

# LAKE IRMA ASSOCIATION

Protecting and safeguarding our lake, connecting waters and surrounding properties

May 2009  
Vol. 2, Issue 4

## Lake Irma Association Officers

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[www.lakeirma.com](http://www.lakeirma.com)



## FROM SUSAN'S CORNER...

Lake Irma is a beautiful lake and all of us living on the lake must continue to keep it that way. Certainly the huge hydrilla growth was not helpful. Some weeds are good for the lake; others tend to be hurtful when out of control. Chuck Kristofek, Vice President of Water Quality, has included an article in this newsletter on hydrilla and water quality. Brett Bryant our Treasurer has written about MSTU finances. Barry Pietrewicz, VP of Safety, is responsible for obtaining the brochures from the County on boating/skiing regulations. All of the Board members for the Association continue to look for ways to keep our lake beautiful. So let your board know when you see people compromising the water quality of our lake, or if you have ideas on how to continue to keep our lake healthy.

We will see you at the ***general meeting, 7:00 p.m., Monday, June 1st, at the Goldenrod Civic Club.***

Susan Kelly Simasek  
407 671 6902  
[sksimasek@yahoo.com](mailto:sksimasek@yahoo.com)

## Aquascaping

**Aquascaping your lakefront property does 3 things:**

1. Absorbs nutrients from storm water runoff & decaying matter in the lake to prevent algae growth and improve lake water quality.
2. Provides protection and spawning habitat for wildlife.
3. Prevents erosion from rain and absorbs boat wakes.

**Given Lake Irma's topology of a long shallow shore shelf and sometimes heavy boat/wave traffic, the following recommended native plants thrive:**

1. Bulrushes.
2. Duck Potato (aka Broadleaf Arrowhead/Bull Tongue)
3. Pickerel weed.
4. Bald Cypress.
5. Spatterdock (Cow Lily).

**Lake Irma has the following invasive plants which should be removed:**

1. Hydrilla
2. Water hyacinth
3. Cattails
4. Torpedo grass
5. Water primrose.
6. Alligator weed.
7. Wild Taro.

## Hydrilla ... Finally under control?

It appears that Lake Irma's worst hydrilla bloom is finally under control.

Ron Novy of the EPD provided a hydrilla status on April 2<sup>nd</sup>. He indicated that:

The EPD has recommended replacing the entire south shore cattail field with beneficial plants.

1. The Jan/Feb Fluridone treatments were very effective.
2. An entire lake assessment in March found all observed hydrilla to be dying.
3. The hydrilla consists mostly of water and will completely disappear in due time.
4. The extent of the hydrilla bloom was an embarrassment to the EPD.

Going forward, the hydrilla maintenance plan relies heavily on the grass eating carp. EPD will spot spray large clumps of hydrilla during monthly visits. This will deprive the carp of easy hydrilla pastures forcing the carp to scour the lake bottom for newly emerging hydrilla areas. EPD estimates that 300 to 350 carp are required to adequately maintain Lake Irma. EPD added 100 more 10+inch carp on April 10<sup>th</sup> 2009 to get to the 300+ total. A hungry carp is our scaly friend in this hydrilla battle, **so please do not feed them!**



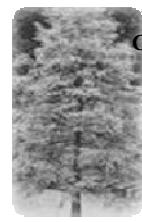
Duck Potato



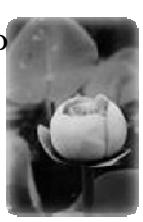
Pickerel Weed



Giant Bulrush



Bald Cypress



Spatterdock



Hydrilla



Cat tails



Water Hyacinth



THE BAD  
Water Primrose



Alligator Weed



Torpedo Grass



Wild Taro

## Beneficial Plant nursery on the South Side of Lake Irma

Since mid 2005, there has been an ongoing effort to eradicate invasive plants from the shoreline of the cove in the southeast corner of Lake Irma. This undeveloped swampy shoreline had been an unfortunate nursery for invasive aquatic plants (Cattails, Torpedo grass, water primrose, water hyacinth, alligator weed, Melaluca). This resulted in continuous sprouting of invasive plants throughout Lake Irma.

Beneficial aquatic plants (Bald Cypress, Giant Bulrush, Duck Potato, Pickerel Weed) have been planted as replacements. The effort seems to have turned the corner. The beneficial plants are thriving and providing an additional source of beneficial plant seeds to our lake. Our lakeshores now are naturally sprouting these beneficial plants. Homeowner lakeshore maintenance of invasive plants will just increase the ratio of good vs. bad aquatic plants throughout Lake Irma.

The EPD has recommended replacing the entire south shore cattail field with beneficial plants.

## Lake Irma Florida LakeWatch Report

Florida LAKEWATCH is a volunteer citizen lake monitoring program that facilitates "hands-on" citizen participation in the management of Florida lakes, rivers and coastal sites through monthly monitoring activities. Lake Irma is once again being sampled monthly for Lakewatch.

LakeWatch evaluates the following water characteristics:

1. Total Phosphorus.
2. Total Nitrogen.
3. Total Chlorophyll
4. Water clarity.



The November and December 2008 evaluation revealed that all of Lake Irma's above characteristics were the best of all data collected (1994 to 2008). Hopefully this trend will continue.

### Treasury Summary:

**4-24-09**

The balance in the Lake Irma Association account as of 1-1-07 was \$8,859.14. Transactions since this period have been limited to the following:

- Interest collected, less Federal Withholdings (various dates) \$4.25
- Withdraw for newsletter printing and postage, 11-12-08 \$92.63

Ending balance as of 3-31-09 was \$8,770.76.

### Lake Irma MSTU Summary

(as of 4/1/09)  
Fiscal Year Period (Oct 1  
thru Sept 30)

Period	Date	Activity	Expenditure	Lake Irma Association	MSTU Revenue	Balance
FY 2005-06	1/12/2006	Hyacinths	\$ 46.75	\$ -	\$ -	\$ (46.75)
	12/29/2006	Check	\$ 2,000.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 1,953.25
FY 2006-07	10/12/2006	Duckweed	\$ 93.50	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 1,859.75
	11/20/2006	Hydrilla	\$ 6,598.13	\$ -	\$ -	\$ (4,738.38)
MSTU Approved	11/21/2006	Hydrilla	\$ 1,293.75	\$ -	\$ -	\$ (6,032.13)
	12/19/2006		\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ (6,032.13)
	2/1/2007	Grass Carp	\$ 1,200.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ (7,232.13)
	5/4/2007	Hyacinths	\$ 46.75	\$ -	\$ -	\$ (7,278.88)
	7/16/2007	Alligator weed	\$ 28.35	\$ -	\$ -	\$ (7,307.23)
FY 2007-08	10/10/2007	Hydrilla	\$ 4,657.50	\$ -	\$ -	\$ (11,964.73)
	10/11/2007	Hydrilla	\$ 3,105.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ (15,069.73)
	10/18/2007	Duckweed	\$ 70.13	\$ -	\$ -	\$ (15,139.86)
	10/26/2007	Hydrilla	\$ 2,070.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ (17,209.86)
MSTU Tax Bill Issued	11/1/2007		\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ (17,209.86)
	12/6/2007	Torpedograss	\$ 28.35	\$ -	\$ -	\$ (17,238.21)
	4/1/2008	Torpedograss	\$ 37.80	\$ -	\$ -	\$ (17,276.01)
	5/28/2008	Duckweed	\$ 35.06	\$ -	\$ -	\$ (17,311.07)
	8/25/2008	Mixed Veg	\$ 400.00	\$ -	\$ 19,004.13	\$ 1,293.06
FY 2008-09	10/13/2008	Hydrilla	\$ 10,200.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ (8,906.94)
	10/28/2008	Hydrilla	\$ 6,375.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ (15,281.94)
	12/10/2008	Mixed Veg	\$ 150.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ (15,431.94)
	1/13/2009	Hydrilla	\$ 17,850.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ (33,281.94)
	2/2/2009	Hydrilla	\$ 8,925.00	\$ -	\$ 15,611.26	\$ (26,595.68)
				Pre MSTU Expenditures	\$ 17,209.86	
				Remaining Balance	\$ (9,385.82)	

- This summary was provided to the Board on 4-2-09 by Ron Novy of the Environmental Protection Division (EPD), who is responsible for the management of the MSTU funds and the treatments to the lake.
- The \$17,209.86 identified as "Pre MSTU Expenses" have been "forgiven" or considered seed funding from the EPD to the MTSU.
- Mr. Novy indicated that the tax billing for the MSTU in 2008 were approximately \$17,500, of which \$15,611.26 had been collected as of 2-2-09.
- As of 4-2-09, Mr. Novy anticipated ordering 100 carp (10"-12" fish) for delivery to the lake on approximately 4-15-09. This is an estimated expense of approximately \$1,075.
- Once the lake is stabilized, the annual maintenance is anticipated to cost approximately \$12,000.

## **REAL ESTATE**

The following are properties on Lake Irma and the canal, both residential and vacant lakefront lots, in the Orlando Regional Realtors Multiple Listing System that are actively listed or have sold since 1/1/2009 as of 5/7/2009.

### **Active Properties**

2833 Tech Drive, 3 BR / 2 BA, 1504 htd sf, listed at \$248,000  
2847 TCU Blvd, 3 BR / 2 BA, 1706 htd sf, with pool, listed at \$280,000  
3802 N. Econlockhatchee Tr, 3 BR/ 2 1/2 BA, 1599 htd sf, listed at \$305,000  
8854 Lake Irma Pt, 2 BR / 2 BA, 1856 htd sf, listed at \$519,900  
3862 Orange Lake Dr, 4 BR / 2 1/2 BA, 3040 htd sf, with pool, listed at \$599,900

### **Vacant Lots**

8926 University Boulevard, 3 lots approximately 1 acre each from \$250k - \$300k according to listing agents  
3236 Lakewood Pointe Dr, 1/2 - 1 acre, listed at \$625,000

### **Sold Property (since 1/1/2009)**

2826 SMU Blvd, 4 BR / 2 BA, 1623 htd sf, listed at \$270,000, sold 4/3/09 for \$254,900, 52 Days on Market

*For more information on these properties, please contact Joan Cross, licensed realtor with Olde Town Brokers at 407-718-0040 or by email, joancross@aol.com.*

## **About Our Organization...**

The Lake Irma Home Owners Association is dedicated to improving and maintaining the quality of the lake. Our mission is to address issue that will compromise the integrity and appearance of the lake and lake shore.



**OR CURRENT RESIDENT**

**!!GENERAL MEETING!! JUNE 1, 2009, 7PM AT THE GOLDENROD CIVIC CLUB**