



The Leesville Lake Association Newsletter

July 2013

10th Annual Beautification Day

Thanks to our many volunteers and sponsors, our the 10th Annual Beautification Day effort successfully removed close to 40 tons of debris from Leesville Lake on May 18th, 2013. Overcoming thunderstorms at start and close of the day, 130 registered volunteers turned out to help keep the lake clean and safe for all to enjoy.

Bill Marshall - Beautification Day Coordinator



Gary McMillan and son John hauling debris to the Brumfield ramp.



Volunteers working the Runaway Bay ramp debris offload site

Save the date and mark your calendars:
Next year's 11th Annual Beautification Day
is scheduled for
Saturday, May 17th, 2014.

Without generous community sponsors, the Leesville Lake Association would be unable to execute Beautification Days. The "friends of the lake" that sponsored our efforts for this year's event are:

Diamond Sponsors
Appalachian Power Company

Platinum Sponsors
Lakeside Services

Gold Sponsors
Heron Landing Homeowners Association
Runaway Bay Homeowners Association
Sunset Bay Homeowners Association
Tri-County Marina
Jackson's Landscaping

Silver Sponsors
Altavista Alarm
Bays Trash Removal
Bob Rankin - Artist
Docks by Doug - Haskin Builders, LLC
Estes Sign Company
1st National Bank of Altavista
JTD Construction

Sam Skillman, Realtor Long & Foster Real Estate



Volunteers at Runaway Bay removing a large log. This log has to dragged onto the ramp, cut into bucket sized pieces and loaded into dumpsters.

President's Message
 Sherwood Zimmerman
 July, 2013

Summer fun is just beginning on Leesville Lake and I hope you will enjoy our beautiful lake and all it has to offer. You may have noticed that the new dock at the APCO Picnic area near the dam has been completed and is ready for use by boaters.



You now have access to the picnic area by boat and can enjoy the sheltered or open picnic facilities with restrooms, water and fireplaces for cooking.

Rules for use are posted on the wall at the restrooms and indicate that the facility is available on a first come first serve basis. They also state there is to be no swimming from this area. With the public boat ramp located next to the picnic area there is a large amount of boat traffic in this area which create a danger to swimmers. Please observe this restriction and encourage others to do the same. Some homeowners in the vicinity have reported swimmers attempting to swim across the lake from the picnic area to their dock and back. This creates a very dangerous situation since it is very difficult to see a swimmer in open water. The dock is a wonderful addition to the recreation on Leesville Lake and we thank APCO for providing this nice facility.

I would encourage you to consider taking a turn on the Board of Directors of our association. New people provide new ideas and fresh enthusiasm. As reported in this newsletter several of our outstanding board members have decided to step down at the end of their term this year. Time served runs from two years to ten years for these loyal board members. I would like to single out one member for special recognition. Julie Moore is a charter member of the Leesville Lake Board of Directors and has served in numerous important positions on the board over her 10 yrs of service. All of us has come to depend on Julie in so many ways and she has always been very gracious to respond in a cheerful manner. While she would like to break from board duties, she has indicated that she is in no way resigning from helping where ever she can. We will greatly miss her guidance and creativity and thank her for her dedicated and loyal service to the Association.

I would encourage you to be sure and renew your membership in the Association when it comes due. The Board needs your support to be able to continue to move forward and to maintain Leesville Lake in a way that allows for full use and fun on the water.



You are needed. The success of our activities, and vitality of our Association as well, is largely dependent on having more people on our committees. Besides, more people reduces the time and effort spent per person to get things done that benefit all.

Join a committee. Or, volunteer to serve on the Board. Notify any Board member of your willingness to help in any way.

Also, Board and Members' meetings are open to all. Board meetings are on the second Thursday of the month at 7 p.m. at the Altavista Train Station.



Leesville Lake Residents
 can call

1-800-956-4237

You can now also report
 debris online.

at www.smithmtn.com.
 It is also available through
www.AppalachianPower.com

Or you can contact the
 Tri-County Lake Administrative
 Commission (TLAC)
 During weekday working hours of
 8:30am - 4:30pm at

1-540-721-4400.

They will log your information,
 send it to AEP and track their
 response. TLAC's website is at
<http://sml.us.com/index.html>

The LLA has joined the social media!



Search Leesville Lake Association
 or use the link on the website.



Exchanges of stories and laughter about "life around the lake" among 63 members and two guests dominated this year's Annual Meeting on July 13 at Tri-County Marina.

That before everyone settled-in at picnic tables under two shelters and enjoyed an abundant barbeque catered by Fat Daddy's out of Bedford.

Despite two short periods of drizzle the shelters kept everyone dry and the conviviality continued throughout the meal. Only the call to start the meeting quieted the din of conversation and hearty laughter.

The meeting, called to order by Association president Sherwood Zimmerman, commenced with the approval of the minutes of the Board's June meeting, approval of the Statement of Income and Expense through June, and approval of the 2013-2014 Operating Budget. Then came brief reports by the chairs of the Association's committees. Some of the reports appear on other pages in this issue.

Sherwood then introduced four Board members who are retiring: Cathy Dalton, Bill Estes, Julie Moore and Pete Pettit. He thanked each for their service on the Board—Cathy, three years; Bill, five years; Pete, eight years, and Julie, 10 years! Cathy has done a great job laying-out and editing both past and this newsletter (and will produce another issue this year. Bill has helped with Beautification Days and picnics and produces the "No Wake" signs which are now available. Pete has led the Navigation Committee with dogged persistence, acquiring funding and pushing the authorities who control the design and materials for hazard markers to get them approved. And Julie has been our treasurer, supervisor of annual audits, budget builder and maintainer, and leader of the Membership Committee until recently. She's been our all-around "Go To" -- Julie knows, Julie can do it--person forever it seems. All will be missed. When you see these roll-up-your-sleeves folks who have worked on our behalf, say "Thanks."

Sherwood then turned to the annual election of members to the Board. Richard Beaton, Gordy Bratz and Lou Reville each consented to serve another two-year term. And Ted Dragan was nominated earlier by Bill Marshall for membership on the Board. Sherwood asked for nominations "from the floor." None were made. He then declared Richard, Gordy, Lou and Ted as the slate of candidates and asked that it be approved by voice acclamation. It was. Officers for the coming year will be determined by Board members at the next Board meeting, August 8.

Sherwood then highlighted several general topics, the two most relevant being the Association's potential membership in the Tri-County Lakes Administrative Commission and the next Quarterly Members' Meeting on Saturday, October 12 at 10:30 a.m. at the Altavista Train Station. Lou Reville will present a "show and tell" and take questions about invasive aquatic plant species, one of which now makes its home on Leesville Lake.

With the business session over, this year's Annual Meeting adjourned. Everyone seemed to have a great time. And the rain didn't appear until late in the afternoon.

Watch the Website and forthcoming newsletters for the date of our 2014 Members' Meeting.



Fireworks July 4, 2013. Picture by Jennifer Mimms
Thank You Tri-County Marina for a wonderful show again this year!



Newsletter

Newsletter Help Wanted

We need someone to layout our quarterly newsletters. in electronic and print formats.

Call or e-mail Gordy Bratz at (434) 324-2189 or

2013 BEAUTIFICATION DAY DIAMOND SPONSORS



Debris Report Bill Marshall



-AEP plans to deploy the skimmer to Leesville Lake late July to operate on the lake for the remainder of this year.

-When the skimmer is operating on the lake, they are willing to work with HOA's and cove dwellers to assist in cleaning specific areas off the main channel. Your working party will have to float the debris out to the skimmer – this is a quick and easy way to remove debris stuck in a cove, or around a dock etc. Contact Bill Marshall at 434 324-6047 to schedule.

-If you spot a large log on the lake, AEP asks that you attempt to tie the log to the shoreline and report its location via the AEP website noting where you secured it. Visit

<http://www.smithmtn.com/DebrisMgmtPlan/ReportDebrisForm.aspx> to file your report.

-Should you have a large pile of debris collected on your shoreline there is no restriction against burning it. Just follow the county burn restrictions time requirements – normally after 4pm.

Successful Community Outreach Laura Capuco

Association members staffed an exhibit at this year's Uncle Billy's Day Festival to educate our local community about programs undertaken by LLA. Display posters and other materials outlined the history and work of the Association. Over 120 festival attendees stopped by to hear about LLA or to obtain Beautification Day t-shirts with a donation. Three colorful Lake prints by Bob Rankin, local Leesville Lake artist drew many attendees to the exhibit booth and were raffled after the Festival. Winners were Erma Gunter of Appomattox, Gary Shupe, Altavista pastor and The Zerden Family who own property on Leesville and Smith Mountain Lake.



Sherwood Zimmerman, Lou Revelle, and Bill Marshall display the LLA exhibit poster and were among several LLA volunteers at Uncle Billy's Day. Mike and Chris Lobue, Delores Revelle, Sam and Karen Skillman, Gordy Bratz and Laura Capuco also contributed their time to this outreach event.



WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

Please welcome the following new LVL Association member since our last newsletter:
Matthew Lutomski

Membership Committee Report By: Laura Capuco



The Association membership currently stands at 273.

Treasurer Report Julie Moore



Financially the Lake continues to be on sound footing. Our fiscal year ends August 31 and thus far through June we're on track budget-wise. On July 13, at the Membership Annual Meeting the operating budget for the 2013-2014 year was approved. The only items in the budget that are significantly different than prior years are \$3,500 to buy a motor for the debris barge we currently own and \$10,000 to buy another used boat/barge for debris removal.

Thanks to all for your continued support.

Communications Committee By Gordy Bratz, Chairman



As the name implies, the committee has sent announcements to local radio stations and articles to local newspapers to advertise the activities conducted or sponsored by the Association since last September. Among them:

- An article about the 2012 Water Quality Monitoring Program and its results. The sampling was done at several lake locations from spring to fall by both Association volunteers and Lynchburg College students. The program continues.

- Articles promoting our sponsorship of two Boating Safety Courses taught by U.S. Coast Guard Auxillary Flotilla 85 resulted in 80 people becoming qualified for the Virginia Boater Education Certificate. Other articles to promoted courtesy Vessel Safety Checks by our own Gerry Caprario. If you want him to check over your boat, and give you the sticker attesting to its seaworthiness, give him a call or send him an e-mail to arrange the check. It could prevent being stopped by DGIF.

- Articles about our 10th Annual Beautification Day helped to get a good volunteer and sponsor turnout. See article on another page.

We welcome volunteers to help with the Website, newsletter and calendar next year. Call or e-mail Gordy at 434-324-2189 or bratzgr@mac.com

Don't Drink and Drive. Don't Drink and Boat.

This summer, Conservation Police Officers and Virginia State Troopers are teaming up to save lives. Because we know drunk boaters on the water become drunk drivers on the highway. Drunk boating IS drunk driving. Alcohol use is a leading factor in fatal boating accidents, and it's directly to blame for one-third of our fatal accidents on our highways. Don't drink and drive, and don't drink and boat. Do your part to keep it a safe summer.



Nuisance & Problem Wildlife

How to Prevent or Resolve Conflict with Wildlife

As human populations continue to rise and move into traditional wildlife habitat, human/wildlife contact is becoming more prevalent. This section provides general information and techniques for Virginia property owners when wildlife becomes a problem.

Below are some easy techniques which will usually solve the problem