

OCT. 2 FALL PARTY DETAILS INSIDE THIS MONTH'S NEWSLETTER: SEE STORY, PAGE 4



Schaefer Lake Newsletter

September 2022

www.slloa.com

Hope's biggest fireworks display fills July 3 sky over Schaefer Lake

**Third annual show held in
memory of Diane Hawes**

The biggest fireworks show in Hope got started two years ago when a few Schaefer Lake neighbors pooled their efforts to put on one large show during the July 4 holiday.

Since 2020, the Schaefer Lake fireworks display has been spearheaded by Cody and Rikki Hege, Craig Hawes and his late wife Diane, and Jacob and Carrie Trotter as the core group, with others joining in to support the effort the past two years.

It was Diane Hawes' idea for the families to work together, and to shoot off the display from the home where she and Craig moved into in late 2016 – near the midpoint of the lake.

“She was the ram-rodder,” said Cody Hege, who moved to the lake with wife Rikki in 2011.

Hege and Jacob Trotter, who moved to Schaefer Lake in 2012 with wife Carrie, light the fireworks with the help of a few others.

This year's show – held on evening of July 3 -- was dedicated to the memory of Diane Hawes, who succumbed to cancer at age 62 on Sept. 9, 2021 after having been cancer-free for five years.

Some of Diane's favorite songs were played during this year's fireworks presentation.

A July 3 fireworks display (above) was set off at Hawes Point on Schaefer Lake





Diane Hawes (left) outside her Schaefer Lake home in May 2020

“Diane loved the fireworks,” Hege said. “That’s why we tried to go above and beyond this year.”

Hege lit \$1,000 to \$1,500 in fireworks from a 16-foot fishing boat from 2015-2017, then from his cove in 2018.

“I’ve always done little shows, nothing like the last few,” he said.

For the 2021 show, the annual fireworks investment had risen to about \$6,000, Hege said.

With a goal to make the 2022 show even bigger, they purchased and set off about \$7,000 in fireworks this year, he said.

That bought about 250 fireworks, including “grand finale” mortars that shoot high into the sky with 10 to 20 shots in them, Hege said.

They went from five mortars last year to at least 10 this year, Hege said.

“It just kept going and going,” he said of this year’s grand finale.

Appreciative neighbors made sure of that with their donations.

“I had 4 to 5 people hand me money this year. I had a lot of help,” Craig Hawes said.

The organizers’ goal was to present a 60-minute show this year, he said, compared to last year’s show of about 52 minutes.

They came close at 59 minutes.

With all the smoke and commotion in pitch-black conditions, some fireworks – enough to push the show to an hour in length – never got lit, Hawes said, but the crowd was unaware.

“Best fireworks show in the 40 years that I’ve lived out here,” lake resident Donnie Graham had said of the 2021 show.

After this year, Graham remarked: “I thought it would be hard to beat last year’s show, but you sure did it! Thank all of you!”

That’s due to the increase in lake neighbors stepping up to help, organizers said.

“They get better each year. We’re glad everybody enjoyed it. We enjoy doing it and appreciate everybody throwing in to make it better each year,” Hege said.

“We exceeded all of our expectations and I was very happy,” Hawes said. “It was a ton of fun. My family enjoys it. I’m happy other families get some joy out of it too.”

It took a half day to clean up after the fireworks, with debris filling a full-sized dumpster, Hawes said.

That was possible only because 10-12 people showed up on July 4 to help with the cleanup.

“I couldn’t have done it myself,” Hawes said. “It was very cool. More and more of the neighbors are getting into it and getting supportive.”

With the show’s central location on the lake, neighbors had excellent views from lawn chairs in their back yards, from pontoons parked in the middle of the lake and from property across the lake.

Videos from this year’s event have been posted on at least three different media channels – and word is spreading, Hawes said.

“Last year Hope police called me next day and asked for advance notice so they could help with traffic,” Hawes said.

This year, the department provided four squads to patrol the area and help with traffic, even though Schaefer Lake is outside the town’s jurisdiction, he said.

“Hundreds and hundreds of other people saw the show” from cars parked around the lake, besides the lake residents it was originally intended for, Hawes said.

“It’s turned into a neat little spectacle,” he said.

July 3, 2022 fireworks reviews

The Schaefer Lake fireworks the evening of July 3, 2022 got rave reviews on the Schaefer Lake Lot Owners Association Facebook group page.

“Fantastic show.” -- Rick Gardner.

“Was amazing. I love the 4th of July.” -- Nicole Hamilton.

“Awesome ... and then some. Best ever.” -- Tom Jekel

“It was an absolutely amazing show! Wow!” Jessica Poe

“Fantastic! Thanks for the show! You guys did an amazing job – thanks for all your hard work.” – Nancy Riely Snyder

“Great show again this year.” – Terry Hagemier

“Awesome fireworks, thank you for the fun!” -- Michelle Bennett Rand

“Thank you for the awesome fireworks!” -- Jamie Champlin

“Absolutely awesome. You guys crushed it again this year – thank you. Happy 4th.” – Kathy Rothrock Mellis

“Absolutely awesome. Thanks for the great show.” – Margie Boilanger

“Fantastic!!! Thank you for a GREAT SHOW.” – Joy Carman Brown

“I thought it would be hard to beat last year’s show, but you sure did it! Thank all of you!” – Donnie Graham, who commented last year: “Best fireworks show in the 40 years that I’ve lived out here.”

“Absolutely awesome.” – Carrie Trotter

“It was amazing.” -- Michaelanne Otwinowski

“Awesome show tonight.” Ken Patton, who shot video.

Schaefer Lake Fall Party Oct. 2

SLLOA members asked to RSVP by Sept. 28

All resident members of the Schaefer Lake Lot Owners Association are invited to a fall party Sunday, Oct. 2 from 2 to 5 p.m.

The event, being held at the Hawpatch-Hawcreek Conservation Club on N. County Road 900E just east of the lake, will feature heavy appetizers, desserts, snacks and drinks. Activities include pumpkin painting (supplies provided), bingo and cornhole games with prizes for winners. Live music is also planned.

The party promises to be fun for all ages. It is being held in place of the annual SLLOA fall picnic, which has not been staged since 2019 (60th anniversary of development of Schaefer Lake) due to the COVID 19 pandemic.

“We hope a lot of people show up and have a good time,” said Brittany Tyree, who is organizing the event with fellow lake resident Tracy Marks. “We’d love for everyone to come.”

Tyree and Marks, volunteers with the new SLLOA Social Committee, are asking lake residents to confirm plans to attend ahead of time so they can secure the right amount of food, beverages and supplies for event activities.

RSVP to Brittany Tyree by calling or texting her at 812-603-8404, or send an email to bntyree3@gmail.com. Deadline to RSVP is Wednesday, Sept. 28.

If people would like to bring food, let Tyree know when you RSVP.

Guidelines for safe, enjoyable use of Schaefer Lake

We hope all are enjoying the 2022 boating season. It has been a hot one with many people enjoying cooling off in the lake. For the new people to join the Schaefer Lake community, welcome to our paradise. Both new and longtime residents should keep in mind our Schaefer Lake boating rules (published below and online) and the 84-page Indiana Boating Safety Handbook (available online). These are to create a safe and enjoyable environment for all. You can find both of these on the Schaefer Lake website under the documents link at slloa.com.

It’s also great to see all the people walking, running, bicycling, and golf carting around the lake. Speaking of golf carting, there were some very young drivers of golf carts without adults onboard. Please ensure safe operation of the golf carts for the enjoyment of the community. We really do not want to see anyone get hurt or causing damage.

-- SLLOA board of directors

Boating, Skiing, and Fishing Rules and Regulations OF SCHAEFER LAKE LOT OWNERS ASSOCIATES, INC.

The Schaefer Lake Lot Owners Associates (hereinafter referred to as the “Association”), per Article III of the Bylaws to the Articles of Incorporation, has the responsibility and authority to adopt and publish rules and regulations governing, regulating, and restricting, the use of Common Area(s) and the personal conduct of the members and their guests thereon and also to regulate, govern, and restrict the use of boats, motors, and water safety on Schaefer Lake.

These rules and regulations are intended to promote the common benefit and enjoyment of Association members and the residents of Schaefer Lake. To that end, courtesy and respect for the rights of others should be shown at all times.

All lot owners are subjected to these rules and regulations. Members may extend their privileges to their family and guests and are responsible for their awareness and compliance with these rules and regulations.

Persons in violation of these rules and regulations will be notified by letter and provided an opportunity for a hearing with the Board of Directors. The Board may impose fines and/or restrictions on the use of Schaefer Lake.

These rules and regulations are based on and consistent with the Laws of the State of Indiana, specifically Indiana Boating Laws and Responsibilities (IBL&R) (IC 14-15) and Indiana Fishing Regulations.

I: Boating

1. A watercraft is defined as any vessel, powered or non-powered, such as but not limited to, speedboat, pontoon boat, fishing boat, personal watercraft (PWC), sail boat, kayak, canoe and paddleboard.
2. Watercraft shall operate safely at all times, even when there is no specific rule that applies. A person may not operate a watercraft in manner that unnecessarily endangers the person or property of another person. (IBL&R)
3. All powered watercraft are required to be registered with the Association, per the Watercraft Registration Policy. The registration sticker must be displayed on the right rear corner of the watercraft.
4. No “guest” watercraft, powered or non-powered, are permitted on the lake at any time, except for the purpose of test driving a watercraft. Test drives will be limited to one hour and the member shall notify the Secretary of the Board of Directors.
5. Each lot owner is permitted up to four powered watercraft, such as but not limited to, speedboat, pontoon boat, fishing boat, and PWC.
6. Watercraft are limited to less than 26 feet in length (tip of bow to stern).
7. All watercraft must carry one wearable (Type I, II, III or V) U.S. Coast Guard-approved personal flotation device (PFD) for each person on board or being towed. (IBL&R)
8. Watercraft 16 feet in length or longer (except a canoe or kayak) must have one Type IV (throwable) USCG-approved PFD on board and readily accessible. (IBL&R)

OFF THE DEEP END

.....The lighter side of Lake living



By Mike Champlin

9. Each person on board a PWC must wear a PFD. (IBL&R)
10. No one under 15 years of age may operate a motorboat greater than 10 horsepower or a PWC unless accompanied by a lot owner.
11. All powered watercraft shall proceed in a counter-clockwise fashion and use extreme caution when crossing the lake. (Direction may vary when fishing from lake bank side.)
12. Non-powered watercraft have the right of way at all times.
13. Operating a watercraft at more than idle speed between sunset and sunrise is prohibited. (IBL&R)
14. All watercraft are restricted to idle speed within 50 feet of the shoreline. (IBL&R)
15. All watercraft must maintain safe and clear distance from other watercraft and skiers.
16. Allowing passengers or operators to ride on the gunwale or on the bow where they may fall overboard is not permitted. (IBL&R)
17. Operating a watercraft causing a hazardous wake or wash from your watercraft is prohibited. (IBL&R)
18. Lights are to be used on all watercraft approximately 30 minutes before sunset and ending 30 minutes after sunrise. Reference *The Handbook of Indiana Boating Laws and Responsibilities* for proper navigation lights.
19. It is prohibited to operate a powered watercraft or PWC while intoxicated due to alcohol or any combination of alcohol, controlled substance, or drugs. It is prohibited for owners of motorboats or PWCs to operate or allow anyone else to operate their motorboat or PWC while that person is intoxicated. (IBL&R)
20. Racing boats and racing of watercraft are prohibited.
21. Maximum speed shall be reasonable and prudent for traffic and lake conditions.

II: Skiing

1. A skier is defined as anyone riding a water ski (or barefoot), tube, or other floatation device.
2. All skiers are to remain at least 50 feet from the shoreline and other traffic.
3. All skiers must wear a USCG-approved PFD. (IBL&R)
4. Every boat or PWC towing a skier(s) must have a person on board, in addition to the operator, observing the skier(s) at all times. (IBL&R)
5. Each lot shall be restricted to one watercraft towing skiers on the lake at a time.
6. No watercraft shall tow more than two ski lines, i.e., skiers or towables, at any time.
7. The slalom ski course shall be removed by noon on summer holiday weekends: Memorial Day, Independence Day and Labor Day.

III: Fishing

1. Indiana Fishing Regulations apply to fishing on Schaefer Lake except as noted below.
2. No fishing license is required.
3. No size or bag limits apply.
4. Only members and their guests accompanied by a member are permitted to fish in the lake.
5. Commercial fishing is prohibited.
6. Placing fish in the lake for stocking purposes is prohibited.

7. Use of seines, traps (except minnow traps), gigs, fire arms, pellet and air guns, explosives, shocking devices, arrows, spear guns, trot lines, limb or drop lines, and other similar devices is prohibited.
8. Unattended lines secured to docks, etc., are not permitted.

IV: Miscellaneous

1. No traffic, including fishing, swimming, etc., shall be permitted on the dam and spillway.
2. Deposit of debris, waste or trash of any kind into the waters of the lake is prohibited. This includes trees, limbs, and leaves. It is also the responsibility of any lot owner to remove all fallen trees, limbs, etc., that came from their property.
3. It is the responsibility of the lot owner to remove, at their expense, any boat house, boat lift, or pier that is unsafe for use.
4. No hunting shall be permitted on the lake at any time.
5. Firearms shall not be discharged on, onto, or across the lake. B-B guns or other potentially dangerous weapons for varmint control should be used with extreme caution and with due respect for the safety and peace of mind of others.
6. The Association Safety Committee has the responsibility and authority for ensuring member safety in all common areas. Safety issues, especially disregarding boating regulations and operating unauthorized boats, should be reported to a safety committee representative or Board member and they will administer appropriate corrective action. Each lot owner has the responsibility to preserve the safety of our lake.
7. Persons in violation of these rules and regulations will be subject to fines following one written warning (annually), and having had an opportunity for a hearing with the Board. A \$50 fine may be imposed for the second offense and up to \$500 for subsequent occurrences.

These rules and regulations were approved by the SLLOA membership in 2018.

Minutes of recent board discussions, actions

SLLOA Board Meeting

8 p.m. May 10, 2022

In attendance: Dean Parish, Ken Miller, Ben Coy, Jen Hellmich, Schuyler Marks and Scott Towsley

April board meeting minutes approved.

Lake resident Matt Volmerding has volunteered to fill one of the empty Schaefer Lake Lot Owners Association board member positions. He was unanimously voted onto the board.

Treasurer's Report and Financial Update (Jen Hellmich)

- Review financials
- 59 of 104 lots have paid 2022 dues thus far. One outstanding 2021 lot dues was received too.
- All to delivery completed boat registration forms to Scott Towsley for filing.

Update on Dredging (Ken Miller and Scott Towsley)

- Conversation with second silt-deposit property owner has progressed with generally positive interest in being a secondary deposit site. Current discussions have a maximum payment of \$100,000 for the use of the site. They would want to farm the deposit site in year 3 after the silt deposition. Not sure if this is feasible and the silt will be dry enough, however. Scott to ask Heartland to refresh the time it typically takes to dry the silt out.
- Their questions:
 - How much silt will be dredged from the lake? 125,000 cubic yards
 - Who will be doing the soil testing?
 - Who will be doing the mowing?
 - Does Heartland have a dredging plan?
 - What entails post-deposit maintenance, Round-Up or seeding with grass?
 - What is Heartland's current 2023 spring schedule look like?

Welcome Committee (Dean Parish)

- Kim to reach out to Candy to prepare for distribution of welcome packets to new residents: Mark and Michaelanne Otwinowski (Carla Gross), William and Edna Tuttle (Maxine Chapple), Ben and Sarah Coy (Joe and Jaime Lewis), Schuyler and Tracy Marks (Dave and Susan Brown), Ken and Elizabeth Patton (Dianne Bock); Cameron and Jessica Poe (Caleb and Kimberlie Teltoe) and Matt Volmerding and Jordyn Perrott (Mark and Karen Martin). Dean to move material to Jen for distribution.
- Welcome basket will consist of 4 coasters and 2 cozies, a current SLLOA directory, lake rules and regulations, bylaws, boat registration, and Indiana boat rule book.

Dam Maintenance (Dean)

- Need to repair one support pole
- Ben Coy volunteered to take the Facilities Committee leadership. Dean will initiate the 2022 lake treatment contract with Aquatic Control, and then transfer responsibility to Ben. Ben to contact Jones Fish Hatchery regarding stocking of lake.

Annual Tasks Due

- Update Emergency Action Plan -- further updates needed for new board members; reconfirm that it now meets DNR expectations. (Scott).

Action Item Updates

- Bylaw and covenants committee -- 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. Need to look through plats at courthouse for covenants. (Brad)
- Follow up on LOA park -- on hold for LLC. Make an action item to resolve a plan with Chuck Lovelace and long-term plan for the "park lot."

Walk-ins

- A lot owner has asked if chickens are allowed to be raised in our community. This is covered in our lot covenants. The covenants state no chickens or livestock are allowed to be raised in the SLLOA community.
- Candy Towsley will publish a new 2022 directory
- 2022 boat stickers are now available. Jen Hellmich will pick them up May 11.

Next meeting: 8 p.m. June 8 at Jen's house

SLLOA Board Meeting

8 p.m. June 8, 2022

In attendance: Dean Parish, Ben Coy, Jen Hellmich and Scott Towsley

May board meeting minutes approved.

Treasurer's Report and Financial Update (Jen Hellmich)

- Review financials
- All but 5 of 104 lots have paid 2022 dues thus far.
- A total of \$100,500 has been taken in -- \$99,000 in 2022 dues and \$1,500 in past 2021 dues, providing a SLLOA bank balance of \$519,767.

Update on Dredging (Ken Miller and Scott Towsley)

Conversation with second silt-deposit property owner has progressed with generally positive interest in being a secondary deposit site. Here are their questions, with board's answers.

How much silt will be dredged from the lake? 125,000 cubic yards

Who will be doing the soil testing? Heartland can arrange testing

Who will be doing the mowing? SLLOA will arrange.

Does Heartland have a dredging plan? Upon commissioning of the contract, Heartland would submit a plan for the site to the DNR outlining the operation, the site, where the material is going, the silt-retention plan, erosion-control plan, etc. Heartland has created a document for the LOA to help them understand how he would use their land. Example: Layout of the berms, height of the berms, path of the pipe, location of the weir, path of the drainage water, etc. We thought this latter document was a good place to start to address their request for a "dredging plan." Mark will complete this document by June 17.

What entails the post-deposit maintenance, Round-up or seeding with grass? When Heartland is preparing to leave the site, they will remove the boards in the weir that set the depth of the water in the settling area. When the remaining water exits, they put bales of hay and/or an erosion-control fabric to help filter the water as it exits the basin. This will remain until the silt drains out. Rain will collect in this low spot in the retention area. He mentioned that fairly quickly, the seeds that are present in the silt will start to sprout and grow. This is good as the roots will stabilize the soil and plants will help with absorbing the moisture. He thought seeding with a grass would also be good for the same reasons. The grass will also help with structure to support someone mowing the area. He did say it would be in our best interest to mow somewhat frequently to prevent tree growth. In summary, we should plant grass seed and arrange to have it mowed.

What does Heartland's current 2023 spring schedule look like? Heartland has two contracts for dredging this year, Lake Lemon and a smaller job. Based on their progress and setup time at Lake Lemon, they do not think they will get the second smaller job completed this year and will start on it March 2023. He thought the earliest for our project to start would be May 1, 2023.

Welcome Committee (Dean Parish)

- Kim to reach out to Candy to prepare for distribution of welcome packets to new residents: Mark and Michaelanne Otwinowski (Carla Gross), William and Edna Tuttle (Maxine Chapple), Ben and Sarah Coy (Joe and Jaime Lewis), Schuyler and Tracy Marks (Dave and Susan Brown), Ken and Elizabeth Patton (Dianne Bock); Cameron and Jessica Poe (Caleb and Kimberlie Teltoe) and

Matt Volmerding and Jordyn Perrott (Mark and Karen Martin). Targeting distribution within first quarter. Dean to move material to Jen for distribution.

- Welcome basket will consist of 4 coasters and 2 cozies, a current SLLOA directory, lake rules and regulations, bylaws, boat registration, and Indiana boat rule book.
- Jerrilou Cole has graciously volunteered to head up the welcoming committee. Thank you, Jerrilou.

Dam Maintenance (Dean)

- Need to repair one support pole
- Ben Coy volunteered to take the Facilities Committee leadership. Ben contacted Jones Fish Hatchery regarding stocking of lake. Jones commented that the water is too warm for stocking the lake. Next opportunity would be in October. Recommendation from the board is to defer fish stocking until October 2023 after the dredging.
- Tim Herron has been commissioned to spray for weed control on the dam rip-rap from the emergency spillway to the other end by the boat ramp.
- Matt Volmerding has agreed to paint to the Schaefer Lake sign by the dam

Annual Tasks Due

- Update Emergency Action Plan -- further updates needed for new board members; reconfirm that it now meets DNR expectations. (Scott).
- SLLOA garage sale – will ask people who inquired to lead the project. (Jen)

Action Item Updates

- Bylaw and covenants committee -- Tim Hellmich and Mike Williams have volunteered to start a committee to look at revising the covenants.
- 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. Need to look through plats at courthouse for covenants. (Brad)
- Follow up on LOA park -- on hold for LLC. Make an action item to resolve a plan with Chuck Lovelace and long-term plan for the “park lot.”

Walk-ins

- Candy Towsley will publish a new 2022 directory
- Abandoned lot: Board has engaged with the county on what can be done to address the unkept lawn. They will investigate and get back to the board. The board will send a letter to the owner. (Dean)
- Water by the emergency spillway.
- Borrowing SLLOA tables – Board agreed to let the Champlins borrow SLLOA tables.
- Age-old topic of how do we control violations on the lake

Next meeting: 8 p.m. July 13 at Jen’s house

SLLOA Board Meeting

8 p.m. July 13, 2022

In attendance: Dean Parish, Schuyler Marks, Jen Hellmich and Brad Anderson

June board meeting minutes approved.

Treasurer’s Report and Financial Update (Jen Hellmich)

- Review financials
- All but 5 of 104 lots have paid 2022 dues
- Storage unit rent is paid through December. Next payment due Jan. 1, 2023.
- Checking account balance, \$41,086.07; savings account balance, \$481,999.33; total, \$523,085.40
- Board members to complete distribution of watercraft registration forms and 2022 stickers.

Update on Dredging (Dean Parish)

- In preparation for land leases, attorney John Stroh to add contingency of vote approval to the contract drafts.
- Need to raise budget allowance for maintenance fees due to inflation.
- Need fixed price from Heartland 60-90 days before start, schedule update, and maintenance expectations.
- Need plan for construction loan.
- Need separate bank account for dredging assessment payments.
- Need parameters set for dredging assessment payments from lot owners.
- Need to schedule separate dredging committee meetings.
- What does Heartland's current 2023 spring schedule look like? Heartland has two contracts for dredging this year, Lake Lemon and a smaller job. Based on their progress and setup time at Lake Lemon, they do not think they will get the second smaller job completed this year and will start on it March 2023. He thought the earliest for our project to start would be May 1, 2023.

Welcome Committee (Dean Parish)

- Kim to reach out to Candy to prepare for distribution of welcome packets to new residents: Mark and Michaelanne Otwinowski (Carla Gross), William and Edna Tuttle (Maxine Chapple), Ben and Sarah Coy (Joe and Jaime Lewis), Schuyler and Tracy Marks (Dave and Susan Brown), Ken and Elizabeth Patton (Dianne Bock); Cameron and Jessica Poe (Caleb and Kimberlie Teltoe) and Matt Volmerding and Jordyn Perrott (Mark and Karen Martin). Dean to move material to Jen for distribution.
- Welcome basket will consist of 4 coasters and 2 cozies, a current SLLOA directory, lake rules and regulations, bylaws, boat registration, and Indiana boat rule book.
- Jerrilou Cole has graciously volunteered to head up the welcoming committee. Thank you, Jerrilou.

Dam Maintenance (Dean)

- Need to repair one support pole. Waiting for Menards to restock materials.
- Discuss fish stocking after dredging, possibly October 2023.
- Matt Volmerding has agreed to paint to the Schaefer Lake sign by the dam

Annual Tasks Due

- Update Emergency Action Plan -- further updates needed for new board members; reconfirm that it now meets DNR expectations. (Scott).

Action Item Updates

- Bylaw and covenants committee -- Tim Hellmich and Mike Williams have volunteered to start a committee to look at revising the covenants.
- 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. Need to look through plats at courthouse for covenants.

- Follow up on LOA park -- on hold for LLC. Make an action item to resolve a plan with Chuck Lovelace and long-term plan for the “park lot.”

Walk-ins

- Candy Towsley will publish a new 2022 directory
- Lot 67, Poor Property Conditions: Board had planned to send certified letter to the owner requesting cleanup and repairs. Lawn has now been mowed and missing rear window replaced. Letter is on hold.
- SLLOA Tables: Form was created for check-out of tables for member use.
- SLLOA Trash Pump: Board agreed to allow pump to be borrowed for use by members on properties within the SLLOA. Need agreement form created for check-out.
- Lake Rules Violations: Board agreed to have an article written about safety published in the next newsletter.
- New Social Committee: Brittany Tyree and Tracy Marks attended the meeting. Plans for a fall party were discussed.

Next meeting: 7:30 p.m. Aug. 9 at Brad’s house

SLLOA Board Meeting

7:30 p.m. Aug. 9, 2022

In attendance: Dean Parish, Schuyler Marks, Jen Hellmich, Brad Anderson, Scott Towsley, Ben Coy, Ken Miller, Matt Volmerding

July board meeting minutes approved.

Treasurer’s Report and Financial Update (Jen Hellmich)

- Review financials
- All but 3 of 104 lots have paid 2022 dues through Aug. 9 meeting

Update on Dredging (Dean Parish)

- Dean walked the group through the current PowerPoint that will be used in the future information meetings to the general membership.
- Dean and Scott met with Heartland dredging representatives Aug. 4 to discuss next steps and the contract for the dredging of Schaefer Lake. Conclusions from the discussion included in the above-mentioned PowerPoint.

Dam Maintenance (Dean)

- Need to repair one support pole. Still waiting for Menards to restock materials.
- Discuss fish stocking after dredging, possibly October 2023.
- Matt Volmerding has agreed to paint to the Schaefer Lake sign by the dam

Annual Tasks Due

- Update Emergency Action Plan -- further updates needed for new board members; reconfirm that it now meets DNR expectations. (Scott).
- Publish a fall newsletter
- Schuyler to communicate with volunteers leading the effort to set a date for the fall picnic, then mail out notices to the community.

- Scott has connected with Rob Dailey on how, where and who about water sampling for the lake. Rob had sampled 3 locations, by the dam, north end of the slalom course (middle of the lake), and by lot 32 (north end of the lake). He brought the samples to be analyzed to Element Columbus (8800 U.S. 31, Columbus, IN 47201: 812-375-0531). Scott will call Element to arrange sample bottles and figure out how to get samples for August.

Action Item Updates

- Bylaw and covenants committee -- Tim Hellmich and Mike Williams have volunteered to start a committee to look at revising the covenants.
- 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. Need to look through plats at courthouse for covenants.
- Follow up on LOA park -- on hold for LLC. Make an action item to resolve a plan with Chuck Lovelace and long-term plan for the "park lot."

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Walk-ins

- Candy Towsley will publish a new 2022 directory
- Lot owners have voiced concerns about very young drivers on golf carts. Scott to include a safety note in the fall newsletter to include safe operation of golf carts.

Next meeting: 7:30 p.m. Sept. 7

SLLOA Board Meeting

7:30 p.m. Sept. 8, 2022

In attendance: Dean Parish, Schuyler Marks, Jen Hellmich, Brad Anderson, Scott Towsley, Ben Coy, Ken Miller, Matt Volmerding

August board meeting minutes approved.

Treasurer's Report and Financial Update (Jen Hellmich)

- No additional activity this past month

Update on Dredging (Dean Parish)

- Discussions with Heartland indicate that their current project at Lake Lemon will be expanded. This may be a challenge to the current projected start date for our project.
- Work with Popular Bank continues with completing the necessary forms for their assessment of our request for a loan to bridge the project.
- Reviewed and discussed material for the dredging information meetings in October. Board will be meeting on Sept. 15 and 22 to finalize material for the information meetings.

Dam Maintenance (Dean)

- Need to repair one support pole. Still waiting for Menards to restock materials.
- Discuss fish stocking after dredging, possibly October 2023.
- Matt Volmerding has agreed to paint to the Schaefer Lake sign by the dam

Annual Tasks Due

- Update Emergency Action Plan -- further updates needed for new board members; reconfirm that it now meets DNR expectations. (Scott)
- Publish a fall newsletter
- Fall picnic date set for Oct. 2, starting at 2 p.m. with new social committee organizing

Action Item Updates

- Bylaw and covenants committee -- Tim Hellmich and Mike Williams have volunteered to start a committee to look at revising the covenants.
- 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. Need to look through plats at courthouse for covenants.
- Follow up on LOA park -- on hold for LLC. Make an action item to resolve a plan with Chuck Lovelace and long-term plan for the "park lot."

Walk-ins

- Candy Towsley will publish a new 2022 directory
- Lot owners have voiced concerns about very young drivers on golf carts. Scott to include a safety note in the fall newsletter to include safe operation of golf carts.
- Results of September water sampling: E.coli results from Inlet 4, Middle 3 and Dam 2 were much lower than federal guidelines to meet the low classification.
- Concern voiced by a lot owner about rip-rap vegetation becoming out of control at certain lots. Overgrowth can restrict the view and pleasntry of the lake property for immediate neighbors and the lake community. Each lot owner should assess their respective condition of the rip-rap and perform any necessary maintenance and cleanup.
- In August a lot owner brought to the attention an orange weed that seems to be growing rapidly on the rip-rap. The board reached out to Aquatic Control (the company we hire to treat the lake for vegetation and algae control). Their assessment was the weed is Dodder. The herbicide to kill it is not safe for the lake. In their experience it has not been a problem at other lakes they maintain.

Next meeting: Oct. 11 after the dredging meeting at the conservation club.

Our leadership team

Members of the 2022-2023 Schaefer Lake Lot Owners Association board: Dean Parish, president; Schuyler Marks, vice president; Scott Towsley, secretary; Jen Helmich, treasurer; and Brad Anderson, Ken Miller and Ben Coy as members at large.

Helpful information links

SLLOA website: slloa.com/

The Republic daily newspaper in Columbus: therepublic.com

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

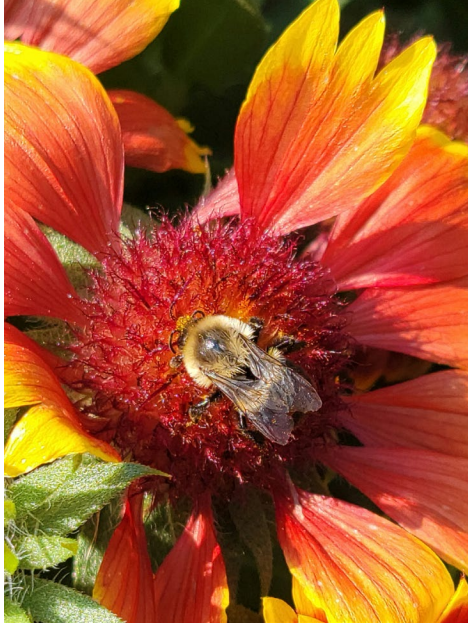
HSJ (Hope Star Journal) Online: hsjonline.org/

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

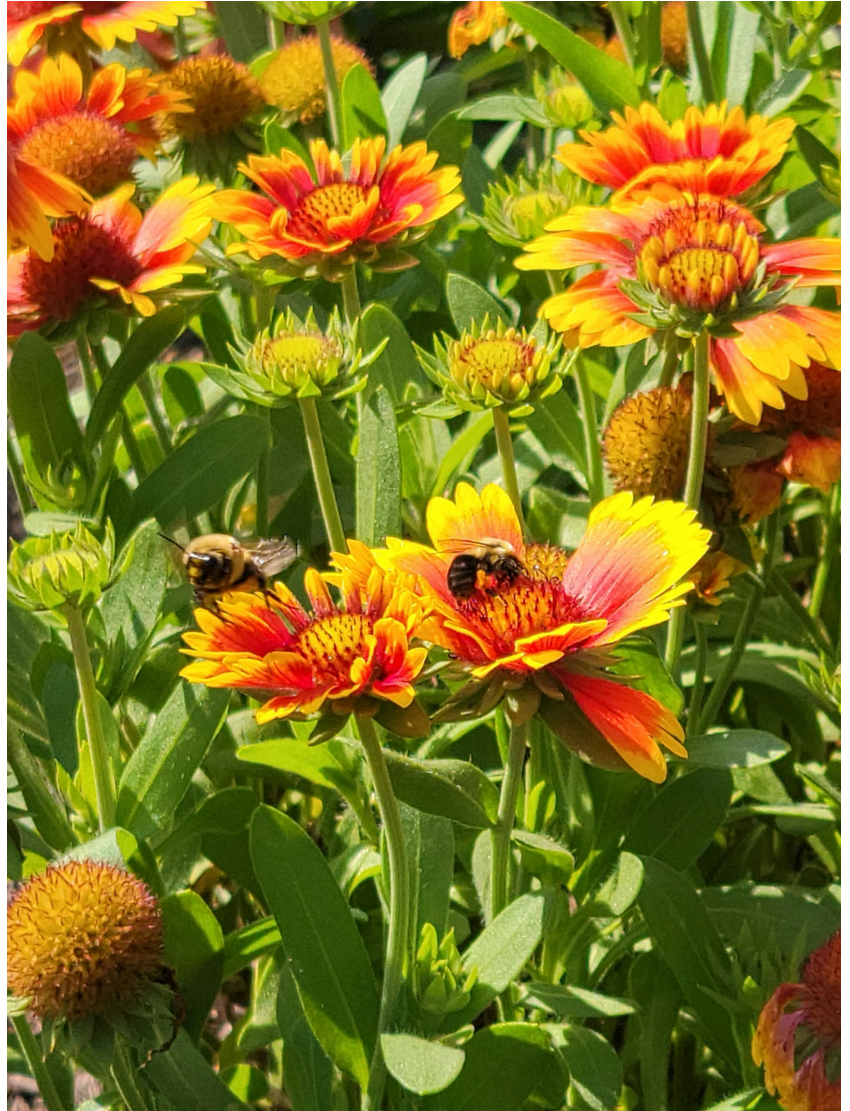
Bartholomew County Public Library (635 Harrison St., Hope): mybcpl.org/home

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

Finding nature



Above, right: Bees discover a bit of heaven in blossoming Blanket Flowers Aug. 23 at a Schaefer Lake residential flower garden.





Left: Early morning sun illuminates the fog that can be seen over a Schaefer farm pond next to East Lakeshore Drive South on Sept. 8. It is one of the many sites greeting lake residents who walk along Schaefer Lake for exercise and enjoyment.