

# Lake~Link

P. O. Box 495, Ballentine, SC 29002 (803) 749-3888



Newsletter of The Lake Murray Association, Inc.

www.lakemurrayassociation.org April 2006

## Presidents Message-

This will be my last message as your president and I would like to take this opportunity to discuss several things about your Lake Murray Association. I would like to begin by revealing some deep dark secrets about those who serve as your board of directors. Currently, there are 26 individuals (22 males and 4 females, and yes we could use more females). All board members are expected to attend a minimum of 10 evening meetings a year that last about two hours. Eight of these members are also on the executive committee and meet an additional 11 or 12 nights annually. Each board member is expected to pull a minimum four hour stint at one of the boat shows, a full day at the tour of homes, and attend each of the four general membership meetings. As you can well imagine each of these events has to have a chairperson and a sub-committee to do all the planning and coordinating, which takes many hours.

Now that we are in the middle of the SCE&G relicensing process there are groups and subgroups meeting for a full day each month. We have members on all of the groups; some members serve on more than one committee. There are several board members who, have researched and studied technical areas to the point that they have become exceptionally knowledgeable. Roy Parker and Richard Kidder, for example, through their individual studies and experience are experts in water quality. It is through their combined efforts that we will soon begin a water quality testing program that you will hear and see more about. Recently, Ken Fox researched Osprey nests and has since designed one that should be more appealing to the birds and will last much longer than those previously used. Other board members bring special talents to the Association because of their vocations and/or avocations. Your executive director, Joy Downs, came to us after being the successful, hands on owner of children's clothing stores in Atlanta. As such she brings her proven operational and managerial skills to the board. She is but one such example and I think it is safe to say every one of your board members has leadership experience in some shape, form or fashion. Kay and Bob Keener who are the editors of this newsletter bring their special talents to the board. Bob is a retired senior Army officer who has been president of the LMA twice and is very active on a number of committees. Kay who is not a member of the board but majored in English in college is the editor for this Lake~Link. Except for the year he was president, Tom Ruple has been the treasurer of the Association since its inception. The bottom line is that most of the board members contribute (Continued P 2)

## Lexington High School Annual Public Meeting

April 18<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 P.M.

*If you love Lake Murray, come to our meeting and learn how to protect it!*

- Topics include: Low Lake Level  
Environmental Issues
- Water quality testing
  - Pollution control
  - Wood Duck Nesting

Speakers will be:

Jim Landreth, SCE&G Vice President  
Roy Parker, LMA Environmental  
Committee Chairman

Special door prizes include:

- "Morning Flight" -a matted signed and numbered print by local artist **Jeffery Day**
- Purple Martin Cruise for two on the **Southern Patriot**
- Dinner for two at "**the Bistro**" in Lexington

## TAX DEDUCTIBILITY APPROVED

by bill east

Finally, it is official! Your contributions and gifts to LMA are now tax deductible!

On November 15, 2005, the IRS recognized us as a "public charity" with an effective date of March 10, 2005. Therefore your contributions to LMA now qualify as tax-deductible under Section 170 of the Internal Revenue Code. This means that any contributions, including your membership fees and gifts of money or property, made since March 10, 2005, qualify to be a deduction on Federal Income Tax returns. Of course, your tax advisor can explain exactly how this deductibility status will apply to your tax return.

Elsewhere in this issue of Lake~Link are articles that inform you of several activities in which LMA is currently involved. Two of the most important are the relicensing of SCE&G to continue to operate Lake Murray for the generation of hydroelectric power and the commencement of our multi-year program to test the quality of the water in our lake. Our testing program will require significant personnel and monetary resources. You can help us in this program by giving your time as well as financial support. (Continued on P 2)

(President's Message- Continued from P1) hundreds of hours of their talent and expertise to the Lake Murray Association and they do it as VOLUNTEERS. Your 1st vice president, Dave Landis, recently retired from senior management at UPS. He brings top level managerial expertise to the Association. Like the other board members he is young, energetic, a quick learner, and passionate about the lake. Well, perhaps some of us can't be classified as young. Although relatively new to the board, he brings fresh ideas and proven ways of doing things. As the chair of the boat show, he demonstrated that he can get things done and done right. Unfortunately, Dave will be moving from SC but until he leaves us we will continue to reap the benefits of his talents. The good news is that our 2<sup>nd</sup> vice president, Ken Fox, is ready to step in and he too has all the skills and talents to do a really great job. I feel fortunate to have had the advice, counsel and assistance of both Dave and Ken during my term as president. I know this has been somewhat lengthy but believe me I could write much more about this group whose members devote their skills and countless hours of their time to Lake Murray. There are many more board members (most of them in fact) who could be singled out for their contributions. Like every thing else, having a good board didn't just happen. Russ Jernigan who is in charge of the nominating committee aggressively seeks out individuals who will make positive contributions to the Association.

For the remainder of this message, I'd like to tell you about what we have done this past year (April 2005 to April 2006) and what is in store for the upcoming year.

- In May, we held our annual Pontoon Tour of Homes which had been cancelled for the previous two years due to the drawdown. A brand new board member, Pat Wendling, stepped up to the plate and showed us all how it could be done. Every one of the other board members was awed by her coordination and planning skills which were combined with a "can do" attitude. Once the tour of homes was over Pat agreed to chair the membership committee and as you might imagine has been doing a wonderful job.
- In June, we again conducted our "Ladies Day on the Lake." This hands on boating and trailer backing course, which we broker and DNR conducts, is always a great success and has more applicants than openings.
- SCE&G began the relicense process in November and as previously discussed we are a major presence on all the committees. I simply cannot overemphasize the importance of this process as once the license is granted by the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission it will be good for 30 years or more. Our input and influence will impact more on the next generation than ours.
- In January, we staffed both boat shows with improved booths and displays.

- The environmental committee presented a proposal to the board at our February meeting to embark on a program of doing our own testing program. We already know there are portions of the upper lake that are impaired and there are many areas of the lake where we don't know the status of the water quality. We, therefore, intend to find out. The committee received a unanimous vote of approval from the board for the project which we hope to get underway this summer. This too, will be a very labor intensive project and we welcome your financial support and participation.

As I reflect on what has been outlined above, it occurs to me that you should already have a pretty good idea of the future activities of the Association. We need to keep a higher minimum lake level as our number one priority. Next, we need to remain an active voice in the relicense process. Water quality and safety also should be on our concern list.

In closing, it has been a privilege and an honor to have served as the president of the Lake Murray Association. I should also confess that because of the talent and dedication of your board of directors, it has been "a piece of cake".

*Lee Barber*

<u>LAKE MURRAY ASSOCIATION</u> <u>CALENDAR OF EVENTS:</u>	
April 10	Director's Meeting 7:00 PM Farm Bureau Lexington
April 18	LEXINGTON PUBLIC MEETING 7:00 PM, Lexington High School
May 1	Water Monitoring Program begins
May 8	Director's Meeting 7:00 PM Farm Bureau Lexington
May 20	Pontoon Boat Tour of Homes (Call 749-3888 for tickets)
June 12	Director's Meeting 7:00 PM Farm Bureau Lexington
June-July	Ladies Day on the Lake (Call 749-3888 for information)
If you wish to be on the Director's Meeting Agenda, please call Joy Downs at 781-	

(Tax Deduction-Continued from P1) Your membership fees and contributions fund also fund other LMA projects including promotion of higher lake levels, boating safety, reasonable shoreline development, aquatic weed control, and many other efforts that help make Lake Murray a place we all enjoy.

Please assist in our work to preserve and protect Lake Murray as a great place to live and play. You

can make a difference by soliciting new members in your neighborhood, by making contributions, and by encouraging businesses to contribute to LMA. And don't forget the possibility of including LMA as a beneficiary in your estate planning.

For more information on this subject please contact Tom Ruple, Treasurer, at 732-1342.

## WINDSOCKS ON LAKE MURRAY

By Ken Fox



The Lake Murray Association is responsible for placing and maintaining windsocks at ten (10) helicopter emergency landing locations on Lake Murray. The windsocks sites start at the south side of the dam and end at Blacks Bridge. Windsocks identify an emergency landing site for the Life Reach Helicopters and emergency vehicles and indicate the wind direction for the helicopter while it is landing. All of these sites can be reached from water or land.

The ten landing sites are:

1. SCE&G, South Dam
2. Pine Island Club
3. Flotilla Island
4. Lighthouse Marina
5. Rep. Spence Lawn
6. Rawl's Cabin Point
7. Shealy's Landing Strip
8. Dreher Island State Park
9. Macedonia Church Point
10. Blacks Bridge

Fishhunt maps of Lake Murray (sponsored by Southshore Marina, LLC and Survey One, LLC) identify the location of the windsocks/landing sites by symbol and number. This map is available for purchase at Southshore Marina and many other marinas around the lake.

The windsocks are sturdy and long lasting, requiring very little maintenance and upkeep. However, high winds can and will do damage to the windsock. If you live near a windsock or notice while boating that a windsock has been damaged, please contact Kenneth and Sandy Fox at 803-604-1409.

**Order Custom Dock Signs** to locate your home from the water by identifying your "street" address on your dock. Send a check for \$25.00 (payable to the Lake Murray Association, Inc.) to **Lake Murray Association, P.O. Box 495, Ballentine, SC 29002**. Include your name, complete address and phone number and indicate where you want to pick up your sign:

- 1.) Agnew Lake Services, Ballentine, SC (781-0399)
- 2.) Southshore Marina, Leesville, SC (532-4231)
- 3.) Fashion Exchange, Chapin, SC (345-6719)

## **Moratorium Declared on Multi-use Docks**

By Joy Downs

On January 11, 2005 SCE&G declared a temporary halt to issuing multi-use dock permits on Lake Murray. Multi-use docks are those that accommodate more than four watercraft simultaneously, and typically provide wet storage for commercial marinas, residential housing developments, condominium projects and sail clubs. This moratorium will last at least until the filing of an application for a new license for the Saluda Hydroelectric Project, due in August 2008.

Earlier this year there were several developers who found a way to give shoreline privileges to off shore homeowners. A practice that has happened on Lake Murray relatively few times over the years but recently there was an increase of applications for multi-slip docks. The developers are engaging in what has become known as "funnel development". A few thousand feet are purchased on the shoreline and the remainder of the property several thousand feet back. In November lake users attended a meeting with DHEC at Crooked Creek Park to object to the development of Paradise Cove. This developer is asking to build a 84 multi-slip dock with approximately 2000 ft of shoreline.

LMA has written to DHEC and the Corps of Engineers requesting this type of dock not be approved. LMA directors believe a commercial size dock in a small non-flushing cove is inappropriate. Evidence from other water bodies indicates the water quality would eventually deteriorate. It also contradicts the 1 dock per 100 ft of shoreline which individuals must adhere to according to SCE&G's shoreline management plan. This dock was permitted under the commercial Corps of Engineers portion of the shoreline management plan. So far the Corps has refused a hearing and DHEC's decision is pending.

Another development known as Pintail Point is also requesting approval and LMA has contacted the FERC and requested it be denied for water quality reasons as well as planned extensive excavation. No response has been received. Paradise Cove and Pintail Point requests occurred before the moratorium was in place.

LMA appreciates SCE&G establishing this moratorium after considering the objections of Lake Murray users.

### ***Public Area Meetings***

By Joy Downs

#### **Newberry**

LMA held a very successful meeting in Newberry on November 15, 2005 with one of the largest groups ever in attendance. Jim Landreth, SCE&G V. P. for Fossil and Hydro Fuel discussed the drawdown that would begin in January to replace the rip rap on the dam. When asked why this work was not done during the dam remediation, Landreth explained that it could not be done without use of the original road on the (Continued P 4)

(Public Meetings Continued) dam to place the rip rap over the side. They were waiting for the DOT to complete the new road so traffic could be diverted to it. Multi-slip docks (84) going in at Paradise Cove to accommodate an off lakeshore housing development (tagged funnel development) were discussed and the general consensus was that these docks were not appropriate for Lake Murray and were not in line with the current SCE&G Shoreline Management Plan which allows individuals one dock per 100 feet of shoreline. SCE&G and the Corps of Engineers used commercial guidelines to permit the Paradise Cove docks. Everyone was encouraged to attend the meeting with DHEC on November 29<sup>th</sup> to request that DHEC **not** grant a 401 certification that is required before the docks could be built. (LMA formally objected November 29, 2005 to grant of this certification on the basis that water quality would be compromised if these docks were allowed.)

### **Saluda**

LMA's annual public meeting in Saluda was held in February and SCE&G's Vice President of Hydro and Fossil Fuel, Jim Landreth had good news for everyone. He told us the rip rap had been completed on the dam and that the water had been allowed to rise since February 20<sup>th</sup>. While this was good news, we have not had any significant inflow of water from the watershed because of our current drought. SCE&G also needed to generate reserve power (the current use of the Saluda hydro plant) when the Williams Plant went down for a short period in March, thus further reducing water in the lake.

SCE&G announced that a moratorium has been placed on multi-slip docks for the next few years until the relicense of the Saluda Hydro dam is applied for in 2010.

Randy Mahan, SCANA Director of Special Projects was there to tell us how the relicensing was going and how we could keep track of the action of the Resource Conservation Groups by going to the web site [www.saluda-relicense.com](http://www.saluda-relicense.com).

Roy Parker, Environmental Chairman for LMA introduced the new Water Quality Monitoring Program that LMA is undertaking. He described the protocol for the coves to be tested and indicated the testing would begin May 1, 2006.

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### **Relicensing of Saluda Hydro**

By Joy Downs

The relicensing process is a flurry of activity at the moment. The final formal application is due in 2008 and the current license expires in 2010. Seven Resource Conservation Groups (RCG's) have been formed along with Technical Committees meeting at least once a month to make sure all stakeholders are involved in the process and all issues are addressed. Quarterly meetings are being held for the general public at Saluda Shoals and the public also has access to the website. [www.saludahydrorelicense.com](http://www.saludahydrorelicense.com)

Stakeholders are the various state agencies as well as non-governmental organizations (LMA) and individual stakeholders (homeowners, fisherman, boaters, skiers, etc.). These stakeholders are discussing operations, lake and land management, safety, water quality, recreation, culture, and fish and wildlife. All committees are addressing lake level and flows to the Saluda River.

The procedure being used in this relicensing is called the "Traditional Licensing Process" (TLC) which is being phased out by the Federal Energy Commission (FERC) in favor of the Alternative Licensing Process. However, SCE&G filed in time to use this method and has chosen to enhance this procedure to include input by the stakeholders.

Jim Landreth, V.P. for Fossil and Hydro Fuel for SCE&G said that, even though SCE&G is managing the process, stakeholders play an important role. He said "the enhanced TLC encourages resolution of the issues and that they (SCE&G management) want to reach consensus."

When the final application is ready it will be sent to FERC for approval. If approved by the FERC, the new license could be in effect 30 to 50 years.

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### ***THE STATUS OF HYDRILLA IN LAKE MURRAY***

By Roy Parker

There is a great success story to tell of Hydrilla control in Lake Murray. The benefits are numerous to lake users. By late summer of 2002, masses of rope-like Hydrilla tentacles entangled boat props and prevented entry into many coves. Docks became isolated islands in a sea of Hydrilla. Boats had to be paddled, in many cases several hundred yards, before water was clear enough of Hydrilla to power-up motors. For all practical purposes entire coves or great portions of most coves in the lower part of the lake were not accessible to lake users.

Two events occurred in unison which helped bring Hydrilla under control in Lake Murray. In the spring of 2003 The Department of Natural Resources stocked 64,500 sterile grass carp, each about 12 inches in length into Lake Murray. At this same time, the lake was drawn down to the 345-348 contours in order to repair the dam. Hydrilla infested an estimated 4,300 acres below the 345 lake contour at the beginning of 2003. By the end of 2004 the number of infested acres had dropped, but Hydrilla still infested a significant 2,400 acres.

The volume of Hydrilla consumption by the small grass carp was limited at first, but became significant as the fish grew. Hydrilla is a preferred food for grass carp and they can consume one pound of Hydrilla each day for each pound of body weight. Hydrilla became scarce in the first half of 2005 and by the end of the year there was no significant infestation left in the lake. (Continued on P 5)

(Hydrilla Status continued) Grass carp do not consume all aquatic vegetation. In fact, during the first half of 2005, there was a significant infestation of water primrose in the western part of the lake. This aquatic weed is well adapted to shallow water and proliferated during the drawdown period.

As the lake returned to normal levels, this weed began to decline, but remains prevalent in shallow coves and along shorelines in the western part of the lake.

There was excellent fishing in Lake Murray before Hydrilla became a problem and as the most recent FLW Chevy Open tournament verified, fishing remains impressive and competitive in Lake Murray compared to other lakes included in fishing tournaments. In addition to the fish habitat provided by water primrose, there are other excellent aquatic plants that provide habitat and are not a preferred food source for grass carp. A native, non-invasive species, water willow (*Justicia americana*), currently exists in Lake Murray. It is a perennial and grows from rhizomes. The Department of Natural Resources intends to establish 30-50 additional colonies of water willow in Lake Murray during 2006.

Dr. Bill Haller, an aquatic weed specialist with the University of Florida indicates that Hydrilla has returned to lakes there after 20 years of no Hydrilla, once the grass carp population drops to less than one fish per infested acre. Hydrilla will return to Lake Murray. It is a noxious, non-native and invasive species. It is not possible to have "just enough" Hydrilla. It simply is not manageable. Lake Murray must continue to be monitored closely and at some future time, when it is again detected, grass carp or other control measures will be necessary.

Controlling Hydrilla on Lake Murray was not cheap. The total cost was approximately \$369,500 with significant contributions being made by Richland/Lexington counties, US Army Corps of Engineers and by SCE&G. The Lake Murray Association also contributed a token amount to this effort. The SC Department of Natural Resources was responsible for the stocking and insuring that stocked fish were sterile. The Lake Murray Association wants to say thank you to all who contributed to this very worthwhile and needed effort.

The South Carolina Noxious Weed Act makes it illegal to possess, import, or distribute Hydrilla in SC. Many lake users could not enjoy Lake Murray because of the previous overwhelming infestation of this aquatic weed. The Lake Murray Association supports the continued control of Hydrilla on Lake Murray, so that all lake users can continue to enjoy the lake.

### **BOOZE AND BOATS DON'T MIX.**

More than 50% of the boating accidents that result in death can be traced to alcohol impairment.

### **OSPREY NESTING PLATFORMS**

By Ken Fox

In 1996 the Lake Murray Association under the leadership of Bob Andrews saw the need for artificial nesting platforms for ospreys.

Ospreys (*Pandion Haliaetus*) are members of the fish eating hawk family. They are found on every continent except Antarctica. Ospreys migrate to warmer climates in the winter. During the decades of the 50's and 60's, Osprey populations had decreased dramatically because of the use of pesticides, primarily DDT. They are considered a threatened species in the United States and are protected by State and Federal laws. Since the ban of the pesticides and the implementation of artificial nesting platforms in almost every state of the union, Ospreys have made a remarkable comeback.

Adult ospreys range in size from 21 to 24 inches tall and have a wing span of 52 to 70 inches. They are dark brown with a white underside and have an almost completely white head. The dark brown coloring and the white head of the Osprey causes them to be mistaken for adult bald eagles. The way to distinguish between an osprey and a bald eagle is that the body of the eagle is completely brown and it has a solid white head and tail.

Since 1996, the Lake Murray Association has constructed and placed fifteen (15) osprey nesting platforms at locations ranging from near the dam to 20 miles upstream. These platforms are constructed of wood and placed on wooden poles to elevate them 15 to 20 feet above the waters of the lake. A newly designed platform that has been fabricated entirely of metal is now being installed. These metal platforms will last much longer in the outdoor environment. Two of the new metal platforms will be installed this year.



Nesting platforms are important for the ospreys because of the haphazard manner in which the birds build a nest. They break dead limbs off trees while in flight and also collect branches and grass from the ground. They carry this material back to the nest site. As the osprey hovers over the nest site much of the material that the osprey brings to build a nest ends up lost on the ground rather than the nest. (Continued on P 6)

(Osprey Nests continued)The wooden platforms that the Lake Murray Association constructed in the past used 2 x 6 boards enclosing an area of nine square feet. This type of construction allows the birds to have a large flat enclosed area in which to drop their nest building materials and results in use of almost 100% of the materials collected. The new metal platforms will have similar features.

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## **LAKE MURRAY** **WATER QUALITY MONITORING PLAN**

By Roy Parker

The Lake Murray Association Board of Directors approved a plan to monitor water quality in Lake Murray during the last board meeting.

Water quality monitoring will begin in May 2006.

The focus of our efforts will be to monitor water quality in five different type coves, with each cove type meeting specific identifying criteria.

### **REASONS FOR DECIDING TO MONITOR WATER QUALITY**

- Current water quality monitoring that is being carried out by The Department of Health and Environmental Control (DHEC) and by SCE&G is mostly confined to large, open water sampling sites.
- During the past few years, many new houses have been built around the lake. We want to be assured that the resulting increase in shoreline population density is not deteriorating water quality.
- We want to assure ourselves and all lake users that we do not have a water quality problem in Lake Murray.
- This plan is not being implemented because we know of a problem. We hope water quality is fine, but we want to determine that freshwater quality standards are currently being met and will continue to be met in all areas of the lake.

### **TYPES OF COVES TO BE MONITORED**

- Type I - A densely populated cove on a septic system with drain fields.
- Type II - An undeveloped cove with low population density to be considered as a standard or reference cove.
- Type III - A cove where one or more marinas are located.
- Type IV - A cove where an agricultural watershed empties into the cove.
- Type V - A cove where multi unit housing and accompanying dock and marina are planned.

### **WHAT WILL WE MONITOR FOR**

- We plan to monitor four densely populated coves that are on septic systems with drain fields once each month for fecal coliform and phosphorus. If we find freshwater standards are out of compliance at a particular sampling site, four follow-up samples will be taken during a 30 day period from that site.
- The standard or reference cove will be monitored once each month to compare the results from it to the results in other coves being monitored.
- We will monitor two coves where there is a marina once each month for petroleum hydrocarbons, Benzene, Toluene, Ethyl benzene and Xylene.
- We will monitor one cove that drains an agricultural watershed once each month for fecal coliform and phosphorus.
- In order to establish a baseline, we will monitor a cove where multi unit housing, docks and marina are planned, so we can get pre and post development water quality results.

### **ANALYTICAL LABORATORY, NUMBER OF SAMPLES and COSTS**

- Data Resources Inc. located in Columbia, a SC State certified laboratory, will be analyzing our samples. Either the laboratory or the appropriate State agency will train people who will be taking and transporting samples to the laboratory.
- During the period of May 1<sup>st</sup> to the end of October, we expect to collect and have analyzed about 130 water samples. This could increase, if we find water quality standards out of compliance at more sites than expected. Needed follow-up sampling could increase the numbers of samples required.
- Our estimated cost to carry out the water quality monitoring plan, as described for the 6 month period May through October, is a little over \$2,000. This will require that many hours of time be contributed by volunteers to collect and transport samples for analysis.

We encourage Lake Murray Association members to volunteer to monitor water quality on our lake. We need people to help collect and transport water samples to the laboratory. The Environmental Committee will make the final decisions regarding coves selected to monitor, but we are open to recommendations from association members of coves to monitor. Please contact Roy Parker at 118 Beechcreek Court, Lexington, SC 29072, or royparker38@earthlink.net if you wish to assist in collecting water samples or make suggestions of coves to monitor.



## HAVE A BEAUTIFUL CENTIPEDE LAWN WHILE PROTECTING WATER QUALITY

By Roy Parker

The old saying, “more is better”, when describing fertilization of centipede lawns is DEFINITELY NOT TRUE. In fact, problems with centipede are more likely to be caused by too much fertilizer than not enough.

The one nutrient least needed for a healthy centipede lawn is phosphorous. And this particular nutrient can be most detrimental to water quality. So, if you don't need it and it poses the greatest fertilizer threat to water quality, why use it?

Dr. Bert McCarty, Clemson University Turf Specialists recommends getting your soil tested before making a fertilizer application. He states “there is a much greater chance of over fertilizing centipede and sending it into a state of decline than with other lawn grasses”.

### **HIS FERTILIZER RECOMMENDATIONS ARE:**

- **Nitrogen (N)** – Use no more than 1 lb. /1000 square feet per year. Excess rates of nitrogen can cause yellowing and burning of leaves and can make centipede more vulnerable to winter injury.
- **Phosphorous (P)** – Centipede performs best with low to medium soil phosphorous. If soil tests indicate low to medium phosphorous and you do not catch grass clippings, no phosphorous is needed. Excess phosphorous can cause yellowing by reducing iron availability.
- **Potassium (K)** – Potassium is needed to increase winter hardiness. Use the same amount of Potassium as nitrogen. As recommended above, 1 lb. / 1000 square feet.

A popular fertilizer in local garden stores is a 10-10-10. **Do not use this on your centipede lawn!** It has too much phosphorous (P) in relation to the other nutrients, nitrogen (N) and potassium (K). If your soil test indicates that phosphorous is deficient, you may consider a 12-6-12 analysis having a 2-1-2 nutrient ratio. If the soil test indicates medium phosphorous is available, probably no added phosphorous (P) is needed. Where no

phosphorous is needed, a good fertilizer is a 15-0-15 or an 18-0-18. Do not apply nitrogen (N) fertilizer after August 15 to your centipede lawn because it will increase the chance for winter injury. However, applications in late summer-early fall of Potassium (K) may increase winter hardiness, reducing the chance for winter injury.

To minimize water pollution, keep a 5 to 10 foot border area between the lake and your maintained yard where **no** fertilizer or pesticides are used. In this border, establish plants and grass that need little or no fertilization. Since centipede is a low maintenance grass, it can serve as a border area plant, just do not fertilize it. Shrubs and other low nutrient demand plants can also be used in the border area, for example lantana. Plants in the border area filter pollutants from entering the lake. Desirable domestic plants can be as effective in preventing pollutants from entering the lake as natural growing plants such as poison oak, brambles and honey suckle. The important consideration is not to fertilize or use pesticides in the border area that separates your maintained yard from the lake. Protect water quality in Lake Murray by using phosphorous fertilizer sparingly on our centipede lawns.

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## ***Macedonia Lutheran Church***

By Kay Keener



If you spend much time on the lake boating near Billy Dreher Island you have probably noticed a simple but distinctive white frame church on a beautiful point of land. This is Macedonia Lutheran Church, an important part of the Lake Murray community. Organized in 1847, the church first met at Macedonia School across the street from its present location. The current sanctuary was built in 1913 but the church has been in the same location since 1849.

The membership of the church saw the building of the dam and the formation of Lake Murray. Since it was built the lake has been an element of church activities but in the 1970's then Pastor Clarence Richardson saw the need and opportunity to offer lakeside services during the summer to residents and visitors. He started a tradition that continues to this day of holding services at lakeside for 18 Sundays every (Continued P 8)

(Macedonia Church continued) summer beginning with the last two Sundays in May and ending two Sundays after Labor Day. During this period there are two services every Sunday: lakeside at 8:30 A.M. and in the sanctuary at 10:30 A.M. Sunday school is held at 9:30 A.M.

In addition to the summer services held at lakeside, Macedonia Lutheran Church holds a sunrise Easter service. This year it will be April 16<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 A.M. and as hospitality to the attendees the congregation provides breakfast after the service.



In 1994 the church received an anonymous donation from friends of the congregation. The folklore is that visitors attending one of the lakeside services were so impressed with beauty of the location that they felt that a permanent outdoor chapel was needed. They provided a check for \$40,000.00 and a blueprint for a permanent outside chapel to fill that need. The chapel was built and was dedicated in August 1994. The covered pavilion seats 155 and is situated on the point below the church with beautiful views of Lake Murray.

In 1987 the church involved members of the Lutheran Seminary in Columbia to help in its outside programs. Seminary students visit campers at Billy Dreher State Park each Saturday to inform them of the lakeside service and then on Sunday provide transportation to and from the service for those interested using the church bus.

The Reverend Randy Derrick is the present pastor of the church and he says the turn out for the Easter service is frequently as high as 500 with people arriving by both boat and car. Many bring folding chairs and sit on the lawn but others simply sit in their cars and boats for the service. The regular summer lakeside service generally attracts 100 to 300 attendees depending upon the weather. Reverend Derrick says early morning at lakeside is frequently chilly so if you plan to attend be sure to dress warmly.

## **MEMBERSHIP IS YOUR COMMITMENT TO LAKE MURRAY**

By Pat Wendling

Lake Murray has 650 miles of shoreline. There are a diverse group of lake users who love the lake. Loving takes commitment. The Lake Murray Association (LMA) also loves Lake Murray and is committed to working to address the needs of lake users and to keep Lake Murray pristine for future generations. That commitment is better served when you become a member of LMA. Your membership connects us and together we form a strong network of volunteers to protect our lake...you will be joining the voice of Lake Murray.

LMA Membership is working to encourage the use of your time, talent and treasure. We encourage you to give time in an area that is of interest to you: Environmental, Safety, Fund Raising, Governmental Issues, Program Scheduling, Advertising, Website Expertise or Membership. Scan the various programs being developed and find one that fits your talents. Increasing membership is a continual goal. We love hearing your ideas and welcome your help in building our membership.

Membership has implemented new ideas. One is that a couple of Realtors have agreed to buy a membership for homes they sell on the lake. A few boat dealers were willing to buy a membership for those purchasing a boat to use on Lake Murray. Perhaps you have a business that is willing to do the same or perhaps you have another idea to increase membership. Please share your thoughts. A single membership is only \$15/ year. A family membership is \$25/ year and a corporate membership is merely \$50.00/ year.

Help strengthen LMA by encouraging friends and neighbors to join today. With our new 501(c) (3) status membership dues and contributions are tax-deductible. We welcome your input and suggestions and we strongly encourage your active participation in the Lake Murray Association. You are our most important asset and can help make a difference in protecting Lake Murray. Make the commitment today.

### **LMA Knives and Jackets Make Great Gifts!**



The stainless steel pocket knife has 11 different blades and only costs \$5.00.



Lake Murray windbreaker jackets are in dark blue with the towers in white on the chest. Available in all sizes. \$50.00 each.

**WATER SAFETY DEPENDS ON YOU!**

Email Dave Landis for details at [dladis1@sc.rr.com](mailto:dladis1@sc.rr.com)

## LAKE MURRAY ASSOCIATION TO ERECT WOOD DUCK BOXES

By Roy Parker



The wood duck is beautiful and richly colored. It has striking white stripes about the face with white throat and chest markings set against the green head, red bill and red eyes, complimented by a rich chestnut breast, golden flanks and dark green-blue wings. Its increased presence would add much interest and beauty to the existing Lake Murray waterfowl population.

Wood ducks are shy and are rarely seen in most areas of Lake Murray. Its favored habitat is flooded wooded areas. It is very agile in flight and can maneuver through forests at full speed. It will perch in trees.

Wood ducks are cavity nesters and often nest in holes in trees located near water. It will readily nest in constructed nesting boxes.

The Environmental Committee has applied for 10 wood duck boxes through The Governor's Wood Duck Project. SCE&G has granted permission to The Lake Murray Association to erect nesting boxes around the lake, provided they do not interfere with navigation or restrict access by lake front property owners. If the nesting boxes are provided, members of the Association will erect boxes along the shoreline of coves and in flooded wooded areas, during the fall of 2006 and spring of 2007.

### Some Things to Think About:

\* On March 9, 2006, the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) approved the conveyance by SCE&G of a small parcel of project property (0.017 acre) to private individuals. The Saluda Project property in question consisted of an authorized earth fill encroachment that has been in existence for 20 years and which preceded the establishment of the project's

shoreline management program which prohibits filling below the 360-foot contour.

The parcel is surrounded by residential development with no adjacent environmentally sensitive areas. It was determined that removing the encroachment would result in more environmental impact than leaving it alone.

\* SCE&G has requested FERC approval to authorize use by the Saluda County Water and Sewer Authority (SCWSA) of project lands (Lake Murray) for the withdrawal of up to 15 million gallons per day of water from the project reservoir for public drinking water, and to convey 0.23 acres of project property along with a 40-foot wide ingress and egress easement for the purpose of constructing a raw water pumping station and associated facilities. The water withdrawal would involve an inter-basin transfer from the Saluda River basin for use and discharge into the Lower Savannah River basin and the Edisto River basin.

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### ***The North American Lake Management Society Meeting***

By Roy Parker

The North American Lake Management Society (NALMS) in conjunction with the Georgia Lakes Society (GLS) held a joint meeting March 8-11, 2006, in Columbus, GA. I attended this meeting for the purpose of learning as much as possible about how other volunteer groups monitor water quality. One of my objectives was to meet and establish contacts with other water quality monitoring programs over the Southeast area.

The conference was conducted in concurrent sessions on Wednesday, Thursday and Friday. On all three days I attended sessions related to volunteer monitoring, water quality, watersheds, education, stakeholder involvement and public outreach.

I was able to speak with individuals and identify contacts of other volunteer groups involved in water quality monitoring. I was told of potential problems and pitfalls related to the difficulty of keeping volunteers interested and committed to the program. Others with experience in the kind of volunteer program we envision stressed the need for periodic update training and participation events to build interest and keep volunteers stimulated and involved.

I am sure that the information and contacts gathered by attendance at the meeting will be of great value as we begin our water quality testing program in May of this year.

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**Words of Wisdom:** *"We all live in a "Watershed and it is not just those who live on the lakeshore who are "Lakeside Residents" - we're all Just a drain pipe or stream away from the lake!"*

### ***“Morning Flight”***



Jeffery Day is a local Lake Murray artist who enjoys painting the coastal and lake scenes of his native South Carolina. Jeffery has been drawing and painting most of his life and has a distinctive style which is very realistic.

Most recently Jeffery painted an osprey in flight near an island just off Dreher Island State Park. Jeffery has donated a matted, signed and numbered print of this painting as a door prize at the LMA Public Meeting at Lexington High School, April 18<sup>th</sup>. Jeffery will be at the meeting and will have signed prints available for sale.

LMA appreciates his generosity and hopes the lucky winner of the donated print enjoys having a permanent reminder of our beautiful lake.

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### ***Sun Protection on the Water***

Although experts agree that some time in the sun is good for you, when you spend time on the water it is a good idea to prevent overexposure by following the guidelines of the American Cancer Society:

- Choose a sunscreen with a Sun Protection Factor (SPF) of 15 or higher.
  - Apply sunscreen liberally every two hours, and reapply if you get wet.
  - Wear a hat that covers the face, neck and ears.
  - Wear clothing made of tightly woven fabric. If you can see light through a fabric, UV rays can penetrate it.
  - Always protect children who are fishing or boating with you.
  - Minimize exposure to the sun between 10 A.M. and 4 P.M., when UV rays are most intense. Find shade if possible.
    - Wear sunglasses to protect your eyes as well as the tender skin around them.
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### ***LMA Pontoon Tour of Homes!***



This is your chance to enjoy our fabulously popular Pontoon Tour of Homes. This is a great way to enjoy boating on our scenic Lake Murray and the opportunity to tour 4 or 5 beautiful lake homes in the Timberlake/Chapin area.

Mark your calendar for **Saturday, May 20<sup>th</sup>**. There will be two tours; one leaving at 9 A.M. and one at 1 P.M. The cost of the tour is \$30.00 per person. A box lunch will be available for an additional \$6.00 per person. Reservation and payment for lunches must be made at the time tickets are purchased.

Just come ready to enjoy a day at the lake as we boat you to each of the homes on the tour. Those of you who have been on the tour before get ready to enjoy another great day. For those of you who haven't made one of our great tours yet get ready for a treat.

Call Ralph Crafton at **803-359-2880** to reserve your tickets for another great tour.

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### ***Just a Reminder-***

Now that commercial towing is available on Lake Murray, the U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary is no longer able to render the free towing service it has done for years when a boater runs out of gas or finds the engine won't start. In 2004 commercial towing became available for hire on Lake Murray. Federal Code permits the Coast Guard Auxiliary to tow a private vessel only if the vessel and/or its occupants are in immediate danger such that property damage or bodily injury would occur unless the vessel was taken in tow immediately and the commercial tow boat cannot arrive in time to give tow.

There is nothing to prevent a friend or another private boater from giving you a tow and you should feel free to ask for help from another boater who comes by or one that you may call by VHF radio or cell phone.

## Corporate Sponsors

The following businesses are affiliate members. Affiliate members are identified as sponsors of LMA since they directly support us with larger membership dues.

We extend special thanks to our affiliate members and let us all support them in return.

Advanced Docks, Buck Mooneyhan	803-957-8049
Agnew Lake Service, Norman Agnew	803-781-0399
Atlantic Coast Canvas, Tim Van Newhouse	803-808-2522
Ben Arnold Beverage Co., Bill Tovell	803-337-5391
Captain's Choice Marine	803-532-1223
Century 21/Bob Capes, Jim Derrick	803-799-4503
Dick Dyer Toyota, Bruce Dyer	803-786-4111
DP Marine, LLC, David Pou	803-345-0155
Duraclean, Randall Roe	803-781-7332
ERA Wilder Realty, The Erdman's	803-345-1547
Express Mortgage Corp., Daryle O'Cain	803-939-4888
First Citizens Bank, Ballentine, Rick Pascall	803-781-3414
Hallmark Shores Club, Edward Schnepel	803-359-2880
Harvey, Casterline & Vallini, LLC, Rex C.	803-212-1010
Jacks Docks, Jack Wessinger	803-345-5857
Jakes Landing, Archie Trawick, Jr.	803-359-9268
Kaminer, Inc.	803-772-9140
Lake Murray Marina, Tammy Wright	803-781-1585
Lake Murray Southside Comm Assoc, Eddie R	803-749-6411
Lake Tours, Inc. "Southern Patriot", Jay D	803-749-8594
Lighthouse Marina, Jason Lusk	803-749-1554
Mallard Shores HOA	
Mel Coker, Realtor, Mel Coker	803-932-2144
Morgan And Associates, Sandy Morgan	803-996-2910
Night Harbor Home Owners Association	803-345-6537
Palmetto EZ Dock, Glenn Dannelly,	803-892-2436
Pontoon Rentals & Tours, Ken Hardee	803-413-1693
Power Systems Inc., Mel Moody	803-951-7325
Rotary Club of Chapin, George McC.	803-345-2890
Saluda Standard-Sentinel, Ralph Shealy	803-445-2527
SC Web Solutions, George Kiparisus	803-996-5285
Simpson, Bob & Carol, Health Ins.	803-781-6530
Southern Steel Products, Inc.	803-951-7314
The In Sight Group, LLC, Scott Bolo	803-551-0006
Timberlake Estates HOA, George Duke	803-345-6785
Tow Boat US Lake Murray, Mark Hanners	803-622-8560
Water's Edge Realty, Brad & Valerie Wik	803-345-5598
Wexford on the Lake HOA, Jack Dearhart	803-407-0005



## IMPORTANT PHONE NUMBERS



<b>Lake Level</b>	<b>800-830-5253</b>
<b>Hydrilla Reporting</b>	<b>803-217-9243</b>
<b>Dock Permits</b>	<b>803-217-9243</b>
<b>DNR Information</b>	<b>803-734-3881</b>
<b>Marine Office</b>	<b>803-951-2564</b>
<b>Richland County Sheriff's Office</b>	<b>803-749-9286</b>
<b>Lexington Co. Sheriff's Office</b>	<b>803-359-8230</b>
<b>Lake Murray Association</b>	<b>803-749-3888</b>
<b>SC Legislative Info.</b>	<b>800-922-1539</b>
<b>Muskrat Trapping</b>	<b>803-734-3888</b>

## The Lake Murray Association, Inc.

### OFFICERS and EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE:

Lee Barber, President	803-749-1841
David Landis, 1 <sup>st</sup> Vice President	803-732-4310
Ken Fox, 2 <sup>nd</sup> Vice President	803-604-1409
Joy Downs, Executive Director & Secretary	803-781-8411
Mike Murrell, Recording Secretary	803-407-4007
Tom Ruple, Treasurer	803-732-1342
Richard Kidder, Past President	803-892-6539

### COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSONS:

#### Environmental

Roy Parker, Chairman	803-808-7188
Robert Lavisky, Vice Chairman	803-957-6296
Michael White	803-359-0502
Michael Murrell	803-407-4007

#### Lake Level

Executive Committee	803-749-3888
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#### LAKE LINK

Bob Keener, Chairman	803-892-3379
Bill East, Vice Chairman	803-781-7711
Kay Keener, Editor	803-892-3379

#### LMA Funded Projects – Osprey Nests & Wind Socks

Ken Fox, Chairman	803-604-1409
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#### Government Liaison

Joy Downs, Chairman	803-781-8411
Curtis Hipp Vice Chairman	803-794-9012
Ralph Crafton	803-359-5361
Fred Woerner	803-892-8154

#### Membership

Patricia Wendling, Chairman	803-781-6787
Don Tyler	803-932-4891
Russ Jernigan	803-359-7598
Dave Landis	803-732-4310

#### Publicity

Ed Schnepel	803-359-6532
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#### Safety

Bill Mathias	803-957-5829
Ken Fox	803-604-1409

#### Special Events, Boat Show, Dock Signs

David Landis, Chairman	803-732-4310
Patricia Wendling	803-781-6787

#### Web Site Manager

Tom Ruple, Manager	803-732-1342
Wayne Kirby	803-354-4592

#### At Large

Aleda Anderson	803-781-2343
Sam Drake	803-892-6986
Hodge Harmon	803-364-2740
Ed Thomas	803-781-3259
Lucy Wingard	803-318-6267
Stanley Yalicki	803-932-9292

# The Lake Murray Association, Inc.

P O Box 495 Ballentine SC 29002

## Membership Information:

New     Renewal    Amount Paid \_\_\_\_\_    Date \_\_\_\_\_

Individual Membership (one vote) \$15.00     Family Membership(2 votes) \$25.00     Corporate Membership(one vote) \$50.00

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Please check a committee you would like to serve on:

Spouse's Name \_\_\_\_\_  
(Family Application Only)

Mailing Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ County \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone (H) \_\_\_\_\_ (W) \_\_\_\_\_

Your Occupation \_\_\_\_\_ Spouse's \_\_\_\_\_  
(if retired, former occupation)

E-mail Address \_\_\_\_\_

Lake Address & County \_\_\_\_\_

### Charge Authorization:

VISA     MasterCard    Expiration date \_\_\_\_\_

Card Number \_\_\_\_\_

Card Name \_\_\_\_\_ Signature \_\_\_\_\_

- Boat Show
- Environmental
- Governmental Affairs
- Membership
- Newsletter
- Publicity
- Safety
- Tour of Homes

## Join The Lake Murray Association

"COLLECTIVE VOICES MAKE A DIFFERENCE"

WHEN YOU JOIN OR RENEW

**Pay 2 years-receive 3 months free    Pay 3 years-receive 6 months free**

Membership strengthens our voice as we join with other associations who share common goals to preserve and conserve Lake Murray as a valuable residential and recreational resource. Encourage a friend to join LMA by sharing this membership form...we need and appreciate you.

P O Box 495  
Ballentine SC 29002  
(803)-749-3888

**BULK RATE**  
**US Postage Paid**  
**Permit #3**  
**Ballentine, SC**



**LMA is for you – Please renew your membership!**  
Your Lake Link Mailing label indicates when your membership expires.