

Minutes for the February 7, 2018 - LGA Monthly Meeting (APPROVED)  
Lake Gaston Baptist Church

At 9:30 AM Vice President Don Carson called the meeting to order. Don led those in attendance with the Pledge of Allegiance and then requested a moment of silence. Don requested a motion to approve the agenda which was made by Bill Heflin, seconded and passed.

Also in attendance were Directors' Carol Warfel, Jeff Dowhan, Al Potter, Bill Heflin, Judy Waters, Tony Moran, Clarence Drumgoole, John Cataldo, Jack Saunders, Brian Goldsworthy and Executive Director Moira Underwood. President Lowe was away on business. In attendance were 63 members/guests plus one member from the press.

We modified the order of business on the agenda to highlight LGA sponsored upcoming community events before our guest speaker.

- March 13 - *LGA 101 for New Members*. This is a new program where we take the time to discuss the six committees and how each fits into our mission at the LGA. The event will begin at 10:00 AM at the Lake Gaston Community Center. Personal invites will go out to all full time residents who have joined the LGA in last year. Legacy members are welcome to attend but we ask you RSVP with Moira. ([info@lakegastonassoc.com](mailto:info@lakegastonassoc.com))
- March 15 - the annual *5 County Forum* for all county managers, commissioners and supervisors who representative us around the lake.
- April 28 - *Shred Event* for all at the RWVFD on Lizard Creek Road.
- June 2 - *Lake Clean-Up Day*.

Bill Heflin introduced our guest speaker, Andy Moore, Western District Supervisor with the US Department of Agriculture. Andy is part of the Wildlife Services of the USDA. The topic of the day was the Canada Geese population who reside at Lake Gaston. If you have the two legged non-paying renters who happen to fly residing on your property, this presentation was for you.

Andy drove in from Statesville, NC to provide an enlightening and entertaining presentation about Beaver Management and all you needed to know about goose poop and how to get them from you know doing what on your docks and grass. He generously took the time to answer questions after his presentation from the over 60 in attendance.

Some highlights:

We now have over 100,000 geese in NC. Unfortunately for us, those we see at the lake are not migratory but full time NC and VA residents. They love it here (just as we do).

The nesting season is the middle of March so the time for action is now. How do you know if you have a nest? Look for the gander on watch nearby either in the water or on shore. A favorite nesting place is in the rip-wrap.

It's all about "Management Techniques" which include:

- ◆ Don't feed 'em.
- ◆ Remove domestic ducks and geese.
- ◆ Although that short green grass looks really nice to the eye, to a goose that is like a rib eye steak. They are grazers and require short, green grass for food. Allow the grass to grow longer so it is unpalatable to the birds.
- ◆ Fencing is good which makes it difficult for them to stroll freely on your property.
- ◆ Scaring devices can work for a short time.

- ◆ Your dog can help but note a gander protecting a nest can be aggressive.
- ◆ Prevent nesting. Important you know waterfowl are protected by State and Federal laws. Before moving a nest the property owner must register with FWS at <http://www.fws.gov/permits/mbpermits/GooseEggRegistration.html>. It's free and a permit is automatically issued.
- ◆ Hunting is an option with a permit.
- ◆ So is capture, relocation or removal but first contact the USDA at 866.487.3297.

Elsewhere on the web site is a 3 page handout provided at the meeting for more information.

As a reminder, our next meeting will be on March 7, 2018, and our speaker will be Attorney Al Thompson who will discuss "Advanced Directives - Living Wills, medical intervention".

If you would like more information about any of the LGA committees or would like to come out and help at one of the special events, please email [info@lakegastonassoc.com](mailto:info@lakegastonassoc.com) or visit [www.lakegastonassoc.com](http://www.lakegastonassoc.com).

Don closed the meeting at 10:58 AM.

Respectfully submitted,  
Brian Goldsworthy, Secretary