

Lake Jordan Home/Boat Owners Association
Minutes of the Quarterly Membership Meeting
October 24, 2022

The Lake Jordan Home Owners/Boat Owners Association Quarterly Membership Meeting was called to order by President Kim Adams at 7:00pm on October 24, 2022 at Camp Chandler on Lake Jordan.

President Adams thanked everyone for being there and declared that a quorum was present to conduct business. She welcomed everyone and new members and guests introduced themselves.

Kim recognized and welcomed Jake Taylor, the ALEA Marine Police Patrol on Lake Jordan, who was in attendance at the meeting.

A motion was made and seconded to approve the minutes from the July 25, 2022, meeting. The motion carried.

Brett Wilkinson presented the Financial Report dated June 30, 2022, with an ending non-restricted cash balance of \$37,240.71. There is \$23,384.95 in the fireworks fund and \$3,207.44 in the scholarship fund. A question was raised about the cost of the fireworks. Brett stated that the cost went up to \$13,350.00 this year.

Kim announced the HOBO Association made a \$250 Donation to the Camp Chandler Halloween Carnival.

Committee Reports

Christmas Pier Decorating Contest / Santa and Friends – Dee Hartley reminded everyone about the successful July 4th Pier Decorating Competition and announced that there would be a Christmas Pier Decorating Contest this year. The committee would still like for everyone to put up their dock Christmas Trees as they have in years past. If you don't have one and would like to make one, a diagram of how to make the tree will be posted on the HOBO Facebook Page and the HOBO website. Judging for the Best Decorated pier will take place on Sunday December 18th. If you are interested in having your pier judged, please contact Dee. The Lake Jordan Santa and Friends Parade will take place on Sunday, December 4th. They would like to have a Christmas Caroling Boat following Santa's boat this year. Anyone who is interested in participating, please contact Jill Murchison.

Fireworks – Nikki Miller will have Lake Jordan long sleeve t-shirts available for purchase within the next couple of weeks. Look for Details on the Facebook Fireworks Page and on the HOBO website.

Water Quality – Judy May was pleased to report that there were very few reports of E. coli in 2022. The Bacteria Test Chemicals are on backorder until mid-November, however bacterial testing generally takes place during the swimming season (May – September). Chemical testing takes place year-round, and Judy has plenty of those chemicals available for the monitors. Kim recognized and thanked the water monitors that were present at the meeting.

Lake Safety – Dave Kowalski reported that there is buoy missing at the Lake Jordan marina. To report missing or damaged buoys, please call 334 676-7099 or email Qiana.jackson@alea.gov. Dave reminded everyone to be sure to wear life preservers while on the water. Falling in cold water can cause one to become paralyzed. Also, don't forget to protect your boat by having it winterized.

HOBO Newsletter and Publicity – Cliff Clemmons requested that all articles and pictures for inclusion in the next newsletter be sent to him at clemmons.cliff@gmail.com by December 1, 2022. Beginning in January 2023, the newsletter will be delivered in the same format to the HOBO members *electronically* and will no longer be printed and mailed. Having it in electronic form will help with getting the newsletter out in a timely manner as well as it will allow the HOBO Association to have full control over what is published in the Newsletter. Don't Forget – The Newsletter is always available for view online at www.lakejordanhobo.org.

Website / Facebook Page – If you have suggestions for content to be included on the HOBO Website or the HOBO Facebook page, please contact Gary and Kayleen Amerson at kayleen@amerson.com. Kayleen announced that starting in January 2024, the HOBO Association will put out a calendar featuring photos taken on and around Lake Jordan. Each month, the photos that are submitted by HOBO members will be displayed on the Facebook page to be voted on. The photo with the most votes will be featured on the 2024 calendar for that month. For those interested in participating in the monthly contest, please send in your pictures for the month being judged by the 5th of the following month. All pictures must be landscape in orientation. Once pictures are submitted, the HOBO Association has rights to use the pictures in future publications. Calendars will be given to members when paying their 2024 dues. Nonmembers will have the opportunity to purchase a calendar.

Guest Speaker Tyler Burgener from the Alabama Wildlife Federation was present at the meeting to talk to and educate the membership about snakes that we may encounter on Lake Jordan and how to safely deal with those encounters and be more comfortable coexisting with snakes. There are approximately 50 species of snakes in Alabama which is a larger number than most states due to the great resources (forests, rivers, lakes, mountains, etc.) our state offers that are attractive to both people and animals. 6 species of the 50 are venomous and only 3 of those are found in the local tri-county area. Contrary to popular belief, a triangular head on a snake does not mean that it is venomous. Many nonvenomous snakes will flatten their heads to look triangular as a defense mechanism to appear bigger. Also, one shouldn't try to determine if a snake is venomous from the shape of the snake's eyes (round vs. cat like pupils). There are resources such as Facebook groups (*Alabama Reptile and Amphibian ID & Education* and *Snake Identification: Discussion and Resources*) where you can post a picture of a snake and get a quick identification from an expert. The Department of Conservation's *Outdoor Alabama* website has a searchable wildlife section where you can also find IDs from pictures. All snakes are coldblooded. They are less mobile in the winter and are most often seen in the spring and early fall. In the summertime, snakes are generally more active in the mornings and evenings to avoid the extreme heat. People fear snakes because they bite. In almost all cases, self-defense is the reason that a snake would bite a human. Snakes eat rodents, turtles, slugs, other snakes, etc. When you encounter a snake, keep a safe distance. Always be prepared and keep a watch out for them when gardening, hiking, walking in the woods, etc. because one of their most used defense mechanisms is to be camouflaged and to blend into their habitat. Their second mode of defense once it feels threatened is to flee to get away from the threat. The snake's third defense mechanism is to give some sort of display such as the rattlesnake shaking its rattles or a cottonmouth displaying its wide-open white mouth. The hognose will actually play dead. The fourth defensive mechanism is to strike and bite. A non-venomous snake bite is harmless. Venomous snake bites require medical attention. Twenty-Five to Fifty percent of snake bites are dry bites meaning that they are not actually injecting venom when biting. The *National Snakebite Support* Facebook Group is a great source to get treatment information from medical professionals across the country for humans as well as pets that are bitten by a snake. All snakes can swim on top and underneath the water. Many snakes seen in the water are nonvenomous water snakes. Tyler stressed that snakes are beneficial to humans and shouldn't be killed. The Copperhead

snake's venom contains a protein that has been proven to stop the spread of cancer cells in breast cancer patients. All Snakes eat rodents. One of the most common snakes seen is the non-venomous rat snake which is great to have around for rodent control. Some snakes are federally protected and killing them will result in a fine. King snakes are protected in Alabama. They are common to the area, not a threat to humans, and they are good to have around especially for those who fear snakes because the King snake eats venomous snakes. Most snake bites happen on the hand. On average, about 5 people die from snake bites each year in the U.S. and that is due to them not getting proper care in a timely manner. Store bought repellents are not effective in keeping snakes off one's property. One can't eliminate snakes from coming onto his/her property, however, minimizing the areas around your home where snakes would hide such as firewood piles, or overturned boats, etc. will help. Bird feeders draw rodents which are a food source for snakes. Spaces under decks and storage units are great hiding places for snakes. Tyler has agreed to come back to speak to the membership again in an upcoming quarterly meeting and will bring some snakes with her for informational purposes. If you need help with snake identification, relocation, or removal, please feel free to contact Tyler via text at 334 318-8904.

Governmental Affairs – Logan Gray reminded everyone about the upcoming General Election on November 8th. Remember, every vote counts!

Membership – It's time to send in your 2023 Dues! Dues can be paid via PayPal on the HOBBO website www.lakejordanhobo.org. Please continue to encourage your neighbors to join or renew! Also, please consider adding a donation for the fireworks. All dues and fireworks donations paid to the HOBBO Association are tax deductible.

The \$50 Raffle drawing was held, and the lucky winner was Sherry Riley. There being no further business, Kim Adams adjourned the meeting. The next meeting will be held on Monday, January 23rd, 2023, at 7:00 pm (6:30 pm if you want to eat) at Camp Chandler