

# **Cumberland Lakes Newsletter**

**March 2022** 

### FROM THE DESK OF THE P.O.A. PRESIDENT:

Hello Cumberland Lakes Neighbors!

Well, 2021 is behind us and 2022 offers a fresh start.

If I have not had a chance to meet you yet, I would like to introduce myself, my name is Michael Perkowski. Moved here from Illinois. Avid bass angler. Married my beautiful wife Wendy right here on our property and celebrated with our neighbors at the community center in 2019. My Father, Richard, lives with us also after a long life in Wisconsin. We love nature and the beauty that our wooded and lake community has to offer. Planning a long life in our forever home. I am looking forward to collaborating with you, our board members, and our committees for the continued astounding growth of our community.

Speaking of growth.....we are looking for volunteers to be on the Beautification Committee (see what I did there). You would work with Channon Recchia to help maintain the entrances of our community and the center. No "green thumb" required just the willingness to get dirty and work in the beautiful outdoors.

We also have volunteer opportunities for Neighborhood Watch. Tom Torbleau would appreciate volunteers to keep our neighborhood safe. Simply riding around our neighborhood on average one week a month up to two times a day. Report what you see. How easy is that? By the way, this was the first committee I was on and still am. Volunteering your time for the community is greatly appreciated. "Many hands make light work." "It takes a village." You get the idea. Click on the POA Board & Committees Contact List link to contact the appropriate committee chairperson.

Spring is just around the corner! Many exciting events coming up. March 12<sup>th</sup> Potluck St. Patrick Day themed. April 2<sup>nd</sup> Community Garage Sale. April 9<sup>th</sup> Potluck 70's & 80's themed. April 23<sup>rd</sup> Beautification Day. May 30<sup>th</sup> Memorial Day Picnic. These are just some of the major dates to watch out for besides Game Night every third Wednesday of the month from 6pm- 8pm.

If you are cleaning up your property, please keep a watchful eye out for snakes as they will start to emerge as the weather gets warmer. Please be mindful that burning permits are required until May 15<sup>th</sup>. Be a smart burner. Stay with the fire. Keep it manageable. Have a water source on hand to extinguish it along with a shovel. Remember, we have blowers, chain saws, a chipper, and a brush hog to help your clearing efforts.

Come on 2022 let's make this a momentous year!

Michael Perkowski Cumberland Lakes P.O.A. President



# **FIREWISE:**

# Tips for conducting a burn

- Apply for Burn Permit.
- Forestry can tell you if overall conditions are good for a burn.
- BurnSafeTN.org 778-5538 or 877-350-2876 or 484-4548.
- Keep burn pile small for easy control.
- Take extra care if burning on a slope. Fire will burn up hill faster than on level surface.
- Clear a "safe zone" around burn pile.
- Keep water and rakes nearby.
- Notify neighbor and/ or post on Facebook so community is aware in case fire gets out of control. Neighbors can offer much assistance in an emergency.



### PARK/LAKES MANAGEMENT & IMPROVEMENT:

### <u>Wildlife</u>



Thanks to residents enjoying wildlife watching here in the Lakes, River Otter, a good environmental indicator, have again been spotted visiting Lazy Lake. Additional sightings of Mergansers and Grebes among our resident Canada geese were made along with a Bald Eagle on Cumberland Lake.

As a reminder, we do have many predators in our area including Coyotes which now in mating season are more aggressive. TWRA advises "do not allow pets to run free. Small pets (cats, rabbits, small dogs) are favorite prey of coyotes." If pets are allowed to run

loose, they may not return home.

#### <u>Lakes</u>

Cumberland and Lazy Lakes are under the jurisdiction of the Division Water Resources of TDEC which is responsible for carrying out the requirements of the Tennessee Safe Dams Act of 1973. This Act places sole responsibility of maintaining our dams with the Cumberland Lakes POA. Proper maintenance, repair and rehabilitation of our dams are key elements in preventing a failure, limiting our liability, and maintaining our water resources. As these are earthen dams, snow sledding, riding bikes or ATVs, and even walking on them can cause divots or ruts necessitating maintenance to prevent erosion.

The last TDEC inspection did cite the POA for eroded areas on the downstream side of the big Cumberland Lake Dam. Not only is this an area of POA responsibility, but it is also private property, home to wildlife, and danger. Signs are posted to stay out of this area. It, including the spillway and discharge area, is NOT a park, it is NOT common property.



#### ENVIRONMENTAL CONTROL:

Looks like 2022 will be a great year for our beautiful community. To date we have 4 homes under construction and 2 lots where clearing the underbrush has started.

We have had numerous calls enquiring about our community and the amenities we offer.

Please don't forget to use your Cumberland Lakes Community web site for all AECC forms and information.

Please do not hesitate to give me a call as well

Jeff (Ozzie) Osgood chairman AECC

# **NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH:**

For those of you who enjoy seeing the countryside and not being stuck in the traffic of I-40 there is a more scenic route from Cookeville to Monterey.

- When in Cookeville, take Broad St. towards I-40.
- Stay left onto Buck Mountain Rd.
- When on Buck Mountain Rd., turn right onto Brotherton Mountain Rd.
- When on Brotherton Mountain Rd., veer right onto Woodcliff Rd.
- From Woodcliff Rd. turn right onto Hwy 84 near Monterey (Post Office).
- Continue on Hwy 84 through town onto Hwy 62 to Home.

I would like to extend an invitation for members of our community to join our Neighborhood Watch group. Members patrol our community approximately one week every 4 to 6 weeks looking for unusual activity or vehicles along with random fires in the forested areas. The purpose of neighborhood watch is to deter crime through visibility of patrol vehicles without confrontation. As you can see by the published statistics from the annual report, crime has been on the decrease creating a safe environment for our residents. Anyone interested should contact me, Thomas Torbleau, or Derek Savino for further information.

# **ACTIVITIES:**

- March 12 St. Patty's Day Potluck
- April 2 Community Garage Sale
- April 9 70's & 80's Themed Potluck
- May 30 Memorial Day Picnic
- June 18 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual CL Car Show

Happy 2022 New Years Potluck - Here's to the things that are yet to come and to the memories that we hold!





### February Potluck – Hosted by Beth and Norm Carlson

Love filled the room at our February potluck! It's all Fun and games with these folks, Beth & Norm Carlson. Lots of laughs, fantastic entertainment, amazing feast and incredible desserts! What more could we ask for!



Let's not forget 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday of each month is Game Night 6pm-8pm!

## WELCOMING:

As the new chairman, I am trying to schedule meetings with new residents to answer any questions, explain the amenities of our community and review some of the deed restrictions. These meetings have been scheduled monthly with the number of new residents arriving. If you were not able to attend a meeting please just email me and I will include you in our next one.



To all our new neighbors...Welcome and we look forward to getting to know you!

Karen Dunn lazylakelivin@gmail.com

#### **BEAUTIFICATION:**

#### MARK YOUR CALENDAR:

The annual Community Center Clean Up / Earth Day event is scheduled to be held on Saturday, April 23, 2022.

Plans for that day includes pulling weeds, trimming trees and bushes, freshening up and replacing the mulch, as needed, from Shirley's Garden area.

A larger task that needs to be addressed, if we have enough volunteers, will be clearing fallen trees and brush along the roadways, in preparation for the spring mow.

We will need volunteers to clean and clear the path and area of Rock Slide Park, as well.

If anyone has ideas or suggestions of other areas of concern that you would like to see "beautified" please let me and we will try and address those areas as well.

Prayers for good weather and a large turnout are encouraged.

I will send out more specifics in the coming weeks.

We are always seeking volunteers to support and participate in the beautification projects and clean-up activities to benefit the entire community.

As always, any comments, concerns, questions or ideas feel free to reach out to me at 931-839-8722 or via email at <u>chanrecc@hotmail.com</u>.

Thank You in advance for supporting the efforts of the Beautification Committee.



### Critter Corner:

Snowshoe hares (aka "varying hare" have an interesting adaptation that helps protect them against predators. Depending on the season, their fur can be a different color. During the winter, snowshoe hares are white, which helps them blend in with the snow. When the seasons change to spring and summer, snowshoe hares turn a reddish-brown. This color helps them camouflage with dirt and rocks.

Not every part of the snowshoe hare changes color throughout the year. An important identification trick is to look at a snowshoe hare's ears. The tips of the ears are always black no matter the season. The hind legs of a snowshoe hare are noticeably larger and have more fur and larger toes than those of other rabbits or hares. These adaptations provide additional surface area and support for walking on snow. The hind legs are what give the hare its common name. Hares and rabbits are related, but there are some key differences. Hares tend to be larger than rabbits and have longer legs and bigger ears. When threatened, rabbits typically freeze and rely on camouflage, as compared to hares, who use their big feet to flee at the first sign of danger. Rabbits are born blind and helpless, while hares are born fully furred and ready to run.

It's hard to believe that snowshoe hares, well-known as an arctic species, once made their homes right here in this warm Southern state of Tennessee, but they did— possibly even in your lifetime!

Some of the high-altitude mountains in East Tennessee were once rich in mature, coniferous forests where snowshoe hares can thrive. Although they were never especially common here, snowshoe hares were recorded sporadically in Tennessee mountains into the 1970s.

It's extremely unlikely that snowshoe hares still live in Tennessee. Human development has nearly destroyed the mature mountain forests that arctic hares depended on for their survival, and climate change has eliminated the expected winter snow-cover that kept snowshoe hares safe in their white winter coats. Today, climate change is threatening even Canada's snowshoe hares as they struggle to adapt to a warming planet.

Still, there's a small chance that an isolated population of arctic hares still make their home somewhere in the state, in some secluded forest left pristine from human development. It's just one more reason to protect the natural treasures of our beautiful state.

Ref:https://www.nwf.org/Educational-Resources/Wildlife-Guide/Mammals/Snowshoe-Hare https://forfoxsakewildlife.com/2019/01/29/tennessees-arctic-hares/





Coming to the June edition of HL&S, The Nosh Nook – Favorite recipes of your Cumberland Lakes Neighbors

<u>Note from the Editor</u>: If you take unique pics, wildlife pics, extraordinary lake shots or others that you would like to see in next quarter's Hook, Line & Sinker Newsletter, please send them to me (dawn.dayton@gmail.com) with a tagline and I will be glad to add them to the next edition.