



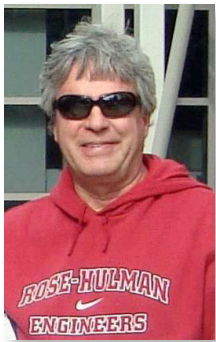
*A Great Read  
... Cover to Cover!*

## **Webster Lake Fall 2017 Newsletter**

[www.lakewebster.net](http://www.lakewebster.net)



### **The President's Corner**



Dear Friends,

It is with a very sad heart that I write this letter to you. Tom Plew, a member of the Webster Lake Conservation Association Board of Directors for twenty years, recently passed away after a very rough Summer. Tom was Chairman of the Aquatic Vegetation Committee and was amazing at working with the DNR and Aquatic Control to insure that we could navigate freely.

Tom was also instrumental in restoring the Dixie and then keeping her running. As a Navy man and graduate of Sam's Technical Institute he was uniquely suited for the project. He had a passion for the Dixie and would often watch from his home in the evening to make sure she made her last round.

He will be dearly missed by all the Dixie Crew and, for sure, the Webster Lake Conservation Association Board of Directors. He will also be missed by his family and friends, of which I consider myself being one of those. ☺

~ Kevin Smith, President

### **TENTATIVE WEED CONTROL PLAN FOR 2018**

The WLCA weed committee is considering a more aggressive approach to weed control for the 2018 lake season, income permitting. We would like to do two shoreline/channel weed treatments next year rather than one complete shoreline/channel treatment as has been done in past years.

The hope is to keep the weeds down and out of reach of the boat propellers to reduce the weed chop which is a great nuisance to residents, boaters, and fishermen alike. Residents have to clean or clear the weed chop from their frontage. Boaters frequently have to clear weeds from their propellers. Fishermen can't pull a lure through the water without catching weeds and chop instead of fish.

In 2017, the shoreline/channel treatment was not done until late June. However, weeds were at the surface in mid and late May. Due to the early onset of weeds, the lake was plagued with floating weed chop between mid-May and late June. It is hoped that a treatment in mid-May, followed by another in early to mid-July, will reduce weed chop and result in better conditions on the lake for the entire season.

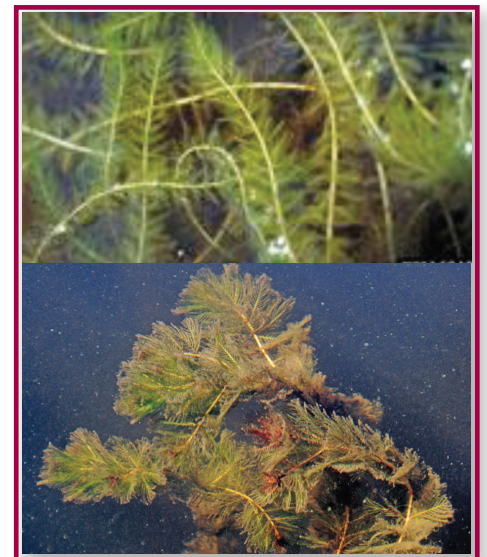
Shoreline/channel treatments are expensive, \$24,604 this year plus an additional \$4,800 for a May treatment of Curley Leaf in the Miller's Landing area and \$2,884 for our portion of the cost to kill 60 acres of Milfoil. A LARE grant from the Indiana Department of Natural

Resources covered 80% (\$11,533) of the \$14,417 Milfoil treatment cost. Additionally, WLCA will pay approximately \$1,200 (20% of the total cost thanks to the LARE grant) for the IDNR annually required aquatic vegetation report and \$905 for the lake mapping license fee. The total cost for weed treatment and related costs will be at least \$34,393 this year.

Simply put, in order to do two shoreline/channel treatments per season, WLCA needs more dues paying members and members making extra contributions to the Weed Fund. There are 610 properties that "touch water" on Webster Lake. "Touch Water Properties" include properties on islands, channels, and on the

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### **EURASIAN WATERMILFOIL**



## SUE'S CREATIONS



Steve & Sue Ward

I was working as an OB nurse, Psych head nurse, nurse at an Industrial factory and nursing home, and loving my years as a psych nurse. Until one day I came home and my husband, Steve, dangled keys in front of me. I said, "What do they belong to?" He said, "To a building I rented." So I said, "OK, and what are you doing with it?" Steve replied, "We are going into business"... I asked what we were going to do and he replied, "A flower shop." As a teenager, I

had worked for Betsy's Bouquet in Huntington through high school and the summer of my first year of college. So in March of 1982, Sue's Creations opened its doors in the Midlakes shopping center. After outgrowing our first two locations, we purchased the present storefront at 102 South Main Street. This allowed us to carry more inventory, expand our existing lines and be more visible.

Sue's Creations is a full-line floral shop. We carry cut flowers, plants, nautical gifts, home accessories, silks, bereavement items, and Teleflora. Our main objective has always been to have good products go out our door and at a fair price with good customer service. We have met a lot of people through our business and developed some great friendships. We love our community and the support everyone has given us. We are very active in the community helping with fundraisers, North Webster Chamber, Sue has been Chamber President for the past 5 years, and Steve has been active in the Lions Club. For 30 years we put together the Mermaid Parade and Steve was the announcer, and was the first to start announcing the cutie parade. He has been emcee for cutie contest and, also, the pageant.

We have two daughters, Ashley and Nicole, and five grandchildren: Jaxon 5 years old, who just started kindergarten, Colton 2 1/2, Ethan 2, Rihanna 7 months and Remington 4 months.

Life is good and we are all blessed to call North Webster our home! We want to thank everyone for their support and to all the great citizens who make this town/lake a very special place to call home. 🌸



## TENTATIVE WEED CONTROL PLAN FOR 2018

*Continued from front page.*

lake proper. Of those 610 properties, 52% (317) paid their \$100 dues in 2017. Some members also designated extra contributions to the Weed Fund.

Income from dues is used for both overhead expenses and for the treatment of weeds. Money designated for weeds or fireworks can and will only be used for the purpose given. There are also some owners of properties "not touching water" who receive invoices, together with a few businesses, that pay dues and contribute extra money for weed treatments or fireworks. When these "off lake" residents and businesses are added to the "touch water" properties, our paid membership percentage drops to 44% of the entire number of dues statements mailed out this year.

From January 1 to August 27, 2017, WLCA received \$39,225 in dues and \$12,630 in extra contributions for the Weed Fund. The total income for dues and weeds equals \$51,855. Weed treatments costs were 66.3% of income, overhead & administrative costs were 15.4% of income, leaving \$9,500 (18.3% of income) remaining in dues and weed income to carry over into 2018. This differs from the year-end 2016 when WLCA spent \$10,000 more than income because of especially high weed treatment expenses. It is because of this carry forward and the hope of greater participation from members and prospective members that WLCA is hopeful of being able to afford two shoreline/channel treatments in 2018. Additionally, WLCA will be investigating the feasibility of employing mechanical

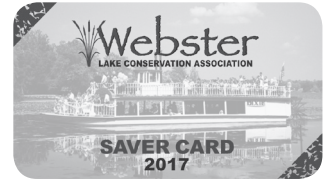
means of weed control.

WLCA has seen success over the last two years in nearly eliminating the invasive species Eurasian Milfoil from the lake once it was authorized by the IDNR to chemically kill the plant rather than "knock it down". Three years ago (2014), it was estimated that there were 193 acres (33.3% of the total lake acreage) of Eurasian Milfoil in Webster Lake. At the beginning of the 2017 season, the estimate was 60 acres (10.3% of lake acreage) of Milfoil. As a result of these treatments of Milfoil, several native species of pond weed have filled the void. Unfortunately, Curly Leaf Pond Weed, also an invasive species, is expanding into the void. WLCA will continue to work to get permits to control or kill the Curly Leaf.

There is nothing that WLCA can do about the Duck Weed. The Duck Weed is coming into Webster Lake from lakes upstream. Duck Weed growth varies from season to season depending on temperature, water volume, nutrient levels in the water, and wind direction. Our best weapon against Duck Weed is to minimize the amount of phosphate, leaves, yard clippings, manure, and fertilizer that is dumped or runs off into our lakes and streams. The Watershed Foundation is working with area farmers to help with some of these problems. You can help by properly disposing of your leaves and yard waste. Also, the installation and use of sewer systems around area lakes will continue to impact the amount of Duck Weed in local lakes. 🌿

## BECOME A WLCA MEMBER AND RECEIVE A SAVER CARD!

WLCA has sponsored a Saver Card program for use by residents of Webster Lake. 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 <http://lakewebster.net> (Membership Section). The 2017 Saver Card is valid until April 30, 2018. 🍁



Participating Merchants and Offers are subject to change by the Participating Merchants at any time without notice. 🍁

## THANK YOU TO OUR 2017 FIREWORKS DONORS!

Ace Hardware of North Webster	Heart of the Lakes Antique Mall	Owen Family Funeral Homes
Ace Pest Control, Inc.	King's Keg	Pier 13 Realty, Inc.
American Legion Post 253	Lake City Bank	Pletcher Insurance, Inc.
Bart's Water Sports	Lakeland Pier LLC	Prowake Watersports, Inc.
Bourbon Street Pizza	Lakeland Spinal Health PC	Rhodes Insurance Agency
Chematics, Inc.	Lakeview Pizza King	Roger's Auto Center
Clark's Marine Service	Link Financial Services, Ltd.	Sock's Marina
Dave's Electric, Heating & Cooling	Mary Kay Cosmetics & Jan Osborn	Strombeck Brothers, Inc.
Dixie Haven Resort	Metcalf, Payne & Bell Plumbing	Subway
Dixie Sternwheeler Inc.	Mutual Bank	Sue's Creations
Epworth Forest Conference Center	New Market Grocery Store	The Papers, Inc.
Fisherman Cove Resort	North Webster Fire Department	Thompson Concrete
Freedom Oil LLC	North Webster Lion's Club	Todd Realty of North Webster
Golden Mermaid	North Webster Tippecanoe	Tom's Truck Repair
Guy's Lawn Service	Township Chamber of Commerce	WLCA Members
Hartley Builders LLC	Town of North Webster	🍁

### WLCA BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Kevin Smith, <i>President</i>	Ron Erb	Mike McCall
Mike Wyrick, <i>Vice President</i>	Terry Frederick	Max Stackhouse
Dawn Meyer, <i>Secretary</i>	Tom Jones, Jr.	Jacob Yahne
Wanda Wyrick, <i>Treasurer</i>	Steve Kemp	Stephanie Yahne

Visit the WLCA website @ [www.lakewebster.net](http://www.lakewebster.net)

### 2017 WLCA MEMBERSHIP FORM

(Please return this voucher with your payment)

Name(s) \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail Address \_\_\_\_\_  
 Lake Address \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mailing Address \_\_\_\_\_  
 Contact Phone(s) \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail Statements  Yes  No

**Membership Dues** \$ 100.00  
**Fireworks Fund** \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
**Invasive Species (Weeds)** \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
**TOTAL:** \$ \_\_\_\_\_

#### Checks Payable to WLCA

Mail to: WLCA  
 P.O. Box 79  
 North Webster, IN 46555



## WLCA'S NEWEST BOARD MEMBER



Jacob Yahne, also known as “Twig” to many around Lake Webster, developed a deep passion for the lake once his family began spending the summers on Webster Lake around the early 1980’s. Over his years on Webster Lake, he participated on the Ski Bees team and developed a love for skiing. His favorite skiing styles were barefooting and jumping over the jump he helped build in the late 90’s. He was also known for his 2 speeds when he drove his Ski Nautiques – fast and stop, a tradition that continues today with his 1984 Ski Nautique.

After graduating from Manchester College in the mid 1990’s, he began a permanent residency on Webster Lake. In 1999 he met his wife, Stephanie, on the lake and has maintained that same residency on the lake which

he imagines never leaving. Jacob and Stephanie have a daughter, Lindsay, who is married and Lindsay and husband, Ryan, now have a 3 ½ year old son, Raiden, whom he is trying to put on skis. Over Jacob’s 20+ year career, he has been fortunate to be able to find opportunities close to Lake Webster. For the past seven years he has been the Corporate Controller for Dexter Axle, which has grown to become DexKo Global; however, is looking forward to slowing down, working on special projects over the next couple of years. Stephanie has maintained her position in insurance sales for the past 15 years.

Jacob passes through the winter months with creative projects like building skis, paddle boards or buoys that sit outside his home each summer, providing the Dixie captains with the opportunity to incorporate an element of surprise in each trip around the lake. The current buoy happened as a result of “horse play” in a garden center where Jake and Raiden dropped their item causing it to break, and forcing them to become the new owners of a pond gator. Together, Jacob & Stephanie enjoy spending as much family time on the lake as possible, and value the privilege of lake life and family. They look forward to doing their part to preserve the lake and provide memories for future generations. 🍁



## KLINE ISLAND PROTECTION PROJECT UPDATE

The Kline Island project is moving ahead with Phase Two, which will begin construction in the middle of October, 2017. Phase One was completed in 2015. Phase Three, which will deal with the erosion on the east side of the island, will be scheduled at a later date. 🍁



## LOOKING AHEAD: WLCA 2018 Calendar of Events



**Saturday, June 16**

***Annual Dixie Ride & Carry-in Brunch***

Please join us for a cruise on beautiful Webster Lake. The Dixie will leave from the Dixie Park Pavilion promptly at 9:30 a.m.

**Saturday, July 7**

***Webster Lake Fireworks***

Starting time is approximately 10:00 p.m. ~ (Rain Date: Sunday, July 8, at 10 p.m.)

**Saturday, August 11 ~ Annual Meeting/Election**

9:30 a.m. - Community Center Party Room. 🍁