



Living at... Walnut Grove Lake

Summer 2010

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Tricia Siano, Newsletter

President's Message

Greetings WGLHA. I hope you're managing to stay cool this summer. I'm finding that to be a big challenge!

I wrote so much in the last issue to bring everyone up to date on the spillway and other construction projects as well as the annual meeting, I'm going to take a break this time. Look inside for pictures from our July 4th festivities as well as other news and information.

I look forward to seeing you at our events and around the neighborhood!

- Margie McMillan, President

Your Neighborhood Website

My name is Jeramia Trotter and I run Action News 5's "Your Neighborhood" websites. I want to make sure we're covering Cordova adequately. It's one of our city's largest neighborhoods, and I know there's plenty of great stuff I won't hear about without the help of the area's neighborhood associations. To get an idea of what we're doing, go to our Cordova site at <http://cordova.wmctv.com/>.

Unlike what we do on TV, I'm not only interested in just big events. I want to know if someone's pet has gone missing, there's a home decked out with great holiday decorations, or someone's child won a school art contest. Together, we can let the Mid-South know about the great things going on in your community. So, if you have news that you want to share, click on Contact Us in the Send us a Tip box.

Helpful Phone Numbers:

Police - Appling Farms Station: 636-4400

Police: 545-COPS

Sheriff: 379-7625

(Section H – Norseman, Walnut Creek, Byre Hollow & Glen Gyle)

Citizens Service Center: 576-6500

Report code violations such as overgrown yards and debris. All complaints are kept confidential.

County Codes Enforcement: 545-4311

Report code violations for houses in the county.

Report street lights out: 320-1498

Storm water drain hotline: 529-0237

to report dumping in streets or storm drains

MLGW: 544-MLGW

for power outage, wires down, leaking water mains, gas leaks

Memphis Solid Waste Management:

576-6851

to request a trash pickup.

(Section H contact the company you have contracted with.)



new residents!

Say hello to your new neighbors who have moved to Walnut Grove Lake recently. If we've missed you, please let us know and we'll include you in the next newsletter.

Steven Giannini and Kelly Dunavant

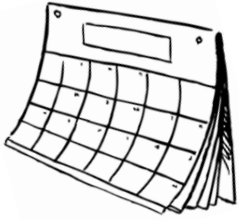
170 Mysen Circle

Jake and Hillary Burford

8451 Bazemore Road

Jamshid Aflaki

242 Ericson Road



Mark Your Calendar



Clean up end of Bazemore & Wolf River Conservancy

Saturday, September 18th 9:00 a.m. till 12 noon

WGLHA Supports Wolf River Tributary Clean Up at Lovitt Woods

Walnut Grove Lake residents will take a stand against litter in our natural areas, streams and rivers on Saturday, September 18. Residents are encouraged to join the Wolf River Conservancy, Clean Memphis, First Tennessee, Tennessee Wildlife Resources Agency (TWRA), and other organizational volunteers participating in five stream and tributary clean ups across Memphis.

One of the five areas selected for the one-day clean up is the Lovitt Woods property, the 313-acre preserve owned by the Wolf River Conservancy adjoining Walnut Grove Lake neighborhood. The other sites are Lick Creek, Cypress Creek, Douglass Pumping Station, and a Memphis City Schools site. Volunteers will help pick up trash along these streams and nearby lands, much of which is deposited by storm waters flowing into urban streams and ultimately the Wolf and Mississippi Rivers.

First Tennessee is generously sponsoring the five clean-ups and TWRA has provided a "Clean Streams" grant which

will be used to buy tools and T-shirts for volunteers. "We are thankful for this support and are delighted to partner with First Tennessee and TWRA on this effort to clean up our waterways, and to build awareness and a stronger stewardship ethic within our community with regard to the river," said Steve Fleegal, the Conservancy's CEO.



The clean ups will take place the weekend before the Conservancy's Wolf River Day Festival on September 25th on the V&E Greenline in the Vollintine Evergreen Community. For more information see www.wolfriver.org, or sign up as a

volunteer for the clean up by going to <http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/RHW758Y>.

WGLHA volunteers will meet at 9:00 a.m. at the end of Bazemore. In addition to picking up trash, we will clean out the overgrowth at the dead end. Bring gloves and tools.

No Dumping Plaques Project

Saturday, October 30th 10:00 a.m.
Meet at Farrell Park

Holiday Decorating Contest

Sunday, December 19th - Judging 7:00 p.m. til 10:00 p.m.
(rain date: Monday, December 20th)

Lake Committee Report

This morning's edition of the Commercial Appeal predicted a high temperature of 100°. I predict the activity on Walnut Grove Lake today will be zero. These are truly the "dog days" of summer. I doubt if I will get out on the lake until September. On the other hand, I did go out last week to take water samples for our annual laboratory test of the condition of the lake water.

The water samples were taken from five different locations around the lake. The net result was that the lake is in good condition and the total coli form count was too low to attach a numerical value. That is good news in view of the large number of Canada geese that have been cruising about the lake. The lake is well oxygenated and the fish show no sign of oxygen deprivation. The first sign of a lack of oxygen in the water is open sores on fish. Severe oxygen problems result in fish kills. I haven't seen any of these problems this year.

In connection with the above discussion of the coli form count, there is something that can be done. Those of you who walk dogs along the dam it would be helpful if the dogs would leave their deposits on the side of the dam away from the lake. This would also improve walking conditions along the lake.

The new spillway and overflow drain performed well during the recent deluge (July 12 and 13). My crude calculations indicated that the water was flowing out of the lake at a speed of about 6 miles per hour and the lake returned to its normal stage very quickly.

Unfortunately, the rain also brought with it the usual problems of fertilizer runoff and trash washing into the lake. The fertilizer produced the algae bloom that gives the lake its characteristic greenish color. The trash comes into the lake through the street storm drains. As you walk along the streets if you see any trash please pick it up and put it into one of the trash receptacles. It will save this old fisherman a lot of time on my lake patrol trash pickup.

As far as fishing is concerned, it has been terrific this spring and through the early summer. The bass are numerous, healthy and of a nice size. I have been catching about four bass an hour and the weight of the typical bass has been just under two pounds with a few in the three-pound range. Reports from other anglers confirm my observations. As I previously mentioned, we are now entering the so-called "dog days of summer" and fishing is getting increasingly difficult. The best times to be out there are early and late. During the day the fish are deep and off their feed for the most part.

Dave Brown reports that the crappie are numerous but deep. He reports that there are schools of crappie in the southeast section of the lake (near the dam) in about 17 feet of water. He suggests fishing with minnows and lots of patience.

I would like to include a couple of personal notes. First of all, I wish to thank long time resident and lake committee member Fred Barrett for his service on the lake committee.

Fred never turned down a work request of mine. Fred and Danny have put their home up for sale and I will certainly miss them. Another long time Lake Committee member, Hoyt Bellamy, is moving to Louisiana. He has contributed many hours of work to maintain the lake and dam area. He will certainly be missed too.

Finally, I would like to thank everyone who voted for me in the Chicago Cubs "It's a Way of Life" contest. The support from my neighbors was very heartwarming.

- Bob Marchini

Fishing News

Is it too hot to catch some fish? Never! Bream fishing is better when it is hot especially three days before and after the full moon. The best method is to use crickets or red worms on a #8 bream hook with a float approximately 2 - 3 feet above the bait and fish along the banks. Catfish bite well in the heat also. The best way to catch them is to fish along the dam on the bottom using chicken livers or shrimp. Striped yellow bass bite very well using a small in-line spinner or small jig head with a small piece of cut bream on a ultra-light outfit. Just cast out, count to three and begin a slow retrieve. Bass can be caught early and late on a topwater bait around shade. During the day, they can be caught on a Texas-rigged green pumpkin lizard. **Remember to keep all striped bass and all largemouth bass 14" and under.**

- Ron Wong

Boat Storage on the Dam

Construction has begun on permanent racks for storage of all boats on the dam. The new racks will be located on the west side. Owners of boats currently stored on the temporary racks on the west side were notified recently to move their boats onto the permanent racks to make room to build the remainder of the permanent racks. So far, four boats have been moved. At this time, however, we only need three more boats to be moved ASAP, and these owners have received a second notice. We'll inform the rest of you shortly as to when to move your boats.

Owners of boats that are currently stored on the east side of the dam will be notified when the new racks are completed so they can move their boats. Several of these boats have not been used in a very long time. **If you no longer use your boat that is stored on the dam, please remove it now.** This will help us to determine how much space is needed for the new racks.

As always, please make sure that all boats have proper identification: WGL + your lot number, on both sides. We appreciate your cooperation in helping your volunteer Board by properly identifying and moving your boat at the appropriate time.

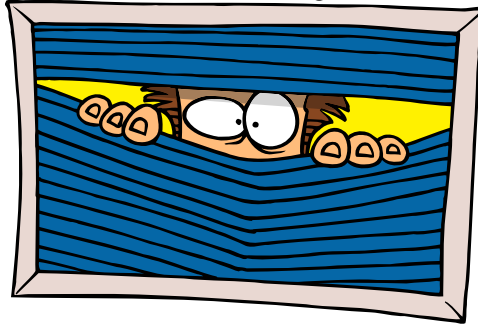
trespassers at WGL

This was an active summer for trespassers at Walnut Grove Lake. WGLHA was also very active in trying to control the problem. The gates at Simpson and Farrell Park have been locked every night and unlocked every morning as the parks are supposed to be closed from dusk to dawn. This has helped. In addition, the missing sign on the Farrell Park gate that said it was private and closed dusk to dawn was replaced.

Trees were limbed up at the entrance to Farrell Park and in the park itself to make the "Private" signs show up better and to lessen the privacy that nighttime trespassers seem to enjoy. In addition, we have had a system in place to put notices on cars that are parked in our parks that do not have our WGLHA stickers on them

to notify them that the parks are private and for residents only. We have also been recording the license plate numbers of suspected trespassers, determining where the owners live, and if they don't live in the neighborhood, we have sent them a letter to inform them that this is a private lake. We have sent out at least 25 letters to date.

Plus, we have patrolled the dam area numerous times and asked many teenagers to leave once we discovered that they did not live here. We have been in close contact with our



Appling Farms Police Precinct and they have come out on several occasions to investigate speeding cars, drag racing, and other problems on Bazemore. In addition, the clean-up that is scheduled for September 18 in conjunction with the Wolf River Conservancy is partly intended to clear out the overgrowth and trash that has accumulated at the end of

Bazemore, which seems to be a favorite spot for teenagers to hang out at night.

We investigated the idea of installing security cameras, but this option turned out to be very expensive. We also discussed adding gates to the other entrances to the dam, but we decided that this option would make entry to the dam too complicated. We are currently investigating the option of adding another

street light at the dead end of Bazemore to try to alleviate the problem there.

We want to particularly thank neighbor Larry Wright who is a police officer. He patrols the dam and parks on a regular basis before and after work. He has been instrumental in convincing many trespassers to move on. He has also made some arrests when he has observed underage drinking and other illegal activities on the dam. Now that school is back in session, we hope the problems will decrease.

KEEPING it CLEAN

Many of you read the article in the *Commercial Appeal* a few weeks ago about the Cooper-Young Community Assn. working with the City of Memphis to keep storm drains open and clear of things that should not be dumped in them. The city's Storm Water Program has an Adopt a Storm Drain campaign, under the direction of Sharon Gordon, Storm Water Program Project Coordinator for the Division of Public Works. The city provides storm drain labels that read "No Dumping Drains to River" for free. They also have labels that read "No Dumping Drains to Lake."

This program is an excellent way to raise awareness that everything that enters our storm drains ends up in our lake or the Wolf River. The city hopes that the labels will cause residents to think twice about how they dispose of trash, hazardous waste, leaves and other landscaping leftovers and even pet waste. Hazardous waste can be safely disposed of at the Memphis and Shelby County Hazardous Waste Collection Facility, located at 6305 Haley Road in Shelby Farms.

It's best to reduce the amount of chemicals used on lawns. The runoff causes the algae blooms we see in our lake during the summer months. Grass and leaves are also detrimental to the health of our lake and waterways. For some residents and lawn care companies, it is common practice to blow

clippings into the street. This practice is against city ordinance and the city can issue citations. Leaving the clippings on the lawn is beneficial. They quickly decompose and create nutrients that are returned to the soil. By bagging or composting your leaves, you keep them out of the street, which keeps them out of storm drains. Drains clogged by leaves can cause flooding in heavy rains. The city collects the bagged leaves and turns them into rich compost that is sold to landscape contractors and used in city parks and other properties.

The WGLHA Board has decided that this is a program that we should take advantage of for our neighborhood. The city even provides the glue! Most of our storm drains will have labels that read "No Dumping Drains to Lake" and the ones below our dam will read "No Dumping Drains to River."

We have approximately 80 storm drains in our neighborhood. Volunteers are needed to place the labels on the drains. Block Captains can volunteer to do your area, or coordinate with a neighbor. Sharon Gordon will meet our volunteers on **Saturday, October 30th** with the free labels and glue. We will meet at **10:00 a.m. in Farrell Park**. Volunteers will need to bring a wire brush or rag to clean the area on each storm drain. Sharon will instruct us as to where to place them.

Problems of Property Neglect Questions & Answers From the City of Memphis & Shelby County

Weeds and Grass - how high is too high?

Keeping the grass cut is the responsibility of every property owner. Controlling the height and density of weeds, brush, vines, and trees is more than a matter of keeping the neighborhood pretty. Overgrown lots can harbor snakes and rats, contribute to mosquito problems, and even provide cover for criminal activities. Whether a property is occupied by a home or business—or is just a vacant lot—the same rules apply. Mowing the lawn does more than keep neighborhoods attractive; it keeps them safe.

What can you do to control dangerous weeds and brush?

Here are some options:

- Clip it! To keep your neighborhood attractive and safe, keep your grass (and weeds) cut, and never let it grow beyond a height of more than six inches; if you have a large tract (more than two acres) a maximum height of twelve inches is permissible.
- Volunteer to help elderly neighbors maintain their lawns.
- Report weed and grass violations on vacant or occupied properties by contacting the Mayor's Citizens Service Center, (901) 576-6500.
- Memphis Code, Section 9-96-2 through Section 9-96-3 and Section 14-4-48; Shelby County Code Section 25-189; Shelby County Health Codes, Section 16-457 and Section 16-458; Shelby County Housing Code, 48-49

Storm Drains - How can you help wash environmental troubles away?

Keep your community's storm drains clean and litter free! **Storm drains are ONLY for rain!** That means that you shouldn't rake or blow yard waste into the street to let the rain wash it down the gutters. Grass clippings, leaves and tree limbs can clog storm drains and cause street flooding. So, never throw **litter and debris** into the street! What flows from your home into the storm drains can also contribute to polluting ground water; so, you should sweep up **pesticides, fungicides, and fertilizers** that fall on your sidewalks and driveway, and avoid using them at all when it looks like heavy rains may threaten. That's also why, as a responsible pet owner, you should always scoop the poop: **animal waste** contains disease causing bacteria that can wash down the storm drains and contaminate our waterways. And, as a responsible citizen, of course, you'll want to recycle all **hazardous waste** such as motor oil, antifreeze and radiator fluid, as well as toxic household waste such as paints and household cleansers.

For more information, call the Storm Water Program: (901) 576-4349.

Recycling

Recycling is good for the community, and the City of Memphis strongly encourages recycling.

The City of Memphis, Solid Waste Management, provides recycling bins and collects recycled paper (including shredded mail), plastics, aluminum, glass, paperboard and corrugated packaging from these containers at curbside on regular trash pick-up days.

How can you become involved in recycling?

Participate in curbside recycling. If you don't already have a recycling bin, call the Division of Public Works, Solid Waste Management office at (901) 576-6851 to obtain one.

- The City recycles in part as a response to the Tennessee Solid Waste Processing and Disposal Rule 1200-1-7-09 Waste Disposal Reduction Goals. Effective September 29, 1993

Property Improvements at WGL

This has been a banner year for property improvements and repairs at Walnut Grove Lake. Many neighbors took advantage of the lake being lowered during our spillway construction to build new seawalls and docks or repair their old ones. The WGLHA Board reviewed and approved 21 construction applications for seawalls and docks, two for fences, one for a storage shed and two for new decks/patios.

We appreciate these neighbors for being compliant with the neighborhood covenants by sending in their WGLHA Construction Approval forms in a timely manner. In addition, we are grateful for everyone who is maintaining and improving their properties. This will in turn improve all of our property values!

REMINDER:

All Outside Construction Must Be Approved First by WGLHA Board

Everyone should have a copy of our covenants. If you don't have a copy, you can download it from our web site (www.wglha.com) or call our phone number and we will get you a copy. Item D.4. states, **"All plans and specifications for new or future construction of every type, including buildings, piers, fences, driveways, and walls, shall be approved in writing before construction by Walnut Grove Lake Homeowners Association, Inc., or their authorized representative."** You can download a copy of our Construction Approval Form from the web site. **Railroad ties or other toxic materials will not be allowed to be used in Walnut Grove Lake at all, for anything**, even for replacement of any rotten railroad ties in a seawall. A TDEC permit should accompany any application to the WGLHA Board if you are planning to build or replace a dock, ramp or sea wall. Contact Lew Hoffman at Lew.Hoffman@tn.gov if you have questions or obtain the TDEC Permit Application and instructions at www.state.tn.us/environment/permits/arap.shtml. Submit your application and TDEC permit by email to wglha@juno.com or by mail to 8428 Arendal Cove.

Pet News

Hi Neighbors.

The summer is almost over, though the temperatures don't show it! I have been helping the rescue group with the animal population explosion that happens every spring and summer.

Did you know that 70,000 puppies and kittens are born each day, only 10,000 people each day? It adds up to not enough homes for all our companion pets. 64 % of all shelter animals and rescues are euthanized, not because they don't like to play or cuddle, not because they are bad actors, not because they are mean, just because they do not have a home or a person to care about them. Many of these are purebred. Please support the spay neuter programs here in Memphis.

There is an idea being passed around about putting a bounty on stray dogs being turned into the animal shelter. Please tell your representatives this is a bad idea. There is an element of people in Memphis that would steal companion pets for the money. You would not be safe leaving your pets in the yard at home. THIS IS A BAD IDEA! "Paws" and Think. Thank you again.

PLEASE...SPAY, NEUTER, HEARTWORM MEDS, FLEA MEDS, AND MICRO YOUR BELOVED PETS.

Mid-south Spay and Neuter Clinic,
84 Goodman Rd. off Park Ave. 324-3202

Humane Society 324-3900

Report Neglect and Abuse to Police 545-cops

Pet Care Call Me: Pam O'Fallin 757-0676

P.S. "Paws and Think" how hot the street is when you are walking your dog. You have shoes on! OUCH!

- Pam O'Fallin

WE NEED YOUR EMAIL ADDRESSES!

Email is the most efficient way to reach everyone to share information about what is going on in the neighborhood. If we don't already have your email address, or if your email address has changed, please share your email address with us. You can send an email to wglha@juno.com. Please include your name and address. We will keep your email address confidential and will not share it with anyone outside the community. Thank you!

Yard of the Month & Garden of the Month

Introducing Garden of the Month

Six times a year March through September, WGLHA will be rewarding one of our residents with the Garden of the Month Award. This will be given to our neighbor who has shown great care and conscientiousness in the upkeep and care of their lot. The Garden of the Month award is very broad and considers many factors including but not limited to: landscaping beds, plants, trees, blooming flowers, blooming bushes, hedges, stone work, fountains, decks, seawall, retaining walls, and overall tidiness and appearance. The front yard and back will be considered (we will not view the back yard without permission). If you would like to nominate your neighbor for Garden of the Month please email Jeremy and Christy Ford at: christyford2007@yahoo.com.

Introducing Yard of the Month

Six times a year March through September, WGLHA will also be rewarding one of our residents with the Lawn of the Month award. This award will be given to our neighbor who has shown great care in caring for their lawn. Only the front yard will be considered. The yard of the month award will go to the manicured lawn that is trimmed, green, weed less, and has good edges. The overall appearance of the front lawn beds may be considered as well. If you would like to nominate your neighbor for Lawn of the Month please email Jeremy and Christy Ford at christyford2007@yahoo.com. All winners will be mentioned in the WGLHA Newsletter, and a sign will be displayed in the yard for one month.

We have our first winners:

We are proud to announce the August winners for our Garden of the Month Award are Elizabeth and Barry Gilmore of 120 Viking Drive. Their property is beautifully landscaped front and back, with mulched beds and a tasteful variety of blooming plants and decorative trees. I want to further complement the Gilmore's for the recent extensive work to the back yard adjoining the lake. 20 tons of gravel were brought in to backfill near their new sea wall and retaining wall. There is also a great deck the length of the sea wall and an elevated rear deck with nice views of the lake, yard, and pool.



Our August Lawn of the Month award goes to Barbara and Marshall Ostrow of 73 Mysen Circle. This lawn was green and plush in spite of all the recent 100 degree plus temperatures we have been experiencing. The entire front yard is perfect, highlighted with colorful bedding plants and a wonderful row of Crepe Myrtles on the south side. Mr. Ostrow would not pose for a picture, but did show us his collection of fish in his aquarium which was one of the most impressive I have ever seen. Congratulations Barbara and Marshall!





July 4th Recap



Fishing Rodeo - Local fishing celebrity, Ron Wong, directed another successful fishing rodeo with 36 participants! Prizes were handed out for: most bass under 13 inches (Bryce Streger and Greg Swearingen tied); the largest catfish (Justin Osborne); most number of bream (Marsha Howard, Ainsley Barden and Joshua Sailor), and most number of striped bass (Brandon Gray and Sam Davidson). No one caught any crappie. Everyone

who participated had their name in the hat for a drawing to win a fishing tackle package worth at least \$200 donated by Ron Wong. The winner was Chase Skrocki. There were lots of door prizes donated by Peanut Craft Lures, T.J. Mulligan's and Avery Outdoors of Memphis. Trophies were awarded to some categories, thanks to WGLHA neighbor Lee Adams.



Most Bream
Marsha Howard



Most Bream (boys)
Joshua Sailor



Most Bream (girls)
Ainsley Barden



Most Striped Bass (boys)
Sam Davidson



Most Striped Bass (adult)
Brandon Gray



Grand Prize
Chase Skrocki



Prizes



Sportsperson Awards Chelsea Skrocki, Anna Bisland, Ainsley Barden



Most Bass under 13 in.
Bryce Streger & Greg Swearingen



Ron Wong
Judge



Largest Catfish
Justin Osborne

July 4th Winners

Mailbox Decorating Contest

Mailbox Decorating Contest - Independence Day 2010 inspired 48 households around Walnut Grove Lake to decorate their mailboxes. It's always nice to see the familiar themes that we remember year after year sprinkled with some delightfully new creations. Usually it's the children that really enjoy this activity and this year was no exception. The Christenson family on Viking Dr. won Second Place by displaying an amazing giant firecracker created by their four lively children. Second place normally wins \$15 but the judges decided each child should receive \$5 for their enthusiasm and creativity! Barbara Van Dyke on Bergen has a sweet niece, Maria Roudnov, 8, who came in Third Place with her Uncle Sam creation that was unrivaled. However, although the kids gave it their best effort, this year's First Place was awarded to two adults - Howard and Diann Cobbs on Viking Dr. The judges found their "Shark" themed mailbox to be the most original and worthy of the First Place award of \$25.00. The one participant in the "new" section of WGL made a big statement. The whole house at 407 Lillehammer was decorated in red, white and blue and was a real tribute to Independence Day. Other noteworthy mailboxes were a beautiful display of summer sunflowers with touches of red, white and blue on Byre Hollow, Christmas in July on Val Halla Cove and an assortment of firecrackers ready to take flight on Bazemore. Until next year....hope everyone has a wonderful summer!

- Darlene Jones



1st Place - \$25
Cobbs Family



2nd Place - \$15
Christenson Family



3rd Place - \$10
Maria Roudnov



Mailboxes worth mentioning

Boat Parade

Boat Parade - This year's Fourth of July boat parade was one of the best ones ever. The weather was great which made for a hugely successful parade. All of the entries were great and the judges were very impressed with the spirit everyone showed. (Hint - next year we need some entries in the fishing boat category.)

- Parris Edwards



Best Music
Sharon & Wayne Fewell



Boat Parade Judges



Most Spirited
Linda & Greg Martel



Best Bribe
Tom & Lisa Felts

***NOT PICTURED**
Best Decorated Self Propelled Boat
Gayle & Tom Hudgens' grandson



Best Decoraed
Howard & Diann Cobbs

FIRST CLASS