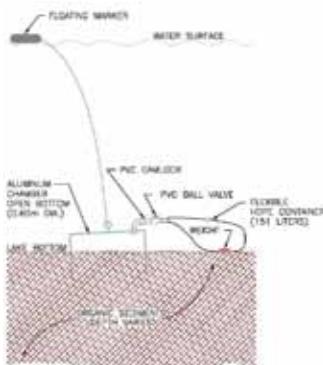


BEAR LAKE News

Preservation Association

The Newsletter of the Bear Lake Preservation Association, Inc. • May 2010

Bear Lakes Water Quality Study



Environmental Research & Design, Inc. (ERD) is currently conducting a study to develop a water and nutrient budget for the Bear Lakes. This study, funded by

Seminole County, includes a 12-month field monitoring program to assist in quantifying water and nutrient inputs to the lake. One of the inputs under evaluation by ERD is groundwater seepage, which consists of shallow subsurface inflow around the perimeter of the lake. Groundwater seepage has been shown to be a significant input to many lakes in the Central Florida area. This input is evaluated using an aluminum underwater chamber which is placed on the bottom of the lake. A schematic of a typical chamber is shown above. Groundwater seeping into the lake is collected in a plastic bag that is attached to the seepage meter. The bag is retrieved by a diver, and the volume of water is measured and a sample collected for lab analyses. This

information is used to estimate the volume and quality of groundwater seepage entering the lake.

Fourteen seepage meters have been installed in **Bear Lake** by ERD in April 2010. Nine of the meters will be located around the perimeter with five located in central portions of the lake.

Five seepage meters have been installed in **Little Bear Lake** by ERD in April 2010. Four of the meters will be located around the perimeter with one located in central portions of the lake.

Four seepage meters have been installed in **Cub Lake** by ERD in April 2010. Three of the meters will be located around the perimeter with one located in the central portion of the lake.

Three seepage meters have been installed in **Asher Lake** by ERD in April 2010. Two of the meters will be located around the perimeter with one located in the central portion of the lake.

These meters will remain in the lake until April 2011. ERD personnel will collect samples from the meters on a monthly basis. The locations of the seepage meters are indicated by orange or white floats connected to the meter by a steel cable.

Please do not disturb this equipment. If you notice a meter which has been damaged, please call ERD at 407-855-9465.

Eelgrass Update



Barrier put around manhole by Seminole County.



Volunteers routinely clean out the manhole grate allowing the water to flow out properly.



Without the help of volunteers, the outfall can clog up with eelgrass and other debris.



This can cause the lake level to rise on to boat docks and shorelines causing erosion and dirt washing into the lake.

Volunteers have routinely removed floating eelgrass from the Bear Lake outfall manhole which drains to Cub Lake. A grate was placed on the manhole to prevent the carp from escaping per the Fish & Wildlife permit and it also prevented all of the eelgrass from clogging the underground pipe as well as preventing the eelgrass nutrients from flowing to Cub Lake to further decompose.

The County placed a barrier around the manhole (top left picture) to catch the floating eelgrass while allowing high water to flow out of Bear Lake. When left alone, the eelgrass stopped the water from rains and groundwater from flowing out of Bear Lake and residents were reporting the water rising up to their docks. High waters can erode shorelines with windy conditions and boat wake washing dirt into the lakes.

Saturday, May 22, 2010 • 3:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.

You are invited to the shores of Bear Lake. Come one, come all and enjoy food fun and games. If you'd like to bring something, that would be great. Please RSVP by May 14th so we can get the right amount of food! Contact Catherine Heideman 407-538-1097 or cwjclafin@hotmail.com with your RSVP and things to bring! The party will take place at both the Helm's and Heideman's backyards located at 6043 Linneal Beach Dr.

Things to look forward to: Best Dessert Contest - Bring a dessert to be judged and win a prize for the best dessert at the picnic; a 50/50 drawing - \$1 a ticket, winner takes 50% & BLPA takes 50% (bring cash for donation & fun!) Bring your family...kids are welcome. Boat arrivals are also welcomed and friendly pets are allowed.



Cub Lake Update

By Margaret Sullivan Bundy

Cub Lake continues to be impacted by many factors. The vegetation in the lake is growing by leaps and bounds. Seminole County estimates that fifty percent of the lake (seven acres) is filled in with submersed aquatic vegetation. These plants include native and invasive species. It is expected that some of the invasive plants will continue to spread out and compete with native submersed aquatic plants. Also, the storm water from Bear Lake Road and surrounding areas continues to enter the lake through the outfall ditch on the western shore of Cub Lake. These conditions are adversely affecting how the Cub Lake residents access and enjoy the lake.

BLPA and the Cub Lake committee are continually working to correct and resolve the problems that are present. A carp permit renewal has been applied for and a request for two hundred carp is submitted for approval. The estimated cost for the carp is two thousand dollars. Donations to the carp fund should be made to BLPA. Two hundred carp should make a difference in removing the vegetation and controlling it's growth. The carp will not affect the growth of the fragrant water lily or the yellow cow lily.

Seminole County, BLPA, and Saint Johns River Water Management District (SJRWMD) are considering options to correct the problems that are occurring in

the outfall ditch to Cub Lake. SJRWMD has not signed off on the storm water project for Bear Lake Road that Seminole County completed in October 2008. The correction process is at a standstill at this time. Everyone is invited to visit the outfall ditch and see the condition at this time.

The Cub Lake committee met with Gloria Eby, Senior Environmental Scientist, Seminole County to discuss a joint agreement between Cub Lake residents and Seminole County for cleaning up Cub Lake and restoring the lake to a better condition. The program has many resources that could be used to remove non-native aquatic vegetation and plant native aquatic plants around the lake. The water lily and cow lily can be removed by each lake front owner without a permit. The plants must be uprooted by hand to remove the root system along with the plant. A future meeting with all the Cub Lake residents will be scheduled to inform everyone about all the details and costs for the program. Everyone is encouraged to participate. This is our lake and our future in the Bear Lake area.

If you are interested in updates and future information concerning Cub Lake, please send your email address to margaretbundy@aol.com. Put Cub Lake in the subject line and indicate you are interested in updates for Cub Lake in your email.



Real Estate Watch

By Susan Burton, Realtor®

Happy Spring to all! The lake looks so lovely this time of year. Never before has there been such a great opportunity to live on Bear Lake. Prices are low and interest rates remain at an all-time low. Please don't hesitate to call me with any questions (407-222-3917).

Active Listings

6007 Linneal Beach Dr	\$499,900
6181 Linneal Beach Dr	\$599,900
3153 Cecelia Dr	\$699,900
6035 Linneal Beach Dr	\$749,000
3304 Holliday Ave.....	\$799,900
6103 Linneal Beach Dr	\$975,000
3416 Holliday Ave.....	\$999,900

3524 Holliday Ave.....\$1,300,000

2790 Neil Rd.....\$1,900,000

9730 Bear Lake Rd\$1,950,000

Sold Listings

3042 Holliday Ave.....	\$395,000
3113 Cecelia Dr	\$550,000



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	Margaret Bundy 407-523-1064
Membership.....	Debbie Davenport 207-294-8813
Newsletter.....	Nancy Dunn 407-295-6335 June Staggs 407-523-1445
Social	Catherine Heideman 407-538-1097

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June Staggs	407-523-1445
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Brian Allen	407-580-6979

BLPA & Bear Lake Carp

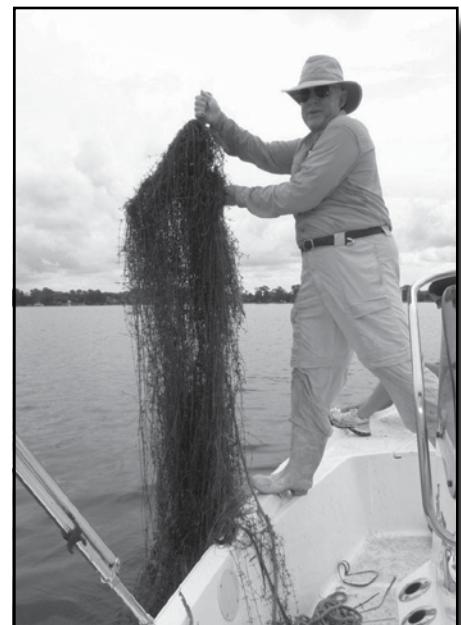
In December 2009 and April 2010 Gene and Helen Lindsey released two batches of Triploid Grass Carp totaling 3,100 fish. The fish were released to reduce the extent of weeds found in Bear Lake. The following is background about BLPA's involvement with this release:

- ☛ Nearly 20 years ago the Bear Lake Preservation Association was formed to provide a unified voice to help protect our neighborhoods and their most precious natural resource — our lakes. The most important task undertaken by BLPA focuses on keeping our lakes clean for recreation and wildlife.
- ☛ Over the last year and a half, BLPA began working with various experts (Florida Lake Watch, Fish and Wildlife; Aquatic Eco Systems, Seminole County Water Quality Dept., etc.) on how to address the lake's weed problem. The experts recommended that stocking the lake with a controlled number of sterilized carp would be a viable part of a program to decrease the weed infestation.
- ☛ BLPA began to formulate a plan to get the needed permits, pay for the carp and release the carp consistent with the recommendation of the experts.

☛ Around this time, Gene and Helen Lindsey became aware of BLPA's investigation and efforts. The Lindsey's are long-time lake residents with a track record of expediting projects that they feel are beneficial to the community. Drawing upon this experience, they took hold of the reins of the project from BLPA and made it their own. They collected signatures, funds, obtained the permit, made various judgment calls as to the implementation of the project and ultimately released the carp.

☛ From time to time, Gene and Helen sent out emails to update various lake-front residents of what they were doing and the basis for their decisions. The release of the carp is now complete and all expenses have been paid.

On behalf of the members of BLPA, thank you to Gene and Helen for their hard work and love of our lakes. BLPA continues to study and implement environmental projects including the alum project and the nutrient study. (Please see the BLPA newsletters for projects, budgets and further details regarding the release of carp into the lake).



Hydrilla found in Bear Lake is the Carp's favorite food so far! Picture of Dean Barber with rake full of the weed was taken in September of 2009. No hydrilla can be found per the study conducted in March 2010.



In 1998, the Seminole County Board of Commissioners approved a law that prohibits wakes within 50 yards of the shoreline. A wake is defined as moving waves — a track or path that a boat leaves behind it when moving across water. The ordinance reads as follows: Sec. 190.114. Operation in bathing, swimming or launching areas (shoreline, docks, boathouses):

It is unlawful to navigate or operate on any waters of Seminole County, any vessel, aquaplane or similar device in any bathing, swimming or launching area at a speed creating a wake. The term "bathing, swimming or launching area" shall include any area within 50 yards of the shoreline, docks, piers, bridges or boathouses, or any other object arising from the water (excluding ski jumps or slalom courses) except when picking up or dropping off a waterskier in a manner otherwise consistent with this Code and State

Anti-Wake Law: Warning to Boaters...

Boat Wake Can Cost

law. The 50 yard distance shall be measured from the vessel, aquaplane or similar device or from any extension thereof including, but not limited to, a skier, or other device being towed.

In our lakes, boats running in shallow areas can stir up the bottom sediments loaded with nutrients and pollutants, redistributing them in the waters where we swim. When the water temperatures return to 82-86 degrees, the amoeba (*Naegleria Fowleri*) can also be stirred up. Shoreline erosion occurs with large wakes adding soils and organics to the lakes.

The BLPA wishes you all a safe summer of boating and swimming in the lakes and we hope no one receives a ticket for improper boating!

To report violations, call the Seminole County Sheriff at (407) 665-6650.

Congratulations to BLPA...

We are Now a Tax-Exempt,
Non-Profit 501(c)3
Organization!

Effective June 13, 2009, all contributions made to BLPA are now tax-deductible. Should you wish to make a contribution of any sort and desire a receipt, please contact Corrie Hungerford at 407-947-2901 and she will issue one to you or you can note it when you mail in or deliver your cash contribution. Contributions can be made to any of the following categories: general operating, dues, CARP, or ALUM accounts.

BLPA has also registered with the State of Florida Department of Agricultural and Consumer Services Solicitation Contributions Office, so that we may legally collect donations as a tax exempt non-profit.

Information on Lakewatch... Rainfall Data

Rainfall Stormwater Versus Water Clarity

The following Lakewatch Data covers the last 12 months. Clarity level is the average of four locations on Bear Lake & three locations on Little Bear Lake & Cub Lake. Elevations listed are based on markers recording feet above sea level.

Downpours flush nutrients from fertilizers, sediments, and pollutants into the lakes reducing water clarity. In May of 2009, mud washed into the canal and out into Bear Lake from the road repair project on Oranole Way; February 2010, mud washed into the ditch at Bunnell Rd. and Bear Lake Rd., creating a cloudy plume out into Bear Lake; Cub Lake lost 8 feet of water clarity following the Bear Lake Road Project due to dirt from the road construction. Nutrient information on lakes can be found by visiting the Florida LAKEWATCH Site <http://lakewatch.ifas.ufl.edu/>

Nancy Dunn was recognized in the recent University of Florida LAKEWATCH newsletter as an Outstanding Lakewatch Volunteer, pictured on her boat with her Mother. (page 11). Nancy has collected nutrient and clarity data every month for almost 19 years on Bear lake. http://lakewatch.ifas.ufl.edu/PDFFOLDER2010/VOL_48_March_10.pdf

To report activities in the watershed affecting a lake's water quality, contact Nancy Dunn at 407-920-4975.

Bear Lake

Date	Rainfall	Clarity Level	Water Level (Above Sea Level)
3/09	3/8"	12'	103.1
4/09	3/4"	13'	102.7
5/09	18-3/16"	9'	104.5
6/09	9-5/8"	9'	104.1
7/09	4-3/8"	10'	103.9
8/09	7-5/8"	9'	103.9
9/09	12-5/8"	8-1/2'	104
10/09	1/2"	9'	103.55
11/09	1-1/4"	11'	103.4
12/09	5-1/2"	10-1/2'	103.65
1/10	2-3/4"	18'	103.8
2/10	3-3/8"	17-1/2'	103.85
3/10	10-7/8"	13'	104.05

Little Bear Lake

Date	Rainfall	Clarity Level	Water Level (Above Sea Level)
3/09	3/8"	6'	104.44
4/09	3/4"	5-1/4'	N/A
5/09	18-3/16"	5-1/2'	104.3
6/09	9-5/8"	5'	103.93
7/09	4-3/8"	4'	103.93
8/09	7-5/8"	4'	103.84
9/09	12-5/8"	2'	103.83
10/09	1/2"	3'	103.63
11/09	1-1/4"	3-1/2'	N/A
12/09	5-1/2"	12'	103.8
1/10	2-3/4"	12'	103.73
2/10	3-3/8"	N/A	N/A
3/10	10-7/8"	11'	103.9

Cub Lake

Date	Rainfall	Clarity Level	Water Level (Above Sea Level)
3/09	3/8"	15'	100.1
4/09	3/4"	14'	99.8
5/09	18-3/16"	14'	99.7
6/09	9-5/8"	8'	101.8
7/09	4-3/8"	8-1/2'	100
8/09	7-5/8"	9'	102
9/09	12-5/8"	9-1/2'	100.7
10/09	1/2"	10'	100.6
11/09	1-1/4"	10-1/2'	99.8
12/09	5-1/2"	12'	99.7
1/10	2-3/4"	15'	100.3
2/10	3-3/8"	15'	101.8
3/10	10-7/8"	12'	103.2

Painting by Bob
Int/ext painting, pressure washing,
drywall repair, tile, texture

Robert (Bob) Shields
Owner

321-354-4449
robshields@aol.com

9638 Bear Lake Rd
Apopka, FL 32703



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833 State Road 434
Altamonte Springs, FL 32714

AMC 

Andy Staggs
Construction Manager

900 Piedmont Wekiwa Rd.
Apopka, FL 32703

Licensed Roofing Contractor
CCC1326341
Licensed General Contractor
CGC062892
Licensed Solar Contractor
Email at: andystaggs@amcOrlando.com



BLPA MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

PO Box 162605, Altamonte Springs, FL 32716 • www.blpa.net

2010 BLPA dues \$85.00

Seniors 62+ \$50.00

Please make checks payable to: B.L.P.A. and mail to: P.O. Box 162605, Altamonte Springs, FL 32716. Thank you for your continuing support to help keep our lakes clean!

Name: _____

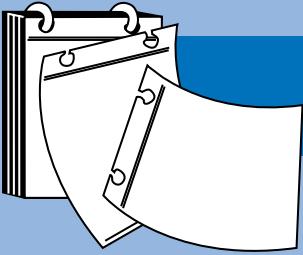
Address: _____

Phone: _____

Cell: _____

Email: _____

****Effective June 13, 2009, BLPA is now a 501(c)(3) tax exempt organization. All financial contributions to BLPA are now tax deductible. BLPA will provide a receipt upon request for your donation.**



MARK YOUR CALENDAR!

BLPA Picnic

**Saturday, May 22, 2010
3:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.**

You are invited to the shores of Bear Lake. Come one, come all and enjoy food fun and games. If you'd like to bring something, that would be great. Please RSVP by May 14th so we can get the right amount of food! Contact Catherine Heideman 407-538-1097 or cwjclafin@hotmail.com with your RSVP and things to bring! The party will take place at both the Helm's and Heideman's backyards located at 6043 Linneal Beach Dr.

Things to look forward to: Best Dessert Contest - Bring a dessert to be judged and win a prize for the best dessert at the picnic; a 50/50 drawing - \$1 a ticket, winner takes 50% & BLPA takes 50% (bring cash for donation & fun!!) Bring your family...kids are welcome. Boat arrivals are also welcomed and friendly pets are allowed.

Wake Boarding on Bear Lake



"They fly thru the air with the greatest of ease." These words could have been written for the wonderful wakeboarders on Bear Lake. These remarkable athletes make it look so effortless. But anyone who has tried to waterski knows that this is talent and persistence. It is so entertaining to sit on the dock and watch. This is our grandson, Tyler. He is awesome. June & Mike Staggs who have lived on Bear Lake for 31 years.

Calendar of Events

- May 22.....BLPA Picnic
- June 15.....General Membership Meeting, 7:30 p.m.
- November 16.....General Membership Meeting, 7:30 p.m.
- December 11Boat Parade

For committee meeting dates, please contact one of the Board members. The Ecology Committee meets the 3rd Tuesday of each month at 7:00 p.m. For information, contact Bill Houston at 407-721-0219.

www.blpa.net



PO Box 162605
Altamonte Springs, FL 32716