

"Twin-Lakes" Association News Letter

Spring, 2005

Vol. #11

Make Your Voice Heard! Lake Association Meeting May 10th

Mark your calendar and plan to attend this year's Lake Association Annual Meeting scheduled for **May 10th at 7:00 pm in the auditorium at the Windsor Road Christian Church** to the East of Cherry Hills. Make your voice heard on the following agenda items:

- **Proposed increase of Lake Association Dues from \$75/year to \$125/year.**
- Annual Financial Report (draft enclosed)
- Review past and future lake and shoreline improvements (repair of inlet and outlet, lakeshore rock and clean-up, need for fish stock, water aeration system)
- Lake aquatic weed treatment review
- Discuss a spring clean-up party and possible annual lake picnic
- New Board Officer nomination & vote

Get Involved – Be a Lake Association Board Member

Many **Thanks**
Board members:



(president), Aminmansour (vice-president), Bill Conlin (treasurer), Kris Campbell (secretary) and Dennis Beyer (board member at-large) who have been on the Board this year. According to the Article IV of the Lake Association By-

to our current
Hadi Esfahani
Abbas

laws: *The affairs of the corporation shall be managed by a board of five directors, to be elected by the Members, and these five shall be Members of the Association. At each annual meeting the Members shall elect Directors to fill the existing vacancies. Directors are elected for a term of two years. Three (3) Directors will be elected in odd number years and two (2) Directors will be elected in even number years. Directors may be re-elected.*

Hadi Esfahani, Bill Conlin and Kris Campbell have been valuable members of the Board but need to “pass the baton” as they have completed their second year in office. Please volunteer or nominate someone to run for a board office and come to the May 10th Lake Association meeting to make your voice heard. If you have questions about the Board, contact any of the Board Directors listed on the back page.

Open Board Position Descriptions:

President. Call and oversee board and lake association meetings as needed; field concerns and questions from home owners; oversee the enforcement of by-laws, rules and regulations.

Treasurer. Prepare yearly treasurer report; collect Lake Association dues; contact real estate agents to provide home owner dues statement upon home sales closure; pay bills as needed; prepare not-for-profit annual registration fee. [\$100 compensation is provided.]

Secretary. Prepare and distribute the twice a year Lake Association Newsletter; submit minutes from the lake association annual meeting; other letters as needed.

Other Position Openings:

Algae Treatment: Bob Nickel has agreed to continue treating the east end of the lake; Gene Campbell would be open to someone else taking over the treatment of the west end of the lake.

Lake Caretaker It is being proposed that we substitute the current member at-large position with a *Lake Caretaker* position. The person in the position would monitor the lake for fish restocking needs, algae and weed control measures, and need for lake front clean-up while staying in communication with the Champaign County biologist. Currently this role is done on an ad hoc basis.

\$\$ Increased Lake Association Dues! \$\$

As the lake celebrates it's 20th (or so) B'day this year – it has needed some additional upkeep and therefore significantly more funds for fish restocking, inlet upkeep, and future



needs such as an aeration system to control aquatic weeds. At the Annual Meeting, May 10th the Board will propose increasing the Lake Association dues to \$125.00 beginning with the June 1, 2005 payment cycle.

So...if you haven't sent your 2004 -2005 dues in yet do so ASAP. Dues are used to pay for Lake Insurance, repairs to Association property such as signs and inlets and outlets, purchase lake treatment supplies, restocking fish, and care and maintenance of trees and lake front rock at the Windsor outlet. Please make your checks payable to Cherry Hills

Lake Association and send to : Treasurer, Cherry Hills Lake Association, c/o Bill Conlin, 2502 Lakewood Drive Champaign, IL 61822. Not sure if you have paid this year call/e-mail Bill at 351 5780/ user0871@aol.com.

Be a Good Neighbor

- ✓ Discourage children from throwing the shoreline rocks into the lake or at water fowl.
- ✓ Respect your neighbors, curtail backyard and lake noise after 10:00 pm. As we all know too well, the slightest sound is magnified across the water.
- ✓ A weekly quick once over to pick up blown or washed in garbage on your lake shore can make a BIG difference for all.
- ✓ Do You Know Where Your Pets Are??



Please remember to keep your pets on a leash or under your supervision when off the leash at all times. Loose and wandering cats and dogs can be an annoyance nuisance and possible treat to neighbors.

Do Your Part to Care for Our Lake

In order to control erosion and weeds, each homeowner is responsible for installing and maintaining a weed barrier and rocks along the portion of the shoreline that abuts his/her property. All shorelines must be retained with rock, underlaid with a weed mat. The rock will



extend at least 1 foot below, and 3 feet above the normal lake level. The Shoreline should be grass and weed free. Pulling weeds is the preferred method, *Round-up* may be used along upper rock edge to kill grass, but **NEVER** along the water edge as it will **KILL** or sicken fish and other animals which come in contact with the chemical. Please don't put grass (including grass clippings from your mower) or tree limbs in the lake.

This Spring we will once again have **ducks and geese laying eggs around the lake.** Be sure to remember that once water fowl have laid their



eggs, it is unlawful to disturb the nest. Please do NOT roll them into the pond.

Strings barriers that run parallel with the pond to discourage the geese and ducks from walking up on your lawn is acceptable. However, it is a walking liability hazard to have the string run perpendicular or across the commons area. When these hazards are found home owners will be asked to remove them.

Mosquitos and West Nile Virus are a big threat if rain water in boats, bird feeders, and other areas is left standing. Please take care to cover boats, or turn them upside down so they do not collect stagnate water.

Ways to Keep Algae Under Control

To help keep the growth of Algae down please follow these guidelines:

- ✓ **Remember**, the more organic matter that goes into the lake the more copper sulfate has to be used to combat algae growth. Keep grass and tree clippings out of the lake.
- ✓ Home owners are encouraged to **refrain from applying fertilizer** within 10 feet of

the rock boarder and prior to Mother's Day (since spring rains will only wash fertilizer into the lake, adding nutrients for grass and algae growth.)

- ✓ This spring and summer as the lake is treated with Copper Sulfate to reduce Algae growth, red flags are placed along the shoreline. Flags are removed in the evening or the next day after treatment. There are no official restrictions on the use of the water after treatment (copper sulfate is used to treat drinking water), but we suggest waiting 12 hours to swim or to let dogs swim/drink in the lake.

Fishing/Swimming is Great Fun – But Remember:



- ✓ If a friend wants to swim or fish – **you must be with them** while they are on or at the lake.
- ✓ A "Catch and Release" policy is encouraged. Remove the hook barbs to make removal less stressful on the fish. Wet hands before handling fish. Quickly return the fish gently back to the water!
- ✓ If you keep the fish – a "Keeper" is defined as 12 in. or longer with a limit of 1 Bass per day. **NEVER** keep Grass Carp – we stock those to aid in grass removal in the lake.
- ✓ Pick up hooks and line along shoreline!
- ✓ NO minnows, goldfish, or leeches as bait!
- ✓ Never add or introduce new fish into the lake without first checking with the Board!

Regulations for The Care and Use of Cherry Hills



Lake

Do you know what to do if you want to add a dock, tree, or other construction along the lake commons area? What are your swimming,

fishing, hunting and boating rights as described in the Regulations? Please read over your Lake Association Covenant for rules and guidelines. If you can't find yours they are also available on the web at:
<http://www.cherryhillsassoc.com/twinlakes/>
 and
<http://www.cherryhillsassoc.com/phases.html>.
 It is the right and responsibility of All Lake Association members to obey and to enforce these regulations.

Comments and Suggestions Board Members

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Abbas Aminmansour – 355-1234; aamin@uiuc.edu
Bill Conlin – 351-5780; user0871@aol.com
Kris Campbell – 398-6368; kjc@uiuc.edu
Dennis Beyer– 351-7737;
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Cherry Hills lake Association Treasurer's Report Tax Year-2004, 1/1/04 through 12/31/04

Beginning Balance Reported 1/1/04	\$2,768.66	\$2,768.66
Revenue 2004		
Lot Assessments Collected	\$2,775.00	
Interest Earned - IRS Form 1099	\$7.66	
Other	<u>\$0.00</u>	
Total 2004 Revenue	\$2,782.66	<u>\$2,782.66</u>
Total Revenue Activity		<u>\$5,551.32</u>
Expenses 2004		
Campaign County SWCD - Fish	\$165.00	
Lake Weed Control Chemicals	\$154.68	
Lake Shore Maint. - Inlet Pipe Erosion.	\$425.66	
Secretary of State Annual Report	\$5.00	
Printing, Duplication, Clerical	\$68.67	
Postage	\$37.00	
Thomas, Mamer & Haughey Attys.	\$50.00	
<u>Champaign County Collector</u>		
Drainage Taxes	\$25.00	
Special Assessment	\$100.00	
Diamond Bros. Insurance 7/1/04 to 6/30/05	\$2,078.00	
Bookeeping	<u>\$100.00</u>	
Total Expenses		<u>\$3,209.01</u>
Reconciled Ending Balance 12/31/04		<u>\$2,342.31</u>

To: Lake Association Members
From: Twin-Lakes Lake Association Board Members
Date: April, 2005
Re: Lake Commons Maintenance

At the 2003 annual meeting of the Twin-Lakes Association Members, the board was asked to develop a three phase process of keeping our membership informed about potential issues relating to the lake commons areas.

This memo is the first step in that three-phase process. Asking each homeowner to take an assessment of their lakefront property in the following areas by June 1st:

- Edging between the grass and rock boundaries: Is it intact, at or slightly above ground level and not a tripping hazard? If it is not intact or extends high enough above the rock/grass to be a tripping hazard, please see that it is removed and/or replaced.
- Retention rock and weed mat: Do you have 2" thick layer of retention rock extending 3' above the normal water level and 1' below the water level covering an intact weed mat? If not please add a new weed mat and/or additional rock to this area. Although the Lake Association guidelines state that the rock must be 3"-5" angular white rock, you may install smaller rock if you prefer. If your grass is growing into the 3' area above the water level, you will need to remove the grass, see the following item.
- Grass growing in the retention rock: Is there significant grass growing in the retention rock along your lake front? If there is, please remove by hand all weeds that are near or in the lake front. Round-up or a similar product may be used to kill the grass and weeds growing along the outside edge of the retention rock (it will harm fish and other animals that may drink the water if you spray it near or in the water!).
- Boats and water craft: Is there standing water in your boat or water craft? This is a significant threat to creating an ideal habitat for mosquitoes and therefore West Niles Virus. In the past, we have been blessed with relatively few insect problems on the lake, PLEASE check to make sure open boats are flipped upside-down or if covered, any standing water is frequently removed! This is also true for drain pipes and empty flower pots and bird baths around your house.
- Docks and ramps: Is your dock is good condition with no broken boards where someone might fall through? If not, please repair the wood. While you are doing

this, check any concrete steps near or in the water to make sure that they are not a tripping hazard.

If we all can take one weekend each month this spring and summer to answer the above questions and then make any needed repairs, our lake property will be something we can all enjoy and admire. If you are for any reason unable to inspect or make needed repairs please contact one of the board members so other arrangements can be made.

The Board Members will walk periodically around the lake to determine if there are any problem areas that still need attention. Any households that are not in compliance with the "Regulations for the care and use of Cherry Hills Lake" will be initially visited by a board member to determine the reason for noncompliance. A letter will then follow explaining the necessary repairs and expected date of compliance to the regulations. If the issue persists, the work will be contracted out to be completed and a lien will be placed on the property in issue. We know that no one wants to reach this very unpleasant step in the process.

Thank you and have a safe and enjoyable spring and summer. Please feel free to contact any Board Member at any time with a concern or question.

Twin-Lakes Lake Association Board Members:

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