



# A Great Read ... Cover to Cover! **Webster Lake**

**Fall 2019 Newsletter**  
**[www.lakewebster.net](http://www.lakewebster.net)**

## The President's Corner

Here we are at the end of another summer season at the lake. I hope you have had a great time on Webster Lake and have made many lasting memories this summer. As we close this season, I want to extend a heartfelt thank you to all of the members of the WLCA board for their efforts on behalf of the Webster Lake property owners, the WLCA and its members. All board members are volunteers and give freely of their time and talents to make the lake and life at the lake more enjoyable by performing the following tasks:



- Our dam master and his committee have kept our water levels as close as possible to the Court mandated level, a task not so easily accomplished during this very wet year.
- Our public relations/newsletter chairperson and her team have brought you three information-filled newsletters to keep you abreast of lake news and happenings.
- Our fireworks chairperson, his team, and Melrose Pyrotechnics again delivered a beautiful program.
- The weed committee and Clarke Aquatic Services (our herbicide contractor), in conjunction with the Indiana Department of Natural Resources, have managed to keep the invasive and native weeds under control and the shorelines and channels open for navigation. Members of this committee sonically map aquatic vegetation in the lake and share that data with the DNR to assist in their studies.
- Our project committee has worked with the Town of North Webster and its utility service provider to improve the sweeping of the streets and to perform regular cleaning and filtering of the storm water drains in order to reduce sediment going into the lake.

*Continued on page 2.*

WLCA's mission is to represent and cultivate the best interests of its membership and property owners by assisting in controlling the inlet and outlet of Webster Lake; endeavoring to keep the lake clean and safe for fishing, swimming, and boating; and encouraging the property owners and members to work together for the improvement of the lake. WLCA's purpose is to make the region healthful, restful, and attractive in the belief that doing so will help to enhance enjoyment of the lake and maintain and/or increase lake property values as well as benefit local businesses and the community as a whole.

## "In The Weeds"

In early October, WLCA will be meeting with the DNR in Columbia City to discuss the lake vegetation management plan for 2020. This is a part of the Lake and River Enhancement (LARE) Grant application process. LARE grants assist in paying for the herbicide treatment of invasive weed species such as Eurasian Water Milfoil in Webster Lake. Because this review happens in the fall, we have to estimate the volume of invasive weeds that we are likely to have in the spring and summer of the coming year. This estimate is based on the findings of an August vegetation survey of the volume of existing weeds in the lake.

The August DNR survey indicates that WLCA, through its herbicide contractor, has done an excellent job of minimizing the abundance of Eurasian Water Milfoil that has been infesting Webster Lake for many years. In August of 2019, Milfoil appeared in only 2.2% of DNR 90 rake drops, indicating a 0.4% dominance factor. That same survey shows Coontail, a native plant, as being the most dominant plant in the lake at a factor of 27.6%.

How did this reduction in Milfoil happen? In the Spring of 2018, there were 175 acres of Milfoil in the lake. WLCA treated all of those 175 acres even though our LARE Grant only contributed 80% of the funds required to treat 100 acres. In the Spring of 2019, our contractor found 14 solid acres of Milfoil. The DNR found spatters of Milfoil in another 74 acres. All 88 acres of Milfoil were treated on June 5, 2019.

WLCA's net expenses for the annual treatment of both invasive and native weeds over the past three years totaled \$34,443 in 2017, \$37,947 in 2018, and \$21,801 in 2019. Also, in each of these years, the LARE grant has paid no less than an additional \$20,000 towards the cost of treating the invasive weeds and the cost for the creation of the Annual Vegetation Management Plan in each of those years. The grant pays 80% of the covered costs. WLCA pays 100% of the cost to treat the native weeds at the shorelines and in the channels, the remaining 20% of the treatment cost on invasive weeds and 20% of the cost of the Annual Vegetation Management Plan.

Conditions on the lake this year have been the best that they have been in several years. Weed chop from Curlyleaf and Milfoil has been minimal. Floating masses of Coontail have not, as yet, been as bad as they were last year. We are seeing smaller masses of non-rooted Coontail entering the main lake from or through Webster Bay where Webster connects with Backwater Lake. These mats often drift to the shoreline and tend to collect Duckweed.

WLCA, through its herbicide contractor, secured permission from the DNR to provide special treatments for Duckweed in two channel areas

*Continued on page 2.*

- Under the DNR's LARE program, Epworth Forest Church Camp, with financial assistance from The Watershed Foundation and WLCA, is finishing the final phase of the \$100,000 Kline Island shoreline stabilization project this fall.
- Our water testing team has recorded and reported the water clarity readings and test data to service agencies on a regular basis.
- Our safety team again deployed and maintained all of the safety buoys on the lake, which is no small task.
- Administrative team members keep minutes of our meetings, send invoices, receive payments, pay bills and order needed materials. They write the content and prepare for or perform the printing, folding, stuffing, posting, and mailing of all correspondence, including the newsletters, saver cards and special communications to members and businesses. They receive, answer, and respond to the inquiries and communicated needs of WLCA members and non-members alike.
- Our membership committee continues to increase our membership percentage among lake property owners and lake users.
- Our nominations team finds qualified members to serve on the WLCA board.
- The audit committee verifies the treasurer's report.

Most importantly, THANK YOU to all of you who are supporting members of WLCA, the local business members and program sponsors, and the DNR LARE Grant program coordinators and officers. Thank you for making the funds available to manage the upkeep and aquatic vegetation in Webster Lake. Without your help, none of this would be possible.

I would also like to extend a special thank you to our two retiring board members, Dawn Meyer and Max Stackhouse. Max agreed to serve on the board for a second time after having previously served as both a board member and President. Dawn has been a board member and our Secretary for more than 20 years. Please read of their service later in this newsletter. These are both special people who share a love of Webster Lake. Their service will be missed, but we will continue to count on their historical perspective and advice. ♣

## **NEW NORTH WEBSTER COMMUNITY PUBLIC LIBRARY**

If you are interested in adding quality to people's lives through promoting literacy and creativity, supporting lifelong learning, and building connections in the community, then you may contribute to the Building & Sustainability Fundraising Campaign for the new North Webster library. Donations to this building campaign will continue the mission of the library, plus qualify for tax deductions. In 2018 alone, the current library had over 100,000 visits, 94,000 materials were circulated, 5,500 people used the computers, 419 kids registered in the Summer Youth program, and over 740 events/programs took place. The current library has completely outgrown its present location, which is the purpose of the new construction project. With the library being the community hub, hopes are that other businesses may upgrade as well, and together, attract more citizens to our area. For more information on how to donate to this exciting new project, either visit the current library for a donation form, phone the library at 574-834-7122, or visit [www.nweb.lib.in.us](http://www.nweb.lib.in.us). ♣

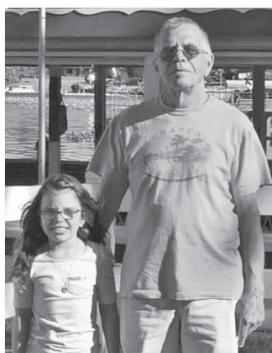


and treatments for rooted Coontail on the eastern shore of Webster Bay. Both our previous and current herbicide contractors have advised us that herbicide treatments on Duckweed are short-term and generally ineffective. Sorry to say that seems to have been the case for our extra treatments this year. While the chemical killed the Duckweed that it was directly applied to, within a few days new Duckweed blew in to take its place after which both the dead and live Duckweed remained floating on top of the water. The best approach is to remove the non-rooted floating Coontail and Duckweed, dry it on shore, then bag it and put it in the trash. Water circulators also help as well as keeping your shoreline open by extending piers, raising boat lifts and limiting other obstructions at the water level. This will allow wind and water action to move the Duckweed, other debris, and floating weeds away from your shoreline. ♣

## **RETIRING BOARD MEMBERS**

WLCA is sad to say "Goodbye" to **Dawn Meyer** and **Max Stackhouse**. Both have donated many years to the lake association and have been great assets to the board during their numerous terms in service.

Dawn, and her late husband Don, moved to Webster Lake in 1989 after a ride on the Dixie boat. Dawn then joined the WLCA board around 1998, serving as the board treasurer, then serving the last 10 years as the board secretary. In addition to serving on the lake association board, Dawn has provided periodic water clarity reports throughout the Spring and Summer months for Indiana University's Clean Lakes Project, as well as assisting Grace College students through the Lilly Center for Lakes & Streams, both for roughly 12 years. Dawn plans to continue her volunteer work for the Lilly Center, and her current service with The Watershed Foundation.



Max Stackhouse, and wife, Janette, have been married nearly 40 years and have lived as permanent residents on Lake Webster since 1988; however, Max's association with Lake Webster goes back to 1945 when his parents began helping friends with building summer cottages in the Hiner Park (Highbanks) area, with the Stackhouse place being finished in 1950. Max served a number of positions in the early 90's for WLCA, including association President in '91 & '92. Max is also a charter member (1953) of the Webster Ski Bees and past president. In 2017, Max offered to fill a void by serving as a director on the WLCA board again, but with a full-staffed board currently in place, Max is stepping aside to enjoy his retirement.

Volunteer work may sometimes go unnoticed or feel unappreciated, but the service is necessary to organizations like WLCA. Dawn and Max have been prime examples of work well serviced. WLCA is thankful to Dawn and Max for ALL of their time committed to keeping Webster Lake and the surrounding watershed healthy so future generations may experience the same joy and fun as all of us now have on our wonderful lake - "THANK YOU" Dawn & Max!! ♣

# THANK YOU TO OUR 2019 FIREWORKS DONORS--IT WAS A GREAT SHOW!

Ace Hardware of North Webster  
 Ace Pest Control, Inc.  
 Bart's Water Sports  
 Bourbon Street Pizza  
 Clarke Aquatic Services, Inc.  
 Dave's Electric, Heating & Cooling  
 Dixie Haven Resort  
 Dixie Sternwheeler, Inc.  
 Epworth Forest Conference Center  
 Fisherman Cove Resort  
 Freedom Oil LLC  
 Golden Mermaid  
 Guy's Lawn Care  
 Joyland Trailer Park LLC

Lake City Bank  
 Lakeland Pier LLC  
 Lakeland Spinal Health PC  
 Lakeview/Pizza King  
 Link Financial Services Ltd.  
 Mary Kay Cosmetics & Jan Osborn  
 Metcalf, Payne & Bell Plumbing  
 Mohawk Pier & Lift LLC  
 New Market Grocery Store  
 North Webster Fire Department  
 North Webster Lions Club  
 North Webster-Tippecanoe Township  
 Chamber of Commerce

Town of North Webster  
 Owen Family Funeral Homes  
 Pletcher Insurance, Inc.  
 Precision Wire Service  
 Re/Max Lakes Realty  
 Rhodes Insurance Agency  
 Roger's Auto Center  
 Sock's Marina  
 Subway  
 Sue's Creations  
 Thompson Concrete  
 WLCA Members



## 2020 WEBSTER LAKE FIREWORKS SCHEDULE

The 2020 Fireworks Show will be presented on Friday, July 3, rather than on the customary Saturday night with a rain date of Sunday, July 5. Our fireworks vendor has longstanding agreements with other organizations to stage their shows on July 4 each year. Our arrangement with the vendor is for the Saturday closest to July 4, unless July 4 falls on a Saturday, so that more of our summer residents can be at the lake for the Fireworks Show. When July 4 falls on a Saturday, the Webster Lake fireworks are staged on Friday night rather than

Saturday night. This arrangement gives us a larger show for a better price since shows presented on July 4 are more expensive. In case you are wondering how often July 4 falls on a Saturday, both Bing and Google say that July 4 falling on a Saturday can happen every five or six years, but sometimes a span of eleven years elapses before July 4 again falls on a Saturday. July 4 does not fall on a Saturday again until the year 2026. ✿

## WEBSTER LAKE DAM

As was explained in The President's Corner article in the 2019 Spring Newsletter, WLCA entered into litigation requesting that the Kosciusko County Circuit Court grant a Summary Judgment as to the enforceability of a contract existing between it and the Indiana Department of Natural Resources in regards to operations of and repairs/replacement to the dam. On August 28, WLCA was advised by its counsel that the Court entered a judgment declaring the contract between the Association and the DNR to be valid and binding. No further proceedings will be required in the Trial Court. (Good News for Webster Lake Property Owners and WLCA).

However, the DNR has the right to appeal this matter to the Indiana Court of Appeals if notice of appeal is filed by September 26. If the matter is appealed, a record of the Trial Court proceedings will be



prepared and filed with the Court of Appeals. Each party will then submit briefs supporting their respective positions and the Appeals Court could affirm, reverse, or modify the Trial Court's decision. ✿

Read more: [www.websterlake.net](http://www.websterlake.net), Newsletters Tab, WLCA Spring 2019 Newsletter (PDF), President's Corner article, last paragraph.



## 2019 WLCA MEMBERSHIP FORM

*(Please return this voucher with your mailed payment)*

Name(s) \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail Address \_\_\_\_\_

Lake Address \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail Statements  Yes  No

Mailing Address \_\_\_\_\_

Contact Phone(s) \_\_\_\_\_

### Check Payable to WLCA

**Membership Dues** \$ **100.00**

**Fireworks Fund** \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**Weed Fund** \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**TOTAL:** \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Mail to: WLCA  
 P.O. Box 79  
 North Webster, IN 46555

**PAYMENT MAY BE MADE THRU PayPal**  
**Information at [www.lakewebster.net](http://www.lakewebster.net),**  
**Pay Dues Tab**

## MEET WLCA'S NEWEST BOARD MEMBERS



“Farmgirl moves to the lake”: **Ann Bell** grew up on a farm west of Milford. She moved to Webster Lake in 1978 with her husband, Wes. They purchased a small one bedroom cottage at the east side of the lake. Through the years, while their family grew, they remodeled & added on. They raised two sons and now enjoy their daughters-in-law and six grandchildren. They all love coming to the lake to visit “Gaga” & “Popie”. Wes & Ann have owned businesses

in North Webster for over 35 years. They realize the importance the lake has on the community, and Ann looks forward to serving & contributing to the Lake Association.

**Thomas Brown** along with wife, Cindy, lives on the east side of Webster Lake. His family has had a home on Webster Lake since 1994. Thomas is a retired architect from the UK, enjoys living in bliss on beautiful Lake Webster, and has a keen interest and support in the lake and the surrounding area.



**Greg Schenkel** retired in 2014 from Pacers Sports & Entertainment as Sr. Vice President of Corporate, Community & Public Relations. Mr. Schenkel, who is originally from Huntington, Indiana, received a B.S. degree in political science from Ball State University in 1970. His experience consists of work in state government and various statewide political campaigns, as well as lobbying at the state and federal levels for over 30 years.

He has been involved in many civic and professional activities, including Board positions as follows: Pacers Foundation, Inc.; United Way of Central Indiana; Greater Indianapolis Progress

Committee (Executive Committee and past Chair); and Indiana Horse Racing Commission (Vice Chair); Ball State University Foundation and Ball State University Board of Trustees (1991-2006); Indianapolis Zoological Society (Executive Committee and Secretary); The Indy Partnership; Mental Health Associations of Marion County (President, 1997-98) and United Way--Community Service Council (President, 1994-96); Noble Foundation; HealthNet Foundation (former Chairman); CICOA The Access Network (Central Indiana Council on Aging); Indiana Fiscal Policy Institute; Indiana Literacy Foundation; Young Audiences of Indiana; and Governmental Affairs Society of Indiana (former Chair). Additionally, he received the 2016 Distinguished Alumni Award from Ball State University.

Greg is married to Claudia (Petranoff), who is a retired kindergarten teacher in the Indianapolis Public Schools, and they are the proud parents of a daughter, Laura Johnson (a graduate of Ball State University) and two grandchildren, Ellie and Robert.



**Jeff Vangundy** and his wife Teresa, have lived on the south side of Webster Lake since 1985. They have been married for 34 years and have raised 3 children: Michael, Stacy, and Brian, and now have 2 grandchildren as well: Taylor & Riley, plus a great-grandson, Conner. Teresa and Jeff are members of the North Webster Church of God, where Jeff participates as an usher captain. He has worked for 29 years as a Business Unit Manager over 4 facilities for Goshen/Syracuse Rubber Company, that was later acquired by

Parker Hannifin. He coached a little league team, which included Ben Guy (now a fellow WLCA board member), for roughly 5 years and more than 6 years as a volunteer umpire. He had previously served on the WLCA board for seven years beginning in the late 80's into the early 90's, including the role of secretary, and has volunteered again to serve on the board as a way to preserve the lake he and his family cherish. 🍁



### WLCA BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Mike Wyrick, *President*  
 Jacob Yahne, *Vice President*  
 Mike McCall, *Secretary*  
 Wanda Wyrick, *Treasurer*  
 Ann Bell  
 Thomas Brown  
 John Dabler  
 Ron Erb

Ben Guy  
 Tom Jones, Jr.  
 Steve Kemp  
 Jerry Parsons  
 Greg Schenkel  
 Jeff Vangundy  
 Stephanie Yahne 🍁

### REPLACEMENT OUTBOARD MOTOR NEEDED

WLCA is in need of a replacement outboard motor for the Association's pontoon boat used in putting out buoys every Spring and the transportation of fireworks and clean up of Kline Island after the fireworks. WLCA is a 501(c) (3) corporation and the “contribution” of a working, reliable used motor would be deductible. Or, if anyone is aware of a reliable used motor for sale at a very reasonable price, WLCA would be interested in hearing from you via the association website, under the “Contact Us” tab at [www.lakewebster.net](http://www.lakewebster.net). 🍁

STAY CONNECTED WITH [www.lakewebster.net](http://www.lakewebster.net)

See Pay Dues Tab to Make an EFT Payment

- About Us
- Membership
- Pay Dues
- Newsletters
- Weed Treatment
- Information Links - Boating/Fishing/Hunting
- Directory
- Meetings
- Events
- Saver Card
- Contact Us

