



**Newsletter
Winter 2022**

www.littlelagoon.org

**Next meeting:
Thursday, January
20, 2022, 6:00 PM
ZOOM**

Claude Petet Mariculture Center/Marine Resources Division, Gulf Shores

Little Lagoon Preservation Society (LLPS) will host our next member meeting using Zoom, due to continuing COVID concerns. Log in for our guest speaker, Maxwell Westendorf, Hatchery Manager at the Mariculture Center in Gulf Shores. The Alabama Marine Resources Division (AMRD) maintains the Claude Petet Mariculture Center (CPMC) located near the Gulf Shores airport. CPMC was created in 1970 when 40 acres of land were donated to the State by Ms. Mildred Casey. An additional 5 acres was purchased by the State which provided access to the Intracoastal Waterway and a brackish water source needed to fill ponds.



Currently, three species of fish popular among Alabama saltwater anglers are cultured at CPMC including red drum (*Sciaenops ocellatus*), Florida pompano (*Trachinotus carolinus*), and southern flounder (*Paralichthys lethostigma*).

Below is the link, passcode, meeting ID for the scheduled Zoom meeting.

Topic: LLPS QUARTERLY MEMBERS MEETING
Time: Jan 20, 2022 06:00 PM Central Time (US and Canada)

Join Zoom Meeting
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81715664133?pwd=RE5qdUdHdzZTMlVYTmdWRUNVQXIYQT09>

Meeting ID: 817 1566 4133
Passcode: 573924
One tap mobile
+13017158592,,81715664133#,,,,*573924# US (Washington DC)
+13126266799,,81715664133#,,,,*573924# US (Chicago)

Dial by your location
+1 301 715 8592 US (Washington DC)
+1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago)
+1 646 558 8656 US (New York)
+1 253 215 8782 US (Tacoma)
+1 346 248 7799 US (Houston)
+1 669 900 9128 US (San Jose)

Meeting ID: 817 1566 4133
Passcode: 573924

Little Lagoon Pass Update

Pass has remained in compliance since out last meeting but is and has been right on the edge of a “trigger” (<90 sq ft. cross section area). Dredging likely soon/First quarter 2022.

Oyster Gardening Update

Seven Teams consisting of Ron Phelps, Johnna Kolaks, Avery Bird, Beth Sutton, Deborah Hatfield, Krista Marcum & 3rd Block Gulf Coast Ecology Class, Laurie & Tom Eberly, PJ Waters, Hannah Ryan (GSHS), Kyra Zills (GSHS), Rodni Calo (GSHS), Robert & Sara Swartz, Lloyd Moore, and Dennis Hatfield picked up 2021 Lagoon Gardening Program oysters on October 27th. Lagoon Gardeners grew 35,068 oysters with an average length of 52.29MM (2.06”) from 32 sites. The oysters were moved to Mobile Bay and restored ~1.73 acres with a restoration value of ~ \$40,871. Way to go gardeners! GSHS Krista Marcum’s Gulf Coast Ecology students and



several summer interns (Carmen Morales and Grant Stewart) grew 6.5 gardens (26 cages) for a total of 7,170 oysters! Laurie & Tom Eberly had the largest single garden with 2,460 oysters. Equally as impressive single gardens were: 1) The Original Oyster House-Cecilia Mace (2,270 oysters), 2) Robert & Sara Swartz (1,950 oysters), 3) Bill Roberson (1,950 oysters), 4) Avery Bird (1,790 oysters). An additional 7,000+ research oysters were grown by MS students Rayne Palmer and Conrad Horst at 6 gardening sites provided by Michael Jinks, Laurie & Tom Eberly, Graham & Margie Baxter, Miles McDaniel, Avery Bird, and Robert Sorrels. The additional oysters bring the total oysters grown in Little Lagoon for 2021 to 42,000+. This is an awesome effort by all involved especially considering we are still recovering from Hurricane Sally which heavily damaged or destroyed 70-80% of Lagoon gardening piers.

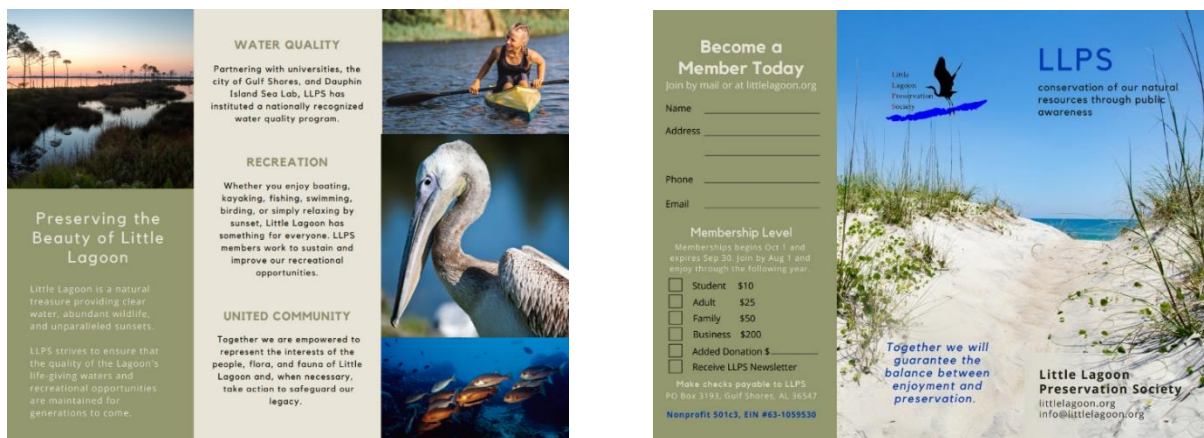
Committee Activity Updates

Watershed Management Plan (WMP): Mobile Bay National Estuary Program has funded a nutrient, pathogen etc. study by Cook and Beebe. This study will identify sources of nitrogen, phosphorous, and other chemicals in Little Lagoon and the results could have an impact on Baldwin County Sewer Services (BCSS) on Fort Morgan Road. BCSS has applied to modify their permit to increase throughput by 65%. LLPS is concerned with nitrogen and possibly phosphorous loading to Little Lagoon by processed sewage being “injected” into the shallow aquifer ¼ mile from the Lagoon. Another concern is the possibility that BCSS will “import” sewage from other areas north of the Intercoastal waterway to be processed at the plant increasing the amount of sewage discharge into the Lagoon. LLPS submitted a letter to Alabama Department of Environmental Management requesting a delay on approval of the permit until the Beebe study is completed. Other towns and utilities are using technological capabilities to reduce the flow of nutrients into freshwater space, so there are feasible solutions other than the current treatment of sewage at BCSS. 30-day public comment coming soon.

Laguna Cove- Dan Bond (COGS): Final plan in place. Work to start summer 2022.

Outreach

GSHS Scholarship fund raising team- Looking to go forward with work on the website, making changes to the scholarship tab, donation page, and some reorganization. Goal is to try and have changes in place by Jan 20th. Work on LLPS flyer for distribution with information about LLPS and membership/donations. Below is draft of what the flyer will look like.



GSHS Outreach- Resource Conservation & Development Grant- LLPS will purchase two weather stations. Will continue with GSHS students doing oyster gardening at Dennis' pier.
WQ Monitoring – It's an ongoing activity and we always need volunteers. If you can volunteer 3 hours of your time (usually 8 to 11AM) once per month we can sure use help to keep this important initiative going!

Membership- It's that time of year again, renew or start a new membership! Little Lagoon Preservation Society needs your support (financial and volunteer help) to continue with improving water quality and recreational opportunities. See the below membership application to fill out and send in with your dues for 2022. Or if you want to sign up online go to [Membership Enrollment – Little Lagoon Preservation Society](#)

Board nominations- It's also that time of year to nominate members to the Board of LLPS. The Board nominates the representative for the Board and the members vote to approve the nomination. At the last Board meeting the following individuals were nominated for positions on the Board:

- a) Position 3 - Johnna Kolaks, 2 years
- b) Position 6 - Robert Sorrells, 2 years
- c) Position 1 - Ron Phelps, 3 years
- d) Position 4 - Brenda Hancock, 3 years

Item of Note- Steve McMillan, serving as an LLPS Board member and Alabama State House of Representatives member has some challenges ahead. He is dealing with 3 small brain tumors and is undergoing an "aggressive treatment plan." Steve said in a statement released, "I welcome and appreciate your prayers on my behalf as my family and I take on this fight."

Financials

September 30, 2021, thru December 31, 2021	
Starting Balance	\$62,679.68
Total Income	\$1,385.00
Total Expenses	\$563.90
Ending Balance	\$63,500.78

Notable expenses- None over \$100.

We invite you to be a part of preserving Little Lagoon for generations to come. Your support is crucial if we are to preserve and protect this unique environment. Please join us as a member of Little Lagoon Preservation Society

**Little
Lagoon
Preservation
Society**



Members receive a quarterly newsletter, meeting notifications, and updates regarding special issues.

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____

STATE _____ ZIP _____

PHONE _____

EMAIL _____

Email allows us to keep our costs down so that a greater percentage of your donation may be applied toward our goals. Your email will be used by LLPS only to distribute newsletters and any important LLPS communications.

FAMILY MEMBERSHIP

\$25 \$50 \$75 other \$ _____

STUDENT MEMBERSHIP

\$10

BUSINESS MEMBERSHIP

\$200 other \$ _____

Business members are eligible to place a logo on LLPS brochures and a link to their web site on the LLPS site, www.littlelagoon.org.

**Please complete this form and mail it with your check payable to LLPS
Little Lagoon Preservation Society
P. O. Box 3193
Gulf Shores, AL 36547**