



Clear Lake

NEWS

JULY-SEPTEMBER 2006

GREETINGS.....

First, thank you for renewing your Clear Lake Association membership. We have received over 300 memberships....with reminder postcards in the mail to those who may have misplaced our first invitation. Over 80 memberships qualified for the Clear Lake map. Those maps will be delivered by Association board members early in July along with your membership stickers. We can only hope your support indicates the Association is meeting the goals we talked about in an earlier edition of the Clear Lake News.

Now, another invitation....attend the **Annual Meeting** of the Clear Lake Association on Saturday, July 15, at 9:30 a.m., St. Paul Catholic Chapel. Coffee and doughnuts will be our treat. The board will address current issues of Clear Lake, elect board members and officers and have a presentation regarding the purchase of the island. We hope to have a crowd.

A reminder....the 8th Clear Lake Lions Club walk/run will be on July 8th at 8 a.m. All of us need to "sweep" the street to assure the best possible conditions for the walkers and runners. We want to have a fun, safe event for all the participants.

My term as president will end at the July 15th annual meeting. I want to thank the board members who served with me this past year. You were always willing to "share the load" and bring good ideas to the table. And....to Alan Brown, who serves as our sec./treas....my sincere "thank you"....you did a great job of keeping us informed and "nudging" us when needed.

Please attend the Association annual meeting....your input is welcome....it takes many ideas to find a good solution.

Mary Lee Gecowets, President
1040 Lake Drive
495-3519

MESSAGE FROM THE TOWN COUNCIL

Summer is in full swing at beautiful Clear Lake and summer residents have returned. Lights shine brightly from cottages awakened from their winter slumber. Lawns are manicured and windows freshly washed. The lake is alive with pleasure boaters, skiers, wake boarders, fisherman, and swimmers. Walking, biking, jogging, and rollerblading around the lake are popular pastimes for residents, property owners, and guests. For the safety of everyone please drive carefully and use caution while enjoying everything Clear Lake has to offer.

CLEAR LAKE KASOTA ISLAND: A LEGACY FOR FUTURE GENERATIONS

Real or exaggerated, the future of the island may be out of our control.

Whether you enjoy the beauty of Kasota Island by magnifying its quirks from your cottage porch, by swimming and socializing on the beach, or by exploring its trails, **YOU** have a stake in its future. While there is still an island free of development, we have the opportunity to preserve and protect it forever. We, the Clear Lake community, can control the destiny of the island by purchasing it and putting protection parameter on the deed forever. With your help, our community will be able to protect and preserve the Clear Lake Island for future generations.

Kasota Island is currently owned by Triple J. Ventures (Dave VonDeylan). He is willing to sell the property to the community of Clear Lake for an estimated cost of \$1,650,000. (Total Estimated Island Cost and Island Maintenance Fund 6/2007). The community will have one year to raise the money following the date of the execution of the agreement with the Clear Lake

Land Conservancy. However, in the event that the Conservancy or its agent obtains written commitments of 50% of the current price at the end of one year, the time allowed will be extended an additional year - giving the Clear Lake community two years to raise the required amount.

What can you do to help? First of all, you can attend our meetings to voice your comments and concerns. Our next meeting will be at the Yacht Club on Saturday, July 1st, at 9:00 am. There will be another meeting held at the Yacht Club on Friday, July 7th, at 3:00 pm, and the Clear Lake Association Meeting will be held at St. Paul's Catholic Church on Saturday, July 15th at 9:30 am.

However, first and foremost, we are asking you to **PLEDGE** your support for the future of Kasota Island. Your pledge for the island purchase can be sent to the following address:

Kasota Island Pledge
914 Clear Lake Drive
Fremont, IN 46737
Email-bgeiger1@verizon.net
Fax -260-495-6177

The Steuben County Community Foundation will collect, hold, invest and administer the donated funds. The Foundation can also accept marketable securities.

All donations are Tax Deductible.

We are already well on our way to achieving our goal. As of this date, we have over \$375,000 in pledges. That is over 23% of our goal, and we're just beginning the real fundraising effort by providing all of the Clear Lake cottage owners the opportunity to participate.

If you have any questions, comments, or concerns please contact Bill Geiger at 495-2611 or Bob Lewis at 495-5015. We have an opportunity to make a difference in the visual identity of our lake. Let's make it happen, one and all.

CLEAR LAKE COMPREHENSIVE MASTER PLAN

The Steering Committee for the Comprehensive Master Plan update held their organizational meeting on May 25, 2006 at the Fremont Public Library. Nineteen (19) volunteers met with Region III-A officials. The committee began the task of gathering information by devising the first of several resident surveys and that survey was mailed on June 9th. The

information gathered provided community vision and priorities.

The committee's second meeting and the first public meeting were held at St. Paul's Catholic Chapel on June 22nd. About 50 residents, cottage owners, and interested persons attended. A series of both committee and public meeting are scheduled for July 27th and September 28, 2006 at 7 PM at St. Paul's Chapel. Please attend these meetings and lend your voice to the process of planning the future of Clear Lake.

A THANK YOU AND A FAVOR TO ASK



The Clear lake Lions Club would like to thank everyone who has contributed aluminum cans for recycling. Your commitment to recycling helped the club realize over \$700 to be given back to the community.

The favor: please continue to drop your aluminum cans off on the north side of Bill Scheumann's barn at 6930 N 875 E but please, aluminum cans only, no plastic containers, tin cans or garbage! Your cooperation is appreciated.

TOWN HALL CONSTRUCTION

Clear Lake contractor and resident Bill Geiger who is a member of the Town Hall building committee gave a presentation on construction planning at the June 12th Town Council meeting. The building will be 2200 square feet with a full basement. It will contain a meeting room that will seat 50 people and offices for the Clerk-Treasurer, Town Superintendent, Marshal, Zoning Administrator, and a common work area.

Bids were awarded for site engineering and water well drilling for the Town Hall in June. The Building Committee has submitted final building plans to the State of Indiana for approval. Site preparation is scheduled to begin in mid-July and actual building construction is scheduled to begin in late August.

CANADA GEESE CONTROL

The efforts of several volunteers oiling eggs and conducting a round-up, has reduced the Canada geese population at Clear Lake by 200+. Thanks!!

FIRE PROTECTION CONTRACT

In June the Town Council approved a two-year fire protection agreement with the Fremont Fire Department with a modest cost increase. The department is now associated with the Town of Fremont government. It is becoming increasingly difficult to recruit volunteer firefighters for day shift emergency responses so the department's long-range plans are to hire a full-time Chief and firefighters as funding permits. To assist in keeping manpower, equipment and fuel costs to contract agencies as low as possible the Fremont Fire Department has requested private donations. If Clear lake residents are able to individually assist, the cause is noble. Both the Clear Lake Association and the Clear Lake Lions Club financially support this fine fire department.

CLEAR LAKE PROPERTY TAXES...DO YOU KNOW WHERE YOUR MONEY GOES?



For 2005 property taxes payable in 2006, the Town of Clear Lake's assessed valuation is \$192,233,440 which represents 7.24% of the total assessed valuation of Steuben County. The owners of property within the Town of Clear Lake will pay \$1,880,149 in property taxes this year. Of that money the Town of Clear Lake only receives \$110,741 for the operation and maintenance of the town. The other 94% of our property taxes help fund taxing units outside of the town. Here is how our property taxes are distributed:

Fremont Community Schools	69.37%	\$1,304,259
Steuben County	19.74%	371,142
Town of Clear lake	5.89%	110,741
Fremont Library	4.22%	79,342
Clear Lake Township	0.61%	11,469
State of Indiana	0.17%	3,196
	<u>100.00%</u>	<u>\$1,880,149</u>

The Town of Clear Lake receives additional funds from the state distribution of Motor Vehicle Highway taxes, Local Road and Street funds, the state cigarette tax, the Rainy Day Fund, Capital Development and the County Economic Development Income Tax.

CLEAR LAKE KNEE-HIGH NATURALISTS

What is it? A series of mornings discovering nature at Clear lake, Finding natural treasures and learning how to take care of them.

Who can come?--Clear lake youth ages 5-12. 3 and 4 year olds are welcome but must be accompanied by an adult to participate.

When?--Join us Thursday mornings from June 29th - July 27th from 9:30 - 11:30. Program will begin and end promptly.

Where?--Clear lake Yacht Club, Koeneman Lake and Spangler Grove.

Cost? --Sponsored by the Clear lake Township Land Conservancy through the Education Fund.

For more information contact Angie O'Neill at 495-3862

HAVE YOU MOVED? ARE YOU A NEW OWNER?

Please notify the Town Clerk/Treasurer of any changes in your addresses, telephone numbers, emails or emergency contact information. You can mail your changes to the town hall, 122 Outer Drive-Clear Lake, Fremont IN 46737, or use the town's website, www.townofclearlake.org, and clicking on Owner Information and then completing the form.

CLEAR LAKE ASSOCIATION CONTRIBUTIONS

The Clear Lake Association Board of Directors met in early June and approved contributions to these organizations that serve our community: Clear Lake Lions Club, Clear Lake Township Land Conservancy, Fremont Fire Department, Steuben County Crime Stoppers, Steuben County Humane Society, Steuben County Lakes Council, Steuben County Underwater Rescue and Recovery Team, Town of Clear Lake for swim buoys, and Women in Transition. A contribution was also sent to the Eli Point Property Owners who have been legally objecting to funneling, pier sizes and the definition of a marina.

ENJOY CLEAR LAKE...HAVE FUN...BE SAFE!