

Lake Link Header



Dave Landis, President

Dear Lake Murray Association Member

Included in this newsletter are articles on LMA's history. I want to talk to you about our future. Over the past 23 years board members have come and gone but there was a core group that have stayed on and carried the heavy water, In the past year and a half most of this core group retired from the board due to health or other personal reasons. This has left the Board lacking in experience in some vital areas. We are looking for people have experience in editing our Lake Link Newsletter, maintaining our web site, overseeing our facebook page and working on our membership committee.

Even though the past few years have been relatively quiet concerning the lake issues and SCE&G is doing a good job maintaining lake levels that could all change when the new license takes effect. SCE&G's flexibility will be restricted under the new license, outflows and lake levels will be affected especially in times of drought situations. Lake users will want to have representation and LMA as a result of all the work they did on the re-licensing project have a seat on that committee.

Of course, there are other issues too such as water quality, inner basin water transfers and boating safety.

We would like to fill these position in order to fulfill our commitment to our members. If you're interested or know someone who is, please contact Joy Downs, 803-600-8099 our Executive Director or me Dave Landis

We hope you will continue to support LMA in our continuing stewardship of 25 years as the "Voice of Lake Murray". If you use Lake Murray you need to be aware and working with this organization, that has worked tirelessly to insure higher Lake Levels in the winter, that hydrilla was brought under control by grass carp, beautiful Osprey

Saluda County Meeting of:
THE LAKE MURRAY ASSOCIATION
"The Voice of Lake Murray"

Hollywood Ruritan Club

1459 Hollywood Rd. Saluda, SC

Tuesday, March 21, 2016

"Join us for light meal at 6:30 PM"

MEETING STARTS AT 7:00

*** SCE&G "The State of the Lake"**

Vice President: **Jim Landreth**

Mgr. Civil Engineering: **Bill Argentieri**

*** Safety and Law Enforcement**

***Questions and Answers**

THE LAKE MURRAY ASSOCIATION HISTORIC ACTIVITIES AND IMPORTANCE

Roy Parker

I have been a member of the Association since 1997. At that time people were very concerned with lake levels which often dropped below 355 msl (mean sea level) during summer and winter months. Our association worked closely with SCE&G and gradually lake levels were maintained at higher more acceptable levels when rainfall provided necessary inflows.

When I first lived on Lake Murray in 1981 there was not a hydrilla aquatic weed problem. I moved away and returned in 1996 and hydrilla had been introduced and was a serious problem. Various control measures including lake drawdowns and chemical applications were only partially effective. Our Association worked closely with SCE&G to promote the introduction of 65,500 sterile grass carp in 2003. Young grass carp will consume 1 to 1.5 pounds of hydrilla per pound of body weight. Grass carp can weigh up to 50 pounds at maturity.

At the time of introduction, hydrilla clogged and almost prohibited boating in many coves. By the summer of 2004 the hydrilla infestation was not increasing. By the summer of 2005 hydrilla could not be seen on the lake surface and to this day hydrilla is not a problem in Lake Murray.

Many meetings were held between 2006 and 2009 when SCE&G was working with the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) to get relicensed to operate the lake and power generating facility. During these meetings many aspects of operation that affected the lake, shoreline community and lake users were thoroughly discussed. Members of the Lake Murray Association (LMA) were present and provided input at all of these meetings that were held during each year of the relicensing process.

This was a laborious task, but I think the LMA participation and inputs were very valuable in protecting the interest of lake users, home owners and the Association. One issue that was introduced and adopted was that lake levels would be maintained at 358 msl during the months of March through September where inflows were adequate to maintain these lake levels.

The LMA introduced a project in 2007 to increase the population of beautiful Wood Ducks on Lake Murray.

During 2007 through 2008 the LMA secured 20 wood duck boxes from The Governor's Wood Duck Project and erected or made them available to home owners around Lake Murray. This project has been very successful. Today there are many wood ducks around the lake. Beginning in late January it is common to see pairs of "woodies" visiting and scouting boxes. Egg laying will soon follow with hatch outs occurring throughout the summer. It is a great joy to hear their strange call, see them in swift flight or just swimming around the nesting boxes or other places.

I think all lake users are concerned about water quality. We were especially concerned about water quality in coves where there were septic systems. We initiated a water quality testing program in 2006 and continue that program today. The primary contaminants we test for are E. coli and total phosphorous. We occasionally find samples that exceed fresh water standards of these contaminants, but the water is safe at most of the sample locations. We coordinate our findings with the SC Department of Health and Environmental Control (DHEC) and communicate results with the LMA membership.

The LMA is a very important organization for all lake users. Seldom are there times where issues of importance do not need to be addressed that affect the Lake. The LMA is an excellent organization with talented members who can draw attention to and help solve problems and concerns of lake users.

DID YOU KNOW:

2016-2017 Boating Regulations

All Boats

In South Carolina, vessels may not be operated in excess of idle speed within 50 feet of an anchored vessel, wharf, pier, dock, or a person in the water. Vessels may not operate in excess of idle speed within 100 yards of the Atlantic coastline (Sec. 50-21-870).

Equipment

Personal Flotation Devices (PFDs)

All boats must have a US Coast Guard approved wearable type PFD for each person on board or being towed. Each PFD must be in good condition, readily available and the proper size for the intended wearer. In addition, boats 16 feet in length or longer must carry a Type IV throwable device. In South Carolina, any person under twelve years

of age must wear a US Coast Guard approved Type I, II, III, or V PFD when on board a class "A" (less than 16 ft. long) boat.

Fire Extinguisher
One Coast Guard approved hand-held portable fire extinguisher must be aboard each boat less than 26 ft. if the boat is carrying passengers for hire or if the construction permits the entrapment of flammable vapors or if it has a permanently installed gas tank, including gas tanks that use any type of fastener that would hamper the immediate removal of the tank from the boat. Additional extinguishers are required in boats larger than 26 ft. Contact the SCDNR for complete regulations.

Navigation Lights
Navigation Lights must be on between official sunset and sunrise.

Flares
Flares are required for vessels in coastal waters.

Bells, Whistle
Vessels less than 65.6 feet (20 meters) in length, which includes PWCs, are required to carry on board a whistle or horn or some other means to make an efficient sound signal to announce intentions or positions.

Vessels 65.6 feet (20 meters) or more in length are required to carry on board a whistle or horn, and a bell.

Personal Watercraft

In South Carolina, each person on a personal watercraft must wear a US Coast Guard-approved Type I, II, III or V PFD.

A personal watercraft may not be operated between sunset and sunrise and must be equipped with a self-circling or lanyard-type engine cutoff switch.

When operating a personal watercraft, one may not operate in a manner so as to leave the water completely while crossing (jumping) the wake of another vessel within 200 feet of the vessel creating the wake.

Marine Events

A permit is required for any boat race or tournament with more than 20 boats. For permits or information on these and other marine events, contact Marine Law Enforcement, P.O. Box 12559, Charleston, SC 29422, 843-953-9302.

Minimum Age of Operators

In South Carolina, boat operators under age 16 must complete a boating course approved by the SCDNR to operate a boat or personal watercraft with a 15 h.p. motor

or greater, unless accompanied by an adult age 18 years or older.

Reporting Boating Accidents

The operator of every vessel involved in a boating accident shall report to the SCDNR whenever the accident results in loss of life, loss of consciousness, medical treatment or disability in excess of 24 hours, or property damage. For more information, call 843-953-9302.

Restrictions

Airboats are prohibited on public waters of this state from the freshwater-saltwater dividing line seaward, and on that portion of Lake Marion and Santee Swamp west of the I-95 bridge upstream to the confluence of the Congaree and Wateree rivers during the season for hunting waterfowl.

Titling and Registration

Titling
The seller of a used watercraft or outboard motor in South Carolina must produce a South Carolina Certificate of Title in his/her name at the time of sale. Titles are valid until the watercraft or outboard motor is sold, traded or exchanged. A title with erasures, white out or information marked through is not valid. The owner must request a duplicate title. Titles are required for all sailboats, all outboard motors 5 horsepower and greater, and all other watercraft except: documented vessels, windsurfers, and those propelled by human power with oars, paddles or similar devices.

Registration
Watercraft propelled by any mechanized means must be registered in addition to being titled in the owner's name.

Stolen Watercraft/ Outboard Motors
The owner of a watercraft or outboard motor which has been stolen should immediately contact local law enforcement to file a report, and then the SCDNR Marine

Investigations at 803-734-3856 to receive a [Theft Report form](#) (Adobe PDF file). Forms can also be found at: www.dnr.sc.gov/boating/boating_forms.html

Mailing Address SCDNR Watercraft Section, P O Box 167, Columbia SC. 29202-0067, or call 803-734-3857

For more information on boating, refer to SCDNR Handbook.

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Lake Murray Association has the SCDNR books available at our Public Quarterly Meetings

LAKE MURRAY WATER SAMPLING SUMMARY 2016-

BY Jim McGrath Environmental Chairman

The LMA has been testing water samples since 2006, which makes last year's efforts 11 years running of checking Lake Murray water for any issues that need further attention. The testing concentrated on the upper part of the lake, testing the primary inflows to Lake Murray. The chart below indicates the test results for each site for the 2016 testing season.

Location	June	July	Aug	Sept	Oct	June	July	Aug	Sept	Oct
Clouds Creek	25.5	108.1	<1	<10	31	(0.079)	(0.08)	0.06	0.06	(0.074)
Kempson Bridge, Saluda River	<10	8.2	10	<10	10	<0.05	<0.05	<0.05	<0.05	0.052
Bush River, Crofts Bridge	155.3	80.8	249	(521)	(754)	(0.198)	(0.16)	<0.05	<0.05	(0.342)
Bush River near Harmond Road	4.1	66.3	<1	<10	10	<0.05	(0.09)	0.052	<0.05	<0.05
Southshore Marina	16.1	13.4	<1	10	<10	<0.05	<0.05	<0.05	<0.05	<0.05
Adams Camp Bridge	20	15	10			<0.05	<0.05	<0.05		
Bush River at 395				275	(455)				<0.05	0.456

. **COLONIES/100ml**

TOTAL PHOSPHOROUS mg/l

Fresh water standards: *E. Coli*, a single sample should not exceed 349 colonies per 100 ml.

Total Phosphorous should be less than 0.06 mg/L.

Symbols: < means less than Values recorded in **parenthesis BOLD** do not meet fresh water standard

WINNER OF THIS YEAR'S LIFE JACKET:

MEET JIM RUND – THIS YEAR'S WINNER OF THE LIFE JACKET GIVEN AWAY BY LMA AT THE BOAT SHOW. JIM IS A NEW MEMBER OF THE ASSOCIATION AND WE ARE GLAD TO HAVE HIM ON BOARD

PRESIDENT DAVE LANDIS PRESENTED JIM WITH THE AWARD AT HIS BEAUTIFUL HOME ON THE LAKE IN LEXINGTON.

THE LAKE MURRAY ASSOCIATION HAS BEEN GIVING AWAY LIFE JACKETS FOR MANY YEARS FROM A DRAWING OF OLD AND NEW MEMBERS WHO SIGN UP AT THE BOAT SHOW . OVER THE PAST 5 YEARS WE HAVE GIVEN AWAY THE INFLATABLE JACKETS AS THEY ARE ALL THE RAGE



PRESIDENT DAVE LANDIS AND JAMES RUND

Wondering Where the Water Went?

By Jim McGrath,
Environmental Chairman



This last fall/early winter the water level on Lake Murray was down to 354 feet above sea level, which put it four feet below what many believe to be optimum water level. Many residents on the lake may have thought that this was due to SCE&G letting too much water through the dam. Others may have chalked it up to the drought conditions in the state. By using the internet you can check to see if there is a little or a lot of water being fed into the lower Saluda River. I usually do a web search for "Saluda River water level," and two USGS monitoring stations and a SCE&G website are on the first page of the search results. Use the USGS monitoring station that is listed as "below LK Murray Dam", station 02168504. If you check the USGS monitoring station you can see additional information such as historical average water flow, water temperature, dissolved oxygen, precipitation and river water level. The SCE&G website shows current water flow through the dam and near term plans for water flow; however, the site also warns that the plans can change without warning. If you had been checking the dam water flows through late 2016 you would have seen that most of the time the water flow was below 700 cfs (cubic feet per second, or approximately 7.5 gallons per second). This indicates that the low lake level was due to drought conditions. To put that flow in perspective, 700 cfs is the flow rate that SCG&E has agreed in its relicensing agreement to be the minimum flow rate through the dam in order to enable wildlife in the lower Saluda River to survive. Under unusual conditions the water flow target is 500 cfs. Contrast these low flow rates with maximum flow during the October 2015 flood of 53,000 cfs of water that went through the dam. That October 2015 flow rate is almost two thirds of the average flow of Niagara Falls! Now that is a lot of water!



LIFE JACKETS SAVE LIVES! AHOY!

Life jackets are not just a good idea it's the LAW!

Make sure you have an appropriate life jacket on board before leaving the dock. Adult sizes need to accommodate the weight of each passenger. Don't forget the "little captains" on your vessel! A jacket that is too big may slip off or not keep their head above water. Remember a life jacket does not work if you are not wearing it. Set an example for others on the boat. Be the first to put your Life Jacket on.

ast Guard has life jacket or PFD (Personal Flotation Device) ratings for different boating activities.

TYPE I for Off Shore

TYPE II for Inland

TYPE IV Throw-able Device

Every person on board must have a life jacket.

Every boat over 16 ft. must have a back-up throw-able device.

Boating is more FUN when you are wearing a LIFE JACKET!

Captain John Altenberg
Sea Tow Lake Murray

When and How did this beautiful lake begin?

Where did the water come from?

Why did they want to dam the Valley?



“The Lake was begun September 21, 1927 and completed June 30, 1930”

It came from a crevasse high in the Sassafras Mountains (Part of the Blue Ridge which becomes the head waters of the French Broad, the Savannah and the Saluda.) The Saluda winds its way to Lake Murray on to the Congaree to the Wateree, filling up the Santee Cooper lakes and on to the coast.

Mr. T.C. Williams changed the landscape of South Carolina. He envisioned the hydro electric System in South Carolina. Rights had to be obtained from Mr. Guinard who had flowage rights to the river and was in business with Lexington Water Power Company.

Mr. William S. Murray who the lake was named after spear headed the design and engineering of the Dam. He obtained the rights for a short time and the the Federal Power Commission (FERC), granted a license to General Gas and Electric to build a dam at Dreher Shoals.



T.C Williams



Mr. William S. Murray

Officers and Executive Committee

David Landis, President	803-315-1628
Terry Crenshaw, Vice President	803-920-1027
Lisa Early, Treasurer	803-345-7295
Linda Shamblen, Secretary	803-507-7803
Joy Downs Executive Director	803-600-8099

COMMITTEE CHAIR PERSONS

Environmental

Jim McGrath, Chair 803-941-7365

Lake Link

Joy Downs, Editor 803-600-8099

Government Liaison

Eddie Richardson, Chair 803-892-4018

Membership

Roy Parker, Chair 803-603-8988

Margaret Fisher, Co- Chair 803-206-7198

Safety

Garry Rozier 803-518-6394

Web Site

Diane Urban 215-896-5574

At Large

John Altenburg 803-957-0664

Terry Crenshaw 803-920-1027

Curtis Hipp 803-794-9012

Jim Holland 803-760-5389

LOCATE US

www.lakemurrayassociation@gmail.com

Lake Murray Association 803-749-3888

IMPORTANT TELEPHONE NUMBERS

Lake Level 800-830-5253

Lake Murray Information 803-217-8399

Dock Permits 803-217-9221

DNR Information 803-734-3888

Marine Office 803-951-2564

Richland Co Sheriff 803-576-3000

Lexington County Sheriff 803-359-8230

Newberry County Sheriff 803-321-2211

Saluda County Sheriff 803-445-2112

Sea Tow Lake Murray 803-957-0664

SC Legislative Information 800-734-2145

DNR Nuisance Animals 800-922-5431

Lake Property Check 803-576-3000

Corporate Sponsors:

The following businesses are affiliate members since they directly support us with higher dues and help us with special projects. We extend our thanks to our affiliate members. Let's support them in return

Ameriprise Financial	803-957-1912
Automated Business Services	803-781-3033
Bio Gator	803-749-1140
Chapin Boat Center	803-537-9227
Custom Crafted Silhouettes, LLC	803-932-0265
Enterprise Leasing	803-210-2699
First Citizens Bank; Ballentine	803-781-5808
Frayed Knot Bar & Grill	803-945-1792
GGE&C Services	803-354-1830
Harbour Watch on Lake Murray	803-732-2411
HealthSource Chiro & Progressive Rehab	803-781-4092
Jake's Landing	803-359-9268
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Kaminer Heating & Air	803-772-9140
Kelley-Moser Consulting	803-808-0338
Lake Murray Boat Club	803-407-2828
Lake Murray Chamber of Commerce	803-356-2151
Lake Murray Cruises, "Spirit of Lake Murray"	803-730-3044
Lake Murray Marina	803-781-1585
Lake Murray Power Squadron	803-781-9157
Lexington Chamber of Commerce	803-359-6113
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Rotary Club of Chapin	803-345-2890
Russell & Jeffcoat	803-361-1254
Sam's Fine Wines & Spirits	803-808-1830
Sea Tow Lake Murray	803-957-0664
Southern First Bank	803-520-5380
SouthShore Marina, LLC	803-532-4231
Spinner's Resort & Marina	803-532-5300
Swingtech International	803-359-2880
Timberlake Country Club, Inc.	803-345-9909
Wingard's Nursery & Garden Center	803-359-9091



ANNUAL FAMILY DUES \$25.00

Why Join?

“The Lake Murray Association, “The Voice of Lake Murray” (registered by the state), for 23 years has worked to protect, preserve and enhance Lake Murray for all who use and enjoy its treasures. The Lake Murray Association’s (LMA’s) ultimate goal is that through education, conservation, science, and good governance, the lake will remain clean, safe and beautiful for the users, visitors, businesses, homeowners and for future generations. By joining the LMA you become a part of a large group that speaks volumes to governmental agencies and other groups associated with the lake.”

You can pay your You annual dues two ways:

1. Go to www.lakemurrayassociation.com. Look across the top of the homepage for [Join](#), then [Application Form](#). Complete the application including your areas of interest. Enter credit card information and [Submit](#). By completing the form online, you can update your information including email address.
2. Go to www.lakemurrayassociation.com. Look across the top of the homepage for [Join](#), then [Application Form](#). Complete the application including your areas of interest. Print out the application and mail it with a check for \$25.00 made payable to Lake Murray Association. Mail the application and check to P.O. Box 495, Ballentine, SC 29002.

Thank you for your support.

Lake Murray Association Membership Committee.