



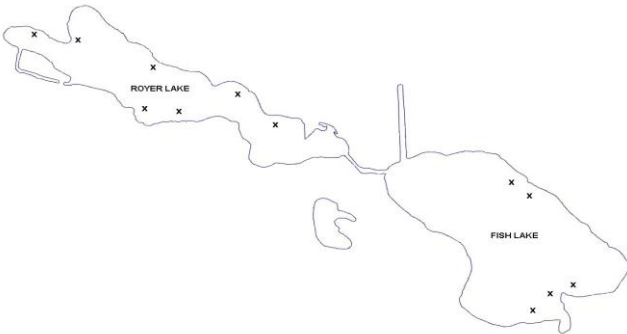
Fish/Royer Lake Association

SEPT - OCT 2020

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FISH ATTRACTORS / LAKE STRUCTURES: In order to give a protected environment for our fish investment, we have applied for a permit for placing fish habitat structures. The structures added to our lakes will attract fish, allowing them to hide from predators, as well as give them a safe place for breeding. A placement study was done with the DNR, to pinpoint twelve desirable places between both lakes (indicated on the map below.) The lake structure permit was applied for, public notice was provided to and signed by all lake residents whose property lines fall within 200 feet of the structures, and an ad was placed in the newspaper, as notice to those outside of the required 200 feet. We are now ready to build and place these structures into our lakes!



VOLUNTEERS NEEDED:

Erik Pearson, Board member, is looking to form a committee of volunteers to complete this project. The project will consist of constructing 60-240, fish attractor structures (4'x6'x4' brush piles.) Clusters of 5-20 structures, with concrete blocks attached to them, will be placed at each of the twelve determined locations. If you are interested in building or placing structures, or both, please contact Erik as soon as you can!

CHANNEL DETERIORATION: Deterioration of shoreline is causing natural sedimentation to slide down and fill in the bottom of our main channel. Our boats need a maintained level of water to pass through. Effort on our part will keep the channel from becoming impassable. The biggest effect on shoreline deterioration is boat speed. By law, boats are to be at Idle at all times while in our channels. We are No Wake / 10MPH Lakes, meaning idle speed within 200 feet of our shorelines, and no speed greater than 10mph in open water. Hoping to help rectify this issue, the Association Board has approved the purchase two "Idle Speed" buoys, to be placed at each opening of the main channel. Remember, just because the buoys are not out during the winter does not change the laws. No one wants to lose out on utilizing both of our beautiful lakes, so PLEASE do your part by adhering to the legal lake speeds.

FISH STOCKING: On October 5th, 3600 Walleye were stocked into our lakes. This event brings our past three year fish stocking count to an approximate 10,000 Walleye, 3,500 Catfish and 360 Northern Pike. That's a 14,420 fish in three years and over 32,420 fish in eighteen years!!! The efforts put in the by committee and members through time and contributions are appreciated. Thank you for helping to make a better lake environment, for everyone.

Fish Stocking Side Note: Erik Pearson has researched the request to add a stock of Smallmouth Bass. After the general meeting discussion that 50% of Smallmouth Bass stock will be eaten by predators, while at an approximate cost of \$1800 for 1000, it has been decided to table further discussion on the topic until after the fish attractor/structures are in place. The fish attractors will provide an environment for the Smallmouth to hide from predators, hopefully giving them a better survival rate.

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Thank You!

LAKE WATER QUALITY: Not only has this year shown a decrease in gizzard shad schooling activity, but the brown algae is also beginning to clear up. By increasing desirable fish quantity, decreasing gizzard shad population, and limiting weed/plant removal, our lakes are getting healthier and clarity is improving. The Association will be adding fish structures and will continue their Fish Stocking program. Our Community will need to continue their efforts to maintain and increase our scarce plant life. The purpose of taking weeds/plants out of our lakes is to allow boats to get in and out, not to establish beaches for swimming and recreation. Before removing any plant life, please consider both our water quality and the wildlife that depend on a healthy weed/plant environment.

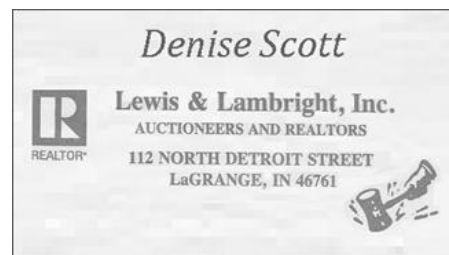


SEWER PROJECT: Adam Sams, of LaGrange County Regional Utility District has advised us that the sewer project is going as well as can be expected. Even after having a few hold ups with equipment, because of covid-19, the schedule still has Fish and Royer to be pumping to the Region B plant by the end of the year. The project has received another 2.6 million for the next phase as hoped. The next positive thing is that they have made some further evaluations that were in the original scope of work and were able to remove around 1 million in construction costs. They are now hoping to only have two phases of the project, cutting some of the soft cost out, and still be at the monthly charge of \$81 (+change.)



PLEASE DO NOT LITTER: If you dropped it, pick it up. If you brought it, take it with you. Do not throw trash in the waters, public areas, out your car windows, while walking, or even on your own property, if it can blow elsewhere. Do not leave items, wanted or unwanted, in any of our lakes public areas. These are not personal storage areas. Items left lying around can create potentially dangerous situations to those wanting to enjoy the areas. If you have left any items in our public areas, please remove them.

Annual Chicago Joe Scholarship: Unfortunately, we did not receive any essay submissions for the 2020 annual scholarship. Therefore, the board has decided to roll the fund money over to next year, 2021, and award either one larger amount or two separate scholarships. TBD

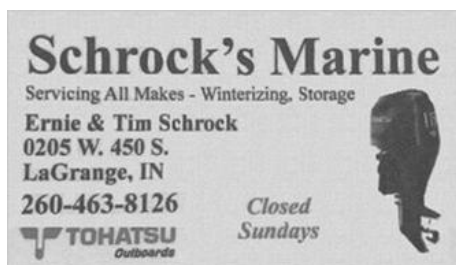


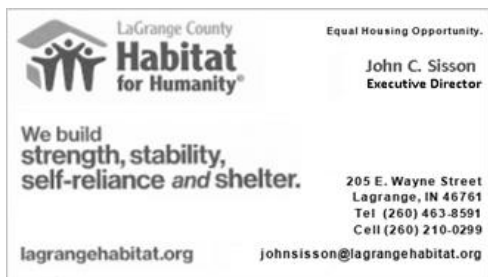
GOLF OUTING: Congrats to Ron Wilson's team for winning the 2nd Annual Golf Outing, and thank you to all six teams that participated. We did not approach local businesses for donations this year, as many have been hurt by the pandemic, so your participation was greatly appreciated. We were able to raise \$190 toward the Fish Stocking Fund!

FISHING TOURNAMENT: Congrats to Brad Pearson, Mark Albert, Joe Gawle and Noah Strahm for winning our 2020 Fishing Tournaments. And, thank you to all who participated. Due to you entries and donations, we were able to award prizes totaling \$490, and raise \$490 toward the Fish Stocking Fund and \$60 toward the Buoy Fund!



SPONSORS: We would like to take a second to thank our 2020 sponsors. This year was definitely hard on businesses. Please do your part by utilizing their services whenever possible. Their business cards can also be found under our website's sponsor tab. Remember, their sponsorship helps keep our quarterly newsletters in production.





WOOD DUCK BOXES: Now that the Osprey nesting posts are in place, there's hope that some of the Osprey chicks born nearby sought out our platforms, and will return over the next couple April-May nesting seasons. Until then, we are moving our focus to the next wildlife project... Wood duck boxes! These wooden box structures may not only help boost local wood duck population, but they may also be used by other cavity nesting birds, including mergansers, tree swallows and screech owls. The Board has approved \$200 towards supplies, and we have volunteers willing to build boxes. If you would like to build your own box, plans can be found on our website. If you are interested in receiving a box to install and maintain on your property, or would like to make a contribution to this project, please contact Tom McCue or Dave Schnieders.



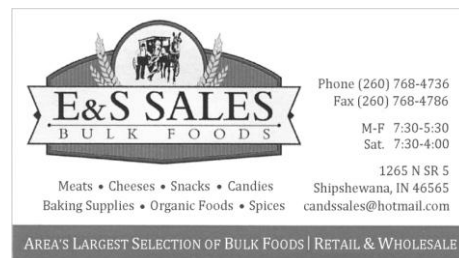
GEESE: Many residents have complained about too many geese on their lawns this year. Due to the chance of unhealthy conditions developing, the Association Board has discussed two possibilities to correct the issue: 1) There is a company permitted in the state of Indiana to apply a natural product, Flight Control, which leaves a bitter taste on the grass that the geese won't eat. Though this option can be purchased by the landowners, more research needs to be done regarding possible impact to the environment and fauna. 2) There is a company that will do a goose round up, relocating them to Pigeon River, at an approximate cost of \$2 per goose. This option would require volunteers, and payment would be made through the Association. - Since options require a Spring decision, before the goslings can fly, this topic will be discussed further at an early year board meeting. If you are not currently a paid member, but wish to receive goose maintenance, please consider paying your dues for 2021.

2021 EVENTS & ACTIVITIES:

All events are open to change depending upon county and state regulations relating to the pandemic.

While staying within any government guidelines and /or restrictions, we are hopeful to have our annual meeting, community garage sale, flotilla, fishing tournaments, golf outing and fundraiser dinner. We are also hoping to include additional fundraising events such as a 4th of July Music and Food Fest, Labor Day Fish Fry and a Poker Run. Additional activities may also include a Wine and Canvas Club, Kayak and/or Aqua Cycle Club, Food Truck Appreciation Day, Trunk and Treat and Holiday Cookie Exchange. If you have any activities or events you would like the Association to help promote, ie: firework displays, "chill night", etc, let us know. Topics will continue to be discussed over the winter months, in order to prepare for next spring. If you are interested in joining a committee to or volunteering to help organize and/or run an activity or event, please contact one of the Association Board members list on the back page!

HALLOWEEN 2020: As of October 20th, LaGrange County is allowing Halloween Trick-or-Treating on October 31st, from 5:00PM to 8:00PM. Our county has seen an uptick in covid-19 positives, so please use extra caution electing to participate this year. It is suggested to wear masks both when trick-or-treating and when passing out candy. Do not approach any houses that do not have their porch lights on.



BURNING: We are in the midst of leaf burning season! As always, please continue to be responsible and use caution. If you happen upon someone burning inappropriate or hazardous materials that may cause concern, contact IDEM by calling (800) 451-6027 and select option #3, or complete a form found at www.in.gov/dem/5274.htm.

ASSOCIATION BOARD MESSAGES:

What a great turnout to our August General Meeting and Election, considering we are still in the middle of a pandemic. It was appreciated that everyone was so considerate of their surroundings, from wearing masks to maintaining social distancing. We hope everyone found the discussions as interesting and productive as we did.

Per our by-laws, we are able to have from 3 to 9 elected board members. They should be split between both the two lakes, when possible, and must be split between opposing two year terms. Therefore, existing board members have one year left to their terms, while newly voted board members will have two year terms. In addition to board members, we are expanding to include committee leads, so more can participate.

The 2020 paid members attendees casted their votes and their votes have been tallied...

Welcome to the New Board!

Jolyn Strahm, President - Fish Lake - two year term
- contact: (260) 463-6135 or jolynstrahm@gmail.com

Mark Albert, Vice President - Channel - one year term
- contact: (260) 499-1450 or mendyandmark@live.com

David McIntosh, Treasurer - Royer Lake - one year term
- contact: (765) 749-6761 or davidmcintosh123456@gmail.com

Tom McCue, Secretary - Royer Lake - one year term
- contact: (260) 442-7821 or cagermcq@aol.com

Jay Benak, board - Royer Lake - one year term
- contact: (847) 226-8565 or pipefitterjay@comcast.net

Ron Lucas, board - Royer Lake - one year term
- contact: (260) 760-9091 or ronlucas48@gmail.com

Erik Pearson, board - Royer Lake - two year term
- contact: (260) 463-6789 or erikpearson4@gmail.com

Jeff Slabaugh, board - Fish Lake - two year term
- contact: (574) 971-6814 or jeff@pbnj.org

David Schnieders, board - Fish Lake - two year term
- contact: (317) 345-2918 or davidschnieders@sbcglobal.net

Bob Considine, committee - Fish Lake
- contact: (513) 518-1473 or bobconsidine345@gmail.com

Christine Benak, committee - Royer Lake
- contact: (708) 431-5194 or krisy23@aol.com

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

A NEW PRESIDENT: Our Lake Association Board has a new President. Jolyn Strahm has replaced Erik Pearson, who will continue to serve on the board. Jolyn has a long history of Fish Lake. Her great grandfather bought the family cabin in 1959. That cabin then was passed onto her grandparents in the early 70's. Jolyn, along with her parents, her brother and her sister, moved into the house in 1991. In 2012, Jolyn and her husband A.J. bought their own home on Fish Lake. Jolyn has lived on Fish Lake for over 25 years!

Jolyn is married to A.J. Strahm and has three children: Taylor, Emily and Noah. She presently works as a physical therapist assistant at Cameron Hospital in Angola. She enjoys gardening, hiking, running and spending time with her family. She hopes to continue working with the Association to improve our lakes' water quality and our fishery. Thank you, Jolyn, for serving our Lake Association members as our new President!

A Sweet Farewell: After six years of serving, Pam Deetz has chosen to no longer be on the Lake Association Board as Secretary. Pam, her written words, ideas, and organizational skills will be greatly missed! She left Tom McCue with some pretty big shoes to fill. We wish Pam the best as she enjoys all the extra free time she will now have.

Congratulations to Ron Wilson and Renee Zimmerman, who were married October 10th, 2020, at their home on Fish Lake!

If you are paid member and would like to make a small shout out Announcement in a 2021 Newsletter, such as a birth, birthday, engagement, marriage, anniversary, etc., please contact or email your information to Christine Benak.

Treasurer's Report	Sept. 11th, 2020:	\$ 22,2065.01
General Fund:	\$ 4,290.01	Revenue: \$ 17,821.00
Fish Stocking:	\$ 17,170.00	Expenses: \$ 6,759.57
Buoys:	\$ 365.00	
Scholarship:	\$ 440.00	



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