

# *Hook, Line & Sinker*



Cumberland Lakes Newsletter, Monterey, TN

Spring 2024 Edition

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

Hello Cumberland Lakes Neighbors!

Spring 2024 has sprung but don't blink or you'll have missed it!

If I have not had a chance to meet you yet, I would like to introduce myself, my name is Michael Perkowski. I am grateful to be serving Cumberland Lakes for the third year in a row as the President of Cumberland Lakes POA. I don't run our community's affairs on my own. I have a Vice President, 5 Board members, a Treasurer, 2 Secretaries, 15 Committee Chairpersons, and countless people that serve on those Committees. What is amazing is that everyone volunteers their time in some way to help run our community relatively smoothly.

I would like to welcome back Connie McDonald as Vice President along with Louie Check, and Kent Stewart as returning Board members. Joining this year as new Board members are Jim Biron, Norm Carlson, and Chuck Smith. Teresa Annis is returning as our Treasurer. Laura Brady is stepping in as our new Secretary and Christine Martinez-Monfort is returning as Assistant Secretary. I am so proud to work with all of them.

Speaking of change, we have had so many new homes constructed in the last year and many new residents. The community welcomes you and we hope we get to meet all of you soon.

Maybe you like home cooked food. You're welcome to come to one of our monthly potlucks coming up on April 20<sup>th</sup>, Memorial Day Picnic May 27<sup>th</sup>, or the 4<sup>th</sup> Annual Car Show June 15<sup>th</sup>. Are games your thing? Every third Wednesday at 6pm is Game Night at the Community Center. All these events are a great opportunity to get to know your neighbors.

Be on the lookout for our annual Spring Community Center Cleanup that will be coming soon in May. That's the time folks volunteer their time, come together, and do a Spring cleanup around the Community Center and other areas to make it easier to maintain throughout the year.

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> at [www.BurnSafeTn.org](http://www.BurnSafeTn.org). Be a smart burner. Stay with the fire. Even leaving the fire for a short time could be disastrous. Keep it manageable. Have a water source on hand to extinguish it along with a shovel. Just a reminder, we have blowers, chain saws, a chipper, and a brush hog for a small usage fee to help your cleanup efforts. Reach out to our Equipment Coordinator, Louie Check for availability.

Boating season is heating up! Remember, gas motors are not allowed to be run on any of our lakes. You can leave the motor attached but we require you to cover your lower unit with a bag in case there may be any leakage. Electric, sail, and paddle boards are all allowed. ALL watercraft are required to have a Cumberland Lakes boat sticker. If you need any, please contact me at either [mjperkowski@yahoo.com](mailto:mjperkowski@yahoo.com) or 224-308-2061 and I can help you obtain the stickers you need.

Do you like to fish?? You will need to obtain a fishing license and follow all fishing rules and regulations of Tennessee at <https://www.tn.gov/twra/fishing-regs.html>. Both of our lakes are currently "catch and release" for bass and our sterile grass carp. All other species will follow state creel and length limits. Please check postings at both boat ramps at each lake. We currently have an invasive species of black crappie in our lakes that shouldn't be here. If you catch black crappie, please DO NOT release them back into the water. Never transport any species to other waters as it upsets the balance of food available for all species.

Get outside. Enjoy the beauty that surrounds you. I hope to get a chance to meet you soon.

Michael Perkowski  
Cumberland Lakes POA President



## **FIREWISE:**

The Firewise program is designed as a program of resource management to assist in the mitigation of urban fires in the forested community. The goals are wide ranging from basic materials management during the construction process to the basic process of clearing a forested jobsite. Our goal in the Architectural Environmental Compliance Committee (AECC) is to implement the Firewise requirements to the benefit of a safer community. The basic requirement begins with the preparation of the jobsite through responsible removal. Firewise allows for a controlled removal of trees within a 30 foot perimeter around the footprint of the home. CLEAR-CUTTING is not recommended. The first step in preparation is the removal of all low growing brush and young trees. All trees within a 5 foot perimeter of the home should be removed. Tall trees in the perimeter of 5 foot to 30 foot can be saved as long as there is about 10 to 12 foot spacing between them and the limbs are removed up to 6 foot above ground level. This requirement will maintain a good fire control area around the home and still increase the value of the property. Usually, in the AECC approval process the committee will make recommendations to assist the property owner with determining the proper number of trees to remove.

On the maintenance side of the program, the Burn Permit program is a program designed around education about safe burning techniques. One should go to the website [www.burnsafetn.org](http://www.burnsafetn.org) to apply for a permit. If you encounter a flag, call 931 484 4548. This is just a safeguard so the forester can inform the property owner about some adverse conditions like low relative humidity, elevated winds and dry conditions. The forester, at this time, can make recommendations to the burn process like construction of a smaller burn pile or clearing a larger fire break before issuing a permit.

## **PARK/LAKES MANAGEMENT & IMPROVEMENT:**

Life begins anew as spring arrives. We have clear water and plenty of habitat both in our lakes and at our parks.

For the anglers' out there, fishing season is upon us. Get your boats and trolling motors ready (or your paddles and swim shoes for you kayakers) and let's get on the lakes. As always, no gas motors are allowed. Fishing rules and regulations are posted both at both boat ramps. Our lakes are peaceful and allow for a Zen-like experience. Meditation is allowed, but not encouraged while your boats are moving. If you plan on a full day out in the water, don't forget your SPF 15/30/50/100/1000 (whatever it takes) to keep from getting burned.

Special notes:

- Use caution when going down the wooden stairs to the boat dock at the community center. Several steps are soft and mushy. As an alternative, walk down the boat ramp to access the dock.
- What you bring into the lakes and parks should come back out. Boats, toys, gear, food, children, etc. should find their way back to your own happy nest.
- Be sure to spend time on Lazy Lake. The boat ramp slopes gently into the pearlescent calm green waters while a cozy gazebo awaits your gourmet lunches. It is a sweet and relatively private location.
- As always, stay safe, keep our parks and lakes clean, and enjoy all that our Cumberland Lakes - Lake Life has to offer.
- Please drive a bit slower at night since many of our nocturnal friends are just waking up and may be a bit too groggy to get out of the way of your vehicle.

## **NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH:**

If you are new to the community and the rural way of life, the postal service offers a program for their customers to view their mail delivery via email. Just go to [www.usps.com](http://www.usps.com) and select "informed delivery" and complete the form. Each day you have mail or packages for delivery the postal service will send you a copy of each piece of mail coming to your mailbox, minus advertising. This way you can see what is being delivered and if a piece is missing you have an opportunity to notify the post office of missing mail.

## **ENVIRONMENTAL CONTROL:**

We currently have 6 new homes under construction, two additional homes are still under construction which were started in previous years. Of the 6 new homes, 4 are spec-homes being constructed by 4 different builders (locations below).

- 2 existing home sites: one on Anne Rd. and one on Sycamore
- 6 new homes located at Willow Dr., North Lake Trail, Divide Trail, Mart St., Laurel Loop and Cumberland Lakes Rd.
- 2 more new home packages were also recently approved, one on Anne Rd. and one on Mtn. Ash; of these 1 is a spec home and the other a custom build.

In addition to the home packages the AECC has received and approved work requests for two sheds, a pole barn, and many brush clearing/lot cleaning/dead tree removal requests.

Lastly, the AECC had one complaint filed asking that the AECC enforce the rules of no porta poties allowed in ditches/right of ways and no building materials be stored in same. Several lot owners with new construction under way were contacted and all violations were corrected.

Reported by Wayne Benson, Chairman AECC



**ACTIVITIES:**

2024 in Cumberland Lakes started out **SOUPER** at the monthly potluck featuring 11 crockpots full of soup!



We continued the fun with a **Super Bowl** party in February!





Corned beef and lots of laughs were on the menu at the March St. Patrick's themed potluck!



Be sure to check out the Cumberland Lakes community calendar on the POA website for upcoming events! Much more fun to come!

**June 15, 2024 - The 4<sup>th</sup> Annual Cumberland Lakes Car/Bike Show (Potluck)**

- ◆ Amazing Raffle Items
  - ◆ Trophies
  - ◆ Live music
  - ◆ Goody bags
  - ◆ Good food
  - ◆ Great FUN!!!
- Bring your camp chairs!**





## FUR BABIES of CL SPOTLIGHT:

Yellow Annis



After having two cats the first 34 years of mine and Teresa's marriage, first two lived 17 years each, we had decided we would not have another cat. 6 months later we were in the back yard at our fire pit one evening and Yellow walked into our lives. We had seen this cat in our yard a few times and our second Cat (Toby II) would go crazy jumping from window to window when he saw Yellow, I would tell Teresa that old yellow cat is in the yard again. We believe yellow's humans had either passed away or moved and left him to make it on his own. That night after Yellow jumped in my lap and started purring, we begin feeding him cat food in exchange of the many mice, ground squirrels, moles, and other small furry creatures he would leave at the doorstep while we were at work. Yellow knew he had a home soon after. We believe Yellow is around 15 or 16 years, we've had him the past 10 years. We can't imagine life without Yellow, he brings so much joy and love to our lives.



## **NOSH NOOK:**

### **Broccoli Salad – Always a potluck favorite**

#### **Ingredients**

- 8 cups broccoli cut into bite-sized pieces
- 1/3 cup red onion diced
- 1/2 cup dried cranberries
- 1/4 cup sunflower seeds
- 1/2 cup bacon bits

#### **Dressing**

- 1 cup mayonnaise
- 3 tablespoons cider vinegar
- 2 tablespoons sugar
- salt & pepper to taste



#### **Instructions:**

- Whisk together dressing ingredients in a medium bowl. Set aside.
- In a large bowl, combine broccoli, onion, cranberries, sunflower seeds, and bacon bits. Pour the prepared dressing over and mix well.
- Refrigerate for at least one hour before serving.

#### **Notes:**

- ⇒ Wash & completely dry broccoli in advance.
- ⇒ Broccoli Salad can be made ahead & kept in the fridge (at least an hour but up to 24 hours) until ready to serve.
- ⇒ Reserve some crisp bacon for garnish if desired and add just before serving.
- ⇒ Store-bought coleslaw dressing can replace the homemade dressing if desired

## **CRITTER CORNER:**



Wild hogs (*Sus scrofa*) also called wild boars or feral pigs are not native to Tennessee (native to Eurasia and North America), they were imported into parts of East Tennessee during the 1920s and were only in a few counties for many years. But unfortunately, they've become a nuisance as their populations exploded.

Wild boars are nocturnal animals (active during the night). They will spend 12 hours sleeping during the day, hidden in nests made of leaves. An acute sense of smell allows wild boars to detect an edible root or tuber 10 inches below the soil. Their diet also consists of earth-worms, insects, mollusks, fish, rodents, insectivores, bird eggs, lizards, snakes, frogs and carrion. Most of these prey items are taken in warm weather.

The wild boar is a bulky, massively built suid with short and relatively thin legs. The trunk is short and robust, while the hindquarters are comparatively underdeveloped. The region behind the shoulder blades rises into a hump and the neck is short and thick to the point of being nearly immobile. The animal's head is very large, taking up to one-third of the body's entire length. The structure of the head is well suited for digging. The head acts as a plow, while the powerful neck muscles allow the animal to upturn considerable amounts of soil: it is capable of digging 3–4 inches into frozen ground and can upturn rocks weighing 88–110 lb. The eyes are small and deep-set and the ears long and broad. The species has well developed canine teeth, which protrude from the mouths of adult males. Their hooves are elongated and are capable of quick movements. The animal can run at a maximum speed of 25 mph and jump at a height of 55–59 in.

The female or sow rules the group or sounder and fully grown males are usually solitary except during the breeding season. The gestation period varies from 114-140 days depending on the age of the sow. The average litter consists of 4–6 piglets, with the maximum being 10–12. A full-grown wild Russian boar (found in Great Smokey National Park) could grow to over 600 pounds and measure up to six feet long.

Boar have different designations by their age from squeaker (0-10 months) and, grand old boar (over 7 years). The maximum lifespan in the wild is 10–14 years, though few specimens survive past 4–5 years.

Wild hogs are invasive exotic animals that cause extensive damage to crops and wildlife habitats, contribute to erosion and water pollution, and carry diseases harmful to livestock and humans. In Tennessee, they are classified as a species deemed destructive and it is illegal to possess, transport, or release live wild hogs. This law was put into effect to reduce illegal stocking by individuals whose goal was to establish local hunting opportunities.

## **IT'S PUZZLING:**

### **Some Spring Trivia:**

1. What is the official birth flower of May?
2. What are the three zodiac signs of spring?
3. True or false, Female mandarin ducks can turn into males?
4. What does "vernal" mean?
5. What does "equinox" mean?
6. If someone has ombrophobia, what common springtime weather phenomena are they afraid of?
7. What begins at the North Pole on the spring equinox?
6. How fast can a bee fly?
9. What do you call a group of butterflies?
10. What do you call a young rabbit?





# SPRING TIME

P B Q G W V O L J N O S A E S H M X I U P B K Z  
 K Y X N Y V S O O M H C P S R O O D T U O J V Q  
 R I J N O S R Y W E N I H S N U S I G Y H P G C  
 I D T F G T E S S A R G X V S B Z F C V G U J E  
 Y U S E M B W L C V R N S S L G C T L S E Q E P  
 E N S Q D W O O I S G M E W A Y W C L O H B B P  
 A J M V V E L X O B B N T S P V R Y K H R B F I  
 P M G E H O F X E E I L D H R A N I M Q B A M C  
 P B I D U H Z R R P K P O W I G R A G E A W L N  
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 T B S T F H T A D F R I A H S E R F R C M M P C  
 G Q Z L T A H K Q J M F N X H O M B D J E U X I  
 H B D S N E O V D V F W I A O M M C E K A D J E  
 B Y Z F C L R O O L B J B H W M S T N C S P P K  
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 B P X X H A B S L H H A R Y R O E R N P E D B C  
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 Q H K L R Z N R N A C G N I R E T A W E K L W D  
 T P N D U R I F A A Y L N S G U B Y D A L E S J  
 Q I S V S T A R J N S E Z E E R B R A I N B O W  
 O V H U U L R W G Z T B I R C C V X P C A L N D  
 E R U T A N R E H T O M X Z C H I R P I N G R E  
 Z R H V H K A M A E R C E C I T N A R B I V Y C  
 F D Y Q E O P L K R S S R W G Y Q K H M N B B E

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|---------------|---------------|--------------|------------|-----------|
| APRIL SHOWERS | MOTHER NATURE | WATERING CAN | MUD PUDDLE | BUTTERFLY |
| FRESH AIR     | GARDENING     | HAPPINESS    | ICE CREAM  | CHIRPING  |
| FRAGRANT      | OUTDOORS      | SUNSHINE     | BLOSSOM    | COLOURS   |
| FLOWERS       | LADYBUG       | RAINBOW      | VIBRANT    | BREEZE    |
| EASTER        | FLORAL        | NATURE       | PICNIC     | SEASON    |
| WARMTH        | BIRDS         | GRASS        | ROBIN      | TULIP     |
| KITE          | RAIN          | BBQ          |            |           |

## **Spring Trivia answers:**

1. Lily of the Valley
2. Aries, Taurus, and Gemini
3. True
4. Spring
5. Equal day and night
6. Rain
7. Six months of uninterrupted daylight
8. 20 mph
9. A kaleidoscope
10. A kitten

**Note from the Editor:** 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](mailto:dawn.dayton@gmail.com)) with a tagline and I will be glad to add them to the next edition.  
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