

Summer 2026

www.laylakehobo.org

# Lay Lake

## Coosa Cotton FISHING

### Home Owners & Boat Owners Association

If you submitted a “trashy” pic, you get 20% off at Coosa Cotton website. We can give you the discount code.

## Lake/Shoreline Clean-up is underway, Yay!

Lake lovers have pulled out 29,231# of trash/debris from our lake/shoreline. There are plans for more group clean-ups. Keep “trashy” pics coming, qualify for 20% off Coosa Cotton website.



### Fayetteville Fishing Team

wrapped up an incredible season at state tournament on Pickwick Lake by finishing 4th in the state. The Senior Division finished the season as STATE RUNNER-UP, earning 2nd place overall for the year! Junior Division brought home the STATE CHAMPIONSHIP!



HOBO Youth Advisor Carden is grateful for opportunities to fish at UM Looks forward to new challenges.



SCHS Wildcats Fish Team Bass Assoc #1



# Make your own Medicine?



Rabbit Tobacco



Queen Anne's Lace



Goldenrod

15 million Americans have no health insurance. Is it time to brew our meds at home as in olden days?

**Queen Anne's Lace**, on right, is often referred to as a wild carrot. It can be used to treat flatulence, skin ailments, kidney disorders, **gout**, & digestive issues. It grows by roadsides.

**Rabbit Tobacco**/sweet everlasting, on left, is good for treating poison ivy says herbalist Darryl Patton. He operates a wilderness survival training school in the mountains of North Alabama. The plant appears in late summer. When leaves are crushed, it smells like maple syrup. It grows in dry sandy soil, in 3' clumps. It can be made into a tea to treat nervousness, colds, sore throats, and to help folks sleep. For **mumps**, the Creek Indians made a soft, moist pack of the leaves (a "poultice") and placed it on the throat.

**Goldenrod**, once the state flower of Alabama, can be harvested in late summer and made into a tea for kidney stone pain. It's useful too to treat UTIs.

Software engineer/forager Jesse Akozbek of Huntsville recommends growing: Red Mulberries, Service Berry, Chickasaw Plum, Paw Paw, American Wild Lettuce, and Hickory



# "Captain Dan" Hartsell launches certified pontoon guide service



Recently, all Lay Lake eyes were on the NPFL (National Professional Fishing League) bass tournament. "Captain Dan" drove the camera crew daily launching from Beeswax. He is a retired Hoover fireman, EMT, & marine electronics instructor who is offering safe/certified pontoon guide service for families/groups for half day/full day excursions that can include swimming, photography, stops for meals and river history.

Add link to his one page flyer

## Recycling Opportunities



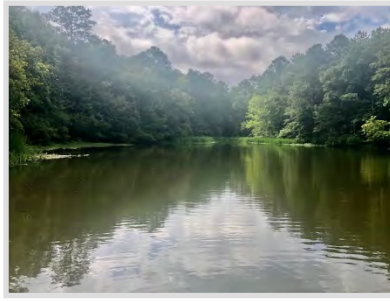
## Join Great Southeast Pollinator Census Aug 21-22



Learn more at [www.gsepc.org](http://www.gsepc.org)

*"The river has great wisdom...  
And whispers its secrets to the heart".*

*~ Mark Twain ~*



### A "HOBO" Hearty Welcome to You!

Consider joining **Lay Lake Home Owners & Boat Owners Association (HOBO)**. We are a non-profit, environmental, and recreational group formed in 1999 to preserve, protect and improve the quality of life around Lay Lake.

We partner with Alabama Power, Alabama River Alliance, Coosa Riverkeepers, Alabama Water Watch, and the U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary to help ensure the health and vitality of the lake. We implement clean-ups, do monthly water testing, encourage fishing, erect Osprey nesting platforms, and support summer "swim guide" testing. We try to stay abreast of river safety issues: algae blooms, fish advisories, pollutants. We offer a Speakers Bureau with programs on "The Re-introduction of Eagles to Alabama" and "The Importance of Lay Lake to our Drinking Water",

The HOBO Association encompasses the entirety of Lay Lake, which stretches into five counties. We urge members to support the local marinas, applaud the fishing teams, report any damaged mile markers to APC, and be careful/safe/polite on the water. If in trouble, we ask folks to dial 911 and/or call \*HP.

You can pay dues by mailing a check to P.O.Box 354, Wilsonville AL 35186 or by going to the website at [www.laylakehobo.org](http://www.laylakehobo.org). At website, click on "membership" and you'll be taken to a form to fill out - you can pay by PayPal or credit card. We are glad you are here! Enjoy the lake safely! If you participated in the annual clean-up and BBQ picnic at Beeswax, sponsored by **Powered by Luke**, we thank YOU for your help in gathering 13,000 pounds of trash in 2025 and 29,361 pounds of trash this year. Wow! You all are making a big difference!

Sincerely

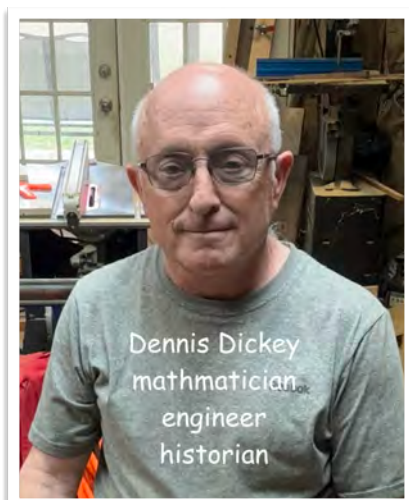
Karen Jensen, Lay Lake HOBO President

[laylakehoboinc@gmail.com](mailto:laylakehoboinc@gmail.com)

P.O. Box 354, Wilsonville AL 35186



# Lay Lake History: How the 1914 Hydroelectric dam affected our lake by Dennis Dickey



[https://docs.google.com/document/d/1PCSseRAHBV3Smsyn8t4OqBeEGSU25Kh\\_aG50dTpFfzUk/edit?usp=sharing](https://docs.google.com/document/d/1PCSseRAHBV3Smsyn8t4OqBeEGSU25Kh_aG50dTpFfzUk/edit?usp=sharing)

<https://www.al.com/wire/2013/03/alabamas coosa river listed in.html>

When Lay Dam was created it made newspapers around the world because some 40 fresh water species were extinguished forever! To learn how Wm Patrick Lay/Alabama Power got permission to install a concrete dam, read Dennis Dickey's fascinating account above, on left.

Sadly, we are facing **extinctions** today. We are the last generation to see lightning bugs. Drought, climate change, creeping concrete, loss of green space, light pollution & use of pesticides is taking a toll on our birds, bees, bugs needed to keep us all humming. Without these pollinators, we can't produce food. Seems we need to rely on each other. We can make our properties **safe zones** for birds, bees & bugs. Because pesticides kill all bugs, we need to limit or eliminate them. Plant native plants that are hosts to specific butterflies/moths, reduce grass areas (grass has no nutritive value), plant herbs/veggies. For more info, go to **HomegrownNationalPark.org**. You can add your yard/patio to the big map by putting in your zip code. It's fun to get more info.



# Captain Dan's Guide Service - AL

Relax. Explore. Experience Lay Lake like never before.

Welcome Aboard: At Captain Dan's Guide Service – AL, we offer more than just a boat ride. We provide a safe, relaxing, and fully guided lake experience on the beautiful waters of Lay Lake. We launch from Beeswax Creek Park (245 Beeswax Park Rd, Columbiana AL 35051).

Whether you're looking to unwind, celebrate, or explore, you can leave the stress behind. **No Boat, No Worries... Just show up & enjoy your day!**

**Your Vessel:** You'll cruise in comfort aboard a 2026 Bentley Tritoon (24.5 ft) powered by a Mercury 250HP engine.

Onboard Features & Amenities:

Up to 7 adult passengers (**signed liability waiver required for each guest before cruise**)

Onboard restroom

Bimini top for shade

Premium West Sounds stereo system

USB & USB-C charging ports (bring your own cords)

All Alabama required safety equipment provided

Fuel included - no hidden costs

Tips are always greatly appreciated, but not required



## 1. Guided Pontoon Sunrise/Sunset Cruises & Boat for Hire (Weather permitting)

Enjoy a peaceful, fully guided cruise tailored to your group. Perfect for relaxation, sightseeing, swimming, and creating unforgettable memories on the water.

Pricing: Basic Sunrise or Sunset Cruise w/out food included

Half Day (4 Hours): \$425 **\*\*All Sunday Cruises - start after 12pm\*\***

Full Day (8 Hours): \$625

Additional Fees: \$60 holiday or for special Lay Lake events

\$60 pickup (if we pick you up & drop you off from your lake location, easy dock access is required)

## 2. Food Cruise Experiences: Basic cruise w/food included (Weather permitting)

Upgrade your outing with a Food Cruise Experience.

We've partnered with: **The Point Grill and Bar**-Availability: Thursday – Sunday - 11am–8pm

Add to your basic cruise package price: \$50 or \$100 food credit

Half Day (4 Hours): \$475 (w/\$50 gift card) - \$525 (w/\$100 gift card)

Full Day (8 Hours): \$675 (w/\$50 gift card) - \$725 (w/\$100 gift card)

**Weekend Bonus Stop:** Enjoy a sweet treat w/Pontoon Pops Ice Cream Boats (bring cash)

**Sunrise Cruise:** Beeswax Outdoor for breakfast and/or lunch (bring cash)

Captain Dan's Guide Service – AL

Safe. Simple. Unforgettable.

 Website:

Currently under construction

## 3. Private Events & Custom Experiences (Weather permitting)

Make your special occasion unforgettable on the water.

Perfect for: Birthdays

Anniversaries

Family outings

Swimming trips

Picnic-style experiences

**Important:** For safety and liability reasons, tubing and water skiing are not offered. Our focus is on a safe, relaxing, & enjoyable lake experience for all guests.

## 4. On-the-Water Electronics Training (Weather permitting)

Hands-on instruction using your equipment on your boat.

Specializing in: Humminbird electronics

Minn Kota systems

Sonar interpretation

Boat control & positioning

## Who We Are: Captain Danny Hartsell & Katie (1st mate when available)

Captain Dan's Guide Service – AL is built on experience, professionalism, and safety.

Licensed & Insured LLC

USCG Merchant Mariner Master Captain License holder

Retired Professional Firefighter

Nationally Registered EMT Paramedic

NSBC Boating Instructor (pending)

Marine Electronics Instructor & Author

Your safety is always our #1 priority.

## Book Your Trip Today

Your perfect day on Lay Lake starts here.

 Call or Text to Book:

205-965-5758

