

December 15, 2014



Lakewood Property Owners Association



Happy Holidays, Lakewood Homeowners!

It's that time of year again. The snow is already flying and the holidays are here! Many of us are getting our snowmobiles gassed up or our skis waxed up and ready to go. Our area is perfect for all the winter activities you enjoy. Still, your Board of Directors is busy



working behind the scenes, on your behalf, planning fun family events for next year, taking care of Association business with our accountant, refinishing signs and cutting wood, paying bills, collecting dues and liens and, yes, even writing newsletters and answering emails! We represent your interests year around!

We'd like to invite you to give us feedback on how we're doing or concerns you may have. You can email us with your thoughts or questions. And of course, we'd love to see you all join our Facebook page. We plan to include a website in the 2015 budget so we can com-

municate with you even more effectively.

The inside pages will give you a recap of some of the highlights of the past year and some things we are planning for 2015.

Have a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

From Your Lakewood Board of Directors

Norm, Judy, Val, Maureen, Kelly, Amos and Eric

The gate at the lakefront is closed and locked for the season. It will reopen on April 1, 2015. Those wishing to still access our lakefront area may fill out a form and purchase a key for only \$5. You may make your request to Norm Hampson or by emailing lakewoodpoa@hotmail.com.

Get a jump start on 2015! No need to wait until May to pay your association dues! Dues will remain the same: 1 lot = \$52.80, 2 lots = \$105.60, 3 lots = \$158.40, 4 lots = \$211.20, 5 lots = \$264.00. Please send a check along with your name and lot # or address to Lakewood P.O.A., PO Box 371, Adams, WI 53910.

A look back at 2014

May Meeting

Once Spring had arrived, we had our annual May meeting. We wanted to get closer to Lakewood to try to encourage more homeowner attendance so we changed our venue to Northern Bay, where they put us up in a nice bright room with a wonderful spread of fresh fruit, bakery and beverages. We also raffled off a \$25 gift card for use at any of the Northern Bay facilities.

Summer Picnic

The weekend of July 4th, we brought back the much-missed summer picnic. 135 homeowners and guests showed up to enjoy grilled burgers and hot dogs as well as an array of accompaniments and refreshments. Camaraderie, organized games including volleyball (with our new net!) and raffles kept the picnic goers entertained and luckily, it was a beautiful day! We hope to see all of you in 2015 who weren't able to join us this year.

Communication Board

We updated the Communication Board down by the lakefront over the summer. This is still a work in progress. We will continue in 2015 to update this board with pertinent Association, local and area news and information.

Gate Fund

Proceeds from the picnic raffles allowed us to open a savings account that we named the "Gate Fund". To that, we added the money that our Treasurer, Val, received from current and past liens from homeowners who hadn't paid their annual dues. Proving to be an almost full time job, Val tracked down and collected \$5314 from 27 homeowners. That money has been added to the Gate Fund savings, bringing our balance up to a whopping \$5575! We are quickly on our way to our goal of installing an electronic gate *without* increasing homeowners dues!

Beautification

Since our May meeting, we have been actively in contact with the Adams County Health Department concerning the property located at 1954 S. Cypress Drive. Another situation that involves "red tape" but the long and the short of it is this: we were told that the property would be foreclosed on for back taxes and that in September 2015 Adams County would either take it over and raze it or sell it to be razed. Either way, it is unlivable. This is our first step as a Board to ensure that our community stays attractive and our property values don't decrease. Please do your part in keeping our neighborhood looking nice by keeping your own properties maintained and tidy.

Advertising

As you have probably noticed in our newsletters this year, we have taken a new direction with advertising to generate income to offset printing and mailing the newsletters. Next year, we hope to include a directory of local businesses as well. Currently we are partnered with our neighbor, Northern Bay. Northern Bay is eager to establish a relationship with Lakewood. Please be sure to check each newsletter as well as our Facebook page for current and upcoming specials and events. Currently in this issue, they are offering Lakewood members a "Buy One-Get One 50% Off" Fish Fry good until May 1st. Be sure to bring this coupon in and redeem it. What a great and easy way to start your Friday night!

Security

In an effort to keep the lakefront ours and keep non-Association members out, we hung some new signage and teamed up with Harper Salvage to be our towing service. Also this year we brought back hangtags for your vehicles for easy identification of our Lakewood members. We would like to reiterate the importance of hanging them from your rearview mirror each and every time you visit the lakefront. We would also like to thank all those who were vigilant with complying with this rule.

Moving forward in 2015

Dredging the Boat Ramp and the new DNR Mandate

After a lot of research (Thanks Norm!) and constant communication with the DNR and excavators, we have come up with a plan to dredge our boat ramp in 2015.

The Board was able to secure an affordable bid with a local excavator and we will move forward with dredging this spring when the lake is at its lowest point. 2015 will be our "experimental" year with this project. Moving forward, we as a Board of Directors will monitor how long the dredging actually lasts before the sand starts filling it in again, at which point we will be able to determine if this is something worth continuing in the future.

Along with this project of course comes the DNR's "3 Rs" - Rules, Regulations and Red Tape! All the things that get us all shaking and scratching our heads. Just a couple of those rules that affect this project and our Association next year are: 1) Our permit only allows for dredging to be 4 feet deep and 2) We, and apparently ALL, lakeshore properties, must comply in 2015 with the DNR's new ruling pertaining to the Riparian Buffer. A riparian buffer is a vegetated area (a "buffer strip") near a body of water, usually forested, which helps shade and partially protect the water from the impact of adjacent land uses. The goal of reestablishing the buffer is to naturally limit the toxins going into the water.

What this will mean for Lakewood is that we essentially have to forfeit a portion of our beach from a point just inside the north end of our swim area, 35 feet back towards the retaining wall and 25 feet north towards the hill. The DNR has mandated that this area be allowed to go back to its natural vegetative state. To comply with this new mandate, we have been instructed to cordon off that area of our beach so no one disturbs the natural process. This means you will see this area roped off starting this spring. We ask your help in this effort by not tampering with or removing the stakes that will mark the boundary. We appreciate your cooperation.

Get Involved and Have Fun!

If you have a great idea for a party or fun event or gathering, feel free to email Maureen at lakewoodpoa@hotmail.com or IM her on the Lakewood Facebook page.

In the past, a craft fair has been suggested for the picnic. If this is something you're interested in, let Maureen know and she will help you coordinate it!

We'll also be looking for volunteers this summer to help direct people at picnics, oversee or organize games and help set up/clean up.



Friday Fish Fry
Shrimp Scampi Linguine
Cod • Perch • Shrimp

FRIDAY FISH FRY
**Buy one,
Get one
50% OFF!**

Present this coupon
to your server.
Expires May 1, 2015

 1844 20th Avenue, Arkdale, WI
608.339.2090 | NORTHERNBAYRESORT.COM 

Lakewood Property Owners Association

Lakewood POA
P.O. Box 371
Adams, WI



E-mail:

lakewordpoa@hotmail.com



**Lakewood
Property
Owners
Association**

We are committed to making Lakewood the BEST neighborhood in Central Wisconsin and a great place for all to pursue the activities or leisure that interests them.

Thank you for your continued support and cooperation. We look forward to serving you.

**Lakewood Board of Directors,
Norm, Judy, Val, Maureen,
Kelly, Amos and Eric**

Lakewood POA
P.O. Box 371
Adams, WI 53910