



Living at... Walnut Grove Lake

Summer 2009

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Independence Day Pics

President's Message

Greetings WGLHA. I hope you're having a great summer. Ours has certainly been an eventful one so far.

The WGLHA Independence Day celebrations which were held on July 3rd this year were a big success. We had 40 participants in our mailbox decorating contest which made our neighborhood look festive and patriotic. And finally, our boat parade went off without a hitch. Approximately 20 boats enjoyed riding around the whole lake under blue skies. What a relief! Of course our fireworks were wonderful and the next morning 48 people participated in the fishing rodeo. Many thanks to those who helped plan these events including Marcia Howard, Parris & Ransom Edwards, Ron Wong and Darlene Jones. Look inside for pictures. You can see even more on our website.

Our neighborhood participated in National Night Out on August 4th. There were some big parties including one on Trondheim and another in Simpson Park. Thank you Sara Laman and Pam O'Fallin for getting this event organized for us. It's a good way to get to know your neighbors. We have two more upcoming events for you to put on your calendars: Neighborhood Yard Sale (September 12) and Dam Party (October 24).

I am very sad to report a tragedy that occurred in our community on the evening of July 4th. Sixteen year old DeMario Tys Elliott accidentally drowned while boating on the lake with his family. This heart wrenching incident has touched us all and our condolences go out to DeMario's family and friends. Please keep them in your thoughts and prayers.

While we all know that sometimes accidents do happen no matter how cautious you are, we decided to provide some information in this newsletter that may help you to be safe while using the lake. So please read our water safety article inside. In addition, we have added some safety signs at the dam, pier and parks.

See you around the neighborhood.

Margie McMillan, President

Helpful Phone Numbers:

Police 545-COPS

Sheriff 379-7625

Section H-Norseman, Walnut Creek,
Brye Hollow & Glen Gyle

**Mayor's Citizen Service Center
576-6500**

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

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 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.

Matthew Rhodes

394 Kristiandsund Cv.

Gillon Ondo

8423 Bazemore Rd.

Frankie Dunmore

8464 Trondheim Dr.

Janet Henry

8499 Karlstad Cv.

Cecilia Narrow

136 W. Viking Dr.

Jeremy & Christy Ford

371 Sherburne Cv.

Robert, Sandra & Phillip Crews

Jeffery & Courtney Slynn

8361 Bazemore Rd.

2009-2010 Board of Directors

Margie McMillan, President
757-0736

Gordon Wynn, 1st VP
755-6690

Joseph Jones, 2nd VP
759-3991

Jane Raymond,
Secretary, Treasurer
237-6034

Jane Hanafin, Board Member
759-4962

Darlene Jones, Alternate
759-3991

Barry Ledbetter, Alternate
508-6274



Annual Yard Sale at WGL

Saturday, September 12th 7:00 a.m.

There is strength in numbers so please join us for this event to clean out your garages and attics, make money and meet and mingle with your neighbors!

Signs will be posted at nearby intersections and ads will be placed in the Commercial Appeal, so we are asking for a \$5.00 donation from participants to assist us in paying for these costs. Please mail your checks to WGLHA, PO Box 1450, Cordova, TN 38088.

If you have any questions, please contact Jane Raymond at 237-6034, or e-mail at jeraymond@comcast.net

Dam Oktoberfest Party

Saturday, October 24th 3:00 - 6:00 p.m.
on the Walnut Grove Lake Dam!

This year we are planning a great Oktoberfest party! We will have plenty of activities for everybody. We will offer lakeside garden boat tours, we will have a costume contest for children and adults, there will be a pumpkin decorating contest, fortune tellers, WGL t-shirt sales, cardboard downhill races, find the dam rock contest, live music, a piñata, door prizes and a big MOON BOUNCE for the kids!! We plan on having a guided tour to the Wolf River. We also will have carnival games for the kids.

This year we will have an arts and crafts fair. Those of you who have a craft or are selling Mary Kay, etc. are welcome to set up a table to sell your goods. Please let me know if you plan to do this so I can plan a good spot to set up. We may also have a fishing rodeo starting at 1:00 and ending at 3:00, when the festivities begin. There will be more details in a flyer that will go out in October.

We will be grilling hot dogs and hamburgers, and have chips, soda and hot apple cider to drink. Don't miss this great way to have fun and meet your neighbors! Last year over 100 folks came. Mark your calendars for this fun filled event.

Volunteers are needed to help with this event. Please contact Parris or Ransom Edwards if you would like to help 309-8831. If you have a pontoon boat, please plan to bring it to take folks for rides.

Lake Cleanup

TBA

Lake Committee Report

The Lake: The lake water was tested in June and results show the water is in good shape. You can view the numbers below. The lake is currently discolored due to the recent rains that brought with them a large amount of silt and chemical fertilizers. The main source of the silt influx is the levee above the pond at Hope Church. There were some corrective measures that needed to be made to the original drainage design and the solution required the culvert connecting the First Assembly pond and Hope's pond to be relocated. They have made the necessary corrections and have installed the sod. The chemical fertilizers, on the other hand, come from grass that has been treated. Chemical fertilizers washed into the lake cause the algae blooms which turn our lake green. Please consider using organic lawn services or products. They are better for so many reasons.

Fishing: A major concern of the lake committee is the seeming disappearance of the crappie and bream. Dave Brown and Milton York are long time crappie fishermen and have not been able to locate any crappie this year. The situation with the bream is even more confusing in that it is almost impossible to remove bream by fishing too much. Nevertheless, they are scarce. In Ron Wong's opinion part of the problem with the lack of crappie and bream is: 1) bream spawn each month during the late spring through early fall around the full moon and as the eggs turn to fry, the stripe bass and small largemouth bass are eating the small fish; and 2) crappie spawn twice a year, once in early spring and once in early fall and the same situation occurs as mentioned with the bream.

Therefore, we encourage you to keep five bass per person per day less than 14 inches as our Lake Rules specify, especially the 8 to 10 inchers. Those are the size bass eating the spawn of crappie and bream. All striped bass caught should also be kept as these fish are really hard on the spawn. In midsummer (called the dog days), the fish are deep and the best strategy for bass is to fish deep with plastic worms or live bait.

Mosquitoes: Anyone who spends time outdoors has surely noticed the mosquito population is booming! We have called the Health Department to request a spraying. However, they are giving priority to those zip code areas where West Nile has been reported. We are not in one of those zip codes. So, we wait. In the meantime, please check your yards for any standing water. Mosquitoes can breed in the smallest amount, so be sure that you don't have any in your yards.

Editorial Comment: Every time I go out on the lake I come back with a boatload of beer cans and an assortment of soda and water bottles. I have also found such exotic things as an electric motor, a large bag of leaves, a fishing pole, a cell phone and a dead cat. Much of this debris is not thrown into the lake but actually washes in from the streets. It is vital that we

keep the gutters clean even if we are not the ones responsible for the materials. This includes leaves and grass clippings. If you see any anglers in Little Park and they happen to be drinking Miller Natural Light, please talk to them. They may not even live here, in which case feel free to ask them to leave. They are major polluters of the lake. They not only throw vast numbers of cans into the lake but then they throw the empty cartons into the lake too.

This has happened twice this summer.



- Bob Marchini

Lake Water Test Results

Test	Value	Desired Range
Biochemical O ₂ Demand	<5	< 10.0 mg/L
Fecal Coliform	<10	< 10 CFU/100 ml
Nitrogen, Ammonia	<0.10	< 0.50 mg/L
pH	8.0	6.8 to 7.8
Phosphorus, Total (As P)	0.056	< 0.05 mg/L
Total Suspended Solids	5	< 10 mg/L
Dissolved Oxygen	9.06	> 1.0 mg/L

Lake Committee Chair Needed!

With regret, Bob Marchini has resigned as Lake Committee Chair due to family health reasons that currently require a great deal of his time. A new volunteer to head up this very important committee is urgently needed. If you wish to volunteer, please call 758-2796 or email wglha@juno.com

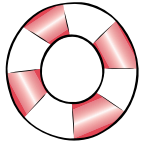


Residential & Commercial

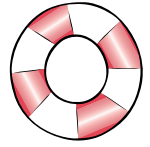
Office 901-383-7970
 Fax 901-383-7971
 Cell 901-848-9200

Suzie Q. Bowen
 Owner
 suzie@qelectric.com

1683 Shelby Oaks Dr., N.
 Suite 6
 Memphis, TN 38134



safe swimming at WGL



It's a warm summer day and you're on the lake with your kids. Your cell phone rings and you answer it, shifting your focus from your kids to the conversation. Good idea? Not at all, according to Safe Kids Mid-South, led by Le Bonheur Children's Hospital, and it could even be deadly. Children can get into trouble in a matter of seconds when around water, so Safe Kids Mid-South recommends that parents *actively* supervise – with their eyes on their kids at all times -- when they are in or near the water.

Drowning is the second highest cause of unintentional death for children ages 1 to 4 and 10 to 14. Overall, nearly 830 children ages 14 and under die each year due to unintentional drownings, and on average, there are an estimated 3,600 injuries to children after near drowning incidents each year in the U.S. Tragically, our community became a part of drowning statistics last month.

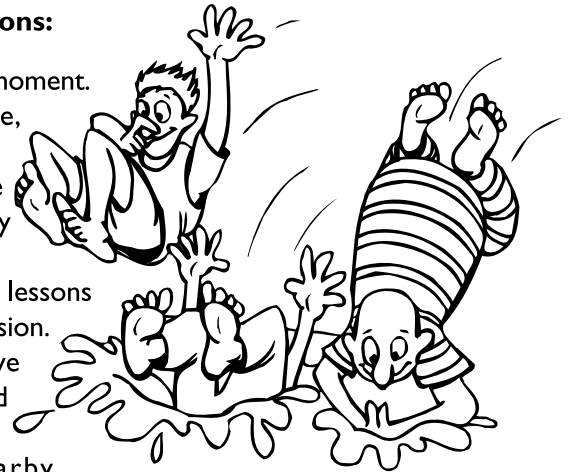
"Kids drown quickly and quietly," said Susan A. Helms, director of Injury Prevention and Safe Kids at Le Bonheur. "A drowning child cannot cry or shout for help. The most important precaution for parents is *active* supervision. Simply being near your child is not necessarily supervising," said Helms.

Although 90 percent of parents say they supervise their children while swimming, many acknowledge that they engage in other distracting activities at the same time—talking, eating, reading or taking care of another child. "A supervised child is *in sight at all times with your undivided attention* focused on the child," said Helms. When there are children in or near the water, adults should take turns serving as the designated "Water Watcher," paying undivided attention.

Walnut Grove Lake is 25 to 30 feet deep near the dam and underwater visibility is zero. Even close supervision by a qualified lifeguard will not help a drowning victim under the surface of our lake. Children swimming in Walnut Grove Lake should always wear a life jacket.

To help keep kids safe this lake season, consider these precautions:

- Always *actively* supervise children in and around water. Don't leave, even for a moment. Stay where you can see, hear and reach kids in water. Avoid talking on the phone, preparing a meal, reading and other distractions.
- Children swimming in the lake *should* wear life jackets. Don't rely on inflatable swimming toys such as "water wings" or noodles. If your child can't swim, stay within an arm's reach.
- Enroll your kids in swimming lessons around age 4, but don't assume swimming lessons make your child immune to drowning. There is no substitute for active supervision.
- Learn infant and child CPR. In less than two hours, you can learn effective interventions that can give a fighting chance to a child whose breathing and heartbeat have stopped.
- Keep rescue equipment, a phone and emergency numbers nearby.



Adult and Fitness Swimming

Adult and fitness swimmers should be aware that, regardless of ability or fitness, sudden onset of sickness, spasms or cramps could leave one helpless in the water. Swimmers in deep water and large groups should be accompanied by a rescue boat. If swimming in a small group, the swimmers should stay close to shore in shallower water. Never swim alone. Don't become isolated in deep water.

Alcohol and Water Don't Mix

Socializing and drinking on party barges is a favorite pastime at WGL. These boats are stable and the risk is minimal. However, we have all seen people drinking while using vinyl pool toys or floats in the center of the lake. This is an invitation for disaster. Walnut Grove Lake is our beautiful resource for family aquatic fun. However,



we must always remember it is deep and dark and must be treated with the appropriate respect. When approaching the water, particularly with children, think SAFETY. Use life jackets and close supervision.

Spillway Construction News

If you have walked across the dam recently, you may have noticed red plastic tape with the words DANGER at the spillway. Did you wonder – what happened? And more importantly, who's taking care of this? To answer those questions and more, read on...

I'll begin with a brief explanation of how our lake was created and how the dam works. Our Walnut Grove Lake neighborhood was created by Lloyd Lovitt, native Memphian and engineer by trade. In the early 1960's, he discovered this area and had the vision to build a lake community. You can read more details on our web site www.wglha.com, click on "History". With careful planning and ingenuity, our lake was made.

The principal spillway was located in the middle of the dam (where the pier is). It had a pipe that ran underneath the dam allowing excess water to flow to the Wolf River and thus keep the lake at a constant level. Over the years, the spillway began to leak and the problem was deemed too expensive to repair so the pipe was subsequently filled with concrete. Fortunately, there was also an emergency spillway in place. This spillway, located near Viking Drive, includes the cement headwall and ditch leading out of the lake, a large concrete box and underground pipe that leads to a ditch and ultimately the Wolf River. In 1987 modifications were made and this became our principal spillway. It is the only way to control the water level and has worked beautifully for many years.

Recently, Board Alternate Barry Ledbetter was jogging across the dam and noticed a sink hole behind the concrete box. Barry alerted Margie McMillan (President) and Joseph Jones (Second Vice President). Margie, in turn, notified the rest of the board and Jeanie Velarde (Bookkeeper). Jeanie told Margie about Dave Beretta. Dave is one of our neighbors, employed by the Corps of Engineers and familiar with our dam construction. They met at the spillway and discovered another larger sink hole further down the hill.

Margie and Joseph spent many hours of research trying to find out what had caused these sinkholes, and how to fix the problem. They learned that the spillway was constructed of a 36" corrugated metal pipe. The theory was that the pipe was leaking which was causing the soil to erode which resulted in the sink holes. Sid McMillan (Margie's husband) volunteered to climb down through the concrete box and into the pipe to make a visual inspection. He discovered cracks in the concrete box and, more importantly, that the bottom of the metal pipe had rusted away. So now they knew for sure that the pipe needed to be replaced.

Meanwhile, Dave continued to guide Margie and Joseph on how to proceed. Margie and Joseph contacted three construction companies, all of whom were highly recommended as qualified to do the job. They met with each one at the spillway to discuss what needed to be done in order to get their bids. Once the bids were returned and modified as needed to compare "apples to apples," Margie and Joseph met with the board and gave them their recommendation. They chose Madden Phillips Construction.

Besides having to replace the pipe, there are now major leaks in the concrete ditch that need to be addressed. This includes problems with the headwall too. As this is an integral part of the dam itself, an engineering plan is required before construction can begin. Margie has been meeting with engineers

and before they draw the plans, she, Joseph and an engineer met with the Dam Inspector. Turns out they (TDEC Division of Water Supply) have to approve the plans and issue a permit before work can begin and they want to see an engineering plan for the entire project. So, construction on the pipe is on hold while we wait for the engineering plans for the whole job.

We believe that once this construction begins, it will take about three weeks to complete. Please excuse the inconvenience and try to avoid this area when the work is in progress. The final step will include sodding the surrounding construction area to prevent erosion.

Fellow WGLHA neighbors, this is your homeowner's dues in action. Fortunately, the Association has savings set aside in the event of problems with the dam or other public areas. The required repairs to the spillway are a perfect example of why it is so important that you pay homeowners dues.

- Darlene Jones, Board Alternate

WGL Albino Raccoons

Walnut Grove Lake has albino raccoons and I now have proof! Back in May, I wrote an article for our newsletter about all the interesting wildlife, particularly the mysterious white raccoon I'd spotted in our neighborhood. Lots of you responded with some great stories and photographs.

Dot Ashabranner confirmed that an albino raccoon showed up on her back deck a couple of years ago. She said that she served it some peanut butter sandwiches and the raccoon returned with her family, including a couple of albino babies. She enjoyed feeding them and watching them for a long time.

About four years ago, Betsy de Poinsy saw a white raccoon. It frequented her backyard and brought its family along as well. She finally had to hire someone to relocate the raccoons, but he never caught the white one. She shared this picture of the albino raccoon on her fence.

Speaking of pictures, Lisa Westbrook took an amazing picture of an albino raccoon making a mess at her birdfeeder. Lisa says that she's seen this white raccoon since it was a baby. She took this photo in August 2007.

If you have any other animal stories or photos you'd like to share, send them to me.

- Juli Parks
Julias555@aol.com



Photo by Betsy de Poinsy



Photo by Lisa Westbrook

It Takes a Village!

It takes a village, sometimes, to get things accomplished. I experienced several incidents of this during the last few months.

In early May, Keith Karabell, who lives on the east end of Trondheim, called about a flooding problem. Whenever it rained, water backed up in a drainage pipe and flooded the street. The residents were fed up with the worsening problem and couldn't get it resolved. I ended up calling City Engineer, George Cox, who promptly came and correctly assessed the situation. There are drainage ditches behind some of the homes that lead from the street drains to a pond located on Wolf River Conservancy property. Beavers had dammed up the area where the water exits the pond, causing the level to rise which, in turn, caused water to remain in the drainage ditches. Beavers then built a dam in the drainage pipe! Mr. Cox informed the Wolf River Conservancy folks that they needed to lower the level of the pond so the ditches could remain dry, except during rain. Once they did that, two teams from the Memphis Drain Maintenance department worked for several hours to remove the beaver dam from the drain pipe. Problem solved. Now folks on the east end of Trondheim know to keep an eye on the pond and if it rises, to call the Wolf River Conservancy and have them come out and lower it. Getting to the source of the problem took meetings, phone calls and emails between the Tronheim residents, Wolf River Conservancy, Mr. Cox, Drain Maintenance, and me.

Another example involves a broken drain pipe located at Walnut Grove Rd. Dot Ashabranner reported this broken pipe to the City in December 2008. However, as hard as she tried, she was not having any luck getting it fixed. Twice the city dumped a truck load of dirt to "stabilize" the area but both times, the dirt ended up in the lake following heavy rains.

To make matters worse, her driveway was now sinking into the hole! I joined Dot's cause and called upper management at Drain Maintenance and Public Works but due to various issues, the fix continued to be delayed. Then a letter arrived from our Councilman, Bill Boyd. In it he wrote, "I am here to serve and assist you. I can be contacted at..." I sent Mr. Boyd an email explaining the problem and asked for his assistance.

He promptly came out to look at the situation and made some phone calls. And wouldn't you know it, the city got on this project. It was completed in July, including a new driveway for Mrs. Ashabranner.

In recent months I have worked with TDEC (Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation) on situations such as silt coming from Hope Church's levee and the use of railroad ties in the lake. Councilman Boyd has been helpful in addressing other issues so that we can maintain a good-looking neighborhood, which is so important for our property values. And then there's Code Enforcement, our tree service, lawn service, beaver trapper, and now our contractors who will rebuild the spillway. I could go on. It takes a village!

- Margie McMillan, President



For National Night Out, last year, I handed out a few flyers and invited folks to stop by for homemade ice cream. This year Larry Wright called and asked if I was doing it again because everyone liked it so much. Since I couldn't, he took the ball and ran with it. This time was even better because he invited more people and they all met in Simpson Park (much more room than our front porch)! They all shared homemade ice cream, brownies, cookies and more. Everyone had a great time meeting new neighbors and catching up with old ones.

I think this will be our new tradition, meeting in Simpson Park on National Night Out.

- Darlene Jones, Viking Drive

We had so much fun, kids, pets, neighbors, hotdogs on the grill, drinks, cookies and lots of goodwill. The kids were disappointed that the police car never came down our street. We had about 40 people walk by and eat and drink. WGL is a Memphis treasure. Next year will be even better.

- Pam O'Fallin, Trondheim Drive

WGLHA Neighborhood Watch "Update"

Block Captains Still Needed:

- Ericson Road – BOTH North & South End
- Viking Road – Middle Section
 - Lief Cove – West Side
- Trondheim Drive – Middle Section

Please consider signing up for this important contribution to your neighborhood. Call one of our co-chairs: **Sandra McCorry 755-6609** or **Kathy McLallen 262-6681** to volunteer or for more information.

You can sign up with the following "link" and receive a 24 hour update on crime within a 100 block area of your residence. <https://kiosk.memphispolice.org/cyberwatch>

Thank you to all who participate in this program!!

New Directories

New directories have been published and distributed to everyone's home in the neighborhood. If you have not received yours, please call 758-2796 and we will get one to you.

What is That Black Goo on Railroad Ties and Why Should I Care?

Creosote is the black goo that railroad ties are treated with. Railroad ties are manufactured and treated with creosote to stand up to weathering and the pressure under rail lines. Ties might last for 25 to 50 years on the track before they are recycled. Recycled ties find their way into people's yards as retaining walls and borders.

Creosote has been classified by the Environmental Protection Agency as a probable carcinogen. It can enter the body through inhalation of the vapor, skin contact, ingestion in food or water, or direct consumption (in the case of small children). Exposure to skin can cause irritation and rashes and in an extreme case, cancer. Ingestion in small amounts while not life threatening is a health concern. If children play on or around the ties they may get creosote on their skin and clothing and could subsequently ingest small amounts.

But why write about creosote here? The Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation (TDEC) has authority to determine what materials can be used for seawalls and docks in Walnut Grove Lake. Although the property on which the lake is situated is private property, Walnut Grove Lake is "Waters of the State" and TDEC has authority to regulate the waters of Tennessee. This authority is given to TDEC in the Water Quality Control Act of 1977.

Accordingly, TDEC states that treated railroad ties, certain kinds of treated lumber (or any other material that can leach toxic chemicals) cannot be used in any location that either contacts or is likely to contact lake water or storm water runoff. Acceptable materials would include natural stone, untreated wood, concrete blocks, and PVC or metal that is coated with an acceptable material that is non-toxic and would not leach into the water. In addition, treated lumber products that are specifically stated by their manufacturer to be acceptable (safe) for use in contact with lakes are allowed in TN.

All new installation, replacement and repair of docks or boat ramps require a TDEC permit. In addition, a TDEC permit is required for sea wall construction over 50 feet. You will need to complete an application, include all requested information and submit it to the Tennessee Department of Environment & Conservation, 2510 Mt. Moriah, Suite E-645, Memphis, TN 38115. Their phone number is 368-7962. No fee is involved and processing takes only a few days.

The WGLHA Board of Directors supports TDEC in their efforts to prevent pollution in Walnut Grove Lake. Existing seawalls and docks will be grandfathered in. However, from now on (August, 2009), railroad ties or other toxic materials

will not be allowed to be used in Walnut Grove Lake for seawalls, docks or other structures. As always, according to our covenants, **"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."** A TDEC permit should accompany any application to the WGLHA Board if you are planning to build or replace a dock or ramp, or a sea wall over 50 feet.

Our Birds of Paradise

Our interest in bird watching started 10 years ago but accelerated with Fred's retirement three years ago. Our first encounter was with a pair of robins nesting in a tree near our front deck. We began providing them meal worms and enjoyed watching them feed their young. This summer we have a pair (Luke and Lucille) raising their second brood.

As our interest grew, we added multiple feeders on our back deck: four tube feeders for safflower (squirrels and "trash birds" don't like it); four hummingbird feeders (nectar = 1 cup of sugar in 4 cups of water & no red coloring); two tube finch feeders for thistle; two platform feeders for a "no mess" food blend including peanuts (the woodpeckers, blue jays, cardinals and doves love it); one apple feeder for the mockingbirds; and one suet feeder (for everybody)!

Our current bird population includes 17 species:

1. Robins (Luke and Lucille)
2. Eurasian Collared-Doves (Eric and Erica): They are larger and lighter in color than Mourning Doves and have a black collar around their necks. They are not native to this area and we assume they may have been pushed up here by a hurricane. We had two pairs in the past but only one pair this year.
3. Mourning Doves: Currently we have five pairs. These birds are typically ground and platform feeders but they readily adapt to tube feeders.
4. Tufted Titmice: These gray tufted little birds pick up one seed at a time and carry it off to their favorite place to "crack it open." We find little piles of cracked shells on rocks all around our yard.
5. Carolina Chickadees: A little bird with a black cap and bib and white cheeks. They are "one seed at a time" feeders like the Tufted Titmice.
6. American Goldfinches: These beautiful little birds resemble the Canary.
7. House Finches: This bird is often referred to as "Common" House Finch but it is anything but common. It is a very pretty bird with a red cap and bib.
8. Cardinals: One of the pairs we feed had a brood this year. The parents take turns carrying food to the young in a nearby tree.
9. Downy Woodpeckers: These little fellows are smaller than the Red Headed Woodpecker but do have a small red patch on the back of the head. They love our suet feeder.

continued on next page...

Our Birds of Paradise continued...

10. Red Headed Woodpeckers: They love peanuts and carry food to their mate and young in a nearby tree. They have a totally red head in contrast to the red patch on the Downy Woodpecker.

11. Brown Creepers: This is a cute little gray-brown bird with a long curved beak and a very loud song. They like all kinds of food and it is fun to watch them climb a tree by circling the trunk.

12. Mockingbirds (Able and Abigail): They love apples and will consume an apple a day. It is interesting watching the Robins chasing them away from "their" mealworms.

13. Rose Breasted Grosbeak: This is a very beautiful bird with a black head, rose colored breast and white under parts. We had one last year and another this year.

14. Blue Jays (Ben and Beulah): After several years' absence we finally have a pair this year. They apparently were decimated by the West Nile virus but are thankfully making a comeback.

15. Hummingbirds: What fun it is to watch these little birds dart from feeder to feeder and chase one another away from their favorite feeding perch.

16. Red-Winged Blackbirds: These are not our favorite birds but one has to take some bad with the good.

17. Last but not least a plethora of Sparrows (I didn't know there were so many varieties).

We find great pleasure in sitting on our back deck and enjoying the evening feeding frenzy of our bird friends. They are no longer frightened by our presence which certainly enhances our pleasure.

-Fred and Danny Barrett

Homeowners Dues

Just a reminder - if you haven't paid your dues yet, please do so! Invoices went out with the spring newsletter, and about 80% of WGLHA neighbors have "paid up!" Your annual dues of \$152 help to maintain our private lake and park areas, valuable WGLHA neighborhood amenities. Please send your check to: WGLHA, PO Box 1450, Cordova, TN 38088.



**DO YOU NEED SOMETHING DONE
AROUND THE HOUSE ?**

STEVE CAN FIX IT !

Let Me Help with ANY Repairs, Maintenance or Improvements
Call - Steve Grushkin 901.338.4300

Quilting a journey through cancer; Patient turns to hobby to chronicle story of survival

Jeanie Velarde was diagnosed with breast cancer in January 2008. She turned to her hobby of quilting to help her get through this challenging time.

"Quilting is sort of a healing thing," said Ms. Velarde. "When I had cancer and I had no control over anything, I woke up at 3 a.m. one morning and I thought rather than keep worrying I would make a quilt. Making the quilt was calming and it was something I could control."

Lee Gray, a nurse navigator at the Methodist Breast Center, supported Ms. Velarde through her cancer treatment and helped coordinate appointments and consultations.

"When I saw the quilt I was just amazed," said Lee. "It was dynamic; it was beautiful; it was such a message of hope and comfort."

Ms. Velarde dreamed about the quilt she would create and after waking up, she immediately drew the squares out so she would not forget what they looked like.

While making the quilt she said she felt like she was going to survive; that she was going to be o.k. Her quilt shows that belief with the sun shining over one side of the breast in the first square and then over the other side of the breast in the final square.

This spring, Ms. Velarde received a clean bill of health. She is cancer free. "Every single person at Methodist that I came into contact with throughout my care was an angel," she said.

Her journey with cancer is over and her need for the quilt has been fulfilled. Remembering the fear of hearing those words "you have cancer," she decided to donate her quilt to the Methodist Breast Center, hoping it will help calm others' fears and remind men and women that you can beat cancer.

"This article was published in "One Vision, A Weekly Publication for the Methodist Healthcare Family, Week of June 29, 2009" and the Commercial Appeal."



Jeanie Velarde (far right) donates the quilt she made after being diagnosed with breast cancer to the Methodist Breast Center in Germantown. She hopes its message of survival will comfort others who are diagnosed with breast cancer. Pictures l-r: Lee Gray, RN, nurse navigator, Dr. Linda Hodgkiss, radiologist, medical director, Methodist Breast Center, Dr. Jennifer Boals, radiologists, Jeanie Velarde, breast cancer survivor and Bookkeeper for Walnut Grove Lake Homeowner's Association.



Independence Day Pictures

Mailbox Decorating Contest Winners



1st Place - \$25
Bradley Family



2nd Place - \$15
Crews Family



3rd Place - \$10
Sutton Family



Honorable Mention
Wright Family

Thanks, to all 40 households who participated. The 5 judges had a very tough time making their decisions because there were so many great creations.

Boat Parade Winners



Best Music
Jane Hunolt & friends



Best Self Propelled
Gayle Hudgens & family



Most Spirit
Wynn family



Best Fishing Boat
Cindy Conner & friends



Best Pontoon
Margie McMillan & friends



Best Bribe
Tom & Lisa Felts & friends



Honorable Mention
Sutton family



Boat Parade Judges

fishing winners on next page...

Fishing Rodeo Winners



Most Bream (girls)
Sara Krejci



Most Bream (boys)
Bo Ecklund



Largest Catfish (boys)
Brock Ondo



Largest Stripe (adult)
Mike Koren



Largest Bass (adult)
Bill Streger



Guided Fishing Tour
w/ Ron Wong
Bryce Streger



B&M Tackle Package
Derron Bradley

FIRST CLASS