



Early Spring Newsletter 2013

NEXT MEETING: April 13, 2013—9:00 A.M. at COMMUNITY CHRISTIAN CHURCH McCARDLE at MAIN

Email: cgclakeassoc@gmail.com

Web site: cgclakeassoc.org

President: Joyce Hutter

Vice President: Ken Mulanax

Secretary: Ed Hooper

Treasurer: Gary Catlin

PRESIDENT'S COMMENTS

Ah, Spring! It's that glorious time of year when everything seems to be starting anew. Much of nature hibernates (or at least slows activity) during the winter months. Unlike the natural order of things, your boards of director members and volunteers have continued to work through the winter. Much is happening at the lake. We will give a brief synopsis with this newsletter of the main points of interest to homeowners on progress of the lot tax appeal, electrical safety program, city lake income and expense reporting. At our first meeting of the year, April 10, 2013, you will have an opportunity to ask questions and express your ideas on these topics and others of interest. We hope to see many of you at that meeting. It is important to have your input and support.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Over the course of the spring and summer there are many events taking place in and around Council Grove that may be of interest to you and/or your friends and family. For your convenience, we have compiled a list of them here.

EVERY 2ND SATURDAY OF THE MONTH (APRIL THRU SEPTEMBER) Lake Association General Membership Meeting at the Community Christian Church, Main Street at McCardle 9:00 a.m. Please plan to attend as many meetings as you can. This is your opportunity to keep informed of the issues, and express your thoughts to the Board of Directors.

EVERY 4TH SATURDAY OF THE MONTH (MARCH THRU DECEMBER) Board of Directors meeting at the Hays House (unless otherwise noted) 9:00 a.m. You are welcome to attend these meetings. We suggest you let someone on the board know of your intent to attend so the appropriate number of reservations can be made.

April 6, 2013	Council Grove Business Exposition at the Council Grove High School
May 11, 2013	CGCLA Annual Benefit Golf Tournament at the Council Grove Country Club
May 27, 2013	Memorial Day observed
June 15, 2013	Symphony in the Flint Hills on the Fort Riley Grounds
June 21-22, 2013	Washunga Days in Council Grove
July 4, 2013	Fireworks on the Riverwalk
July 6, 2013	CGCLA Regatta and Lakeshore decorating contest
July 12, 2013	Ladies Night Out in Council Grove

August?, 2013 Babe Ruth Classic (date to be announced)
September 2, 2013 Labor Day
September ?, 2013 CGCLA Annual Steak Fry (date to be announced)
November 2, 2013 Candlelight Charm in Council Grove
November 1-3, 2013 Gathering in the Grove Art Show and Sale in Council Grove

BOARD of DIRECTORS ELECTION

The nominations for seats on the CGCLA Board of Directors will close on May 11th. The voting will close at the end of the Annual Meeting June 8th. There are five director positions up for election, each a two year term. The bylaws of the Corporation were written with 11 board members to keep the leadership active, and represent as broad a base of the membership as feasible. Many of the current board members have served tirelessly for over six years. It is time for additional members to step up and share your time, talents, and ideas. The board currently meets the 4th Saturday of each month. Not all members are able to attend every meeting. We make extensive use of email to pass along information and often make decisions via email and conference calls. Most board members not living in the Council Grove area find they are able to effectively participate. Let your voice be heard as a member of the CGCLA board of directors. Nomination forms are available at www.cgclakeassoc.org. You may send your completed form to CGCLA, P.O. Box 13, Council Grove, KS. 66846 or email to: cgclakeassoc@gmail.com

LAKE ASSOCIATION ANNUAL GOLF TOURNAMENT

The Lake Association Annual Golf Tournament will be held at the Council Grove Country Club on May 11th. Once again, John Nicodemus, 316 619 0016, will chair this event and will graciously accept volunteer assistance. While this is a charity golf tournament, a good time is enjoyed by all at the raffle and social hour following the tournament. Please plan to join in the fun.

BOATING SAFETY REMINDERS

At the beginning of each summer season we print an article regarding boat safety. Many at the lake are new owners and may not be familiar with city ordinances governing the rules and regulations of boat operation at the City Lake. Even if you have been around for years, it is good to review the regulations. All ordinances pertaining to "life at the lake" can be found on the Lake Association web site www.cgclakeassoc.org. Please print this information and share it with your guests. You are responsible for them knowing and following the regulations.

Always, safety is our first concern. Since this is a "multi-use" lake (fishermen, skiers, sailors, cruisers, jet skis, canoes, kayaks, paddle boats, swimmers), it is important to always be on the outlook for others and to constantly be aware of who/what is sharing the lake with you. REMEMBER: Until April 15, the entire lake is a "no wake" zone.

- Between the buoys and the shoreline is ALWAYS a no wake zone
- Always keep alert for "downed" skiers and tubers
- Sailboats, canoes, kayaks, and paddle boats always have the right of way
- Radios should not be loud enough to be heard more than 50 feet away
- No wake prior to 8:00 am or after sunset (One of the deadliest things you can do is to proceed full speed after dark. Sunset times are posted on the web site)

If we are all courteous and use common sense, we can continue to enjoy the lake and all it has to offer with no serious negative consequences. Let's make it a safe and fun year.

TAX APPEAL OF LAKE LOT VALUATIONS FOR 2012

The tax appeal process for the lake lot values is in progress. Our attorney, Linda Terrell, has been retained by the Lake Association to represent the city in the appeal of the valuation of the lake lots for the tax year ending December 31, 2012. Linda has received a letter from the Kansas Court of Tax Appeals (COTA) outlining the dates for discovery and expert witnesses and setting the prehearing telephone conference for September 18, 2013. Prior to that date volunteers will be working to gather the considerable information requested by the attorney to support the case. Because of the unique nature of our situation, this is a very labor intensive and time consuming venture.

APPAREL VOLUNTEER NEEDED

For the past five years we have sold apparel with the Lake Association logo and or name on it. This has been a very popular venture and has given the Lake Association high recognition in the area. Lake homeowners who did not know each other have even met out of town and recognized one another from the shirts and met. At this time we are in need of a volunteer (or two or three, if you would like to combine your efforts and energies with a friend or two) to coordinate this area. If you are interested, please call Joyce (620 767 2726) and she can explain to you what is involved. It really doesn't take much time, but it does necessitate a small place to store inventory and some bookkeeping.

LAKE ADVISORY COMMITTEE

In accordance with the lease, the city council appointed the following persons to serve on an advisory committee. Mark Brooks, Betty Huey, Debi Schwerdtfeger from the city council; Becky Catlin, Mary Honeyman, Dave Fritchen from the Lake Association; Dennis Delay, Bob Alexander, Sylvia Woodruff business representatives; and Jeff Woodall, Jolyn Bremmer and Jim Autrey, each representing the town precinct in which they live. Some of the issues discussed at the past meetings are: dam maintenance and compliance with state guidelines, rip rap (pool debris) on the dam and safety issues with the use of pool debris, completion of 911 signage for all roads and residences within the City Lake Park, C-Road surface, tax appeal, city accounting system and reporting and communication and establishing priorities. We are thankful to these 12 people for their volunteer efforts and willingness to work together for better communication and relationships between the lake community and the city administration.

CITY LAKE INCOME/ EXPENSE REPORTING

The Lake Lot Lease requires the City to provide the CGCLA with semi-annual and annual Income/Expense reports. Board members Ed Hooper and Jerry Roths recently met with the Mayor, City Administrator, and The City Council Lake Committee to discuss the annual report and seek clarification and details of the report. Hopefully the results of the meeting will increase communications between the City and CGCLA regarding income/expense reports.

SEPTIC and WELL IDENTIFICATION

A reminder; if you haven't fully complied with the Septic and Well Identification Ordinance, you need to get busy. The City Ordinance and other Clean Water information is available at www.cgclakeassoc.org in the Clean Water Initiative Section. We realize there are still a few who haven't been able to locate their septic. Drawings at city hall may help. If you are still unable to locate your system, City Inspector Larry Johnson can be contacted at 620 767 5417 and may be able to assist you.

ELECTRICAL SAFETY NEAR WATER

Last summer the Lake of the Ozarks experienced several fatal accidents involving electricity located near boat docks and at the water's edge. In an effort to avert such a thing happening at the Council Grove City Lake, Larry Johnson, city building inspector has contacted CGCLA concerning an educational program, and possible regulations. D.L. Smith, (E 14) of DL Smith Electrical, graciously volunteered to work with Larry and be the liaison for lake homeowners.

Our Board of Directors has looked at the potential for fatal accidents and whole heartily supports a program to avoid fatalities such as have occurred at lakes similar to ours. We will soon be passing on educational and technical information to raise awareness of the potential dangers. We will also invite Larry to attend a Lake Association meeting to talk with us.

Prevention is our objective. Drowning due to electrical shock could be easy to miss-identify and we all need to be aware of the dangers and how to react to an incident in the water. An informative reprint from July, 2012, Cruising World is attached to this newsletter.

2012 MEMBERSHIP

Because of your involvement, right at 90% of lake homeowners became paid members of the Council Grove City Lake Association in 2012. Considering some folks own two leases and some owned by absentee trusts go unused, our true membership level is above 90%. This level of membership compares to the membership level of 2009, and is an open testament of your support. The Association could not begin to accomplish our mission without you. It is only with your continued support that we can promote your interests as a lake homeowner and keep you informed of developments that may affect you. It is only because of this continued level of support that we were able to be recognized by the city government as the spokes "person" for lake residents. Representing you as a "joint voice" increases your "power of one" and gives you considerable leverage when decisions are being made. **We thank each and every one of you who has paid your annual dues to support the Lake Association.** We encourage you to do your share, and get your dues in the mail.

Dues Card – 2013 COUNCIL GROVE CITY LAKE ASSOCIATION PO Box 13, Council Grove, KS 66846	
NAME(S) _____	Annual Dues: \$ <u>35.00</u>
LOT NUMBER _____	Legal Fund Contribution: \$ _____
Lake Street Address _____	General Fund Contribution: \$ _____
Mailing Address _____	CHECK TOTAL: \$ _____
City _____ State _____ Zip _____	I can help with: _____
Email _____	_____
Home Phone _____ Cell: _____	_____
Lake or 2 nd Cell _____	_____

July 12, 2012

Preventing Electric Shock Drownings

A string of tragedies over the holiday weekend serve as a grim reminder to check the electrical systems on your boat and dock.



Lake of the Ozarks

July has brought [tragic reminders of electrical hazards](#) that can happen around boats and boat docks. Just this past weekend, 26-year-old Jennifer Lankford was swimming with family in the Lake of the Ozarks. She was electrocuted when she touched a dock that is believed to have had faulty wiring. Also at Lake of the Ozarks, a 13-year-old girl and her 8-year-old brother received fatal electrical shocks while swimming near a dock. In Tennessee, two boys, ages 10 and 11, lost their lives as a result of receiving an electrical shock while swimming between house boats on Cherokee Lake in Tennessee.

"Make sure that the dock area is safe. This means making sure electrical connections are properly installed and safely maintained," adds Molly Hall, executive director of the Safe Electricity program. "Your loved ones' lives just might depend on it." Even if you are just renting the dock, it is important that you notify the dock owner of any safety violations so that they can be fixed immediately.

Wet environments are particularly dangerous when it comes to electricity. While regulations might vary by location, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) states that electricity-related drowning can be prevented by regular inspections for ground-fault failure and by strict enforcement of the National Electric Code through frequent inspections of pools and docks.

An important step to ensure safety around boat docks and swimming pools is to include ground fault circuit interrupter (GFCI) protection. Make sure the GFCI is professionally installed to prevent shock, electrocution, and injury. [Safe Electricity](#) urges boat owners to have dockside electrical systems installed by professional electricians guided by National Electric Code and to have these systems inspected regularly to avoid tragedy. Boat wiring should be in compliance with [American Boat and Yacht Council \(ABYC\) standards](#).

Safe Electricity urges all swimmers that if you feel a tingle, avoid metal ladders and objects, and get out of the water as soon as possible - the best and quickest way you can.

THE AMERICAN BOAT AND YACHT COUNCIL RESPONDS TO ELECTRIC SHOCK DROWNING INCIDENTS

The American Boat and Yacht Council (ABYC) is offering information regarding safety, standards and legislation in response to the recent electric shock drowning incidents.

The ABYC has been aware of and taken steps to mitigate electric shock drowning incidents since 2008. The United States Coast Guard sponsored grants to ensure ABYC's electrical document "E-11 AC & DC Electrical Systems On-Board Boats - 2008" included an "Equipment Leakage Circuit Interrupter" device. This "interrupter" is similar in function to ground-fault outlets installed in homes. It responds to a potential fault by tripping the main circuit breaker and cutting power to the boat. The device will be mandatory for boats with alternating current systems beginning December 31, 2012.

Electric shock drowning is the result of a typically low level alternating current passing through the body while immersed in fresh water. The force is sufficient enough to cause skeletal muscular paralysis, rendering the victim helpless and drowning. This type of fault can happen in any natural water but becomes fatal in fresh water due to lower water conductivity. Salt water has a higher conductivity.

"An electrical fault looks for a path back to its source and in fresh water, that path can become the human body," said John Adey, ABYC president.

Kevin Ritz, an ABYC certification instructor who [lost his 8-year old son Lucas](#) in 1999 to electric shock drowning, serves as an education advocate. Ritz created "Hot Docks, Hot Boats, and Electric Shock Drowning" webinar in 2011. Many companies use Ritz's webinar to educate employees who work in the water.

"Education is the number one defense until we can get ground-fault protection devices in all marinas," said Ritz. A free, live, updated webinar and Q & A with Kevin Ritz will be held Wednesday, July 18, 2012, 1:00 - 3:00 p.m. EST. Interested persons should register at <https://cc.readytalk.com/r/jxqrd60e3b>

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