

# Arbutus Lake Log

October 1, 2012 Volume #Two Issue #Three

*The official newsletter of the Lake Arbutus Association,.*

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## **Membership Renewal Time**

The Lake Arbutus Association is funded only by the membership dues, which are \$20.00 per year and per family. Dues are due on the first of January. With these dues, we donate to many activities of the Hatfield area, such as the Fire department, Water Ski Show, the Dewhurst Flag pole and lights, the Fireworks on the fourth, the "Kids Don't Float" life jacket loaner facility at the Russell Park boat launch and the Web cam on the dam just to name a few. We also work with the DNR and the Fire Department on the *Firewise* program, monitor water quality and publish this newsletter to help keep you informed.

But wait, there's more. New to this year, in conjunction with the Lake Arbutus Pavilion, you can receive a family pass for fifty, yes FIFTY passes for skating at the Pavilion during normal skating hours. A pass may be picked up at the Pavilion after your dues for the year have been paid. WE will update membership renewals weekly with Russ and he will give you a fifty card punch pass for your family for skating, and including skates! We are also working on a couple of other activities in conjunction with the

Pavilion. The LAA and the LAP. Maybe that should be carved on a tree somewhere. Nah!

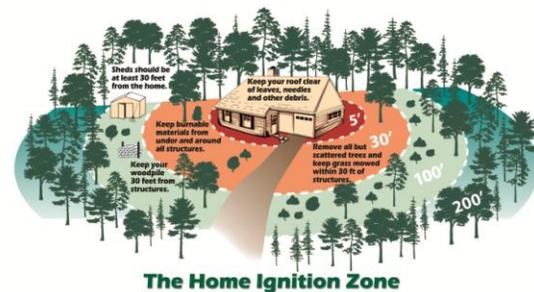
Flag flown by Gail and Jim Beale

July 2012 to December 2012

## **DNR Firewise Reminder**

Wildfires are a part of life here in the Lake Arbutus area but your home CAN survive a wildfire. Research has shown that the characteristics of buildings and their immediate surroundings determine their survivability. That's why preparing your home and the area around your home, known as the home ignition zone, is so important. Every step you take, no matter how small, makes your home that much safer. Start today! Find more information at [www.dnr.wi.gov](http://www.dnr.wi.gov)

search "firewise".



The 2013 Photography contest is in full swing, with less than 3 weeks left to submit your best Lake Arbutus photos. If you've taken beautiful photos in the past year, please email them along with your name and photo location to [debj1729@aol.com](mailto:debj1729@aol.com). Enter up to two photos in the contest. If a photo of yours is selected, you will receive a free calendar! Let's make this our best yet.

Deadline for submission is **October 13th.**

Don't forget to order your calendars early for unique Christmas presents. Call any board

member or Email Deb Johnson at above address. Calendars are \$12.00 each.

## Lake Arbutus Water Clarity Measurements

Association volunteers continue to measure lake clarity using Secchi Disks at several locations on Lake Arbutus and in several lake tributaries (see [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Secchi\\_disk](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Secchi_disk) for information about the measurements). Results for the lake through 2011 are summarized below:

Monthly

Averages (feet)		Annual Averages (feet)	
May	-3.1	2002	-2.5
June	<b>-2.2</b>	2003	-3.0
July	<b>-2.2</b>	2004	-2.6
August	-2.5	2005	-2.9
<b>Sept</b>	<b>-2.8</b>	<b>2010</b>	<b>-2.2</b>
Oct	-3.4	2011	-2.7

The values measure the depth below the water surface that the disk can be seen, the deeper the disk the clearer the water. During 2006 through 2009 the lake was lowered for repairs to the dam and no measurements were made.

The clearest water is found in the spring and the fall and the lowest clarity is observed in June and July. Sometimes the lower clarity is the result of summer storm runoff in the Black River that carries sediment into the lake. When this happens on the Black River, the water in Arnold Creek and the East Fork of the Black River are clearer because they don't have much farmland in their basins. Lower water clarity in June and July is often the result of algae growth in the lake. It appears that when the summers are dry and there is little water flowing through the lake the algae, and the phosphorous that causes the algae to grow, are not flushed from the lake. There is little to indicate a trend in water clarity over the years of observations.

Wisconsin DNR Water Quality Efforts  
(excerpted from WDNR web site,  
<http://dnr.wi.gov/topic/TMDLs/> )

Impaired waters in Wisconsin are addressed through an analysis, known as a Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL). A TMDL is the amount of a pollutant a water body can receive and still meet water quality standards. Basically it is a pollution

"budget" for a water body or watershed that establishes the pollutant reduction needed from each pollutant source to meet water quality goals. The phosphorous that supports algae growth is a key water quality indicator. In November 2010, water quality criteria for total phosphorus were promulgated. Criteria, found in NR 102.06, are based on total phosphorus criteria, as well as frequency and duration of total phosphorus exceedances.

The DNR 2012 Impaired Waters List includes more than 700 rivers, streams and lakes with 32 new waters added to the list in 2012. Three streams in Dane and Buffalo Counties were proposed for delisting because they have been successfully restored. Approximately 1/3 of evaluated lakes and approximately 2/3 of streams and rivers evaluated were determined to not fully support aquatic life. A total of 172 lakes and streams are formally listed as impaired due to phosphorus pollution or sediment, decreasing their recreational value and economic impact. The Black River in Jackson County and the South Branch O'Neil Creek, and upstream tributary to Lake Arbutus, are in the impaired water management process

### ATV trail closings:

The Clark County trails will close on Oct 31 and Jackson County trails will close on Oct 15. Trails will be closed during the deer hunting season and will open at the same time that the snowmobile trails open. On December 15, all the trails open for ATV's and if there is snow, for snowmobiles. Always check with the county ATV or Snowmobile web sites if in doubt. The use of UTV's is now permanent in both counties.

**We have a new Lake Association Website. Time to log-in to your account.**

Logging in first time for Initial emails.mp4

[Play video](#)

00:04:34



Added on 3/20/12

We have been working on a new Lake Arbutus Association website the past couple of months, which is live and ready for your log in. The name of our new website is: <http://www.lakearbutus.com/> An account has been set up for you to take advantage of all the features our new online website provides: News about our lake, Hatfield community events, photos, lost and found, updates on controlling invasive weeds, etc. We will use the new website for conducting surveys, improving communications with our members and providing informative videos and news bulletins.

Below is your Username and Password to use to log in for the first time. You can change your password once you setup your user profile.

**Editor note: You should have received this Email with your username and password. Don't ask me, I'm as computer confused as any other grand-parent. In fact, I just heard our three year old telling my wife "No nana, first you have to double click on the msn task bar and then....."**

**Username:**

**Password:**

YouTube address to Signing on for first time

[http://youtu.be/3rzDtZa\\_qvE](http://youtu.be/3rzDtZa_qvE)

Follow the LOG IN link on our new home page at the top right hand corner, just under the Weather, to log in for the first time. You can also use the LOG IN link now to get there.

Once you're logged in, browse around and see all the new features available. Fill out your personal profile to keep your contact information up to date. You can also check the lake's event

calendar to see what's going on. If you need any help getting started, check out the on-line tutorial videos at Get Started just under the Welcome message on the home page. Spread the word. The more Lake Arbutus Association members that setup their account, the faster our online will become more valuable Arbutus.

If they are not yet a current member of the Lake Arbutus Association this new website will serve as an excellent introduction to LAA. They can join by going to the Join Us link to set up their new account.

Check the site frequently to find lake announcements, Hatfield community events, lost and found, and to manage your member account. <http://www.lakearbutus.com/> really is where everything comes together.

**Upcoming social events:**

Details are not yet final, but we plan on bringing back the "Chili dump". Roy Burlingame is now running his Sports Bar, and has invited us to use his facility for association events. We haven't picked a date as of yet, but the "Chili Dump" will be on a Sunday afternoon in conjunction with a Packer game. Brew up your favorite chili recipe and bring it along. We'll buy the crackers, bowls and spoons. Oh yeah, be sure to name your chili.

The Pavilion and the Lake Association will be having an event sometime after the Super bowl. Russ and Judy along with the social committee are still kicking around some ideas for some fun and food. We're always up for suggestions. By the way, have you seen their new 16 foot TV screen? The Packer players are bigger than life on that screen. You don't want to sit too close when it's fourth and goal!

**Hatfield Residents You are invited**

## Emergency Action Plan (EAP) Awareness 2012

Dewhurst Town Hall, October 6 2012 9:30 to 11:30. Residents of Hatfield are encouraged to join North American Hydro, Clark County and Jackson County Emergency Management as they discuss matters of public safety and emergency response during floods. The objective is to strengthen public awareness of Hatfield Dam's EAP and encourage cooperation with local Emergency Government.

Here's a little story from this past summer. I enjoy an occasional car show almost as much as I like to go to the cabin at Hatfield. Some shows are big, like 13,886+ cars at "Back to the Fifties". Others like the Black River Falls Fireman's car show in May, or Green Lake and Spring Green shows in the downtown area of shops are fun too. The people you meet at these shows are sometimes priceless, and unique in their own ways. The show in La Farge definitely fell in the "Priceless" category.

## Reporting from La Farge Wisconsin by Torger Mikkelsen

You can be sure that we had the time of our lives in La Farge yesterday. I was planning on writing an article about this Car Show for either a blog or a car magazine that solicits experiences. I'm stuck on a variety of titles for the article, but I think that it will be "A Five in One Car Show" would best fit the show. Sharon and I left Waunakee at 7:00 and spent \$11.26 at Mc Donald's for the trip up to La Farge. Hwy 12 to Hwy 60 to Hwy 14 to Hwy 80 to Hwy 56 and then to Hwy 131. Phew! That's a lot of state highways for just 89 miles. We arrived at 9:30 and registered #48, paid the five bucks and was given a ten dollar "T" shirt. Already ahead except for Mc Donald's and gas. We put the car on the grounds, and as I spent time sweating and polishing, Sharon headed for the shade. Didn't last long, so she went into the church. I followed her in to the air conditioning and began to look around. It's a neat small church and the

people were very friendly. Many were wearing event "T" shirts including some in the high 70's. I talked to a young guy in a white tee shirt for a while, as we were drinking coffee and Kwik Trip donuts (day old), and then he excused himself and took his coffee cup and went to the pulpit. I've never been in a church where the Pastor's vestment was a "Hot Rod Sunday" "T". And, what a preacher (he prefers to be called "Rev").

On the stage or whatever you call it were two flower arrangements, one on an engine stand complete with chrome header pipes and a caption that said "Make a joyful noise unto the Lord, and make it real loud!" The other was made of an old fashioned bumper jack with the handle crosswise, forming a cross. The caption was something about lifting yourself up.

The collection was taken first, accompanied by some pretty good one-liners by The Rev such as informing the gathered throng that souped up cars were Biblical. Yep, even Moses had a Rod!

Oh, did I mention that they had an Elvis impersonator? Yep, right on the platform, along with his back up music and sound engineer (read girlfriend). He and some young mother from the congregation led the kid's sermon. I've never seen one like this though. They taught the kids how to do "The Hokey Pokey". There was a message in there somewhere. It's been over 50 years since I had to take sermon notes, but I wish that I would have done that on Sunday.

The sermon was based on "Smokey and the Bandit". The Rev's message was based on Burt Reynolds always looking in the rear view mirror in those movies. Sometimes to see if Gleason was

gaining on him, and sometimes just to see his own smile. The message was that we should be looking forward more and into the past less. Again many one liners interspersed into the message, but a couple that I remember was something about Ford drivers installing Chevrolet engines. "Don't take offense so you won't come back next year". His final message was a thought from Ray Charles. "Live every day like it's your last, 'cause some day you'll be right."

Following the sermon/stand-up comic part of the service, Elvis led the congregation in a big "Happy Birthday" for an 80 year old lady from the church as her grandkids rolled out a sheet cake the size of a Buick hood. A quick prayer, and then The Rev says, "Let's eat!" All we had to do was turn around and get in line for a good old fashioned church picnic, with their famous boiled hot dogs on cold buns and table after table of salads, fruits, chips and dips and 10,000 calorie brownies. Now, we're ahead of the game, even after investing a few bucks in the collection plate. By now it's in the 90's, and La Farge is in a valley along the Kickapoo River, so it was very hot and muggy. The air Conditioning was wonderful. By now after everyone had eaten, it was time to either go back out to the car show or stay inside for the "Tribute to Elvis". Needless to say, Elvis packed the house and he entertained for more than an hour. I snuck out twice to see a few cars each time, but Elvis kept getting better. Well, now I'm down another couple of bucks 'cause the collection plate was passed again for Elvis' gas money. Fine with me.

There were enough door prizes for everyone, although most were car, truck, supply house or tractor hats. That

and a few boxes of Kwik Trip glazer donuts. Again, a new custom I'd never seen before. Three kids drew names of all the "drivers" and taped the names to the door prizes while Elvis was still singing. Then, the "veterans" of past shows went out, found their name tags and switched them to the good prizes while the rest of us were humming along to "Hound Dog." I got a box of donuts.

The classes were easy. GM cars, Ford cars, Mopar, motorcycle and pickups. I also think that the mix of trophies might mean that they had been previously awarded. Who cares though, after all the fun that was had.

The finale for "Hot Rod Sunday" was a cruise around the Kickapoo Valley. As Sharon and I are from that area, we skipped the cruise but if you ever get a hankerin' for a real neat back country cruise, let me know. Wildcat Mountain, the Rockton Tavern, Peck's Corner where horses have line dance in the bar, the Amish ridge and canoeing on the Kickapoo are just some of the attractions.

Oh, one thing that I forgot. A lady (think Betty Boop) about my age parked next to my Buick with her '57 Buick four door hardtop. On the back of her dual exhausts were two of the biggest flame throwers I've ever seen. Said that she has them "disarmed" because of the dry conditions, but she would go over to the fire station across the street if anyone wanted to see them work. I had my favorite go-to-car-show-shirt on which had a Route 66 theme to it. "Betty" said that she loved the shirt, and then pointed to her Route 66 seat covers. I'll be darned! Exactly the same pattern. I will never wear that shirt again. Well, at least in La Farge.

So, totaling it all up, I got to attend church, took part in a car show, got fed, enjoyed Elvis, and got to cruise the valleys of Vernon County. All five things for \$12.00 plus Mc Donald's for another twelve bucks. And, I didn't even get a "T" shirt at Mc Donald's. This is a show I will never miss again!

From La Farge Wisconsin, good night.