

# THE WEEKLY LEDGER

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## Veterans, Our Heroes

*"For God was in Christ, restoring the world to himself, no longer counting men's sins against them but blotting them out. This is the wonderful message he has given us to tell others."*  
2 Corinthians 5:19



By Taniesa Sullivan  
Christian Wife and Mother

With Thanksgiving and the Holiday season upon us, we would like to take a moment to acknowledge the service and sacrifice of our nation's heroes. Because of their commitment, we can live free and full of hope for the future.

Each day is an opportunity to show them how much we appreciate them and to push ourselves to new levels of excellence for their benefit. America's Veterans are our priority. They deserve so much for all they have given and sacrificed.

Are you passionate about giving back to our Veterans?

# Happy Thanksgiving



**We Want To Express Our Gratitude To Our Veterans this Thanksgiving**  
"Veterans know better than anyone else the price of freedom, for they suffered the scars of war. We can offer them no better tribute than to protect what they have won for us." – Ronald Reagan

- Here are 7 ways you can...
- 1. Deliver a hot meal.** Limited budgets, isolation and difficulty with transportation can all add up to create a food shortage in the homes of elderly veterans.
  - 2. Give in honor of veterans or service members.** If you're struggling to find a perfect gift for someone in your life, consider donating in his or her name to a reputable military or veteran charity.
  - 3. Help around your own neighborhood.** As the population of U.S. veterans age – and more veterans from more recent conflicts are returning home with life-changing injuries –

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## Tim Discusses Fish Habitats



By Tim Pentecost  
Avid Fisherman

Construction of the Weiss Lake Dam in Leesburg Alabama began in 1958 and was completed in 1961. When the Dam was completed and the Coosa River was backed up it created what is now the 30,200 acre Lake that we all love today.

Most of what is covered in water today once was wooded land and even parts of old home foundations, etc. For almost a half century the natural structure that was underneath the surface was considered sufficient for habitats for the fish that inhabited Weiss Lake but now most of that natural structure has deteriorated and is no longer there.

Habitats are necessary for the survival of young fish to protect them from predators. Instead of larger fish feeding on bait fish like shad they would feed on other young game fish without a place for them to hide. Habitats also protect game fish from birds such as cormorants.

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# Continued: Tim talks about Fish Habitats

In 2008, Anglers Unlimited started placing porcupine structures made of PVC in the Bay Springs area and since then have had projects covering almost all of Weiss Lake. Anglers Unlimited has always supported the "National Fish Habitat Initiative"; which is promoted by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Agency.

In 2015 Weiss Lake Improvement Association started having two habitat enhancement projects during the summer putting out more than 200 habitats each year. Those habitats consist of concrete blocks, bamboo, and concrete and sometimes vinyl is used in place of the bamboo.

Over the years fishing guides and avid anglers have also placed out their own secret habitats. Although Christmas trees are popular and excellent habitat they don't last very long compared to other materials so that is why Anglers Unlimited and Weiss Lake Improvement Association started

using materials that would last up to a decade or longer.

Usually during these projects many citizens around Weiss Lake ask about the rules of putting out their own habitats so I talked to Jerry Culberson of Anglers Unlimited to find out what is and what isn't allowed. He said that you can use plastic such as PVC, concrete, wood and similar materials but you shouldn't use metal or metal cables. He also said habitats should be placed in 12 ft of water or more to prevent injuries to swimmers.

If you would like to get an idea of how to build habitats you can check out the Anglers Unlimited and Weiss Lake Improvement Association websites or just Google "fish attractors" and you'll find many creative ideas. The most important part is anchoring them with enough weight that they don't wash away in swift current.

Thank you for reading The Weekly Ledger and I hope to see you on the Lake.



The Weekly Ledger

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*...a cord of three strands is not quickly broken.  
Ecclesiastes 4:12*



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