

**Little  
Lagoon  
Preservation  
Society**



**Newsletter  
Winter 2023**

[www.littlelagoon.org](http://www.littlelagoon.org)

**NEXT MEETING:**  
**Thursday, January 19,**  
**2023, 5:30 PM**

**Gulf Shores Activity  
Center, 260 Clubhouse  
Drive**

### Meeting Agenda

- 5:30PM **Socializing**, with yummy food and drinks. Connect with your current and new LLPS friends and neighbors! Bring a friend or neighbor who might be interested in LLPS and what we do!
- 6:00PM **Special Guest Speaker, Dr. Brett Webb**, USA Prof. Civil Engineering, Ph.D. Coastal Engineering
- 6:30PM **Q & A with Dr Webb**
- 7:00PM **Topical updates and general business from our tireless and dedicated President, Dennis Hatfield and others!**
- ✓ **Important membership votes for new Directors and updates to our association By Laws – Dale Harris, Secretary**
  - ✓ **Oyster Gardening update – Laurie and Tom Eberly**
  - ✓ **BCSS – Dennis**
- 7:30PM ish? **Closing remarks and adjourn! – Dennis**

**It's time for 2023 dues, so please make sure you have paid your 2022 dues!**

Members who have not paid dues since 2019 are being placed in an inactive status.

If you would like to join the Little Lagoon Preservation Society, please apply at [www.littlelagoon.org](http://www.littlelagoon.org)

## ***An Exciting Opportunity to Better Understand Our Little Lagoon Water Levels, Circulation and Flushing - and to Get Involved!***

**Our Special Guest Speaker- Dr. Brett Webb**, USA Prof. Civil Engineering, Ph.D. Coastal Engineering (University of Florida), will talk with us about:

### **“Construction of a 3-D Hydrodynamic Model of Little Lagoon and Collection of Data Elements Necessary for the Task”**

Dr Webb has funding from AL Dept of Transportation and the Little Lagoon Restoration Project to study Little Lagoon and create a 3-D hydrodynamic model of the Lagoon circulation and flushing. For this meeting he will talk about **1) Data collection efforts** to support the 3D model development including, bathymetry survey and map of the Lagoon, water level sensors on docks, a “drifter study,” wave study and water quality continuous data collection (temp, conductivity, pH, DO, chlorophyll, blue green algae, etc.), **2) What we can do with the 3D model once it is running**, including storm impacts, sea level rise impacts, groundwater impacts, hydraulic modifications (e.g., removing the weir, installing culverts under roads, etc.), and lagoon/channel modifications, **3) ALDOT/Pass/Shoal Sand updates** to include, 2022 survey update on shoal volumes (and past data), current discussions with ALDOT about excavating some of the flood shoal and improvements in dredging efficiencies.

**Picture of Lagoon Water Level Sensor – We need 8 -10 members to volunteer to have one installed on their piers!  
Contact Dennis Hatfield at [dennishatfield17@gmail.com](mailto:dennishatfield17@gmail.com)**



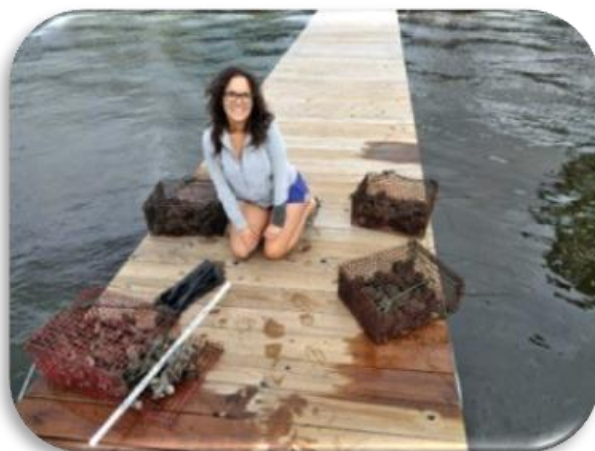
## Little Lagoon Pass Update

The latest dredging cycle officially ended with a complaint to the Court Channel Order on August 15, 2022. Since then, a shoal has formed and persisted just north of the bridge. A trigger could happen soon. See latest data graphs from COGS and Lloyd Moore in the appendix!

## Oyster Gardening Update

Laurie and Tom Eberly are doing a great job managing the Lagoon Oyster Gardening program, and are rapidly closing in on a goal to grow our program to 50+ gardens! We need program commitments early this year due to some research involving oyster shell thickness. **January 20th is this year's deadline for sign-ups.**

**Upper Picture - Gulf Shores High Schools Students with baskets of oysters ready for placement in Mobile Bay. Lower Picture - Laurie Eberly working on oyster gardening at her and Tom's pier.**



## **Baldwin County Sewer Service (BCSS) Update**

We are anticipating a new permit increase request from BCSS to the Alabama Department of Environmental Management (ADEM) any time now. Anecdotal information:

- ✓ BCSS may be abandoning the sludge pond
- ✓ A sludge storage vessel may be built to handle liquid sludge
- ✓ The old sludge reactor vessel could be recommissioned to process an additional 600,000 gals of sewage
- ✓ An additional monitoring well in the SW corner of the plant has been drilled
- ✓ ADEM will require monitoring of more data elements, such as Phosphorus, in their monitoring wells around the plant. Their consultant will perform a study on Phosphorus mobility in the subsurface.

We should not expect Phosphorus remediation or limits in the new application to increase sewage processing to 1.8 MM gal per day... 😞 Physical changes at the plant need to be approved by the City of Gulf Shores Planning and Zoning group and the Mayor/City Council, which would include a public hearing.

## **Laguna Cove / Lagoon Restoration updates**

**Laguna Cove:** Final plans are ready and will advertise for bids in January. Expect about 8-10 months of construction time.

**Little Lagoon Restoration:** City to solicit bids for Septic to Sewer Conversions, Living Shoreline at Mo's, and Hydrologic Connectivity Improvements, over the next few weeks. Expect to have draft agreements with University Partners in January to begin other components such as, Oyster Restoration, Shoreline Habitat, Seagrasses, and Hydrodynamic Modeling. **LLPS will be asked to help promote this project.**

## **Website and Business Process Upgrades**

Dennis is still evaluating two software systems. Once completed, LLPS will purchase a license for the new software and a team will begin to load our data base and other elements into the new software system. New LLPS Director, Resa Harris, has volunteered to help load and maintain the new system, and build our new website in the system. This new system should help us with membership management, invoicing, reporting, mass emails, website updates, etc. The Team will consist of Dennis, Hans, Sheri, Johnna, and Resa.

## **Gulf Shores High School Outreach**

GSHS will again be maintaining 4 Oyster Gardens, conducting Water Quality monitoring and learning about Living Shorelines at the Hatfield pier in 2023.

## Board of Directors and Bylaws Updates

There have been significant changes in our Board of Directors and Officers, as well as an update to the association Bylaws. **These Director changes and By Laws updates were approved by a unanimous vote of the Board of Directors at the January 3, 2023 Directors Meeting and need to be approved by a majority vote of the general membership at the general meeting on January 19, 2023.** Director changes: Steve McMillan passed, and Brooke Shinn, Barney Gass, and Chandra Wright have stepped down as Directors. Greg Bourgeois and Karen Pera have stepped down as Officers.

**New Nominees:** Position 2- currently open, Position 5- Resa Harris, Position 7- Greta Pennell, Position 8- Rhonda Caviedes, Alternate- Chandra Wright, Vice President- Flo Gardipee, Secretary- Dale Harris. Flo and Dale have been voted into their respective officer positions by the Board. Dennis and Deborah were also approved for a two-year term by a unanimous vote of the Directors at the January 3, 2023 Directors Meeting.

**Our By-laws document has been modified in a collaborative effort by Dennis and Dale Harris.**

- ✓ The Corresponding and Recording Secretary roles have been combined into a single Secretary role with a description of the duties and responsibilities.
- ✓ Both the Secretary and Treasury roles have been designated as voting, Board of Director roles. The prior by-laws did not state these roles as Director-level, and we were unsure as to why the Bylaws were that way.
- ✓ A non-voting, Director Emeritus role has been created to honor the significant service, contributions, and achievements of Barney Gass.
- ✓ General meeting times are the third Thursday of January, April, July and October; to be adjusted by the Board as needed for holidays or other conflicts.
- ✓ Board of Director meeting times are the first Tuesday of January, April, July and October; to be adjusted by the Board as needed for holidays or other conflicts.
- ✓ General and Director meeting notifications shall be given with 5 - 7 days advance notice.
- ✓ General Membership quorum is 10% of the general membership role. A Board of Director quorum is seven Directors.
- ✓ Minor formatting and verbiage changes have been made for clarity.

**Big Kudos to Laurie and Tom Eberly** for taking over Oyster Gardening Program! Also, a **Shout Out of Appreciation to Lloyd Moore** for taking on a big component of WQ monitoring, which is maintaining and calibrating our multi-meter probe!

**We appreciate your leadership, service and smiles! Thank you!**



## Financials

For quarter 22-10-01 thru 22-12-31

**Starting Balance:** \$72,279.09

Total Payments: \$2,285.00

Total Expenses: \$3,508.06

Ending Balance: \$71,056.03

### Notable Expenses:

- ✓ OG spat and cages 2022 (\$2,110),
- ✓ Members mtg. food & drinks (\$196.80),
- ✓ WQ probe expense (\$172.25),
- ✓ Website update \$287.65

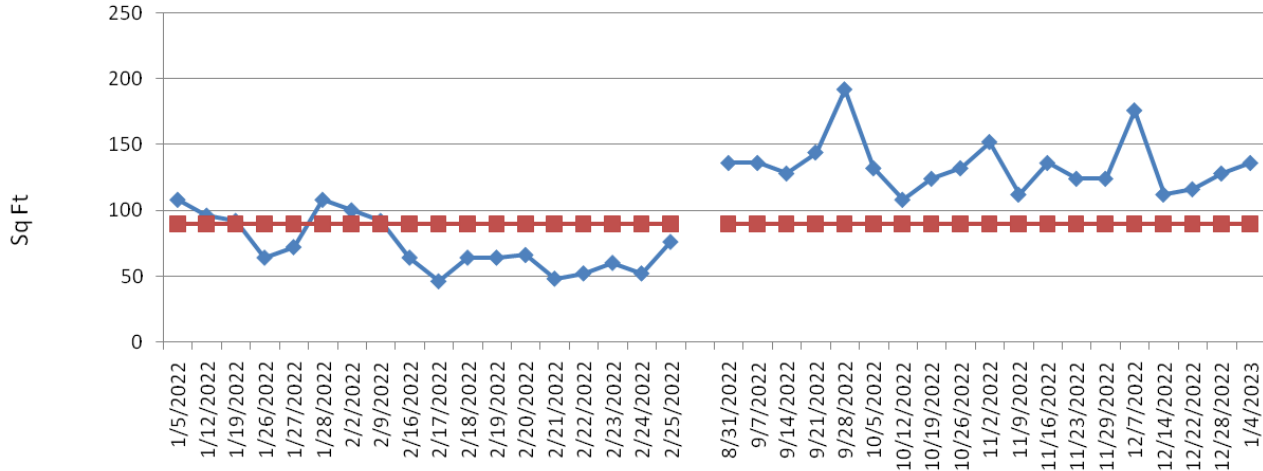
### Notable Revenue:

- ✓ GSHS Oyster Garden spat and cage reimbursement (\$2110)

## Appendix

And for all us graph geeks...The latest Little Lagoon Pass Water Level Graphs!

### Lagoon Pass Cross Section



### Lagoon Pass Depth Measurements

