Lake Lines

News From The Lake Sovereign Neighborhood

www.lakelines.com LSHOA 330 Lake Sovereign Court, Canton, Georgia 30114
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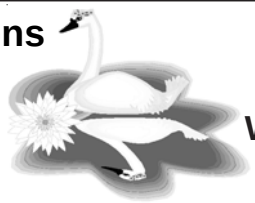
Cherokee County's Premier Private Lake Community

Reflections



What comes to mind when you think of Lake Sovereign?

The beauty, tranquility, the marvelous views when watching the sunrise and the magnificent sunsets as they stretch across the water. Our Canadian geese, wild ducks, and our very own swan, and let us not forget our wonderful neighbors. We all make up this great community that we call our home.

With the arrival of spring new beginnings develop, take root and eventually produce vibrant blossoms that we all enjoy. Using this picture of spring as an analogy we have new beginnings here at Lake Sovereign. The new Board of Directors consists of three new members which will serve a two-year term. Two other Directors have a remaining year of service. We as Directors will strive to serve this community to the best of our ability. A great debt of gratitude is owed to those that served before us. They left some mighty big shoes to fill. Thank you for all those who have served and those that continue to serve as officers and committee members. Our community would not be the same without you.

The new Board has great challenges ahead as we see more development in the area and the widening of Sixes road. Our goal as a Board is that any action we take will enhance and keep Lake Sovereign the most desired pristine lake community in Cherokee County. All improvements that are made will be with the hope of adding value to all our homes and lifestyle.

As Board members , we want to hear from you. Hopefully in the next few weeks I plan to meet and greet every homeowner in our neighborhood. As the new President I welcome any suggestions that you may have in improving our community. A few improvements can be seen already with our tennis courts. We raised the fence on the gazebo side of the courts for security reasons and had the courts resurfaced . We also formed a recreation committee which includes the pool, the tennis courts, picnic area and gazebo. If you have any recreational events that you would like to see happen in our neighborhood, please let us know.

Our intention as a Board is to have a democracy so that all have a voice , but that will not happen unless we as neighbors get involved in our community. We have major issues and challenges that are set before us which we plan to meet head on with the remembrance of what comes to mind when we think about **Lake Sovereign**; **Our Home**.

Gary Copeland

SWANS OF SPRING?

Our Swan Is A Lady

Our Lake Sovereign swan is spending most of her time these days tending the three eggs in her nest near Art and Lorry Nitti's home. We know our swan is a 'mute swan' because she has an orange bill, with the tip and base of her bill black in color. All other varieties of swans have black bills. Mute swans are usually silent, as the name suggests. Adults sometimes snort and make hissing noises or puppylike barking notes or whistles, though the sounds are not far reaching due to their straight trachea. Also, the sound of the wings during flight, which has been described as a musical throbbing or humming, is very audible. They also use visual displays as a form of communication, such as postures. For example, in an aggressive posture, swans often arch their secondary wing feathers over the back. When swimming, a mute swan holds its neck in a graceful curve with the bill pointing downward, as opposed to other swans, which carry their bills level and necks erect. Our swan's head and neck is stained brown from the mud and water containing iron. A swan's top flight speed is 50 to 55 m.p.h. and the greatest age recorded for a banded mute swan is 19 years. In captivity, they have lived 30 to 40 years.

Although mute swans are extremely aggressive while nesting, Art has become the official 'godfather' of the eggs. Our swan will leave the nest for a short time if Art is in the yard to keep guard over the eggs. If all goes well, the eggs should hatch around the first week of May.

Art has done some research and discovered a mute swan will find a mate even if it has lost a previous mate. Swans either build a new nest or use a previously constructed mound, such as a muskrat house. The nest is large, made of aquatic vegetation, and lined with feathers and down. It is usually built well above the normal water level in swampy places near a pond or lake. It is possible for clutches of 5 to 12 to occur, but 5 to 7 is most common. The eggs are pale gray to pale blue-green and the incubation lasts 36 to 38 days. Should the eggs hatch, the chicks will be brownish gray (gradually turning white within the next 12 months) and only remain in the nest for one day. Normally the male swan takes the first-hatched cygnet to the water while the female continues to incubate the remaining eggs. Chicks sometimes ride on the backs of their parents or under their wings. They should be able to fly in about 60 days, but may not remain here, as parents usually drive the young away by the next breeding season. The cygnets then join flocks of other non-breeding swans, and during this time molt their feathers, becoming flightless for a short period of time. In the next two years, the cygnets begin to bond with a mate and begin to look for suitable breeding territory. Swans do not begin to breed until about their third year.

Please remember that mute swans are extremely aggressive while nesting and when nurturing their young cygnets. Even in semi-domestication, the nest is strongly defended; swans have been known to attack other waterfowl and even people. Blows from their powerful wings can be especially painful. They can be dangerous to children and are capable of killing or maiming some of the larger predators.

REMEMBER…

The use of common area amenities such as the swimming pool, tennis courts and lake are for homeowners in good standing with our homeowners association.

While guests are using common area amenities, a Lake Sovereign resident must accompany them.

A resident and/or guest must use a Boat-ID Flag when using a boat, canoe or kayak on the lake.

Please help keep our common areas free of litter by picking up all cans, bottles, paper, and unwanted fishing items and placing them in garbage cans.

Only electric motors may be used or attached to a boat when on the lake.

GET THE DIRT OUT CAMPAIGN

The US EPA has long recognized storm water runoff as one of the leading causes of impartment of streams and lakes. They must have heard about Lake Sovereign!

Phyllis Lea and Jim Derr recently completed all the requirements of **Get the Dirt Out Project**, and have been properly trained and certified to: Evaluate Monitor and Assess Construction Sites. They are committed to contacting appropriate authorities, using professional and reasonable actions, when problems are identified for Lake Sovereign.

Here is some additional information about this new initiative:

Get the Dirt Out - The Georgia Construction Storm water Project.

UCR and the Georgia Center for Law in the Public Interest (GCLPI) are partnering with other Georgia riverkeeper and watershed groups, in order to educate interested citizens about this important issue. According to the Georgia Environmental Protection Division, over 60 percent of the monitored streams within the Chattahoochee River Basin do not support their designated use. **In fact, storm water runoff is the major cause of impaired water quality in Georgia and many of our streams, rivers, lakes, and estuaries are severely impacted by development and resultant storm water. Sedimentation problems are typically the result of inadequate erosion and sedimentation controls on construction sites**.

For more information about this program, please visit ***www.getthedirtout.org***

HEAVENLY HOUSEHOLD HINTS & Readers' TIPS

To open a sealed envelope: Put in the freezer for a few hours and then slide a knife under the flap. The envelope can then be resealed.

Use an empty toilet paper roll to store appliance cords. It keeps them neat and you can write on the roll which appliance it belongs to.

For icy door steps in freezing temperatures, take warm water and put Dawn dishwashing liquid in it. Pour it all over the steps. They won't refreeze.

To remove old wax from inside a glass candle holder, put it in the freezer for a few hours. Then take the candle holder out and turn it upside down. The wax will fall out.

Crayon marks on walls? Take a damp rag, dip it in baking soda. It should come off with little effort.

For permanent marker on appliances/counter tops (like store receipt BLUE!), use rubbing alcohol on a paper towel.

When purchasing a box of S.O.S Pads, take a pair of scissors and cut each pad into half. An added bonus is the scissors get sharpened also!

Blood stains on clothes? Just pour a little hydrogen peroxide on a cloth and proceed to wipe off every drop of blood.

Use vertical strokes when washing windows outside and horizontal strokes for inside windows. Then you can tell which side has the streaks.

Straight vinegar will get outside windows really clean. Don't wash windows on a sunny day. They will dry too quickly and will probably streak.

Spray a bit of perfume on the light bulb in any room to create a lovely light scent in each room when the light is turned on.

Place fabric softener sheets in dresser drawers and your clothes will smell freshly washed for weeks to come. You can also do this with towels and linen.

Candles will last a lot longer if placed in the freezer for at least 3 hours prior to burning.

To clean artificial flowers, pour some salt into a paper bag and add the flowers. Shake vigorously as the salt will absorb all the dust and dirt and leave your artificial flowers looking like new!

To easily remove burnt on food from your skillet, simply add a drop or two of liquid dishwashing soap and enough water to cover bottom of pan; bring to a boil on stovetop.

Spray your TUPPERWARE with nonstick cooking spray before pouring in tomato based sauces and there won't be any stains.

Wrap celery in aluminum foil when putting in the refrigerator and it will keep for weeks.

When boiling corn on the cob, add a pinch of sugar to help bring out the corn's natural sweetness.

Cure for headaches: Take a lime, cut it in half and rub it on your forehead. The throbbing will go away.

Don't throw out that leftover wine: Freeze into ice cubes for future use in casseroles and sauces.

To get rid of the itch from mosquito bites, try applying soap on the area for instant relief.

Ants, ants, ants everywhere: Well, they are said to never cross a chalk line. So get your chalk out and draw a line on the floor or wherever ants tend to march. See for yourself.

Use air freshener to clean mirrors. It does a good job and leaves a lovely smell to the shine.

When you get a splinter, reach for the scotch tape before resorting to tweezers or a needle. Simply put the scotch tape over the splinter, then pull it off. Scotch tape removes most splinters painlessly and easily.

Now look what you can do with Alka Seltzer!

To clean a toilet: Drop in two Alka Seltzer tablets, wait twenty minutes, brush and flush. The citric acid and effervescent action clean vitreous China.

To clean a vase: To remove a stain from the bottom of a glass vase or cruet, fill with water and drop in two Alka Seltzer tablets.

To polish jewelry: Drop two Alka Seltzer tablets into a glass of water and immerse the jewelry for two minutes.

To clean a thermos bottle: Fill the bottle with water, drop in four Alka Seltzer tablets, and let soak for an hour (or longer, if necessary).

To unclog a drain: Clear the sink drain by dropping three Alka Seltzer tablets down the drain followed by a cup of Heinz White Vinegar. Wait a few minutes, then run the hot water.

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Common Grounds Report

Spring is always a busy time in the neighborhood as our common amenities are put into full use. Over the next few weeks, the irrigation systems will be checked for any required maintenance, the entrance flowers will be changed for summer and the diseased wild roses in the neighborhood will be replaced with Knockout Roses. These are the same roses planted in front of the Club House, which bloom from early spring until late frost.

Some additional landscaping will be installed at the East Shore Drive dock, since this area is almost fully built out on each side of the boardwalk. As presented in an earlier edition of Lake Lines, this area has been cleared of the majority of underbrush and the creek bed has been strengthened with additional rock over the winter.

Our tennis area has received only basic maintenance since the owners assumed control of our Association. The 2005 operating budget places emphasis on the tennis court area. Bids have been taken and awarded. During the next month the south side court fence will be heightened to provide improved court security. The courts will be resurfaced, the net poles will be straightened and strengthened and current electrical problems with the court lighting will be assessed and repaired. Thanks to Don Copeland and Larry Wagner for their efforts in overseeing this project. Tennis court users are reminded to park their cars in the area adjacent to the waste pumping station on West Ridge Drive. Court users are also requested to turn off the court lights when leaving the courts.

The Common Grounds Committee is in the process of taking bids for concrete work around the pool showers, the boat ramp and the pool entrance. Bids are also being taken for replacement of sidewalks along properties that failed to replace broken sections at the time their properties were purchased. Owners will be contacted by the Architectural Review Committee to arrange for work completion once the prices have been obtained from the contractors.

Lake Sovereign Pool News

We are planning to open the pool on Memorial Day. We expect Cherokee County Health Department to inspect our pool mid May. We are continuing the very successful community volunteer pool program. Last year, families volunteered for one week during the summer to close the pool at 9 PM, to do light tidying/checking, lowering umbrellas, etc. Any problems were reported to the Pool Committee for resolution. We believe the excellent condition of the pool last year as well as low incidents of vandalism were due to this program. We would like to thank those who have volunteered so far. The recreation (pool) committee will be requesting additional volunteers during the month of May. You may request a specific week(Mon-Sun) by calling **Trey Breitbarth or Don Copeland or by email at weldond1@hotmail.com**.

New owners may request a pool key/combination by contacting Trey or Don. We will distribute the combination for the new pool gate lock when the new gate is complete.

Please contact Trey or Don if you would be interested in being a part of the Recreation Committee which includes the pool.

Recreation Committee Members: **Trey Breitbarth, Don Copeland, Larry Wagner and Tom Foreman**

Lake Sovereign Swimming Pool Operating Rules for 2005

The pool rules are in effect for the benefit of all members. It is our right and privilege to enforce these rules as stated below. If at anytime you witness illegal activity at our pool, please call the police (911).

Pool Opens 28 May 05 and Closes 6 Sep 05 **Pool Hours of Operation are 9am to 9pm**

All persons using the pool do so at their own risk. Owners and the Association are not responsible for accidents or injuries.

The pool is for private use only. An adult resident (greater than 18 years of age) must accompany all guests. Children under the age of 14 must be accompanied by an adult.

The HOA reserves the right to suspend/revoke pool rights to those who choose to violate the rules.

Members who are not in good standing with the Association are denied use of the common areas. Good standing status is applied to all owners who are current with all financial obligations to the Association.

NO glass containers of any kind are permitted in the pool area.

NO running, rough play, or boisterous or obscene behavior are permitted in and around the pool area.

Residents and/or guests under the influence of alcohol or drugs are not permitted in or around the pool area.

Any person with infectious/communicable disease is not permitted to use the pool.

NO diving.

Proper swim attire must be on at all times; swim diapers must be on all children that are not completely potty trained.

NO animals (except assistance) are allowed in or around the pool area.

Please shower before entering pool. **Emergency Dial 911**

SOME SUGGESTIONS for the CLEANLINESS of the POOL AREA

The pool area as well as the Cabana are owner cleaned and maintained. Below are suggestions for insuring a pleasant atmosphere in the pool area:
a. Please pick up paper, trash, bottles, cans, boxes, etc. as you see them around the pool and in the Cabana. Kids will be kids.
b. Please lower umbrellas whenever you see them raised and no one is sitting under them. Storms can arrive quickly (even during the day) with little warning and destroy them.

Note to Parents: *Please emphasize to your children that the pool is theirs too. They do have a responsibility to pick up after themselves as well as report any damaging activity at the pool. Please call the* ***LSHOA Recreation Committee*** *with problems, comments or suggestions.*

Trey Breitbarth *or* ***Don Copeland***

Tennis News

If you have been by the Tennis Courts lately you've probably noticed that the low fence on the gazebo side of the courts has been raised, the courts have been resurfaced, and the lights now are operational. Talbot Tennis was responsible for the excellent work at an excellent price. You may have also noticed that the Tennis Courts are now locked in order to protect the courts and equipment. **You may request your key by calling Larry or Diane Wagner**. We will bring you a key. For the time being, we are using a padlock, however our plan is to install a standard commercial knob set within a few weeks. When this occurs, each Lake Sovereign residence will be able to secure their own key to the permanent knob set. Please realize that the only way to protect the court surface from kids using rolling vehicles, as well as to appropriately reserve the courts for the use of Lake Sovereign residents and guests is to keep the gate locked. Your comments and suggestions are greatly appreciated.

Welcome to the Neighborhood

James & Dianne Harris **Hy Tang**

Congratulations to John and Jane Krueger on the new arrival of a healthy grandson!

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Friday & Saturday May 13th & 14th
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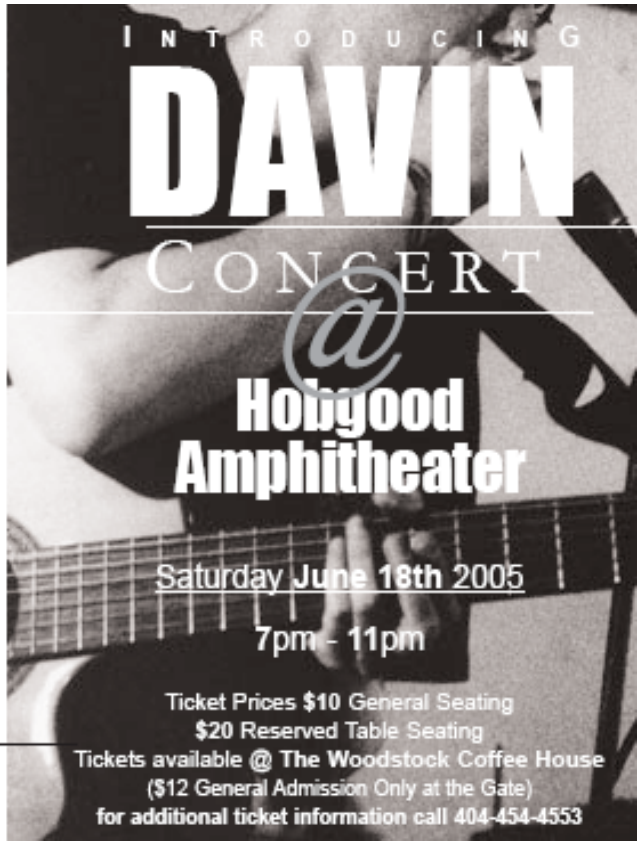

CPR COURSE AND CRITICAL CONDITIONS WORKSHOP

In a combined effort, the Lake and the Social Committees are scheduling a 4-hour CPR course that will teach participants how to resuscitate Adults and Children. The cost is $40.00 per person plus a flat travel cost of $50.00 to be divided by the number of participants.

WellStar also has a workshop on making decisions about your final health care wishes. You will receive a free Critical Conditions Planning Guide and instructions for completing your Living Will and Durable Power of Attorney for your Health Care.

Both courses will be held at our Club House.

A 6-hour certification course is also available (at Wellstar) for those who need CPR certification for their job.

To sign up for either course, please contact—

Phyllis Lea, Lake Committee or **Sue Gross, Social Committee**

Lake Sovereign Annual Garage Sale

Date - Friday May 13, and Saturday May 14
Time - 8am - 3pm
Like last year there will be a $10 fee per household to participate. This fee covers directional signs and advertising. Any leftover money will go to social committee to help fund future social events. You need to mark your own home with a sign or balloon on your mailbox. Directional signs will go up early that morning. You don't have to participate both days, but Friday is the better day. To participate get your $10 to either
Tiana Pauline
or P.J. Beer

Swim Lessons at Lake Sovereign Pool

I have contacted Tidal Wave Swim Academy again this year for swim lessons at our pool. They will start the week of June 13th. We can add more weeks if the interest is there. Lessons start at 10am Monday - Thursday. Cost for 1 week is $45 Mon-Thurs. Two weeks is $80 Mon-Thurs. Discounts for additional child.

Reserve spot by emailing **Tim at clemsonnun@aol.com or call**
He will then send registration form and you can return with a check. You can call Tim directly for questions or call

Tiana Pauline

Spring “to-do” list: Spring Garden Maintenance

Every season brings a different set of chores in the garden. Spring is an exciting time for gardeners as preparations are made for the bounty and beauty of the garden as it awakes from winter hibernation. It can also, however, be a bit overwhelming to know how to prioritize your gardening time at this time of year. Here is a helpful list of chores that should be tended to in the spring.

Pruning

For early blooming shrubs such as forsythia and viburnum, prune them as soon as blooms have passed. Early spring is also an ideal time to prune your roses.

Deadheading

Remove spent flowers from bulbs, but leave the rest of the plant as is for the time being.

Weeding

Pull weeds from your beds and borders before they have a chance to take hold and spread.

Composting

Tend to your compost if it has been neglected over the winter. If you do not have a compost bin, spring is a great time to start one.

Tools

Spring is a good time to prepare your tools for the oncoming gardening season and to make any necessary repairs or new purchases. You will be happy you have done so when summer sets in.

Plant

Spring is a great time to add new plants to your garden. Be sure, however, that all threat of frost has past. Plant such things trees, shrubs, hardy annuals, and summer blooming bulbs.

Fertilize & Mulch

Fertilize and mulch beds and borders. Spring is also a good time to fertilize fruit trees. If you applied heavy winter mulch for protection from the cold, you will need to clear it away.

Staking

Stake plants that may be prone to wind damage during the unpredictable spring weather.

Lawn Care

Spring is the best time to start a new lawn from seed. For established lawns, you should start mowing in the spring, but don’t initially cut the grass very short for the first few times.

Of course, whether you start these chores in early, mid, or late spring depends on the climate where you live, taking in to account such factors as when the threat of frost has past or when the ground is thawed enough to dig. I hope these tips will give you a good idea as to where to focus your attention in your garden this spring. Enjoy!

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