

Bulletin

YOUR PRIMARY VOICE ON LAKE ISSUES...

With a mission to identify issues affecting our members and pursue resolution with the responsible organizations

P. O. Box 656, Henrico, NC 27842

(252) 586-6577

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

BRUNSWICK COUNTY, VA

Carol Warfel

Lake Clean-Up Chair

John Cataldo

Government Relations Chair

HALIFAX COUNTY, NC

Judy Waters
Shannon McAllister

MECKLENBURG COUNTY, VA

Lew Stringer

NORTHAMPTON COUNTY, NC

Anne Wood Treasurer

Eric Wooster

Public Safety Chair

WARREN COUNTY, NC

Brian Goldsworthy

President

Marketing & Membership Chair

Jeff Zimmer

Vice President

Lake Environment Chair

Lewis Mustian

Secretary

Ron Skow

Don Carson

Past President



March 1, 2023

LGA Monthly Board Meeting will be held at the new

Mecklenburg County Middle / High Schools Complex 25001 Highway 58, Baskerville, VA 23915

Perhaps, for the very first time in the history of the LGA, we are taking our monthly board meeting on the road in support of our Virginia members.

The Mecklenburg County School Superintendent Mr. Paul Nichols has graciously invited the LGA to hold their March 1st monthly meeting at their Mecklenburg County Middle School / High School campus along with a tour of their new facility.

We are hopeful for a strong turnout from our Mecklenburg members, but of course, all LGA members are invited to attend.

Stay tuned for updates on our website and Facebook page regarding this most exciting historical event...



When you read this, your volunteer leadership team has already held three committee meetings and our first Executive Committee meeting of the new year was on January 25th.

So, what's on tap for the first part of this year? Glad you asked.



We are taking the regular March 1st monthly meeting on the road. Time to get out of our comfort zone and see something new. The Mecklenburg school system has invited the LGA to tour their new campus. How exciting is that! We hope for a strong turnout from our Bracey area membership but, of course, all are invited. There just might be a lunch involved. At present time we are working on all the details so stay tuned.

We are in the early stages of planning the 5 County Forum for county and elected leaders scheduled for March 14th and this will be your opportunity to meet your local county officials. We've also got a roadside litter cleanup scheduled on Stanley Road near the Lion's Den on March 23rd (Rain date: March 30th) and this 2+ mile stretch of road will allow us to work in two counties and states all on the same day. Not to mention, Springtime is the perfect time to get out for some much-needed fresh air after being cooped up all winter, so we hope you will plan to come out and help us pick up litter. And of course, lunch will be provided.

The annual membership drive is well underway and if you haven't renewed for 2023, please do. Reminder invoices have been emailed.

This is just the start of the new year, and we have some neat speakers lined up.

Reminder: The Public Safety Committee will hold our Annual Jack D Saunders Community Shred Event on Saturday, May 6, at the RWVFD, 790 Lizard Creek Road, Littleton. The event is from 10-1 PM and is free. Donations will be gladly accepted to help defray the cost of bringing the shred truck to the lake from Raleigh. For those new to the area, the event is OPEN to **Everyone**, and you get to watch your confidential documents ground up into confetti. Start saving your stuff to stop identity theft.

Finally, you might have noticed we have some new committee chairs. Please say hello to Director Eric Wooster who is taking over the Public Safety Committee and I will be leading the Membership & Marketing Committee.

Reminder to visit our website at www.LGAncva.com for the latest information. If you would like help navigating the website, please drop me an email at President@LGAncva.com. If you would like your own personal copy of the Bulletin delivered by email, please email execdir@LGAncva.com.

Can't wait for spring but must admit this is my favorite time of the year. No traffic, no Food Lion lines, and wonderful sight lines of our beautiful lake without tree vegetation.

Thanks as always for reading, and on behalf of my wife Chris, wishing you a Safe and Happy New Year!

Brian Goldsworthy President



February 1, 2023 – LGA Monthly Board Meeting

9:30 a.m. at the Lake Gaston Baptist Church: 2378 Eaton Ferry Road

(across the street from the Lake Gaston Chamber of Commerce and Subway Restaurant)

Speaker: Jim Short – North Carolina Forestry Department

Topic: Fire Safety and Permits, Disease and Insect Infestation Preventions

Speaker: Kendall Nunnally - Meherrin River Arts Council

Topic: Who we are and what we do for our community

March 1, 2023 – LGA Monthly Board Meeting

10:00 a.m. at the

Mecklenburg County Middle School / High School Complex

25001 Highway 58, Baskerville, VA 23915

Speaker: Paul Nichols - Mecklenburg County School Superintendent

Topic: New look for school campuses



Example 2018 Lake Environment Committee Updates...

What are these desperados up to on Lake Gaston?



The three "scary looking" Amigos. Jeff Zimmer, Don Carson, and John Franz team up during the vegetation survey.

2022 Fall Vegetation Survey and **2023 Vegetation Control Plans**

Over 60 LGA volunteers participated this past fall to survey the entire 350 miles of Lake Gaston shoreline. This was a tremendous effort and "hats off" to all those who participated.

Approximately 6,000 sample points were taken. Jessica Baumann, Extension Associate for Lake Gaston with NC State University's Aquatic Plant Management Program is now analyzing this along with bio sonics sonar data to generate a report which will become available in March. Water willow remains the most abundant aquatic plant within Lake Gaston and Chara (a native macro algae that is often mistaken for hydrilla) has increased its overall abundance. A small population of hydrilla is still located throughout the lake, primarily located in very shallow water, small and patchy sites. Lyngbya (a noxious cyanobacterium) remains the second most abundant species and continues to be a concern with some areas showing expansion.

These results along with hydrilla tuber density data will be analyzed by the Technical Advisory Group or TAG. The TAG meets on February 13th and will then make recommendations for integrated management such as Grass Carp stocking, revegetation with natives, and Aquatic Herbicide treatments to the Lake Gaston Weed Control Council (LGWCC) and Stakeholders Group. Members of the LGA Lake Environment Committee are active participants in this management process. Thanks again to all who volunteer to make this process successful. Your work is critical to keeping our lake environment healthy!

Shoreline Landscaping with Native Plants - April 5th meeting

Keeping the shoreline of Lake Gaston looking good with native vegetation benefits Water Quality and is a "Best Management Practice". What to plant, and how to work within Dominion's Shoreline Management Plan will be the topic of our April 5th meeting. Come and hear Kathy Pfegler, a Master Gardener and LKG resident discuss this topic. Just in time for spring planting!

Lake Environment Research underway

Several of your Lake Environment Committee members also serve as directors on the Lake Gaston Weed Control Council. In 2018, under an agreement with the Weed Council, NCSU began researching how best to integrate Lyngbya control with current "proven" management control of hydrilla. Components of this have been; intensive water quality monitoring, revegetation with natives, herbicide trials, and improved surveys. The fieldwork has been completed and a final report will be made this spring to the Weed Council. LGA volunteers are integral to this process, and we look forward to sharing more information with you.

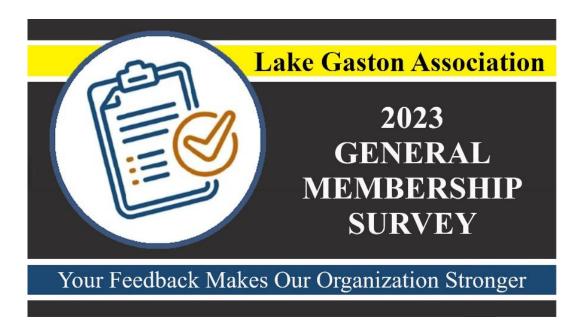
This research has led to additional proposals and multi-year studies which are now underway by NCSU. These are; continued water quality sampling, Tidewater Mucket (a native mussel) distribution, potential environmental and human health risks related to Lyngbya, and lab evaluations of algaecides.

Each of the five counties surrounding LKG and The City of Virginia Beach (consent decree for LKG drinking water withdrawal) provide funding to the Weed Council. Continued support of the Weed Council by our county commissioners/supervisors is greatly appreciated. If and when you have an opportunity to voice support with our county officials, please do! We are all in this together.

To learn more about this and other Lake Environment volunteer opportunities, come join a committee breakfast meeting at Littleton Food & Spirits at 8:30 a.m. on the following dates in 2023; March 15th, April 19th, May 17th, July 19th, August 16th, and November 15th.

COMING SOON LGA Membership Survey

Would you recommend a friend or neighbor to join the LGA? How is the LGA doing? Are we addressing your concerns as a property owner in the Lake Gaston Community?



Feedback is critical for us to know how we are doing and where we need to focus our limited time, resources, and energies. In the past twenty years, the LGA has conducted five membership surveys to help answer these questions and provide direction. This spring we will once again reach out to our membership and ask for direction. When you receive the survey, please complete it, and provide your feedback. We appreciate your time.

"Ignorance lies not in the things you don't know, but in the things you know that ain't so." Will Rogers

Jeff Zimmer Lake Environment Chair Committees@LGAncva.com

(Please include "Lake Environment Committee" in the subject line of the email)



Lake Gaston Water Quality - Erosion & Sediment Control



Failed silt fence along Lake Gaston Shoreline. Also, notice the soil erosion tracks and muddy water along the shoreline.

As property owners on Lake Gaston, we are all well aware of the importance of the water quality in the lake and the creeks that feed into the lake. Water quality has a direct impact on uses of the lake including boating, swimming, and fishing as well as a potable water supply source and habitat for wildlife. Maintaining and improving the condition of the water in Lake Gaston is important socially (quality of life), ecologically (wildlife habitat) and economically (property values and tourism).

Non-point source pollution has a large impact on water quality across North Carolina and Lake Gaston. Non-point source pollution comes from locations and activities across the watershed and can include a variety of contaminants that reduce water quality in Lake Gaston. Stormwater runoff from rain events picks up the contaminants and carries them, in this case, into the lake. Examples include fuel and oil from roadways and parking lots and fertilizer from lawns and agriculture operations. Soil and sediment runoff that comes from areas of land disturbance is another example of non-point source pollution. Excess soil runoff and sediment in Lake Gaston result in silt buildup that can negatively impact fish and native aquatic vegetation. It can also make swimming, boating, and other water recreation much less enjoyable. Nutrients and contaminants contained in the runoff can also help activate algae blooms that may pose a health risk to people and wildlife.

Land disturbing activities include the grading, movement, and storage of soil during construction activities. The disturbed soil is then subject to further erosion and runoff, particularly during rainstorms, into the lake. Soil and sediment runoff from development activities is one of the greatest threats to water quality in Lake Gaston. With the recent explosion of home construction on Lake Gaston, the potential for soil erosion and sediment runoff has increased significantly. The good news is Virginia and North Carolina both have laws and regulations in place that, when followed, help reduce the likelihood of soil erosion and sediment runoff into Lake Gaston. The five counties on Lake Gaston have planning/building departments tasked with managing development and construction to include compliance with erosion and sediment control requirements. Each county has an ordinance that is directly or indirectly related to erosion and sediment control. In most cases, the counties work with the state to ensure the requirements are properly adhered to. In the case of Warren County, there is also

a specific requirement for silt fencing for new construction sites. A silt fence is a best management practice (BMP) designed to stop disturbed soil from being carried into the lake during storm events. There are a variety of other BMPs that can also help minimize soil runoff from construction sites, including vegetation buffers, covering soil piles with tarps, and stabilizing disturbed soil with a straw/mulch covering.



Inadequate erosion and sediment control at construction site on Lake Gaston.



Inadequate erosion and sediment control at construction site on Lake Gaston.

There are slightly differing requirements regarding the planning for, and implementation of erosion and sediment control depending on the state and county where the activity is occurring. However, the bottom line is, allowing soil and sediment runoff into "waters of the state" from regulated land disturbing activities is prohibited. Lake Gaston is a "water of the state" and as such, measures must be taken to prevent sediment-laden runoff from construction sites entering the lake. The challenge is that local counties are sometimes hard-pressed to ensure property owners and construction firms understand and comply with the regulations. It is incumbent on those property owners and construction firms that are conducting regulated land disturbing activities to understand and comply with the requirements. The Lake Gaston Environment Committee is working to assist the local jurisdictions in making sure everyone is doing their part to reduce erosion and sediment runoff and help ensure the water quality of Lake Gaston. If you see instances of sediment runoff into the lake or adjoining creeks from construction activities, such as muddy/silty water along the shoreline or evidence of soil erosion leading into the lake, let your local county planning department know. Remember it's our lake for all to enjoy and protecting it is all our responsibility.

Points of contact for erosion and sediment control:

North Carolina:

Virginia:

866 STOP-MUD (866-786-7683)

(804) 527-5020

Warren County: (252) 257-7027

Brunswick County: (434) 848-0882

Halifax County: (252) 583-1082

Mecklenburg County: (434) 738-6191

Northampton County: (252) 534-5171

John Franz Lake Environment Co-Chair Committees@LGAncva.com

(Please include "Lake Environment Committee" in the subject line of the email)

Public Safety Committee Updates...

Every year we begin by recognizing those things we wanted to do, or now must do by developing the time-honored New Year's Resolutions. A New Year's resolution is a tradition, in which a person resolves to continue good practices, change an undesired trait or behavior, accomplish a personal goal, or otherwise improve their behavior at the beginning of a calendar year. For most of us, keeping our resolutions is difficult, but when we do we acknowledge that we have achieved our goal. For the LGA Public Safety Committee, we do not make annual resolutions but instead, we define our goals based on the needs of our communities.

Over the last year, we have accomplished some worthy goals both individually and with our community partners like the 911 Community Task Force and the Lake Gaston Water Safety Council. Collectively we speak with one voice and support each other's programs.

Our first accomplishment in 2022 was the installation of the Eaton Ferry Navigational Lights by NCDOT.
 This took many years to bring to completion, but we have increased the safety for Lake Gaston boaters by marking the bridge with lights during low light conditions.



CERT Community Emergency Response Team

- Our second accomplishment was assisting with the creation of the Warren County Community Emergency Response Team (CERT), which educates volunteers about disaster preparedness for the hazards that may occur where they live. CERT also provides a cadre of trained members that can assist our first responders during local emergencies.
- Finally, we again sponsored the Jack Saunders Community Shred Event, where residents can bring their documents for free secure shredding. This year's Community Shred Event will be held on May 6th, with time and location details to be provided on our website LGAncva.com and in the local newspapers.

While we transition from Winter to Spring, we need to be mindful of remaining safe. Some simple things like changing the batteries in our smoke and carbon monoxide alarms are important. These devices work, but only if they have power. When was the last time you changed your batteries? A good reminder is to replace them during Daylight Savings Changes, which will occur on March 12, 2023, where we must "spring forward one hour".





Do you know that if the power goes out, most residential fires are caused by the use of candles or kerosene lamps which can easily tip over. Battery-operated lamps are inexpensive and provide sufficient light to perform daily routine tasks. If generator power is used during power outages, are they being used safely? Are they at least 25 feet away from dwellings, grounded, and protected from the elements? Are the power cords and power strips in good condition? Do family members know how to start, stop, and fuel a generator safely?

For those who are not residing at the lake during the winter, have you asked your neighbor to check your property and residence for you? Are your shades pulled down to prevent individuals from looking inside? Have you installed inside and outside security lighting and perhaps a door camera on your residence to both deter individuals and perhaps capture any video if a crime is committed?

Robert Baden-Powell, the English soldier who founded the Boy Scouts, published the motto "Be Prepared" in his 1908 handbook, Scouting for Boys. If we remember and practice this throughout the year, we can work through local disasters with minimal discomfort. Besides ensuring we have sufficient supplies (seasonal clothing, first aid kit, food and water, and lights with batteries) we can minimize impacts upon our lives. Once you are satisfied that you have planned and stocked up, please remember that we also have elderly in our communities that may require some assistance. Be prepared to assist them with their needs.



The last item for this issue is to tell you a little bit about me. I was the Emergency Coordinator for Hampton, VA, and served as a Paramedic Firefighter with the Phoebus Volunteer Rescue Squad. Now that I live at the lake, I joined the Public Safety Committee (which I now chair) and soon became an LGA director for Northampton County.

I am a volunteer firefighter with the Roanoke Wildwood Volunteer Fire Department. I am an Amateur Extra Class Amateur Radio (Ham Radio) operator, where I have provided emergency communications in the past and am available to assist others in learning and getting their license. Other hobbies include gardening, woodworking, and raising our dogs.

I would like to invite you to join the LGA Public Safety Committee to learn about the things we do and perhaps volunteer with us. We meet the second Friday of the month at 8:30 a.m. at the Littleton Food and Spirits 235 N. Mosby Ave., (Hwy 903), Littleton, NC 27850. Everyone is invited to participate to give us fresh ideas and viewpoints. Contact us at committees@LGAncva.com and please remember to include "Public Safety Committee" in the subject line of the email.

Wishing all of you a safe and sane year,

Eric Wooster Public Safety Chair

Committees@LGAncva.com

(Please include "Public Safety Committee" in the subject line of the email)



Government Relations Committee Updates...

The February / March time frame will be a busy time for us. There will be a ton of prep work to prepare for one of our biggest Government Relations Committee Events of the year. This event will be taking place March 14th. The

five-county forum offers our members an opportunity to meet and interact with your local county officials and the other counties around the lake, in a venue where they are encouraged to network with each other and exchange useful information for managing their counties. Each county board chairman and manager/administrator have been invited to attend and, in some cases, will present summaries of new county initiatives they are working on or have incorporated into county operations. We will plan on presenting presentations that will inform the counties of items of importance to our Lake Gaston residents such as water quality, invasive weeds, inter-basin water transfer, and new development trends.





We will also be working on a new membership questionnaire that will

sharpen our attention on those items around the lake that you want us to address and ensure that we are spending our time and your money, on the things that are most important to you.

The monthly committee meetings will be busy work periods where you the older hands will be important to keep us on the right course, and for newer members to learn what we are about and still bring that fresh look to the table. Please join us in making the Five-County Forum our most exciting event of the year.

The next meeting is Tuesday, February 21, 2023, at 8:30 am, at Littleton Food & Spirits, 235 N Mosby Avenue [Hwy 903] in Littleton.





John Cataldo Government Relations Chair Committees@LGAncva.com

(Please include "Government Relations Committee" in the subject line of the email)



Marketing & Membership Committee Updates...

Your LGA President Brian Goldsworthy is taking over this committee from Tony Moran who admirably served as the Chair for many, many years. I always love a challenge and my main goal is to grow the membership to make it even better and stronger for all.

Membership and Marketing is unique in that the committee doesn't offer a direct service to the membership. However, this committee is the financial engine that enables the LGA to offer our many programs supporting ALL lake-related activities. Our member dues support the Shred Event, Lake Environment, and Water Quality activities, as well as the Five-County Forum, just to name a few.

Without member dues we offer nothing. Can't be more blunt than that. We also need the support of our business members who provide the financial horsepower to keep the LGA running.







At my year-end address (highlighted below), we spoke about why we have the LGA. Please continue to support the LGA with your member dues, participate in a committee, and attend the monthly meetings. We do our very best to provide relevant programming at the monthly meetings, so if you aren't seeing topics of interest, we need you to tell us. Please feel free to reach out to us and we'll do our absolute best to accommodate your request.

What the LGA does for our members...

As your primary voice on Lake Gaston, we...

Identify lake issues affecting our members and pursue a resolution with the responsible organization(s).

We do this by...

- working to conserve our lake's natural resources while protecting your recreational enjoyment by monitoring and controlling pollution, sedimentation, and invasive species, supporting research and best management practices that maintain Lake Gaston's water quality for all users.
- ▶ engaging with our local governments to inform and influence decision-making in your best interest.
- > supporting and promoting safety in our communities and on the water to encourage a safe environment.

- ▶ advocating and encouraging a clean, healthy, and desirable lifestyle along the roadsides and shorelines of beautiful Lake Gaston.
- ▶ informing and communicating on Lake Gaston issues via email advisories and bi-monthly Bulletins, emergency, weather, and water level alerts, open-door monthly meetings, website, social media platforms, press releases, radio broadcasts, and public forums.

We accomplish this by building relationships and coordinating efforts with Dominion Energy, the Lake Gaston Weed Control Council, North Carolina and Virginia Wildlife Agencies, North Carolina State University, local Law Enforcement and Emergency Management, the Chamber of Commerce, the Lake Gaston Water Safety Council, LKG 911 Community Task Force, and many others.

Brian Goldsworthy
Marketing & Membership Chair
Committees@LGAncva.com

(Please include "Marketing & Membership Committee" in the subject line of the email)



We hired Beverly Summerfield to replace long-time Executive Director Moira Underwood who retired after 17 years of dedicated service to the LGA.

We were fortunate to find Anne Wood, a full-time lake resident, who just happens to have a strong accounting background. We now have a Treasurer!

We added (3) new "fill-in" directors Lewis Mustian, Shannon McAllister, and Anne Wood who will be voted in at the June Annual Membership Meeting. This is new blood, with fresh ideas who are making immediate positive impressions. Also pleased to report past director Ron Skow, a Warren County resident, rejoined the board last month.

We have long-time board members who continue to serve. Not to call out names but Director John Cataldo was the president in 2012 and is still serving as Chair of Government Relations and led the Bylaws' revision effort. Don't want to forget Carol Warfel who Chairs the Lake Clean Up committee.

We brought our financial record keeping in-house which will save the Association money. We instituted QuickBooks for financial accounting. We did electronic invoicing for membership renewal for the first time. Thank you, Anne.

The shred event was a hit. To be repeated again this year on May 6, 2023 - bigger and better.

We held the Five-County Forum and three Candidate Forums which were also big hits.

The Cage Enhancement project was a huge success - 3 days in the muck, and certainly, the 350-mile shoreline vegetation survey is a hit.

The Five-County Superintendents' meeting was fascinating. Because of that meeting, the Mecklenburg Superintendent has invited the LGA membership to visit their new campus on March 1st.

Did you see our brand new LGA sign on Lizard Creek at the RWVFD?

We are in the process of revising our Bylaws. This is the first complete review since June 2011. The proposed revisions are in this Bulletin for review and then we will vote at our Annual Membership Meeting in June.

We became a Gold Sponsor with the Chamber, increasing the brand recognition and promotion of our activities.

We transitioned to Mail Chimp to expedite member communication. The Bulletin now goes out via MailChimp so multiple folks in the same household can receive their own copy in their inbox. As previously reported, this is the first only email Bulletin.

Our presence on Social Media has increased dramatically, all thanks to Beverly and Director Judy Waters.

The Public Safety Committee was successful in organizing a CERT for Warren County EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT. Lewis is the volunteer coordinator, and we all passed our 2-day training and became AED/CPR certified by the American Heart Association. Special shout out to Judy, Lewis, and yours truly plus most of Flotilla 054-9-3 from our very own USCG Auxiliary, and we also had three other participants living within Warren County attend.

We changed our domain name to <u>LGAncva.com</u> to reflect we operate in two states.

Our ongoing partnerships with the NC State Extension program, LKGWSC, Dominion Energy, CG Auxiliary, LGWCC, Qwack, 911 Task Force, Chamber of Commerce, and the RWVFD just to name a few continue to grow.

What didn't go so well... Turnout at our monthly first Wednesday meetings was down. We had some really good speakers to talk about residential solar use; Dominion Energy gave probably the most interesting presentation in the past 7+ years while serving on the Board and we had less than 10 guests. Ouch!

What to expect in 2023...

We must grow the membership - the 2023 goal is 2,500 households. We must do this to expand our programs. Otherwise, what's the point?

We need to evaluate the monthly membership meeting. Should we change the format, to fewer meetings, or nightly meetings?

Entice new full-timers who now work remotely here at the lake to participate in the LGA such as Directors Shannon and Anne. We need your work skills to support the LGA. Join a committee, which only meets once a month.

We plan to send out electronically a membership survey in the first quarter to ensure we are focused on membership priorities.

The Board is excited to begin 2023 and hopeful that you will consider becoming a new member, volunteer, or director.

Brian Goldsworthy, President



📚 Lake Cleanup Committee Updates...

HAPPY NEW YEAR 2023! I know this is late, but it is early 2023 as I write this.

Hopefully our Lake Gaston residents and those who drive along our roads, have made a resolution to **NOT** throw trash out of their car windows on to our roads. That would be a wonderful gift. And that reminds me to thank ALL those who DO get out and pick up the trash along our roads. We are certainly thankful and appreciative of your efforts. But mainly we would like to get the word out to those who seem to feel that they have the right to use our roads as a trash can.

Thursday March 23, 2023



The Lake Gaston Association Lake Clean-up Committee will sponsor a clean-up day on Thursday, March 23 (Rain date – March 30). We will be working on Stanley Rd. It consists of both Brunswick and Warren Counties. We will meet at the Lions Club at 9:00 am.

We will supply orange vests, bags, trash grabbers, and hopefully some gloves. We feel that this is a good time to do this before it gets too warm and before the weeds along the roads get high, not to mention bugs. Please plan to join us if you can. It is a needed and worthy cause.



We would like to have some of our members join our committee for some fresh ideas. We meet on the last Wednesday of the month at Littleton Food and Spirits, 235 N Mosby Avenue in Littleton at 10:30 a.m.

Carol Warfel Lake Cleanup Chair

Committees@LGAncva.com

(Please write "Lake Cleanup Committee" in the subject line of the email)



Lake Gaston Water Safety Council Updates...

Water Safety Council - New Year Checklist

Check boat

Fire extinguisher - Charged and not older than 12 years.

<u>Kill switch</u> - Ensure switch kills the engine and the lanyard is in good repair.

Lifejackets - Double check the number and condition + Don't forget a throwable.

Signaling device - Check horns, whistles, and lights (an old CD is great for Signaling).

Battery - Charge or have tested.















Dock

Check and clear out undesired wild visitors.

Look for splinters on dock.

Grease flat gear and inspect cables on your lift.

Test that there is **No** AC voltage measured from water to steel on the lift - (More info in next Bulletin)











- And finally, two more things...
 - 1. Go to Ikgwsc.org (Resources, Brochures, etc.) to download all of brochures that the council tries to get into the hands of visitors and new boaters. These can be put on your HOA website for everyone to access.
 - **2.** Consider joining (\$10 a year for a family or business, or \$5 for an individual). It can be done through the website, using PayPal. The money goes to printing the Brochures that are handed out to new boat buyers, new residents, and visitors.

Let's be safe out there and prepare for a great season,



Wyatt Andrews President Lake Gaston Water Safety Council



From the desk of the Executive Director...



Happy 2023 everyone ! My goodness, how time flies. We definitely set a lot of goals in 2022 which resulted in numerous changes at the LGA last year, all for the better by the way, but I'm proud to say that we achieved just about every single one of them with great success. I do want to mention how very much we appreciate all of you for your patience and understanding while we transitioned through these major overhauls; we are so very grateful to have such amazing

members and we certainly thank you! I would like to add that we are still working out some of the kinks that we ran into throughout the upgrades, but rest assured, we should be good to go real soon.

ATTENTION LGA Business Members... Please mail us a copy of your current business card so we can update your business listing in our bulletin. The current listing is from old business cards that we no longer have copies of and they are not legible to read. Our goal is to promote your business and to do this we need crisp, clean copies of your cards. Please mail your physical business cards to us at Lake Gaston Association, P O Box 656, Henrico, NC 27842.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact me at (252) 586-6577 or via email: execdir@LGAncva.com.

Beverly Summerfield Executive Director



Post Office Box 656, Henrico, NC 27842

Website: LGAncva.com @ Facebook: Facebook.com/LGA.nc.va @ Email: ExecDir@LGAncva.com

LGA MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Dues are for the Calendar Year (January - December)

Please Indicate	e Membership	Type:	□ New	□ Ren	ewal	☐ Current Memb	er / Updates Needed
Membership (Jpdates:] Home /	Address	□ Lake Ad	dress	☐ Phone Number	☐ Email Address
Desired Memb	pership Level:	□ \$25.	00 General		□ \$50	0.00 Bronze	□ \$100.00 Silver
		□ \$50.	00 Business	Member	□ \$25	50.00 Lifetime	
First & Last Na	me(s) / Busines	s Name: _					
Subdivision:				House	- Yes/N	o: Lot#: N	Jumber of Adults:
Mailing Addres	s:						
Primary Mailing Address]						
Lake Address:							
If Different Than Primary Address Listed						County:	
Above (Please list the complete lake address / If you own a Lot Only: Please list the street name with Lot #, City, State, and Zip Cod (We need this information to set you up properly in our database and membership records)							
Home #:			Cell #:			Lake #:	
	A Bulletins, Membersh					e Environment Events, and Emerg	ency/Weather/Water Level Alerts)
						ions via my email add	
	Me	mber's Si	gnature				Date

Please complete this form and mail it along with your payment to:

Lake Gaston Association: P. O. Box 656, Henrico, NC 27842







LGA ~ Calendar of Events

February 2023						
S	М	Т	W	Т	F	S
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28				

	March 2023						
S	М	Т	W	Т	F	S	
			1	2	3	4	
5	6	7	8	9	10	11	
12	13	14	15	16	17	18	
19	20	21	22	23	24	25	
26	27	28	29	30	31		

Feb 1 - Monthly Board Mtg - (9:30 - 12 pm) - Lake Gaston Baptist Church: 2378 Eaton Ferry Rd, Littleton

Feb 10 - Public Safety Committee Mtg - (8:30 - 10 am) - Littleton Food & Spirits: 235 N Mosby Ave, Littleton

Feb 14 - Valentine's Day

Feb 16 - Marketing & Membership Committee Mtg - (8:30 - 10 am) - Littleton Food & Spirits: 235 N Mosby Ave, Littleton

Feb 20 - President's Day - (Holiday)

Feb 21 - Government Relations Committee Mtg - (8:30 - 10 am) - Littleton Food & Spirits: 235 N Mosby Ave, Littleton

Feb 22 - Executive Committee Mtg - (8:30 - 10 am) - Littleton Food & Spirits: 235 N Mosby Ave, Littleton

Feb 22 - Lake Cleanup Committee Mtg - (10 - 10:30 am) - Littleton Food & Spirits: 235 N Mosby Ave, Littleton

Mar 1 - Monthly Board Mtg - (10 am - 1 pm) - Mecklenburg County Middle School / High School Complex: 25001 Hwy 58, Baskerville, VA Littleton

Mar 10 - Public Safety Committee Mtg - (8:30 - 10 am) - Littleton Food & Spirits: 235 N Mosby Ave, Littleton

Mar 12 - Daylight Savings Time Begins - (Move Clocks Forward 1 Hour)

Mar 14 - Five-County Forum - (9 am) - Lake Gaston Lions Club: 139 Stanley Rd, Henrico

Mar 15 - Lake Environment Committee Mtg - (8:30 - 10 am) - Littleton Food & Spirits: 235 N Mosby Ave, Littleton

Mar 16 - Marketing & Membership Committee Mtg - (8:30 - 10 am) - Littleton Food & Spirits: 235 N Mosby Ave, Littleton

Mar 17 - St. Patrick's Day

Mar 21 - Government Relations Committee Mtg - (8:30 - 10 am) - Littleton Food & Spirits: 235 N Mosby Ave, Littleton

Mar 23 - Lake Clean-Up Day - (9 am) - Stanley Rd, NC/VA - Parking/LKG Lions Club: 139 Stanley Rd, Henrico

Mar 29 - Executive Committee Mtg - (8:30 - 10 am) - Littleton Food & Spirits: 235 N Mosby Ave, Littleton

Mar 29 - Lake Cleanup Committee Mtg - (10 - 10:30 am) - Littleton Food & Spirits: 235 N Mosby Ave, Littleton



LGA Recipe Roundup...

Homemade Chicken Wild Rice Soup

This creamy, dreamy, family-sized soup is the perfect comfort food to get you through the winter! (Though we'd happily eat it any time of year.) Plenty of savory spices give chicken, bacon, and wild rice tons of hearty flavor in this classic soup your whole dinner crew will love.



Ingredients

2 cups Water 1/4 teaspoon Poultry Seasoning

3 (10-1/2 oz.) cans condensed Chicken Broth 1/8 teaspoon Pepper

1/2 cup uncooked Wild Rice* 2 cups Half-and-Half

1/2 cup finely chopped Green Onions 1-1/2 cups cubed cooked Chicken

1/2 cup Margarine or Butter 8 slices Bacon, crisply cooked, crumbled

3/4 cup all-purpose Flour 1 tablespoon diced Pimento

1/2 teaspoon Salt 2 to 3 tablespoons Dry Sherry, if desired

Directions

- **1.** In Dutch oven or large saucepan, combine water and broth. Add wild rice and onions. Bring to a boil. Reduce heat to low; cover and simmer 45 to 55 minutes or until rice is tender.
- 2. In medium saucepan, melt margarine over medium heat. Stir in flour, salt, poultry seasoning and pepper. Cook 1 minute or until smooth and bubbly, stirring constantly. Gradually stir in half-and-half; cook until slightly thickened, stirring constantly. Slowly add half-and-half mixture to rice mixture, stirring constantly. Add remaining ingredients. Cook over low heat until thoroughly heated, stirring frequently. DO NOT BOIL.

LGA – 2023 Proposed Bylaws Changes

BYLAWS OF

THE LAKE GASTON ASSOCIATION, INCORPORATED

June 14, 2003 (revised) - June 12, 2004 (revised) - June 9, 2007 (revised) - June 13, 2009 (revised) - June 11, 2011 (revised)

ARTICLE 1 – GENERAL

Section 1

This organization is Incorporated under the laws of the State of North Carolina and shall be known as the Lake Gaston Association, Inc. (Hereinafter the "LGA). It shall be a nonprofit, nonpartisan, and nonsectarian organization.

Section 2

The LGA is organized to further the long-range good and general welfare of the property owners of the Lake Gaston area. The LGA shall encourage all property owners to become LGA members. The LGA shall be involved in projects which promote safety, maintain the natural environment, support aquatic weed management, and participate in local government programs that work toward the economic and social benefit of the property owners and others as deemed necessary by the Board of Directors.

ARTICLE II - MEMBERSHIP

Section 1 - Eligibility

Any property owner having an interest in the objectives and/or projects of the LGA (Article I, Section 2) shall be eligible for membership.

Section 2 - Application

Application for membership shall be in writing, on forms provided for that purpose. Any applicant(s) shall become a member upon payment of the regularly scheduled dues as provided in Article II, Section 3.

Section 3 - Dues

- **A.** Membership dues shall be at such rates, schedules, or formula as may be, from time to time, prescribed by the Board of Directors. Annual dues must be paid to be a "Member in Good Standing".
- **B.** Each membership shall include all adults within the household.
- **C.** Dues will be refunded upon written request of the member and subsequent approval of the Board of Directors.

Section 4 - Limitations on use of Membership Lists

Without the prior written consent of the Board of Directors, the membership list or any part thereof shall not be used to solicit money or property, for any commercial purpose, or sold to or purchased by any person or group.

ARTICLE III - MEMBERSHIP MEETINGS

Section 1 - Annual Membership Meetings

A. The Annual Membership meeting shall be on a Saturday in June. The date, time, and place of the Annual Membership Meeting shall be fixed by the Board of Directors, and notice thereof shall be mailed (Insert: transmitted) to each member at least thirty days before the Meeting. Each member present, in Good Standing, shall have the right to vote at this meeting. (Insert: The membership shall vote on the appointment of directors, and changes to by-laws.)

- **B.** Any member wishing to make a presentation to the membership shall submit a written request and topic Statement to the Vice President at least ten days prior to this meeting.
- **C.** A list of Members in Good Standing shall be checked off as members enter the Annual Membership Meeting.

Section 2 - Additional Meetings

Special meeting(s) of the membership of the LGA, other than the regularly scheduled Annual Membership Meeting, may be called by the President of the Board of Directors at any time with thirty days' notice. (Insert: The regular Monthly Membership meeting will be held every month on the first Wednesday at 9:30 a.m. Other regular or standard meetings may be established by the Board of Directors.)

Section 3 - Quorums

- **A.** At any duly called Annual Membership Meeting, those members present Shall constitute a quorum.
- **B.** At any duly called Special Membership Meeting(s), those members present shall constitute a quorum.

Section 4 – Manner of Acting

Except as otherwise provided in these Bylaws, the act of the majority of the members of the Board of Directors present at a meeting at which a quorum is present shall be the act of the Board of Directors. If a quorum is present at the commencement of a Board meeting, the validity of the acts of the Board at that meeting cannot be defeated if the number of Directors thereafter present is reduced below the number which constitutes a quorum.

Section 5 – Presumption of Assent

A member of the Board of Directors of the corporation who is present at a meeting of the Board of Directors at which action on any corporate matter is taken shall be presumed to have assented to the action taken unless his contrary vote is recorded or his dissent is otherwise entered in the minutes of the meeting or unless he shall file his written dissent to such action with the person acting as the secretary of the meeting before the adjournment thereof or shall forward such dissent by registered mail to the Secretary of the corporation immediately after the adjournment of the meeting. Such right to dissent shall not apply to a Director who voted in favor of such action.

Section 6 – Informal Action by Directors

Action taken by a majority of the Board of Directors without a meeting is nevertheless Board of Director's action if written consent to the action in question is signed by all the members of the Board of Directors and filed with the minutes of the proceedings of the Board of Directors, whether done before or after the action so taken. A consent signed under this section has the effect of a meeting vote and may be recorded as such in any document. A Director's consent to action taken without meeting or revocation thereof may be in electronic form and delivered by electronic means.

ARTICLE IV - BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Section 1 – Composition of the Board of Directors

The Board of Directors (Hereinafter the "Board") shall be composed of not more than twenty-five Directors, four members from each county bordering Lake Gaston, and five members chosen at large from these five counties. The "at large" Directors may be moved into county seats as they become available. Each member shall serve a term of three years, not to exceed two consecutive terms, except that a Director serving as President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer or Past President may serve one additional three year term if there is no Director available to assume his/her position at the end of that officer's second term. (Insert: when there are no new Directors nominated by either the membership nor the current Board of Directors.) Nomination and election for this third (Insert: additional) term will be in accordance with the procedures contained in Section 5 of this Article.

Section 2 - Meetings of the Board

- **A.** The Board shall elect officers at the July Board Meeting.
- **B.** Special Board Meetings may be called at any time, either by the President of the Board or by written application to the President of the Board by three Board Members. Notice of Special Board Meetings shall be given by the President of the Board in writing to all Board Members not less than three days prior to said Special Board Meeting.
- C. The regular meeting of the Board (Insert: of Directors (Directors' Monthly Meeting)) shall be the first (Insert: last) Wednesday morning of every (Insert: the) month at 9:30 (Insert: 8:30) a.m. Any variation is to be advertised 1 month ahead of the meeting, publicized on the website, printed in the events calendar in newspapers, and presented to members by email.

Section 3 - Quorums

(Remove: A. At the Annual Organizational Meeting of the Board (July), a quorum of the Board shall be more than one-half (1/2) of the elected Directors of the Board.)

(Remove Letter Only: B.) At any Regular or Special Board Meeting, a quorum shall be more than one-half (1/2) of the Directors of the Board.

Section 4 - Powers of the Board

The government and policy-making responsibilities of the LGA shall be vested in the Board, which shall control its property, be responsible for its finances and direct its affairs.

Section 5 - Selection and Election of Directors

- **A.** At the September Board Meeting of each year, the President of the Board shall appoint a Board member as Chairman of the Nominating Committee. Other Directors and non-Directors may be asked to serve on the Nominating Committee.
- **B.** At the May Board Meeting, the Nominating Committee shall present a slate of candidates to serve as Directors. Each candidate must be a Member in Good Standing and must have agreed to accept the responsibilities of a Directorship.
- C. A (Insert: The) Nominating Committee list of vacancies shall be published in the Bulletin and distributed at least 30 days prior to the (Insert: a list of Director vacancies in the final Bulletin before) the Annual Membership Meeting.
- **D.** Additional name(s) of candidate(s) may be nominated by petition(s) bearing the genuine signature of at least fifteen members, in Good Standing, by April of each year. The petition(s) are to be presented to the Chairman of the Nominating Committee. The determination of the Nominating Committee as to the validity of the petition(s) shall be final. At the Annual Membership Meeting, the Nominating Committee shall present for election the candidates to fill vacant seats on the board of Directors and Directors nominated to serve a second three year (Insert: an additional) term.

Section 6 - Vacancies

A. Any Director whose conduct is inconsistent with the objectives of the LGA, for any reason whatsoever, shall be automatically removed from his/her position.

- **B.** A member of the Board who shall be absent from Board Meetings for three consecutive meetings without a valid excuse, shall be notified by the President and dropped from the Board.
- **C.** Resignation of a Board Member shall be in writing to the President.
- **D.** Vacancies on the Board shall be filled by the Nominating Committee and presented to the Board for approval.
- **E.** The Director filling the vacancy shall serve out the unexpired term and shall be eligible to serve two full consecutive terms in addition to the unexpired term.

ARTICLE V - OFFICERS

Section 1 - Determination of Officers

At the July Board Meeting, the following officers shall be elected: President, Vice President, Secretary, and Treasurer. All officers shall serve a term of one year or until his/her successor assumes the duties of the office.

Section 2 - Duties of the Officers

- **A. PRESIDENT OF THE BOARD:** The President of the Board shall serve as the executive head of the LGA and shall preside at all Annual, Board, and Executive Committee Meetings. The President of the Board shall determine all Committees and select all Chairmen.
- **B. VICE-PRESIDENT:** The Vice-President shall preside at all meetings in the President's absence, shall handle the preparation for the Annual Membership Meeting, and shall perform duties assigned by the President.
- **C. SECRETARY:** The Secretary shall accurately record, sign, and distribute minutes of all meetings to each Board member. After ten days these minutes shall be available on the website. The Secretary shall be responsible for recording and distributing Board and Executive Committee meeting minutes and accomplishing other duties assigned by the President.
- **D. TREASURER:** The Treasurer shall be responsible for the safeguarding of all funds received by the LGA and their proper disbursement. Such funds shall be kept on deposit in financial institutions approved by the Board, subject to checks signed by the Treasurer or, in his/her absence, by the President. The Treasurer shall present a monthly and annual financial report to the Board and shall perform other duties assigned by the President.
- **EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR:** An Executive Director position is established to provide continuity of effort for the organization. This is a paid position and reports directly to the President. The Executive Director works from and is responsible for operating (Insert: the smooth and efficient operations of) the LGA. office. Duties include but are not limited to maintaining all files and records of the organization, answering routine email and telephone inquiries, or redirecting them to the appropriate Director, advising the Board on policies and procedures, and carrying out other duties as assigned. The Executive Director is expected to be knowledgeable on all LGA programs, priorities, functions, and issues. The Executive Director serves as a non-voting advisory member of the Executive Committee and as an informational resource to all Directors.

(Remove: Section 3 - Executive Committee

The Executive Committee shall act for and on the behalf of the Board when the Board is not in session but shall be accountable to the Board for its action and shall report to the Board at the next Board Meeting as appropriate. It shall be composed of the Officers of the Board, the Chairmen of the Standing Committees, and the immediate Past President. The President shall serve as Chair.)

(Rename: Section 4 to Section 3) – Vacancies

All vacancies of the Officers shall be filled by the Board. If the President's office becomes vacant, the Vice-President shall succeed to that office for the duration of the president's term.

ARTICLE VI - COMMITTEES

Section 1 - Appointment and Authority

The President, by the September meeting, shall appoint all Standing Committees and Committee Chairmen. The Standing Committees shall be listed in the Director's Handbook. As an objective, all Committees should consist of a minimum of one Board member from each county surrounding Lake Gaston. The President may appoint other Committees and their Chairmen as necessary.

Section 2 - Limitation of Authority

No action by any member, committee, division, employee, director, or officer shall be binding upon, or constitute an expression of, the policy of the LGA until it shall have been approved or ratified by the Board.

Section 3 - Testimony

Once committee action has been approved by the Board it shall be incumbent upon the Committee Chairman or his/her delegate, to give testimony to, or make presentation before, civic, and governmental agencies or other concerned entities.

ARTICLE VII - FINANCES

Section 1 - Funds

- **A.** The LGA shall operate under the non-profit tax-exempt status. Within three months of the close of the fiscal year, the appropriate tax forms shall be filed with the IRS as needed.
- **B.** All money paid to the LGA during the current year shall be placed in a general operating account. Funds excess to budget will be placed in an investment account.
- C. No stock shall be issued, and no dividends shall be paid.

Section 2 - Disbursements

Disbursements shall be recorded and made by check or electronic funds transfer (EFT).

Section 3 - Fiscal Year

The Fiscal Year of the LGA shall be January 1 through December 31.

Section 4 - Budget

The Executive Committee (Insert: President, Vice President, and Treasurer) shall compile a budget of estimated expenses (Insert: for operations) for the coming fiscal year and submit it to the Board (Insert: of Directors for review) on or before October 30 (Insert: 31st) of each year. The proposed budget shall be reviewed by the Board of Directors and (Insert: will then be) published in the next issue of the Bulletin (Insert: for Member review and comments.) After allowing for member comments, the (Insert: The) Budget (Insert: will need to be approved at the January Board) shall be presented for approval by the Board at the next Board Meeting and shall be reported at the Annual Membership Meeting.

Section 5 - Financial Review

The accounts of the LGA shall be given a complete annual financial review as of the close of business at the end of the fiscal year. The Financial Review Committee shall consist of three Members in Good Standing, excluding Board Members. The members of the Financial Review Committee shall be appointed by the President. The Treasurer shall be available throughout the review. The report from the financial review shall be available to

Members in Good Standing and published in the next bulletin.

Section 6 - Annual Financial Report

An annual written financial report for the most recent complete fiscal year and a report of the partial fiscal year as of the date of the Meeting shall be presented to the membership at the Annual Membership Meeting.

ARTICLE VIII - DISSOLUTION

Section 1 - Procedure

The LGA shall use its funds only to accomplish the objectives and purposes specified in these Bylaws, and no part of said funds shall be distributed to the members of the LGA. On dissolution of the LGA, any funds remaining shall be distributed to one or more regularly organized and qualified charitable, educational, scientific, or philanthropic organizations to be selected by the Board.

ARTICLE IX - MISCELLANEOUS

Section 1 - Parliamentary Authority

The current edition of "Roberts Rules of Order" shall be the final source of authority on all questions of parliamentary procedure when such questions are not specifically covered in the Bylaws of the LGA.

ARTICLE X - AMENDMENTS

Section 1 - Revisions

These Bylaws may be amended or altered by a two-thirds vote of the members present at the Annual Membership Meeting. Any proposed amendment or alteration(s) shall be submitted to the Board in writing, at least thirty (Insert: sixty) days before the Annual Membership Meeting at which they are to be acted upon.



Thank you, LGA Business Members for your Support ...



Please visit their websites at: https://www.lgancva.com/lake-gaston-association-membership-application/lake-gaston-association-business-members.html







Providing Assistance For Older Adults In The Lake Gaston Area

252-586-3000

www.helpfulhandsandhearts.org

KENNETH DANIEL ROOFING

(434) 944-6005

Linda Darden Hedgepeth

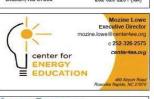


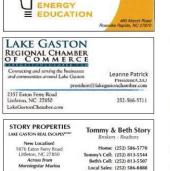
STUNEHUUSE

TIMBER LUDGE

MARTHA E. COURSER







R













Thank you, LGA Business Members for your Support ...

Please visit their websites at: https://www.lgancva.com/lake-gaston-association-membershipapplication/lake-gaston-association-business-members.html





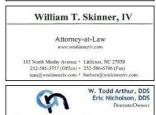










































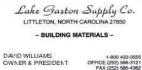




























Thank you, LGA Business Members for your Support ...



Please visit their websites at: https://www.lgancva.com/lake-gaston-association-membership-application/lake-gaston-association-business-members.html







Thank you for being a Loyal Member of the LGA!

2023 Membership Goal: 2,500

Current Members: 2,241 (Households 2,130 / Businesses 111)