

**LAKENGREN  
PROPERTY OWNERS  
ASSOCIATION, INC.  
BOARD OF  
TRUSTEES -  
Regular Open  
Meeting December  
8, 2008**

Meeting was called to order at 7:00 pm at the Lodge. Present: President Paul Ellison, Vice-President Gerald Estes, Treasurer Tom Pohlbel, Asst. Treasurer Bill Holtman, Amy Gilbert, Rick McMahan, Judy Thaxton, and Rod Suman. Also present were: Office Manager Tammy Moore, Board Recorder Daphne Brunett, and 12 visitors. Absent: Manager Kevin Thorpe.

President's Remarks: Paul Ellison spoke on the passing away of Gladys Preston (Board Secretary and member of several Board committees) this past weekend. She will be greatly missed by all. Visitation was Wednesday and funeral was Thursday at Preble Memory Gardens. He also announced there will be no Board meeting December 22nd.

08-12-298 Amy Gilbert made the motion to approve the minutes from November 24, 2008. Rod Suman seconded. Motion approved.

Treasurer's Report: Tom Pohlbel reported the following funds available as of December 8, 2008: 2007 Carry Over Balance \$2,338.19 (\$1,524.47 transferred to Designated Road Fund); Operating Fund \$210,681.13; Designated Lodge/Building Deposit Account \$5,126.19; Lake Improvements Fund \$100,314.51 (paid loan payment of \$51,917.38 on 12/1/08); Road Improvements Fund \$5126.19; Capital Improvements Fund \$37,604.02; Emergency Reserve Fund \$117,276.67. Accounts Receivable: 2007 & Previous \$43,821.65; 2008 Delinquent Dues, Assessments, Late Fees, Mowing & Defaulted Payment Plans \$49,614.84 (104 members, increase due to increase in defaulted payment plans). 60 small claims filed

to date, additional filing to continue.

08-12-299 Rick McMahan made the motion to approve the Treasurer's Report, subject to audit. Bill Holtman seconded. Motion approved.

LWA Report: Terry Parks reported dates for moving into the new office building will be December 18 & 19 and the current office will be closed both days during the move. Office hours will resume on December 22nd at 8:00 am in the new building. The office will be closed for Christmas December 25th & 26th and again for New Year's Day January 1st & 2nd. The only issue with the new building has been the front door installation, after which the rest of the carpet will be laid and a final paint job completed in the foyer area. Please bear with us as the LWA works to transition from our current office to the new office building. The new addresses for both the LWA and LPOA will be as follows: Lakengren Water Authority, 24 Lakengren Drive, Eaton, OH 45320; Lakengren Property Owners Association, 22 Lakengren Drive, Eaton, OH 45320.

There may be a period of time when the LWA phones will be out of service. The phone system will be transferred to the new building beginning December 15, 2008.

Manager's Report: The lake is at winter pool and the valve has been shut. I will continue to monitor the lake level and open the valve if necessary as the lake level is affected by rain or melting snow/ice. Crack sealing of the roads is not done. There is still a lot more to do. Some roads will not be crack sealed due to their poor condition. Maintenance has completed leaf pick up for this season. Dock reconstruction has begun, starting in Norwegian Cove. The Road and Dams Committee will meet next week or shortly thereafter. The signed Restaurant Contract has been given to the Board for review. We plan to close the office the week of December 29th so we can make the move to our new office. Regular operat-

ing hours will resume Monday, January 5th. Also, because of the new location and the added security it provides, the office will no longer close an hour for lunch beginning January 5th unless necessary due to employee absence.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS**

Policy Review Committee...Next meeting will be Tuesday, January 6th.

Viking Editorial Committee...Deadline is December 16th.

Building Committee...The committee is meeting on an as-needed basis.

Safety Committee...Gladys Preston will be greatly missed. The next meeting will be in January.

Judiciary Committee...A new member is needed for the committee.

Activities & Entertainment Committee...There will be a teen dance on December 19th. Thanks to the Cards Club for giving up that night. The committee will be meeting soon to plan a winter carnival and pre-plan for the next Mardi Gras.

New Business: 08-12-300 Judy Thaxton made the motion to approve the appointment of Roger Riga for the LWA Board of Trustees for a 3 year term. Rick McMahan seconded. Motion approved.

**RECOGNITION AND HEARING OF VISITORS**

Alice Forte noted someone is needed to head the Nominating/Election Committee to replace Gladys Preston.

Dan McElwee announced there will be a wake, in honor of Gladys Preston, at the Lodge on Thursday at 1:00 pm (following the funeral) and food donations for the family are requested.

Terry Parks noted letters were sent to all committee and club chairs with information about the meeting rooms available at the LWA office.

Rick McMahan noted there will be a Christmas party Saturday the 13th at 5:30 and also a New Year's Eve party from 9:00 pm to 1:00 am sponsored by the Christmas Lights Committee.

Dan McElwee noted the last Texas Hold'em night went very well.

08-12-301 Gerald Estes made the motion to approve the New Membership. Tom Pohlbel seconded. Motion approved.

Report on Election Results:

Alice Forte noted there was a recounting of the votes for LPOA Board of Trustees due to a request.

The count was correct but the final tally was in er-

ror. Paul Ellison received 234 votes, John Kanzalmar received 156 votes and Randy Blaich and Tony McGuire both received 155 votes.

Tony McGuire ceded to Randy Blaich. Both of the issues failed by a considerable margin. A total of 462 votes were received.

Installation of New Board Members and Election of Officers:

Gladys Preston (deceased) and Tom Pohlbel were noted as retiring Board Members.

Gerald Estes assumed the role of President while Paul Ellison, John Kanzalmar and Randy Blaich came forward and gave the Oath of Office. Election of officers followed.

08-12-302 Amy Gilbert nominated Paul Ellison for President. Judy Thaxton seconded. Amy Gilbert moved to close nominations. Rod Suman seconded. Paul Ellison elected President.

08-12-303 Bill Holtman nominated Gerald Estes for Vice-President. Rod Suman seconded. Randy Blaich moved to close nominations. Amy Gilbert seconded. Gerald Estes elected Vice-President.

08-12-304 Randy Blaich nominated Judy Thaxton for Secretary. Amy Gilbert seconded. Gerald Estes moved to close nominations. Bill Holtman seconded. Judy Thaxton elected Secretary.

08-12-305 Bill Holtman nominated Randy Blaich for Treasurer. Gerald Estes seconded. Rick McMahan moved to close nominations. Amy Gilbert seconded. Randy Blaich elected Treasurer.

08-12-306 Rod Suman nominated Bill Holtman for Assistant Treasurer. Randy Blaich seconded. Amy Gilbert moved to close nominations. Rod Suman seconded. Bill Holtman elected Assistant Treasurer.

08-12-307 Rod Suman made the motion to approve the Snack Bar Lease. Bill Holtman seconded. Motion approved.

08-12-308 Bill Holtman made the motion to adjourn. Randy Blaich seconded. Meeting adjourned at 8:00 pm.

**Walking Path  
Committee**

By Helen Fisher  
With Spring just around the corner the Walking Path Committee will be sponsoring another garage sale. If you have anything to donate to be sold please contact Helen Fisher at 937-367-1163. The walking path also has more pint jars of Salsa, Apple Butter, Pear Preserves and Dill Pickles for sale at \$3.25 a pint. Anyone wishing to purchase these items please call Wilma Estes at 937-456-1565.

All proceeds from the garage sale and the canned goods sale go to the construction of the new walking path. We still need \$1,500.00 to

**VIKING  
DEADLINES  
2009**

February 20  
March 20  
April 17  
May 15  
June 19  
July 17  
August 21  
September 18  
October 16  
November 20  
December 18

begin construction.

Please join in and donate whatever you can so mothers can walk their children and people with health problems can walk for exercise on a safe walking path. Let's make Lakengren a very safe community to live in. With your help we can do this.

**LPOA BOARD MEMBERS**

Paul Ellison .....President  
Gerald Estes .....Vice President  
Randy Blaich .....Treasurer  
Bill Holtman .....Asst. Treasurer  
Judy Thaxton .....Secretary  
Amy Gilbert .....Member  
Rick McMahan .....Member  
Rodney Suman .....Member  
John Kanzleamar .....Member

**LAKENGREN PROPERTY OWNERS ASSOCIATION**

22 Lakengren Drive  
Eaton, OH 45320  
Office Phone 456-3173  
Fax Number 456-9671  
Web site-lakengrenpoa.org  
Viking E-mail-lakepoa@lakengrenpoa.net

**SPECIAL NUMBERS**  
Security: 456 2646  
Marina: 456-5072  
Maintenance Barn: 456-3359  
LWA email address: alakengrenwater@woh.rr.com  
LWA web site address: lakengrenh2o.org

**COMMITTEE CHAIRS**  
Building Committee-Jerry Spaeth  
Road Committee-Gary Ketron  
Dams Committee-Gary Ketron  
Lakes Management/Marine Committee-Marty Burnett  
Safety Committee-Gerald Estes  
Webmaster-Barry Clutter  
Policy Review Committee-Daphne Brunett  
Financial Planning Committee-Vacant  
Election/Nomination Committee-Carole Moore  
Judiciary Committee - George Brunett  
Activities/Entertainment Committee - Bill Holtman

**LAKENGREN WATER AUTHORITY TRUSTEES:**  
Terry Parks, Chairman  
Tom Pierce, Secretary  
Roger Riga, Treasurer  
Gary Wagner, Operations Manager  
24 Lakengren Drive - 456-4455  
Viking Editorial Committee  
Janet Davis, John Keefe, Jerry Spaeth

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## New LWA Office Now Open

The first LPOA meeting was held in the conference room of the new LWA Building with about 25-30 people in attendance. Clubs and committees should check with the LWA office concerning the usage of this room as reservations are required

## It's a Matter of Security

By Ginger Adams  
 What a delight to see when you enter Lakengren! A picture suitable for framing! The new Lakengren Water Authority

and LPOA Office building! Those of us in Security have had many people stop and comment on the building in the last month or so. Visitors and property owners are impressed with the design and layout of the grounds. We are very proud of it. We also think it is a good way for out-

siders to go to the office to do business without actually entering Lakengren. In the past we have had some issues with that very situation. But no more, as we very gently point them in the direction of the new building. Having said that, we would like to caution everyone about the new

traffic pattern we have created. Cars that come in the entrance and turn in front of the guardhouse to get to the building, are crossing in front of oncoming traffic. The same is true for property owners who actually come in through the gate and then remember that they have to go over to the office. They swing behind the guardhouse and cut across the exit lane to get there. We have had some close calls with this. There are no caution, yield, or stop signs in the front lot. You must pay attention to the traffic situation. Let's hope we don't have anything worse than a "close call" out there.

Somewhat on the same subject, people, sometimes visitors who don't know about the barcode lane at the front entrance, approach driving on the right side of the entrance

to Lakengren. When they get closer and figure out that they must identify themselves, they cross into the left lane in front of oncoming traffic without even looking to see if any one is coming up behind them. I have come out of my chair at least a dozen times thinking that I am about to witness an accident. When you change lanes driving on the highway or even through town, you must always check to see if another car is in that lane. I don't get why drivers

don't check the lane for other vehicles. It must be that they think the entrance is only one lane. I'm not sure, but it does become two lanes as you approach the guardhouse. Please don't cause me to have any more fright attacks. Watch for traffic coming in and around the new building and the guardhouse. Or I'll have gray hair sooner than I want to!!!!

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# SUCCESSFUL NEW YEARS EVE PARTY

by Janet Davis

The New Year's Eve Party sponsored by the Christmas Lights Committee was a wonderful success. A bevy of revelers filled the lodge with merriment and dancing. Over 50 merrymakers tripped the light fantastic as Garcia & Scott played their special melodies for singing and dancing. There were jitterbugs, conga lines and a little bit of country all mixed together by this famous duo from Little Sheba's in Richmond. Of course, there were the swinging sixties and the slow dancing variety for the romantic lovers, too.

The CLC wishes to thank all their members, especially Rick & Karla McMahan, for planning



and decorating the lodge in the twinkling silver and black motif. Everyone who attended brought snacks and hors d'oeuvres for the party. Were there plenty of selections, you bet! Soon, the midnight hour approached and the TV was turned on to watch the new lighted crystal ball drop on Time Square. Following the singing of Auld Lang Syne, the silver mike award was bestowed upon Paul Healy. Who do you suppose will receive the award next year? Bob Kelch won the 50/50 drawing.

The committee all pitched in and helped clean the lodge for the beginning of the new 2009 year. Happy New Year everyone



# Fun at Lodge

**HAPPY  
NEW  
YEAR**



Join the Lakengren  
social club

We're not perfect

We are a fun loving crowd

We laugh too hard, we're way too loud.

But doing it together is what makes us

the Lakengren Social Club

For Info  
Call Alma  
336-5256

## Social Club Activities

By Alma Warner

The Lakengren Social Club is on the move. We will be meeting for breakfast on Saturday, February 7 at 10 a.m. at the local Frisch's in Eaton. Everyone is welcome to come join us. Everyone pays for his or her own meal. Please, if you will let me know if you plan to attend, so we can arrange for a large enough table, so we can all sit together. Call Alma 937-336-5256.

Would you like to join the Lakengren Social Club? It is free to join and your membership is priceless. We are an interactive group of people that come together as a way to grow and enhance friendships throughout our community.

The next Social Club regular meeting will be February 26 at 6:30 p.m. at the Valhalla Lodge. Come check us out. Don't miss out on the fun.

## Burkle Family Christmas

The family of Elsie Burkle held their Christmas get together on Saturday, December 27th at the Lakengren Lodge. 41 attended from all parts of Ohio to celebrate with a carry-in luncheon reunion. All Burkle children and spouses and families were there with the exception of one son Ed and his son Brian from Texas, granddaughter Megan Geidt and grandson Forrest Billings.

Of the 41 attending, ten were little ones under the age of 7 years so the open space of the Lodge gave them freedom to play and run, giving adults a chance to talk and catch up on family news.

The lodge also had room for a circle game led by daughter Linda, in which the children walked around on paper sheets laid on the carpet, while music played. At the stop signal, a paper slip was drawn with a picture on it. When it matched the picture of the child standing, they received a prize from a table filled with gifts. Eventually, even the adults participated and the enjoyment and laughter was worth the prize.

After the delicious meal, we had the traditional annual initial "L" exchange. In preceding years adults had to bring a gift starting with the letter of the last name, for example B, U, R, K, L, E. This year's gifts were: lipstick gloss, lava lamp, Longaberger basket, Lambrusco wine, LED lights, level, leopard stuffed animal, luggage, Lucille Ball book, Lindorf truffles, lottery tickets, Lowe's gift cards, latte coffee, lotion, "Look Who's Talking" DVD, Love Songs CD, "Lucky Old Sun" CD, Laffy taffy, lollipop, licorice, and love to all.

A surprise gift to Elsie from all the children was an electric, double handled snow blower. Whoopee!

Daughter Sue read a story of the origin of Rudolph the Red Nosed Reindeer.

Card games were played and Christmas pictures from previous years were shown and passed around.

Special announcement time informed us of the wedding date of granddaughter Amanda Miller and Joshua Tusing, grandson Jimmie Kay, wife and family of 4 moving to Arkansas for a new job soon, and granddaughter Marissa Groeshen, mother of 4 little ones, Holden, Donovan, Madison, and Spencer announced there were no new little ones in the future!

We set a date for our 2009 Christmas of the second Saturday in December.

Family pictures were taken in front of the tree. What a joyous and memorial Christmas 2008.

Attending with Elsie were: Sue and Keith Steinman, Barb Grega and sons Michael, Matt and guest Derika, Jackie and Chuck Billings. Linda and Rich Bray, daughter Marissa and Scott Groeshen and 4 children. Christy Miller, children Ginny Miller and guest Nicole, Amanda Miller and fiancé Josuha Tusing, Justin Miller and guests Amber and Tyson Hunt. Cindy and Jim Kay - children Bethany and Beau Nickol with children Hannah and Lainey, Jimmie and Katie Kay with children Kalie, Ryan, Aaron and Kaitlyn. Bill and Donna Burkle - children Rachel and Jacob.



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## Christmas Lights Meeting

by Paul Healy

The Christmas Lights Committee met on a snowy Wednesday, January 14 in the Lodge which cut down the attendance. The following attended: Rick and Karla McMahan, Bob and Jeanie Stoner, Bob and Charlene Kelch, Paul and Margaret Healy, Judy Thaxton and Tom Wissman, Dave and Terry Wilson, and John Shipley, Jr.

The annual Christmas Open house with Santa will be held on Saturday, December 12, 2009. A New Year's Eve Party will be on Thursday, December 31. Boat Poker Runs will again be held during the Memorial Day and Fourth of July weekends and the dates will be set at next month's meeting.

We were planning on having a dinner/dance on Valentine's Day but discovered later that the Lodge was already rented.

The group decided to meet once a month on the third Wednesday of the month because we like to get together socially. All Lakengren residents are invited to join the CLC on Wednesday, February 18. There are no dues. We meet at 6:00-6:30 PM to dine together. You may bring your favorite beverage. The business meeting will be at 8:00 PM and usually short in duration as requested by the members.

# Dragons News

by Paul Healy

About forty players participated in the Dragon sponsored Texas Hold'em in December and January in the Christmas decorated Lodge.

All Lakengren residents and their friends are invited to attend this social event. It is held on the first Saturday of the month and the \$15.00 buy-ins begin at 7:30PM. The Beare's Restaurant is now open and it is expected that many will come earlier to dine. You can bring your own favorite beverages for the evening. The game starts promptly at 7:30 PM. The final four place winners have been determined by 11:00 PM the past two times.

One complication has arisen because the Lodge was previously rented on the first Saturday of June for a graduation party and the 4th of July also falls on a Saturday. At our monthly sessions prior to June and July, the players will be asked if they would like to play on the first Friday of June and July since those Saturdays are not available.

The next meeting of the Dragons is Thursday, February 12 in the Lodge at 7:30 PM. The Dragons have a full program for the year and could use more help to put on the functions. The yearly dues are \$12.00 which are recouped at the free spouses dinner in May. We need a few more helpers to conduct the Hold'em and, in particular, some players who could also deal the game.

## Shore Line Clean Up

By Paul Healy

The annual Dragon Shore Line Clean Up will be held on Saturday, February 21, and will start with doughnuts, juice, and coffee in the Maintenance Barn at 9:00 AM.

This was started by the Dragons because bottles, broken glass, cans, and other debris can be picked up and removed from the lake before the water rises. Many pieces of old docks and other boards with protruding nails and screws have been removed before causing injury to swimmers, skiers and also to boats.

Many of the older Dragons are not able to participate in this activity as they did previously. It is their hope that some of the male and female teenagers and young adults could find time to put on some good boots, dress warm and come on down to the barn to help clean up the main lake. The Ski Club members are invited to join in along with members of the Bass Club, Lakes Management, etc. We need truck drivers to take the groups to selected areas and bring back the junk. Lunch will be served at 12:00 noon. There will be a prize for the worst piece of junk found on the lake bed that would have been most injurious to a boat or skier. Once, a wooden ladder floated away from a dock project when the rains rapidly raised the lake level. It had floated across the lake and landed at Dr. Romer's sandy beach

## Safety Committee Meeting

by Paul Healy

The Safety Committee met on Thursday, January 15 in the Lodge at 5:00 PM. Gerald Estes, chairman and LPOA Board vice-president was joined with other Board members Paul Ellison, LPOA Board president, and Rick McMahan along with Lake Manager Kevin Thorpe and Security's Dave Wilson. Three other residents attended. Five topics were discussed and will be reviewed again at the next meeting scheduled on Thursday, February 12, at 5:00 PM. All Lakengren residents are invited to attend.

1. Since the highly regarded Beare's Restaurant is now located in the Valhalla Lodge, a new procedure has been put into effect by the Safety Committee to maintain the security of Lakengren. For those persons who wish to dine at the Beare's Restaurant and have not been called in, the driver must surrender his/her driver's license or leave a \$20.00 deposit with a guard at the guard house. Also a ticket stub will be signed at the restaurant verifying that the restaurant was visited. As with the two hour car pass that is issued to see a Lakengren house for sale, etc., the driver will return to the guard house to secure his/her driver's license or the \$20.00 deposit.

2. Wake boarding by newer boats and attachments which causes larger wakes which can cause problems for smaller boats was briefly discussed.

3. Creating a Disaster Center in the Lodge was discussed. There is need for an electric generator, etc., so the Lodge can function as a Disaster Center. The Lodge has already been designated as a Disaster Center but no provisions have been made to make it functional. Your input and assistance is needed.

4. Also a First Responder group is needed in the Disaster Center. This would be in addition to our current First Responders. Retired nurses, nurses' aides and other medical assistants may wish to join this group by calling Gerald Estes, 456-1565.

5. Methods of getting rid of the geese from all of our lakes were discussed and will be discussed at the February meeting. We thank those farm owners who allow goose hunting on their property. Currently, we have more than three hundred Canadian geese on our lakes soiling the properties and polluting the lakes.

## Garden Club Activities Planned

By Dick Shank

The executive board of the Lakengren Garden Club plans to meet very soon for an organizational meeting. Plans are to be made for this year's interesting and innovative monthly programs. They always meet on the third Tuesday of each month at 7:00 p.m.

The new board welcomes all those interested in gardening to attend the first meeting on February 17 at 7 p.m. at the Valhalla Lodge. The new officers for this year are: President Dick Shank, Vice President Anne Schleich, Secretary Judy McHaffey, and Treasurer Sue Pohlman.

Guests this year will be Rodney Creech of West Alexandria, who is Preble County's grass expert. Then Teresa Kaluga of Stockslager's will be brought back again, along with a field trip or two. If you would like to know more about the Garden Club, just give Dick a call at 456-2673.

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## Lakengren Residents Lake ShoreLine "Clean Up Day"



The Dragons Need Your Help & Pick-Trucks  
On  
Saturday February 21, 2009  
(Rain/Snow Date-March 14 2009)  
9:00 am at Maintenance Barn



9:00 am  
Coffee & Donuts



Noon  
Soup & Sandwiches

"Help Keep Our Lake Clean"

# THEATER STARS

## LAKENGREN RESIDENTS

Lakengren residents Morgan Clapp and Joe Clapp are multiple characters in Richmond Civic Theatre's play "Fahrenheit 451." Morgan plays a paramedic and later becomes Emily Bronte. Joe starts out as a "voice" and later plays Melville of Moby Dick fame.

Both are part of the prerecorded "Family scene" that will be projected on a screen during the show. The book, "Fahrenheit 451," was written in 1953 by science fiction writer Ray Bradbury, and still has an important message. The title Fahrenheit 451 was chosen because it is the temperature that ignites and burns paper/books.

The play is set in the future. In this society books are banned. Everyone is required to be the same. No independent thinking is allowed because it might upset the fragile individual or is it that it might upset a fragile society?

Come on out and decide for yourself what is true in this future world. Performances are Fridays and Saturdays, February 6, 7, 13, and 14 at 7:30 pm. Sunday, Feb. 8 at 2:00 pm. Richmond Civic's Murray Theatre is on the corner of Main and Tenth Streets in Richmond.

Call (765)962-8011 to reserve tickets or order online at [www.richmondcivictheatre.org](http://www.richmondcivictheatre.org).

# Ladies Hand Lotion Tips

Five things to do with hand lotion...

1. Get rid of winter clothing static. Put a small amount of lotion on your hands and rub them over your clothing or pantyhose.
2. Polish shoes. In a pinch, a little bit of lotion buffed with a cloth salves the leather and makes shoes shine.
3. Moisturize under your gloves. Store a tube of lotion near your gloves and smooth some onto your hands every time you pull on your gloves.
4. Get rid of frizz. Spread a little over fingertips (not directly on hair) and scrunch your fingers through the frizz. A great ladies room trick.
5. Shave. Has that can of foam sputtered out? Grab a bottle of lotion as a stand-in. Bonus: Your legs stay moisturized afterward.....

# Bass Club News

The Lakengren Bass Club began with its first meeting of 2009 at the Valhalla Lodge on January 3rd. Secretary and treasurer's reports were read and approved. There are no new changes within the executive committee as follows: President Bruce Clark, Vice President Kevin Caplinger, Secretary Ron Foulk, Treasurer Todd Davis, and Brian King Tournament Director.

It was announced that the Bass Club Point System is being revised and the changes will soon be posted. The club fishes monthly for points from April through November.

A work day was scheduled in January, but due to the inclement weather, the activity was postponed.

Upon checking with Dixie Marine of Fairfield, Ohio, it was reported that their Open House will be held March 7-8. As we receive additional information, it will be passed along.

The next meeting of the club will be Saturday, February 7 at 9:30 a.m. at the lodge. Any Lakengren property owner is invited to attend and see what the club is about. Membership is always open, and new members are always welcome. For more information, call Bruce at 472-2020.

# My Space

Have you heard of the new way to stay informed about the events going on here in Lakengren? Check out Lakengren's very own my space. This can be fun for all ages. [www.myspace.com/lakengren](http://www.myspace.com/lakengren)

# Van-Dells Make Appearance

The Civic Hall Performing Arts Center of Richmond, Indiana will hold a performance of The Van-Dells on Saturday, february 21,2009 at 8:00 p.m.

The Van-Dells are an oldies show group specializing in 50's and 60's music and are now celebrating their 33rd year of Rock & Roll. They sing a cross section of Rock & Roll

oldies and combine a unique blend of comedy, choreography, tight harmonies and costumes. It is a nonstop action from start to finish. Don't miss them at the Civic Hall. Good seats available for the 8 p.m. performance. \$25 for adults, \$17 for students and group rates available. Call 765-973-3350, toll free 1-888-CIVIC-HALL or visit [www.civichall.com](http://www.civichall.com) Box office hours are Mon-Fri, 8:30 a.m. - noon and 1:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m....

# Women To Meet On March 4th

The Lakengren Women's Club will be meeting for the first time this year on March 4 at 1:00 p.m. at the Valhalla Lodge reports Secretary Connie Moore. This special get together will be the "Antique Road Show" with Bob Roach. Each member is asked to bring one item for appraisal. There will be a business meeting to discuss plans for this year plus refreshments.

# AN ORNITHOLOGICAL VALENTINE

By Jo Ann Hoffman

A flash of red, vivid against the blue winter sky, flew past bare branches, then fluttered to rest, radiant ruby feathers picturesque against white snow that sparkled in the cold sunlight like glitter covering the ground. Or as my husband put it, "That red bird sure looks purdy on that white snow!"

The male Northern Cardinal is one of only four red birds in the entire United States, one of two that come to Ohio, and the only one found in Ohio in winter. The all-red Summer Tanager doesn't come this far north; the red and grey Hepatic Tanager is limited to the southwest, mainly in Arizona and New Mexico; and the Scarlet Tanager with its black wings and tail is here in summer but migrates south for the winter and lacks the black face mask and jaunty crest that Cardinals flick up and down according to their mood. See a bright red bird in Ohio in winter, you can bet it is a male Northern Cardinal.

The feathers of the female Cardinal are more muted in color. She is olive brown with red tinges on her wings and crest, though she does have the same Zorro-like black face mask, black eyes and thick "conical" coral-red beak as the male. Unlike most folks who prefer the bright red feathers of the male, my mother-in-law Mary Hoffman (may she rest in peace) was the exception. She often told me that the female, like a true southern lady, was neither loud nor gaudy. Her colors were soft, gentle, and on closer inspection had more complex variation than the male, yet were still just as colorful in a classy way.

The tastefully dressed lady and the braggadocios male Cardinal are rarely seen far from their counterpart. Unlike other avian species, the female Northern Cardinal is just as vocal a singer as the male. It is not uncommon to hear them calling back and forth with chips and chirps even amidst a February snowstorm. These short calls develop into longer phrases as the days lengthen signaling the start of courtship. Sings this fiery bird, to be answered across the yard by the female, in a variety of antiphonal duets, "What cheer! What cheer!" "Swe-et, swe-et." "Hey, birdie, birdie, birdie." "I'm, purdy, purdy, purdy!" John James Audubon wrote about the Cardinal: "During the love season, the song is emitted with increased emphasis by this proud musician, who, as if aware of his powers, swells his throat, spreads his rosy tail, droops his wings, and leans alternately right and left as if on the eve of expiring with delight at the delicious songs of his own voice." As she builds the nest, he follows her and serenades her. For the two weeks she incubates the eggs and protects the nestlings, he brings her food to the nest, bill touches bill reminiscent of a kiss in the exchange of food.

Male Cardinals are extremely protective and territorial during this time. He will warn off rivals with angry calls and dive at them if they intrude. So possessive is he that he will even attack his own reflection in windows, mirrors and shiny automobile hubcaps. One way to prevent the bird from breaking his neck futilely attacking a reflection that will not retreat is to disrupt the reflection by putting something on the surface. Vinyl window clings work well and easily peel off come autumn leaving no residue. Some catalogs like Duncraft ([www.Duncraft.com](http://www.Duncraft.com)) sell the kind that people don't see, but birds do.

Once the chicks develop feathers, the female Cardinal moves on to build

a new nest for her second brood while the male assumes all the care and feeding of the first. So strong is his instinct to feed young birds that a male cardinal will feed nearby fledglings of any species. Why once a Cardinal in North Carolina actually began feeding goldfish in a backyard pond! Luckily Cardinals are not finicky eaters. They garner seeds and nuts from the ground, land in trees to eat fruit and berries and frequent perch feeding stations. This once southern bird has expanded its range northward into Maine and southern Minnesota due entirely to the availability of seed stocked in feeders by humans.

As long as there is some kind of low dense cover nearby in which to hide their nest, such as evergreen shrubbery or tangles of wild rose, blackberry, or honeysuckle, Cardinals are just as flexible in habitat as they are in eating. They adapt to life in swamps and deserts, forests and golf courses, city parks and subdivisions.

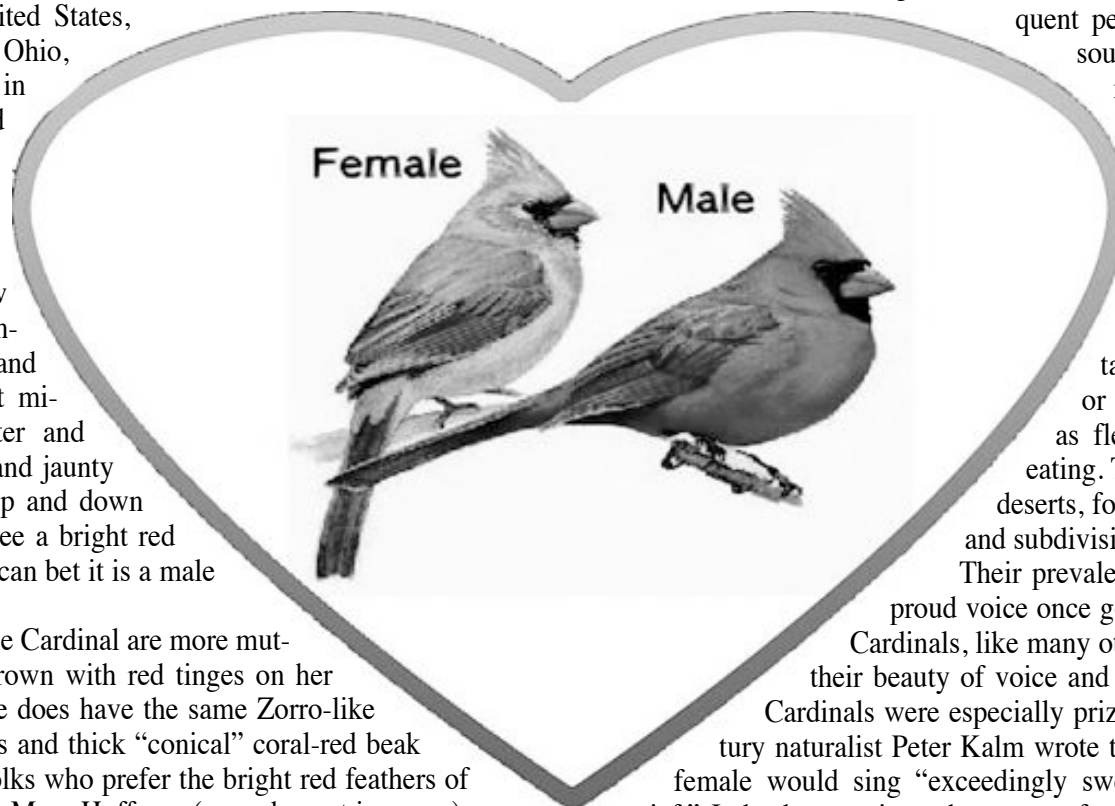
Their prevalence, flamboyant good looks and proud voice once got them in trouble. In the 1800's, Cardinals, like many other songbirds, were captured for their beauty of voice and feather and sold as caged birds.

Cardinals were especially prized when sold as pairs. 18th century naturalist Peter Kalm wrote that in a cage, both the male and female would sing "exceedingly sweet" unless "they would die of grief." Indeed, over time, the songs of caged birds gradually lost variety and the rich red plumage faded. Something was obviously amiss. In *Birders World Magazine*, Julie Feinstein explained that Cardinals acquire their rich colors from the many different foods they eat. As such, caged birds without that variety lost their brilliance with each successive molt. Thankfully, the Migratory Bird Treaty Act of 1918 banned the sale of many caged birds, including the Cardinal, in the United States, Canada, Great Britain, and Mexico.

Instead of caging them, why not recognize them? In 1926 the Commonwealth of Kentucky was the first to choose a "state bird" and they chose the Northern Cardinal. "In richness of plumage, elegance of motion and strength of song, this species surpasses all its kindred in the United States." Seven states agreed with Audubon. Since Kentucky, six other states Illinois, Indiana, North Carolina, Virginia, West Virginia, and yes, even Ohio (in 1933) selected the Cardinal as their official State Bird. At seven, it ranks number one as the most chosen bird with the Meadowlark coming in second with six states.

The Cardinal is unique to North America; it has no counterpart in Europe. So when early settlers came here and saw it, they had no name and simply called it "Red Bird." My husband was not without precedence in his observation! Eventually, ornithologists officially named it Cardinal. You guessed it, after the bishops of the Catholic Church who also dressed in bright red. Our State Bird is named after the influential religious leaders of the Catholic Church. Hmm. Is this peak of avian hierarchy an unclear separation of church and state, as yet unchallenged? Let's hope not!

It is February when red and white are the colors of the season and however you verbalize it, the sight of a Northern Cardinal enlivening with color the pure white of new snow is Mother Nature's gift, An Ornithological Valentine so to speak. May you find your drab winter days brightened by the fiery beauty and vibrant song of the Northern Cardinal. Happy Valentine's Day and *Happy Birding!*



# News From PC Library

Want to live seven years longer than the average person? Read.

Research from the National Endowment for the Arts states people who read for recreation live longer than people who don't read.

In addition, Orrville Public Library Director Leslie Picot noted readers tend to be more engaged in their community, more likely to vote, attend a museum or sporting event and volunteer.

NEA Chairman Dana Goia sees it this way, "... with fiction, we give the author permission to guide our thinking. It gives us the ability to empathize with another being ... and that's what triggers civic engagement." (source: <http://www.nea.gov/pub/ReadingAtRisk.pdf>)

"Bringing young children to the library represents a commitment by lots of busy parents and grandparents who make story time a priority," said Picot. "It's an investment in successful children who come to school ready to learn. It's an investment in a vibrant community. And, according to research, reading is literally an investment in the quality and quantity of a person's life."

To find out when your library's story time sessions are offered contact your local branch:

- Camden: 452-3142
- Eaton: 456-4331
- Eldorado: 273-4933
- New Paris: 437-7242
- West Alexandria: 839-4915
- West Elkton: 787-4873
- West Manchester: 678-8503



## Mardi Gras Time Again by A & E

By Bill Holtman

Sound the trumpets and reserve this date on your calendar. Saturday, Feb. 21st 8 pm - 12 am at the Valhalla lodge. That's right, Bourbon Street is just around the corner so start gathering those beads! It's Mardi Gras time again at Lakengren. Last years event was so much fun we just had to do it again.

We were able to secure the same Dixieland Jazz Band as last year. "Jazzmerized" will be making the trek from Cincinnati to Lakengren to entertain us with some fine dixieland jazz. We'll also have prizes for best homemade mask, best mardi gras outfit and person with the most beads. We will also be selecting this year's King & Queen. We nominate people from our community who are always willing to lend a helping hand and who unselfishly dedicate their time and energy to help our community. Last year's recipients were Andrew and Dawn Gaydosh. We hope they will be able to attend this year and crown the new king & queen. We'll have plenty of food & snacks. Bring your own favorite beverages. Be here for the grand march, balloon drop and find out just how much fun this gala event brings to Lakengren. The cost for this extraordinary night \$10 a person or \$15 a couple. Contact 456-1545 or the LPOA office 456-3173 for tickets. Tickets will also be available at door.

## Card Scores



Jan 2 - PINOCHLE - 1st Virginia Wehrly, 2nd Willie Feldsburg, 3rd Donna Guethlen, 4th Zellia Worley

Jan 9 - DOUBLE DECK BID EUCHRE - 1st Tom Carr, 2nd Joanne Parks, 3rd Bob Worley and Geoff Current (tie), 4th Elsie Burkle, 5th Neal Weaver

Jan 16 - PINOCHLE - 1st Sue Harrison, 2nd Tom Pohlbel, 3rd Bob Worley, 4th Gladys Myers, 5th Donna Guethlen.



| DATE   | TIME     | STREET             | NATURE OF CALL                | DISPOSITION              |
|--------|----------|--------------------|-------------------------------|--------------------------|
| 28-Dec | 11:32 PM | Baltic Cove        | Ambulance Mutual Aid          | Handled by EMS           |
| 15-Jan | 10:33 PM | Baltic Cove        | Ambulance                     | Handled by EMS           |
| 5-Jan  | 9:05 AM  | Baltic Drive       | Ambulance                     | Handled by EMS           |
| 6-Jan  | 11:40 AM | Battle Drive       | Fire                          | Handled by Fire Dept.    |
| 1-Jan  | 3:53 PM  | Brande Drive       | Unclassified Offense          | Call Recorded            |
| 2-Jan  | 8:03 PM  | Brande Drive       | Petty Theft                   | Report Taken             |
| 8-Jan  | 5:21 PM  | Brande Drive       | Unclassified Offense          | Referred To Other Agency |
| 4-Jan  | 12:38 PM | Dragon Drive       | Ambulance                     | Handled by EMS           |
| 13-Jan | 3:03 PM  | Dragon Drive       | Ambulance                     | Handled by EMS           |
| 19-Dec | 5:15 PM  | E. Lakengren Dr    | Ambulance Mutual Aid          | Handled by EMS           |
| 29-Dec | 4:22 PM  | E. Lakengren Drive | Property Damage misdemeanor   | Call Recorded            |
| 29-Dec | 9:57 PM  | E. Lakengren Drive | Fire Related Investigation    | Handled by Fire Dept.    |
| 30-Dec | 12:32 PM | E. Lakengren Drive | Grand Theft                   | Report Taken             |
| 1-Jan  | 12:29 AM | E. Lakengren Drive | Crash PD                      | Call Recorded            |
| 14-Jan | 5:37 PM  | E. Lakengren Drive | Property Damage Mail Box      | Civil Matter             |
| 15-Jan | 1:33 PM  | E. Lakengren Drive | Unclassified Offense          | Call Recorded            |
| 15-Jan | 7:44 PM  | Eagle Drive        | Prowlers                      | Call Recorded            |
| 9-Jan  | 9:42 AM  | Finland Drive      | Property Damage Mail Box      | Call Recorded            |
| 29-Dec | 1:08 PM  | Greenland Drive    | Unclassified Offense          | Call Recorded            |
| 12-Jan | 10:24 PM | Hammer Drive       | Warrant                       | Unable to Locate         |
| 24-Dec | 1:16 PM  | Hatchet Drive      | Warrant                       | Unable to Locate         |
| 29-Dec | 7:18 PM  | Hatchet Drive      | Warrant                       | Arrest made              |
| 5-Jan  | 10:56 PM | Hatchet Drive      | Missing Person                | Report Taken             |
| 6-Jan  | 1:57 PM  | Hatchet Drive      | Unclassified Offense          | Call Recorded            |
| 1-Jan  | 7:19 PM  | Haugrund Cove      | Ambulance                     | Handled by EMS           |
| 6-Jan  | 11:03 AM | Lolland Drive      | Peace Officer Call            | Call Recorded            |
| 23-Dec | 8:23 PM  | Long Drive         | Crash PD hit Skip             | Call Recorded            |
| 27-Dec | 3:24 PM  | Long Drive         | Unclassified Offense          | Call Recorded            |
| 29-Dec | 6:54 AM  | Saxon Drive        | Ambulance                     | Handled by EMS           |
| 14-Jan | 10:07 PM | Saxon Drive        | Traffic Complaint             | Call Recorded            |
| 27-Dec | 10:24 PM | Shield Drive       | Unclassified Offense          | Call Recorded            |
| 28-Dec | 1:15 PM  | Shield Drive       | Unclassified Offense          | Report Taken             |
| 21-Dec | 5:18 AM  | Skive Cove         | Ambulance                     | Handled by EMS           |
| 22-Dec | 10:50 PM | Skodborg Drive     | Juvenile                      | Call Recorded            |
| 24-Dec | 1:29 PM  | Skodborg Drive     | Ambulance                     | Handled by EMS           |
| 1-Jan  | 5:53 AM  | Skodborg Drive     | Disorderly Subject            | Call Recorded            |
| 3-Jan  | 6:42 AM  | Skodborg Drive     | Ambulance                     | Handled by EMS           |
| 8-Jan  | 10:35 PM | Skodborg Drive     | Fire Related Investigation    | Handled by Fire Dept.    |
| 13-Jan | 2:59 PM  | Skodborg Drive     | Assist - non emergency        | Call Recorded            |
| 26-Dec | 8:49 AM  | Snedstead Drive    | Petty Theft                   | Report Taken             |
| 14-Jan | 3:03 PM  | Striver Drive      | Traffic Complaint             | Call Recorded            |
| 31-Dec | 5:11 AM  | Thor Drive         | Ambulance                     | Handled by EMS           |
| 7-Jan  | 5:29 PM  | Valhalla Cove      | Ambulance                     | Handled by EMS           |
| 29-Dec | 5:36 PM  | Valhalla Drive     | Ambulance                     | Handled by EMS           |
| 29-Dec | 9:21 AM  | Vinland Drive      | Rape                          | Report Taken             |
| 5-Jan  | 9:38 AM  | Vinland Drive      | Violation of protection order | Report Taken             |
| 10-Jan | 8:44 PM  | Vinland Drive      | Violation of protection order | Call Recorded            |
| 12-Jan | 3:54 AM  | W Lakengren Drive  | Crash PD                      | Report Taken             |
| 12-Jan | 9:57 PM  | W Lakengren Drive  | Warrant                       | Unable to Locate         |

### NUMBER OF CALLS

|                               |    |
|-------------------------------|----|
| Ambulance                     | 12 |
| Ambulance Mutual Aid          | 2  |
| Assist - non emergency        | 1  |
| Crash PD                      | 2  |
| Crash PD hit Skip             | 1  |
| Disorderly Subject            | 1  |
| Fire                          | 1  |
| Fire Related Investigation    | 2  |
| Grand Theft                   | 1  |
| Juvenile                      | 1  |
| Missing Person                | 1  |
| Peace Officer Call            | 1  |
| Petty Theft                   | 2  |
| Property Damage Mail Box      | 2  |
| Property Damage misdemeanor   | 1  |
| Prowlers                      | 1  |
| Rape                          | 1  |
| Traffic Complaint             | 2  |
| Unclassified offense          | 8  |
| Violation of protection order | 2  |
| Warrant                       | 4  |
| Total                         | 49 |




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## 1895 Eighth Grade Final Exam

Remember when our grandparents, great-grandparents, and such stated that they only had an 8th grade education? Well, check this out. - - -

This is the eighth-grade final exam from 1895 in Salina, KS, USA. It was taken from the original document on file at the Smokey Valley Genealogical Society and Library in Salina, KS, and reprinted by the Salina Journal.

### 8th GRADE FINAL EXAM

#### Grammar (Time, one hour)

1. Give nine rules for the use of Capital Letters.
2. Name the Parts of Speech and define those that have no Modifications.
3. Define Verse, Stanza and Paragraph
4. What are the Principal Parts of a verb. Give Principal Parts of. lie, lay and run
5. Define Case, Illustrate each Case.
6. What is Punctuation? Give rules for principal marks of Punctuation.
7. Write a composition of about 150 words and show therein that you understand the practical use of the rules of grammar.

#### Arithmetic (Time, 1.25 hours)

1. Name and define the Fundamental Rules of Arithmetic.
2. A wagon box is 2 ft deep, 10 feet long! , and 3 ft. wide. How many bushels of wheat will it hold?
3. If a load of wheat weighs 3942 lbs., what is it worth at 50cts/bushel, deducting 1050lbs. for tare?
4. District No. 33 has a valuation of \$35,000. What is the necessary levy to carry on a school seven months at \$50 per month, and have \$104 for incidentals?
5. Find cost of 6720 lbs. coal at \$6.00 per ton.
6. Find the interest of \$512.60 for 8 months and 18 days at 7 percent.
7. What is the cost of 40 boards 12 inches wide and 16 ft. long at \$20 per meter?
- 8 Find bank discount on \$300 for! 90 days (no grace) at 10 percent.
9. What is the cost of a square farm at \$15 per acre, the distance

around which is 640 rods?

10. Write a Bank Check, a Promissory Note, and a Receipt.

#### U. S. History (Time, 45 minutes)

1. Give the epochs into which U. S. History is divided.
2. Give an account of the discovery of America by Columbus.
3. Relate the causes and results of the Revolutionary War.
4. Show the territorial growth of the United States.
5. Tell what you can of the history of Kansas
6. Describe three of the most prominent battles of the Rebellion.
7. Who were the following: Morse, Whitney, Fulton, Bell, Lincoln, Penn, and Howe?
8. Name events connected with the following dates: 1607, 1620, 1800, 1849, 1865.

#### Orthography (Time, one hour)

1. What is meant by the following: Alphabet, phonetic, orthography, etymology, syllabication?
2. What are elementary sounds? How classified?
3. What are the following, and give examples of each: Trigraph, sub vocals, diphthong, cognate letters, linguals?
4. Give four substitutes for caret 'u! '.
5. Give two rules for spelling words with final 'e.' Name two exceptions under each rule.
6. Give two uses of silent letters in spelling. Illustrate each.
7. Define the following prefixes and use in connection with a word: bi, dis, mis, pre, semi, post, non, inter, mono, sup
8. Mark diacritically and divide into syllables the following, and name the sign that indicates the sound: card, ball, mercy, sir, odd, cell, rise, blood, fare, last.
9. Use the following correctly in sentences: cite, site, sight, fane, fain, feign, vane, vain, vein, raze, raise, rays.
10. Write 10 words frequently mispronounced and indicate pronunciation by use of diacritical marks and by syllabication.

#### Geography (Time, one hour)

1. What is climate? Upon what does climate depend?
2. How do you account for the extremes of climate in Kansas?
3. Of what use are rivers? Of what use is the ocean?
4. Describe the mountains of North America.
5. Name and describe the following: Monrovia, Odesa, Denver, Manitoba, Hecla, Yukon, St. Helena, Juan Fernandez, Aspinwall & Orinoco.
6. Name and locate the principal trade centers of the U.S.
7. Name all the republics of Europe and give the capital of each.
8. Why is the Atlantic Coast colder than the Pacific in the same latitude?
9. Describe the process by which the water of the ocean returns to the sources of rivers.
10. Describe the movements of the earth. Give the inclination of the earth.

Also notice that the exam took five hours to complete.

Gives the saying "she/he only had an 8th grade education" a whole new meaning, doesn't it?

What happened to us??? It is kind of humbling, isn't it?

# Feb. & March Calendar of Events

Activities at the lodge unless otherwise noted

Pinochle and Euchre Friday at 7 p.m.

BP/Glucose screenings at the Fire Station

- |           |  |
|-----------|--|
| Feb 1     | Super Bowl Sunday                      |
| Feb 7     | Bass Club Mtg 9:30 a.m. @ lodge        |
| Feb 7     | Dragons Hold'em 7 p.m. @ lodge         |
| Feb 9     | LPOA Board Mtg 7 p.m.                  |
| Feb 12    | Dragons Mtg 7:30 p.m.                  |
| Feb 17    | Garden Club Mtg 7 p.m.                 |
| Feb 19    | Safety Committee Mtg 5 p.m.            |
| Feb 20    | Viking deadline for March              |
| Feb 21    | Shoreline Clean up 9 a.m. Maint. Barn  |
| Feb 21    | Adult Mardi Gras Party 8 to Midnight   |
| Feb 23    | LPOA Board Mtg 7 p.m.                  |
| Feb 26    | Social Committee Mtg 6:30 p.m. @ lodge |
| Mar 4     | Women's Club 1 p.m. spkr Bob Roach     |
| Mar 7     | Bass Club Mtg 9:30 a.m. @ lodge        |
| Mar 7     | Dragons Hold'em 7 p.m.                 |
| Mar 8     | Daylight Saving Time begins            |
| Mar 9     | LPOA Board Mtg 7 p.m.                  |
| Mar 12    | Dragons Mtg 7:30 p.m.                  |
| Mar 14    | Rain date - Shoreline Clean up 9 a.m.  |
| Mar 16-18 | Boating Safely Course 7 - 10 p.m.      |
| Mar 17    | Garden Club Mtg 7 p.m.                 |
| Mar 19    | Safety Committee Mtg 5 p.m.            |
| Mar 20    | Viking deadline for April              |
| Mar 23    | LPOA Board Mtg 7 p.m.                  |



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