



Lake Hartwell Association, Inc
 P.O. Box 312
 Fairplay, SC 29643
 Phone 1.888.200.4899

Fall, 2003

Volume XV, Number 5

Letter from the President

Submitted by Mike Massey

The last couple of months have proven to be a very busy and productive start to my tenure as President of the Lake Hartwell Association (LHA). My message for this issue is separated into three specific areas that are extremely interesting and exciting.

H.R. 2753. No sooner did I feel like I was beginning to have an idea about where to direct my time related to LHA when Georgia Congressman Charlie Norwood (R-9th) introduced H.R. 2753, The Savannah River Lakes Private Land Ownership Restoration Act. The bill was co-sponsored by South Carolina Congressman Gresham Barrett (R-3rd).

H.R. 2753 proposed to give all the land above full pool around Hartwell Lake, Lake Russell and Lake Thurmond to the respective counties around those lakes. The bill caused quite a stir. There were many issues associated with it, not the least of which was the concern from many LHA members who wondered how they would get to their docks and what would happen to their property values. All appears to be resolved at this time. After many meetings, letters and emails to the congressmen, the bill was withdrawn. Read the article about the bill later in the newsletter to understand the LHA position regarding the bill and the how we presented it to the legislators.

The LHA Fall Information Meeting. I want to invite everyone, members and the public alike, to the Lake Hartwell Association Fall Information Meeting. This year it is scheduled for 7:00PM, Thursday, October 23rd, at the Anderson Civic Center. (See map below.) This very informative meeting is open to the public and is a great opportunity to find out what the LHA team has been up to this past year and what the future may hold relative to Hartwell Lake and the Savannah River Basin. You may also walk away with a door prize, too!

The theme for this year's Fall Information Meeting is titled "For The Sake of the Lake." I am excited about the program we have put together for you. As usual, we have some terrific speakers who will share the results of their knowledge, studies and activities with you in several diverse areas. I hope all of you will come - and bring a friend.

The Savannah River Basin Alliance. Recently, at the suggestion of the LHA Legislative Committee, two directors from LHA met with representatives from two other volunteer-driven lake organizations along the Savannah River Basin. The purpose of the meeting was to share ideas and to discuss the issues with which most were concerned. During the course of that meeting the attendees realized that many of the issues discussed were common to all of them. They also realized that there was significant duplicate effort being spent working those issues in each organization.

As a result of that meeting I am proud to announce the formation of the Savannah River Basin Alliance (SRBA). The SRBA will allow the member organizations to work more closely together, to share ideas and research and to speak with a greater voice when dealing with legislators. The LHA team is very excited about the possibilities for improved cooperation and coordination all along the SRB through the SRBA.

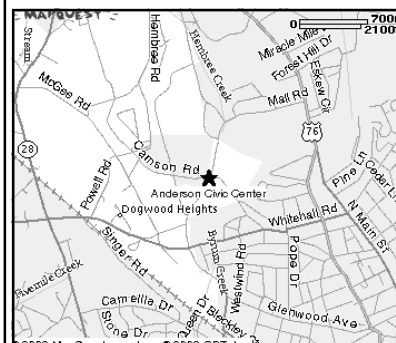
All of the above topics are defined in more detail in the newsletter. I hope you find it informative and interesting. As I mentioned earlier, it has been a busy time for us.

Let's keep the lake "clean and deep." To contact me, send an email to mail@lakehartwellassociation.org or call 1-888-200-4899.

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Fall Meeting: October 23



Anderson Civic Center
 3027 Mall Road,
 Anderson, SC

END

The Lake Hartwell Association 2003 Fall Information Meeting

Submitted by Mike Massey

The Lake Hartwell Association (LHA) is excited about his year's Fall Information Meeting. It will be held starting at 7:00PM, October 23rd, at the Anderson Civic Center. The theme for this year's meeting is titled "For The Sake of the Lake." This annual meeting is held each year for the benefit of the LHA membership. As usual, it is also open to the public and is a great opportunity to find out what the LHA team has been up to this past year and what the future may hold related to Hartwell Lake and the Savannah River Basin (SRB). We also have some terrific speakers who will share their expertise as well as the results of their studies and activities with us in several diverse areas.

Here is an idea about what you can expect to hear about at the meeting.

- The LHA Legislative Committee will provide the status of legislation affecting the lake. Particular attention is given to House Bill 2753 mentioned on page 7 of this newsletter.
- The Technical Committee will discuss a Water Quality Study currently underway in Hartwell Lake and provide an update of other activities.

- Fred Falls, a hydrologist with the U.S. Geological Survey, Columbia, South Carolina, will explain the importance of the Piedmont Aquifer to the area and the role of the Savannah River Basin and Hartwell Lake to its health. This is an extremely interesting presentation.
- Richelle Tolton, the SRB Watershed Manager (Savannah and Broad River Basins) for SC DHEC, will present the results of the recently updated DHEC Water Quality Assessment for the SRB. Find out how Hartwell Lake stacks up against other lakes and areas.
- Leroy Crosby, USACE Project Manager for the SRB Comprehensive Water Resources Study, will present the latest status of that effort and the significance of the LHA support.

Do we have your interest? Good! Because there is more. We will also present a couple of other interesting people who impact the lake and allow some time at the end for anyone to ask questions of interest on any topic. We have also added door prizes this year and have a good number of them to distribute to those of you attending.

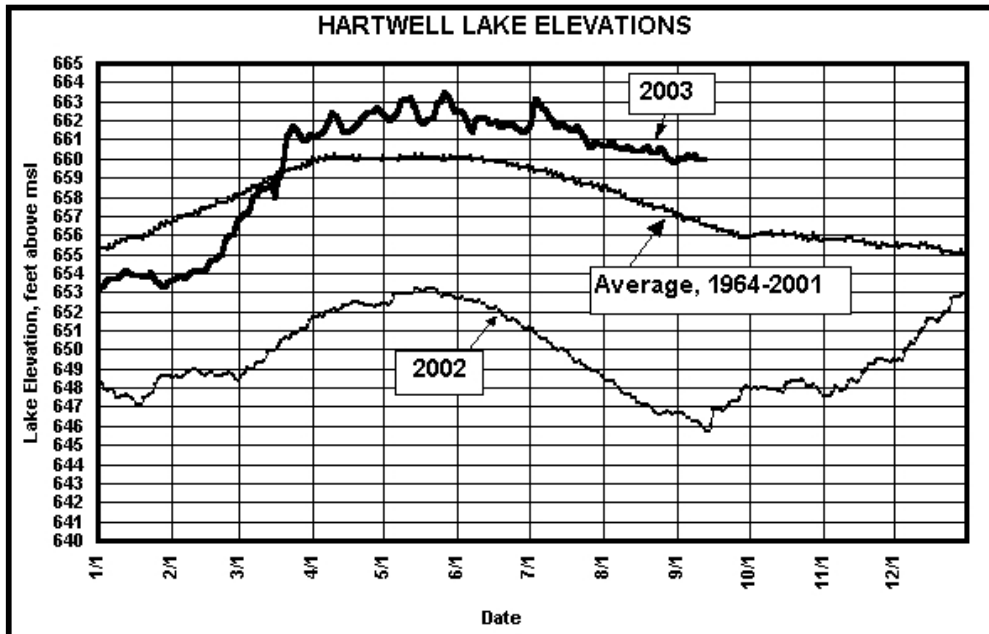
Please join us and bring a friend. It's free! It's interesting! It's for you!

END

Report on Lake Levels

Submitted by Vern Sauer

The water level of Hartwell Lake this year on September 13, 2003, was 659.8 ft, more than 14 feet higher than last year at the same time when the lake reached its 3rd lowest level during the period of record.



For comparison, here are the 4 lowest levels of Hartwell Lake.

- Lowest**
642.8 ft on 12/23/81
- 2nd lowest**
645.4 ft on 12/30/88
- 3rd lowest**
645.7 ft on 09/13/02
- 4th lowest**
646.3ft on 10/11/86

Note: As you can see, the 80's were not good years.

Security Improving at Corps' Parks

Submitted by US Army Corps of Engineers, Hartwell Lake

It's a familiar scene these days. You leave your vehicle in what you think is a secure location only to return and find your window is broken and someone has taken your valuables. Theft and other crimes against personal property can occur anywhere, including parks managed by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers at Hartwell Lake. However, such crimes, as well as vandalism, within Corps' managed parks at Hartwell Lake, have been on the decline lately despite increased visitation this recreation season. During the 2002 fiscal year (Oct. 1, 2001 thru Sept. 30, 2002), over \$12,000 of theft and vandalism was reported on the Hartwell Project. As of the end of August 2003, with only one month remaining in the fiscal year, \$5,988 worth of theft or vandalism has been reported. Typical reports include, but are not limited to, graffiti on signs and roadways, destruction of toilet fixtures, and break-ins to park visitor vehicles.

In addition to routine patrols by Corps' Park Rangers, the Corps employs several different methods to help deter crimes against property. One of the most effective methods is by entering into cooperative agreements with local sheriff's departments. Hart, Franklin, Anderson, Oconee, and Pickens Counties currently have agreements with the Corps where their respective departments are reimbursed for providing additional law enforcement patrols of Corps' parks according to an established schedule. The presence of these assigned deputies within Corps' parks greatly enhances the security of personal

property and Corps' facilities, as well as offering quick response to assist rangers in handling difficult enforcement situations. Other methods implemented to reduce crimes in the parks include the removal of underbrush vegetation to improve visibility of ramps and vehicles, the utilization of volunteer park hosts at day use parks such as Broyles and Poplar Springs, and the installation of security lights at ramps as budgets allow. Most recently, a new solar powered security light was installed at Choestoea Access in Oconee County.

What can you do to prevent crimes around the lake? One key action is to remove valuables from your vehicle when at a park. If you have to leave items in your car, lock them in the trunk. If a potential thief cannot see something of value he will probably skip your vehicle and move on. Numerous times while patrolling the parks, rangers will see items such as money, wallets, compact discs, purses, golf clubs, cell phones, tools, or fishing tackle laying out in plain view for everyone to see. Secure your valuables and lock your doors. If you should have the bad luck of experiencing a break in, notify your local sheriff's department first, and then the Corps, to file reports so that the appropriate corrective actions can be taken and proper tracking of such incidents can occur. If you witness a crime or have an emergency, call 911. With your help, we can keep crimes in the parks on the decline and help keep Hartwell Lake a safe place to recreate. If you would like to report a problem area, have observed criminal behavior, or simply have questions related to Hartwell Lake, please call the Hartwell Lake Office toll free at 1-888-893-0678.

END

In the Beginning Were the Rivers

Submitted by Jim Gardner

(Source: www.sas.usace.army.mil/lakes/hartwell)

Hartwell Lake is one of the Southeast's largest and most popular public recreation lakes. It was built by the Corps of Engineers between 1955 and 1963 as part of a flood control and hydropower project. Hartwell Lake is one of the top 3 most visited Corps lakes in the nation, serving about 10 million visitors annually.

The entire Hartwell Lake project, built in the Savannah River Basin, comprises 76,450 acres of land and water. The dam impounds the lake that stretches 49 miles up the Tugaloo River and 45 miles up the Seneca River. Lake Hartwell covers nearly 56,000 acres and has 962 miles of shoreline. The dam was completed in 1963 at a cost of over \$89 million. It is located 7 miles below the point at which the Tugaloo and Seneca rivers join to form the Savannah and spans 18,000 feet (over 3 miles!). It is constructed of earth and concrete. Its concrete section is 1,900 feet long and rises 204 feet above the riverbed at its highest point. The spillway section contains 12 gates (40 feet wide, 35 feet high). END



The Seneca River (left) met the Tugaloo River just downstream of what is now Andersonville Island. Hartwell Dam was built 7 miles downstream of the junction of these two rivers. This historic aerial photo (Nov. 20, 1957) is only one of many that can be found at <http://www.sas.usace.army.mil/sample/histphotos.htm>.

(Photo used by permission)

Protecting Our Lake: Septic Tank Maintenance

Submitted by Al Koleff

We are blessed with a lake that consistently gets high marks for its cleanliness and good water quality. There is, however, the risk that current and future discharges into the lake will degrade its quality if we don't all do our part to help protect this valuable resource.

For lake shore home owners the most important single thing we can do is to properly use and maintain our septic tanks. Here are some suggested Do's and Don'ts:

DO

1. Repair leaking faucets.
2. Divert surface water away from your drain field.
3. Have your septic tank pumped regularly. The suggested frequency is shown in the following table:

Suggested Pumping Frequency in years					
Tank Size, Gal.	Number of People Using System				
	1	2	4	6	8
1000	12	6	3	2	1
1250	16	8	3	2	1
1500	19	9	4	3	2

DON'T

1. Put things in your garbage disposal that could be composted or disposed of in the trash.
2. Waste money on septic tank additives. (The bacteria necessary to treat waste water are naturally present in human waste, and additives can actually harm the system by re-suspending solids and clogging the drain field piping.)
3. Put the following items into the septic tank. Coffee grounds, disposable diapers, sanitary napkins, cigarette butts, fats, grease, oil, paints, thinners, photographic solutions, pesticides.

Finally, for new construction, increase the set back of the drain field from the shore line to at least 150 feet if at all possible. Also, in South Carolina, be sure the recently revised regulations for septic tank installations are followed.

END

Fall Meeting Door Prizes

Submitted by Bert Menees

The LHA Board of Directors would like to give association members every reason to attend the fall and spring annual information meetings on a regular basis. Starting with the October 23 fall meeting (see page 2), we will begin the practice of awarding \$500.00 in valuable door prizes at each fall and spring meeting to members lucky enough to draw a winning number. Of course, you have to be present to win a prize. Please be sure to pick up your door prize ticket when you enter the Civic Center.

The prizes that will be awarded at this meeting are as follows:

- 4 GE family-size Belgian waffle makers
- 4 GE 18-quart roaster oven s
- 4 GE XL 21" electric griddles
- 4 Mr. Coffee 12-cup programmable coffee-makers

END



LHA Discusses Activities With the Hartwell Project Corps of Engineers

Submitted by Mike Massey

On June 2, 2003, Virgil G. Hobbs III was promoted to the position of Hartwell Lake and Powerplant Operations Manager of the US Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) at the Hartwell Project Office in Hartwell, Georgia. Virgil replaced Dick Austin who retired in December 2002.

With the recent completion of the LHA Lake Impact Survey, Ace Forgay, a Lake Hartwell Association (LHA) director and chairman of the survey project, arranged a meeting to discuss the survey and a number of other activities. The meeting was held on August 8th at the USACE offices in Hartwell. In attendance were Ace and Mike Massey of LHA and Virgil Hobbs, George Bramlette and William Chambers of the USACE.

In addition to the Lake Impact Survey, other topics included H.R. 2753 (described in this newsletter), the USACE Savannah

River Basin Comprehensive Lake Management Study, water management (including drought planning) and interbasin transfers. It was agreed that the meeting was beneficial to the understanding of both organizations activities and additional meetings should be held in the future.



From Left to right are: Mike Massey, Ace Forgay, Virgil Hobbs, George Bramlette and William Chambers.

END

Appreciation Picnic

Submitted by Wayne Gaskins

LHA hosted an Appreciation Picnic for the volunteers of the Hartwell Lake Cleanup Campaign at Big Oaks Recreation Area on Saturday, September 20, 2003. Hundreds of volunteers enjoyed great entertainment, good food, and door prizes galore. This was the 23d year of the cleanup that is coordinated by the U. S. Army Corps of Engineers – Hartwell Project. The success of this year’s campaign was due to over 500 volunteers and over 100 organizations participating during the five-week cleanup period that began on August 15. A special thanks to the staff of the Hartwell Project Office, LHA volunteers, the Optimist Club of Hartwell, and the many businesses that contributed to the Appreciation Picnic.

Special Thanks To Our Contributors

The following businesses were contributors to the success of the 2003 HARTWELL LAKE CLEANUP Volunteer Appreciation Picnic at Big Oaks Recreational Area on September 20:

Frank Distributing
 Miller Brewing Company
 Optimist Club - Hartwell
 McDonald’s – Anderson
 Belk – Hartwell
 Hartwell Marina & Boat Sales
 Strickland Marine
 Tucker’s Restaurant
 Harbor Light Marina
 Lee’s Marine
 Dairy Queen – Hartwell
 Perfect Fit Spa

Hartwell Industries
 Big Water Marina - Starr
 Long’s Fishing and Marine
 West Marine - Anderson
 Georgia Power
 Hooter’s
 Grady’s Outdoors
 Nami Restaurant
 The Galley Restaurant
 Lake Hartwell Association
 Key Marine
 Portman Marina

Athens First Bank & Trust
 Bank of America – Hartwell
 L & J Hardware & Variety
 Gordon’s Marine Service
 Chick-Fil-A
 Sullivans Metro Grill
 Chili’s
 Crab House
 Pendleton House
 Texas Roadhouse
 Fuddruckers
 Red Lobster
 Sonny’s Bar-B-Q
 McGee’s Irish Pub
 The Gray House Restaurant
 Cakery & Deli
 Atlanta Bread Bakery Café
 Ruby Tuesday
 Ingles Supermarket
 Logan’s Roadhouse
 T 60 Restaurant – Fair Play
 The Peoples Bank
 Bank of Anderson
 Old Hickory Stick BBQ
 Anderson Federal Credit Union
 Anderson County Safe Kids Coalition
 Dillard’s Sport Center – Anderson
 GIP’s Manufacturing – Hartwell
 Tugaloo Fishing Hole - Lavonia
 Catechee Golf Club - Hartwell
 Grant’s Wooden Boat Works

Hartwell Pharmacy
 Northeast Georgia Bank
 Pinnacle Bank
 Tiger Town RV & Marine
 Little Pigs Barbecue
 Outback Restaurant
 Sports City Grill
 IHOP
 Harbor Inn
 Charlie T’s Wings
 Ryans Family Steakhouse
 Butterbean’s Restaurant
 Appleby’s
 Mama Penn’s Restaurant
 Denny’s
 The Sweetery
 O’Charlies
 Zaxby’s
 Eleven-O-Nine Restaurant
 Meeting Place Restaurant
 Town House Restaurant
 The Palmetto Bank
 Sadler’s Creek BBQ



The Savannah River Basin Alliance

Submitted by Mike Massey

There are a number of volunteer and civic organizations along the Savannah River Basin (SRB). Each is working hard to insure the area of the SRB it is associated with is preserved for the future. Recently, however, many have realized that the lakes and rivers of the Savannah River Basin (Hartwell, Russell and Thurmond) must not be viewed as independent entities any longer. They exist as a complete, ecological community and any affect on any one of them will eventually affect all of them. This fact was reinforced when H.R. 2753 was introduced (as discussed in this newsletter).

A meeting was held on May 6 to discuss the issues and activities of several lake organizations as an attempt to understand each other's concerns. The attendees included members of the Lake Hartwell Association (LHA), The Friends of the Savannah River (FSRB) from the Thurmond and Russell Lakes, and the Friends of Lake Keowee Society (FOLKS). During the course of the meeting we realized there were a number of common issues, studies and activities that are of concern to each organization. We also realized that we were all working independently on many of the same issues. Following an excellent discussion, the attendees agreed to develop a document that would define a process for all the member organizations to work more closely with each other.

As a result of that meeting, the Savannah River Basin Alliance (SRBA) was formed. The Savannah River Basin Alliance (SRBA) encourages and promotes cooperation, coordination, assistance and information exchange among those organizations established for the purpose of maintaining the beauty and benefit of the Savannah River Basin (SRB) waters for the residents, non-residents and businesses with interests within the Basin.

The SRBA recognizes that the Savannah River Basin exists as a complete, ecological unit and any impact on one area or section of it will eventually affect the entire basin. The economic value

of the recreational use aspect of the SRB has never been fully identified and quantified. Similarly, the social and environmental value has not been documented. The SRBA believes that demonstrating the total economic value of the SRB resulting from recreation will help promote more balanced management processes for the basin. Finally, for purposes of affecting legislation, combining the membership of the SRBA organizations and increasing the number of "voices" spoken to our legislators are effective, practical and sensible strategies.

The goals of the SRBA are to:

- Share the status of regulatory, economic, social and technical issues and activities relating to the Savannah River Basin,
- Maintain communications to assure that all participating organizations are fully informed of issues of interest and to coordinate the activities relating to these issues,
- Make better use of our efforts on common activities by individual member organizations agreeing to have one organization be the primary lead for a specific activity and/or point-of-view and periodically informing the others of status and issues,
- Suggest a plan of action for specific issues that participating organizations may want to pursue. An example could be suggesting our combined SRBA membership contact certain legislators in support of, or opposition to, specific legislation.

Note: Although the SRBA was not completely written and agreed to, this last bullet item was thoroughly tested when H.R. 2753 was announced. It worked perfectly and efficiently.

We at LHA are very excited about the potential for the Savannah River Basin Alliance and look forward to having even more member organizations with which to share our efforts. Please access the LHA web site at www.lakehartwellassociation.org to see the complete text of the SRBA Mission Statement and it's goals.

LHA Welcomes New Members

Submitted by Ernest Walter

Jeff Barker	Bob & Sharon Maret	Don & Diana Mabry
Jack & Peggy Corre	Derrick Ellerman	Steve & Sandra Ginn
Frank Brannon	View Point Lot Owner's Assoc	John Bruce
Steve Loftes	W. C. Owens	Colleen Kelley
F. Bard Brutzman	Stanley & Leslie Belle	Bonnie & Gerald Pouncey
Bob & Sharon Shaw	Doug & Jan Tullis	Danny Davis
Jerome Martin	Chester Moore	Donald T. Hohman
Judy Dimmich	Allen Simpson	Mickey & Susan Braswell
Joan Cox	Ronald J. Cox	Philip & Alec Whitley
Mike & Laura Elrod	David & Ann Turner	Tony & Debbie Cape
Heidi & Manfred Wolko	Richard D. & Annamarie Burtness	R. Wayne Bond
Bill & Judy Osborne	J. Allen Poole	David Stafford

Fall Colors



The brighter the sunlight in the fall, the greater the production of anthocyanins and the more brilliant the resulting color display that we see. When the days of autumn are bright and cool, and the nights are chilly but not freezing, the brightest colorations usually develop. Adequate rainfall also keeps the leaves on the trees longer and enhances the color.

END

H.R. 2753 Withdrawn

By Pat Goran

On September 10, U.S. Representatives Charlie Norwood and Gresham Barrett removed from consideration U.S. House Bill 2753, "Savannah River Lakes Private Land Ownership Restoration Act." Norwood represents Georgia's Ninth District and Barrett represents South Carolina's Third District. The bill proposed transferring all property currently managed by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers around Hartwell, Russell and Thurmond Lakes to the counties surrounding those lakes.

The Lake Hartwell Association, along with many other groups and individuals, opposed the bill as it was written; in fact, there appeared to be very little support for the bill. Some of our concerns were:

- No provisions were made for how to manage the transferred property, what it would cost and how to fund it.
- Who would manage the parks and boat launches?
- Property owners could have lost the ability to get to their docks or their dock permits could have even been revoked for a number of reasons.
- Would area property taxes be increased to pay for the management?
- The lake ecosystem could also have been threatened due to the potential elimination of the buffer that largely protects it from sediment and fertilizer runoff.

LHA sent letters indicating our position to the editors of the Anderson Independent-Mail and the Hartwell Sun. Mike Massey and Pat Goran met face to face with both Congressmen and their staffs to express our issues and concerns. Ace Forgy and Jim Cummins represented LHA in a meeting with Anderson County officials to discuss and review the proposed legislation. Clarice Maclay attended one of Mr. Barrett's town hall meetings and voiced our feelings. We also coordinated our efforts with the Friends of the Savannah River Basin, an or-

ganization with goals similar to LHA.

While it appears that no action can be taken on the bill without the consent of either Congressman, withdrawing the bill doesn't necessarily mean that the proposal is "dead." We will continue to monitor the situation, and ask that our members remain vigilant also.



Congressman Gresham Barrett, SC 3rd District (left) discusses HR 2753 with Mike Massey, LHA President (center) and Pat Goren, LHA Past President (right).

Many thanks to all our members and area residents who wrote or called to let us know their thoughts on the bill. The comments were a big help in assisting the LHA Board of Directors develop a position in agreement with most members

For additional information and further comments, or to see the full text of the bill, please visit LHA's website at www.lakehartwellassociation.org

END

Water Quality Study

Submitted by Margarit Gray

Come to the fall meeting and hear the results of the water quality study on Lake Hartwell. The areas we tested during the summer included Six and Twenty Creek, Three and Twenty Creek, Eighteen Mile Creek and the area around Portman Marina. Testing on Six and Twenty Creek included Town Creek Cove, Hembree Creek and Hurricane Creek.

END



Hartwell Dam: July 31, 1962

(Source: USACE—Used by permis-



LAKE HARTWELL ASSOCIATION MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

DATE _____
NAME _____
MAIL ADDRESS _____
CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____
PHONE (H) _____ (W) _____
E-MAIL _____

Check all of the following that apply:
 Individual (\$15) Renewal
 Family (\$25) New Member
 Community & Development (\$100) Address Change

Send your check, payable to: Lake Hartwell Association
P.O. Box 312; Fairplay, SC 29643

Email address: membership@lakehartwellassociation.org

Web Site: <http://www.lakehartwellassociation.org>

LHA Mission Statement

We will develop and establish the Lake Hartwell Association as an organization that promotes and encourages cooperation, assistance, and information exchange among those concerned with Hartwell Lake and the Savannah River Basin.

We will provide a forum to collectively represent our membership on issues that pertain to the development, preservation, and comprehensive management of Hartwell Lake.

We will collect and distribute information on matters affecting Hartwell Lake.

We will maintain liaisons and communications between the Lake Hartwell Association and educational, governmental, scientific, and other communities.

Committee Chairs
Survey, A.C. Forgay
Program/Publicity, Bert Menees
Legislative, Mike Massey
Technical, Al Koleff
Speakers & Lake Cleanup, Wayne Gaskins
Safety, Dan Ray
Web Master, Vern Sauer
Membership, Skip Walter
Newsletter, Jim Gardner

Officers
Mike Massey, President
Al Koleff, Vice-President
Pat Goran, Past-President
Robert Foster, Treasurer
Louis Gaby, Secretary

OFFICERS & DIRECTORS

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