



## Newsletter February March 2009

**NEXT MEETING: March 14, 2009-- 9:00 A.M. at COMMUNITY CHRISTIAN CHURCH McCARDLE and MAIN STREETS**

### CONTACTS

Email [cgclakeassoc@gmail.com](mailto:cgclakeassoc@gmail.com)

Web Site: [cgclakeassoc.org](http://cgclakeassoc.org)

President: Curt Brungardt

Vice President: Dave Fritchen

Treasurer: Joyce Hutter

### PRESIDENT'S COMMENTS

Let me first start my comments by thanking all of you who have joined and paid your fees to the Lake Association in 2009! Your membership is critical to the success of our organization. The Lake Association, like most organizations, is only as strong as its members. Last year 8 out of 10 lake homeowners were members of the Lake Association. Our goal this year is to repeat that outstanding number! We are the only organized entity that speaks on behalf of lake residents. In addition to members paying their membership fees, many of you have provided additional donations to help both our legal fund and the general fund which includes the ANS prevention initiative. At this date the additional donations are approximately \$5,000. Again, a big THANK YOU from the Board of Directors.

For those of you who have yet to submit your membership card and fees I encourage you to do so during the next month. The Lake Association provides many benefits that help all of us. I look forward to another successful year and seeing you at the first general membership meeting of the year on March 14.

### BUSINESS DIRECTORY UPDATE

LuAnn Fuller has been a whirling dervish with the business directory this year. An all-time record has been broken with over 50 area businesses responding to be listed in the 2009 directory. Thank you, LuAnn. This publication is one way we assist our leaseholders by providing a means of becoming familiar with local businesses and services. Additionally, these businesses support the Lake Association by paying for the listing space. We anticipate the directory will be mailed with the April newsletter so each leaseholder will have one to leave at the cabin. Please support these businesses when you have an opportunity---and shop local first.

### SCHEDULE OF MEETING DATES FOR 2009

Below are the dates for the general membership and the Board of Directors meetings for the year 2009. General membership meetings are held on Saturday's at 9AM at the Community Christian Church, McCardle and Main. Board of Directors meetings are also held on Saturday's at 9AM at the Hays House, 112 W Main. Mark your calendars and plan to attend!

## **GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETINGS**

March 14, 2009  
April 11, 2009  
May 9, 2009  
June 13, 2009 –ANNUAL MEETING  
July 11, 2009  
August 8, 2009  
September 12, 2009

## **BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETINGS**

January 24, 2009  
February 28, 2009  
March 28, 2009  
April 25, 2009  
May 23, 2009  
June 27, 2009 (new board)  
July 25, 2009  
September 26, 2009  
October 24, 2009

## **REPORT FROM THE TREASURER**

I'm certain no one wants to talk money these days. However, it is inevitable that we discuss the budget for the year. At the February Board of Directors meeting we established the budget guidelines and made numerous adjustments and cutbacks from previous years. We did not increase the membership dues this year; instead we asked for donations. At the time of this writing 213 of you have sent your dues and/or contributions, and we thank you profusely. Last year our participation was over 80%. This year we are striving to attain 90% plus participation. That means we still need to hear from some of you. **PLEASE MAKE EVERY EFFORT TO SEND IN YOUR DUES BY MARCH 31.**

## **NOTICE OF CONSOLIDATION**

In an effort to save money on printing and postage costs, your Board of Directors has made the decision to combine the newsletter for the months of February/March, October/November and December/January, and instead of mailing the Business Directory with each newsletter, you will receive one copy with the April newsletter. Additionally, beginning in May, we will be sending the newsletter via email only to all members who have supplied us with an email address. This will cut the amount of paper and postage used with each publication. If you have email and we do not have your email address, please send it to us at [cgclakeassociation@gmail.com](mailto:cgclakeassociation@gmail.com).

## **APPEARANCE OF LAKE PROPERTIES COMMONS AREAS**

This past fall the annual inspection of the City Lake commons areas (which has not transpired for several years) was conducted by representatives from the City Council accompanied by Lake Association board members John Nicodemus and Ken Mulanax. They toured the entire lake area and as they traveled they talked about road conditions, trees on the dam, leaseholder's property, such as boats, trailers, vehicles and other articles being parked and stored in the commons areas. The majority of leaseholders do not abuse use of the commons areas, but there are several areas that do need attention. Examples of abuse boats on trailers that have been sitting long enough for trees to grow up under the trailer, a child's old swing set piled up along side the road, brush and limbs piled up in an old rusted truck-bed trailer, and numerous boat and jet ski trailers that don't appear to have been moved around for several years. It has been suggested by at least one member of the city council that leaseholders at the city lake are not paying for storage rights in the commons areas, and should not be storing property in those areas. However, during the discussion of this issue John and Ken suggested that the Board of Directors bring this concern to the attention of the Lake

Association and if we all work together we could get this problem solved before the city takes any action. Steve and Anita suggested that the city might allow boat and jet-ski trailers to be stored in the commons areas during the “boating season”. Many of us store items in the commons areas that probably would be more secure and esthetically pleasing stored on our own leasehold. Almost every month we receive suggestions (gentle complaints) from leaseholders (these are your neighbors) about these situations. Please take a look at your area, and see how you could improve the appearance. We all want to be proud of our lake community! If you find you need assistance, please email us or call and we will find some Lake Association volunteers to assist you. If you live in the vicinity of an area you feel needs improvement, ask your neighbor if/how you might assist in making the area look better. Another inspection is scheduled for later this spring. Let’s work together to improve our surroundings. **WHAT BETTER TIME TO ATTEND TO THIS MATTER---IN CONJUNCTION WITH---**

### **SPRING LAKE CLEAN-UP**

Once again the **Pride Committee** of Council Grove is promoting a Community-wide Clean-up during the month of March. The city has scheduled Monday, March 30th as FREE pick up day for the City Lake. **ALL ITEMS MUST BE SORTED INTO THE GROUPS BELOW OR THE CITY WILL NOT PICK THEM UP.** Place your sorted trash for pickup in separate piles far enough apart to permit pick up by machinery. Please call the City Clerk at 620-767-5417 prior to Monday and give her your address and the items to be picked up. All limbs, leaves, brush, mulch and compost are to be in one pile (not in bags or boxes). This way a front loader can pick them up.

Also we will coordinate to have the brush dump, east of the dam, open on the previous weekend, March 28th and 29<sup>th</sup>, for those who want to haul their own limbs, brush, leaves, mulch, or compost. Lumber and other trash is not permitted in the brush dump. NO plastic bags or boxes are permitted in the brush dump.

Gibson’s Recycling, a Council Grove business, will accept old appliances, with or without freon, metal and scrap iron. They are open Monday- Friday 10 am-6 pm and Saturday mornings. Call 620 767-7471 for more information. Questions about the Pride Spring clean-up should be directed to Cheerie Baker, E 13A, 620 767 6403, or Diane Bolton, B 3 620 767 5807. Thanks, ladies for getting this organized for us and coordinating with the various agencies.

### **Items Allowed for Community-wide March Clean-up Need to be Sorted into These Groups.**

Tree limbs, brush, leaves, mulch, and compost – NOT IN BAGS OR BOXES

Trash, household rubbish and garbage

Old furniture

Metal appliances- freon free (red tag)

Tires (auto only)

### **Items Not Allowed, these items will NOT be picked up**

Construction/demolition materials    Waste oil

Iron, fence wire                                Dirt, rocks, or brick

Dead animals                                    Ammunition or explosives

Batteries    Household hazardous waste (spray insecticide, etc)

Paint, paint stripper, varnish,                Agricultural spray, Gas tanks

Asbestos waste                                    Any waste that requires KDHE authorization

Carpet, carpet padding

**DON’T FORGET TO CALL THE CITY CLERK 620 767 5417 TO LIST YOUR LOT NUMBER AND TYPE OF ITEMS TO BE PICKED UP.**

### **COUNCIL GROVE BUSINESS EXPO**

Volunteers are needed for The 2009 Council Grove Business Expo which is scheduled for March 21st from 9:00 – 4:00. In past years this has proven to be a wonderful opportunity for acquainting visitors to our area and local residents with various aspects of the lake. We generally have available for people to take with them the Master Plan, boating and safety regulations, fishing information and regulations, lake maps, and city regulations pertaining to the lake. This is also a great opportunity to get to meet business leaders in the area. Stop by and visit or take some time to volunteer to help set up, man, or take down the Lake Association Booth. George and Alice Forester are doing a great job of organizing our display this year. Their phone is 620 767 8194, email [gforreelserv@tctelco.net](mailto:gforreelserv@tctelco.net) Additionally, we are very excited that our Relay for Life team has been offered the opportunity to host the concession stand, so please stop by and support the Lake Association Relay for Life Team.

### **LAKE ASSOCIATION RELAY FOR LIFE**

The Lake Association's Relay for Life Team has evolved into an active year-round effort to help make a difference in the fight against cancer. In addition to making a financial contribution and raising cancer awareness, the team has become a growing social group at the Lake and in Town. Recent events have included Bake sale and coffee shop during Council Grove Candlelight Charm Weekend, and a Souper Sunday soup lunch at the Senior Center on Super Bowl Sunday. We are now selling note cards with winter lake scenes created by our own lake resident and cancer survivor, Jane Swofford. If you would like to purchase any of these note cards, please email LuAnn Fuller at [tfuller@tctelco.net](mailto:tfuller@tctelco.net) or call 620-767-7207. Thanks again for all your support. YOU MAKE IT HAPPEN! JOIN THE TEAM, Please email [cgclakeassoc@gmail.com](mailto:cgclakeassoc@gmail.com) or call Carolyn Nelson at 620-767-8456 or LuAnn Fuller at 620-767-7207 to sign up for the team.

### **WAYNE CRISER VOLUNTEER OF THE YEAR AWARD**

The Board of Directors is excited to announce the establishment of a new award recognition program for city lake residents. Beginning this year, the Lake Association will recognize one of its own who has committed their time and talents to the betterment of the Association and the City Lake. This award is named after long-time lake resident and volunteer, Wayne Criser. This award is for that person who goes way above and beyond for the good of all lake residents, making improvements in conditions and relationships with the city and county. Joyce Hutter has volunteered to chair the committee for selection of the first recipient of the Wayne Criser Volunteer of the Year Award. She is in need of committee members. If you are interested in this project and would like to give several hours of your time to helping make the selection, please email her at [joycehutter@yahoo.com](mailto:joycehutter@yahoo.com). This award will be given at the annual meeting in June. To submit a nomination for volunteer of the year you may email Joyce at the email address above or email the Lake Association at [cgclakeassoc@gmail.com](mailto:cgclakeassoc@gmail.com) or send your nomination to the Lake Association, P.O. Box 13, Council Grove, KS. 66846. Please submit the following information: Name of nominee, the work this volunteer does, and why you think this work matters to the Lake Association. We need to have all nominations by the first of May.

### **INDEPENDENCE DAY CELEBRATION**

This is the biggest celebration of the year on the lake. More people are here for this weekend than at any other time of the year. To make this event the fun time it has always been, with the contests for lake front

decorations and boat decorations, we need a volunteer to chair the committee to organize these activities, AND we need volunteers to serve on the committee. We have the information to assist you in knowing what steps to follow. If you are willing to assist with this event, please email Joyce Hutter at [joycehutter@yahoo.com](mailto:joycehutter@yahoo.com), or call 620-767-2726. We need to have a full contingency for this event prior to April 15<sup>th</sup> in order to co-ordinate lake events with activities in surrounding areas. Thank you for stepping up to the plate.

### **EMAIL LAKE NEWS**

Homeowners, and other interested people, send an email request to [cgclakeassoc@gmail.com](mailto:cgclakeassoc@gmail.com) to be added to our lake email news list. This allows recipients to stay current on lake happenings.

For those of you already receiving lake email news, please notice our email address has changed. You may need to add the new address to your contacts list to prevent our emails from going to your spam email box. We will continue to monitor the old email address.

### **BOARD OF DIRECTOR POSITIONS AVAILABLE**

This June, five of the current board member seats will be up for re-election, the other six members' terms will be up in June 2010. In the near future a candidacy form will be emailed, placed on the Lake Association website, and published in the newsletter.

The corporate structure will have been in place one year this June. The Board of Director positions have broadened and increased the quality of our leadership base. We have gained many new ideas, concepts, and varying opinions during this first year of the new system. Please consider contributing to the leadership by becoming a candidate.

### **ZEBRA MUSSELS AND THE CITY LAKE**

We continue to be extremely concerned about the possibility of an Aquatic Nuisance Species (ANS) introduction, especially zebra mussels, into the City Lake. The Lake Association focus has been on efforts to raise community awareness and then hopefully spur on a well thought out effective coordinated, cooperative prevention plan.

A brief history of progress this far follows:

- During the late summer and early fall, the Board of Directors began to coordinate with KDWP and other area lakes to better understand the ANS issue and what we could do in the way of prevention at the city lake.
- In October the Lake Association sent a letter to the city expressing our concerns and asking the city to join us in drafting a cooperative prevention plan. A draft of our proposed plan was attached to provide an example and a starting point. This letter was distributed to appropriate KDWP personnel and was also a letter to the editor in the Council Grove Republican.
- In October, November, and December the Lake Association published several advertisements in the Council Grove Republican with pictures showing examples of zebra mussel infestations. We once again published a letter to the editor concerning the ANS issue.
- All of the above ANS information was also distributed to over 220 people on the Lake Association email news list. ANS has been a topic in several newsletters over the last year.
- On November 5, the city sponsored an ANS awareness presentation conducted by KDWP personnel. This presentation was very informative, and the first hand information from the experts did much to

raise the awareness level in the Council Grove and Lake Community. The Council Grove Republican news report of the presentation is attached to this news letter with permission of the newspaper.

- After the awareness presentation the city administrator proposed that the Lake Association and city work cooperatively to present the same or a similar power point presentation to the Council Grove and Lake Community. Plans to do this are currently in progress.
- During the December 8<sup>th</sup> City Council meeting the council decided to plan a work/study session in late January or February, with KDWP and the Lake Association to further discuss the zebra mussel issue. Also to consider the possibility, effects, and effectiveness of restricting the city lake to Council Grove residents and lake leaseholders.

As you can see the Lake Association has been very pro active and is extremely concerned about the ANS issue. We are pleased that we have the opportunity to work with the city on this important issue. We all have much at stake if an infestation occurs.

After thoroughly investigating the issues and studying the success of prevention in most of Minnesota's "cottage lakes" we believe that prevention of ANS at the Council Grove City lake is not only possible, but something we must do protect our property values, the city water supply, and the ecology of the lake. It appears that denying unrestricted access to the lake, possibly in conjunction with a watercraft inspection program, and a very strong, continuing education program is our best bet.

Experience in other states and lakes have shown the aggressive education programs coupled with effective regulation is the most successful in preventing the spread of ANS. We will continue our awareness and educational efforts about prevention. Our plan is to do this through newsletters, emails, newspaper advertisements, and professional bill board type signs, at or near the city lake entrances. These means of communications are expensive; however it is a proven, effective effort that the Lake Association can move forward on in the immediate future.

In the meantime please take the time to educate yourself and commit to personally join the education/prevention efforts. Below are some helpful links to gain an insight into the issue. Please make the effort to educate yourself, family friends and neighbors. We hope to conduct an email survey to gather information and opinions from lake property owners concerning prevention efforts. There are many considerations in developing a well thought out prevention program, we must be sure we don't create unintended consequences. Please educate yourself and be ready to provide well thought out feedback.

<http://www.kdwp.state.ks.us/news/Boating>

<http://www.100thmeridian.org/>

The above is published from previous correspondence. We thought all the information to be important and still timely. Progress since the above history was written is listed below:

- The City Council has met with Fisheries Biologist Craig Johnson and discussed various aspects of the Communities Fisheries Assistance Program (CFAP) and ANS prevention.
- City Administrator Danny Mathews and Lake Association Board member Andy Hutter are currently preparing an education/ prevention presentation. To present to Lake Homeowners and the community.
- The Lake Association has become a member of the national "Protect Our Waters" organization. This gives us access to branded educational materials and professional information and advice about the issues.

- Plans and designs for road side “billboards”, newspapers ads and Lake Association emails are progressing.
- The BOD at the February 28<sup>th</sup> meeting decided to gather opinions directly from the membership about the course of action, (regarding lake access the lake) that the Lake Association will recommend to the City.

Between now and the Lake Association meeting on March 14<sup>th</sup>, please educate yourself about all aspects of the ANS issue. Two of the strongest courses of actions suggested have been: requiring boat inspections before launching at the boat ramps; restricting the lake to watercraft owned by Council Grove residents and Lake Leaseholders.

Bring your opinions and ideas to the March 14<sup>th</sup> meeting or email to [cgclakeassoc@gmail.com](mailto:cgclakeassoc@gmail.com)

In the meantime we will aggressively pursue those actions that we can accomplish to raise awareness about the problem and preventing the Spread.

*"Clean, drain, dry" stop the spread*

## JOIN THE LAKE ASSOCIATION in 2009

<b>Dues Card – 2009</b> <b>Council Grove Lake Association</b> <b>PO Box 13, Council Grove, KS 66846</b>	
Lake Lot # _____ Name(s) _____ _____ Mailing Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____ Email _____ Home Phone _____ Lake or Cell Phone _____	Annual Dues:                   \$25.00 Legal Fund Contribution: \$ _____ General Fund Contribution: \$ _____ TOTAL: \$ _____  Tell us where you would like to get involved and volunteer with the Council Grove Lake Association: _____ _____ _____
Please return this dues card with your check payable to: Council Grove Lake Association.	