

**LAKE MURRAY ASSOCIATION MINUTES**  
**May 12, 2008**

**BOARD OF DIRECTORS:** Present (P) and Absent (A)

Dave Landis, President, called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. in Lexington, SC. The meeting began with a prayer by Ralph Crafton.

The minutes had been approved and posted on the Web site.

Tom Ruple presented the Treasury Report. We spent \$1049.00. We collected \$7695.64 in dues, Dock Signs, Ladies Day and Tour of Homes tickets. We have our CD's and other assets and the over-all net worth is \$26,138.36. The treasurer's report was seconded and approved unanimously.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

**Lexington Meeting, April 22 @ Lexington High School.** Dave Landis

We had about 80 people present and felt this was a very successful meeting. Our speakers were:

Holly Jones, from the Zoo, presented an excellent program on reptiles using a power point presentation and discussion. She brought a live snake and many were surprised how many people wanted to touch the snake.

Mike Massey from the Lake Hartwell Association discussed (2) Bills in Congress-part of the SC Statewide Management Act (H4393). These are in regard to surface water and Inter Basin Transfer. Mike stated the goal is to consolidate all areas of this issue in one place so that there is one central person in charge to deal with any issue. As he suggested, we all need to pay close attention to water rights or we may lose our water to Industry in other states.

Jim Landreth, of SCE&G fielded questions regarding the lake and was extremely happy to state that the lake was full and would remain so this summer.

We recognized our Person of The Year, Miriam Atria of Lake Murray Country. Miriam was truly thrilled over the honor bestowed on her.

The New Board Members were recognized and welcomed at the meeting.

We moved to spend the money on the Shoreline Maps of Lake Murray-this was approved unanimously...good thing since we already purchased them!

**LMA Position on Jim Ruane Model:** Roy Parker

**Refresher on Background:** Jim Ruane, employed by SCE&G and Kleinschmidt, has been brought in as an "expert" on scouring Lake Murray. His proposition is that the water quality of Lake Murray 'may be' improved by periodic winter draw down to the 350 ft. msl to increase sediment scouring in the vicinity of water inflows feeding the lake. His *hope* is to elevate levels of dissolved oxygen to reduce the incident of fish kills. His suggestions are *theoretical* and not based on *any* collected data from Lake Murray or a lake of equal size. Jim Ruane's information is based on a reservoir- not a large lake and that this is quite a difference. In our opinion he has no data to support his observations

and theories. Jim Ruane also spoke to SCE&G following his discussion with friend and fellow Limnologist that his findings are not definitive in noting any result.

Roy had contacted John Haines, Limnologist & aquatic specialist @ Clemson to discuss Ruane's model. He forwarded the website to John and John then called Jim Ruane to discuss his findings. They both agreed that his model is a speculation not based on hard facts. Alison Guth has given LMA another opportunity to add another letter of opinion to the model.

Roy feels that there is no emphatic statement in Ruane's report and contends that most feel the same. He feels that it has not been proven as fact that the lake must be lowered to show any difference in water quality.

One thought is to determine the difference in volume from 350'-354'. This may help us justify our position. Bill Argentiery may be able to provide this information.

Discussion ensued regarding the desire to have John Haines note his opinion in writing. There is concern that FERC or DHEC will not interpret the Ruane report as 'soft' or vague and that a firm stance is needed to avoid a push to lower the lake below the 354' mark. Asking John Haines to comment on what appears to be a negative against Jim Ruane met with resistance. The outcome of the discussion was that a letter will be drafted and then sent to Dr. Haines for comment & approval before sending to SCE&G with a copy to DNR, DHEC & FERC. Some still feel strongly that we need to clearly state that this report is not worthy of being a reason to encourage a drawdown under 354'. A further note was that in two weeks the parameters of the model will become clearer and will help us define if there is need for future action.

#### **LAKE KEOWEE:** Rich Kidder

The Meeting to learn how this FOLKS association makes money was attended by Ken Fox, Joy Downs, Roy Parker, Rich Kidder and Bob Keener. This is a very "rich" association with 'deep pockets' and members who live in homes valued at \$1 million or more.

1. They sell advertising for their newsletter and it pays for itself with a mailing 6 times/year. They mail to 18-22,000 people vs. our 800.
2. They work in conjunction with Clemson University and apply and win grant money from local, state and Federal. The professors @ Clemson write 1/2- 3/4 pf the grants. They tackle and focus on area problems with the lake and work for resolution: i.e. paying a portion of fixing a leaking septic system.
3. Their feeling is that Fund Raisers are exhausting. They suggest we raise our dues.
4. They own their own building w/ meeting room on 2 acres of land. They have a grant to landscape the property demonstrating different variations of landscaping. They meet at 2:00 in the afternoon.

Discussion ensued. It was noted that Lake Murray is a more transient area than Lake Keowee. Regarding advertising, Ed Thomas feels that we could make this a viable tool and Stan Jones agreed that he felt many Lake Businesses (marinas, boat dealers,

restaurants, Sea Tow, Spinners, catering etc.) would love to advertise in our newsletter and reach many people who love and support the lake. Many feel this would be a great idea. The idea of working in conjunction with USC in writing grants was proposed. This is an area we may pursue as well. Ideas were generated from this visit.

### **NEW BUSINESS:**

**Tour of Homes:** Ginny Landis/ Dave Landis

The Tour is scheduled for this weekend, May 17<sup>th</sup> from 9:00-6:00 pm. It will be run out of Stan Jones's Lighthouse Marina. All is organized to tour the four homes: Peppy Rivera on Tapps Road and Jim and Margaret Morris on Salem Church Road and Gene Brantley on Shuler Road and Doctors Burpee/ Bassinger on Jones Road.

1. To date 286/ 400 tickets have been sold. The last day for mailing tickets will be Wednesday. After that, tickets will be available for pick up at check in.
2. Advertising on the radio this week and WIS will do graphics on TV.
3. Gifts have been purchased for the homeowners- a beautiful engraved crystal ice bucket is the gift this year.
4. Rich Kidder has secured 22 boats (one pending being fixed in time.) A safety inspection will be given that morning by the Power Squadron.
5. Jay Schabacher will man the fast boat. It will be equipped with Safety Items and all Tour Guides will be given a First Aid Kit to have on hand at each home.
6. Final Lists are being turned into Tom Ruple so Name Badges can be created for all who are working the TOH. A final count is also needed for lunches, which will be distributed by Russ Jernigan.
7. Concern over weather was discussed. If the morning session is completed and weather becomes a factor in the afternoon, the patrons will be given a choice to either give the ticket money as a donation or get a refund. \*Stan Jones will be vigilant watching the lake and closing down the event should there be a wind advisory. Safety is the primary concern.
8. Communications will be established with Lucy, Sea Cadet Adults and Boat Captains.
9. Tents are needed at the Check in Site. We need one more. One is for Check in, and one for Gretchen and Rachael Parker's artwork which will be for sale the day of the event. Del Jenkins offered 2 tents for backups. Stan will contact Sea Tow for use of their tent. These will be needed by 8:00 am on Saturday.

### **WEB-SITE: Mike Kletter**

Mike has been working to update our website and layout. It needs excitement to draw in more people. Mike passed around a couple of ideas for a modernized LMA Logo change adding more color and piazza. There is some resistance to changing the logo...may compromise on adding color to it on the website only. He has ideas for adding beautiful lake scenes on the first webpage. Once there is a final design, it will be on display for all to vote. The changes are exciting and a lot of hard work has already been done...Mike's efforts are appreciated.

**LADIES DAY ON THE LAKE:** Ken Fox

This is scheduled for June 17<sup>th</sup> from 9:00 -3:00 @ Lighthouse Marina.  
Ken reported that 14 women have signed up to date. There are still openings.

**4H2O PROGRAM:** Rich Kidder

This excellent kid's program is scheduled for the 2<sup>nd</sup> week of June. Rich has asked for (3) pontoons to use June 9<sup>th</sup> and the 11<sup>th</sup>. They have a full roster. Holding all day sessions seems to have aided in filling the program. Dave Landis and Lee Barber have volunteered with Stan Jones as a back up for a pontoon. Rich will be taking pictures.

**LICENSE UPDATE:** Joy Downs

May 22<sup>nd</sup>, all the combined RCG's will meet from 9:30 – 3:30 @ Saluda Shoals in the River Center to present information from each RCG. This will provide an idea of the parameters of the License that will be sent in to FERC in August. An email reminding everyone of this meeting will be sent out to the Board.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

**Environmental: Roy Parker**

Basically discussed this in New Business.

**Government: Joy Downs**

No further discussion

**Publicity: Kay Gordon**

Kay has worked to get information for TOH and our meetings in the print media. The story in Lake Murray Magazine was great.

Kay sent out the story of Miriam Atria to all print media.

**Membership: Kemble Oliver/ Ed Colie**

Kemble noted that in an attempt to increase membership, LMA is empowering one of our sponsors to offer a 6-month free membership to their clients. We will track the effectiveness of this proposal. Kemble has entrusted this first test to Stan Jones of Lighthouse Marina. Stan will offer this to 500 people and will track it in his data base. The membership letters and information will be color coded to be able to track any results of this test. If successful, we shall expand the practice. Several ideas were discussed, but remaining with this initial proposal seemed the most manageable and prudent.

**Newsletter: Bob Keener**

All articles are due to Bob *NO LATER* than May 30<sup>th</sup>, as he is going out of town. He handed out an assignment sheet to everyone and stresses the need to be on time for this issue. Please follow the format noted earlier.

**Nominating: Aleda Anderson/ Bill East**

Bill noted that there are several Board Members who will be “gone” in September. Bill encouraged the Board Members to consider any LMA members who may be interested in serving on the Board and to invite them to the June Board Meeting.

**Safety: Ed Colie/ Jay Schabacker**

Be careful on the Tour of Homes

**Special Events: Ken Fox**

No Report

**Projects: Ken Fox**

Stan Jones asked for a new Wind Sock at his marina, as his is gone. Ken Fox will take a new one to him

**Web Site: Tom Ruple/ Wayne Kirby/ Mike Kletter**

Reminder that a website is being built from recommendations and it will be presented to us to vote.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:48 pm with thoughts of the Tour of Homes, praying for good weather and selling all the tickets. We continue to work to build our membership and to promote awareness of all issues that protect and preserve Lake Murray.

Thanks and good-bye.