



Ponderosa ANCHOR

www.lakeponderosa.org

October 2023



**Come on out all you little goblins!
Trick or Treat time is right around the corner!**

**Mark your calendars for Lake Ponderosa's Trick or Treat Night!
Saturday October 28th 5:00-7:00 p.m.**

Please email ponderosautil@zumatel.net if you would like your house placed on the map for Treat stop locations!

Deadline to be placed on map is October 20th.

*Mark your Calendars for these
Fall & Winter Events at Lake Ponderosa!*

*Fall Decorating Contest
Judging Date: October 16th*

*Lakewide Trick or Treating
Saturday, October 28th*

*Christmas Lights Contest
Judging Date: December 12th*

*Ice Fishing Tournament
Saturday, February 10th*

Lake Ponderosa Association Board Members

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1kfisherman@gmail.com

Mark Your Calendar for these 2024 LPA Events:

Ice Fishing Tournament
Saturday, February 10, 2024

Lakewide Clean-up Day
Saturday, April 6, 2024
(Tentative Date)

**Beautification Plant
Exchange and DIY project**
Saturday, April 27, 2024

Pancake Breakfast
Saturday, May 25, 2024

Lake-wide Garage Sales
May 24 - 25, 2024

Annual Board Meeting
Saturday, June 8, 2024
10:00am

Jet Ski Certification Course
Saturday, June 8, 2024 (PM)

Kids Fishing Derby
Saturday, June 15, 2024

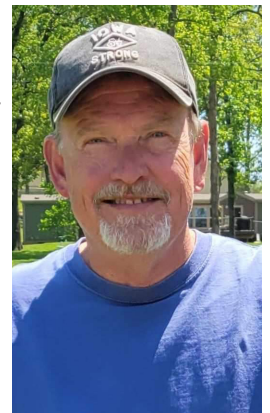
Fireworks!
Saturday, July 6, 2024

Lake Ponderosa Association Board Meetings

Lake Association Board meetings are held in the Association building, located at 175 W. Woodland Rd., beginning at 7:00PM, the second Thursday of the following months: **January, March, April, May, June, July, August, September, and October.** All lake property owners are encouraged to attend the meetings. The board members would like to hear your ideas, suggestions, feedback and/or concerns during the Open Forum portion of the monthly meeting. Hope to see you there!

Meet One of Our New Board Members: Kevin Smith

I am proud to announce my new role as a board member of the Lake Ponderosa association. My wife Marlo and I have been coming to lake Ponderosa for over 25 years. We started as weekenders but we always found ourselves doing everything to get back to the lake. So a few years ago I retired from iron working, sold our house in West Des Moines and became full time residents. I am passionate about fishing, golfing and lake time with my family. I am excited to serve and help the LPA grow. Thank you!



NEW Lake Ponderosa Association Community Page on Facebook!

A new Facebook page was created with approval from the Lake Association Board members and the Lake Office. This page can be used to post information regarding events, announcements, reminders, etc. It can be used by local businesses and businesses who service homes at the lake free of charge. There will be a group of administrators, that reserve the right to remove any post he/she feels does not fit the intent of this group.





What are your firsts?

I love the stories that I hear from our Lake families, always bringing to light the "firsts" their family members or friends experience while visiting.

We recently had our great nieces to visit with one of their teenage friends. They quickly became excited about all the activities they were going to be able to participate in that day. It warmed my heart to hear the 14 year old say with great enthusiasm " this will be the first time I've ever gone tubing!" and then she followed it by saying "actually, this is the first time I will ever be on a boat!"

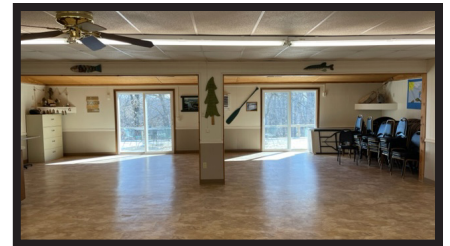
It brought me directly back to my high school and college years when my parents had a place here on the lake. I couldn't believe how many of my friends in high school and college had no idea how to cast a fishing pole. It was their first. How many people my dad whipped around on a tube and threw them off, it was their first. How many times I bobbed in the water, instructing someone what position to put their legs, arms etc to get them up on skis, it was their first.

From tubing, fishing, skiing or maybe kayaking or paddle boarding...think of all of those people you have impacted by providing their "first" to here at our wonderful Lake Ponderosa. I recently had another "first" of my own. We rented the Hydro Bikes offered at D & L Bait, and they were a blast! D & L Bait rents the bikes for \$20 per hour, and there are four bikes available.

Yet another first that occurred here at Lake P! It is a place of making memories, ones that I know people cherish forever.



RENT THE ASSOCIATION BUILDING



The Association building may be rented by any LPA dues paying member for \$100.00 plus a refundable deposit of \$65.00. Cost to non dues paying members is \$135.00. The deposit will only be refunded if the building is left in the same or better condition as before you rented it. The Association building is located at 175 West Woodland Road, Montezuma, IA 50171. For additional information please contact Tom Bates at 319-330-0635.

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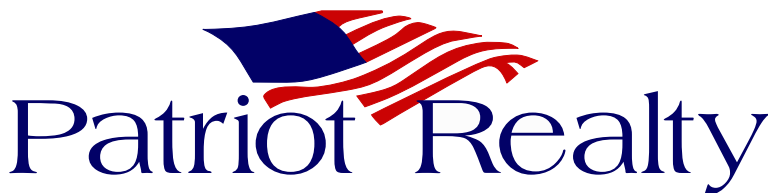
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There's a SNAKE at my LAKE!

Sounds like a great childrens story book, doesn't it?

On June 18th, Beverly Stafford and her grandson, Theo made a snake. It started with a wonderful snake head and approximately 7 rocks following it. Bev welcomed our lake family to add to this on our FB page. It is a fun alternative to the painting rocks, and using them as a "hide and seek" game.

Today, the snake has grown to nearly 90 rocks. Bev has the perfect wall along her driveway for our Lake Snake to live! Bev lives on Horseshoe drive. While you are out and about- check out our snake! Better yet, paint some

rocks and let your children, grandchildren or guests add to it!

Bev has announced the Snake (maybe we need to name him) will be going into hibernation 10-31-23 if you are wanting to pick up any rocks you added, please do so before then.

Thank you Bev for providing a fun activity for all!





A LOOK at the BUDGET

Treasurers Corner

Membership fees and voluntary donations continue to be in-line with expectations and for most funds, donations were similar or a little better than the previous year for most funds. Balances were as follows:

Unrestricted Fund - Available Balance \$54,637. The prior year's balance was \$41,765. Discretionary spending included replacement of the refrigerator and water heater in the association building.

Restricted Boat Ramp Fund - Available Balance \$-0-. The prior year's balance was \$7,857. Note- The board approved to move funds in the amount of \$4,573 from the general fund to cover the shortage in this fund.

Restricted Contingency Fund - Available Balance \$42,117. The prior year's balance was \$41,407.

Restricted Fireworks Fund - Available Balance \$52,137. The prior year's balance was \$49,114.


Restricted Fish Management Fund - Available Balance \$8,669. The prior year's balance was \$6,826.

Restricted Fishing Derby Fund - Available Balance \$2,069. The prior year's balance was \$5,789. Note- spending was higher this year celebrating the 25th anniversary of the event.

Restricted Lake Beautification Fund - Available Balance \$1,880. The prior year's balance was \$974.

We continue to encourage property owners to make voluntary donations beyond the annual membership fee to the unrestricted fund, or target donations to the fund of their choice. As indicated above, the Boat Ramp Fund needs the most current support to fully fund for the recent security gate upgrade and to provide funds for additional security enhancements being considered by the board.

Thanks to everyone for their donations of both money and time to make our Association successful.



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Why Freeze Fish? Here's some tips:

Fresh fish is a tasty protein that has a relatively short shelf life. Any fish you are not planning on eating within a few days must be frozen. Properly freezing a fish does not mean tossing it into the freezer.

Here's what you need to know to have top-quality fish for months:

- Air is your enemy. Any air that touches your fish will destroy it. It's that simple. So you must prevent air from contacting the fish by vacuum-sealing it, glazing it or wrapping it tightly. (This is in order of preference.)
- If you catch a lot of fish or buy lots of fresh fish from the market, buy a vacuum sealer. A great investment to make things easier.
- If you choose not to vacuum seal, you can glaze the fish by dipping them in cold water and putting the dipped fish on a sheet pan in the freezer. Let that water freeze, then repeat the process several more times to get a 1/4 inch thick ice glaze on the fish. You can then put your glazed fish into a plastic bag and place in the freezer for storage.
- Place cleaned fillets in freezer bags, fill with water, then squeeze the air out and seal bag.
- You can wrap your fish in plastic wrap, then put the wrapped fish into a plastic bag. This method is not as effective at preventing moisture loss and freezer burn like the other methods.

Never freeze your fish for longer than 6 months. After that, you will notice a serious decline in quality. Fatty fish, such as salmon or trout, go downhill even faster. Don't freeze them longer than 3 months.

When you thaw your frozen fish, do it gradually. Never put them in the microwave to thaw. Let the fish thaw in the fridge or in cold water. Thawing at room temperature is also a bad idea. You want them to remain cold and come to temperature slowly.

Fishing Tidbits:

Selective harvest is key to ensure there are good populations of bigger fish for the future. Here's some information regarding how to get 1 pound of bluegill "meat" for the frying pan. It doesn't take too many bigger gills to reach that amount.

How many fish to get 1 pound of bluegill fillets

Size (inches)	Number of fish
6	25
7	15
8	6
9	4

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Meet One of Our New Board Members: Curt Hodges

I have been married to my wife Missy for 42 years. We have two daughters, Chelsie and Mackenzie, who have blessed us with 5 Grandchildren. Our family has been spending weekends, holidays, and vacations at Lake Ponderosa for over 30 years and have been property owners for 25 years. Our home away from the lake is on a small farm south of Newton.

Over the years my hobbies have included fishing, hunting, boating, racing, metal fabrication, and owning a small cattle herd. I enjoy family vacations, playing cards and attending annual conservation banquets.

I retired in 2021 after 37 years in the telecommunications industry and 4 years in the heavy equipment industry. I currently work part time for a local farmer. During my time in the telecommunications industry I served on the Iowa One Call board of directors for 15 years.



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Look at what our Beautification Committee has been up to!

1. New road Signs: Sunglasses with "Fun in the Sun", Life jacket with "Safety First", Beach balls with "Have a Ball at the Lake".
2. The ramp beach was repainted by Terry Gaskill with large sunflowers.
3. Trash pickup continues. Terri Pothast is looking for a replacement for her job. The hard work is all done!
4. Plant Exchange. Attended well. At least 30 plants to share. All types: tall grasses, hostas, flowers, and other perennials.
5. Children's Rockin' Garden event on Memorial Weekend. It grew a lot this year! So many kids and so many new rocks enjoyed the hour and a half event.
6. The first Annual 4th of July decorating contest is in the books. We found that judging, even with a contest rubric, was very hard! The decorations were delightful and creative.
7. The wildflowers project took a few hits this summer, but we had many flowers. The fall flowers are just beginning to grow. Next year we will have even more flowers!

And look what's coming up!

1. Our first fall decorating contest is in October. Participants will decorate the roadside of their home, entry way or garage, with festive fall decorations. Judging date is October 16th.
2. Also a Christmas decorating contest. Let's light up the lake in December!
3. The plant exchange in late April will change. We will incorporate a craft project about plants with a Master Gardener before the plant exchange.
4. More seed planting on the causeway
5. At our meeting we will make new plans for the upcoming year.



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KEEP CALM AND GET YOUR S'MORES ON

S'more Recipes to try at your next campfire!

SALTED CARAMEL S'MORES: Need I say more? Salted Caramel S'mores. It's as easy as grabbing your fave caramel sauce

MEXICAN CHOCOLATE S'MORES: Cinnamon + Chili Powder adds just that little punch of flavor that your taste buds want. Really, I swear. Just ask them. They'll tell ya how it is.

THE ELVIS S'MORES: Elvis apparently loved banana, peanut butter, and bacon sandwiches.

Other candy ideas to try instead of the standard chocolate bar:

- Almond Joy • Peppermint Patty
- Twix • Nestle's Crunch • Rolos
- Peanut Butter Cups • Andes Mint

Don't Forget to



FALL BACK

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on November 5th!

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Meet One of Our New Board Members: Jimmi Brown

My name is Jimmi (aka Jim or Catfish) and I moved to this little slice of Heaven in August of 2018.

I was born in an ambulance because my parents were camping and fishing over the Labor day weekend back in 1974, one could say fishing was my destiny. I was raised in Council Bluffs and every weekend was spent fishing the small farm ponds and rivers in Southwest Iowa and Eastern Nebraska for bullheads, carp and catfish, unless sporting events got in the way. In the early 90's I started competing in catfish tournaments in Iowa, Nebraska, Kansas and Missouri and in 2000 that changed to nationally fishing in Oklahoma, Texas and South Carolina. In 2002 my fishing partners and I placed 13th out of 75 teams at the National Catfishing Tournament in South Carolina. Then in 2011 and 2016 my partners and I won the Nebraska State Catfishing Championship. Being on the water is my happy place and fishing has brought me success and accolades over the years. While spending that much time on the water has its challenges, it definitely has its rewards, so I decided to turn my passion into a business which has now become Chasin Cats Guide Service. For me, the pleasure and joy comes from figuring out the fish and their patterns as everyday is different. I truly enjoy all the highs and lows that fishing provides. From toddlers to adults in their 90's, the laughter, smiles, and excitement is what it's really all about. I'm truly blessed and forever grateful that I am fortunate enough to do what I love.

My daughter Abbi (24) who resides in Papillion NE, landed her best catch, NO CPR on this one and will be saying I DO in January 2024. I am extremely excited to watch them evolve and start their lives together and I'm looking forward to having another angler in the family.

As the old saying goes, "you can't catch them from the couch" so get out there, cast away, get hooked and FISH ON, and please practice Catch Photo Release (CPR) those MONSTA'S when appropriate, so the next generation can enjoy them!



BE SAFE!

Our EMT's and Emergency services want to be able to locate you as fast as possible in case of Emergency. If you do not have a 911 address sign, please consider buying one! We need certain quantity to order. Please contact Vicki Vopava at 515-975-9285 or vopavav@gmail.com to get on the next shipment we are ordering! Signs are \$35.

Important Reminder: 911 Signage



The Lake Ponderosa Association encourages all lake residents to purchase a 911 roadside address sign. These signs are very helpful to emergency service and delivery drivers to assist them in locating the address provided quickly and accurately. Please consider purchasing a 911 sign even if you currently have your address numbers displayed on your home or mail box, those may be difficult to see during poor visibility (night, fog, etc.). The blue/white reflective roadside signs will assist these drivers, and your family/friends, in finding your home.

Send a check in the amount of \$35.00, payable to the Lake Ponderosa Association and mail to the Lake Ponderosa Association and mail to PO Box 751, Montezuma, IA 50171. Please note "911 Sign" in the memo of the check. Include your full name, lake address and your phone number.

Once you receive your sign it should be placed within a few feet of the driveway close to the road. Sign should be perpendicular to the road and visible from either direction. Please call 811 for line locates around 48 hours prior to installation.



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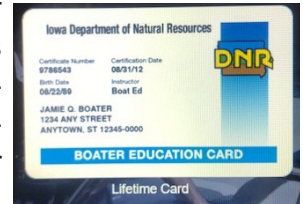
WATCH for upcoming information regarding our **Jet Ski Certification Course!**

Class to be held **Saturday June 8th** in the afternoon. It will be a Sponsor/Child class (i.e. parent/child, grandparent/grandchild etc.) To prepare for this class, online courses will also need to be completed. More information will be in the March edition of THE ANCHOR.

If your young student is wanting to complete those over the winter time contact Susan Hayes at 515-331-0232.

For the Boat US Foundation Free Iowa Online Course, go to: www.boatus.org/iowa

You need education if you are 12-17 years old and will be operating a motorized vehicle or vessel over 10hp or PWC.



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MY FAVORITE COLOR IS
CHRISTMAS LIGHTS!

Stay tuned to the **NEW Lake Ponderosa Association Community Facebook Page** for details to sign up for the **Christmas Lights Contest!** Judging will be **December 12th PM.** Snow Date will be **December 13th PM.**

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 -Former Lake Ponderosa Property Owner

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Sizes Available

- 12'x36' with 14' tall door
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Joe Meland

Ice Safety

Minimum Ice Depth

Adirondack .NET

2" or less stay off ice

3 inches 1 person and gear

4 inches group in single file

7.5 inches light car

10 inches medium truck

**based on solid blue lake ice*

Don't forget to disconnect your garden hose

A friendly reminder to all, especially those who do not winter with us here at Lake Ponderosa.

Make sure you disconnect any garden hoses and tighten the faucet to be sure water is turned off for the winter. If you leave a garden hose attached, even with a small amount of water, it can stay lodged in the pipe by the spigot and will freeze very quickly. To best preservation of your hoses, remove all excess water and all kinks in the hose, and wind into a circle. It is best to store in a temperature-controlled location.

THE Ultimate AUTUMN Bucket List For Families

Printable

- Take a hayride
- Escape a corn maze
- Take a Fall nature walk
- Go pumpkin picking
- Go apple picking
- Visit a farm
- Roast pumpkin seeds
- Jump in a big pile of leaves
- Roast Marshmallows
- See a drive-in movie
- Visit the farmer's market
- Drink apple cider
- Have a family game night
- Carve a pumpkin together
- Make a Halloween costume
- Visit a fall harvest festival

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Southwest corner of the Square

Hours: 8:00 - 5:00
Monday - Friday

Phone: 641-594-3400

Plumbing, RUUD, HVAC (Heating & Cooling)
Repairs and new installations - remodeling & new construction

READY, SET, DECORATE



ENTER THE CONTEST!

Get ready to participate in the inaugural Lake Beautification Committee Fall Decorating Contest! Lake residents are encouraged to decorate their main entrance or garage door for Fall Season! If you would like to enter your home into the decorating contest, you can pick up the guidelines and registration form anytime between October 1st - October 15th at the lake office. Judging will be October 16th!



**Montezuma Fire Dept.
Annual Spaghetti Dinner
Thurs. Oct. 12th
from 5:00-7:00PM**



Fire Prevention Week October 8 - October 14, 2023

For those who may not know, Fire Prevention Week is always held during the Week of October 9—the anniversary of the Great Chicago Fire.” And that the Montezuma Fire Department responds to fire related incidents here at the lake. If lake residents would like to donate funds in support of the Montezuma Fire Department they can mail a check payable to Montezuma Fire Department and mail it to PO Box 314, Montezuma IA 50171.



105 & 109 Horseshoe



110 Bramble



244 Whippoorwill



112 Crabtree

Lake Ponderosa Properties For Sale!



149 Whippoorwill
Lake Ponderosa

\$569,500 - Recently updated 105 feet lakefront home has 2 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms with a large bonus room over the garage that would make a perfect bunk-room! Must see Lake views!



275 Center Point
Lake Ponderosa

\$499,000 - This home is 3856 square feet with 5 bedrooms, 3 1/2 bathrooms, theater room, 2 sunrooms and 1800 feet of garage/storage, and so much more! Lake access even has a beach to enjoy.



110 Skyline
Lake Ponderosa

\$305,000 - This 3 bedroom, 2 bathroom home is spacious with a light and bright 4 season room. A 3 car garage along with your 10 feet access makes this an ideal and affordable lake property.



161 Horseshoe
Lake Ponderosa

\$335,000 - This 2 bedroom, 2 bathroom lake home with a spacious garage/shop sits directly over an access. The large composite deck allows you to see your 10 feet access and lakeview. Must see!



107 Sunrise
Lake Ponderosa

\$249,400 - This 3 bedroom, 2 bathroom home has great lake views and lots of storage. Your 10 feet lake access comes with a new dock and is ready for you to enjoy. Call for your showing today!



*Please watch for Open Houses, New Homes For Sale and Welcomes on the **NEW Lake Ponderosa Association Community Facebook page!***

736 N 3rd Ave E, Newton



Chris Behun



641-521-7091

chrisbehun.iowarealty.com



Eilander Enterprises is now offering a maintenance contract for their platinum members! How can you become a platinum member? Call or text 641-521-9138 or message Eilander Enterprises on Facebook!

You'll receive TWO inspections per YEAR for heating and cooling for only \$160 plus tax all year. Platinum members are discounted 10% on heating & cooling repairs, have priority on services and repairs over non-members, and receive reminders about upcoming checkups!

AC SPRING CHECKUPS INCLUDE:

- Test blower motor & amp draw
- Check A/C for level
- Test capacitors
- Inspect blower & condenser motor
- Inspect evaporator coil if accessible
- Inspect disconnect
- Inspect contactor
- Test compressor amp draw
- Test motor amp draw
- Test all wiring connections
- Measure & test temperature drop
- Check filter
- Replace standard filter (filter charge separately)
- Check condenser coil
- Rinse condenser coil if needed
- Inspect condensate drain

FALL FURNACE CHECKUPS INCLUDE:

- Inspect heat exchanger
- Test blower motor & amp draw
- Test inducer motor amp draw
- Test start capacitor
- Inspect blower wheel
- Test flame sensor
- Test for proper venting
- Test ignition system
- Test all wiring connections
- Measure & test temperature rise
- Static pressure test
- Inspect drain
- Check filter
- Replace standard filter (filter charge separate)
- Inspect evaporator coil if accessible
- Check duct work conditions

***This does not include refrigerant parts, filters, repair parts or labor recommendations made by Eilander Enterprises. Limited to ONE heating and AC unit per household. Maintenance only – service calls are separate.**