



Lake ≈ Link

*The Official Newsletter of the
Lake Murray Association, Inc.*

www.lakemurrayassociation.com ■ (803) 749-3888

Fall 2020

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State of the Lake by Dave Landis, President

These past 5 months have been very challenging for all of us. Many adjustments were necessary to get us through this pandemic. I hope you and your families are faring well and staying healthy.

The LMA Board of Directors has been meeting monthly via Zoom meetings. Hopefully we will be able to hold our quarterly public meetings after the first of the year when social distancing can be relaxed. Ladies Day on the Lake and 4H2O day camp for kids was cancelled this year due to Covid-19 but we look forward to getting back on track next year.

We have met with American Land Holdings LLC concerning the Palmetto Shores project in Saluda County and the Plantation Pointe project in Newberry County. We voiced our concerns about private marinas and shore line management. Mr. Dean Sinatra welcomed our comments. He and his team are very experienced in these types of developments and are committed in doing what is in the best interest of the lake.

LMA has several Board positions vacant. If you have a love of this lake and a few hours to spare each month we encourage you to contact us to discuss in more detail. We are an all-volunteer Board and welcome all interested people.

See you on the lake!

Dave Landis

Public Meetings and Events are cancelled until 2021.

Online Resources

www.lakemurrayassociation.org

www.facebook.com/lakemurrayassociation

<https://www.dnr.sc.gov>

www.lakemurraycountry.com

www.southcarolinaparks.com/dreher-island

www.dominionenergy.com/lakes-and-recreation/lake-murray-sc

“No Wake Bill” Promoted by Lake Murray Association & Major Lakes in South Carolina

by Joy Downs, Executive Director

This is a copy of the bill which has passed the House of Representatives and will be presented by: Senator Harpootlian and Senator Cromer in September to the Senate.

The Lake Murray Association has been working with Representative Chip Huggins and the Senators to enact the “No wake Bill” which will enlarge the no wake zone which is currently 50 ft.

This will greatly improve boating enjoyment on the lake and protect many swimmers, skiers, idle boats and give greater protection to the docks.

1 DRAFT PREPARED BY LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL
2 For: Rep. Huggins
3 Attorney: Ziegler
4 Drafting Assistant: Morris
5 Date: October 24, 2019
6 DOC. ID.: L:\COUNCIL\BILLS\SM\20015CZ20.DOCX
7
8

9 A BILL

10
11 TO AMEND SECTION 50-21-870, CODE OF LAWS OF SOUTH
12 CAROLINA, 1976, RELATING TO PERSONAL WATERCRAFT
13 AND BOATING SAFETY, SO AS TO INCREASE DISTANCE
14 LIMITS BETWEEN A WATERCRAFT OPERATING IN
15 EXCESS OF IDLE SPEED UPON CERTAIN WATERS OF THIS
16 STATE AND A MOORED OR ANCHORED VESSEL, WHARF,
17 DOCK, BULKHEAD, PIER, OR PERSON IN THE WATER.
18

19 Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of South
20 Carolina:

21
22 SECTION 1. Section 50-21-870(B)(6) of the 1976 Code is
23 amended to read:

24
25 “(6)(a) operate a personal watercraft, specialty procraft, or
26 vessel while upon the waters of Lake Greenwood, Lake Hartwell,
27 Lake Jocassee, Lake Keowee, Lake Marion, Lake Monticello, Lake
28 Murray, Lake Robinson, Lake Russell, Lake Secession, Lake
29 Thurmond, Lake Wateree, Lake Wylie, Fishing Creek Reservoir, or
30 Parr Reservoir in excess of idle speed within a safety area of no less
31 than one hundred feet of a moored or anchored vessel, wharf, dock,
32 bulkhead, pier, or person in the water. The safety area established
33 by this section may not receive a wake in excess of the wake created
34 by a personal watercraft, specialty procraft, or vessel operating at
35 idle speed; or

36 (b) operate a personal watercraft, specialty procraft, or
37 vessel while upon the all other waters of this State in excess of idle
38 speed within 50 feet of a moored or an anchored vessel, wharf, dock,
39 bulkhead, pier, or a person in the water, or within 100 yards of the
40 Atlantic Ocean coast line. The prohibitions contained in this item
41 (6) subitem do not apply to an unoccupied, moored vessel or
42 watercraft.”

The History of the Lake Murray Association

by Joy Downs, Executive Director

How did it all begin and what do we do.

LMA celebrated its 25th Anniversary at the Lexington County Quarterly Meeting this past spring. It is hard to believe it was 25 years ago LMA was formed. In the beginning a group of about 10 people got together to talk about a 354' msl or less lake level that was occurring on Lake Murray.

In those days the electricity that was produced by the lake was being used for homes and businesses during peak usage and causing a greater pull on lake levels. Eventually it was decided to only use generation for emergency power. This was a tremendous help in maintaining a more consistent lake level.

Rod Shealy, the owner of the Lake Murray News put an article in his paper in the fall about forming a group to discuss lake level. A couple of people called Rod and the plan was to call as many people as they could reach for a "get together" at the school gym. They were surprised that 150 people came to the meeting and it was decided that an official group should be formed. The leaders got busy and were ready to have an official meeting in May 1994.

They were chartered by the Lake Hartwell Association and became a member of the state society SELMS, which is an associate member of the North American Lake Management Society, NALMS

LMA was chartered as a non-profit organization by the State of SC and approved as a Section 501C-3 in 1995 by the IRS. LMA is open to everyone and at its highest membership level there were approximately one thousand members consisting of homeowners, boaters, fishermen, campers and others who enjoy and use the lake. LMA was focused on 5 categories:

1. Education of the general public and membership
2. Advocate for lake issues at governmental, public and private events
3. Improving water quality
4. Promotion of Safety on the Lake
5. Promotion of protection of the lake's environmental assets

Bob Keener was the first president. New officers and members were people you may remember. Jim Stork, Gene Anderson, Tom Ruple, Suzi Stevens, Russ Jernigan, Bob Andrews, Joe Agnew, and Joy Downs were all beginning officers and workers. Many of those are no longer with us but the legacy of the work that was done by those on the early LMA board remains.

As mentioned, the early concern was lake level. It was not unusual for the lake to be drawn down to 350 and less in the winter. In the summer it was often much lower than the 357 - 358 we are now used to.

It took a couple of years before SCE&G realized we were a permanent organization. LMA just wanted to discuss lake level in the beginning and to maintain a reliable level. It was the first time "lake people", had had this discussion with SCE&G and it was an unexpected problem for them. LMA did not want to be just a group of home owners. This organization was to be used by all people who used or even "gazed" at Lake Murray. (continued...)

(History continued)

A friendly relationship was formed with SCE&G and we cleaned islands and shores and planted shrubs and trees to help protect the shoreline. LMA had conferences to attend in state and out and were learning more and more about lakes and how they function...weeds, "lake-turnover," scrubbing coves, safe boating behavior and many more things.

LMA needed a moneymaker to do all of the things they had in mind. Suzi Stevens first had the idea for "Tour of Homes". Little did they know how popular and big an event it would become. Everyone worked very hard and the tours were well received and with a modest membership fee and Tour of Homes, they had funds to accomplish many things.

One thing LMA learned is that with a lake organization there is always a new problem. The next thing the lake faced was hydrilla. This is a foreign weed introduced to Lake Murray by boaters from other lakes. Many conferences were held with SCDNR and SC Wildlife. LMA attended conventions etc. to look into the problem. At first a weed killer was used but, that caused problems to boats on the lake. A well-known and respected biologist with SCDNR told LMA he thought, "SCE&G should try sterile grass carp". LMA looked into that, and soon gave full support to the addition of Sterile Grass Carp. It was discussed at the 4 county meetings LMA held quarterly and at the boat show and soon most were on board to encourage and support SCDNR and SCE&G's addition of the carp. It seemed a miracle to the board. It wasn't long before the hydrilla began to disappear. They are put in when they are very small and they live about 10 years and grow very large and their favorite meal is "hydrilla".

LMA soon began to realize there is never enough you can know about lakes, how they stay healthy, boaters and how they stay safe and what swimmers and skiers need to learn. LMA wanted to plant the seeds of lake awareness in the younger generation. They discovered Clemson would work with LMA through 4-H on a program call 4-H20 which was designed to teach youngsters the way lakes work, how to keep them clean, how to be safe in boats and swimming. LMA always volunteered the boats and the captains. In the beginning it was about a 3-day class which eventually went to 5 days. Clemson Extension along with the 4 County agencies are working to continue this program next year. It is a great program and needs LMA to have volunteers ready.

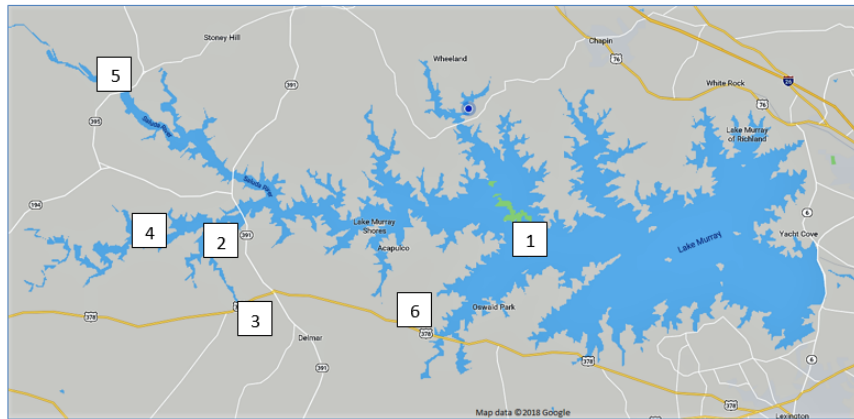
Many years ago, it was reported a lady was stranded on the lake when her husband suffered a heart attack in their boat. Women in those days were usually passengers and it wasn't long before LMA came up with a program called "Ladies Day on the Lake". SCDNR and LM Power Squadron worked with LMA and furnished educators to teach ladies how to back a trailer into the lake, dock a boat, boating safety rules and PWC, kayak, and paddle boarding safety. It is the only class of its kind as far as LMA knows. The class is usually held at one of the marinas on the lake.

Many other activities ensued over the years including maintaining a booth at the annual boat show, installation of Osprey nests and maintaining wind socks for emergency helicopter landing sites.

The current LMA Board includes: President - Dave Landis, Treasurer - Lisa Early, Secretary - Nancy Embler, Environmental - Jim McGrath, Website and Newsletter, Diane Urban, Governmental - Lee Ayers, Membership - Joe Halford, Boating Issues - Mike Kirk, 4H20 - Steve Phillips, John Altenberg - Sea Tow, Co Membership - Sue Banks and Executive Director Joy Downs.

2020 Environmental Water Testing

by Jim McGrath, Environmental



Location	E. Coli Levels			Phosphorous Levels		
	March	May	July	March	May	July
1 Dreher Island	Low	Low	Low	Low	Low	Low
2 Clouds Creek at Mount Willing Rd. Bridge	Low	Low	Low	Elevated	Elevated	Elevated
3 Clouds Creek at 378 Hwy	Low	Elevated	Low	Low	Low	Low
4 Little River Landing	Low	Low	Low	Elevated	Elevated	Elevated
5 Kempson Bridge	Low	Low	Low	Low	Low	Low
6 Ridge Road Bridge	Low	Low	Low	Low	Low	Low

The Value of your Lake Murray Association Membership

by Joe Halford, Membership Director

LMA provides collective representation for individual users on all issues that pertain to the development and management of Lake Murray. We work to foster a community spirit among residents, non-residents, fishermen, boaters and business owners for the good of the lake. When Lake Murray benefits, we all benefit. **Our strength is in our numbers.** Your involvement helps “The Voice of Lake Murray” grow stronger. Our membership numbers speak volumes to governmental agencies and other groups. Our dues are minimal, but the rewards will be felt for generations.

We encourage everyone to follow us on social media. However, becoming a registered member with our organization boosts recognition and helps support our minimal operating costs to host meetings, publish flyers, etc. Membership also provides us with a means to contact members directly on certain issues. We encourage everyone to join us through our website or contacting us directly.

You don't have to live on the lake to become a member! www.lakemurrayassociation.com

Help Wanted

The Lake Murray Association needs individuals who would like to get involved with our organization. We need people with a variety of skill sets, including but not limited to, helping with organizing meetings and events, writing, and simple web site updates.



Corporate Sponsor Spotlight- Agnew Lake Service

by Captain Mike, Board Member

Your Lake Murray Association is proud to have Agnew Lake Service as one of our corporate sponsors. Joe & Norman Agnew have supported your association and also Lake Murray for many years now. Agnew has been serving residents of Lake Murray for over 35 years!

In appreciation for their support the LMA is going to feature Agnew in this first in a series of feature articles in support of our corporate sponsors. As always, the LMA asks that you, our members & facebook followers, support our corporate members & favor them with your business. They help make possible all the good work we do for your lake!!

Apples are apples & oranges are oranges but a dock is not just a dock. There are serious differences in materials & construction you should be aware of & consider in the making of your decision on who builds or repairs your docks. We will point out some of the differences between an Agnew job & a low price bidder.

Agnew has 3 barges in service on Lake Murray, two of which are capable of drilling rock. This means your pilings are set at a depth of six feet & placed there to stay. Not just driven in until rock is hit & then cutting the top of the piling off. "Do it right the first time or expect to do it again."

Agnew uses #1 select grade 2 X 6 lumber or has Lumberock Premium Decking available if desired. Recessed decking & routed edges for strength & long-lasting beauty too. This material is in contrast to 5/4 board used by some other builders. "You get what you pay for."

Corners & bans on Agnew construction are through bolted, not just screwed down. Fittings are either stainless steel or hot dip galvanized. No shortcuts here. Pier pilings are 6 X 6, not just a 4 X 4. You can feel this difference alone by walking out onto your pier on a windy day.

Agnew gets busy & their work load is backed up, this is true. Sometimes people just don't want to wait & go with another builder. Agnew repairs some of these jobs on down the road because they have the equipment to make it right. Always remember "If you want something done right, go to the busiest place in town." Agnew has been voted "Best Deck & Dock Company" by the readers of Lake Murray Magazine. No job is too big or too small. They do all types of repairs as well as new construction & boat lifts.

My personal waterfront pier, ramp, floater & boatlift faces big water from the end of a point. The weather, wakes & wave action are constant & punishing. It is going on 10 years old now & is just as solid as the day it was installed. I couldn't be happier!

LMA is proud to have Agnew Lake Service as our corporate sponsor & we ask that you consider them for all your waterfront needs. Call Agnew Lake Service at **803-781-0399**.

Meet our Corporate Members

Please support our Corporate Members by using their services and recommending them to others.

ASA SAFETY SUPPLY 770-277-1033

richardw@ASAsafety.com
www.asasafetysupply.com

Agnew Lake Service 803-781-0399

Norman Agnew
www.agnewlakeservice.com

Bio Gator 803-749-1140

Upgrading Septic Systems
Wallace Hubbard
www.biogator.net

Duncan Docks & Decks 803-556-3242

www.duncansdocksanddecks.com

Captain's Choice Marine 803-532-2270

www.ccmarine.com

AquaFun Boat Rentals & Tours 803-413-1693

www.aquafunboatrentalsandtourslakemurraysc.com

Carts Plus 803-359-5505

Ed Horton
www.cartsplus.net

The Downing Group 803-381-8950

Brent Downing
www.thedowninggroup.com

First Citizen's Bank Ballentine 803-781-3414

Rick Pascal
www.firstcitizens.com

Huggins for House District 85 803-732-4418

Representative Chip Huggins, Jr.
www.chiphuggins.com

Lake Homes Realty 803-580-9399

Doug Giesler
www.lakehomes.com/south-carolina

Carolina Outdoor Adventure 803-381-2293

Billy Easterbrooks
www.carolinaoutdooradventures.com

Resource Realty Group 803-513-4247

Dustin Johns
ResourceColumbia.com /
KeepYourEquity.com

Jake's Landing 803-359-9268

Archie Trawick, Jr
www.jakeslanding.com

Lake Murray Boat Club 803-407-2828

Jon Dukes
www.lakemurrayboatclub.com

Lake Murray Country 803-781-5940

Miriam Atria
www.lakemurraycountry.com

Nancy Nelson-Embler 803-331-0635

JP & Associates Realtors Magnolia Group
www.jparmagnolia.com

The Lafayette Team 803-470-6442

Debi Lafayette
www.thelafayetteteteam.com

Pinestraw Place Landscape Supply

Lewis Grady 803-808-7587
www.pinestrawplacelexsc.com

Pontoon Rentals & Tours 803-530-3713

Ken Hardee
www.pontoonrentalsandtours.com

Ryan E. Westmoreland CRPC, AAMS, APMA

Financial Advisor, Ameriprise Financial
Services
803-957-1912

Sea Tow Lake Murray 803-957-0664

24hr 803-606-7027
John Altenberg
www.seatow.com/local/lakemurray

Mason Team Realty, LLC

Kathy cell 803-944-6670
Ken cell 803-924-9834
www.TheMasonTeam.net

Picture your Corporate Name Here!

Corporate memberships are \$100 annually.
Easy online sign up!

www.lakemurrayassociation.com

Help Preserve and Protect Lake Murray- Please renew your membership

Membership expiration is noted in the lower right of your mailing label.

"The Voice of Lake Murray"

P.O. Box 495 Ballentine, SC 29002

Important Phone numbers- Put on your frig

Lake Levels: 800-830-5253

Lake Murray Information: 803-217-8399

Dock Permits & Lake Management: 803-217-9221

DNR Information: 803-734-3888

DNR Law Enforcement: 803-734-4002

DNR Law Enforcement: after 5/wknds 803-955-4000

Marine Office: 803-951-2564

Richland Co. Sheriff's Office: 803-576-3000

Lexington Co. Sheriff's Office: 803-359-8230

Newberry Co. Sheriff's Office: 803-321-2211

Lake Murray Association: 803-749-3888

SC Legislative Council: 800-734-2145

DNR Nuisance Animals: 800-922-5431

Nuisance Wildlife Control: 803-734-3886

Officers and Executive Committee

President: Dave Landis

Executive Director: Joy Downs

Treasurer: Lisa Early

Secretary: Nancy Nelson-Embler

Environmental: Jim McGrath

Membership: Joe Halford

Safety: Lee Ayers

Web: Diane Urban

At Large: John Altenburg, Sue Banks, Mike Kirk, Steve Phillips