



LEESVILLE LAKE ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER

November 2008

From the President Sherwood Zimmerman

I am both honored and humbled to greet you as your new president. Our two previous presidents Stan Goldsmith and Mike Lobue provided outstanding leadership and left very large shoes to fill. At our last meeting it was a pleasure to present a plaque to outgoing president Mike Lobue for his dedicated service and excellent leadership. Mike labored tirelessly to serve our Association and to represent us where it was important for us to have a presence. He secured water quality testing funding and organized the first water quality testing program that will be expanded in the future to include a partnership with Lynchburg College. If you look at our 2009 calendar you will see that it is dedicated to Mike for his outstanding leadership. Thank you Mike for a job well done.

In just a few short years our Association has become a well-known and respected organization, taking its place among the long established organizations working to make Leesville and Smith Mountain Lakes great places to live and play. If you have not officially joined the Leesville Lake Association I encourage you to seriously consider joining your neighbors in support of our Association. We currently have 331 household members who have made the decision to be a part of a group working hard to make life better at Leesville Lake. Our dues are a modest \$25.00 dollars a year per household and every dollar is well spent to support Association goals and objectives that benefit us all. You may contact Julie Moore, our membership chairperson, at 434-369-6630 to get any information you need to become a member. There is also a new member enrollment form in this newsletter.

At our last meeting, J.W. Burton reported to the Association that he, Karen Bragg, and Bill Wallace conducted an annual review of the Association financial records. Records were found to be in good order and our treasurer, Gerry Caprario, was commended for the excellent way in which our records were being kept. A recommendation was made to complete a survey of Association assets and their location and to record and maintain that information.

An 80-hour contract to clean debris from the lake was awarded to Lakeside Services in October and work will be done this Fall and Winter. This contract calls for large debris to be removed from the lake and then it will be disposed of in an appropriate manner by the Association. All lake property owners are encouraged to remove smaller debris from the lake all year

2008 Officers

President
Sherwood Zimmerman – 2010
spzim@pmnet.net
434-656-1826

Vice President
Fred Tannehill – 2010
tcm@lynchburg.net
434-369-5126

Secretary
Phyllis Garlick - 2010
garlickspt@netzero.net
434-369-6930

Treasurer
Gerry Caprario - 2010
capgerry@hotmail.com
434-369-9082

Board of Directors

Richard Beaton – 2009
434-656-3302
beaton@laurelton.com

Sue Glasscock - 2010
granny1bedford@msn.com
434-369-5334

Mike Lobue -2009
malobue@gmail.com
434-369-8044

Julie Moore - 2009
lakedoughbegone@msn.com
434-369-6630

Carmen Perri – 2010
cperri1060@aol.com
434-369-4673

Pete Pettit - 2009
petepettit@aol.com
540-296-1514

Mike Skillman - 2010
skillman4@aol.com
434-6586

Sharon Reilly – 2010
rgreilly@netscape.com
540-297-1926

long and together we will be able to eliminate most of the debris. We will always have trees and limbs that fall into the lake and need to be removed, so we expect to have an ongoing debris removal program that requires funding. County government support, donations, dues and volunteers make up the driving force to keep our lake clean. Thanks to all who are so willing to support this effort.

American Electric Power (AEP) has agreed to place portable toilets at the Myers Creek public boat ramp and the public ramp at Leesville Dam. Additionally, they are planning to build a fishing pier and dock at the current picnic area next to the Leesville Dam. These improvements will likely take place in the next two to three years. We applaud AEP for agreeing to add these improvements to Leesville Lake. These are improvements that were requested by your Association in meetings with AEP representatives.

I would encourage all of you to get involved in working to make Leesville Lake a wonderful place to live, visit, and play. If you have suggestion or ideas you feel could help to improve Leesville Lake and our Association, your board would be happy to hear from you. Working together, we will be successful!

Membership Committee

By: Julie Moore

At the end of our fiscal year, August 31, we were 331 members strong and continue to grow. When we have meetings with the County supervisors they always want to know how many members we have from each county. To the supervisors, our membership number represents the people they consider to be really interested in the lake. Our total membership directly reflects how much attention they're willing to pay us. If you are a member, we continue to appreciate your support. If you haven't joined, please consider helping us. Your dues help us carry out basic programs like debris removal, water quality monitoring, safety, navigational aids, etc. In addition our increase in the number of members gives us more impact with state and local governments as well as AEP.

We thank the following members who joined since our last newsletter:

John D. Alsup

Michael & Terry Abernethy

Jeanett Cook & Gary Howke

Bob & Linda Macina

Treasurer's Report

By: Gerry Caprario



The Report of the Audit Committee was submitted to the Association at our October General Membership Meeting and states that the files and accounts for fiscal year 2007-2008 are in good order. They do request that a more formal and current Property List be developed. While your Treasurer has an idea of some of who has what, please e-mail (capgerry@hotmail.com) or phone (434-656-9082) me if you are in possession of ANY items that are Association property.

Safety Committee

By: Gerry Caprario

This past season I conducted 14 Vessel Safety Checks. There were no rejects. Next season I would like to double that number. The VSC is not mandatory and takes only 15 minutes. If there is some required item missing, wouldn't you prefer that you were told by me than the Game



Warden as he issues you a ticket? FYI #1; Personal Flotation Devices (PFDs) will now be known as Life Jackets. Again! FYI #2 Inflatable Life Jackets are legal only if they are being worn.

On Saturday, 18 October, a Safe Boating Class was held at the Altavista YMCA. The class was conducted by the US Coast Guard Auxiliary with 14 students attending. Eight of these students are members of Leesville Lake Association. Way to go!

Thanks to some great teamwork, the threat of a new EPA discharge permit for all your boats is gone! "The Clean Boating Act of 2008," gives recreational boats a permanent exemption from the court imposed EPA discharge permit.

Navigational Aids Committee

By: Pete Pettit



We enter our new fiscal year with Appalachian Power Company (APCO) agreeing to be responsible for funding and ownership of the Navigational Aids System on Leesville Lake. The committee's objectives and thoughts for the upcoming fiscal year are:

- Even though APCO has made a commitment to take ownership of the System, they have not agreed to fund lighted aids. The committee has disputed this proposal for unlighted aids and considers this a safety hazard. We plan to continue efforts to resolve the issue.
- Virginia Department of Game and Inland Fisheries, who has responsibility for Leesville Lake, has agreed to support the navigation system and will fund \$50,000 over the next two (2) years. If APCO continues their position, these funds may be utilized to install lighted aids.
- The navigational committee has established "**Adopt a Mile Post Marker**" on Leesville Lake. This adoption will only require that an individual keep the foliage away from the marker so that it is visible from the water and report any maintenance problems. The program has been initiated with three volunteers taking Mile Post Markers #3, #5, and #10. If anyone wishes to participate please contact Pete Pettit by email at petepettit@aol.com.
- With our unique situation on Leesville Lake where the water level rises and falls by 13 feet, APCO has agreed to meet with LVLA to work out a suitable design for a navigational aid. The signage will be Coast Guard approved.

Our committee wishes you a safe recreational boating experience. If you have any concerns or questions for navigation on Leesville Lake, please contact me at the above email or phone 540-296-1514.

Debris Committee Report

By: Mike Lobue

Appalachian had its skimmer on the lake for about three months this year. The debris was placed in the park at the Brumfield development. Appalachian plans to grind the debris and remove it during the months of January and February 2009. We sincerely thank Appalachian for its debris removal work. We also sincerely thank the Brumfield property owners for allowing Appalachian to use their boat launch ramp and park. The Association continues to urge Appalachian to establish at least two permanent debris removal sites on the lake so that we do not have to impose on property owners for debris removal.



As noted in the President's Report, an 80-hour contract to clean debris from the lake was awarded to Lakeside Services in October and the work will be done this Fall and Winter.

Health Corner
By: Sue Glasscock

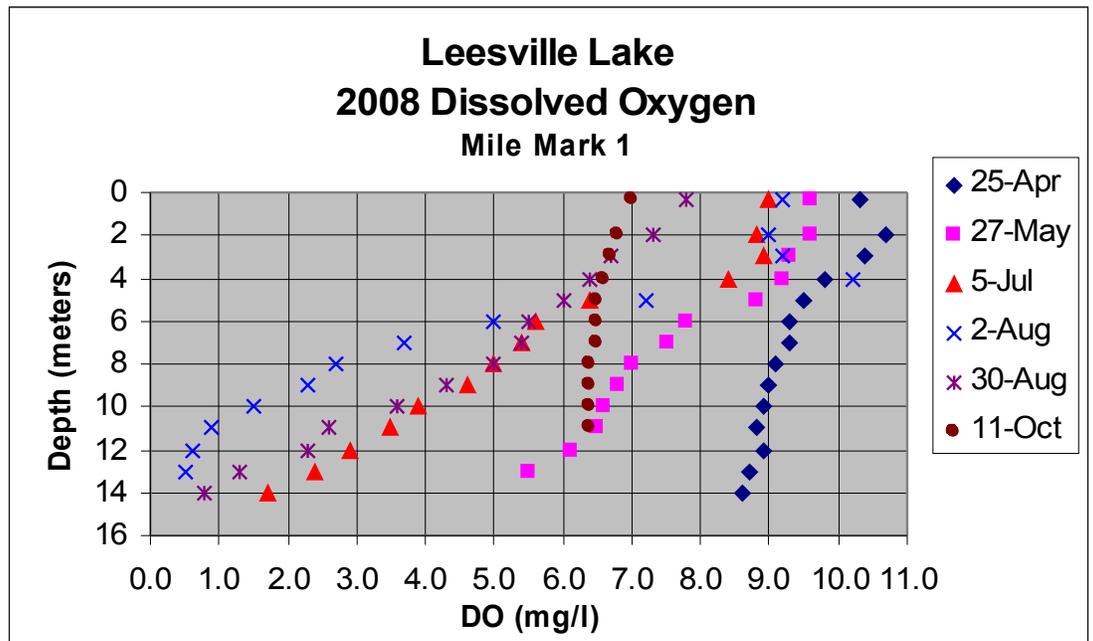
Hi friends and neighbors,

Have you felt the seesaw of life? If you read the paper or watch the news you'll see emergency e-mails from banks, "Money Magazine", and retirement fund holders. There was also an emergency 911 announcement for 5 minutes during the Bloomberg Business news. Wow! If you did not have any stress before you read the paper with your morning coffee, you will by your second cup of coffee. Could it be a plot to upset us? The world information streams in to us. Life stressors seem to be ready and waiting for us. Stress disrupts daily routine, changes eating and sleep habits, and causes negative thoughts and feelings. We cannot always control the negative input, but can control the effects. We live in one of the most beautiful areas in the country. Walk outside and take a deep breath. Walk around, look at the trees, and the lake. It is all so beautiful. And, we should remind each other, how grateful we are to live at Leesville Lake or simply to have it available to us. We should also remind each other how grateful we are to have each other for friends and neighbors. A grateful heart makes for very healthy living. So, have fun and enjoy.

Water Quality Report
By: Mike Lobue

The last set of water quality data for 2008 was taken on October 11th. Leesville Lake water quality in 2008 was very good. Bacteria, specifically E. coli, were low again this year. None of the water samples taken in the lake had E. coli levels that exceeded the state standard, while only one sample from the Pigg River exceeded the standard.

Between late April and late May, the lower portion of the lake stratified (See chart at right). Between late May and early July, the middle section of the lake (around mile marker 6) began to stratify. Stratification means that there are effectively two zones or layers in the lake—the upper warm surface layer is called an epilimnion and the cooler bottom waters are called the hypolimnion. The transition zone between the two layers shows



rapidly changing temperature and is known as the thermocline. As a result of the stratification, the dissolved oxygen at Mile Markers 1 and 6 was below the minimum state standard in the hypolimnion from mid to late summer. The October 11th data showed that the lake is no longer stratified and all of the dissolved oxygen data was above the minimum state standard. The upper portion of the lake

(from below Toler's Bridge to the Smith Mountain Lake Dam) does not stratify because of the shallower depth and the constant movement of water in that section. All of the dissolved oxygen data at Toler's Bridge met the state standard.

We submitted an application for a grant from the state Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) to fund the 2009 volunteer water-monitoring program and received some great news—DEQ will provide the Association with a \$1,500 grant. We also submitted a legislative request through the counties for \$25,000 from the state so that the Association can hire Lynchburg College to help with monitoring. With help from Lynchburg College, we could expand the program to include additional water quality parameters. It will be early next year before we know if we receive the legislative request.

Fishing Report

Low Water = High Yield

By: Dennis Boley

The best striper fishing is now. Notes from the files of Dennis Boley indicate: cooler nights now, water turn over within two weeks, shad, bait fish of all sizes in whole numbers are coming to light all over SML and Leesville Lake. Keep your dock lights on at night at both lakes. Learn to throw cast nets to get your own bait. Try early--just after dark and again just before dawn. Carry small pliers to clip catfish, carp, etc, as you are going to catch these along with your bait fish. Also buck tails, spoons, plugs, etc work great. Dale Wilson Guide Service is the expert on this. However you fish, look for your holes where bait fish, striper, white bass, etc, connect. Find your shale drop offs to find your holes. You have to learn from experience. If you choose a guide make sure that this person is an expert on Leesville Lake such as Wilson's Guide Service or find an expert on bottom fishing to fish for stripers. Believe me they get big. I will be fishing hard myself this fall. If we meet, just ask and I will help all that I can.



Fish hard and be prepared.
540-420-4517

Relicensing Update

By: Mike Lobue

On October 6th, the Tri-County Relicensing Committee (TCRC), which is composed of the four counties surrounding Smith Mountain and Leesville Lakes, submitted a motion to intervene and comment on the Appalachian License Application to the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC). The comments are comprehensive and include ten proposed license articles, covering the following issues:



- Minimum flow release requirements from Leesville Dam and a Water Management Plan to manage water withdrawals.
- Erosion and Sedimentation Plan to monitor and repair erosion and sedimentation issues related to the Project.
- Debris Removal and Containment Plan.
- Aquatic Vegetation Plan to manage invasive species and restore native species.
- Modifications to Appalachian Power's Draft Navigation Plan.
- Funding support for the Smith Mountain Lake Marine Volunteer Fire/Rescue Company.
- Water Quality Monitoring Plan.
- Development and implementation of a Recreation Management Plan.

Appalachian has until November 20, 2008 to respond to motions to intervene and additional comments received by October 6th on its License Application.

CALENDARS, HATS, SHIRTS



Our 2009 calendar is gorgeous and available. The profit we make on the calendars helps fund our projects. Buy one for yourself and/or they make wonderful Christmas gifts.

All the pictures submitted are beautiful and we'd like to congratulate the following folks whose pictures were selected:

D Dixon (front cover)

C Place (dedication)

R Long (January); D Skeen (February); J Parry and L Mitchell (March)

R Simpson (April); P Garlick (May); L Mitchell and M Dixon (June)

K Perri and R Beaton (July); R Mathewson (August); A Ferla (September)

L Mitchell (October); R Winters (November); G Glasscock (December)

C Place, B Meyers, P Reinhardt, S Lacombe, M Dixon, J Huff-Jerome,

G Lacombe, C Swinehart (photo montage back cover)

Calendars can be purchased at any meeting or from a Board member for \$10.00. If you would like to order by mail they are \$10.00 for the calendar plus \$3.00 for shipping for a total of \$13.00. Your check should be mailed to Leesville Lake Association, PO BOX 68, Altavista, VA 24517-0068.

We thank Lynn Stelle for the calendar design and

Pat Donahue's company, CRI Digital Impressions, for the printing.

Hats are \$10 if picked up from Julie, (434) 369-6630, or at any meeting. They can be mailed for \$13.00. Contact Sherwood (434) 656-1826, to purchase t-shirts from this past Beautification Day. If picked up in person or from a meeting they are \$5.00.

2009 Meetings

- **Annual Meeting & Picnic:** July 11, 4 pm to 6 pm, Tri-County Marina
- **Board of Directors Meetings:**, February 12, March 12, May 14, June 11, August 13, September 10, November 12; 7 p.m., Altavista Train Station
- **General Membership Meetings:** January 8, April 9, October 8, 7 p.m., Altavista Train Station

THANK YOU!!

The Association thanks Cathy Dalton and Sandra Harter for their time and effort in getting this newsletter to you.

The Association also thanks the following advertisers for their support.

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LEESVILLE LAKE ASSOCIATION

NEW MEMBER ENROLLMENT

All Leesville Lake residents, property owners, and lake users are encouraged to join the Association.

We are working on:

- Lake clean up/debris removal
- Mile markers and navigational aids
- Safety
- Water quality monitoring

Your membership dues go toward helping accomplish these goals.

Thank you for your help.

_____ \$25 tax deductible, annual dues (make check payable to Leesville Lake Association and mail to address below)

_____ Optional tax deductible donation (list amount and include with your dues check or write a separate check)

Name _____

Address _____

Phone _____

E-mail _____

County where lake property located _____

Preference for receiving quarterly newsletter: Regular mail _____ E-mail _____

_____ Corrections to information if already a member

_____ Comments: What issues surrounding the lake are of concern to you?

LEESVILLE LAKE ASSOCIATION
P.O. BOX 68
ALTAVISTA, VA 24517
WWW.LEESVILLELAKE.ORG