and waited. 14 seconds later our pump turned off; quite an easy test. I recorded the 14 seconds and am reporting it here. Our pump is rated at 12 gallons per minute so it should pump 3 gallons in about 15 seconds. I can see where 3 gallons would probably bring the tank back to shut off pressure. Okay, one more test. After the pump shut off, I ran water into a 5-gallon bucket until it turned back on. The bucket filled to about 60% (3 gallons) and then our pump turned back on. Another easy test. Seems our pump is pumping its rated 12 gpm. The Great American Game is now at \$97,261. How high will it go? No one knows but know this: A 12-ounce draft is still \$1.50.

**Stay safe and healthy, Rick**

## Meetings and Gatherings

### Property Owners Association:

Saturday, February 4 at 9:00 a.m., BLPOA Building. As usual, we are taking a 3-month winter break.

### Bass Lake Neighborhood Watch:

Monday, December 5 at 6:30 p.m., BLPOA Building (Thanks for your patrols!)

### Bass Lake Festival:

Taking a winter break. Next meeting has not yet been scheduled.

### Exercise Class

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

### Prairie Trails Club

#### (our nearby bike trail):

Thursday, December 1 at 5:30 p.m., CST (6:30 p.m., EDT), BLPOA building

### Bass Lake Conservancy District:

#### (sewers, pump & lake weeds)

Monday, December 12 at 6:00 p.m. CST, BLPOA Building

### Starke County Park Board:

#### (our Beach & Campground)

December 13 at 6:00 p.m., Starke County Annex, note that you can Zoom into these meetings if you'd like to attend virtually!



## Bass Lake Property Owners Association

President Rick Anderson  
Vice President Rich Linkus  
Treasurer A. J. Gappa  
Secretary Kathy Laiter

### Board Members

- Tom Busch
- Terry Chimel
- Shirley Grajewski
- Mary Jesso
- Stefanie Neal
- Ron Vendi
- Val Williams

Board Member contact information is on our website: [www.inbasslake.com](http://www.inbasslake.com)



**CHRISTMAS MARKETPLACE**

**Bass Lake Festival & Bass Lake Property owners**

**Invite you to join us**

**DEC 3rd**

**9am- 3pm**

**BLPOA building 6996 S SR 10 (@Bass Lake)**

Rocky's Paper Scissors, Spectrum Tie Dye, Keever Kustoms, The Crafty Cows, Baking Love, BNaturals, Prairie Trails Crafts, Tina's Treats, Leslie's Cottage Crafts, Bass Lake Jam, A&J Custom Designs ..and many more

**Local crafters!!!!**

Photos with THE GRINCH!! 12 to 2pm

SCOOPS & SMILES serving Lunch!!

### BLPOA Building Rental for Family Events

Need Space for a Family Party? Rent the large, renovated BLPOA building. Members pay \$125. Contact Rich Linkus for details, [linkusr1@hotmail.com](mailto:linkusr1@hotmail.com). Not-for-profits use the building at no cost.



**Bass Lake Lions Club**

**PULLED PORK DINNER**

**Saturday, November 19<sup>th</sup>**

at the Bass Lake Lions Building  
5506 S. Prairie St.

**Drive-thru Only**

Cash Only

12:00pm CST until food runs out

\$9 Meal - Includes Baked Beans and Potato Salad

\$4 Sandwich only

Proceeds will help fund tuck point repair



### Bass Lake Conservancy District

Rainfall for October was 2.87 inches with a YTD total of 28.94 inches. Average rainfall for October was 3.57 inches. Currently it leaves us some 10.0 inches below the average yearly total (2003 – 2021) of 38.57 inches. The lake pump added 31.00 million gallons and a YTD total of 260.00 million gallons. Average water pumped (2005 – 2021) was 212.99 million gallons. The pump will remain on until the lake begins to freeze. **On behalf of the BLCD, may your Thanksgiving be full of peace, love and joy.** Submitted by *Larry Collura, BLCD Board Member*

### Bass Lake Festival

The next Festival planning meeting will be in February, date to be determined. Do you have a cool idea for our Festival logo design for next year? Contact [Mary mjtopelian@gmail.com](mailto:Marymjtopelian@gmail.com). We will be making final design decision by February. Watch for updates at [basslakefest.com](http://basslakefest.com)!

### Knox's Peppermint Parade

Saturday, December 3 at 3:30 is the Knox Christmas Peppermint Parade, complete with Santa. Afterwards there is a Christmas tree lighting ceremony at 5:00 outside the Community Center in Knox. Santa will visit with the kids and participate in pictures inside the Community Center, 55 East Lake Street in Knox. The parade route and other information is on: [www.cityofknox.net](http://www.cityofknox.net).

### Bass Lake Beach and Campground

October at Bass Lake Beach and Campground was an uneventful month. Everyone has enjoyed the final month of outdoor activities and camping, feeling fortunate for great weather. All the piers and boats are out of the water and campers are busy winterizing their units in preparation for the upcoming winter season. Such a contrast from spring to summer. There is a bit of melancholy amongst everyone. Spring is a reunion of a lot of great friends coming back together. Fall has a sadness of saying "until next year". We wish everyone a safe and happy winter season. Know we will anxiously await everyone returning in the spring to fill our beach and campground. You can look forward to many new and exciting events that will be planned for 2023! Any suggestions on things the community would like to see please don't hesitate to call the office 574-772-9181 and share your thoughts. We would like to say a huge THANK YOU to all of those who have come together to assist in the never-ending leaf clean up. Without your assistance we would be blowing and burning leaves through February. Please know you all are very much appreciated.

Tracy will be working with the newly formed Bass Lake Beach House/Trailhead Project Committee. The group has met twice and includes: Rik Ritzler, Mark Gourley, Dave Pearman, Steve Lucas and Rick Yover. The goal of this committee is to assist in moving forward with renovations of the beach house as well as adding trail heads and kayak launches. We look forward to keeping everyone updated on the positive changes that are coming. For more information, please call (574) 772-9181. Submitted by *Angelina Giuliani, Starke County Parks Department*

### Crime Mapper Alert

At the last Property Owners meeting, I mentioned that I would share information on how to access the Crime Mapper Alert program that I share at the monthly meetings for anyone who was interested.

Those directions are listed below:

1. Go to: <http://starke.in.wthgis.com>
2. In the top task bar, select Crime
3. In the left column that appears, select Custom Search
4. Next, select the starting and ending dates you want review (I usually select the first and last days of any given month.)
5. Finally, tap Search and all the police response calls that were made within the selected dates will pop up. You may select any icon and a brief description and location will appear on your screen. An explanation of the selected icon appears on the far left of your screen which may be scrolled up or down. *Ron Vendi, Chairman, Neighborhood Watch Committee*

### Bass Lake Yacht Club

The end of season awards and festivities will be on Saturday, December 3 at 8:00 p.m. For more information about this spirited, active group, contact Jim DeYoung at: [blinyachtclub@gmail.com](mailto:blinyachtclub@gmail.com).



*This is a new equestrian hitching rack built by Sharon Smead and Paul Byer. Erie Trail users now have a place to rest their horses.*

### Our Solar System in Scale

The Constellation of Starke Creative Network is opening the Our Solar System in Scale (OSSIS) project in a recent celebration. The OSSIS project depicts the planets of our solar system in a scale of 1:355 million over several miles of the Erie Trail. The planets are depicted on signs which include colorful scientific and cultural information. The planets Mercury, Venus, Earth and Mars are an easy one-mile round trip to walk if you head East from Main Street in North Judson. To get to the far flung gas giants such as Neptune from the beginning of OSSIS, you will need to cover many miles, so bicycle travel is recommended. For context, Neptune the current final planet in the installation is 8.5 miles from the starting point in North Judson, but less than a half mile from the parking area at US 35.

The OSSIS Project is expected to include both onsite and online information. Hats off to the Prairie Trails Club, the Starke County Community Foundation and the Hoosier Valley Railroad Museum for working together on this educational bike trail project!



### Santa Train Rides

Santa Trains will provide Christmas fun on Saturdays in late November and into December. Come out and ride in a vintage commuter coach through the countryside for 5 miles from North Judson to the small town of English Lake. After crossing Kankakee River, the train returns to the depot and museum grounds. During the trip, passengers enjoy visiting with Santa and each child will receive a gift bag from Santa.

Trains depart on November 26, December 3, 10, 17 at 9 AM, 11 AM, 1 PM and 3 PM (central time).

The total length of each excursion is 1 hour and 15 minutes. Ticket prices begin at \$14 and are prorated depending on age. Purchasing tickets online is recommended as trains have sold out in past years. Purchase tickets at [www.hoosiervalley.org](http://www.hoosiervalley.org).

### Prairie Trails Club

INDOT and Adventure Cycling Association have approved relocation of US Bike Route 35 in Starke County. US BR 35 was formerly routed along Starke County Roads 800 South and 700 East. Now it is routed on the nonmotorized Erie Trail.



*Prairie Trails Club volunteers recently installed a map box on the new trail extension so we can access current trail maps!*



*Prairie Trails Club volunteers installed an equestrian hitching rack so users have a way to rest their horses on a grassy spot near the trail at 700E.*

## THE HONEY HOLE PRESENTS

# FEATHER PARTY

FRI., NOV. 18TH  
PARTY STARTS 5PM  
MUSIC STARTS 6PM

### Lake Park Garage



A picture taken in the 1930s shows Dale Fishburn in front of his Lake Park Garage at the south end of Bass Lake. Signs advertise Johnson Gasoline, a brand then sold through a refinery in Chicago. Dale's assistant was known as "Hinie". The wrecker appears to be homemade but ready to do the job.

Today this location is a vacant lot and was last home to "The Breakers." For many hearts that area of the lake was known as Lake Park and included a train stop, amusement park and one-room school, as well as several other gas stations and stores.

Thanks to Dorothy (Ferretti) Kasprzak for donating this interesting photo to the museum.

*Submitted by: Ron Vendl, photo from Starke County Historical Society*