

Plans Include 31 Acre Lake Two Miles East of Marissa With Recreational Grounds

Marissa Recreation Area Inc., New Organization Set Up
Here Last Week, For Much Needed Project

Marissa has a brand new enterprise, Marissa Recreational Area, Inc., a non-profit organization of local men dedicated to the building of a greatly need recreational center for the entire community.

The nucleus organization was formed here last week when a group of determined local men gathered at the Messenger office and set up Marissa Recreational Area, Inc.

The group temporarily elected Sam Boyle President with Quentin Bollmeier as Treasurer and Glenn Baird Secretary and incorporation papers were filed this week in Springfield asking for a charter for the new enterprise.

A small group of men have been busy since last spring finding a suitable site which will be located about two miles east of town on the Hamilton, Juenger, and Canning land, running a survey of ground and drawing water level maps for the proposed lake figuring costs and getting ready for the actual building job.

The new organization will be made up of 150 charter members who expect to do a great deal of the actual building job themselves.

The organization will hold a public orientation meeting at the Lions hall next Tuesday evening at 7:30 to further explain details of the big program for Marissa.

Art Macke, one of the original planners, has outlined the following highlights and aims of the proposed project.

Based on the premise that a large number of the families in Marissa, and the surrounding area desire a place nearby for recreation, an area has been chosen that has the potential possibilities of fulfilling the recreational needs of each and every member of the family.

The White Oak area consisting of 126 acres has been selected because it provides a natural lake site, wooded areas for camp and picnic grounds and sufficient cleared area for golf, tennis, and other outdoor sports. This area lies about two miles Southeast of Marissa and is accessible either from Highway 13 or from the oiled surface road that runs parallel and alongside of the ICRR. Children will be able to commute to this area without being exposed to the hazards of the State Highway.

A contour map has been made of this area upon which is shown the proposed dam sites and lakes, proposed wading pool and swimming area, outdoor recreational areas, camping grounds and picnic area, the club house site, golf course, etc. Although these facilities are shown on the map, this arrangement is only tentative and the final locations and timing must be decided upon by the membership. It is recommended that the recreational project be built on a pay as you go basis.

The first phase of the building of the recreational area is the immediate construction of the dams for two lakes, one 25 acres and the other 6 acres. The large lake will contain approximately 62,000,000 gallons of water and will be used for fishing, boating, and a reserve reservoir for the city water supply. The 6 acre lake will be used for wading, swimming and fishing. There is approximately 140 acres of water shed for these two lakes and this shed may be increased by 80 acres if permission can be obtained to place a culvert under the ICRR.

The large dam will require the placing of 31,000 yards of earth and the small dam will require the placing of 10,000 yards. In addition, each dam will require an overflow structure, emergency overflow and a drainage pipe and valve.

The cost of the first phase of building the recreational area, namely, the purchase of the land, the clearing of the lake areas and the construction of the two dams will range from a maximum of \$21,500 on a contract basis to a minimum of \$14,600 if labor and equipment is furnished without charge. It is necessary that each member donate comparative amounts of labor and cooperate in every way in order that the first phase may be completed at the minimum cost. The minimum cost of \$14,600 is made up of the following: .000 for 126 acres of land, \$4,000 for dam construction, \$1,000 for swimming pool and \$600 for clearing. The cost of all labor hired and all equipment rented or leased must be added to the minimum cost.

In order to finance this project, a non-profit corporation has been organized and that stock will be sold for \$100.00 per share with limitations of one share of stock per family. The stock will increase in value as the efforts of the stockholders improve and develop the area. It is desired that the corporation consist of 150 stockholders.

In addition to the \$15,000 received from the sale of stock, it is felt that financial help may be received from the City of Marissa for the right to use the large lake as a reserve reservoir to supplement the city water supply in case of emergency. The city will also be asked to sell the present dump site to the club in order that same be cleaned up and used for recreational activities.

The selling of stock and the financial help from the city should pay for the cost of the first phase of building the recreational area. In order that the project may progress, grow and finally be completed, it is necessary that ways and means be established to obtain additional income and finally perpetual income from leases, rentals, etc.

The following are possible sources of income for the project:

- a. Leasing of lots around White Oak Lake on South Side of track.
- b. Leasing of lots around the recreation lakes.
- c. The building and rental of cottages on the lake.
- d. Membership dues.
- e. Ground fees on open house days.
- f. Fishing and swimming fees for non-members.
- g. Profits from the sale of meals, soft drinks, novelties etc.
- h. Subdivide areas around the golf course and sell lots.
- i. Social affairs.
- j. Golf fees and bowling fees at a later date.

Every effort must be made to make the project successful financially and by so doing, keep the cost of membership competitive and reasonable.