



A Great Read
... Cover to Cover!

Webster Lake
Summer 2019 Newsletter
www.lakewebster.net



The President's Corner

If you are just joining us for the summer season, welcome to Webster Lake! We have seen a lengthy cool, rainy spring which we hope will lead into an enjoyable summer season for you and your family.

Even with the cool wet weather, the lake has been in use since the winter's ice first melted. Within just days after the spring thaw, fishermen were on the lake. In the month of May, Webster Lake was host to two fishing tournaments, one for Muskie and the other for Bass fishermen. Additionally, the Indiana Department of Natural Resources harvested over 900,000 Muskie eggs from fish in this lake to be raised in their southern Indiana hatcheries and used for stocking this and other lakes. The DNR also added several new fish cribs on the lake which provide shelter to other species from the Muskies. All indications are that fishing is good.

Several different species of waterfowl visited Webster Lake on their spring migration. Along with several varieties of ducks and geese, approximately 20 white pelicans were seen on the lake for a few days this spring.

Your Dam Master was very busy this spring and did an excellent job in managing the water level of the lake and avoided a repeat of last year's February flooding. Water levels were consistently high this spring and at one point reached the first of the three stages of flood levels, minor flooding. However,



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DNR NEWS, Div. of Fish & Wildlife

Rebounding muskies at Lake Webster provide angling opportunities *(article provided by Jed Pearson)*

If last year was any indication, muskie fishing at Lake Webster should be even better this year.

After several years of decline, the muskie population in the 774-acre lake in Kosciusko County is on the rebound. The state's most popular muskie fishery is showing signs of improving conditions.

Jed Pearson, a DNR fisheries biologist who has monitored the lake's muskie stocking program since the early 1980s, says the first sign is young fish.

"We're seeing a resurgence of young muskies in our spring trap catches," Pearson said. "Last spring, we caught 126 muskies during our egg-taking operation. Of those, 79 were young fish less than 34 inches long. We caught 50 young ones in 2017."

In contrast, the DNR caught only 15 young muskies per year from 2012 through 2016.

"We upped the size of muskie fingerlings stocked in the lake," Pearson said. "More plant coverage has increased habitat for them."

Trap catches also indicate an increase in the population.

"Although our estimates are rough, we think muskie numbers went from a peak of nearly 5,000 in 2005 to fewer than 500 in 2014," Pearson said. "Since then, the number has risen to around 1,000. We'd like to see that number eventually double."

Muskie catches by tournament anglers have also increased, as have catches reported by muskie guides. Both groups report seeing more young fish. Twice as many muskies were caught by guided anglers last year compared to 2011. Of all the guided Indiana muskie fishing trips last year, more than half were taken at Lake Webster.

"All of this is good news for muskie anglers," Pearson said. ❁

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.

WLCA 2019 Calendar of Events

Saturday, July 6

Webster Lake Fireworks - Starting time approx. 10:00 p.m.
(Rain Date: Sunday, July 7, at 10 p.m.)

Saturday, August 10 ~ Annual Meeting/Election
9:30 a.m. - Community Center Party Room. ❁

Visit the WLCA website @
www.lakewebster.net

President's Corner *Continued from front page.*

his pro-active monitoring and operation of the gates in anticipation of increased water inflow from ice and snow melt in combination with anticipated rainfall kept our lake level within proper bounds. *Thanks Steve. Great job!*

Skiers, boarders, and tubers began to make their presence known on the lake around the weekend of May 18 with a few brave souls jumping into the still cool water. Their numbers are expected to increase considerably over the next few weekends.

Your Safety Committee purchased three replacement buoys and had all warning buoys in place before the Memorial Day weekend. *Thank you for your hard and heavy work.*

Your herbicide applicator completed its Tier One Survey of both native and invasive weed populations in the lake on May 22. Both the shoreline and invasive weed treatments were scheduled for either June 5th or 6th depending on the weather. *Extra contributions to the weed fund are needed and appreciated.*

On Memorial Day weekend, the Dixie Sternwheeler made its first trip around the lake this season with several passengers on board. By the time you read this article, WLCA members will have enjoyed another **Annual Dixie Ride and Carry-In-Brunch** which was scheduled for June 15 and announced in the Spring Newsletter. *This free trip around the lake is provided by Dixie Sternwheeler, Inc. to WLCA members in loving memory of Tom Plew who volunteered untold hours of service to both Dixie Sternwheeler and the WLCA. Thank you to the Dixie Sternwheeler, Inc. for the gift of this annual memorial cruise. It is truly appreciated.*

Your Fireworks Chairman has contracted with the provider and secured the necessary permits for this year's **Fireworks show which is scheduled for Saturday, July 6 at approximately 10:00 P.M.** and will be staged from the west end of Kline Island. The fireworks show is primarily paid for by member contributions with additional supporting contributions from several of the local businesses. **Thanks go to you contributing members and the local business persons for your support of this annual event and to the Chairman for his diligent work.** Help is needed for the clean-up of the island after the event. If you would like to help, please contact us via our website, www.lakewebster.net.

WLCA is seeking volunteers to act as Webster Lake neighborhood representatives. These representatives would help in providing information to their neighbors, adding property owners to the membership by promoting WLCA, and bring neighborhood concerns to the attention of the Board of Directors. If you are interested, please contact us through the website, www.lakewebster.net.

As a reminder: the WLCA Spring 2019 Newsletter was bursting with important lake information and is available for your review at our website address, www.lakewebster.net. You should find the website very helpful in providing information regarding boating and fishing, community events, membership, member directories, weed treatments, saver cards, WLCA financials, and board meeting dates. *Dues and contributions to the Fireworks and Weed Fund can now be paid on-line via the Website.* Current and past newsletters can be referenced on the website and remain a source of good information. You may easily "Contact Us" through the Website with questions or concerns. ❁

2019 FIREWORKS SHOW

The 2019 Fireworks Show will be presented on **Saturday, July 6, 2019**, with a rain date of Sunday, July 7. The show will start at approximately 10:00 PM and will be staged from the west end of Kline Island. 100% of the funding for our annual Fireworks Show comes from the support of the lake property owners, together with contributions from organizations and businesses in the North Webster community. In addition to purchasing the fireworks display, expenses are incurred for site preparation, staging and governmental permits. Putting on a fantastic fireworks display is a long-standing tradition here at Webster Lake, and we strive to provide the very best show possible with your continued generous support.

Additionally, the Webster Ski Bees will present a free water ski show at the North Webster Town Park on July 6. The Ski Bee Show will start at 6:00 PM with a pre-show warm-up starting about 5:45. Best to bring your own lawn chairs if you plan to view the show from the Town Park. Many people "boat over" and park just outside the show area to view the ski show. ❁

SKI BEES — PERFORMERS WANTED!



Webster Ski Bees is looking for performers for its 2019 Season Shows and for many years in the future! Do you want to barefoot, be in a pyramid or jump? The Ski Bees are looking for experienced skiers to learn and perform those skills. Also, the Ski Bees always

welcome young skiers who are on their way to becoming experienced skiers. Check out the Ski Bees on its website at www.websterskibeas.com or stop by and check out the Bees at any Practice or Show this season at the North Webster Town Park—bring your skis and life jacket or wetsuit with you to Practice in case you want to join that day. Practices are at 9:00 AM (and end about 10:30 AM) on Show Days with Shows beginning at 6:00 PM. 2019 Show Days are June 8 and 22, July 6 and 20, and August 3 and 17.

NEW PAYMENT OPTION IN 2019



Electronic fund payments of Dues and Contributions to the Fireworks & Weed Funds may be made thru PayPal. Please use the link to PayPal provided in the Pay Dues section of the WLCA website at www.lakewebster.net. **WLCA records and tracks all dues payments and donations by lake property address. Instructions on how to identify your lake property address when making payments thru PayPal are contained at the top of the Pay Dues tab of the website.** ❁

PARTICIPATING MERCHANTS & WLCA SAVER CARD INCENTIVES

WLCA has sponsored a Saver Card program for use by residents of Webster and Backwater Lakes. Saver Cards were mailed to all lake residents with dues statements in April. WLCA encourages you to shop locally and use your Saver Card to receive discounts from participating local merchants. Saver Card participating businesses and offers are listed on the WLCA website at www.lakewebster.net. This year's (May 1, 2019 – April 30, 2020) participating members are:



Absolutely Apparel & Gifts

625 North Main Street (SR 13)
10% Off One Regular Priced Item
(excluding Lake Girl)

Ace Hardware of North Webster

733 South Main Street (SR 13)
10% Off Each Gallon of Royal and
Clark+Kensington paints (interior and
exterior)

Ace Pest Control

634 North Main Street (SR 13)
5% Off Any New Service, Plus 5% Off if
Paid By Cash or Check. Offer Valid for
New Customer or New Service for
Existing Customer.

Bart's Water Sports

State Road 13 and 800 North
Buy 1 Get 1 Free Seasonal T-Shirt
(Item #SR6014)

Bourbon Street Pizza

643 North Main Street (SR13)
Any Large 2-Topping Pizza, Breadsticks
& 2 Liter for \$15.99

Clark's Marine Service

7498 North SR 13
5% Off Retail Priced Manitou Pontoon and
Evinrude Outboard. 10% Off Retail Priced
Special Order Manitou Pontoon and
Evinrude Outboard.

Clayton's Garden Center

7185 North SR 13
10% Off on Fridays (Excluding Sale Items)

Dave's Electric, Heating & Cooling

307 East Washington Street
\$10.00 Off a Service Call

Future Heirlooms:

Custom Framing/Art Gallery
127 South Main Street (SR13), Suite B
10% Off on Custom Framing

Guy's Lawn Care

19 EMS W30B Lane
574-834-7074
10% Off First Application of Fertilizer
when you sign up for a yearly lawn
treatment package.

Heart of the Lakes Antique Mall

132 North Main Street (SR 13)
10% Off Any Item \$20 or More and
Paid by Cash or Check, excluding
firms and markdowns.

Metcalfe, Payne & Bell

219 East Camelot Lane
\$10.00 Off Cost of Opening OR Closing
Your Summer Cottage

Pedals & Paddles

105 East Esterbrook Drive
10% Off Bicycle Accessories & 5% Off New
Bicycles & Kayaks, excluding sale items.

Pilcher's Shoes

127 South Main Street (SR 13)
15% Off on Any Regular Price Product

Pizza King (Lakeview)

405 South Dixie Drive
\$2.50 Off 16" Pizza. Carry-Out,
Dine-In or Delivery.

Sock's Marina, Inc.

60 EMS W17 Lane
\$10 Off on Outside Winter Storage Fee
\$20 Off on Inside Winter Storage Fee

Sue's Creations

102 South Main Street (SR 13)
10% off cash and carry in-store
purchase.

Tangibles Resale and Consignment

111 North Main Street (SR 13)
5% of Purchase to go to the North
Webster Area Food Pantry

Ye Olde Tackle Box

Mid-Lakes Shopping Center
708 South Main Street (SR 13)
10% Off Live Bait

Please visit www.lakewebster.net for
current information. Participating
Merchants and Offers are subject to
change by the Participating Merchants
at any time without notice. ✂

WLCA BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Mike Wyrick, *President*
Jacob Yahne, *Vice President*
Dawn Meyer, *Secretary*
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Ron Erb
Ben Guy
Tom Jones, Jr.

Steve Kemp
Mike McCall
Jerry Parsons
Max Stackhouse
Stephanie Yahne

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,
Pay Dues Tab

MEET BEN & JERRY...WLCA'S NEWEST BOARD MEMBERS



My name is Ben Guy. I was born and raised in North Webster, IN. After graduating from Wawasee, I attended Southwestern Michigan College. I then moved from Michigan and lived in Fort Wayne for a few years. Oddly enough, I missed North Webster and couldn't wait to move back. While attending college I would look for mowing jobs or any outside work that I could do. I quickly realized that I loved working outside and the work I was doing was profitable.

I began buying commercial grade equipment and Guy's Lawn Care, Inc. was up and running. For the past 20 years I have built what was a "side job" into a successful business. Through the help of great employees and a wonderful wife, we take care of over 150 properties a week. I am licensed in fertilization and weed control, landscaping, and snow removal.

I am married to my beautiful wife, Elise, of 17 years. She has undergraduate degrees in Engineering and Education. She helps me run our businesses and in her spare time she enjoys running, hiking and subbing in our local school systems. We have 2 kids. Our daughter, Zaylee, is 12 years old. She competes in competition cheer and made it to Summit this year to compete at Disney World. She runs track, plays soccer and also volunteers her time at the North Webster Public Library. Our son, Everett, is age 9. He plays baseball, soccer, and football. Both kids are involved in the local Ski Bees.

I love being on the water. I call it my therapy and jump at any chance I have to be out. I enjoy wakeboarding, wakesurfing, flyboarding, and riding the air chair. In my spare time I coach baseball, football, and both kids' soccer teams. All of this keeps me very busy, but I absolutely love spending time with kids!

We are currently working on a development of some property we have on the channel just east of the Webster Lake dam. We have the first of 4 rental cabins up and running. It is a true-built log home with 2 bedrooms and 1 bath. Since April, we have been able to share the love of the lake life with many people from all over. We have had guests from as far as Arkansas and Tennessee stay with us and anticipate guests staying from even further away. Each cabin has or will have its own fire pit area, charcoal grill, front porch swing, heat/ac, and dock space. So far we have had a lot of fishermen and others just wanting to experience the peace and quiet of the log home. We look forward to this new opportunity to share the community we love with others. ❁



Jerry Parsons first came to Lake Webster in 1986 with his girlfriend and now wife of 29 years, Jen, for her family reunion. He visited nearly every year after that until they had an opportunity to rent a cottage for the summer months from a family member between 2008-2015. During this time their children participated in the Ski Bees. In 2017, as empty nesters they decided to move from Fort Wayne where they had lived since 1998 and raised their children, to make North Webster their permanent home. Fortunately, they found a great location in Willis Park to call home.

Jerry and Jen have three children, Zach 27, Audie 23 and Nolan 22, as well as the good fortune to have several of Jen's cousins with summer homes on the lake. Jerry is a Physician Assistant at MedSTAT in Syracuse. He is originally from Muncie and a Ball State University graduate. Jerry attended the University of Northern Colorado for graduate school and Kettering College of Medical Arts for PA School. He has been an Athletic Trainer for 30 years and a PA for 25 years. Jerry currently serves on the North Webster Chamber of Commerce and is the Chief Delegate to the American Academy of Physician Assistants representing the PAs in the State of Indiana. He is a Past President of the Indiana Academy of Physician Assistants and their current Chair of the Reimbursement Committee.

Jerry appreciates the value of lake living as well as a passion for preserving the lake to provide memories for his family and future generations. His goal for being a member of the WLCA is to increase membership so this can be obtained. ❁

ON THE WATER — REMINDER OF SAFE BOATING PRACTICES

To ensure the safest, most enjoyable time while on the lake, please remain mindful of the use of buoys, general water traffic rules and water safety. The WLCA website (www.lakewebster.net) has a tab labeled "Information Links - Boating/Fishing/Hunting" that provides a quick, easy reference to watercraft laws and general water safety.

Check it out!! ❁



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Thank You...

WLCA, once again, extends a very special "Thank You" to the Dixie Sternwheeler, Inc., for its generosity in providing another annual Dixie Ride to celebrate our commemorative WLCA membership brunch

that took place on June 15th. It is a continued goal of WLCA to see the attendance of this brunch rise each year with the hope of growing and strengthening overall membership. ❁