



LOON'S CALL

LOON LAKE PROPERTY OWNERS ASSOCIATION

WINTER 2020

"Working together for a fun, safe and scenic lake community"

MOVING FORWARD: LOON LISLE RESERVE PLANS

BY WALT HESSLER



The LLPOA is moving forward with plans for the Loon Lisle Nature Reserve. A committee was formed and met for the first time this past June. The Loon/Lisle Reserve Planning committee recommended that we move forward with plans for a Nature Trail through the wooded wetlands area of the property. The LLPOA agreed with the recommendation and the Planning Committee determined that the next step

was a formal plan was needed. The Planning Committee enlisted the help of Dr. Jonathan Schram from the Merry Lea Environmental Learning Center.

Dr. Schram met with the Planning Committee at the Reserve. After touring the area, he felt that we have a great opportunity to create a nature trail. He also recommended planting native grasses on the north portion of the Reserve. At the same time the Committee felt that a simple shelter should be added to the plan and the LLPOA Board agreed. Dr. Schram suggested that a plan could be created as a project for Goshen College undergrad students studying at Merry Lea. Two students stepped forward to accept the challenge of creating a plan for the Nature Trail and planting of Native Grasses. The Planning Committee met with the students numerous times answering their questions and establishing expectations for the plan. In early December the students presented their plan for the reserve to their professors and some of the Planning Committee. The plan includes a trail loop through the wooded wetlands area along with recommendations for trail material and boardwalks over the wetter areas. The plan also covers the planting of native grasses with recommendations on the types of grasses that could be used. This area would also have a connected trail through it.

The next steps include adding more details to the initial plans and obtaining approval from the DNR to move forward. Additionally, we will be seeking funding in the way of corporate donations and grants to help fund the project. There will be a need for a great number of volunteers once the actual work begins. We are very excited to see this project moving forward! To get involved in this dynamic project contact anyone on the LLPOA Board.

'20 LAKE events

01 & 02 association
MAY MAY GARAGE
SALES 8-4

aluminum can
PICK-UP 9AM **09**
MAY

16 spring meeting
MAY **7722 ARNOLD 9AM**

kids fishing derby
BOAT LAUNCH 8:30-NOON **06**
JUNE

13 aluminum can
JUNE **PICK-UP 9AM**

lighted boat
PARADE DUSK **03**
JULY

04 5.5k
JULY **WALK/RUN 8AM**
pancake
BREAKFAST 8-11
sailboat
RACE 11AM
kayak
FLOATILLA 4:30
fire
WORKS DUSK

aluminum can
PICK-UP 9AM **11**
JULY

25 poker run 10am
JULY **DOGS & BRATS 11:30**

annual
GOLF OUTING **TBD**

08 aluminum can
AUG **PICK-UP 9AM**

fall meeting
7722 ARNOLD 9AM **29**
AUG
LLFMC cornhole
TOURNAMENT NOON

12 aluminum can
SEPT **PICK-UP 9AM**

LLFMC muskie
SHOOTOUT **TBD**

LOON LAKE CONTACTS

All Area Codes 260 unless noted

OFFICERS

Garry Hill, President -----248-8471
 OPEN SEAT, Vice President -----
 Carol Kurtz, Secretary -----799-4980
 Rich Nelson, Treasurer -----799-4913

DIRECTORS

Bob Gallivan -----820-1240
 Steve Weaver -----799-4195
 Gary Hicks -----403-7691
 Clark Milestone -----348-5706
 Tena Miller -----213-0638
 Bruce Graham -----317-697-5619
 Lindsay Gallmeyer -----704-0993
 Brian Clark -----438-2322
 Karen Treat -----438-7968

COMMUNITY-POLICE/FIRE/HEALTH

DNR -----244-3720
 Whitley County Sheriff -----244-6410
 Whitley County Fire -----248-8911
 Whitley County Health Dept -----248-3121
 Noble County Sheriff -----636-2192
 Noble County Fire -----636-7712
 Noble County Health Dept -----636-2191

COMMUNITY-OTHER

Columbia City Utilities -----248-5110
 Humane Society -----244-6664
 Noble REMC -----636-2113 or 800-933-7362
 The Watershed Foundation -----574-834-3242
 Tri-Lakes Sewer District -----691-2820

After Hours Emergency number---- 609-9680

(Do **NOT** call for normal business issues-- use after hours only)

CHAIRPERSONS

**Denotes Board Liaison*

5.5K Run/Walk----- (Gary Bock)*G Hicks 241-6899
 Poker Run ----- (Ehinger) *Bruce 437-8085
 By-Laws ----- (Garry Hill) 248-8471
 Can Collection ----- (Bob Gallivan) 820-1240
 Finance Committee----- (Rich Nelson) 799-4913
 Fire Hydrants----- (Terry Huffman) *G Hicks. 609-8691
 Fireworks----- (Bob Barkley) *Brian 341-1904
 Garage Sale----- (Karen Davison) *Lindsay 609-8144
 Golf Tournament ----- (Kirk Smith) *Steve W 799-4195
 Newsletter ----- (Lindsay Gallmeyer) 403-7689
 Kayak Flotilla----- (Darrell Post) *G Hicks 322-7681
 Kids Fishing Day ----- (JoAn Butler) *Carol 799-4193
 Lake Enhancement-- (Walt Hessler) *Bruce 799-4903
 Lighted Boat Parade ----- (Carol Kurtz) 799-4980
 Loon Lake Apparel----- (JoAn Butler) *Carol 799-4193
 Media Sign----- (Kathy Ehinger) *Lindsay 437-8085
 Pancake breakfast-- (Mark Newman) *Clark 799-9990
 Sailboat Race ----- (Tom Zahm) *Gary H. 341-8349
 Water Quality Testing---- (Rick Miller) *Tena 213-0639
 Website Updates----- (Lindsay Gallmeyer) 704-0993
 Welcome Committee----- (Tena Miller) 213-0638


www.loonlakeindiana.org

Want to see your photos on the Loon Lake website? Submit your photos of Loon Lake to Lindsay Gallmeyer by email: lindsaygallmeyer@yahoo.com

Would you like to Advertise here? \$50 for black and white, \$75 for color. Runs for 3 issues. Email your requests to advertise to: loonlakemail@gmail.com



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faye@grahamins.net
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 AUTOMOTIVE
Robert Salesman
 Sales Manager
 401 W Van Buren St.
 Columbia City, IN 46725
 Phone: (260) 244-0032
 Cell: (260) 229-1598
 EMAIL: robert@rhoadesautomotive.com
 WEBSITE: www.rhoadesautomotive.com



Aquatic Weed Control
Jim Donahoe
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 Fax 534-8230
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FROM THE PRESIDENT

BY GARRY HILL

The LLPOA has a long history of supporting the Loon Lake homeowners by land conservation, maintaining the natural beauty of the lake and the resources of the lake mainly fish and game, property, community rights and interests, the rights of individuals and promote general community welfare including social aspects.

Over the last several years it has become difficult to find LLPOA board members willing to serve as the president or vice president. (I myself have volunteered to be president for a third term. The maximum consecutive two year term is in our by-laws. I functioned as a board member for two years after being president for two years.)

We clearly need your help!! If you can assume the role of president or vice president after spending a year as a board member we would love to hear from you. Please get involved in your lake community.

What is required of the president? First, prepare the agenda for the monthly meetings and the two annual meetings. This is done in concert with the rest of the board. Second, conduct the meetings. These two things consume the most time. Personally I spend about an hour preparing the agendas and preparing for the meetings. Board meetings generally last 1½ - 2 hours. The general membership meeting runs 2 - 3 hours. The president also addresses, with the board help and input, issues that impact the lake as needed. The president also maintains the by-laws that are updated as needed and handles the liability insurance for the LLPOA. This takes three or so hours every year.

The VP role is to fill in for the president as needed.

Please consider being a board member and then president or VP. I will mentor anyone willing to volunteer.

Garry Hill



Warm Winter Greetings! A few Loonies did their long standing tradition of taking a New Year Day plunge! Hearty stock (or crazy) here on Loon Lake! Photo courtesy of Carol Kurtz.

get your LAKE NEWS

website

Check out the Loon Lake website-
www.loonlakeindiana.org

There is a calendar for lake events, lake history, lake news, contacts, newsletter archives & more! We are looking for new photos of Loon Lake for the website. If you would like to see your pictures featured submit them and any other suggestions for improving the website to Lindsay Gallmeyer by email-lindsaygallmeyer@yahoo.com.

facebook

Join the Loon Lake Property Owners Association Facebook group where you can follow news and other exciting happenings around the lake. Over 400 folks keep track of lake business by joining this group. Great for lost and found, help needed, cottage for rent, etc. Need an update on a coming event? Just ask via Facebook.

email

Have you been receiving emails from the LLPOA ? If NOT, please contact us at-
loonlakemail@gmail.com so we can add you to our email list. We do not share e-mail addresses and all messages are sent via blind copy so others can not pick up your information. The summer/winter issue of Loon's Call will be sent only via e-mail unless you request a hard copy.

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ADDRESS:
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 LARWILL, IN 46764

Email: xtreamtiledesign@gmail.com




 **VOYA**

MICHAEL ZAHM
 FINANCIAL ADVISOR

Tel. 317.442.3230
 Michael.zahm@voyafa.com

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CiderMill Propane, Inc., 455 S 300 E, Columbia City, IN 46725

 **Tim: 260/609-7552**
Ruby: 260/610-4999

Office: 260/248-8961
 Ext. 227

 **ORIZON REAL ESTATE, Inc.**

Tim Brower CRS, GRI, ABR
 Broker

Ruby Brower
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www.country-lake.com
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THE TRUTH ABOUT MUTE SWANS

BY WALT HESSLER

We have all seen the Mute Swans that have taken up residence on Loon Lake. We have also seen migrating Mute Swans that stay for a few days or a few hours. This article is formatted as a list of easy to read bullet points intended to provide quick important facts regarding the Mute Swans we are accustomed to seeing on Loon Lake. There are several weblinks at the conclusion of this article to allow individuals to learn more about these swans.

- 🦢 Most residents of Loon Lake would agree that the Swans are beautiful creatures and we enjoy seeing them on the lake
- 🦢 Virtually all the swans on Loon Lake are Mute Swans
- 🦢 The Mute Swan is the only swan with an orange bill
- 🦢 Mute Swans are considered an INVASIVE species by the DNR and are comparable to zebra mussels, purple loosestrife and Asian carp in that INVASIVE classification
- 🦢 They are not native to the US and were introduced from Europe
- 🦢 They disrupt natural Indiana (Loon Lake) ecosystems
- 🦢 Mute Swans are currently protected in Indiana, so a permit is required to control their population
- 🦢 Federal protection for the exotic Mute Swan was removed by the Migratory Bird Treaty Reform Act in 2004. This occurred because Mute Swans are not native
- 🦢 Mute Swans can be dangerous and aggressive and have been known to attack people and pets
- 🦢 They remove native plants that help keep Loon Lake clean **and require four to eight pounds of aquatic plants as food each day**
- 🦢 This native plant consumption robs other wildlife of important habitat and can cause population declines in fish and other wildlife
- 🦢 Swan feces (poo) primarily go directly into Loon Lake and the large amount of plant intake equates to a high volume of swan feces
- 🦢 Swan feces contribute to harmful bacteria and facilitate significant growth of E. coli
- 🦢 Within 5 YEARS two mates will produce 30 OFFSPRING
- 🦢 These 30 will produce up to 450 OFFSPRING in 5 years
- 🦢 Each swan can live up to 30 years

The LLPOA Board will continue to monitor the Mute Swan population. Please support any future action deemed necessary by the LLPOA Board to ensure the Loon Lake water quality and the health and safety of our residents. Feel free to ask questions and come to the Spring Meeting to express your support.

Links: https://www.in.gov/dnr/fishwild/files/mute_swan_3.pdf

<https://indiana.clearchoicescleanwater.org/waterfowl/waterfowl-impacts>

https://www.aphis.usda.gov/wildlife_damage/reports/Wildlife%20Damage%20Management%20Technical%20Series/Mute-Swans-WDM-Technical-Series.pdf

2020 LOON LAKE CALENDAR

Date	Time	Activity
5/1 & 5/2	8:00-4:00	Association Garage Sale
5/9/20	9:00 a.m.	Can Pick-Up*
5/16/20	9:00 a.m.	Spring Meeting 7722 Arnold
6/6/20	8:30-noon	Kid's Fishing Derby County Line Boat Launch
6/13/20	9:00 a.m.	Can Pick-Up*
7/3/20	Dusk	Lighted Boat Parade
7/4/20	8:00-11:00 a.m.	5K Run/Walk Loon Lisle Reserve Pancake Breakfast Gallivan, north end of lake
	11:00 a.m.	Sailboat Race
	4:30 p.m.	Kayak Flotilla Near Old Campground
	Dusk	FIREWORKS!
7/11/20	9:00 a.m.	Can Pick-Up*
7/25/20	10:00 a.m.	Poker Run Sycamore Bay
	11:30-2:30	Dog and Brats Sycamore Bay
TBD	TBD	LLPOA Golf Outing Crooked Lake Golf Course
8/8/20	9 a.m.	Can Pick-Up*
8/29/20	9:00 a.m.	Fall Meeting 7722 Arnold
	Noon	LLFMC Cornhole Tournament
9/12/20	9:00 a.m.	Can Pick-Up*
TBD	7:30 a.m.	LLFMC Muskie Shootout

*Oct-May Recycle Aluminum cans may be taken to 5727 Red Bud Lane and left by the garage on left side of driveway.

LOON LAKE APPAREL

Get your Loon Lake apparel! There are so many choices - sweatshirts, hats, polo shirts and fleeces to mention a few. Beach towels for summer, visors and jackets too. We have catalogues full of items that can be custom ordered with these designs. They can also be personalized too. You pick colors and style, DaniJo's Embroidery does the rest!

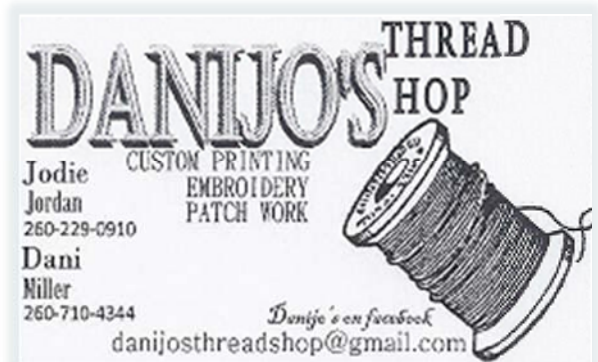


Pick from our original embroidered loon motif or the flip flop sun screen print!

Sample prices include:

Sweatshirts - \$25 - \$45 Polo shirts - \$25
Fleece jackets start at - \$42

It takes about 2 weeks, why not put your order in today and beat the rush? Contact JoAn Butler at 466-6207 or e-mail dcjl1butler@embarqmail.com. She has everything you need to pick out a special item, even sample sizes. You can see samples and all the options at the Spring and Fall meetings, but don't wait, order now so you can wear it to the meeting!



2020 LOON LAKE FISH MANAGEMENT NEWS

The Loon Lake Fish Management Committee recently submitted a permit application to the Indiana Department of Natural Resources, to stock up to 400 Muskie and 1500 Walleye later this fall.

For those of you that might not know, the Loon Lake Fish Management Committee (LLFMC) was created in 2013 after the State of Indiana ended its 32-year muskie stocking program at Loon Lake. LLFMC is a not for profit organization created by and comprised of area homeowners and anglers committed to the enhancement of Loon Lake and the preservation of the muskie fish population and other fish species.

To secure the necessary monies required to purchase the fingerling fish and donate prizes to the Annual Children's Fishing Derby, LLFMC engages in multiple fund-raising activities throughout the year. The activities include prize raffles, cornhole games, and solicitation drives from homeowners and local businesses. LLFMC has no overhead burden; 100% of the monies collected are allocated for the purchase of fish.

The sustained support from the Loon Lake community and generous supporters is greatly appreciated and needed to continue our work. If you are interested in joining the group or to make a donation please contact Clark Milestone at 260-348-5706, or Bob Barkley at lake46725@gmail.com.

LOON'S CALL



The Spring Migration has begun on Loon Lake! The Redheads, Blue Bills (greater scaup), and Mergansers gathered in Sycamore Bay and put on quite the diving show! A welcome sign that Spring cannot be to far behind.
Photos courtesy of Carol Kurtz.

Speed Limits Around the Lake

S 600 W-57- east side:
30 mph

W 700 N- south end:
20 mph

Brown Rd- west side:
20 mph

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SHOW YOUR LOON LAKE PRIDE!

Get your Loon Lake window sticker for your car, boat or front door at the spring meeting. Only \$3.00 each!

LOON LAKE WELCOME SIGNS

Want to post a special message on the media signs?
Contact Kathy Ehinger at 260-437-8085 to rent the sign
for only \$5! Great for birthdays, anniversaries,
retirements or even fun messages!



260.691.3150

1800 East Bair Road
Columbia City, IN 46725
www.shrinerlakemarine.com

LOON LAKE ASSOCIATION
P.O. BOX 605
COLUMBIA CITY, IN 46725