

the Watershed

Lake Management Momentum Builds

by Jerry Sellers

Joe Olliges, Fish Stocking Program Manager, ordered and installed six brochure boxes around the lake. These boxes contain fish survey forms with instructions on how they are to be filled out and submitted. These are a critical component, along with the IDNR shocking report that factor into the RCD/LMC's decision on what types and quantities of fish to stock.

Cost figures were presented by Steve Larry, Fish Containment Program Manager, to the RCD for a fish barrier at the dam. Steve has retained Willet Hoffman & Associates to begin the engineering phase of this program. Preliminary drawings are due June 15th. The DNR has been contacted about the permitting process and steps are being taken to resolve any out standing issues.

The lakeshore property owners' meeting took place at the LCC as planned on June 2nd. Thirty-four people were in attendance. An overview of the relationship of the RCD and the Lake Management Committee was presented to start the meeting. Frank Durkin, Wildlife Program Manager, then spoke on the need to control geese

as well as beavers. He also provided an open letter to all lakeshore property owners that outlined an action plan for the RCD, the property owners and wild life management. Joe Rush of JadEco Consulting was introduced and gave a presentation on stream bank stabilization and our cattle grazing problems. Heather Morton from Pizzo & Associates Consulting was introduced and gave a presentation on "Erosion & Sediment Control-The Green Side". She discussed the ecological approach to shoreline stabilization, as well as the various benefits that natural areas offer. The meeting stimulated individuals to ask a number of questions and realize that they CAN make a difference in the health, ecology and aesthetics of Lost Lake.

Jerry Sellers, LMC Chairperson, explained that there is a need for shoreline improvement standards to be developed for adoption by the RCD. Anyone interested in becoming a member of a grass roots committee to develop these standards should either contact Jerry or the RCD office at 652-2006.

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Social Committee Group Adds Value To District

We have said much in *the Watershed* about the role played by volunteers in the success of District projects. We are currently blessed with a level of participation that is unprecedented in the history of the RCD. Our volunteers work with passion, dedication and integrity in challenging but rewarding environments.

The Lost Lake Social Committee (LLSC) is a

group of such dedicated volunteers. The group is comprised of members of the New Landing and Lost Nation property owners associations. The group organizes, staffs and hosts social events like pancake breakfasts, community garage sales and Red Cross blood drives.

Of interest to the District is the time and (Continued on page 2)

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the Watershed is a periodic publication that contains information relevant to our District's constituents.

Contact *the Watershed* at thewatershed@rcdinfo.com

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Did You Know...

- The RCD patrols the Lake, Beaches and Campgrounds to make sure that your experiences are secure and safe ?
- Stickers are required when storing your boat on a District boat rack ?
- The RCD Website, www.rcdinfo.com, has a rich collection of information about the RCD ?
- Permits are required for the use of the RCD Camp-ground facility ? Call 652-2006 to obtain an application.

RCD Board

Marty Portner, Pres.
Dan Dummett, V.P.
Tina Trevino, Treasurer
Herb Hill, Secretary
Betty Lou Finn, POA Liaison

Becky Breckenfelder
Administrative Manager &
Webmaster
www.rcdinfo.com

Bits and Pieces

WELCOME TO NEW RCD TREASURER | Welcome to new board member Tina Trevino. Tina and her husband live in the New Landing development and are raising six children. Ms. Trevino has experience on prior boards where she devoted her time and energy as a volunteer and bookkeeper. She has generously offered to fill the vacant office of Treasurer. She was elected to the office of Treasurer on June 7, 2007 at our regular meeting. It takes courage and commitment to volunteer to be appointed to the RCD board. Thanks, Tina and welcome aboard!

BUDGET, LEVY HEARINGS SCHEDULED | The RCD is completing work on its annual budget for the current fiscal year. We have approved a tentative budget and published it in the Ogle County Life. The tentative budget is also on display at the RCD office. On July 5th, during our regular meeting, we will conduct a hearing on the final budget at which time dis-

trict members will have the opportunity to be heard. It is anticipated that final approval of the budget will be the outcome of this meeting. After the budget is approved, the process of establishing the tax levy for FY 2008-2009 will begin. We are scheduled to present the levy at our August meeting at which time members will have the opportunity to be heard as well. Final passage of the levy is required to be completed before December 2007.

ACCESS TO DISTRICT FACILITIES | The RCD boundaries extend well beyond the borders of the private developments that surround the lake. Access to RCD facilities must be provided to those who live outside the POA boundaries and have no choice but to use New Landing or Lost Nation private roads. The RCD is negotiating a policy with the POAs to facilitate equitable access. More on this in the next issue.

LMC

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The **Voluntary Lake Management Program** (VLMP) started again this year on May 2nd. On that particular day, the personnel performed the testing for the **IEPA** monitoring program. You may have noticed the placement of three buoys in the lake. These are present so that water testing may be done and the protocol may be precisely repeated.

Since the last issue of *the Watershed* we have had the opportunity to review our lake and watershed with several agencies. The Ecosystems Administrators for Region 2 are **Nancy Williamson** and **Karen Rivera**, biologists for the

IDNR. Nancy has supplied information on C-2000 grants and Karen on stream bank stabilization.

How do *you* fit into the Lake Management program? Are there things that you would like to see done in order to make our lake the best it can be? The RCD stands ready to work with you in order to make reasonable change and improvement. Please attend our meetings and express your concerns. We allocate time at each meeting for guests to speak about anything that is District-related. We meet on the first Thursday of each month at the RCD Lake Court Center. An agenda is posted at the LCC at least 48 hours in advance of the meeting.

Social Committee

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effort put forth by the LLSC for beneficial District projects. One such project is the Lake Court Center Beautification Project. Project leader **Cyndi Cantrell** conceived a multi-phased approach to the project and with the help of landscape expert **Judie Leonard**, produced the design ideas for each phase.

LLSC members **Carla Anderson**, **Maureen Bronkema**, **Pat Nicolini**, **Joan Stoltz**, **Nadine Portner** and **Judi Wendling** provided support for the implementation portion for the latest phase of this project. In addition, friends of the LLSC **Margie**

and Bob Klein, **Susan** and **Andy Warcaba**, **Dan Nicolini** and **Dennis Cantrell** provided equipment and construction know-how. Of course, everyone provides the good old-fashioned sweat equity that is making this project one of the most successful cooperative efforts in RCD history.

This effort has the side-effect of saving taxpayer money by eliminating labor and professional design costs. Stop by the LCC to see the landscaping and attractive pergola that are the results of the Lake Court Center Beautification Project.