

# LAKE MURRAY ASSOCIATION MINUTES

## JULY 13, 2009

Dave Landis, President, banged the gavel and called the meeting to order at 6:58 for our first, but not last, meeting at the Rusty Anchor. And the first recorded by Louise, so be kind. LMA had always skipped a July meeting because officers are often on vacation. However, it was decided, because of the on going situation with the License, we should meet to make sure all Board Members were updated. It was also decided that the meeting be informal in format as we were meeting on the Quarter Deck of the Rusty Anchor. Many thanks to Stan Jones for providing such an inspirational setting.

**Minutes:** Pat Wendling was not able to attend this meeting, so minutes were taken by Louise Love. Because of the informal nature of this Board Meeting, some items on the regular agenda were not addressed. No changes or additions were requested for the previous minutes.

**Treasurer's Report:** Tom Ruple presented the Treasury Report. The income total for June was \$255.00. Only \$40 from dues, \$180 from the sale of shirts and \$35 from Ladies Day on the Lake. The largest expense items were \$915.76 for the Lake Link, and \$636.82 for Ladies Day. The Treasurer's Report was unanimously approved.

**Guest Speaker:** Dave Landis introduced our guest speaker, Richard Peterson. Richard lives in Gilbert and has lived on the lake for 15 years. He served on the LMA Board for several years, during which time his daughter was born. She is now 11. Richard worked with several radio stations in the Columbia area before working in Washington for 4 years. He returned to South Carolina to start a new radio station.

Richard is working on starting a radio station for the Lake Murray Community. It is to be a low power FM station designed to cover all areas within 20 miles of the shore line of the Lake and will be operated from Little Mountain. It will serve the community with up-to-the minute weather reports, local events, charities, and high school sporting events, featuring "the game of the week". The station will be a non-profit entity and will need support from local business, chambers and individuals as it cannot use traditional advertising methods for operating costs. The station would broadcast 24 hours a day and play music indicative of the Carolinas as well as have spots that citizens and community organizations could express their concerns on Lake issues. These could include, but would not be limited to environmental, political, safety and the like.

Several Board Members expressed the need for up-to-the-minute weather reports for boaters on the lake to enhance safety. Kay asked about operating out of Gilbert, and Richard quickly said they prefer to call it "Twin Bridges", not to be confused with "Single Bridge", which got a chuckle from the crowd. Stan Jones suggested Richard attend the National Marina Day celebration on August 8<sup>th</sup> as several politicians will be in attendance and it would be a good opportunity to speak with them on the issues of a license.

Since the FAA has only issued two such licenses like this in the U.S., Richard is asking LMA and other interested individuals and organizations to write a letter to Senator Lindsey Graham showing support of this new station on Lake Murray. The letters will be sent to Richard and be part of a package that will be presented next month. Richard hopes to have the station up and running by Christmas '09. It would be a great Christmas present for Lake Murray residents. Richard concluded his presentation and the Board voted unanimously to have LMA send a letter of support for the endeavor.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

**Ken Fox:** Ladies Day on the Lake. We had 32 sign up and only 1 had to be refunded with 12 having to be turned away. Ken said a great time was had by all and thanked all that had helped with the event. He also had sent letters of thanks to Power Sports, The Power Squadron, and Stan Jones for their support and assistance. Dave Landis expressed his appreciation for Ken's work on the project.

**4H20:** Dave Landis indicated it had been a great success with the children all having a good time and learning a lot about the lake. He said they had visited the Water Plant and even the adults had learned some new things. He thanked Don, Dale and Kemble for their help and Kay for sending in the story. Kay relayed the story of Don having the boat with all girls and a rope getting tangled in his prop. Despite the delay, the girls all voted his the best boat to be on. Everyone involved felt this had been the best year the event has had.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

**Lake Murray Radio Station:** This was presented at the beginning of the meeting

**License and Settlement:** Dave asked Joy Downs and Don Tyler to give their views and how the meetings were going. Don indicated it was even more frustrating than in the past. Don reported that all the Lake people (Lake Watch and Homeowner Assoc's) decided a week ago to sign the agreement as we understood that we could include a letter to FERC stating the reasons for the need for a 1ft. trigger. During the week it was rumored that DNR at the 11<sup>th</sup> hour had decided they would not sign the agreement with a 1 ft or a 2 ft. (This was all but confirmed by DNR the next day in the settlement meeting). They have indicated they are looking for a 4' trigger. At this point it looks like it might be best for LMA to abstain from signing since we still disagree with the Bass flows and the 2' foot trigger exacerbates that problem. If we can sign the 1' in support of SCE&G's position and state our objections to the 2' vehemently to the FERC, signing may be the right decision. The discussion continued that with **too** much disagreement the FERC might not issue a license any time soon. Roy added that it may be better to have no agreement as currently everyone is pleased with the lake level and with no agreement SCE&G could continue to operate at they pleased. Joy indicated that we could file for intervention status and it would need to be done by the 29<sup>th</sup>. Individuals could also file for this status and would need to contact Joy. Curtis made a motion for LMA to file and it passed. The decision to sign the agreement still rests with the committee.

**The Barn:** Discussion on this issue was deferred to our next meeting due to time restraints.

**SCE&G Summary Hearing:** There is to be a hearing (time and date to be announced later) in which SCE&G is seeking to have the Homewrecker removed from its present location as it exceeds the 34 foot maximum length to be docked on the lake. There was some discussion, but the Board feels strongly that LMA must support SCE&G in this issue. Stan Jones voiced concern as to where the boat's holding tanks are being emptied and what kind of impact it is having on the lake. Joe Agnew brought it to our attention that there are several boats docked on the lake that exceed the legal length and would we continue to support removal of them as well. Joy said once they see SCE&G means business on this issue, they may take care of it themselves. Louise stated that if LMA extends their support for this shore management issue, we must do so with each case. And while we support the rule, it is not our responsibility to carry it out. Jim Landreth had requested some presence at the hearing to show LMA support, several members indicated they would be willing to go once the time and date were made known.

**Public meeting September:** Joy indicated she has scheduled Rebecca Spratlin with DHEC to speak at our September meeting and is seeking to add someone to give landscaping information. This meeting will be held on September 22<sup>nd</sup> at the St Andrews Presbyterian Church and begin at 7:00 PM.

**Fall Member Appreciation:** Stan was asked to reform his committee to start planning for an early October BBQ. Several ideas were discussed to increase membership. These will be further developed in committee and presented to at the next Board Meeting.

**Membership Drive:** Kemble was unable to attend the meeting, but Louise gave a brief **outline** on planning a membership drive for September through December. It was decided to add some manpower to the Membership Committee so that they could prepare for an October kick-off at the BBQ.

**Safety Meeting:** Lee said that SCE&G had agreed to have safety part of the License process, but most of their focus was on releases to the river and sirens leaving Lake safety unaddressed. LMA will continue to be involved with Lake safety, but does not have the **resources** to be a major contributor.

At this point, because of the darkening sky, it was decided to forego committee reports and adjourned the meeting at 8:45. Thanks to Stan again for letting us use the Quarter Deck. We discussed having the August 10<sup>th</sup> meeting there as well to take advantage of the summer evening. **At the August meeting, we will be looking forward to a report from the Membership committee regarding their preparation for the Membership Drive.** Stan Jones will be forming his committee for the Member Appreciation BBQ, **as well.**