



Schaefer Lake Newsletter

December 2019

3-month lowering of Schaefer Lake set for Dec. 15 - March 15

The level of Schaefer Lake again will be drawn down this winter, with the valve open from Dec. 15 to March 15. This action, set to occur every two years by the Lot Owners Association bylaws, allows property owners to plan and perform dock maintenance and other lakeshore-improvement duties without having to wade into the water.



But changes in the drawdown schedule are being considered for future years.

“We will be re-evaluating the frequency of draw-downs based upon feedback from the silt inflow study and recommendations from Burke Engineering,” according to a statement from the SLLOA board. Experts say the draw-down can pull silt into the lake from Duke Creek, board members said.

Members who would like to share their opinion on this and other topics will have an opportunity during the 2020 lot owners association annual meeting, planned for the first week of March. The board will be sending out the required mailing such that they will receive at least 21 days in advance of the meeting. The mailing will include the meeting date and time, as well as a proxy to be filled out if they cannot attend.

In preparation of that, please share any changes in address or email with a board member. Updated directories are being prepared.

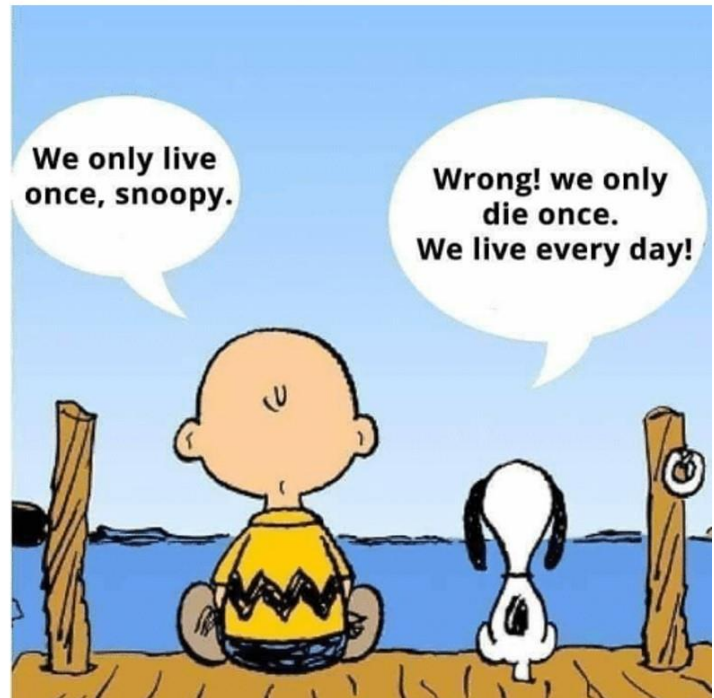
Above: Christmas lights overlook lake (top); water pours over Schaefer Lake dam in November.



Halloween decorations in front of the Trotters' Schaefer Lake home.

OFF THE DEEP END

.....*The lighter side of Lake living*



By Mike Champlin



Upcoming area events

Dec. 14-15: Actors Studio of Hope and Willow Leaves present "Christmas Variety Show," 6 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 14 and 1 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 15 at Willow Leaves of Hope, 326 Jackson St. Performers include McKenna Hall, Lisa Barrett, Naomi Pyle, Jan Tatlock, Cori Brod/Pete Law, Dorothy Tanner, James Cave and a few surprises. Cost: \$26 includes dinner and show. Doors open 30 minutes before dinner; shows begin one hour after dinner starts. Directed and produced by Naomi Fleetwood-Pyle. For more information or to make reservations, call 812-546-0640.

Dec. 16: Voting opens on Main Street of Hope Facebook page for Deck the Town Competition, which continues through 10 p.m. Dec. 21. To vote on your favorite decorated homes in Hope, just "Like" the Main Street Facebook page.

Jan. 5: Sunday Social at the Yellow Trail Museum, 644 Main St., Hope, 2 to 4 p.m. Monthly get-together, discussion held the first Sunday of each month. Hosted by Main Street of Hope. Snacks provided. Info: 812-546-4673.

Healthy Living Recipe

By Shannon Dailey

Healthy Gingerbread Muffins

Mmmm...don't you just love gingerbread this time of year? I love these muffins and that they are a healthier version than most! I especially love them with a cup of coffee. Enjoy!



Ingredients

1/2 cup whole wheat pastry flour

1 teaspoon baking soda

1 teaspoon cinnamon

1 teaspoon ground ginger

1/4 teaspoon ground allspice or cloves

1/4 teaspoon salt

1/4 cup pure maple syrup

1/4 cup blackstrap molasses

1 egg, at room temperature

1 teaspoon vanilla

1/3 cup nonfat plain Greek yogurt

1/2 cup unsweetened vanilla almond milk (any milk will work)

1/4 cup coconut oil, melted and cooled to warm

Optional: Coarse sugar or sparkling sugar, for sprinkling on top

Instructions

Preheat oven to 350 degrees F. Line a muffin tin with muffin liners; spray the inside of the liners with nonstick cooking spray to ensure the muffins do not stick.

In a large bowl, whisk together flour, baking soda, cinnamon, ginger, cloves and salt. Set aside.

In a separate bowl, add maple syrup, molasses, egg, yogurt and almond milk. Whisk together until smooth and well combined. Add dry ingredients and mix until just combined. Fold in the melted coconut oil (we do this last so that it doesn't harden when mixed with other wet, cold ingredients.)

Divide batter evenly between muffin liners, filling about 1/2 of the way full. Sprinkle with a little coarse sugar or regular sugar (creating a beautiful muffin and a delicious crunch on the outside). Bake muffins for 18-22 minutes until a tester comes out clean or with just a few crumbs attached. Makes 12 muffins.

*Recipe from Ambitious Kitchen blog



Fond look back at fall's fabulous foliage



A mid-October tour of Schaefer Lake found vibrant red, orange and yellow leaves against the backdrop of blue skies.

Minutes of recent board discussion, actions

SLLOA Board Meeting

7 p.m. Aug. 20, 2019

1. Review July Minutes (Candy Towsley)
2. Treasurer's Report & Financial Update (Diane Jekel)
 - Follow up on late collections: Aging shows 8 lots with dues owed. Some are making arrangements. LOA to proceed on liens for the lot owners who have not contacted or arranged payments
 - When Realtors are contacting us, we are making them aware of potential upcoming special assessment for dredging.
3. Update on emergency spillway progress (Scott Towsley)
 - Working on quote for construction drawings, which was NOT included in the original bid.
 - Scott still needs to discuss the flow analysis with Burke (How fast the muck comes in)
4. Update on Dredging (Brent Engel)
 - Recommend working with Burke on permitting as they will know the expectations in our area.
 - Working on options for the resulting fill dirt, as it could be of value.
 - Once have location, permits, then Heartland would come talk to board
 - Hope to have analysis of soil samples by annual meeting
5. Water sampling August results (Brent Engel, Rob Dailey)
 - Samples dropped off, awaiting results
6. Follow up on dam maintenance – grub deterrent (Anthony Paul)
 - Grub deterrent purchased, needs to be applied to dam.
7. Need new Welcome Committee (Candy Towsley)
 - After several years of volunteering to welcome new LOA homeowners, Jerrilou Cole is resigning as our welcome committee. Need new volunteer/volunteers. Thank you to Jerrilou for her assistance on this for the past few years.
8. Annual Picnic (Diane, Candy and all)
 - Saturday, Sept. 21. 60th anniversary of lake's creation.
9. Annual Task List Updates (All board members)
 - Due date, October meeting

10. Action Items Updates:

- New LOA credit card (Rob Dailey, Diane Jekel): Filled out, need to take in
 - Follow up on Lake Santee info, visit (Dean Parrish)
 - Follow up on welcome committee coasters (Candy Towsley): Arrived, but did not order enough, need to order more.
 - Bylaw and convents committee (Rob Daly): No progress – still need 2-3 more volunteers; in the revision work to be done, need to add a statement about using the lake is at your own risk, which will probably need legal review.
 - Hard copies of 2017, 2018 & 2019 for lawyer: Minutes and proxy results, packets and invoices (Candy): Packet created, needs to be sent to lawyer.
 - Directory reprint (Candy): No action
 - Social Committee (Candy): No action
 - Opening relief valve: Need to put in the covenants that the valve was never designed to be a relief valve, and the estimated cost to replace it; need to create a clear, consistent response when lot owners complain; remind people that they are responsible for insuring their own property; recommended actions on hold for documents update
 - Setting up LLC for property purchase on hold
 - Followup on LOA park, on hold for LLC.
11. Walk In's
- Fill out form for officers and directors insurance policy
12. Next meeting: 7 p.m. Sept 24 at Brad Anderson's house

SLLOA Board Meeting

7 p.m. Sept. 23, 2019

1. Review September Minutes (Candy Towsley): Approved.
2. Treasurer's Report and Financial Update (Diane Jekel): Spurling almost done with 2018 taxes. Past dues report: Some paid; Diane will do a courtesy call on others then place lien on properties.
3. Update on emergency spillway progress (Scott Towsley): Hydraulic analysis was shared with DNR, which confirmed that everything necessary was covered and that it was good. DNR has approved permitting; Burke moved from analysis to construction drawings. Timing? Potentially could still be done this year. Better in winter, excavating is more available, water level is low.
4. Update on Dredging (Brent Engel): Status update from Burke on the silt inflow analysis? Scott has not communicated to Burke yet. There are a couple leads on local farmers with interest in dredged material; would be good to have the soil analysis in hand for these discussions. Conversation with J&J Excavating on uses for dredged material. Rick Gardner is continuing to watch for property for sale within proximity to the lake.
5. Soil Sampling: Board previously approved soil analysis costs via email, so Brent could proceed
6. Water sampling September results (Brent & Rob Dailey): September will be done late, and will be the last one for the year.
7. Follow up on dam maintenance grub deterrent (Anthony Paul): Anthony and his son applied the deterrent, which is supposed to last 2-3 years.
8. New Welcome committee (Candy Towsley): Susan Brown has volunteered to assume these responsibilities. Candy will connect with her and Jerrilou to transfer materials.
9. Annual Picnic Review (Diane, Candy and all who attended): Cut back on the amount of pork and chicken purchased; there is not really another better date; start sooner; Diane to send donation to Hartsville Fire Department, same as last year; initial estimate is that picnic was under \$1,500 budget.
10. Annual Task List Updates (All Board Members): Due date, October meeting.
11. Lake Drawdown (Anthony): It is not expect to be required for spillway work; board opinion is that we should not lower the lake after dredging is done based on information from Heartland &

others, because it pulls down silt from the creek; propose we stick with schedule until dredge but warn people that it may be reconsidered and may not happen as frequently or at all in the future. Open up Dec. 15, close on March 15. Rob to reconfirm what was decided previously, follow that procedure this year.

12. Scott requested to leave the water ski course up 1 day early (Sept. 14) due to day of the week, board approved.
13. Action items Updates:
 - New LOA credit card (Rob Dailey, Diane): Rob Dailey to proceed with German American to arrange a credit card with a \$10,000 limit on behalf of the LOA.
 - Follow up on Lake Santee info, visit (Dean Parrish): Take off action items
 - Follow up on welcome committee coasters (Candy): Need to deliver cozies to Hawes
 - Bylaw and covenants committee (Rob Daly): In the revision work to be done, need to add a statement about using the lake is at your own risk, which will probably need legal review. Mike Champlin has volunteered; Ken Vorthmann had previously volunteered.
 - Hardcopies of 2017, 2018 and 2019 for lawyer: Minutes and proxy results, packets and invoices (Candy), no action.
 - Directory reprint (Candy): No action
 - Social Committee (Candy): Volunteers sought at picnic, no response
 - Opening relief valve: Need to put in the covenants that the valve was never designed to be a relief valve, and the estimated cost to replace it; need to create a clear, consistent response for when lot owners complain; remind people that they are responsible for insuring their own property; recommended actions on hold for documents update.
 - Setting up LLC for property purchase, on hold
 - Follow up on LOA park, on hold for LLC.
14. Walk In's: Question asked on Facebook about a burning barrel: It would be under county law, which the board believes only allows burning wood, not trash
15. Next meeting: 7 p.m. Oct. 22 at Brad Anderson's house.

Our leadership team

Officers and other board members on the Schaefer Lake Lot Owners Association board:
President – Rob Dailey; Vice President – Brent Engel; Treasurer – Diane Jekel; Secretary – Candy Towsley; and members at large – Rob Daly, Anthony Paul, Dean Parrish and Brad Anderson.

The next board meeting is 7 p.m. Dec. 19 at Brad Anderson's house.

Helpful information links

SLLOA website: slloa.com/

The Republic daily newspaper in Columbus: therepublic.com

Town of Hope, 404 Jackson St., Hope: Townofhope.org

HSJ (Hope Star Journal) Online: hsjonline.org/

Community Center of Hope, 543 Washington St., Hope: communitycenterofhope.org/

Yellow Trail Museum, 644 Main St., Hope: yellowtrailmuseum.wixsite.com/yellowtrailmuseum

Bartholomew County Public Library (635 Harrison St., Hope): mybcpl.org/home

