

The Newsletter of the Bear Lake Preservation Association, Inc. • November 2019

Magical Moments on the Bear Lakes! We Love Our Lakes!



Bear Lake Sunset after Dorian Sept. 4th



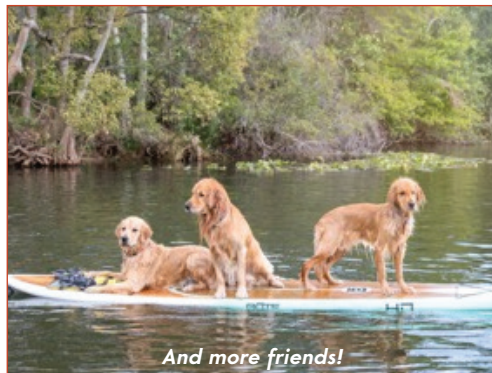
Priceless Sunset Cruises on the Wall's Pontoon, Wayne Taylor, Friends and Happy Dogs



Russ Mavrides and Afternoon Bass on Cub Lake



Great Egret on Bear Lake



And more friends!



Bear Lake Sunset (Joe Davenport)



Dave Hotvedt with Bass at Sunset



Sunrise on Little Bear Lake (Judy Ihrig)



Valerie with granddaughter on the tube!!



BLPA BBQ/Pot Luck Appreciation Dinner

You are cordially Invited to Join the Annual Pot Luck BBQ Dinner

Thursday, November 14, 2019 • 6:00 pm

Fellowship Hall • St. Andrews Church • 9913 Bear Lake Rd.

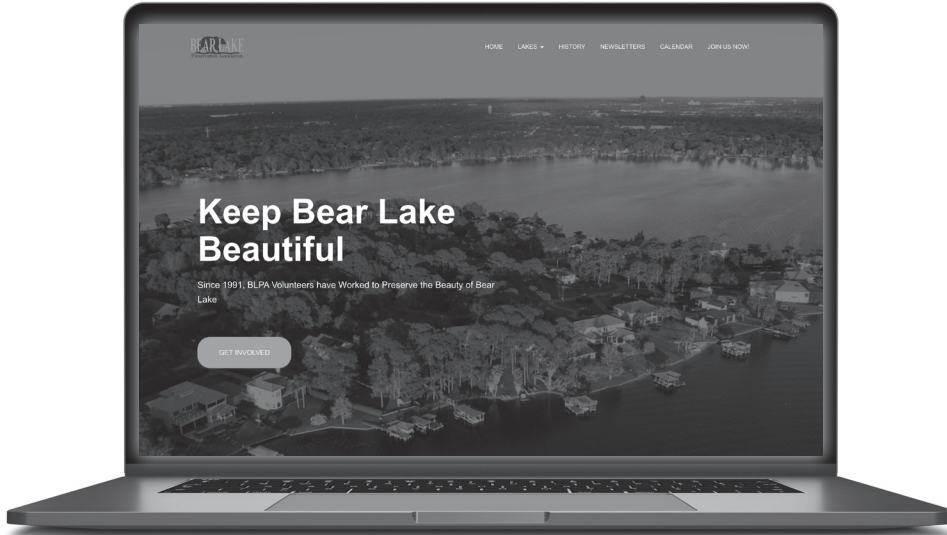
Enter to win in the "Best Dessert Contest"

See Page 3 for Details.

CHECK IT OUT

Bear Lakes' New Website

www.blpa.net



The BLPA is very excited to announce the launch of our new website. It was created by Chase Morell, who moved with his parents to Bear Lake about five years ago. Chase was a member of the Bear Lake Youth Ecology Group a few years ago and was certified as a Lakewatch Volunteer during that time. Chase is now a student at the University of Miami studying Computer Science.

The new site was outlined by the board and Chase made it come to life, even using some of his own aerial photos of the lakes taken by his drone. The new site can be viewed at www.BLPA.net.

Our vision is that this new site will bring a refreshed awareness of the unique beauty of the Bear Lakes and a renewed interest in learning what it takes to sustain these precious bodies of water in our neighborhood. The website will be the primary ongoing source of information pertaining to the status, improvements and issues surrounding the Bear Lakes Watershed. It also contains links to the relevant county and state agencies' websites that are directly involved in the Bear Lakes preservation. You can read about updates on projects that are underway and planned by Seminole County for our lakes.

The website has an interesting section about the history of the BPLA and the endeavors of current and past residents to protect the lakes from degradation. Residents can find a calendar of events that will be maintained and hopefully prompt residents to participate in any and all of the community events.

Lastly, the new site will still offer an opportunity for residents to join the BLPA online and become an active member in the association whose mission is to keep your property a desirable place to live.

So check it out now at www.BLPA.net.

HAVE YOU JOINED?



(Bear, Little Bear, Cub, and Lake Asher)
Post Office Box 162605, Altamonte Springs, FL 32714

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| Matt Rayl..... | 765-437-5118 |
| John Vick | 407-421-2620 |

Real Estate Update

Provided by Susan Burton, Realtor®

Below is the current information regarding properties:

Active Listings

| | |
|-----------------------------|-------------|
| 6161 Linneal Beach Dr | \$530,000 |
| 6259 Linneal Beach Dr | \$739,900 |
| 6226 Linneal Beach Dr | \$799,900 |
| 6091 Linneal Beach Dr | \$1,785,000 |

Pending Sales

| | |
|-----------------------------|-----------|
| 6043 Linneal Beach Dr | \$575,000 |
|-----------------------------|-----------|

Closed Sales

| | |
|-----------------------------|-----------|
| 9916 Bear Lake Rd | \$390,000 |
| 6003 Linneal Beach Dr | \$517,500 |
| 6083 Linneal Beach Dr | \$650,000 |
| 3442 Holliday Ave..... | \$650,000 |

The Bear Lake Preservation Association Annual Meeting
It is time again for the...

BLPA BBQ/Pot Luck Appreciation Dinner

You are cordially Invited to Join the Pot Luck Dinner
Thursday, November 14, 2019 • 6:00 pm
Fellowship Hall St. Andrews Church
9913 Bear Lake Rd.

Enter to win in the
“Best Dessert Contest”

Enter to win the “Best Dessert Contest”
for all you bakers—bring your family’s favorite
dessert to be judged and win a
prize for the best dessert!

**NEW TO THE BEAR LAKES?
WE WELCOME OUR NEW NEIGHBORS!**

Plan to bring your entire family and enjoy great food. We encourage you to also invite a neighbor and meet others in the Bear Lake Community. BLPA will be providing all the Bar-B-Q chicken and pulled pork and beverages. If you can plan to bring a side dish or dessert for the Pot Luck dinner, it would be greatly appreciated. Don't forget those serving spoons with your dish!

RSVP by Wednesday, November 13th for our BBQ order and set up
To RSVP, please send your text message to Catherine Heideman at 407-538-1097
or email: cwjclafin@hotmail.com. Please let Catherine know
what you are bringing and how many in your party will be attending.

Ecology Update

ALTON DRIVE POND RETROFIT (Lake Asher)

The Alton Drive Project will redirect the flow of stormwater runoff to an existing wet detention pond for more efficient treatment. The project will treat, settle and decrease harmful sources of pollutants such as nutrients from fertilizers prior to flowing into Lake Asher for 13.55 acres of watershed of the subdivision to the west, Lynwood Ave. & Curtis Dr. to Martex Dr.

This project by Seminole County will begin construction in January 2020



BLPA ECOLOGY FOCUS GROUPS FORMED

All eyes on the watershed! A clean watershed makes for cleaner lakes!

On August 22, 2019, thirty concerned residents met for a roundtable introduction with a mission to discuss the issues with each lake (Asher, Bear, Little Bear and Cub Lakes), to form active focus groups on each lake, exchange current emails, cell phone numbers, re-group and update residents on current and future problems affecting the Lakes.

We are in need of active "LAKE WATCHERS" to watch and report what they see, so that we can better catch problems damaging the lakes, when or before they occur.

Bill Houston gave his review of the Bear Lakes history and what BLPA has done to preserve the Bear Lakes.

We discussed the lakes' Hydrology and reviewed subarea drainage maps for each lake.

We can focus and become active "watchdogs" for the watershed drains, ditches and the County projects from the *Hydrologic/Nutrient Budgets & Management Study and Current Plans*.

A discussion of what will work and where we see problems is key to preserving the lakes. Informative meetings and individual Lake Focus Groups are bringing the residents together through the BLPA.

If you would like to join one of the focus groups, please contact Bill Houston (407 721-0219).



Stormwater Pipe Reinforcement/Repair 9/26/19



Collapsed pipes were causing road depressions and blockage on Bear Lake Circle. Seminole County reinforced the stormwater pipes under the road late September 2019 with fiberglass sleeves. The pipes were cleaned and fiberglass material inserted into pipe, cooked from 120 to 180 degrees, sealing and reshaping the collapsed pipes. This system is used as an emergency bypass between Bear Lake and Little Bear Lake. Did you know there once was a canal between the two lakes?

LAKEWATCH and Rainfall Data for the Bear Lakes

| Lake Asher | Date | Rainfall | Clarity Level | Water Level (Above Sea Level) |
|------------|--------|----------|---------------|-------------------------------|
| | 7/19 | 8.9" | 2.5' | 106.4 |
| 8/19 | 11.25" | N/A | N/A | |
| 9/19 | 4.1" | 3' | 106.1 | |
| 10/19 | 7.5" | N/A | N/A | |

| Bear Lake | Date | Rainfall | Clarity Level | Water Level (Above Sea Level) |
|-----------|--------|----------|---------------|-------------------------------|
| | 4/19 | 3.35" | 9' | 103 |
| 5/19 | 3.4" | 10' | 103.69 | |
| 6/19 | 13.4" | 7' | 103.55 | |
| 7/19 | 8.9" | 6' | 103.72 | |
| 8/19 | 11.25" | 7' | 103.6 | |
| 9/19 | 4.1" | 7' | 103.49 | |
| 10/19 | 7.5" | 7' | 103.78 | |

| Little Bear Lake | Date | Rainfall | Clarity Level | Water Level (Above Sea Level) |
|------------------|--------|----------|---------------|-------------------------------|
| | 4/19 | 3.35" | 11' | 103.63 |
| 5/19 | 3.4" | 10' | 103.5 | |
| 6/19 | 13.4" | 8' | 104.2 | |
| 7/19 | 8.9" | 7.5' | 104.1 | |
| 8/19 | 11.25" | 7' | 103.93 | |
| 9/19 | 4.1" | 10' | 103.92 | |
| 10/19 | 7.5" | 12' | 103.93 | |

| Cub Lake | Date | Rainfall | Clarity Level | Water Level (Above Sea Level) |
|----------|--------|----------|---------------|-------------------------------|
| | 4/19 | 3.35" | 8' | 99.9 |
| 5/19 | 3.4" | 8' | 99.7 | |
| 6/19 | 13.4" | 7' | 100.2 | |
| 7/19 | 8.9" | 7' | 100.8 | |
| 8/19 | 11.25" | 7' | 100.8 | |
| 9/19 | 4.1" | 7' | 100.6 | |
| 10/19 | 7.5" | 7' | 100.5 | |

Note: *Rain data in this chart reflects the rain amounts collected during the time period from the last month's LAKEWATCH data collection date to the next month's data collection date, and not for the month itself. The elevations are recorded on the actual date of the LAKEWATCH

What Happened to Bear Lake's Water Quality? (Brown not Green!)

The clarity of Bear Lake dropped from 10' to 7' in one month when the heavy rains began flushing in the muddy waters of Lake Asher. After the restoration of Lake Asher, when islands of muck and vegetation were removed, mud continues to flush into the pipe from Lake Asher to Bear Lake with rains and general overflow of Lake Asher. Although the pipe was cleaned by the Seminole County Stormwater staff after the restoration and a pipe replacement, dirty water continues to flow into Bear Lake with heavy flushes of rains, as occurred in June, July and August.

LAKEWATCH Coordinator for Bear Lake, Nancy Dunn,

contacted the County, provided photos of the muddy water entering Bear Lake, and requested a turbidity barrier. Bob Ballerino, Team Leader with Seminole County Roads and Stormwater, responded fast with an inspection of the pipe, vacuum flushing truck, cleaning the pipes to Bear Lake and placing the turbidity barrier to catch and settle any future muddy water and debris from entering Bear Lake.

This damage to Bear Lake may take a long time to recover, as the muck stirred up in Lake Asher is a fine silt which mixed easily into the clear waters of Bear Lake.



BLPA Welcomes New LAKEWATCH Volunteer

Kathy Cressman is ready to collect Lake Asher Water Samples for the LAKEWATCH Lab at University of Florida.

The newly restored "Scenic Lake Asher" once again has a volunteer to collect monthly samples for nitrogen, phosphorous, algae and water clarity. Reports of any changes to Lake Asher will now be recorded for analysis by many agencies, including DEP, Seminole County and Florida LAKEWATCH.

Welcome Aboard Kathy!



SPRING RUN VETERINARY HOSPITAL

JAY GOEBEL, DVM

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Painting by Bob
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Owner




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St. Andrews Presbyterian Church
Community Easter Sunrise Service

6:30 am to 7:30 am Sunday April 21st
At the Bear Lake Clubhouse
3324 Holliday Av., Forest City
Regular Service information:
9913 Bear Lake Road, Apopka, FL
407-293-6802
Worship: 9:30 am Sunday School: 10:30 am

CHANGE YOUR LAKE FROM GREEN TO CLEAN

Watch Your Lawn Service Company!



blowing grass clippings/leaves down the storm inlets/drains can degrade our waterways. A knowledgeable and well-trained lawn care professional will manage your yard through a series of "best management practices" that benefit you and the environment. Does your lawn care professional have the proper training and certification? Use this checklist to better know your lawn care professional, your yard, and your role in the environment!

<https://www.seminolecountyfl.gov/core/fileparse.php/4092/urlt/Fertilizer-Lawn-Care-Professional-Checklist.pdf>

- ARE THEY QUALIFIED?
- DO THEY KNOW YOUR YARD?
- DO THEY FOLLOW THE SEMINOLE COUNTY FERTILIZER ORDINANCE?
- HOW DO THEY CLEAN UP? Make sure lawn care professionals do not leave grass clippings, fallen leaves, or other debris on streets, sidewalks, or other impervious surfaces. They should blow them back onto the lawn or bag them.

Checklists are available at all BLPA Meetings

Although the Bear Lake Preservation Association (BLPA) strongly recommends NO FERTILIZER, it is important for us to report on the key highlights of the Fertilizer Ordinance in our area that began in October 2017. If you use a lawn care professional, know the checklist provided by Seminole County below:

How we maintain our yards has a big impact on our surrounding environment. Excessive water use, improper fertilization, or



(Bear, Little Bear, Cub, and Lake Asher)

BLPA 2020 MEMBER DUES/ CHANGE OF CONTACT INFORMATION

BLPA, PO Box 162605, Altamonte Springs, FL 32716-2605

Please make your check payable to "BLPA":

\$85.00.....Requested Donation-BLPA Contributor \$50.00.....Requested Donation - BLPA Senior (62+)

Please mail this form and your payment to BLPA, PO Box 162605, Altamonte Springs, FL 32716-2605

You can easily contribute or make donations online by using a credit card, your checking account, or PayPal, just go to www.blpa.net and click DONATE!

PLEASE CHECK: New Contributor(s) Current Contributor(s) Change of Contributor(s) Contact Information

Name(s) _____ Date _____

Address 1 _____ City _____ State/Zip _____

Mailing Address _____ City _____ State/Zip _____

Home Phone _____ Cell 1 _____ Cell 2 _____

Email 1 _____ Email 2 _____

CHECK AN OPTION BELOW FOR A BOARD MEMBER TO CONTACT YOU AND ANSWER ANY QUESTIONS ABOUT POSSIBLY VOLUNTEERING FOR BLPA:

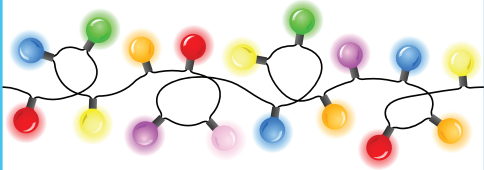
- Serve as a Board Representative
- Serve as a Board Supporter
- Serve on a Current Committee
- I prefer to be contacted by:
- Home Phone
- Cell Phone
- Email

BLPA is a 501(c)(3) tax exempt organization. All financial contributions to BLPA are tax deductible. BLPA will provide a receipt upon request for your donation. Under the new Obama Administration Ruling for 501(c)(3), social security or personal information will not be provided to the IRS for any past or future contributions made to this organization.

SAVE THE DATES!

BLPA POT LUCK BBQ

November 14, 2019
6:00 pm
Details page 3.



BLPA HOLIDAY BOAT PARADE

December 14, 2019
6:00 pm
Look for future flyer
on the new website.
www.blpa.net



PO Box 162605
Altamonte Springs, FL 32716



Magical Moments on the Bear Lakes!

*(Continued from
page 1)*

*Top Left: Jim Dunn and
His 1958 Chris Craft on
Bear Lake*

*Pictured Right: Rainbow
on Cub Lake*

*Bottom Left: Lake Day
with the Brown's*

BEAR LAKES NEWS