

LAKE LINES

Newsletter for Lake in the Woods

March 2025

By Christy Dunnam

<https://LakeintheWoods.org>

From the Social Committee

Spring is in the air and the best season at Lake In The Woods is almost here!

Thank you to those who braved the cold to attend Guys Night Out and Ladies Night Out in February. The guys had a great time at the Bummin' Beaver Brewery and the neighborhood now has some cocktail-making experts thanks to Kelly Smith, who hosted a Ladies Night Cocktail/Mocktail Class – Galentine's style!

There are so many more good times to come this year in LITW. Be sure to save the date for upcoming events and get in touch if you have questions for the Social Committee (LITW44023.social@gmail.com).



Photo credit: Kelly Smith



Photo credit: Jessica Chapman



Photo credit: Bill Emanuele

(cont.)



Photo credit: Meghan Connolly

FROM THE BOARD

Message from Board President, Mark Chapman

The 2025-2026 Board of Trustees is pleased to present you with the March 2025 edition of Lakelines. With temperatures finally rising and spring around the corner, we're very excited that LITW is coming out of hibernation. A sincere welcome to all new neighbors; we look forward to meeting you! The social committee has been hard at work in recent months and we're very excited about the line up of events over the next six months, carrying on many old traditions and adding new ideas as well.

The Board is aware there are various neighborhood items to be addressed, including but not limited to mailbox replacement, the aging pool, the need to proactively manage sediment build-up in the lake and ponds, all while working within the confines of our budget. We value the trust you have placed in us and rest assured, as we work through these items, we will continue to communicate and seek counsel from our neighbors. We hope you all have a wonderful spring!

Please do not hesitate to contact the board in the event you have additional questions that we have not addressed in this issue of Lakelines.

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Easter Egg Hunt

Sunday April 13 th / 10 AM / Pavilion

Warm coffee, hot cocoa, donuts +

lots of candy for the kiddos to find!

We recommend boots for this event as the field can get muddy this time of year. Our rain out date is scheduled for Saturday April 19 th .

First Splash & New Neighbor Welcome Party!

Friday May 23rd / 4:30 PM

Pool & Pavilion

Join us for the official opening of the LITW Pool for the 2025 season!

Welcome new neighbors and catch up with old friends.

4:30 PM - An ice cream social will kick off the party.

5:00 PM - Be ready for the First Splash!

5:30 PM - Pizza will be delivered.

Let's help the new neighbors win a prize during the **Find The Neighbor Bingo** game!

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Neighborhood Updates

New 2025 Trustee Board Lineup

The Board of Trustees is happy to share that we have 2 new members who have volunteered their time in the care of our neighborhood. Please welcome and share in our gratitude for Mark Swallen and Lou DeMarco!

Below is the new Trustee lineup:

- President - Mark Chapman
- Vice President/Secretary - Donna Lustig
- Treasurer - Joe Scalf
- Pool and Recreation - Lou DeMarco with support from Eric Schmidt
- Land and Safety - Adam Wynbrandt
- Lake and Dam - Mark Swallen with support from David Pixley
- Architecture - Anthony Smith

A giant thank you to Eric Schmidt for his many, many years of service to our community. His vast institutional knowledge of Lake in the Woods and natural leadership qualities made him an easy fit for the presidential role that he held. Since leaving that role 2 years ago, Eric has continued to serve our community as the Pool and Recreation Trustee, tirelessly working to maintain and improve our experience in this valued public space. It would be impossible to list all of the incredible things Eric has contributed to our community, the list is just too long, but we can definitely say that he is a dedicated, smart, diligent, thoughtful, and unflappable gentleman who will be greatly missed from the board. Thank you, Eric!

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Family Fun Fridays Kick Off

Friday June 13th / 6 PM / Field

New in 2025! Join us for some throwback family fun! Come hang out, bring your own dinner and drinks, and let's play! We will have informal pick-up games every other Friday including some old classics throughout the summer – think Kickball, SPUD, Capture the Flag, and more! All ages welcome.

Community Yoga Flow

Sunday June 22nd and
Sunday July 20th / 10 AM - 11
AM / Pavilion

Wake up to a new day in a positive way! Join our LITW community for a simple Yoga Flow class to energize our minds and bodies. Dress comfortably and bring your own mat and/or beach towel.



Another giant thank you to David Pixley for his continued service to LITW. David has held the role of Lake and Dam Trustee for many years. He has worked tirelessly with state and local governments to ensure that LITW has complied with all regulations, which is no simple task, and done it all with grace and the utmost professionalism. His intimate knowledge of our beautiful lake was integral before and during this past year's dredging project. While never assuming the role of legal eagle on our team, his thoughtful opinions and experienced advice on board topics was always sound and trusted. Not one to shy away from formalities and general courtesies, his attention to the finer points, passion and due diligence made him a valued member of the Trustee team and, like Eric, he will be greatly missed. Thank you, Mr. Pixley.

Spring Clean Up Day

Spring will be springing soon, so let's get our common spaces ready for all the fun things our Social Committee is planning! Spring Cleanup will be held on May 3rd. Please meet us at the pool at 8am that day and lend a hand. (Rain delay is May 17th)



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Concert In The Park

Friday June 27th / 6 - 9 PM/Pavilion

We are excited to announce that LITW resident Dan Mills will be bringing his band, Robbing Mary, back to LITW for a concert and neighborhood party! They play roots rock for all ages, and many residents know that LITW Robbing Mary concerts from summers past have been epic parties and great opportunities to mingle with long-time and newer residents. More details soon to come!



Fourth of July Celebration

Friday July 4th

Our annual Fourth of July Celebration is returning! Stay tuned for more details.

Updated Directory for 2025

We are in the process of updating the Neighborhood Directory once again.

Calling all new neighbors! Please reach out to Donna Lustig at dqlustig@gmail.com or 310-367-0070 with the information you'd like posted in the next issue.

For those who have been in the neighborhood for a while, please take a look at last year's directory and let us know if you have any changes.

*NOTE: Every home in LITW is posted in the directory with the homeowner's names and address. Optional additional information includes cell phone numbers, email addresses, and children's names (only those who are living in the neighborhood are needed.) If you have not received a directory yet, please reach out to Donna and she will share via email or text.

Directories are not (and should never be) posted on social media.

Reminder to clean up after dogs



The warmer months are dog walking season. It should go without saying, but we must repeat ourselves. With respect to your neighbors and your community, please pick up after your pet.

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LITW Luau

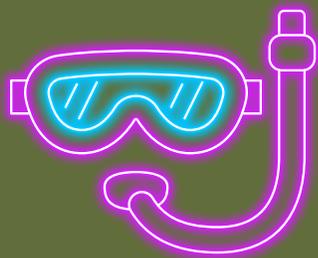
Friday July 25th / 6:30 – 10 PM / Pool & Beach

Join us for an adult-only pool party! We will have a food truck, sand volleyball, rest period, games, a beach bonfire and a swim up bar! For those who want to socialize while staying dry, there is no pressure to swim! Parents with young kids – hire a sitter for the night and enjoy a fun night out with your neighbors! Our rain out date is scheduled for Saturday July 26th.



Neon Night Swim

Friday August 1st / 7 – 10 PM / Pool
Take advantage of the pool staying open late for a family friendly night swim! Neon is the theme of this get together; let's glow after the sun goes down! Fun snack bar treats and party favors will be provided.



Reminder to clean your space

As the public spaces are getting spruced up for the warmer months, so should the public-facing areas of our homes. As is part of our bylaws, please remember to declutter porches, clear off leaves on your lawn, replant any dead shrubbery and, in general, keep your space appealing for the sake of your neighbors and the whole neighborhood. We all appreciate it!



Dues Reminder

The Annual Assessment invoices were distributed in February. Most of these were sent via email, as announced last year. Please contact the board if you need an additional copy of your invoice.



Assessments were due on March 15 with a grace period through April 15. If you have not already sent in your payment, please do so in the coming days. Here's the link to pay online:

<https://www.iatspayments.com/saaura/PA899DFA301297E9F3>

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Check back for more event info in the next issue of Lake Lines, including the return of the **Neighborhood Block Party** on Sunday August 10th, hosted on Moccasin Run.



Water aerobics with Nancy Schmidt is returning again this summer! Stay tuned to Facebook for details.

From the Editor

Spring is in the air! Hostas are popping out of the earth, birds are chirping, and trees are budding.

I look forward to getting to know all the new neighbors this summer and participating in the amazing activities offered by the social committee. I hope to see you there too!

Take time to enjoy this beautiful time of year in Lake in the Woods!

Cheers!

LITW Swim Team



Photo credit: Kristin Schmidt

Summer is quickly approaching and it's time to start thinking about summer activities including the LITW Swim Team. There will be an informational meeting for Parents on Wednesday, May 14th @ 6:30pm at the LITW pavilion. Our swim coaches Luke Schmidt, Hannah Cooper, and Cayla DiBernardo are returning this year for coaching and as LITW lifeguards. Mark your calendars: The 36th Annual Bainbridge Invitational is Saturday, July 12, and the Chagrin Relays are Saturday, July 19. Registration, apparel info and additional details will be provided in early May. For questions, please contact Kristin Schmidt (kristin_kokal@hotmail.com).



Senior Spotlight

Congratulations to the LITW seniors! We wish you all the best in your future endeavors.

(cont.)

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Katie Sinet Lustig

Kenston High School

College-bound

Field of Study: Mechanical Engineering

Katie has always had a love of mathematics, building and Disney, so it's no wonder that she is headed toward a career in Mechanical Engineering with the hopes of one day becoming a Walt Disney Imagineer. But her talents and passions don't end there. She is an avid trumpet player, having played since 5th grade and being one of only 2 students admitted into the Symphonic Band as a Freshman. She is a fantastic softball player, French speaker and cook. She's the winner of the Physical Science award and has lettered in several sports at Kenston, most notably as part of the football team's Athletic Trainers. But one of her most fun qualities is her taste and love of music. In the span of an hour, Katie can listen to Etta James, Sam Cooke, Fleetwood Mac, ABBA, Bruno Mars and Arctic Monkeys and know every word to every song. She's a blast in Carpool Karaoke!

We are so proud of you, Katie. You are a stellar human and we are giddy with excitement to watch you fly toward your future successes.

(cont.)

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Jake Spencer

Kenston High School

College-bound

Field of Study:
Musical Theatre



Jake is a familiar face on Kenston Center Stage and at theatres across the region, where he has been performing since age 7. In addition to his busy theatre schedule, he is a standout member of the Kenston Speech and Debate team, competing at the national level and recently earning 10th place in Ohio for Humorous Interpretation. He also swims for the KHS and LITW teams, and still manages a few shifts at Retro Burger.

Over the past several months, Jake has been auditioning for highly competitive college musical theatre programs nationwide and will soon be committing to a school where he can continue pursuing his passion for performance.

(cont.)

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Luke Nelson

Hawken School

College-bound

Field of Study:
Data Science

Luke has excelled at cross country and track, and you will frequently see him running many miles in the neighborhood. He has been an avid pianist for many years now and has performed in several competitions at Aurora School of Music. Luke plans to study data science but has not finalized what university he will attend next year.

(cont.)

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Cate Zoltowicz

Kenston High School

College:

Miami University

Field of Study:

Data Science



Cate will attend Miami University in the Fall and has been accepted into the Farmer School of Business. She was a member of National Honor Society and served on the Student Council while at Kenston High School.

Cate also was a four-year member of the Swim and Dive team as well as the Lacrosse team. In between studies and extracurricular activities, Cate found time to work at Breezewood Garden and Gifts.

We are so proud of you! Congratulations, Cate!



(cont.)

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Luke Schmidt

Kenston High School

College-bound

Field of Study:

Media

Production/Marketing

Athletically, Luke has made a significant impact at Kenston High. As a three-year member of the golf team, a one-year participant in cross country, a two-year member of the boys volleyball team, and a four-year member of the varsity swim team, his dedication to sports is clear. His swimming achievements include earning a spot at the district tournament every year of his high school career and qualifying for the state tournament in two events this year! Luke was named the High Point Boys Swimmer for three years and has been recognized as a Scholar Athlete by the Western Reserve Conference throughout all four years of his high school tenure. Luke served as the captain of the Kenston Swim Team this year as well. Luke plans to stay active in swimming by coaching the Lake in the Woods neighborhood swim team during the summer and joining a club swim team when he starts college.

Beyond sports, Luke has a passion for the performing arts. He has been an active member of Kenston Center Stage, bringing a variety of characters to life on stage. His most memorable role was playing Ponyboy Curtis in *The Outsiders*. Luke is also a talented musician, serving as a Bass Singer for Kenston Varsity Jazz and actively participating in Kenston Chorus. Luke's love for film and media has shaped his future aspirations. His involvement with Kenston Bomber Media has ignited his passion for Media Production, a field he plans to pursue in college, with a minor in Marketing.

In addition to his extracurriculars, Luke has demonstrated a deep commitment to community service as an Eagle Scout and volunteering for various National Honor Society service projects. Luke is incredibly grateful for the support he has received over the years, particularly from his parents and his sister Alison, as well as the entire Lake in the Woods community.