

# ***THE LAKE DABINAWA NEWS***

*Summer 2024*



***Many thanks to Debbie Mikijanis for creating and donating this beautiful welcome sign to our community!***



## **MEET YOUR NEIGHBORS**

### **BOB AND DEBBY BETTINGER**

Meet your neighbors, Bob and Debby Bettinger. Bob and Debby have lived at Lake Dabinawa since 1976, giving them the distinction of being one of the couples who have lived at Lake Dabinawa the longest. Their first home was made from recycled materials. In 1979 they bought their present home @ W13. Through the years additions have occurred to the property which have met their needs and reflected their interests to include adding a cement sidewalk down to the lake, an atrium, a 3-season screened-in porch, and a greenhouse.

In his early career days, Bob worked for Safeway Grocery. When Safeway left Lawrence, Bob, at age

40, returned to school to complete his college degree in environmental science. After completing his schooling, Bob worked as an environmental scientist for several engineering firms. His responsibilities included assessing properties for environmental contamination and ensuring appropriate cleanup. Bob tested the lake water for several decades. Bob headed the Fish Committee for a time, testing populations and stocking the lake. Bob loves to fish. Debby studied languages. Her degrees were in Far Eastern Studies and Chinese. After completing school, Debby's career turned to dance. For 30 years she taught ballet to hundreds of children and adults through the Lawrence Arts Center and the Lawrence School of Ballet. She performed and directed dance concerts for the Kaw Valley Dance Theatre, Prairie Wind Dancers, the Lawrence Art Center dance program, the LAC Summer Youth Theatre, and the Lawrence Theatre. She was the artistic director for the Lawrence Youth Ballet. She produced and choreographed for dance concerts, recitals, and cabarets. She taught and danced all over Kansas. The Kansas Nutcracker was her creation, choreography, and production. She was awarded the Phoenix Arts Award for her contribution to dance in Lawrence KS.

Bob and Debby owned a deli for a year in Lawrence. They offered Lawrence espresso and juice drinks, croissants, deli sandwiches, and baked goods. They also owned the Lawrence School of Ballet. Their daughter, Leah, was the first child born to the Lake. Paul is her child and Bob and Debby's cherished grandchild.

Both Bob and Debby retired at 60 to follow retirement interests. They traveled the world. Debby traveled to China with Friendship Farmers of Kansas to introduce Kansas Black Angus bull semen to Chinese animal husbandry. Bob and Debby have camped extensively, and still visit their family in the state of Minnesota.

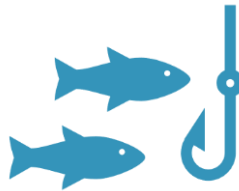
Lake Dabinawa has been fortunate to have Bob and Debby as residents! They have been strong volunteers for the community for many years. Debby's goals are community development through activities and committees. She presently is chair of the Activity Committee. Chili Cook-offs, Breakfasts, Egg Hunts, and the annual Lake picnic and auction have raised funds for several committees. She loves to paint. She has printed numerous posters for the LD community to promote Lake events. She chairs the Garden Committee.

Gardening has been a family affair. Paul learned about gardens early from his gardener grandmother. Bob specialized in watermelons. Debby showcases every summer a beautiful vegetable and flower garden, leads weekly Farmer's Markets, and helps maintain the garden irrigation system, mowing, and weed whipping. She organizes and serves as a resource to fellow gardeners.

The changes at Lake Dabinawa have been many over the last 48 years. At one time there was a limited second tier. Now there are many homes, people, and activities. Debby's wide travel experience has led to the need to respect the Lake's limits so that it can stay healthy. The Lake and our rural surroundings are special and rare. She would suggest a quiet lake, a no-wake lake. She would like to see a widening acknowledgment and respect for each other, each other's viewpoints, and rural life values. She asks us to be good neighbors and encourages us to vote.



## **FANTASTIC FISHING**



***Lake Dabinawa is a treasure chest for fishermen!!! This is a 25 lb flathead (catch and release).***

A recent fish study of the lake was completed. The cost of this study was done through generous donations. The results will be presented to the board in the near future.

## ***Do you know the history of Lake Dabinawa?***

History of Lake Dabinawa: June 6-7, 1959, was the official grand opening weekend for Lake Dabinawa lot sales. Advertising of the grand opening festivities was extensive. Advertising was placed in Kansas City, Topeka, Lawrence, and all surrounding community newspapers. Radio advertising was in Lawrence, Topeka, and Kansas City. Coupons were placed in the newspaper ads that were good for "Free Boat Rides" during the grand opening weekend. Advertising for lake lots continued for many years. In 1962 the Kansas City Star made a big snafu when an ad ran for lake lots available at Lake Babinawa. Stay tuned for more lake history next time.



*The July 4<sup>th</sup> fireworks display was awesome again this year! Thank you to the Soppe's who hosted the Fundraising Firework Breakfast as well as managing the firework show. Thank you to all who supported this activity!*





## ***THIS AND THAT***

### **Roads Update:**

Dabinawa Dr. has been upgraded and Saratoga Dr. will be upgraded in August. The side roads, Cherokee, Comanche and Cheyenne received some asphalt millings to smooth out road surfaces and fill in pot holes.

### **Dam Update:**

Dam inspection was recently completed with zero deficiencies. A written report will be submitted to the board.

### **Volunteers:**

Many volunteer hours and monetary donations have gone into beautifying and maintaining our lake this summer. Thank you volunteers! If you're reading this newsletter for the first time as a new homeowner to Lake Dabinawa, we welcome you!

The Lake Dabinawa Garden was the dream of two former LD residents Kathleen Craig and Jim Hansen. As a result of their request, they received a \$5000 grant to develop the present LD community garden-the Gratitude Garden. The garden features 32 plots, has access to water, and is fenced to deter wildlife. The garden area is plowed yearly by a local farmer at the end of the growing season. Cost per plot is \$25 and maintenance of the garden property and equipment are completed by garden members. A small Farmers Market is held on Saturdays when surplus produce is available. All are welcome!



## **FAVORITE RECIPE**

### **Mary's Healthy Peanut Butter Balls**

2 cups Old Fashion Oats

1 cup Steel Cut Oats

1 cup Quick Oats

(you can use 4 cups of whatever oats you have on hand)

6 TBSP Chia seeds

8 TBSP ground or whole flax seed

16 oz jar plus 1/3 cup peanut butter

½ cup chopped almonds

1 ½ cup dark mini chocolate chips

½ cup honey

(to increase the protein grams, use 1/3 cup protein powder and decrease the oats to 3 1/4 cups). Mix all together and refrigerate for at least 30 minutes to make it easier to form the balls (an ice cream scoop can be used) These are freezer-friendly.



***Please be aware. This copperhead was photographed near the community brush pile. To find out more about Kansas snakes follow this link.***

***<https://hikersdaily.com/snakes-in-kansas-comprehensive-guide/>***

***<https://www.kansaspoisoncenter.com>***

# AUGUST 2024

SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THE	FRI	SAT
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7 7 PM Board Meeting	8	9	10 9-11 AM COMM BLDG VOTING- property sales – Bylaws
11	12	13	14	15 Board Candidate <u>Bios due</u> 6:30 PM Board Budget Meeting	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31 FISHING DERBY-am. PICNIC 6pm

## ***SAVE THE DATE!!!***

**August 9<sup>th</sup>** – Mail-in ballots due for the special election about common area property sales and bylaws amendments

**August 10<sup>th</sup>** – In-person voting for the special election - 9-11 AM at the COMMUNITY BUILDING

**August 15<sup>th</sup>** – Board Candidate Bios due for the next Board of Directors election.

**August 15<sup>th</sup>** – Board Budget meeting, 6:30 PM COMMUNITY BUILDING and ZOOM

**August 31<sup>st</sup>** – Chuck Reese Fishing Derby Memorial - AM.

**August 31<sup>st</sup>** – Annual Picnic and Auction - 6 PM, beach area. Bring a covered dish. Music, hot dogs, hamburgers, and drinks provided. More info to follow.

**September 15<sup>th</sup>** – Election of new Board members, 9-11 AM COMMUNITY BUILDING

**September 15<sup>th</sup>** – Annual Meeting of Association Members, 1 PM COMMUNITY BUILDING and ZOOM

## ***Important Safety Guidelines for Lake Dabinawa Residents***

As we enjoy the beauty and recreational opportunities that Lake Dabinawa offers, it's essential to prioritize safety for everyone. Here are some important guidelines to ensure a safe and enjoyable experience on the water:

Orange Flag for Swimmers: Always have an orange flag on your boat to signal when someone is in the water. This simple yet effective measure alerts other boaters to be cautious, reducing the risk of accidents and ensuring the safety of swimmers.

Travel in a Counterclockwise Motion: To maintain order and prevent collisions, all boaters should travel in a counterclockwise direction around the lake. This consistent pattern helps everyone anticipate the movement of other boats and contributes to a safer boating environment.

Maintain Safe Distances: Keep a safe distance from shorelines, other docks, and boats. This practice not only protects your boat from potential damage but also preserves the shoreline and dock structures. Additionally, it ensures that swimmers and other recreational users are safe from boat-related hazards.

Do Not Overload Your Boat: Adhere to your boat's capacity limits to avoid overloading. An overloaded boat can become unstable, increasing the risk of capsizing and accidents. Always ensure that the number of passengers and the weight of gear are within the manufacturer's recommendations.

Lif jackets for All Passengers: Make sure there are enough life jackets for every passenger on your boat. Life jackets are a critical safety item and can save lives in case of an emergency. Ensure that children are wearing life jackets when boat is in motion and encourage all passengers of the same.

Be Attentive to Others: Always stay vigilant and be aware of other watercraft, particularly kayaks, paddle boats, and swimmers. Smaller watercraft can be harder to see, and being attentive helps prevent accidents. Respecting others' space and right of way enhances safety for everyone on the lake.

No Wake After Dark: As a reminder, adhere to the no-wake policy after dark. Operating at a slow speed during nighttime improves visibility and reduces the risk of accidents. It also prevents wake damage to the shoreline and other boats. The newly installed red light on the west side of the dam will illuminate at nightfall, reminding all boaters of this critical safety measure.

Avoid Water Plowing: Water plowing, where a boat's slow speed causes a large wake, can be dangerous and disruptive. Maintain appropriate speeds to minimize wake and ensure the safety and comfort of other lake users.

By following these guidelines, we can all contribute to a safe and enjoyable environment on Lake Dabinawa. Thank you for your cooperation and commitment to safety.

## Red Warning Light-

We are pleased to announce the installation of a new red warning light on the west side of the dam. This light serves a crucial purpose in maintaining the safety and well-being of our community. Its function is two-fold:

1. Nightfall Alert: The light will illuminate as night falls, reminding all boaters of the no-wake policy that comes into effect during this time. Operating boats at a slow speed (no wake) in the evening ensures the safety of everyone on the water and enhances visibility for all.
2. High Water Warning: The light will also activate during periods of high water. High water levels can bring debris into the water, posing hazards to boats and boaters. By adhering to the no-wake policy during these times, you help protect your boat and ensure your safety, as well as prevent damage to our shoreline.

We kindly ask all residents and visitors to keep an eye out for this light as night approaches and whenever water levels are high. Your cooperation in following the no-wake rule is vital in safeguarding our community, preserving our environment, and ensuring a safe and enjoyable experience for everyone.



### **THE LAKE DABINAWA NEWS IS *YOUR* NEWSLETTER**

The Newsletter Committee wants to know what you want to read about. Please send your input, ideas, articles, and photos to Mary Weathers or Barb Hainline. ([weathersmkb@yahoo.com](mailto:weathersmkb@yahoo.com) or [barbhain@yahoo.com](mailto:barbhain@yahoo.com)) or leave a voice message for Barb at 785-409-8185.