



July Newsletter

NEXT MEETING: Aug 11, 9:00 A.M. at COMMUNITY CHRISTIAN CHURCH McCARDLE and MAIN STREETS

Contacts

Email cglakeassoc@yahoo.com

Web Site: cglakeassoc.org

Chair: Curt Brungardt

Vice Chair: Joyce Hutter

Treasurer: LuAnn Fuller

Secretary: Fred Vance

CHAIRMAN'S COMMENTS

Let me first start by thanking the out-going leadership of the Council Grove Lake Association for its hard work and accomplishments, most notably stopping the city's annexation plan. This action saved lake residents over \$250,000 in new taxes last year alone. This could not have been accomplished without the full financial and unified support of an active membership. Based on conversation with many of the old-timers, the Lake Association has never been as strong as it is today. Eight out of every ten lake residents are now members of the Lake Association. Over the last six months our financial resources have ranged between \$44,000 and \$50,000. Finally, nearly 80 Lake Association members have volunteered and participated in many of our activities and committees.

The ultimate goal of the Lake Association is to ensure that the Council Grove City Lake Park becomes a quality lakefront living community. The Lake Association operates on the concept that we can accomplish things collectively that we can not do individually. The Lake Association serves as an advocate for lake residents and pursues policies and strategies that protect and improve the Council Grove City Lake Park.

My first action as chair of the Lake Association has been to expand the executive committee from the four elected officials to a twelve person committee (this includes elected officers, past officers, and new appointed members). The reason for this change is two-fold: first, it allows us to share the heavy workload; and second and more importantly, it allows for more diverse ideas to be discussed as we address important issues. This new committee has established five overall goals for the upcoming year. These goals will provide the direction needed as we work to build a better lake community. These are:

1. Continue to build a strong community among lake residents (this includes developing communications networks, building a more formal structure, and adding social activities);
2. Pursue policies and strategies that protect our lake property investments (this includes working with the City of Council Grove to develop financial stability arrangements);
3. Pursue policies and strategies that increase our role in governing the Council Grove City Lake Park (this includes pursuing policies and new structures that allow us to have a voice in decisions that affect lake properties);
4. Using the 2006 Master Plan as a guide, continue to seek physical improvements at the Council Grove City Lake Park (this includes road and park improvements and eventually water/sewer systems).

5. Encourage lake residents to use their talents and resources for the betterment of Council Grove and Morris County (this includes serving as volunteers, participating in civic affairs, and doing business in the Council Grove area).

Since my recent election as chairman, I have found 93 year-old Wayne Criser (original founder of the Council Grove Lake Association) to be a personal mentor and an inspiration to me as we address difficult issues. His advice to me is to be a strong advocate for lake residents and to be relentless in seeking improvements at the City Lake. I believe his advice is good for all of us as we build a strong lakefront community.

Finally, let me close my comments by encouraging you and all Lake Association members to become active in Lake Association affairs. Please let your voice be heard through one of our executive committee members, by attending our monthly meetings, or by volunteering at our activities. We are only as strong as the collective unit we build. I look forward to the challenges ahead and with your participation we can be successful in improving the Council Grove City Lake Park.

EXPANDED EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

The 2007-2008 Expanded Executive Committee are: Current Officers – Curt Brungardt, Joyce Hutter, Fred Vance and LuAnn Fuller; Past Officers – Dave Baker, George Forrester, Andy Hutter and Vern Hay; Appointed Members – Dave Fritchen, Gary Catlin, Charlie Busch and Lisbeth Cabrera.

CITY COUNCIL VOTES ON PERMANENT EASEMENT

Recently the Council Grove City Council voted down (6-0) the compromise plan developed by the Lake Special Commission. This plan called for lake residents to pay for one-half of surveying lake properties and in return would be granted permanent easements on their properties. Several council members voiced concern that the permanent easement concept was too different and unique and therefore, felt uncomfortable with this concept. In that same council meeting, Council Member Steve Shepherd proposed the development of a second special commission to continue the work of pursuing a long-term agreement that addresses the financial and governance issues at the city lake. At the July 24 city council meeting, Mayor Cynthia Engle appointed eight members to this new commission. They include: Jane Rickenbrode and Charlene McRae, representing the City of Council Grove; Curt Brungardt, and Dave Fritchen, representing the Lake; Steve Adams and Tim Tyner with interests in both the City and the Lake; and Steve Shepard and Anita Thomas from the City Council

WRAP-UP OF 4TH OF JULY

Thanks to everyone who participated in the Council Grove City Lake 4th of July celebration. It was a wonderful evening and everyone had a great time. The Lake Association would like to thank all those who decorated their boats and lakefronts. These types of activities help build a strong sense of community at the lake and we appreciate all who participated. Please see the lake association website for photographs of all the events and decorations. This year's winners in the boat decorating contest were: First place-Zeigler (R-1), Second place – Fuller/Carlin (C-43 and D-13), and Third place – Brockelman (B-8). Lakefront decorating contest winners were: First place – Winter (I-5), Second place – Jones (K-9), and Third place – Schmedeman (D-2). A very special thank you goes to the Flint Hills Community Band. Their live music adds a new dimension to the Regatta that was greatly appreciated.

TOY VEHICLE ISSUES

The Toy Vehicle city ordinance has recently been a topic of discussions, including at the last City Council meeting. If you have questions about using golf carts, go carts and such at the lake, the easiest thing to do is to go to the Lake Association web site www.cgclakeassoc.org and read city ordinance 1999. We'll try to summarize it here. Keep in mind the purpose of the ordinance is to prohibit the operation of "Toy Vehicles". Basically if your vehicle cannot be registered with the State of Kansas, you cannot operate it on the roads, streets, or common areas. There are exceptions for handicapped persons, utility companies, and lawn mowers going between mowing lawns. Another exception is any vehicle which has been approved in writing by the City Council. So you may have a circumstance where you would want to apply to the City Council for a written approval to operate your unlicensed vehicle in the City Lake Park public areas.

LAKE LOGO ACCESSORIES

Reception of the Lake Association shirts has been very good. To date we have sold over sixty and we continue to take orders at each Lake Association meeting. We have had many positive comments regarding the idea for the shirts and the "logo" design. At the July meeting we introduced the apron and tote bags. We are currently investigating the price and possibility of caps and visors. License tags may follow. We want to use every opportunity possible to let the local business people know we are supporting them. It is a good idea to wear your lake shirt when you go in to town to shop, eat, whatever (buy gas, soda, beer---on and on). We will be trying to keep a small inventory on hand so when you want a shirt we have it and you don't have to wait. If you want to place an order and do not want to wait until the August meeting you may call 620-767-6561 and leave your name, size and specify man's shirt or women's shirt. That way we might possibly have a shirt for you at the August meeting.

PRICING:

Shirts	22.00	Aprons	23.00
2x	23.50	Tote bags	20.00
3x	24.50	Large tote	22.00
Windshirts	34.00		

MEMBERSHIP

Forgot to pay your dues? More than 80% of lake homeowners are now members of the Association. We strongly encourage all lake homeowners to join in our efforts and let your voice be heard.

STATEMENT

Council Grove Lake Association
PO Box 13, Council Grove, Ks 66846

2007 Annual Dues \$ 25.00

Cabin # _____ Lake Phone _____
Name(s) _____

Non-Published Emergency Phone _____
Mailing Address _____
City _____ State _____ Zip _____