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Heritage Lake Association  
PO Box 402  
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## Bulletin Board

### NEW TO HERITAGE LAKE?

If you moved to Heritage Lake or recently purchased a lot and have not received a packet of new member information, call the office and request one. Call 359-8012.

### ANNUAL POT LUCK DINNER

Saturday April 14th-Annual Potluck is at the Lodge at 5:00PM. The name pretty much says it all.

### MEETING MINUTES ON THE WEB

If you are interested in the business conducted at the Board of Directors meetings, visit the website and click on "Board Meeting Agenda & Meeting Minutes" in the blue index on the left side of the home page.

### LOST & FOUND

Found: Pair of men's slip on blue canvas shoes. Left at the chili cook-off.

Found: Single key on bottle opener key ring. Left at the Lodge.

### NEW OFFICE EMAIL ADDRESS

A new e-mail address has been set up for the office – hlaoffice@verizon.net.

### FREE EXERCISE AT HERITAGE LAKE

Did you have one too many fruitcakes over the holidays? Is it time to get serious about exercise? One fun way to get started is to come to the Lodge every Monday at 7:30 and Thursday at 7:00. The workout is very informal, no competition, work at your own pace (with a video or DVD leading us) and socialize with your friends and neighbors as you get that exercise that you know is so important. Please join!

### KEEP YOUR MAILBOX CLEAR

Please be sure to keep your mailbox accessible for mail delivery this winter. It is the homeowner's responsibility to keep the snow cleared from this area.

### HLA Office

will be closed the week of April 9. In case of emergency call 359-8019.

## Volunteer "Let's Work as a Team" Day April 21

Come out and help your community on Volunteer "Let's Work as a Team" Day, April 21. The event starts at 8:00 a.m. at the Lodge. All volunteers will be formed into work teams that will then go to various locations to perform various "clean up" tasks. Coffee and donuts will be served at the Lodge as we get organized. All volunteers will return to the Lodge around noon for pizza and soft drinks.

If you are willing to participate, contact the office at 359-8012. Leave a message on the answering machine of the number of volunteers who will be coming. This will help in planning for the projects and in planning for the pizza!

Examples of the projects that could be accomplished are:

- Paint (sign posts, speed bumps, playground equipment, etc.)
- Pick up trash (along Fast Avenue, around the lake shore, along our streets)
- Finish improvements at Sandy Beach
- Tend the wildflower areas at campground & lodge
- Trim larger plants on backside of dam
- Cut brush at various locations
- Clean up the beach
- Install fishing docks

How much we accomplish depends on the number of volunteers who join the event and the weather. If you can't come at 8:00, come to the Lodge when you can for direction to a work crew. Children over 10 years old are welcome to accompany the parent(s). In case of poor weather, a rain date has been set for May 5. On that date we'll proceed despite the weather and do what we can.

Volunteers should wear long pants, long sleeves and work gloves. Most equipment and materials will be provided but bring the following if you have them: weed whip, sickle, hand pruning tools, or old paintbrushes.

If you can't join on this day, do your part by cleaning up your own lot or yard. Pick up any litter that has accumulated over the winter, trim back growth along your roadway. All of us working together can help make Heritage Lake a premier property owner's association. Let's work together to "Get 'er Done".

## What Does it Mean to be a Member of HLA?

Anyone who owns property in Heritage Lake is automatically a member of the Association. When you sign a deed to property here, you agree to live by the Covenants, By-Laws, and Rules. These include the responsibility to care for your property and to pay the assessments and fees as established. These also include your rights to enjoy the amenities and social activities provided by the association.

When one becomes a member of any property owners association, certain limitations are imposed. Sometimes you can't do what you want to do on your own property (like cut down trees, throw trash in your gully) because your association has established rules for its members. At HLA, we have few rules. Some associations limit the colors you can use to paint your house! All you are expected to do is keep your place looking decent, to abide by the rules and show common courtesy to your neighbors.

We all need to live by the Association rules and pay the fees in order for the Association to survive. Think of yourself as a member of a club. In fact, when Heritage Lake was young, it was referred to as "the club" and the lodge was called the "club house". Association members all help to keep the association (club) alive. We pay our assessments so that we can have amenities such as the lake, lodge, swim pool, beach, playground equipment, picnic areas, etc. We are responsible for our roads as well. No one else is going to take care of these things for us. No one is going to make them better and no one is going to provide additional amenities or social activities except for us -- the association members. Without the support of the members (to pay your fees on time, volunteer your services, serve on the board or committees) we won't have the amenities and social activities that we now enjoy. Find your way to pitch in. Be a positive part of the club. Keep Heritage Lake Association going into the future.

## The 2007 Vehicle Decals

are inside this newsletter for those members in good standing. Please look in the enclosed envelope before you recycle.

Definition of "good standing" can be found in your bylaws or on our website.

## Scheduled Board Meetings

Next regularly scheduled Board meetings are:

Thursday – April 19 - 7:00 PM at the Lodge  
 Thursday – May 17 - 7:00 PM at the Lodge  
 Thursday – June 21 - 7:00 PM at the Lodge

All members are encouraged to attend.

**Heritage Lake Board:**  
 Matt Eggenberger, President  
 Curt Greer, Vice President  
 Dan Maurer, Secretary  
 Janet Bremner, Treasurer  
 Jim Johnson, Director  
 Patrick Jones, Director  
 Gary Patton, Director

**Lodge & Pool Reservations:**  
 Call HLA Office: 359-8012

### HLA Office Hours:

Monday - Closed  
 Tuesday - 7:00 am - 12:00 pm  
 Wednesday - 12:00 pm - 5:00 pm  
 Thursday - 2:00 pm - 7:00 pm  
 Friday - Closed  
 Saturday - Closed  
 Sunday - Closed

### HLA Office:

PO Box 402  
 Mackinaw, IL 61755  
**HLA Office:** 359-8012  
 Email: hlaoffice@verizon.net  
 Located at: First Security Bank, #2 Bradford Dr.

[www.heritagelakeassociation.com](http://www.heritagelakeassociation.com)

### Local Services

Garbage Removal: Neville Trucking 309.392.2407  
 Cable: Tel-Star Cablevision 888.842.0258  
 Water: Village of Mackinaw 309.359.5821  
 Septic: Tazewell County Septic 309.241.0576

For all your party needs call...

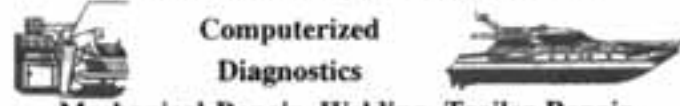


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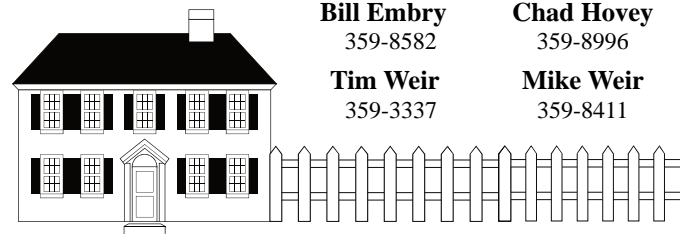


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## 2007 Annual Meeting

More than seventy members attended the annual meeting on March 17. We had good discussions about a variety of issues and concerns. We needed 515 members or proxies signed to be able to conduct business and we only had 296 so no business could be conducted. There was a motion from the floor to reconvene the Annual Meeting to further discuss financial needs. The motion passed and the reconvened meeting was scheduled for 10:00 am. Saturday March 31 at the Lodge. In order to conduct business at the reconvened meeting 25% of the members must be present to vote in person or by proxy. We will be able to conduct business at that time.

To communicate the financial needs prior to this meeting, an informational meeting has been set for 7:00 p.m. on Thursday 3/29. Please try to attend.

## Spring HLA T-Shirts on Sale Now

Use the flyer inside to order new Heritage Lake T-Shirts for the spring & summer seasons. Choose from three colors. Sizes are available for children and adults. Heritage Lake hats are also available. Get your order form with payment to the office by April 20. T-shirts will be delivered to your door (we'll call first) during the week of May 7th. This fundraiser is being conducted by the Finance Committee and proceeds will be used to HLA Outdoor Amenities Fund.

## Beach Pavilion Cannot be Reserved

The picnic pavilion at the beach is available on a first-come first-serve basis. If you want to use it for a birthday party, family reunion, etc. go early in the day, cover a table, leave a picnic basket, leave a person, or otherwise "stake your claim". If another party comes along, please try to share. Help each other out.

The picnic tables can be moved out of the pavilion, but please put them back when you are done.

## Call JULIE Before You Dig

Underground services (natural gas, telephone, water, electricity) can be damaged or ruptured by a shovel blade or other digging equipment. Before you do any digging this spring or summer call 1-800-892-0123. Call two working days (Mon-Fri) before you plan to dig.

## Expenses for January – February 2007

Conservation	\$39,085
Lodge and Pool	\$3,615
Beach	\$1,024
Campground	\$213
Sports Complex	0
Property Owner Services	\$8,254
Roads & Mowing	\$9,720
Payroll and Payroll Tax	\$6,691
Finance	\$5,486
Zoning and Security	\$1,086

### Definitions:

Conservation: lake & dam upgrades and beautification efforts. Lodge & Pool: repairs and maintenance for both facilities, utility expenses for both, wages for lifeguards and pool chemicals/supplies. Beach: electricity and telephone. Campground: electricity, water, repairs to bathhouse. Sports Complex: ball diamond and soccer field. Property Owner Services: legal fees, insurance, utilities, postage, newsletter, office supplies, printing, copying and interest expenses. Roads & Mowing: road repairs, equipment repairs, gasoline, general maintenance supplies, snow related expenses (cinders, salt, snowplow labor, etc.) Payroll and Payroll Tax: salary for the maintenance and office staff and all applicable payroll taxes. Finance: contract bookkeeping, collection expenses, lien filing fees and applicable federal and state income taxes. Zoning & Security: wages for enforcement office and other administrative expenses.

## Income for January – February 2007

General Assessment	\$122,584
Road Fund Assessment	0
Lake Fund Assessment	0
Fees for Services	\$450
Environmental Fees	\$130
Other Fees	\$625
Interest Income	\$1136
Other Income	\$1083

### Definitions:

Fees for Services: lodge rentals, swim receipts, pool season passes, associate memberships, and campground fees. Environmental Fees: building permits, environment impact fees and property inspections. Interest Income: earnings on investments and accounts. Other Fees: transfer fees, collection fees, citations, and lien filing fees.

## ECC Fines, Fees & Permits

New Construction Building Permit*	\$30
Inspections Fee (new houses)	\$300
Environmental Impact Fee (new houses)	\$2000
Fence Permit*	\$30
Outbuilding/Garage/Garden Shed Permit*	\$30
Swimming Pool Permit*	\$30
Landscaping (no HLA permit)	-
Deck (no HLA permit)	-
Home Additions* (no HLA permit)	-
Dock	\$30
Driveways	\$30
Tree Removal Permit	-
Tree Removal Fine (per live tree over 3" diam)	\$100
Beginning Construction without a Permit	\$500
Continuing Construction without a permit (per day)	\$500
Failure to obtain any of the 3 inspections	\$500
Failure to obtain an Accessory Permit	\$100
Failure to finish project within 6 months	\$100
Failure to finish project every successive 6 months	\$500
Failure to remedy unapproved structure (per day)	\$100
Transfer of Property Fee (per lot)	\$25

\*indicates that Tazewell County permits are required.

## Fishing Regulations at Heritage Lake

- Electric Motors Only
- Trout line and jug fishing are permitted from 9:00 P.M. to 6:00 A.M. Only HLA members are allowed to fish in this manner and the unit and lot number must be written on the lines or jugs.
- Members must accompany fishing guests at all times.
- State of Illinois Fishing license is required.
- No fishing in the swim beach area.
- Minnow fishing is permitted but the minnow must be hooked in such a manner that if they become detached from the hood, they will die. Please do not dump live minnows in the lake.
- Catch and release is encouraged.

### Fish Size and Limits

- Largemouth Bass-minimum size 16"; 3 per day
- Channel Catfish-no size requirement;10 per day
- Crappie-no limits on size or catch
- Sunfish-no limits on size or catch
- White Bass-no limits on size of catch
- Striper-no limits on size or catch
- Walley-16"; 3 per day
- Northern Pike-40"; 1 per day
- Tiger Muskie-40": 1 per day.

## Pool Status Update

Committee Chair, Jim Johnson

The condition of our swimming pool needs to be addressed. As some of you are aware, last year the pool expense rose dramatically due to mechanical failure in the pool's plumbing. Increases included:

Fiscal Year 2005 pool chemicals cost \$3,125.00  
 Fiscal Year 2006 pool chemicals cost \$7,831.00  
**Which is an increase of \$4,706.00**

Fiscal Year 2005 water cost was \$483.00  
 Fiscal Year 2006 water cost was \$3,802.00  
**Which is an increase of \$3,319.00**

According to a commercial pool contractor I have spoken with, the life expectancy of a swimming pool like ours is approximately 30 years. Our pool is overdue for major maintenance. I am dedicated to repairing the pool this year so that you, the membership may enjoy this amenity that ultimately increases our property values. However, I would prefer that fixing the swimming pool does not include going deeper in debt to accomplish this goal.

The current estimates my committee has received range from \$65,000.00 to \$105,000.00. However, the Association is still obtaining quotes and plans to discuss the options and costs in more detail at the Informational Meeting that will be held at the Lodge on Thursday evening, March 28th at 7PM.

Please come to learn more about this so we can jointly make a decision that helps to better the Heritage Lake Association.

## Great Summer Job Opportunities – Prepare Now

Heritage Lake Association is once again looking for certified lifeguards. The required Lifeguard certificates can be obtained through local YWCAs and YMCAs.

Contact the office at 359-8012 for more information and if you are already certified, you may send your resume and copy of current certificate to the **Heritage Lake Office at PO Box 402, Mackinaw, Illinois, 61755.**

Take this winter to get yourself ready for these great summer jobs that allow you to make money and be outside to enjoy the fun summer weather.

**For the latest news and information, please visit [www.heritagelakeassociation.com](http://www.heritagelakeassociation.com)**

## Social Club Update

By: Sandy Hoffmann

If you didn't make it to the chili cook-off, you sure missed a fun event. We had many pots of awesome chili, but in the end only three could be winners. Drum roll please...

The winners of the 2007 Annual Chili cook off are as follows:

- Eric Legner-Best Overall
- Jennifer Long-Most Unusual
- Chip Paddock-Hot, Yet Tasty



This would be two times in a row that Chip has won in this category, and he said one of his secrets was that he used jabeneros that were grown right here at Heritage Lake.

Thanks to my nephew Michael and his girlfriend Jess for taking the money and passing out cups. That allowed me to enjoy all of that delicious chili.

Our next event will be the Potluck Supper, that will take place on Saturday April 14th at 5:30 at the Lodge. Please note that that is a different time than is posted on the web site. Bring a dish to pass, dinnerware, your favorite beverage, and the family and come to the lodge to get together with neighbors, or meet some new people. If the weather permits we will be playing bags, bocce or both.

Hope to see you there.



## Lots of Important Dates...

### Important Upcoming Meetings

Thursday March 29 7:00 p.m. – Informational Meeting about HLA finances, our pool and roads.

Saturday March 31 10:00 a.m. – Reconvened Annual Meeting.

Both at the lodge

### Weight Limit in Effect Until April 15

The weight limits for our streets remain in effect through April 15. You allow deliveries with trucks over 6 tons, you tear up the roads. If you make a larger purchase, please tell sales personnel that you need a small deliver truck. Most stores that deliver know about weight limits and have smaller trucks, so make sure you point this out. Save the streets! **P.S. There is a \$500 fine if you don't...**

### April 1 deadline

The \$50 late fee will be or has been added to any member who did not pay their 2007 lot assessments by April 1. If not paid in full by June 1, these accounts will be sent to our collection where more fees are added. Pay Now!

### HLA Office

will be closed the week of April 9. In case of emergency call 359-8019.

### Dogs Gone Wild-Dog Festival

Save this date: Sunday afternoon April 15 A day of fun for the dogs and the whole family at the campground.

Sponsored by HLA D.O.G. to benefit the HLA Dog Park.

Details to follow. Watch the Bulletin Boards and Website

For the latest news and information, please visit [www.heritagelakeassociation.com](http://www.heritagelakeassociation.com)

### Annual Fishing Contest Set for June 9

The Annual fishing contest for children and adults, sponsored by FIRST SECURITY BANK, is just around the corner.

To register call the Heritage Lake Branch of the First Security Bank at 359-5060 or stop by at #2 Bradford. No Registration fees!!! Lunch served to all participants and family members.

Schedule of Events:

- 7:00 AM – Check in at the Heritage Lake Beach Bathhouse
- (May start immediately after)
- 11:00AM – Weigh in at registration point
- (Must be back by 11:00AM)
- 11:30 – 12:30 – Lunch, awarding of winner's prizes and stories of the 'Big ones that got away'!!

Fishing contest is open to Heritage Lake Property Owners and families, and all First Security Bank personnel and families.

**LUNCH AND PRIZES FURNISHED BY FIRST SECURITY BANK**

### Important Due Dates

Put these dates on your calendar

July 1 - \$69.82 road fund due.

Oct 1 - \$53.66 lake fund due.

If you don't receive a statement because of mail problems, etc, you'll have this as a reminder.

### Opening Dates for Outdoor Amenities

The beach will open on Memorial Day.

The campground opens on April 15. Please observe the rules and safety regulations for each amenity.

### No Spring Garage Sales This Year

We lost our coordinators and did not know until it was too late to find others. Hopefully there will be a Fall Garage Sale. If there is anyone interested in coordinating a spring garage sale for next year, contact the office at 359-8012 and we will hook you up with the fall coordinator so you can learn the process. If someone wants to try to pull a garage sale together for this spring, let us know. Thanks.

### HLA Resigns with Natural Grass for Mowing Duties

As those members who attended the Annual Meeting learned, the Heritage Lake Board agreed to a three-year mowing contract with Natural Grass, Inc. Natural Grass has been mowing the lake community for the past two years, and following this past mowing season, asked to enter into a longer-term relationship. For the past several months, the Board has discussed and analyzed the situation between performing this operation in-house versus resigning with Natural Grass, and it came to a vote in the monthly March Board meeting. A majority of the Board felt this type of agreement made good business sense since the costs were less, feedback received has been positive about their work, and they have been responsive to our needs, so the vote passed and we will continue to work with Natural Grass going forward.

The 2007 costs - which have been negotiated to be less than what we paid in 2006 - are \$20,400. In 2008 and 2009, the costs increase by \$100/month to \$21,600 and to \$22,800, respectively. Since we were planning on signing with them for another year, and had put this out to bid two years ago, no bids were obtained.

Natural Grass has been a partner with Heritage Lake for the past several years and takes pride in their work and our community. We look forward to continuing our relationship with them!

### Board Approves Dog Owner's Group Request to Create a Dog Park

At the March Board meeting, the D.O.G. (Dog Owner Group) requested and received a license to operate a dog park at Heritage Lake. D.O.G. is a group of dog loving citizens who live at Heritage Lake and who want to work together to make it a great place for dogs too. The dog park will be fenced in and will be a place where dogs can run and exercise and where their owners can socialize and meet new people. The group is now working to raise funds to construct the facility. The board approved the use of about an acre of the campground along the far north edge, which is away from any homes and will not reduce the number of camp sites.

If you are interested in donating to help build the dog park or in joining this new group, contact Amy or Eric Legner at 359-8289 or e-mail at [ealegner@telstar-online.net](mailto:ealegner@telstar-online.net).



### HLA Staff Safety - Please Help

Our maintenance staff will be out working on our roads this spring and summer. Please show them courtesy and respect by slowing down and being very cautious when you encounter them along the roads. Sometimes they have to drive equipment at slow speeds. Take care when you pass. Be patient. They will use cones, barrels, bright shirts, and flashing lights to catch your attention, so please pay attention. Let's all be cautious and safe this spring and summer.

### Environmental Control Committee Information

Now that spring is here, the ECC will once again be accepting building and lot improvement permits. Projects that need approval are new houses, garages, outbuildings, driveways, fences, downing trees, clear cutting, and grading. Following are some reminders of Heritage Lake Rules and Tazewell County Health Code:

Fencing is only allowed for the safety of children or pets. No privacy fences will be approved. Outbuildings/storage sheds need a permit from Tazewell County as well as our ECC. All bare ground must be covered by vegetation within 6 months of clearing and must have a silt fence at all times to contain any erosion. Keep your road ditches clear and maintained to keep water and mud off the road. Clean out your culverts and fix any potential mosquito breeding areas. Dead trees and vegetation should be cut out and cleaned up to prevent forest fire. Before you cut down any tree (alive or dead) over 3 inches in diameter, get permission from the ECC. Cutting of live trees is normally not allowed except for disease and safety. Be sure your septic system is properly maintained and proper distance is kept from your drain to any open water. Junked, unused/unlicensed vehicles, trailers, etc. are to be in a garage or other storage facility.

### Swimmer's Itch – Duck Mites

By: Darci Patton

In order to prevent a lot of worry and trips to the doctor, the Conservation Committee would like you to know a little about a common condition some people get after swimming at our beach. Little red, itchy bumps that appear sometimes within a half-hour after swimming are most likely caused by a stage of a bug cycle that lives in shallow, warm water. The larva penetrate the skin a little bit and cause an immune response very similar to a mosquito bite reaction. The bites are not harmful unless a secondary bacterial infection occurs. The itch may last two or three days and can be treated like any other bug bite. The "rash" is not contagious. Weather, water temperature, and the cycles of the organism make the problem worse from time to time. There is no need to worry. This is a common, old menace of beachgoers.