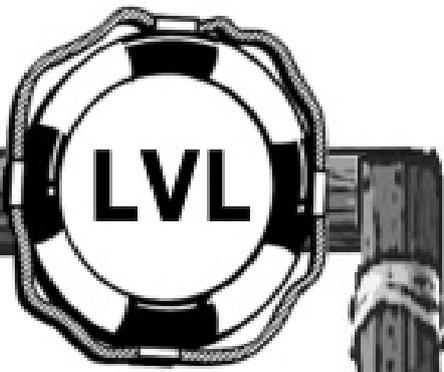


# LEESVILLE LAKE ASSOCIATION

## NEWSLETTER

October 2009



### 2009 Officers

#### President

Sherwood Zimmerman - 2010  
spzim@fairpoint.net  
434-656-1826

#### Vice President

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### FROM THE PRESIDENT

Sherwood Zimmerman

It is my pleasure to inform you that your Association is very active in a number of areas to serve you and protect Leesville Lake and your investment. We have a full board of dedicated people who are working hard to insure all areas of concern are being addressed. The names of these fine people are listed in the column on the left. When you see them please, thank them for the many hours of time and effort they give to make our lives better and our lake more enjoyable.

Appalatchian Power Company (AEP) is responsible for maintaining many aspects of both Leesville and Smith Mountain Lakes. The two lakes are part of the Smith Mountain Project. As a requirement of their license, AEP is required to have a Shoreline Management Plan (SMP). In August of 2003, AEP filed such a plan with the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC). After approval by FERC, the regulations for shoreline management were implemented by AEP in July of 2005. Along with the approval, FERC required AEP to review the SMP every five years. In accordance with this order, AEP has formed a Shoreline Management Plan Steering Committee to review the existing plan and make recommendations concerning any changes or updates thought to be needed. As your president, I was asked to serve on this committee. We had our first meeting on October 5th in Rocky Mount. This meeting was more of an organizational meeting with open discussion of the purpose of the committee, timelines, scheduled meetings and representation on the committee. The process is now underway.

I am pleased to represent you on this committee. There have been issues of concern ever since the SMP was put into place. We were not included when the original SMP was developed because we were just getting started as an organization. Now we have a seat at the table and are excited to be a part of this new review. The SMP is a 52 page document, not including the appendices. While it is a large document, it impacts every land owner on the lake.

AEP assures us that every effort will be made to collect information from as many interested parties as possible. Stakeholder groups such as chambers of commerce, marina owners, realtors, dock builders, home owners, etc. will be given a chance to comment

on the existing plan and make recommendations for changes or clarifications. I encourage you to take advantage of this opportunity. A survey document is being developed now and will be made available on line and in hard copy for all interested parties to complete. We need to recognize that the Committee is an advisory committee and AEP will make the final decision.

You may find a copy of the current SMP at: [www.leesvillelake.org](http://www.leesvillelake.org) When the page comes up, find the headline "Information" on the left side of the page and then click on Shore Management. That will take you to the Smith Mountain Project informational page and the SMP can be accessed there.

If you have questions or would like to contact me directly, my telephone number and email address are printed on the left side of the first page of your newsletter. I look forward to hearing from you!

Best regards,  
Sherwood Zimmerman

**Inside This Issue**

Adopt A Mile Post .....	3
Advertisers/Sponsors .....	8
Calendar – 2010 .....	7
Debris Committee Report .....	4
Fishing: Hide & Seek .....	5
Health Corner .....	5
Lake Area Veterans .....	6
Meetings & Events .....	7
Membership Report .....	2
Navigational Aids .....	3
New Member Enrollment Form .....	9
President’s Message .....	1
Protect Leesville Lake .....	6
Safety Committee Report .....	3
Treasurer’s Report .....	2
Water Quality Monitoring .....	4

**Treasurer’s Report**

**By: Julie Moore**

September is the first month of our fiscal year and for the October Board meeting I made my first report to the Board on the month of September. Although there was not a lot of activity during September, I focused my reporting efforts on income and expense by project. I hope this will help the Board and Committee Chairs know exactly how their committees and projects are performing. In the future I hope to provide the membership with some percentages regarding how our income is spent.



**Membership Report**

**By: Julie Moore**

Please continue to encourage your neighbors and friends to join the association. Member support is a very significant influence in helping our surrounding counties decide how much they're willing to help with funding.

I'd like to welcome the following new members who have joined since our last newsletter:

- Kathleen Finney
- Vito and Donna Iovino
- Lou Revelle



Photo by R. Winters

## Navigational Aids Committee

By: Pete Pettit



With Appalachian Power agreeing to install, own, and maintain responsibility for 43 lighted navigational aids, the new objectives for Fiscal Year 2009/10 center around establishing a design to meet our unique situation on Leesville Lake. We appreciate APCO's willingness to include the Association in the design process. The Navigation Committee met with Teresa Rogers of APCO on August 20 to discuss the design of a navigational aid. Since Bill Wallace was unable to attend the meeting, I presented his Conceptual Design for a Navigation Aid.

Teresa agreed to have her design team analyze this Conceptual Design and make recommendations. After APCO determines the final design, they would consider installing a prototype. The signage will be Coast Guard approved and mirror Smith Mountain Lake's system. With the old license expiring on March 31, 2010, the earliest schedule for installation would be later that year.

Chuck Neudorfer, Chairman of Tri-County Lake Administrative Commission, in his presentation at the Association's October General Meeting stated that APCO would install navigation lights on Tolers Ferry Bridge. The Virginia Department of Game and Inland Fisheries, which is the approval agency for the State, has also agreed to support our navigation system. The Association received \$25,000 from the State for use in navigational projects on our lake.

If you have any concerns or questions about navigation on Leesville Lake, please contact me by email [petepettit@aol.com](mailto:petepettit@aol.com) or phone 757-620-5555 (Cell).

## Adopt a Mile Post

By: Pete Pettit

We would like to thank the following members who've adopted a mile post:



- #2 Gordy & Roseanne Bratz
- #3 Sherwood & Patsy Zimmerman
- #5 Doug & Julie Moore
- #6 Stan Goldsmith
- #7 Larry & Phyllis Garlick
- #9 Bud & Kathy Atkins
- #10 Pete & Julie Pettit
- #13 Bob & Sharon Reilly
- #14 Joe & Diane Whitmer
- #15 Danielle and Andy Apple

If any of the remaining mile post markers are near your property, would you consider adopting them? Adoption entails trimming any foliage that may be obstructing the markers or notifying Pete Pettit of any problems that you're unable to fix. The following still need loving homes to look after them: 1, 4, 8, 11, 12, 16 and 17.

## Safety Committee Report

By Gerry Caprario

The Safety Committee wishes to report that it has no report on any mishaps, accidents, or damages occurring on Leesville Lake this past season. HOORAY!!! The Safe Boating Classes have been suspended until Spring 2010. However, it is not too soon to contact me to put your name on the list of interested boaters.

I conducted 14 successful Vessel Safety Checks this past season. Again, these are free and not mandatory. Only one was done as a result of an e-mail to me, the rest were from my "cruising the dock" at Tri-County Marina. VSC's are valid only for the year in which they were issued and should be renewed every year. It is my intention to include safety information with our future membership mailings, so look in the envelope.

## Water Quality Monitoring Reports

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**By: Doc and Kitty Wasicko**

The bacteria and Secchi depth monitoring phase of the Leesville Lake Water Quality Monitoring Program was completed on September 4th. A total of 63 samples were collected at seven locations on the lake for a period of 9 weeks starting on May 15 and concluding on September 4. The data will now be assessed and collated and will be in our final report to DEQ to comply with our grant requirements. We want thank our volunteers: Sharon and Bob Reilly, Ron and Jane Long, Richard and Blair Jenet, Julie Moore, George Lacome, and Steve and Barbara Richter for all their help. You are the heart and soul of the program. Your devotion to collecting samples, even during rain storms, was exceptional.

### Thought For The Day

A lake carries you into recesses of feeling otherwise impenetrable. ~William Wordsworth

**By: Mike Lobue**

As part of its new license, Appalachian Power Company will provide \$25,000/yr (plus inflation) for water quality monitoring on Leesville Lake. The Association and Lynchburg College prepared a joint Proposed Water Quality Monitoring Plan and submitted it to Appalachian for review. Appalachian will send the proposed plan to VDEQ and VDGIF for review and comment. After a water monitoring plan is finalized, Appalachian will file it with FERC.

The Association applied for a \$1,515 grant from VDEQ for the 2010 water quality monitoring program. In late 2007, the Association applied for a \$1,780 grant from the Foundation for Virginia's Natural Resources for the 2008 program, but the Foundation was not able to find funding at that time. We recently received notice that the Foundation will provide the Association \$500 now and will try to provide the balance of the funds at a later date.

The last set of water quality data was collected with the probe on October 1st. No part of the lake was stratified on that date and all of the dissolved oxygen (DO) readings were well above the state minimum. We had trouble with the pH probe earlier in the season, but the pH probe is now working well and pH readings also look good. Next step is to consolidate all of the data and begin preparing the 2009 report.



### Debris Committee Report

**By: Doc Wasicko**

On August 20, 2009 members of the Leesville Lake Association and the Brumfield Homeowners Association met with representatives of AEP. The Brumfield Homeowners Association offered the use of its "common area" to AEP for debris removal for an extended period of time. While this aspect of debris removal has been greatly improved, a number of issues remain, especially how AEP will comply with its commitment to keep debris out of the main channel of the lake. I will keep you informed of the progress in this area as the information becomes available. The skimmer arrived on October 5 and will extract debris until November 5. I will give an estimate of debris removal in the next newsletter. During the winter months, when the lake level tends toward lower, is an ideal time for a walk along the shore to pick up trash and natural debris. Remember:

"DON'T LEAVE IT -- RETRIEVE IT"

## Health Corner

By: Sue Glasscock

Dear Lake Residents and Lake Lovers,

We are starting to enjoy the fall season. Our wet summer is folding into fall. I noticed how quickly the grass was growing. In the morning, it looked like it was a good length, then, by afternoon, it needed to be cut, again. I believe this is the first time I could see the grass grow! As we drift into fall, it is time to review our sleep habits. Sleep is very important to general health. By putting yourself on a daily routine of going to bed the same time, and waking up the same time, your internal clock will set itself. A cup of coffee in the afternoon can last 6-8 hours--into the evening. Alcoholic beverages can cause the inability to fall asleep and/or stay asleep. Same goes for a heavy meal. What works best...have a wind down time, about 30 minutes to 1 hour daily. A warm bath or shower, then reading or bland TV show. It has been said that internet use maybe be too stimulating for sleep. Set the alarm for a week or two to assist yourself in the waking up process. It takes about 2-3 weeks to allow the body to adjust itself. Having regular, deep sleep helps with weight control and provides a deep sense of well-being. Sometimes, just a minor adjustment to the daily schedule is enough to provide the body with its natural rest/healing time. We live in a beautiful area that is turning to the fall season with its colorful leaves and cool nights. I find it amazing to watch the colors change daily. And, I believe all of us are blessed to live in our neighborhoods around our lake. Eat three times (small or large) daily, put yourselves on a sleep routine, and enjoy.....enjoy yourself and each other. Smile and laugh, it is good for the soul. And, be grateful we have the lake and each other.

Happy Fall

Sue Glasscock, R.N.



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## HIDE AND SEEK

By: Dennis F. Boley, a.k.a. Cherokee

Want an excuse to go out and play...right in your back yard...so to speak? It will offer you, as a fisherman, more than you can handle in the way of action. That is, if you are willing to play chess with Leesville Lake on its own terms. Remember! Leesville Lake has the best walleye fishing. It gives you a chance to do a little research on how to catch these warrior fish.

Help me out as I go along by "Listenin' Up." Leesville Lake is a river that flows both ways. A very heavy current keeps the fish in a holding pattern at times as baitfish are pushed to shore. The fish grow up with all of the changes. Playing chess for the moment--as the current does its reservoir thing, you can go with the flow. As baitfish are pushed to shore, you use your method to try to learn which stretch of the shoreline is working for you.

1. Keep a diary.
2. Improve your odds by fishing when the temperature changes and starts dropping. If a light rain sets in, hold onto your rods!!!
3. Always find baitfish. Stripers and other fish will be there or on their way.
4. White perch (not really a perch, but a member of the temperate bass family along with white and striped bass) are a problem in Leesville Lake. Acres of white perch are seen daily and, if left unchecked, will damage the fishery. Please fish for these. They are easy to catch and taste great. Do not catch and release white perch. Consider donating them to friends and churches for a fish fry.

If I can help, give old Cherokee a call: (540) 420-4517. GOD BLESS

## **Protect Leesville Lake From Pollution By Richard Beaton**

Fertilizer application by homeowners is one of the greatest sources of water pollution. You can help prevent pollution by following a few simple steps when fertilizing your yard. The first step is to apply less. Apply too much and most of it will wash away when it rains, which is a waste of money as well as a source of pollution. Always apply AFTER it rains, not before. The moist ground will absorb the fertilizer preventing it from washing away and into the lake at the next rain. It is best to apply in steps by halving or thirding the amount and making two or three applications spread out over the fall or spring season. This will not only prevent pollution but is much better for your grass.

The best way to choose a fertilizer is to have a soil test and follow their recommendations. This can also find other problems that might exist with your soil that prevent "green-up" like low pH which will require lime applications. In lieu of the soil test, it is best to use a low phosphorous fertilizer because it is the worst pollutant of the three components of fertilizers. The three components are Nitrogen, Phosphorous, and Potassium (N-P-K) corresponding to the three numbers on the bag (10-5-10). Another good thing to do would be to apply less down near the lake. Being down the hill, any runoff from above will make this area get more anyway.

You should have a buffer garden between your yard and the lake that serves the purpose of filtering the runoff water before it gets to the lake. The buffer garden will slow the movement of water helping prevent soil erosion and trapping soil carried by the water. As well as buffer gardens near the lake, rain gardens planted where runoff collects can help reduce water pollution in our lake too. Rain gardens are great to catch the runoff from parking lots and roofs. Instead of piping rain water into ditches and funneling it to the lake, the water should be

dispersed as much as possible and collected by rain gardens, allowing it to seep into the ground thus replenishing the water table on which we all depend. Planted just past the low end of a parking lot, a rain garden can filter vehicle pollutants washed from the surface, thus keeping them out of our lake.

### **Fertilizer Check List**

- 1.) Apply Less
- 2.) Apply AFTER it rains
- 3.) Split Applications
- 4.) Use Low Phosphorous

### **Newsletter**

Mike Lobue is the new newsletter editor. We are always looking for lake-related articles and look forward to receiving them. The newsletter is published 4 times a year. We generally need your articles by the 15th of January, April, July and October. Please send your articles to: malobue@gmail.com

The Association sends by regular mail over 800 copies of the newsletter each quarter. Plus, we email over 200 copies. ***Please consider requesting an email copy of the newsletter rather than a hard copy.*** Benefits of the email version include:

- full color
  - additional articles
  - saves printing & postage costs
  - good for the environment--helps save a tree.
- Please send me an email to request electronic delivery: malobue@gmail.com

Cathy Dalton continues to do fantastic work as our graphics layout volunteer. Chris Lobue does the bulk mailing. ***Thank you both very much!***

### **Lake Area Veterans**

Although we had almost no responses to our requests for names of veterans in our lake area, we would still like to express our sincere appreciation for all those veterans who have served in the past and are currently serving. Your contribution to our country and each and every personal life cannot be measured.

**Thanks to all and stay safe.**

## Reminder: Don't Remove Vegetation Below 620' Contour Without AEP Approval

AEP controls activities within the project boundary (below 620' contour on Leesville Lake). The Shoreline Management Plan specifies what can and cannot be done within the project boundary, including removal of vegetation. Below is a quote from the SMP. The complete SMP and FAQs can be found on the AEP website: [www.smithmtn.com/ShorelineManagement/](http://www.smithmtn.com/ShorelineManagement/)

"Vegetation within the project boundary must be preserved if present. Ground disturbing activities in this area must be minimal in order to maintain the function of the buffer. A property owner may apply for a permit to modify the existing vegetative cover by removing vegetation for the following reasons:

- 1) Provide for reasonable view of the water
- 2) Construct access paths to the shoreline and/or dock
- 3) Construct erosion control measures along the shoreline
- 4) General maintenance to the vegetated area

Individuals may be required to plant or pay for the planting of vegetative materials within the project boundary in the event that vegetation is removed without a permit."

For additional information or permit applications, please email AEP at [aepsmp@aep.com](mailto:aepsmp@aep.com) or call at 1-540-489-2556.

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### Newsletter Advertising

Advertising in the Association newsletter is a cost-effective way to reach over 1,000 households (email & reg. mail) who may be interested in your goods or services. We offer several options:

1. Business card size ad (4 issues) \$50/yr.
2. Full page ad (1 issue) \$120
3. Half page ad (1 issue) \$65
4. Quarter page ad (1 issue) \$35.

Please mail your check for the amount you've chosen, along with the business card or artwork you'd like us to use. Mail to Leesville Lake Association, PO BOX 68, Altavista, VA 24517. You may also e-mail your artwork or business card to [malobue@gmail.com](mailto:malobue@gmail.com). If you prefer, we can design your ad using your artwork or company logo. The ad in the printed copy of the newsletter will be black and white. The ad will be in color for the e-mail version and the archived editions on the website.

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### 2010 Calendar

Our 2010 calendar is in progress. The calendar is expected to be ready by the end of November. If you would like one for yourself or for Christmas or other gifts, you may order them now. Calendars will be mailed as soon as we receive them from the printer. Each calendar is \$10 if picked up in person or \$13 if you'd like it mailed. You can mail your check to Leesville Lake Association, PO BOX 68, Altavista, VA 24517.



## Upcoming Events

### 2010 Meetings and Events

- Annual Meeting & Picnic: July 10, 4 pm to 6 pm, Tri-County Marina
- Board of Directors Meetings: February 11, March 11, May 13, June 10, August 12, September 9, November 11; December 9; 7 p.m., Altavista Train Station
- General Membership Meetings: January 14, April 8, October 14; 7 p.m., Altavista Train Station
- 7th Annual Lake Beautification Day: May 15

The Association thanks the following advertiser for its 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: Are there any lake issues that are of concern to you?

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Leesville Lake Association  
PO Box 68  
Altavista, VA 24517  
[www.leesvillelake.org](http://www.leesvillelake.org)