



Grand Valley Lakes News

Volume 5 Issues 6

June, 2020

Bill Stone, Publisher

Diane Lanier, Editor



YES, WE ARE OPEN!

As communities begin to emerge from what seems like hibernation, local businesses and their owners are trying to find a way to navigate the new rules and serve their customers. As you drive through Bolivar you find that almost everyone is pretty much open and seems to be doing business and seems “retail therapy” is a good treatment for being enclosed in four walls and having to wear masks and gloves. As you plan your “retail therapy” please make sure that you include local businesses in your plan of action. These folks are your neighbors, your friends and fellow taxpayers in Hardeman County.

AND ON JUNE 15th WILSON’S WILL BE OPENING AT 5:00 A.M. TO SERVE BREAKFAST!

That is right; our very own restaurant will be open from 5:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. on weekdays. To find out more about their serving times and menus be sure to stop by and see Jodie and Kristi Wilson to see the new place and get something from the menu!

Your Community Calendar for June, 2020

Friday, June 12th @ 7:00 p.m. The Grand Valley Lakes POA Board of Directors will meet at the lodge. It has been a long time and there are a lot of issues to cover! Come and be part of the future of our community

Saturday, June 13th @ 9:00 a.m. The Grand Valley Lakes Men's Club will meet at the lodge And have breakfast and cover a lot of topics. All the men of the Valley are invited to Attend!

Saturday, June 13th @ 10:30 a.m. The Grand Valley Lakes Ladies Club will meet in the middle room at the lodge. It has been a while since the ladies have been together and there is a lot to discuss.

Tuesday, June 16th @ 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. Ladies' Bunko Night at the Lodge!

SAVE THE DATE:

Saturday, July 4th - Fireworks!! Not a bad seat in the community to see the best show in Hardeman County!

It's time for the annual fire hose check...Help!!

Tom will be doing this beginning at 9:00am, Saturday, June 20th and he will need lots of help!

Able bodied folks are needed. The more we have, the more we can accomplish and spread the work. If you can only work a certain amount of time, no problem! We'll take you when we can get you!

Lunch or snacks, depending on how the timing works out, as well as drinks and water will be provided. If you can help with this, please let me know.

The lodge kitchen will be open to us so restrooms will be available throughout the day. We will work out a space to sit down for a rest or eat snacks.

This is only to work on the fire hoses and the project will take place on the lodge parking lot. There will not be a work day at the fire station like we had last year.

Please spread the word and ask anyone you know to join us!

On The Square Gallery and Gifts

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Grand Valley Lakes News



May Lakeside Yard of the Month

George and Jean Harrison are now retired. Instead of going to work every day they now stay home and work every day! To get this kind of result there's obviously some overtime hours spent!

Wow!

June Lakeside Yard of the Month

goes to Randy and Cindy Kragg!!

Oh my Goodness! Look what's happening in the Valley during the Pandemic! Lots and lots of time and effort is being spent getting and keeping this yard looking like this! Going to be hard to beat this one!



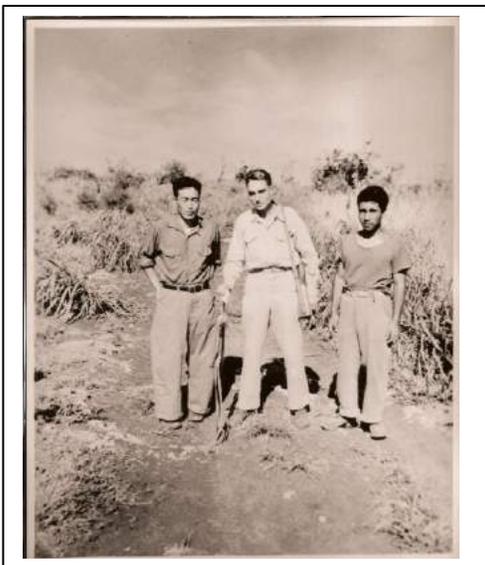
This issue of the Grand Valley News is sponsored in part by the Grand Valley Lakes Men's Club.

The Men's Club is a hardworking, fun-loving bunch of men who meet every second Saturday of each month at 9:00 a.m. at the POA Lodge. These members have quickly become a creative force and a work force within our community.

**A Memorial Day Remembrance
--Jeff Weintraub, 5-25-20**

My Dad Sam Weintraub was an Army Air Corps Major and a Captain in WWII, stationed for over four years in numerous islands in the Pacific Theatre. In 1944-1945, he was serving on Saipan and Tinian (just off the coast of Saipan). His job was to lead his squad to ferret out Japanese soldiers hiding throughout the islands in the countless limestone caves; they wouldn't surrender for cultural reasons and also because their high command told them the GI's would eat their children (some had taken Okinawan wives into the caves). The American GI's would stealthily approach a cave through cane fields, carrying grenades, flame throwers, and machine guns, and then would shoot the soldiers out of the caves. Many GI's and Japanese soldiers died in these efforts. Sam came up with an alternative (described in his daily war diary, which I have), using psychological warfare, by using captured Japanese collaborators to talk the Japanese soldiers out of the caves by promising them good treatment and food and bribing them with cigarettes and chocolate bars. In this way, he and his squad, who became known as the "Tinian Hunt Club," safely brought out around 500 Japanese soldiers, without further loss of the lives of GI's. I have old pictures of some of the Japanese soldiers coming out of the caves, half naked, with their hands raised. He was written up in old wartime publications for these efforts, as well as in histories of Tinian and a book by Memphian Victor Robilio.

In 1945, Sam was also the head intelligence & security officer (G2) for Tinian, which is where the atomic Bombs that ended the war departed for Hiroshima and then Nagasaki. Tinian was the staging area for the pending invasion of Japan with B-29's (if the atomic Bombs had been unsuccessful) and was quickly built into the largest airport in the world, with six runways. After Colonel Paul Tibbets and the Enola Gay arrived with the first Bomb ("Little Boy"), my Dad had dinner, followed by a poker game, with Colonel Tibbets and his navigator Colonel Davies the night before they took off for Hiroshima.



Sam is pictured here with his team of collaborators, "Toughie" and "Moonlight".

A Memorial Day Remembrance

--Jeff Weintraub, 5-25-20

(continued)

In the 80's, Sam, with the cooperation of the American and Japanese militaries, went full circle and tried to find his old Japanese collaborators (his two primary collaborators were known as Toughie and Moonlight—1945 photo of Sam with them in Tinian, attached), but he was unable to ever locate them. He did finally find a few of the soldiers who he had brought out of the caves, and he reunited with them in 1989 in Tokyo—one of these elderly Japanese actually recognized himself in a photo Sam had brought along, marching out of a cave with his hands raised. In the early 90's, the Saipan Survivors Association (descendants of Japanese soldiers who journey annually to Tinian for memorial services) named Sam as their honoree for their Reunion. Sam was asked to attend the Reunion, but at the last minute, my Mom got sick, and so he couldn't attend. Sam died in December 1993. A couple days after his death, a package arrived from the Reunion attendees, showing some of the Japanese descendants at the Reunion holding a picture of Sam (attached).

A few years ago, our daughter Betsy served a two-year contract as a prosecutor in the Saipan Attorney General's Office. She scouted out several locations from some of my Dad's old photos where we knew he had been. Melody and I visited Betsy there and went to a number of those Saipan and Tinian sites where we know Sam had been, including some of the caves the Japanese soldiers had hidden in, and the infamous Suicide Cliff (where the Japanese soldiers would jump to their deaths rather than surrender). We visited Runway Able, from which the Enola Gay had taken off for Hiroshima. We also attended a Memorial Day service where they posthumously honored Sam with a medal and a salute.



Saipan Survivors Association Reunion
pictured here with their pictures of Sam.

Grand Valley Lakes Update From POA Board President Ron Scott

We hope everyone is doing well, staying safe and social distancing as we continue to deal with Covid 19. Listed below are a number of updates:

Standardized Communications to Grand Valley – Our ability to communicate critical information to Grand Valley property owners needs improvement. We are currently using a number of media to get the word out- the newsletter, a partial email list, Next Door, Facebook, the GVL website and the electronic sign at the gate. As we move forward we will be placing more emphasis on email, along with Facebook, our updated GVL Website and the newsletter. You will see a request for contact information and our privacy guidelines in the annual meeting package. Please fill it out and return it to the office.

Monthly Board Meetings – Our regularly scheduled board meeting will be Friday June 12, 2020 at 7:00PM. Social distancing guidelines will be followed. Masks are at your discretion. If you want to address the board please contact the office to be placed on the agenda. As always, comments are held to 5 minutes and scheduled at the end of the meeting.

GVL POA Annual Meeting - The annual meeting has been rescheduled for **Saturday, July 18th at 10:00 AM**. You will receive your meeting notice and ballot via regular mail. Please vote for your board member choices and proposed by-law revisions as outlined. If you cannot attend the meeting, please mail in your ballots. We must have a quorum, defined as the presence in person or by proxy of ten percent (10%) of the total votes entitled to be cast by Members in Good Standing, to conduct the meeting.

Grand Valley Lakes Lodge Renovation – The interior lodge renovation has begun. The update includes new lighting, painting, flooring and restructuring the 2nd floor to increase its usefulness and overall capacity of the lodge. These renovations will make the lodge more attractive to potential renters and should increase our revenue.

Vehicle and Boat Stickers – Please acquire and affix your 2020 vehicle and boat stickers. Dues payment arrangements can be made at the office to allow the issuance of the vehicle stickers. Boats without stickers **will not** be allowed in the lake. As a resident, if you see a violation, please call the main gate and report it to security.

Maintenance Update – Maintenance has been very busy over the last three months, including the following:

- Completed the containment area and relocation of the fuel tanks as required by insurance.
- Reconstructed the well house pad, foundation and walls as required by insurance.
- Removed the rotted storage shed at the main gate as required by insurance.
- Rebuilt the entire fence and entrance gate to the stilling basin.

Grand Valley Lakes Update From POA Board President Ron Scott

(continued)

- Completed placing rocks on the main levee for the upcoming State inspection scheduled for Friday, June 24, 2020.
- Continued to maintain the infrastructure and appearance of GVL, including water system repairs, filling potholes, mowing and cutting back trees as necessary.
- Made construction modification supporting the interior lodge renovation.
- Continued to address valid work order and information calls from homeowners.

Roads – Ron Scott, Jim Gehringer, Earl Butler & Stan Doyle have put together a list of road repairs needed. We are waiting on Stan Doyle's contact, Mitchell Johnson with Johnson Construction to meet at Grand Valley. He is trying to get a job finished in Alabama, and assured the committee he would be here ASAP. Stan suggested that the committee meet with him first for info/advice as he is trustworthy and will give honest advice. Mitchell does chip & seal. He also has a partner who does asphalt.

After we get info and estimate from Johnson Construction we will get other bids. We will proceed in this order to make sure the right questions are being asked so we can get a "apples to apples" comparison.

The other contractors include:

- Quality Tar & Chip 731-927-1097 Tom Wein give me this info.
- Fowler Paving - they did the paving for us the last time. They do not do chip & seal.

Sponsored By the Law Office of

George R. Fusner, Jr.

Phone: 615-251-0005

GVL POA Attorney



Boating Etiquette

Respect your Neighbors

What does the term “No Wake” mean? Well, on a lake as small as Grand Valley Lake we should all be aware of a few “rules” and some simple common courtesy. Most regulatory documents (State, federal, and local) all contain the definition of No Wake with similar wording as follows : **“Slow-no wake” means operation of a watercraft at the slowest possible speed necessary to maintain steerage, but in no case greater than five miles per hour.**

At GVL we should also recognize that, because of the small size of our lake that *common courtesy* would also dictate the speed at which you operate your vessel (boat.)

If you are operating a boat or PWC (jet ski, sea doo, wave runner, etc) and you are in a designated NO WAKE zone you should consider the following guidance. If you are in the NO WAKE zone and there is anyone on a paddle board, kayak, canoe, or float, then the wake produced by your boat should produce no more disturbance of the water than a gentle rocking motion to your neighbors enjoying the water. Anything more can be dangerous as well as annoying. Heavy wakes can also cause damage to sea walls and other property. And, just because you don’t see anyone else on the water you must still honor the NO WAKE rules.

Did you also know that a powered vessel must always give “right of way” to an unpowered vessel such as a sailboat, paddleboard, or kayak/canoe?

Boating Etiquette

Respect your Neighbors

(continued)

There are many “rules”, both universally accepted as well as local that apply at our lake in GVL. Please review the boating “Rules of the Road” that can be found on-line, (<https://www.dummies.com/sports/following-right-of-way-boating-rules/>) as well as the GVL “Lake Rules.”

Please understand that our Lake Rules are not intended to take away from anyone’s enjoyment of their time on the lake, but rather, to enhance the safety and security of EVERYONE else on the lake.

Please be safe and enjoy this valuable amenity but please ALWAYS respect your neighbors time on the lake.

Now that the weather has improved we might see more boats on the lake after sundown. Of course, to see a boat means that they must have their navigation lights on. Do you know what these lights mean? For starters the bow of the boat should have a green nav light on the Starboard side (right side viewing forward) and a red light on the Port side (left side looking forward.) It’s important to other boat operators to be able to see these lights to determine the direction of travel, and relative movement of each boat.

Those “headlights” are not really headlights. They are docking lights and should only be used when docking the boat. These lights actually “wash out” the view of the nav lights and can lead to confusion over the direction and trajectory of the boat. So, for safety reasons please don’t operate the boat with the docking lights on.

The lake is our greatest amenity at GVL and we all hope that everyone enjoys their time on the lake. But please review the lake rules (they’re posted on the GVL website and available at the office) so that all residents can have a great time on the lake.

Happy summer everyone!!

Jim Gehringer

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