



FISHING ON AN EARLY FALL MORNING

LAKE LIFE

A
 Newsletter for
 the Residents of
 Lake Carey

Fall 2016

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

The President's Letter

by Ed Hetzel

Greetings from Lake Carey. Here's hoping that everyone who headed South this Fall is safe and sound after Mathew.

Probably the biggest news everyone wants to hear about is the sewers. Let me start by asking you to point your web browser to: <http://www.lemtunksa.org>. This is the official website for the joint sewer authority. You can read meeting minutes and find the revised ACT 537 document there.

You will also find instructions how to comment on the revised Update Plan on that site. These are due on October 28th, and can only be directed to the highlighted changes from the original plan. You can submit

your comments by email. The authority has made changes in response to comments in the past. (The main sewer line on the big lake's west shore was relocated from the lake front to the road, for example.) After the comment period ends, the Plan must be formally adopted and grants/loans applied for. Construction could begin in April, 2018 and operation in October, 2019.

The dam boards have been pulled. I'm taking the level down slowly to minimize downstream erosion and keep as many fish in the lake as possible. We haven't heard any news on plans to upgrade the dam.

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Eight siblings, their children, and grandchildren share Sunbright, an iconic Lake Carey cottage. Page 2



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PRESIDENT'S LETTER CONTINUED

The Growing Greener Grant is wrapping up as we install 10 floating islands (see page 3). We conducted a final round of lake sampling in September and Princeton Hydro will complete a final report by January. We did experience a significant blue-green algae bloom around October 4th. With the return of clouds and windy weather it appears to have broken up.

The LCWA made about \$2,300 from Lake Carey Day this year, our second best. I believe rainy weather kept some people away. Many thanks to everyone who helped make this such a success.

In closing, I want to note with sadness the passing of Robert W. Fellows. Rob was the third generation of his family to summer here and a life-long member of LCWA.

At Home with the Holmes

by Anne Holmes Brier & Walter Broughton

Earl and Helen McDade Holmes purchased a causeway cottage in 1942. Here they summured every year, as their only son, Earl Jr., grew. After he married Maureen O'Rourke in 1954, his parents expanded the small cottage to provide more space as ten grandchildren arrived, one after

another. Rainy days in a cottage holding all 3 generations—then numbering 14—might have been



difficult, but the tribe looks back on them with affection. The time passed quickly with cheerful talk and games of cards—hearts and pinochle were favorites. And now 'wolf,' has been added. Its players assume various identities, including a 'saver,' a 'seer,' a 'wolf' and as many 'villagers' as there are additional friends and family gathered round the table. Only one player knows all the identities assumed and only he or she knows which family member—the wolf—will attempt to kill one or more villagers as the rain drums down on the cottage roof above them.

In time, the 10 increased to 20 as Mike, Pat, Ellen (now Grogan), Anne (now Brier), Kevin, Marty, Mary (now Gallis), Timmy, Margi (now Ratchford) and Brian married. In-laws were soon incorporated within the family circle, but it was not always easy.

During Anne and Bob's honeymoon at the cottage, Earl capsized the Sunfish which he was 'teaching' them to sail. Bob, uncertain what to do, asked Anne whether he should help her father. She nodded yes and Bob then dove in to 'rescue' his new father-in-law.

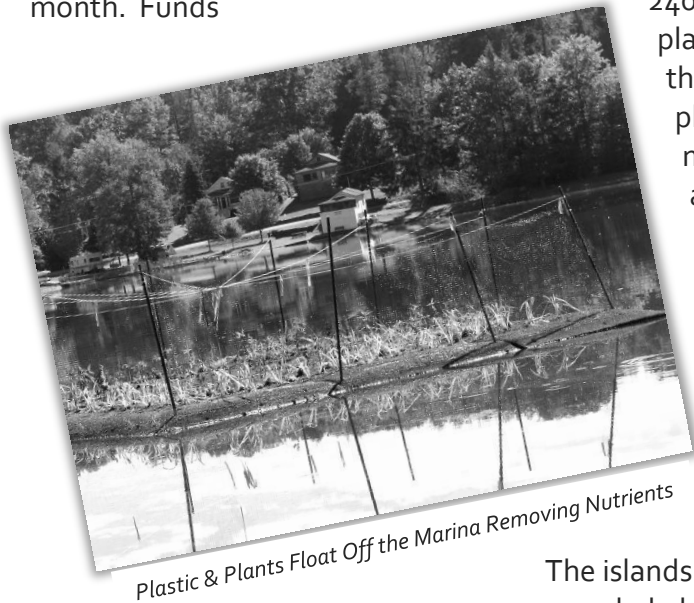
Now there are five generations, numbering 70. The causeway cottage (even when rebuilt after the tornado) was getting smaller and smaller and each member's 'time share' shorter. When Sunbright, Sally Willoughby's former home came up for sale, the decision to buy was easy (ten pose on its steps at left). Now the family enjoy two cottages which together can sleep them all, although not everyone is guaranteed a bed.

The space is badly needed when the family gathers every July 4th for its reunion. Although more dispersed now than when the tradition began, most members still manage to attend. This year Mike's daughter, Erin, flew in from Singapore! These reunions are important to this family which forged its bonds at Lake Carey. When asked what Lake Carey means to them, one after another responded 'family.' 'It's a special place for us. Lake Carey is where the spirits of our dad and grandparents are most palpable, a place apart from the rest of the world; a place where we can remember who we are and renew our ties to one another.'

The Floating Islands Arrive

by Walter Broughton

They're here! The first two of ten floating wetland islands (FWIs) were placed in the lower lake last month. Funds



Plastic & Plants Float Off the Marina Removing Nutrients

for the islands are being provided by the LCWA's third Growing Greener Grant. When all are in place, Ed Hetzel and Fred Lubnow, our Princeton-Hydro consultant, anticipate they will remove 64 pounds of phosphorus annually. That's enough to bring the lake into compliance with one of the federal Environmental Protection Agency's requirements in its 2001 TMDL for Lake Carey.

While these islands are new to our lake, they are in common use elsewhere in Pennsylvania. The Hideout placed three in one of their lakes in 2010. The State Department of Conservation and Natural Resources has been using FWIs in five Commonwealth state

parks since 2011. Harvey's Lake installed theirs in June of 2014. FWIs have become a popular and attractive way to remove the nutrients responsible for algae blooms, while providing cover and food for fish and shelter for birds and small animals.

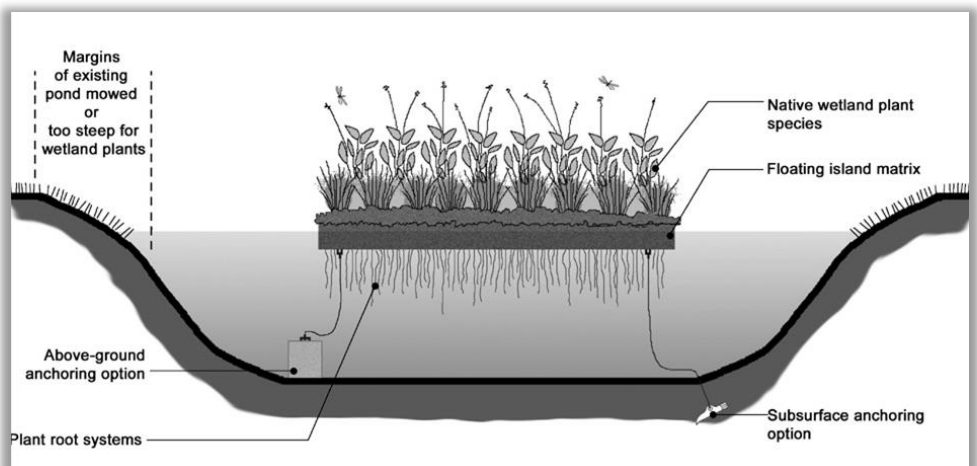
Hetzel explained that the islands which will range in size from 80 to 240 square feet are being placed in locations where the concentrations of phosphorus and nitrogen (the nutrients algae depend upon) are greatest. Care is being taken as well, to mark the islands with small red flags and place them where they will not interfere with boat traffic.

The islands are constructed of recycled plastic and planted with native species such as sedges, rushes and ironweed. The roots descend into the water where they remove nitrates and phosphorous. Essentially, they act as wetlands—like those at the entrance to the big lake—purifying the water, while

providing a habitat for wildlife and fish. "It's a win-win for everyone who uses the lake," Hetzel remarked with a smile.

As part of the effort to restore the waters of the Chesapeake Bay, Pennsylvania's Department of Environmental Protection began issuing a series of TMDLs (Total Maximum Daily Loads) 18 years ago which establish target levels for phosphorus and nitrogen reductions throughout the Bay's PA watershed (including Lake Carey). Lake Carey's TMDL called for a 67% reduction in phosphorus—most of which was thought to be resident in the lake's sediment. The 10 FWIs in this project will successfully remove the phosphorus which is being added from stormwater runoff in the watershed.

Now that the FWIs are in place to reduce the stormwater nutrients (and sewers underway to limit ground water sources from on-lot systems), plans are being made to secure a fourth LCWA Growing Greener Grant to address the larger problem of nutrients already resident in the lake's sediment.



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Some Scenes from Lake Carey Day 2016

