

INDIAN LAKE

SMOKE SIGNAL

June 20, 1979

Dear Fellow Indian Lake Residents,

The Indian Lake Mud Flat is behind us and with any kind of luck, we should have a lake with water for at least 10 years.

The lake projects all fell into place as planned with the possible exception that it took forever for the lake to fill. Somehow I remember it filling, in the past, in hours not weeks. Well, anyway, it is now full.

The silt trap at the east end of the lake is complete and working excellently. In fact, looking at the size of the south side of the silt trap, we have received more than we contracted for. Trees and grass have been planted on this level so shortly it should blend into the landscape.

The introduction of the chemicals into the watershed went without a hitch and by the time the gate was closed the carp and chad were already gasping. Incidentally, it would be impossible for the dam's gate to be sealed any tighter. During the refilling process Indian Creek below the dam was bone dry.

The four thousand trees were planted without any problems though the unseasonably dry weather caused greater losses than normal. New fence has been strung along the west side of Indian Lake Road to protect the forested area on the east end of the lake from motorcycles, four-wheel drive vehicles, etc. This has been earmarked as a wildlife area by your Board and will probably receive official state sanction, as such, this fall.

Certainly the real key to any project is the results. We set out primarily to do two things: improve the water quality and improve the fishing and wildlife habitat. It certainly appears the former has been accomplished. One resident measured that he could see 42" into our lake. I would venture a guess that last year we would be lucky to see 2" deep.

The fish should have arrived by the time you receive this letter, so that phase of the goals should also be behind us.

It must be remembered that these projects do not get completed on their own. Bob Nicholas has devoted hundreds of hours of his great administrative skills to see that all these things happened. Literally, without Bob we would not be where we are today.

Paul Butalla brought his skills in working with industrial waste water facilities to our dam and managed to bring the dam and gate to like new condition.

Tom Lyons with contacts in the State of Indiana and his personal skills in recreation and natural resources brought together the ideas that set the plan up.

The list goes on and on....John Miller, Dave Upton, Glen Rork, Bill Justice, Russ Koehring, Gary Benjamin, Glenn Brown, etc., etc. Thanks again, gang!

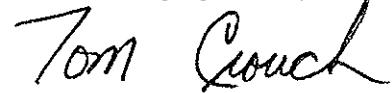
There have been some set backs. The South Beach road has been wrecked with the use of the bulldozer. Money has been appropriated and a committee formed to get the South Beach and road in tip top condition. Incidentally, there have also been positive developments surrounding the South Beach. A great amount of dirt has been added to the low points on the beach and the depth of water adjacent to the beach has never been better.

On the North Beach, the Hoover Memorial Float has gone to dock heaven to be replaced by an even better memorial model.

Speaking of the North Beach, the young adults of the community have been doing an excellent job in patrolling the beach and keeping the parties in line. Keep up the good work. Even this close scrutiny has not kept some senseless vandalism from happening such as some idiot driving through Helen Brodie's yard. Let's all keep an eye out for "strange" cars driving through our neighborhood and report them to the security patrol. We are all sorry it happened, Helen.

It won't be long until the annual picnic. Hopefully, you can all attend. It is rumored that Jimmy the Greek will be present talking bats that The Lyons Memorial Weeping Willow will never reach 20' tall. Any takers?

Sincerely yours,


Thomas A. Crouch
President

Saturday, June 16th, was a beautiful day. A day for enjoying the beach or for working to make the beach more enjoyable for others. Tim Hoover and Russ Koehring worked from early morning till well into the afternoon making a brand new floating dock for the swimming area. We want to thank both of these men and Mr. Mike Perry who joined them later in the morning for the fun the dock will provide all summer long. We also want to thank Glen Rork and his son, Brian, for stringing the floats that mark the swimming area. It not only contributes to the safety but makes the place look a lot more cared for. We thank all these men for giving up their precious Saturday on our behalf.

Only 4 weeks to go to the Gala event of the year, our annual picnic. The Ladies have chosen a very attractive theme, Let's go Hawaiian. Oh, La, La, La, just listen to the strains of the beautiful music. Last time we had this theme, we had a great turn out and beautiful costumes. We also had a Hula competition that turned out to be uproariously funny. Hawaiian costumes are so pretty for the ladies and most men have a crazy flowered shirt somewhere in their closet. So come on now, everyone in costume.

My favorite picnic of all was the year we had Sadie Hawkins Day. Complete in every detail including a shot-gun wedding. A lot of work had gone into getting duplicates of comic strip characters costumes, but what a reward, from Marryin-Sam, Daisy Mae, Lil Abner, to the most fantastic Mammy and Pappy Yokum. It still brings back some very happy memories. Back to July, 1979, what about getting into the spirit of the theme. Costumes are comparatively easy to come up with, so no excuses. Everything will be far more enjoyable when you participate.

A very belated but a very Happy Birthday to Mrs. Lucija Caune. Grandma Caune lives with Margers and Zintra and her two grand daughters, Astrida and Irene, on Winona Drive. She is a wonderful 78 years young and

came to the U.S.A. from Lativa in 1951. A very Happy Birthday and many, many more.

We also want to say a belated but nonetheless sincere welcome to Tad and Debbie Adely. The Adelys have bought the former Roeloff residence. You can say hello most weekends if you pass their floating dock.

Just about 4 homes from the Adelys are another new family on Winona Drive. We extend a very hearty welcome to Bob and Ann Bogers and daughter, Amy.

We hope that both couples will find Indian Lake all they hoped it would be.

Thought for the month -

God wrote His autograph
Upon the sky last night
In the stars I never saw
A signature so bright!

With the dawn again
For watchers to behold -
He wrote His name in sunlight -
An autograph of gold!

Marion Schoeberlein.

See you next August,
God Willing,
Maureen.

'LAKE HAPPENINGS'



Tasting Party

The Women's Committee would like to thank everyone who helped make the Tasting Party last month such a success.

Around 75 neighbors and friends gathered at the Zainey home for an enjoyable evening and ample samplings of the lake's style of home cooking. A special thank you to the ladies around the lake who donated their favorite dishes and to all those who attended. From comments overheard that evening, it looks like Tasting Parties are back on the scene for our Community.

A ladies tan, leather-type coat was left at the Zainey's home that evening. Someone might have a hard time recalling next winter the last place the coat was worn.

Tennis Tournament

The Tennis Tournament is being played this weekend (June 22, 23 & 24). Plan to visit the court some time this weekend.

Let's Go Hawaiian

Plans are being made by the Committee for this year's annual picnic to be held on July 15th at the French home.

You will be receiving your registration card and letter with all the details soon. This year's menu has several new items in the line-up and Bob Marsischke's group will be providing the entertainment. Some of you around the lake remember these guys from past picnics and know what a treat there is in store.

The picnic is always a fun day, so drag out those old grass skirts and flowered shirts and let's go Hawaiian!

Hot-Line

Next Smoke Signal will appear after August 15th....call Zelda Upton, 823-6606 and share news of your vacation or happenings on your street.

Congratulations to all the graduating seniors on the lake and a hearty wish for success on whatever future plans you may have.

"ACROSS THE FENCE"



Safety

Usually it is the policy of most folks to ignore anything anonymous, but after much thought it might be a good idea to speak of the following true story. The events that have transpired have started a chain of thoughts that may benefit us all.

Yesterday a family on the lake received a chastising phone call from a fellow lake member. The person calling did not give time for a reply and consequently the matter could not be cleared up. In addition, the person's identity

is still unkown, so they cannot be contacted in person. The caller said that a certain teenager was speeding his boat on the lake. This was an impossibility, the named teen was shopping at Castleton for fishing gear with another family from the area. It was then thought that the teenager's boat may have been borrowed by a friend. However, one of the parents ran down to the lake to find the boat securely tied to the pier. Another young man in a small flat bottomed boat with the lot numbers clearly painted on the side was enjoying a ride on the water. The boy was waved down and chatted with the adult for a few minutes. He was not aware that there was a speed limit nor did he think his little skiff could reach that speed. He has since been seen on the lake travelling at a much safer speed.

Now this leads to several avenues of thought. First, most of the parents around the lake are trying to do a decent job with their children and everyone regardless of age should be aware of community rules. Keeping them is being thoughtful of others and makes for a happier place. Good manners and common courtesy never go out of style.

Second, it is a fact that quite a number of homes have changed hands in the past few years. It would indeed seem to be a good time to get to know the young people again and don't stop there, get to know the parents too. If you are not sure (beyond a shadow of a doubt) about the kid's identity, stop and talk with them for a few minutes. If this is not possible, be sure to get an accurate description of their car or boat, the car's license number or the boat's lot number. In this case, the lot number on the boat and a check in the lake phone book would have cleared the identification immediately.

Oh well, sometimes blessings come in disguises. Perhaps this event will encourage all the homes to get out the Lake Use and Safety Rules, not just to read but to make sure everyone understands them fully.

Another thought comes to mind. Knowing that several members of the board have a genuine interest in the young folks, I am sure we could ask them to set aside the speed limit for a few hours one evening and have a speed check. Ask some Dad to set up a measured course and have all the boats with engines complete the course at full speed. This way the men could time the boats and tell the drivers exactly how fast they were going. Most people have no idea how fast they go because they have no instruments on the boat or engine.

Please, please, don't let us single out the young people for safety. That would be a tragic mistake. What about the Dad who had his very young child in a good life-jacket in a canoe on one end of the dam spillway. When the father dove into the water, the canoe rocked precariously. Just a little more movement of the water going over the spillway could have so easily sent the canoe and its little passenger right over the top. A lifejacket would not have been sufficient in a situation like that. Or, what about the older man playing chicken with some young lads on the white stationery dock that juts out from the beach. The water there is not deep enough for safety in diving. A person hitting the bottom hard could easily pay with a disablement for the rest of his life.

We are truly very fortunate to live in such a beautiful area and we should enjoy it to the uttermost. Thoughtlessness does not belong to any particular age group nor will following safety rules completely insure you against accidents. It will, nevertheless, minimize the risks. If you feel you have a genuine complaint, call the person's home and give your name, or better still, go and visit. Most homes will be glad to take immediate and proper action and I am sure that includes the largest percent of the homes on the lake.

Have a very happy and safe summer.