

# Hide-A-Way Lake Echoes

February 2024

# Mardi (Gaudy) Gras Party

Dress Parade Funky and Show Off Your Beads! Surprise King and Queen!! Saturday, February 10, 2024 Doors Open: 6:00 pm Party: 7:00 pm - 10:00 pm

Let the good times roll at the Mardi (Gaudy) Gras Party! Musical entertainment will be provided by the Blue Phoenix. Light snacks, King Cake, set-ups, and a photo booth will be included. The cost to attend is \$15 per guest. Call the HAWL Office at 601-798-1484 for reservations.

# Valentine's Day Dinner

On Wednesday, February 14, 2024, Waters Edge will host a Valentine's Day Dinner from 5:00 pm - 8:00 pm. Be sure to surprise your valentine with an evening of delicious food and LIVE MUSIC by David Delcambre!

The menu will include: Choice of prime rib or grilled salmon served with potato casserole, the vegetable of the day, soup, salad, and dessert.

The cost of the meal is \$25.99 per person. Reservations are required by February 9, 2024, and can be made by calling the HAWL Office at 601-798-1484.





The next Board Meeting will be held on Thursday, February 15, 2024, at 6:30 pm in the lower level of the Lodge.

### Community Meet and Greet <u></u> **™** with the General Manager

On Saturday, March 9, 2024, join HAWL's General Manager Bruce Devillier for a Community Meet and Greet at 9:30 am in Waters Edge Restaurant (upstairs of the Lodge). This face-to-face collaboration with property owners will provide the opportunity to ask questions to the General Manager directly. This is a great time to ask any questions to prevent the spread of misinformation and to meet some of your neighbors as great neighbors make great communities. While new property owners are highly encouraged to attend, everyone in HAWL is welcome. If you wish to discuss individual matters such as an issue with a neighbor or a complaint, contact the General Manager directly at the Office to set up an appointment. Everyone who attends the **Community Meet and Greet with the General** Manager will receive a coupon for a discount off a future purchase from Waters Edge.

# St. Patrick's Celebration

Waters Edge is celebrating St. Patrick's Day on Sunday, March 17, 2024, with lunch from 11:00 am - 2:00 pm. The menu will include corned beef and cabbage with fresh carrots, corn bread, and a dessert for \$14.99 per person and \$7.99 for the kids portion. Reservations are required for this delicious special and can be made by calling the HAWL Office at 601-798-1484. (No menús items will be available.)

## Breakfast with the Easter Bunny & Egg Hunt

Waters Edge Restaurant will be hosting a breakfast buffet (served by staff) including an omelet station on Saturday, March 23, 2024, from 8:00 am - 10:30 am. The cost is \$11.99 for Adults, \$5.99 for Children 5 - 12, and 99¢ for Children 4 and Under. The Easter Bunny will be walking around meeting children at their tables. After breakfast, elementary school aged children will have the opportunity to meet the Easter Bunny and participate in an Easter Egg Hunt at 10:30 am at the outside area of the Lodge. If you would like to donate wrapped candy (no bubble gum please) or plastic Easter

eggs, please drop them off at the HAWL Office.

# **Good Friday Oyster Specials**

On Good Friday, March 29, 2024, Waters Edge will feature two delicious oyster specials for both lunch (11:00 am - 2:00 pm) and dinner (5:00 pm - 8:00 pm). Enjoy either an Oyster Plate with coleslaw, hushpuppies, and a cup of crawfish etouffee for \$18.99 or an Oyster Po'boy with chips for \$13.99. Reservations are requested and can be made by calling the HAWL Office at 601-798-1484. (No menu items will be available.)

On Sunday, March 31, 2024, Waters Edge will host the Easter Buffet (served by staff) with two seatings:

1<sup>st</sup> Seating is 11:30 am - 1:00 pm

2<sup>nd</sup> Seating is 1:30 pm - 3:00 pm

The cost of the buffet is \$21.99 for adults, \$10.99 for children 5 - 12, and 99¢ for children 4 & under. The buffet will include: ham, bronzed catfish, fried chicken, vegetables, potatoes, salad, and desserts. Reservations are required and can be made by calling the HAWL Office at 601-798-1484.

To-go plates are available for \$16.99 each and feature: ham, bronzed catfish, a piece of fried chicken, vegetables, potatoes, salad, and dessert. Orders may be picked up either between 10:45 am - 11:00 am or 12:45 pm - 1 pm. Call the HAWL Office to reserve your plate.

### **Boat/Golf Cart Decals**

Boat and golf cart decals will be on sale soon. See page 8 for more information.

ECHOES is published monthly and distributed to Hide-A-Way Lake Property Owners. The Publication is authorized by the Board of Directors of Hide-A-Way Lake Club, Inc. Business dealings with businesses advertised in the *Echoes* Newsletter are solely between you and such advertiser. HAWL shall not be responsible or liable for any loss or damage of any sort incurred as the result of any such dealings.

### HAWL Board of Directors:

Robin Montalbano, President 601-347-1965 John Pigott, Vice President 601-590-0179 Tom Gibilterra, Secretary/Treasurer 601-213-0703 504-914-3194 Jim Wells, Director 601-347-9692 Kathy Busco, Director Elizabeth Ennis, Director 601-347-6666 Chad Hurst, Director 601-325-4680

# **Hours of Operation**

Office Hours: Monday - Friday 8:00 am - 4:30 pm Office Closed February 13<sup>th</sup> for Mardi Gras

Southgate Usage Hours: 5:00 am - 9:30 am & 2:00 pm - 8:30 pm Southgate Open February 13<sup>th</sup> for Mardi Gras When exiting onto Cooper Rd., observe 20 mph. These times are for exit and entry; however, only vehicles with a valid HAWL decal will be allowed entry, after the gate verifies.

## Sign up for *Happenings In HAWL*

Have community news and information delivered directly to your email.



0418

- Visit the HAWL website at hawlms.com.
- Select the "Happenings In HAWL Email" tab and follow the instructions given.
- You must confirm through the email you receive from listserver@hawlms.com shortly after registering. (Check your spam folder just in case.)

Contact the HAWL Office if you need help signing up for Happenings In HAWL.

### Visit hawlms.com for Community Information

Hawlms.com is frequently updated with information regarding community operations and weekly restaurant specials. Upcoming community events and pictures from past events are also available.

NO DRAWDOWN NEEDED TO INSTALL **BULKHEADS - PIERS - BOAT SHELTERS** 

FREE ESTIMATES - NO JOB TOO SMALL

# VINYL IS FINAL

Tony Salvador

228-223-2991 601-749-7518

### HAWL Staff:

Bruce Devillier, General Manager 601-798-1484 EMERGENCY ONLY ...... 601-273-0253

Elizabeth Rancatore, Assistant General Manager Madeline F. Jacobs, Administrative Manager Ginger Gautrau, Restaurant Manager Bryan Blackwell, Maintenance Director

Fabian Parish, Professional Security

601-268-2722

Contact Information **HAWL OFFICE:** HAWL FAX: 601-798-0604

**GUARD GATE:** WATERS EDGE (during operational hours): HAWL Pool (during operational hours): HAWL EMAIL ADDRESS: WEBSITE:

UTILITY AUTHORITY: UTILITY AUTHORITY After Hours Emergencies

601-798-1247 769-717-4133 601-229-0935 office@hawlms.net www.hawlms.com 601-799-5259

228-205-4101

- 1. What does a dollar amount in parentheses mean? Parentheses indicate a credit and will appear anytime you pay more than what is actually owed.
- 2. I've seen "BBF" on my statement; what does that mean? BBF stands for "Balance Brought Forward" and is the amount as of a previous date.
- 3. I made a payment but can't find that specific dollar **amount on my bill.** Anytime you pay more than what is actually due, the payment will be split up and applied to the BBF. Any remaining money from the payment will be applied to new charges (thus showing how the credit was applied).
- 4. I paid my bill online through my bank. Why didn't it appear as a payment on my bill and why did I get a late fee? Whenever a bank sends a payment on your behalf, they send HAWL a physical check from a processing center possibly located in another state. Often times the check does not reach HAWL by the cutoff date. To avoid a late fee, allow extra time for the physical check to reach HAWL.
- 5. The due date for the bill fell on a weekend/holiday. When is the bill actually due? Payments are always due in the HAWL Office on the 25th of the month, regardless if that day is on the weekend or is a holiday. On the first business day after the 25<sup>th</sup>, HAWL begins to process statements. To avoid late fees, allow enough time for your payment to go through the postal system. Payments left in one of the payment boxes or submitted on the HAWL website using ACH by 7:00 am prior to statement processing will be considered on-time.
- 6. What are the capital reserve and the operational fees? The capital reserve is a fund that is set aside for capital projects, such as road paving, bridge repairs, playground equipment, etc. The operational fee pays for HAWL to run on a day-to-day basis.

Happy New Year!! 2024 started off with some freezing cold weather but we as a community faired well. Please remember that when freezing conditions are occurring to protect your pipes, pets, and plants. Also be sure to check on your neighbors. During freezes, all common grounds areas are locked for freeze prep. If freeze conditions with rain are underway, please stay off of the roadways for your safety. We will only salt the roadway from the Front Main Gate to West Lakeshore Drive. Below is a recap of some hot topics currently in works.

AT&T is working along the roadside utility easements installing fiber optic cables for high speed internet. This is another phase from the main entrance on the east side of the community to the 1500 block of East Lakeshore Drive. The contractors for AT&T are JSaray Underground Facilities and Divinity Corporation. Please use caution and extra safety in areas where workers are present. See page 4 for an explanation of what the different color markings mean.

VIF, LLC. has completed both the Lodge and West Marina bulkheads and redoing the some docks. At the Lodge, we now have a total of 20 docks to rent and 2 docks for temporary parking. At the West Marina, we now have 27 docks for rent. This project added eight additional docks overall. Please go check out these improvements as they were much needed and look great. This was one of our big capital projects for this year and totaled \$107,177.00

Bids were received last month for two new replacement maintenance trucks. The 2003 dump truck and the 2009 F-150, which were both becoming too costly to keep repairing, were replaced with trucks from Woolwine Dodge. We purchased a 2023 Ram 1500 4x4 for \$37,967.50 plus tax, which is now on site. This month we will purchase a 2023 Ram 3500 4x4 3 yard dump truck for \$71,625.00 plus tax. This was a planned purchase which was much needed for our Maintenance Department.

Last month the HAWL Maintenance Department installed a new fire hydrant at the firehouse that puts out over 750 gallons per minute. This was a replacement with better sizing. The total capital cost was \$2,917.64. This month Maintenance will continue changing out the 65 water meters that were over 20 years old.

During the time when the lake valves were open at the dam/spillway, we were required by the Mississippi Department of Environmental Quality Dam Safety Division to hire a licensed engineer to perform a formal inspection. Shows, Dearman, and Waits was hired to perform this inspection which is required by the MDEQ every five years. The inspection showed a few more required maintenance items to address. A major item is the wall off of the spillway chute and some sealing of seams on the spillway. These items will be planned out and addressed.

The bridge by the firehouse was inspected by Dungan Engineering and it was found to be in good condition. A few minor regular maintenance items will be done such as pile splicing, sealing the concrete collar cracks, and replacing some bolts on the guard rails.

As previously announced, last month our security contract is now with Professional Security Corporation (PSC). PSC was previously our security company for over 25 years and possesses valuable knowledge of our community and our needs. Their management and staff will be present at our open Board Meeting on Thursday, February 15. 2024, at 6:30 pm in the Lodge lower level. Please come welcome this company as we partner together on this vital amenity for our community.

I would like to thank all of the property owners that have come to show support for and learn information about your community by attending a Community Meet and Greet with the General Manager. These meetings are the perfect opportunity to have a conversation regarding community information directly from the General Manager as well as to get to know each other. The next Community Meet and Greet with the General Manager is scheduled for Saturday, March 9, 2024, at 9:30 am in Waters Edge Restaurant. Topics to be addressed depend on the questions brought forward from Property Owners. In addition to these meetings, my door is always open to you. I encourage your suggestions and/or concerns regarding the improvement of the community. Community members working together is essential to protect, maintain, enhance, and preserve not only the community but your home as well.

## **Restaurant News**

Waters Edge had a wonderful 2023! "Thank You!" to the many property owners and guests who supported Waters Edge by either dining in or taking their meal to go. Restaurant Manager Ginger Gautrau and her staff served nearly 13,000 guests! Waters Edge looks forward to seeing you along with your family and friends in 2024!

# Host Your Upcoming Event at Waters Edge

Offering a wide variety of packages and rooms for events large and small, there is definitely something to suit your needs. Waters Edge is the perfect venue to host birthdays,

weddings, reunions, and more. For more information call the HAWL Office at 601-798-1484 or view the Special Events Brochure at hawlms.com.



### Security Monthly Recap **RULE VIOLATIONS Month: December 2023** Animal Nuisance 12 7 Traffic Violations ..... 42 Incident Reports.....

Fines for citations are based upon the type of offense, such as rate of speed as well as the number of times the specific offense has occurred within a two year time period for the particular offender. Citations are not reported to insurance companies unless the offense is deemed significant enough, such as property damage or bodily injury.

## 2023 Security Department Recap

Listed is a summary of violations for not only 2023, but the past few years as well. In 2023, over 1,500 citations and incident reports were issued and/or completed, the majority of which for speeding. Security would like for property owners to remind their residents and guests that traffic rules are strictly enforced throughout the community.

2022

2022

2024

2020

Violations	2023 Totals	2022 Totals	2021 Totals	2020 Totals
Security Incident Reports	698	540		515
Speeding	504			
Running Stop Sign(s)	59			
Animal Nuisance	53		49	
Failure to Yield	37	6	5	3
No Driver's License	35	7	14	
Disturbing the Peace	26	23	36	
Reckless Driving	26	18	11	28
Trespassing	23	15	18	13
Lake/Boat Decal Violations	20		18	23
Verbal Harassment	14	8	4	6
Gate Running	14	6	13	5
Fraudulent or Expired Decal/Tag	11	17	13	14
Illegal Parking	8	1	11	8
Curfew	5 3 2 2 2	3	0	5
Illegal Burning	3	2	12	
No License Plate	2	1	2	2
Blocking Gate/Failure to Register Guest	2	1	2	1
Breaking Gate Arm	2	1	1	0
Vandalism	2	0	0	1
Other	2	2	5	9
Unauthorized Vehicle	1	2	0	4
Discharge of Firearm	1	2	2	4
Littering	1	2	1	1
Refusal to Show Driver's License	1	0	2	0
Violation of Fireworks Rules	1	1	0	1
Theft	1	3	0	3
Violation of Playground Rules	0	1	1	0
Malicious Mischief	0	1	0	0
Total Citations:	1552	1141	1046	1156

## **Speed Limit at Gates**

The speed limit on ALL streets in HAWL is 25 MPH and is strictly radar enforced. When entering and exiting the community, at both the Main Front Gate and Southgate, please maintain a speed of no more than 15 MPH. Please remind your residents and guests to always choose Safety Over Speed.



### **Architectural Monthly Recap** Information as of January 24, 2024

Total homes in HAWL: 978

Active Building Permits	<b>16</b>
Covenant Violations	<b>13</b>

Nothing shall be erected on any lot without an approved building permit in writing by the HAWL Office.

ALL permit applications must have the following:

- Site/plot plan showing all existing and requested improvements
- Set of building plans to code
- Specification of materials

Permit requests are reviewed by the Architectural Committee on the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Thursday of each month. Please ensure that all permit application requests are completed with all supporting documents attached the Monday before the scheduled meeting by noon.

# Issue With Your Sewer System?

Should an issue arise with your sewer system (such as your sewer alarm sounding), contact the PRCUA (601-799-5259 or 228-205-4101 for after hours emergencies). The PRCUA would like to remind residents they are on-call 24/7 to resolve grinder pump issues. It is important to notify the PRCUA as quickly as

possible when your system goes in alarm mode to prevent overflows, restore service, and minimize the chance of destroying a locked pump. This number should be called prior to contacting a plumber since most issues can be handled by the PRCUA at no cost to the property owner. The number is in service 24 hours a day/7 days a week. Please understand: Flushable wipes are not

## Call 811 Before You Dig

flushable and will damage the system.

Most of the utility companies that supply your home are delivering services via underground service lines. It is possible that these buried service lines are close to the surface, making digging dangerous. Fortunately, you can find out where utility owned lines are buried on your property with one FREE call to Mississippi 8-1-1 or **1-800-227-6477**. Locate requests may also be made through the website ms811.org. After contacting 811, local utility companies will be notified and will locate their buried lines. Located lines will be marked with paint and/or flags of varying colors as follows:

- White Proposed Excavation
- Pink Temporary Survey
- Red Electric
- Yellow Gas, Oil, Steam, Petroleum
- Orange Communication, TV
- Blue Potable Water
- Purple Reclaimed Water, Irrigation
- Green Sewer, Drain Lines



# Kids Easter Coloring Contest

Attention all artists 10 years old and younger: Use your creativity to color the picture below and have a grown up return it to the HAWL Office by Monday, March 25, 2024, so you can participate in the Kids Easter Coloring Contest. Prizes will be awarded across three age groups (4 years old and younger, 5 - 7 years old, and 8 - 10 years old). All coloring pages received will be displayed in the Lodge lower level in preparation for the Easter Bunny's arrival on Saturday, March 23, 2024. Adults: Complete the section with your information so we may contact you if your artist has won a prize. Only first names and ages will be displayed; phone numbers and lot numbers will be removed. Additional coloring pages are available on the Events Page on the HAWL website.

Lot # \_\_\_\_ Property Owner Name \_\_\_\_\_Phone Number: \_\_\_\_ PY EAST First Name: Age:

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\$30.00 a yard

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504-329-5393

# New Boat and Golf Cart Decals In order to avoid the last minute rush to get your

In order to avoid the last minute rush to get your boat on the water for the summer, green boat and golf cart decals will be on sale soon. Now is the time to ensure you have the necessary paperwork for renewal. Information may be sent to the HAWL Office by fax (601-798-0604) or email (office@hawlms.net) now so that it is on file when

# decals arrive. GREEN DECALS WILL EXPIRE APRIL 2025.

AS OF MAY 1, 2024, RED BOAT AND GOLF CART DECALS WILL NO LONGER BE VALID. Any boat in the water or golf cart on the road beginning May 1, 2024, with an expired decal will be issued a citation; no exceptions.

In order to purchase a Boat or Golf Cart Decal:

- Decals can only be purchased by the property owner.
- Accounts must be current to purchase decals.
- Proof of identification must be shown at time of purchase.
- Decals can only be purchased for the property owner's boat or golf cart. The property owner must complete a *Decal Registration* form at the time of registration. (Forms are available in the HAWL Office and on the HAWL website).

Proof of current boat insurance must be provided. For a decal renewal, only the insurance is needed. For a new-to-HAWL boat (nonrenewal), a copy of the boat's title or state registration (in the property owner's name only) must also be provided. The insurance MUST show the following\*:

- Minimum \$300,000 Marine Liability
- Property Owner's name
- Boat serial number
- Expiration date
- Boat length (CANNOT exceed 24')

\*If this required information does not appear on the insurance paperwork, then the property owner must have their insurance provider provide this information on their company's letterhead.

A boat decal for a motor powered boat costs \$20 and a golf cart decal costs \$10.

### State Registration for Boats

A copy of either the boat title or the state registration (in the property owner's name only) is required to verify ownership in order to obtain a HAWL Boat Decal for a new (nonrenewal) motor powered boat. State registration may be applied for through the State

of Mississippi by visiting mdwfp.com/license/boating/ and completing the appropriate information. zero nine four zero

# Have Your Boat/Golf Cart Decals Mailed

Save the trip to the HAWL Office and have you boat/golf cart decals mailed to you. Once all forms, insurance, registration, etc. are received and verified by the Office, decals may be mailed for a small processing fee. (Car decals may not be mailed due to the sensitive chip inside the decal.)

# Lakeview Library Book Exchange

The Lakeview Library Book Exchange, started by the Social Committee, has been such a success due to the generosity of HAWL property owners and residents. If you are a reader, be sure to stop by the Lodge lower level while the Office is open to browse the wide selection of books. Donations of

# **HAWL Memorial Trees**

gently used books are always welcome.

Trees, shrubbery, or seasonal plants can be planted by contributing to the Memorial Tree Fund to honor or memorialize a friend or loved one. Since 2005, the Committee has planted over 100 trees in HAWL along the roadside and in the parks. Applications are available on the HAWL website or in the Office.

## Handicap Parking at the Lodge

The Lodge offers six handicap parking spaces at the Lower Level. To access these spaces, take the road near the tennis courts. The spots are intended for vehicles with handicap plates/tags. Please be courteous by not parking in these spaces so they may be used by those who need them.

# **Christmas Fund Employee Bonus**

Listed below are the property owners whose donations to the Christmas Fund Employee Bonus were received after December 20, 2023. A total of \$8,965.00 was collected. Thanks again to all of the property owners for their generous donations! Also, thank you to the Christmas Fund Committee as well as Danny Stockstill for managing the employees' Christmas Bonus Fund!

Derrik & Karen Holden Julie Seal Gladys & Bonnie Hughes Roger & Audrey Ruiz

Greg Crain Santa Claus
James Knipper Stuart & Paulette Mitchell Family

# **Emotional Support Group for Widows and Widowers**

Beginning February 20, 2024, the Emotional Support Group for Widows and Widowers will meet on Tuesday afternoons from 2:00 pm - 4:00 pm in the downstairs Board Room. The group will meet weekly to discuss various topics and offer support to one another. Contact Jessica Lacour at 601-799-2937 for more information.

### Find Your Account Number

Numbers may be in numerical or word format and will not appear in phone numbers, addresses, dollar amounts, times, or advertisements. Find your number and call the Office for a prize!