

Dewart Newsletter



"The Dewart Lake Protective Association was founded in 1965"

Spring 2018

Visit <http://www.dewartlake.org>

Dewart Lake Officers

President:	Randy Yoder	215-0698
Vice Pres.:	Chip Wallstead	306-7249
Secretary:	Sue Lenz	708-334-8371
Treasurer:	Rebecca Tusing	658-3434
Newsletter:	Janet Roth	260-438-4221
Website:	Alex Barrett	658-4895

Lane Directors

Lanes 1, 2, 25	Alex Barrett	658-4895
Lanes 3,4	Chuck Ranney	658-4663
Lane 5	Roger Saxon	658-5563
Lane 6	Ed Gooding & Nick Mueller	678-0130 696-1025
Lane 7, 8	Harley Chalk	529-0889
Lane 9,10,11	Sue Lenz	708-334-8371
Lane 12	Jerry Jacquay	658-4865
Lanes 13	Andy Brown	658-9746
CR 1000*	Dave Smith	658-4594
Camp Logan	Jeff Kelsheimer	457-2841
Lane 15	Dennis Pressler	457-8608
Lane 16	Peggy Arnett	574-325-0809
Lane 17	Evon Foyle	658-3969
DeFreese Rd**	Ralph Blust	658-9408
Lanes 18 A,B	Jeff Drummond	528-0632
Lanes 18 C,D	Betty Busch	658-4874
Lanes 19, 20	Nancy Warrick	214-7047
Lane 21	Chuck Ranney	658-4663
Lane 22	Don McAfee	658-4790
Lane 23	Ann Robbins	513-237-6644
Lane 24	Chip Wallstead	306-7249

* Between Lanes 12 & 13 All (574) Area Code

** Between Lanes 17 & 18

2018 IMPORTANT DATES TO REMEMBER

<u>EVENT</u>	<u>CHAIRPERSON</u>	<u>DATE</u>
ROAD CLEANUP	ALEX BARRETT	APRIL 14
LAKE GARAGE SALE	EVON FOYLE	MAY 18 & 19
GOLF OUTING	TOM & JANET ROTH	JUNE 4
" "	RAIN DATE	JUNE 11
ANNUAL MEETING	RANDY YODER	JUNE 10
CHICKEN BBQ SALE	CHUCK RANNEY	JUNE 16
FLOTILLA	DAVE & BRENDA SMITH	JULY 1

Letter from the President

I know I will be dating myself here, but if you are of my generation, you will remember that after the concert we were informed that "Elvis has left the building." Well today let me inform you that "The ice has left the lake!"

If you are a permanent resident at the lake, you are well aware of that. In fact you have witnessed several piers and boat lifts already installed, as well as fishermen out enjoying the spring catch.

Let me ask you a question: What is it that makes your time at the lake memorable? That question no doubt will summon a vast range of answers. It may be the sunsets, fishing, relaxing, evenings around a campfire, or all the water activities you may enjoy. The list could go on and on. I would venture to guess that many of you would rank gathering with family and friends high on the list and I would be no different. Those times at the lake when family and friends can be together ranks at the top of the list for me. That is when memories are made that will last a lifetime.

This year again let's make every effort to make it a safe and memorable summer. Far too often we read of tragedies on the lakes that leave families heart broken and empty.

Take time to inspect your life jackets, know and use your hand signals, communicate your intentions, keep your eye on the youngsters, and always demonstrate courtesy on the water. A few extra minutes of precaution can go a long way in keeping the lake an enjoyable and safe place to make lasting memories. Be Safe! See you on the water.

Randy Yoder,
President
DLPA

Free Fishing Days

Indiana resident do not need a fishing license or a trout/salmon stamp to fish the state's public waters on **FREE FISHING DAYS**. Indiana's 4 FREE days of fishing are **April 21, May 19, and June 2 & 3, 2018**.

On all other days, only youth (age 17 and younger) and a few other special anglers are exempt from the license requirement. For more information on fishing Indiana waters, go online and checkout the DNR website.

Membership in the DLPA

Enclosed with this newsletter is a Membership Form. Please fill out and return in the enclosed envelope with your annual dues.

In Remembrance

Joseph Kozon, husband of Geraldine and father of John Kozon passed away in October of 2017. He was a resident of Lane 3

Jim Long, husband of Brenda Long, Lane 17, passed away March 19, 2018.

Bob Busch, Lane 18, husband of Betty Busch and father of our DLPA Treasurer, Becky Tusing, passed away at home on Tuesday, March 27th. Bob was a charter member and past president of the DLPA

Invasive Eurasian Milfoil

Enclosed with this newsletter is information from Randy Yoder concerning our Invasive Eurasian Milfoil problem and upcoming treatment here on the lake.

This information is also on our website for your information. www.dewartlake.org

This is your newsletter. If there is anything newsworthy that you would like to have put in regarding residents on your lane, please contact: Janet Roth @ 260-438-4221 or tomandjanet@embarqmail.com

Veteran of the Month

Norman Metzler, long-time resident of Lane 18, was honored as the veteran of the month at the Kosciusko Commissioners meeting in January. Congratulations Norm. Thank you for your service.

Roadside Clean Up

Saturday, April 14th, is the designated day this year for the roadside cleanup around the lake. One person from each lane participating would be ideal and would make quick work of the job. Meet at the boat launch at 9:45 Saturday morning. If you have questions, please call Alex Barrett.

Annual Dewart Lake Garage Sale

The lake-wide garage sale will be held the weekend of May 18th and 19th. It will be advertised in the newspaper. If you have questions, please contact Evon Foyle.

Golf Outing

The 12th annual Dewart Lake Association Golf Outing will be held on Monday, June 4th, with rain date of June 11th, at Max Welton Golf Club in Syracuse. More information is enclosed with this newsletter. All proceeds go to the Association.

Annual Meeting

Annual Meeting will be held on Sunday, June 10th at Quaker Haven's Activity Center beginning at 2:00 pm

Chicken Bar B Q

The annual chicken bar b q will be held on Saturday, June 16th, at the New Market/Dollar General parking lot in Syracuse. All proceeds go to the Association.

Flotilla

The Annual July Flotilla will be held on Sunday, July 1st. The theme this year will be "Honoring Public Service," i.e. firemen, police, first responders, military, etc. Contact Dave Smith for more information.

Invasive Eurasian Milfoil

As most of you are aware, we continue to deal with problems caused by the invasive Eurasian Watermilfoil in the lake. Since 2012 the DLPA directors under the guidance of the DNR have participated in a program that strategically placed weevils in heavily populated areas of milfoil, hoping to eliminate its presence.

Though it may have appeared the weevils were effective in reducing the amount of milfoil in the lake that was somewhat of a false perception. Since the weevils only chewed on the stem 2 to 3 feet under the surface, causing the top only to drop and fall to the bottom, which eliminated the milfoil being visible on the surface of the water, but did nothing to eliminate the plant and its broad root system. As a result, that allowed the milfoil to continue to grow and spread throughout the lake. Additionally, the milfoil is much like any other weed in that when the top of the plant dropped to the bottom of the lake, that top part of the plant took root and just multiplied the problem.

In addition to the growth and amount of the milfoil in the lake, there are other effects from the plant as well: One of them being the fact that, unlike other aquatic vegetation, water temperature does not determine when this plant starts its growth each spring, but rather sunlight determines how soon it starts growing. Since the sunlight stimulates the milfoil growth, it can start as soon as sunlight hits the plant, in fact it can happen even when ice is still on the lake. The result of its early growth allows the milfoil to get a huge head start on all of the native plant life. It then takes over and canopies areas before the native plants even have a chance to grow and get established, which has eliminated much of our native vegetation.

The DNR has since abandoned the weevil program not only because of its ineffectiveness, but also because the company that developed and supplied the weevils has since abandoned the program and no longer has the weevils available.

At the present time, Dewart Lake has in excess of 157 acres (nearly one third of the lake) of milfoil present in the lake. Again under the guidance of the DNR there have been numerous samples and studies done on the milfoil in Dewart Lake over the past couple years. The DLPA directors have been working alongside the DNR to determine our next step in addressing the issue. The DNR has recommended and approved and will participate in paying 80% of the cost for a full lake sonar treatment to begin in 2018 in an effort to bring the milfoil under control.

At the DLPA's October directors meeting, this plan was presented to the directors. The directors all acknowledged the milfoil problem we are experiencing; a lot of you do as well since many of you have contacted your lane directors with the same concern. It was at this meeting that your lane directors unanimously voted to partner with the DNR in a full lake sonar treatment this year. The directors also at that meeting unanimously voted to approve payment of the 20% cost (approximately \$25,000) that will be the DLPA's responsibility.

A major concern of the directors, and the DNR, is that as we begin treatments we protect our native vegetation to eliminate any damage to those plants, allowing them to thrive and grow as the milfoil begins to die out. This will be managed and monitored by the DNR and Aquatic Vegetation Professionals.

There has been a lot of knowledge gained by the DNR and professional applicators in sonar treatments since it was last done on Dewart Lake in 2006. When applied in an aggressive manner, the sonar treatment can indeed damage or even kill other vegetation. However, they have found that when it is

administered in smaller amounts, the side effects on native plants, fish and other wildlife is almost completely non-existent, which is our goal as we begin treatments.

As a precaution, the applicators are required to put a small sign in each homeowner's yard informing them of the treatment. It will caution them from using the lake water for irrigating their lawns for a short period of time. It does not, however, affect using the lake for swimming, fishing or any other summer water activities

I ask that you to be patient as this will be a season-long approach to our problem. There will be milfoil visible as the treatment begins, but it will slowly begin to die out as treatments continue throughout the summer. Keep in mind our approach is soft and slow, rather than hard and fast with these treatments. This approach is being implemented in a conscious effort to protect all our native vegetation and wildlife.

This will be closely monitored by the DNR and professional applicators alike. By using this approach, there may be a need for "booster" applications to achieve success. Again, all treatments will be closely monitored by professionals to achieve our goal of eliminating the milfoil without any of the treatment side effects.

If you have any questions concerning the lake treatments, feel free to contact your lane director or myself.

Again, thank you, and I appreciate your understanding in these matters as we work together in keeping Dewart Lake a clean and beautiful lake to be enjoyed by many for years to come.

Thank You,
Randy Yoder
DLPA President