

# Lake Watch



Oak Hills Lake Development Association  
[www.oakhillslakebr.com](http://www.oakhillslakebr.com)

**October 2022**

Louisiana's bald eagle population is coming back! One has been spotted near our Oak Hills Lake!

**You are Invited to Our Annual Oak Hills Lake General Meeting**  
**Monday, Oct. 24<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 PM**



**At Mary Dunbar's home**  
**822 E. Lakeview Dr.**

**This is our only General Meeting!**

**Come meet your neighbors!**

**Enjoy the Fall holiday decorations and festive holiday table with lots of food!**

**Our Yearly business meeting will be conducted and nominations to the board will be taken from the floor.**

**Mark McElroy, our Lake Consultant will discuss the Lake. Hope to see YOU there!**

## **2022 Quarterly Board Meetings:**

Oak Hills Board Meetings are generally held quarterly, on the 2nd Tuesday in January, April, July, and October.

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Tues. Jan. 11, 2022 – 6:30 via Zoom meeting was called to order by Mike Puyau. Due to COVID-19 pandemic, it was not held in person.

Tues. April 12, 2022 – 6:30 - At the home of Roy & Pinney Johnson.

Tues. July 12, 2022 - 6:30 – At the home of Mike & Susan Puyau.

Tues. Oct. 11, 2022 – 6:30 – at the home of Jackie & Matt Lauve.

## **2022 Lake Officers and Board**

President - Michael Puyau  
Vice President – Roy Johnson  
Secretary – Jerry Goss  
Treasurer - Susan P.  
Social - Mary Dunbar  
Lake Development Resources - Mike Montalbano  
Newsletter & Website - Martha Austin

At large members:  
Steve Baker  
Jackie Lauve  
Keith Miller  
Walter Smith  
Positions are also open for membership, rules, welcoming, & beautification committees.

**Oak Hills Lake Consultant - Mark McElroy**

The board must consist of at least 9 members, but more can be on the board. Married couples on the board count as 1 vote only!

## **Be Sure to Lock Your Cars!**

Several cars in Oak Hills have been rummaged through, 1 gun was taken, and 1 car was stolen. **Be sure to lock your cars and houses!** Do not leave any valuables in your car.

If your car is broken into .... for non-life threatening crime, Call the East Baton Rouge Sheriff's office at: (225) 389-5074 & report it!!  
Keep your outside lights on at night!



## **On the Lake**

In early April of this year, Steve Baker discovered an invasive species of aquatic plants called Hydrilla growing in the “finger” of the lake. It was soon spotted in other areas of our lake too. Hydrilla can clog waterways, cause oxygen depletion in the water, and can result in a fish kill. So far – no fish kill has been noted. **What can we do about it?**

Several options were suggested to the board by Mark McElroy, our Lake consultant. The board unanimously voted to purchase 40-50 small genetically modified grass carp this past spring. Once the carp mature, they will eat the hydrilla, algae & duckweed. We must be patient! At the Oct. board meeting, Mark McElroy predicted that the hydrilla will be less a problem during the winter as the days get shorter & colder but could come back next spring & summer, with the increasing daylight and heat. The current grass carp will be larger by then, and Mark will monitor the lake often to see if more grass carp will be needed in the spring of 2023.

Our 4<sup>th</sup> lake drawdown will begin Nov. 1, 2022, and end in Feb. 2023. This may help rid our lake of the Hydrilla and will allow lake residents to pick up any trash, leaves and limbs while the lake is low!

**NOTE:** Mark has warned that if there is anyone on our lake who has water gardens, **PLEASE DO NOT BUY PLANTS OFF THE INTERNET!!!** These will not be local plants and could introduce many more aggressive plant species to our lake!!



Fall Sunset  
 over the lake  
 October 4, 2022

**Welcome to our Newest Lake Residents!**

Adam and Alyssa Bohnert (April)  
 998 W. Lakeview Dr.

Matthew & Jackie Kollar,  
 1134 W. Lakeview Dr.

Kevin & Krystalin Schexnayder (April)  
 12030 Chester Dr.

Brad & Katherine Musso  
 821 E. Lakeview Dr.

We hope to meet you all at our General Meeting on Mon. Oct. 24<sup>th</sup> @ 6:00 pm at Mary Dunbar's home – 822 E. Lakeview Dr.

**Our deepest Condolences to:**

The family of Belinda Meek who passed away on May 2, 2022. She is survived by her husband, A.J. Meek and her daughter, Patricia Meek.

The family of Russell & Paula Babin, whose son, Mark Russell Babin, passed away on June 18, 2022. He is survived by his parents, Russell & Paula Babin, and his two brothers.

To the family of Lois Burt. She is survived by her husband, Bill Burt, and her three sons.

To the family of Ashley & Heston Hodges in the passing of Ashley's mother last week.

To the family of Connie Henderson and Bear (Winston), whose father, Jonathan Reily, passed away Aug. 30, 2022.

**2022 Weir Cleaning Schedule**

<u>January</u> Steve Baker	<u>February</u> Rob McConnell	<u>March</u> Boyd Helm
<u>April</u> Roy Johnson	<u>May</u> Russell Babin	<u>June</u> Brian Hanchey
<u>July</u> Mike Puyau	<u>August</u> Walter Smith	<u>September</u> Ralph Lorio
<u>October</u> Paul St. Dizier	<u>November</u> Steve Baker	<u>December</u> Rob McConnell

Contact: Russell Babin at [rababin@cox.net](mailto:rababin@cox.net) if you need to change your month or have any problems. Thanks to all our 2022 volunteers!

If you would like to volunteer, please let Russell know that you're interested in the fall prior to 2023!

Prayers for all our Lake families and Greater Oak Hills Neighborhood families who have suffered from Covid, Cancer, Floods, Spring of 2022 Storms & Hurricane Ida in August, 2022!

**Lake Notes**

Lake membership is limited to the 55 owners of the lake lots around our 12-acre lake, located in Oak Hills Place. Every lot owner on the lake is eligible for membership!

To become a member, lot owners must pay a yearly membership fee, which begins each new calendar year in January.

**REMEMBER....** Boating and fishing on the lake is for members only – lake boats must have their 2 lot number decals and 2 OHLDA decals.

These decals should be placed on both sides of the bow of the boat. If you need decals, please email Roy Johnson at: [rjohnson35@cox.net](mailto:rjohnson35@cox.net)  
**NO SWIMMING IN THE LAKE AT ANYTIME!**

**Our 4<sup>th</sup> Drawdown to Start Nov. 1<sup>st</sup> 2022**

- 1<sup>st</sup> drawdown: Nov. 2013 – Feb. 2014
- 2<sup>nd</sup> drawdown: Nov. 2016 – Feb. 2017
- 3<sup>rd</sup> drawdown: Nov. 2019 – Feb. 2020
- 4<sup>th</sup> drawdown: Nov. 2022 – Feb. 2023

We have successfully had 3 Lake drawdowns. These are scheduled every 3 years to allow lake owners to clean up around the lake's shore. *The Lake levels will go down several feet. This will allow individuals to remove trash, limbs & leaves from the shoreline of their lots.*

**2022 Weir Duties**

1. Be safe. Be careful not to twist your ankle on the grating.
2. Check the weir for blockage at least once a week.
3. Check the weir for blockage after any rains.
4. Watch the weather forecast and check the weir for blockage before any big storms.
5. During big storms (1+ inches) during the fall/winter, I usually check the weir during a lull in the rain to avoid anything "getting out of hand". Bring a flashlight at night if necessary.
6. Keep the grates with smaller openings propped up and out of the way. They just plug up the weir faster.
7. Bring a small trash bag to haul off the small non-biodegradable stuff (cans, bottles, paper, toys, etc.)
8. I simply push the small organic stuff (leaves, pine needles, twigs) through the grating.
9. I stack the larger stuff (branches, boards, fence posts, etc.) by the street. The city will haul it away.
10. Watch out for floating clumps of elephant ears near the weir. Break them up and get them out of the water. They can quickly plug the grating.
11. If things get out of hand during a big storm and the lake water level keeps rising, call other weir team members for help.
12. If you will be out of town during your month, find a backup to check the weir for you.