



Lake Hartwell Association, Inc

Winter, 2008

Volume XX, Number 1

Letter from the President

Submitted by Joe Brenner

Inside this issue



Another winter on the lake is finally setting in after a warm dry fall. Lake levels continue to be extremely low due to the record drought, but the forecast is for increased rain January through March. We can still expect low levels throughout 2008 unless significant storm activity occurs. The Corps has done a good job trying to mitigate the drought conditions by keeping flows below those called for in the drought plan. They are also studying further flow reductions, but this will take approval by both states and the many agencies that must approve the plan. It benefits everyone within the basin to safeguard the reserve capacity of the lakes.

For many years LHA has promoted the need for good state water planning and an interstate compact between Georgia and South Carolina in order to appropriately allocate and protect the resources of the Savannah River Basin. Our efforts, along with those of many like thinking groups, are really paying off as is evidenced in several articles in this newsletter. LHA has participated since the beginning and throughout the process of developing the Georgia Comprehensive Statewide Water Plan. The final draft of the plan goes to the GA Legislature this January for implementation. Also, Governors Perdue and Sanford jointly created the bi-state Savannah River Committee to study and arrive at solutions to allocation and quality issues between the states. The committee recently shifted focus beyond the low country to include discussion of upstate concerns. This effort will eventually lead to a comprehensive interstate compact.

Past President Mike Massey has been leading the charge on the need for a South Carolina state water plan. Through Mike's ongoing efforts and with the support and sponsorship of State Representative and LHA member Don Bowen, a bill has been filed in the SC House that would create a SC Statewide Water Plan. Sen. Kevin Bryant has filed companion legislation in the senate. Mike Massey was chair of the committee that wrote this legislation and you can get all the details in his excellent article.

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.

We had a very successful LHA Fall Member Meeting. Dr. Gene Eidson gave an excellent presentation on how to effectively use real time data for better management and decision-making relative to basin resources. We are pleased that Gene has brought his experience and expertise to Clemson.

I want to announce the election of two new board members: Butch McKie has been elected treasurer and Herb Burnham has been elected to an at-large director position. Also in this newsletter is a nomination for Jim Bushey to an at-large director position. Jim has been doing an outstanding job working on the Programs Committee. Of course, the work is never done and we can always use more help to support LHA's mission. Please let me or any of the directors know if you're interested in volunteering your time "for the sake of the lake."

Send any questions or comments to mail@lakehartwellassociation.org or call 1-864-224-LAKE.

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Lake Hartwell
Association, Inc.

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*Program/
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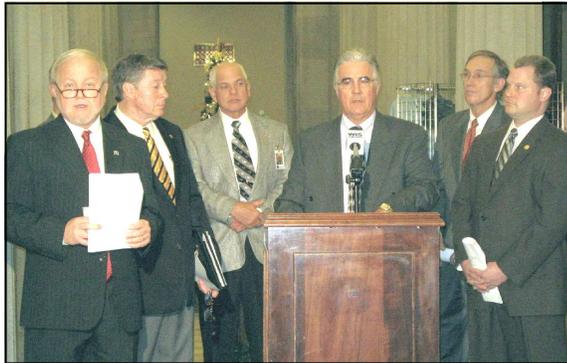
Dan Ray, *Safety*

Vern Sauer,
Webmaster

Mike Massey,
Membership

**LHA's Massey and Representative Bowen Play a
Major Role in New S.C. Water Bill
*Senator Bryant Adds Support***

The summer edition of the Lake Hartwell Association Newsletter contained a request for all the LHA South Carolina members to contact their legislators and ask them to support the development of a South Carolina Statewide Management Plan. LHA also promised to continue to work towards that goal. LHA continued to work on this objective and in early summer was asked by one of the South Carolina legislators to work on a committee towards that effort. On December 10, 2007 a major milestone was reached when SC House Bill H4393, "*The South Carolina Comprehensive Statewide Water Management Act,*" was introduced at a press conference in the rotunda of the South Carolina state capitol in Columbia.



Left to right. WRAC members Representative Don Bowen, Senator Bob Waldrep, Tom Allen, Chairman - Mike Massey, Jerry Craft and Senator Kevin Bryant announce the water bill at the state Capitol press conference.

The bill is the result of the efforts of South Carolina Representative Don Bowen, House District 8 Anderson. After reviewing issues affecting the lake and the Savannah River Basin, LHA member Don Bowen realized that the state of South Carolina needs to enhance its current water planning and management process for the good of the state.

Representative Bowen discussed the water issue with South Carolina Senator Kevin Bryant, Senate District 3 Anderson, also an LHA member, who quickly volunteered his support. Representative Bowen then organized a diverse, skilled and influential group of people from around the state to study the water concerns and propose a resolution. The prime objective was to strengthen and enhance water management policies for the good of the state as well stay out of litigation with the state of Georgia over water allocation.

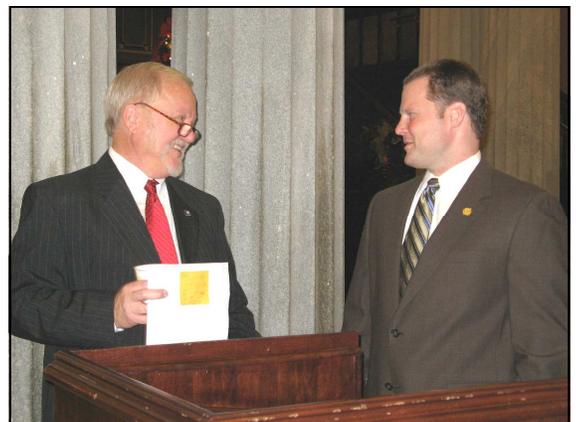
The group was called the South Carolina Water Resources Advisory Committee (WRAC). Mike Massey of LHA was voted chairman of the committee. The committee members are as follows:

- SC Representative Don Bowen
- SC Senator Kevin Bryant
- SC Senator Bob Waldrep, Governor's appointee to study the state's water problems
- Mike Massey, WRAC Chairman and member of LHA Board of Directors
- Susan Aiken, Regional Director for the office of U.S. Senator Jim DeMint
- Janice McCord, Field Representative for U.S. Congressman Gresham Barrett
- Dr. Gene Eidson, Clemson University Center for Watershed Excellence
- Jerry Craft, former member of the Advisory Committee to the Federal Reserve under Alan Greenspan
- Tom Allen, former director of Environment Health Coordination for the Maryland Department of the Environment

After months of meetings consisting of intensive review of water issues, current policy, practices and documentation, the WRAC agreed on the following points:

Over the last several decades, South Carolina's approach to water management has evolved in a diverse fashion due to a number of reasons such as federal and legislative mandates as well as localized and immediate water issues. Each requirement was frequently met as an independent legislative or policy effort as needed and not necessarily coordinated with other efforts.

The state population and economy are growing and demands on the water are increasing. There is only



State Representative Don Bowen (left) and State Senator Kevin Bryant discuss water planning prior to press conference.

(Continued from page 2)

so much water. As the population and business needs increase we must become more efficient about managing what we have. A comprehensive approach to water management is needed that contains well-defined practices and a departmentally integrated, project management approach for implementation.

The current state water plan was issued in January of 2004 by the South Carolina Department of Natural Resources. While reasonably thorough in its description of most water issues, it primarily provides guidelines for resolution to the water issues it discusses. It also proposes over 80 well-defined recommendations; yet it does not contain a timeline or project plan to assure the recommendations are followed-up and accomplished.

The plan also states that “the effective management of the state’s water resources is beyond the scope of any one agency or organization and will require cooperation and shared responsibility among federal, state and local agencies, public and private parties.” The 2004 plan does not propose a process to resolve this dilemma and bring the appropriate authorities together.



WRAC committee members Mike Massey (left) and Jerry Craft (right) discuss water planning with Mike McShane (center), Commissioner of the Department of Natural Resources following the press conference.

In addition, at the request of Governor Sanford, water issues were studied by a select committee in 2003. The Governor's "Water Law Report, January 2004," states: “Great opportunities exist, but so do time pressures to resolve key water management questions. The importance of the issues discussed in this report calls for the state’s very best efforts.” The Act provides impetus and will create the proper direction as well as an atmosphere of cooperation by which the state’s very best efforts can be achieved.

Finally, water impacts on river basins or watersheds were considered by the WRAC. Another prime recommendation in the current South Carolina Water Plan stated that “The state should work to establish a river basin advisory committee for each of its four major basins.” A number of major concerns were associated with that recommendation. One was the potential interbasin trans-

fer of water out of the basins such as the potential of one in the Savannah River Basin to serve the Metro-Atlanta needs. Other basin needs considered included saltwater intrusion, sustaining the quantity of water needed as well as quality monitoring. Two points emerged:

- It is important to develop practices and laws in South Carolina that protect it and in some fashion match and coordinate the state efforts with the processes any neighboring state uses for its management of water basins.
- Each water basin in the state should have separate management policies and practices. Currently all the water basins in the state are managed in basically the same fashion. There are many variables affecting those basins. Factors such as water availability, need and requirements, are specific for each body of water. Growth projections, variables, location of the basin, quantity, quality, recreation aspects and other considerations require that each basin be viewed as an independent entity.

Once the WRAC finished their review they developed the “*The South Carolina Comprehensive Statewide Water Management Act.*” The Act may be read in its entirety in the LHA web site www.lakehartwellassociation.org. The Act presents an innovative and integrated approach for water management in the state.

It provides the Department of Natural Resources the authority to develop a SC comprehensive water “program” in a series of phases over several years through the efforts of a management organization called a “Water Board.” The Water Board consists of key managers and legislators within the state who have water-related responsibilities. The bill also calls for the creation of a Basin Advisory Committee for each of the major basins in the state to provide individual water resource plans unique to each basin. The basin plans will be coordinated and approved as part of the overall state policies managed by the Water Board.

The objective of the Water Board is for members to work in cooperation with each other, organize advisory committees including basin, gather data, study all the water issues and propose integrated recommendations and resolutions. The final product will be a comprehensive water program to carry South Carolina into the future with a program of well defined process and set of practices. The water program will allow the state to be pro-active in water management and to provide improved enforcement regulations.

The proposed time-frame to have the program definition completed and approved by the General Assembly is prior to June 30, 2011. Actual implementation of the new water program would begin following that approval.

The Lake Hartwell Association has been working towards introducing legislation implementing a “Comprehensive Statewide Water Plan for South Carolina” for years, LHA is proud of its participation in the creation of the South Carolina Comprehensive Statewide Water Management Act. LHA also is grateful to and appreciative of the efforts of Representative Don Bowen and Senator Kevin Bryant for their leadership and support of this important bill. This is an important and very positive direction for the future of water management in the state of South Carolina.

The LHA Fall Meeting Well Attended

Submitted by Mike Massey

The LHA Fall Meeting was attended by over 250 people at the Civic Center in Anderson on November 15th. It was a very interesting evening with a number of very important topics discussed. In addition, a number of LHA business members were available to discuss their businesses and provide information to those present.



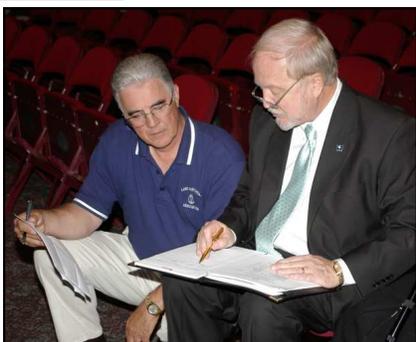
LHA President Joe Brenner welcomed the attendees and introduced the members of the Board of Directors for LHA. He then discussed the LHA activities and accomplishments to date.



Opie Gilbert and Joe Brenner, LHA pres

Brenner also presented a “Special Member Contribution Award” to Opie Gilbert of Kroeger Marine Construction, Inc. for volunteering their barges, equipment and personnel for designated lake “clean-up days” in 2007.

A brief report from LHA board member Larry Dyck on the LHA technical activities followed. Mike Massey then discussed the South Carolina legislative efforts and introduced SC Representative Don Bowen and SC Senator Kevin Bryant, both of Anderson. The legislators combined to provide information on



Mike Massey and Rep Don Bowen

the status of the South Carolina Comprehensive Statewide Water Management Act (which was pre-filed into the 2008 legislative queue on December 12, 2007). This bill (H44393) will be an important step towards improved water management in South Carolina and is expected to provide better coordination and cooperation policies with Georgia for Savannah River water.



Stan Simpson, USACE hydrologist

The Corps of Engineers Savannah River managers, Stan Simpson and Jason Ward were present to discuss water levels and projections for the basin.

Unfortunately, those projections were not very positive through the winter months. People are encouraged to visit the Corps website at <http://water.sas.usace.army.mil/declarations.cfm/> for the latest projections. We need rain to improve our water levels.

Dr. Gene Eidson was the keynote speaker for the evening. Dr. Eidson is founder, president and CEO of Southeastern Natural Sciences Academy and is also Director for Restoration Ecology at Clemson University’s Restoration Institute. Dr. Eidson discussed a number of new goals and objectives for the Institute that would benefit the future needs of the Savannah River Basin through a better planning process and understanding of water needs and water allocation for the basin. He also demonstrated a new water data collection process that is now being used in the Savannah River which allows for real-time monitoring of specific sections of water. Current data is primarily collected by mathematical calculations based on a hydrologic model. Both are important tools to have.



Keynote speaker Dr. Gene Eidson

The Fall Meeting concluded with a lively question and answer period followed by the awarding of a number of very nice door prizes for lucky attendees.

NEWS FROM THE CORPS....

Meeting with Corps' Col. Kertis

Submitted by Joe Brenner

Several area community leaders and LHA's President Joe Brenner were invited to meet privately with Col. Kertis and the Hartwell operations staff prior to the Corps' public meeting on Nov. 14.

The group recognized the efforts by the Corps to mitigate the effects of the drought. The Savannah Basin has fared better than other basins in the region largely due to the proactive approach by the Corps in managing water reserves. Basin flows continue to be held below those called for in the drought plan.

We used this time as an opportunity to make several recommendations that LHA believes will further preserve our water reserves.

The Corps needs to further reduce basin flows to the absolute minimum required to protect downstream users. We believe this is in the best interests of both our lake and everyone in the basin. If the lakes are run to the bottom of the conservation pool, the results throughout the basin will be catastrophic. LHA has written letters to Col. Kertis and Georgia Gov. Perdue making this request. As we have previously discussed, the Corps can not simply alter the drought plan. Any changes require the agreement of both states and several regulatory agencies. The Colonel indicated that the Corps has started the 45-day notice period required to study and recommend further flow reductions. He believes both states support this, but it will probably meet resistance from U.S. Fish and Wildlife and environmental groups.

The Corps needs to make better use of Lake Russell's pumpback system to protect levels upstream. The current Corps policy calls for balancing levels between Hartwell and Thurmond Lakes. With this approach, water that could be stored in Hartwell by optimizing pumpback operations is eventually passed downstream to keep the pools in balance. With this approach, Hartwell sees no benefit from the pumpback system unless there is significantly more rain and inflows further downstream.

The Corps needs to put greater priority on funding to complete the Comprehensive Basin Study. Lack of this data continues to thwart efforts to better manage basin operation and develop an optimum drought plan. LHA has solicited support from both governors and federal legislators from both states to provide necessary funding.

The Corps in non-drought situations has been targeting a winter pool level of 658 MSL vs. the rule curve target of 656 MSL. This approach has proven successful and modeling done by the Corps has verified their capability to respond to significant inflow events with this pool level. We requested



Col. Edward J. Kertis,
District Commander
U.S.A.C.E.,
Savannah District

that the Corps make this change "official" by making a formal change in the rule curve. Col. Kertis agreed to pursue this.

This opportunity to meet with the Corps staff was of great value and will hopefully result in some positive changes.

ASK THE CORPS

LHA members can send questions to LHANewsletter@Yahoo.com. We will send them on to the USACE and possibly post questions and answers here.

Member question-

My husband and I were out Sunday in our boat and found a couple places that really should be marked - tree tops coming through the water. *Is it okay for us to mark them and what should we mark them with?* Do we have a commercial member that might offer a discount on something to mark these dangers with? We were concerned enough about what we saw in two different places - IN THE MIDDLE OF THE LAKE - that we turned around and went home. Any help or advice you can share would be great. This looks like something all our members would want to participate in - helping the rangers, if it is allowed - to mark these things especially while they are short handed!

Thanks, Charlene

Corps response-

First of all. Let me start off by expressing our gratitude for your concern. Obviously, right now, under water hazards are more of a problem than usual due to low water. It is the Corps policy to only mark under water hazards within the main lake channel (outside boundaries marked by the red and green nun or can buoys) and the most direct routes from boat ramps to the main-channel. There have been a few exceptions to this rule, mainly to mark large areas of exposed trees, shoals, etc. These are marked with orange ball buoys as they become a threat. Due to the size of Hartwell Lake, limitations have to be set as far as what can and will be marked due to funding and a lack of manpower. We urge boaters to use extreme caution during times of drought and low lake levels and to stay within marked channels.

To answer your question, no, we do not object to members of the public marking hazards with milk jugs, etc. I'm sure other boaters would appreciate it as much as we would. I hope I helped a little bit. If you have any other questions or concerns, please feel free to call me.

Zachary J. Harkness
Natural Resources Program Manager
Hartwell Lake and Dam
US Army Corps of Engineers
1-888-893-0678 ext. 310

Continued next page

ASK THE CORPS CONTINUED....

Member question-

With our dock on the mud and our boat in the garage, the only way that we can enjoy the lake is to launch our boat from one of the Corps ramps. However, many of them are closed. *Can you tell me which ramps are closed at this time?*

Corp response-

The following ramps are closed at this time due to budget limitations.

Milltown Campground, Mullins Ford, Honea Path, Denver, Powderbag, Durham, Mary Ann Branch, Jarrett, Spring Branch, Townville and Apple Island.

Some ramps still have one lane open while others have all lanes closed at this time due to low water. A list follows.

Big Oaks: left lane closed but right lane open

Broyles: all 3 lanes closed

Cleveland: closed

18 Mile Creek: closed

Elrod Ferry closed: (due to silt)

Fairplay: left lane open but right lane closed

Friendship: both lanes closed

Lawrence Bridge: closed

Poplar Springs: left lane closed but right lane open

River Forks: right lane closed but left lane open

Stephens Co.: closed

Tabor: closed

12 Mile: left lane closed but right lane open

Twin Lakes: left lane closed but right lane open

Walker Creek: closed

The following ramps are closed for the season.

Paynes Creek Campground, Springfield Campground, Oconee Point Campground, Long Point and Weldon Island

Nathan Dinehart

Park Ranger USACE Hartwell Project

Member questions-

1. *Has the Corps considered a "water in = water out" policy for the lake (Hartwell)?* That is, after the lake is lowered 4 ft in winter we send downstream what ever water we get. This seems to make sense to me since the rain that falls downstream doesn't help us. Also, the government doesn't seem to be trying to operate in the black anywhere else, so why must it get revenue from power generation at the expense of 100s of twisted docks in the mud.

2. Since weather predictions are getting more accurate and this recent drought was predicted before it began, *why must you draw the lake down 4 ft in the winter to make room for rains that are probably not coming?*

Corps response-

The water in vs. water out policy has been considered and is currently the operation we follow associated with drought trigger level 4. We would like to consider options like you proposed and we will do that through a study like the Savannah River Basin Comprehensive Study. Phase 1 of the Comp Study resulted in an earlier drought response by adding a flow restriction at drought trigger level 1. Hopefully Congress will add funding back to the Comprehensive Study so that we can look at options like yours and their associated benefits and impacts.

Your second suggestion is equally viable. Over the past several years we have adaptively been limiting how much flood storage we require at the projects. This has been very successful during dry years, in providing more storage as we enter the spring. Reallocating flood storage to conservation storage, changing the winter drawdown, will be addressed in phase 2 of the Comp Study. The study would again evaluate the benefits and impacts of such proposals.

Please remember we still need to meet downstream water supply and water quality needs. In the past these needs have been met with average weekly flows of around 4500 cfs. from Thurmond. Currently, the drought plan is limiting our discharges at Thurmond to 4000 cfs. There have been no reported water quality/supply impacts. Note that hydropower is just the mechanism we use for moving the water downstream rather than through the gates. Also keep in mind that we try to manage a balanced system in which the users at Hartwell and Thurmond are equally impacted by drought.

Keep up the good questions & please be active in participating in Phase 2 of the Comp Study if and when funding is restored.

Stan Simpson, hydrologist

Corps Restricts Water Withdrawal

Source Billy Birdwell, USACE

The U. S. Army Corps of Engineers' Hartwell Project has implemented a temporary water withdrawal restriction for private individuals with Shoreline Use Permits to pump water for irrigation purposes. This restriction applies to all of Hartwell Lake and will be in effect as long as the existing outdoor watering ban in the State of Georgia remains in effect and/or for the duration of additional water bans that may be implemented by South Carolina relative to the current drought.

Water withdrawals from Hartwell Lake for irrigation purposes by private individuals occurring during the restriction will be considered a violation of Title 36, Code of Federal Regulations, Part 327.12. Violations may result in a monetary fine and/or a mandatory court appearance before the appropriate U. S. Magistrate.

The water restriction has been implemented in an effort to conserve as much water as possible during the current drought.

A Study of the Causes of Boat Fires

Submitted by Dan Ray

A study released by BoatU.S. Marine Insurance indicates that the leading causes of fires aboard vessels are AC and DC wiring problems, engine and transmission overheating and fuel leaks.

Number 1 is AC and DC wiring and appliances which account for 55% of fires. The report further detailed the electrical sources into subcategories such as DC shorts and wiring--30%, DC engine regulator--12%, shore poer--4% and other causes. Wire chafe is the biggest problem. Electrical fires can reignite even after an extinguisher has been emptied, so its also important to have a main battery switch and/or AC breaker to stop the ignition source.

The number 2 cause, engine/ transmission overheating, had 24% of the claims. Obstructed intake or exhaust cooling water passages are the main cause for hose or impeller meltdowns which lead to overheating. Keeping these clear especially exhaust manifolds and risers, as well as regular replacement of pump impellers, would have prevented most of the fires.

The number 3 cause of fires is fuel leaks with 8% of the claims. Typical problems areas are fuel lines, fuels connections on the engine itself and leaking tanks.

Regular inspection and maintenance are the obvious way to avoid these expensive and potentially deadly problems. Working through a checklist of these areas on a regular basis will pay off big in safer and more enjoyable time on the water rather than waiting for a costly repair

Source: November issue of the Scuttlebutt, official publication of the Akron Power Squadron, a unit of the United States Power Squadrons.

Letter to LHA Members

Dear LHA Members,

BoatUS, the Boat Owners Association of the United States, is asking all members to help ensure the quick passage of "The Recreational Boating Act of 2007" (House Bill #2550 and Senate Bill #2067.)

This important federal legislation will eliminate (for recreational boats only) the new court-imposed EPA discharge permit. Without this legislation boat owners will need to apply and pay for a discharge permit to legally operate each of your boats, starting September 30, 2008.

Current environmental restrictions on the overboard discharge of oil, fuel, garbage and sewage will remain in place and not be altered by this legislation.

To learn more about this important BoatUS action alert go to:

http://www.boatus.com/gov/actionalert_1107.asp

If you need additional information or assistance, please feel free to contact me.

Ashley Reed,
 Program Coordinator, Boat U.S. Government Affairs
 Phone: (703)461-2878 x8363
 Email: areed@BOATUS.com

BoatU.S. Memberships Half Price for LHA Members

LHA has again signed up with the BoatU.S. as a cooperating group. What this means to you as a LHA member is the opportunity to join the world's largest boating organization at one half the regular annual cost (\$12.50 instead of \$25.00). Last year thirty one of our members took advantage of this offer.

BoatU.S. has been looking after the interests of recreational boat owners for over 40 years. More than 2500 groups have signed on adding benefits of their members and effectively attracting new ones. An excellent monthly magazine is one benefit BoatU.S. members receive.

If you wish to join, you can go online at www.boatus.com (click on membership) or you can call 1-800-395-2628. Be sure to mention LHA's cooperating group ID number--GA83098B in order to get the reduced enrollment cost.

Incidentally, when you go online, you will see a long list of member benefits: towing costs, a \$10 gift coupon for purchases totaling \$250 at West Marine or BoatU.S. stores and many more.

Official Ballot

James (Jim) Bushey has been nominated to fill the position vacated by Wayne Gaskin. Jim is a 30-year veteran of the U.S. Air Force. His tours of duty include Vietnam, Germany, the Pentagon and the Department of State. He is a graduate of Auburn University with a BS degree in Personnel Management. He also earned an MBA degree from the University of Utah. His military education includes the U.S. Army Command and General Staff College and the National War College.

Jim moved from Niceville, FL, to Lake Hartwell in 2005. He is currently a member of the LHA Program Committee.

	Yes	No
Jim Bushey	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Director-at-Large	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Mail ballot to the address on page 2 or vote by email at mail@LakeHartwellAssociation.org

2007 Hartwell Lake Clean-Up Campaign Picnic A Fun Event!!

Submitted by Mike Massey

The success of the 2007 Hartwell Lake Clean-up Campaign was due to over 665 volunteers and over 100 organizations participating during the five-week clean-up period that began on August 25 and ended on September 29. According to the Corps of Engineers, over 42 tons of debris was removed from the lake. While several tons were the results of the bags of trash collected by the registered volunteers, the remainder was due in large part to the removal of white bead floatation that has been released into the lake illegally. Kroeger Marine donated their barge equipment and employee time to assist the Corps and LHA with this effort.

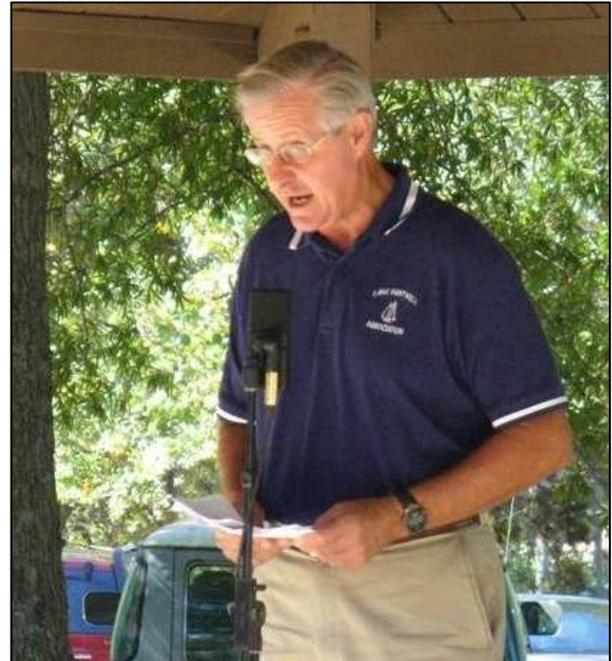


LHA Programs Committee members Jack Maciag and Rufus Moss getting ready to feed the crowd.

This was the 26th year of the cleanup that is managed and coordinated by the U. S. Army Corps of Engineers– Hartwell Project.

The Volunteer Appreciation Day Picnic for the participants is co-sponsored by the Lake Hartwell Association. This year's picnic was held at Big Oaks Recreation Area on Saturday, September 29. Hundreds of volunteers enjoyed live entertainment and great picnic food prepared by members of LHA. The Corps provided craft activities for the young ones and a special live reptile display of snakes and lizards. As usual, local businesses showed their appreciation to the volunteers by donating hundreds of items which were given away to attendees. Everyone walked away with at least one item.

LHA would like to send a special thanks to the staff of the Corps of Engineers Hartwell Project Office, the Optimist Club of Hartwell, Dairy Queen of Hartwell, Georgia Rivers Alive, McDonald's, the LHA volunteers and 78 other businesses and organizations that contributed to the success of the Lake Clean-up and the Appreciation Day Picnic.



LHA Vice-President Larry Dyck welcomes the attendees and thanks them for helping to keep the lake clean.



Approximately 200 people attended the fun event. Over a hundred door prizes were given away.

Share Your Photos:

If you have digital photos that you would like to share with other LHA members submit them to the email address below. Include the names of recognizable people and information that can be used in a caption.
LHANewsletter@yahoo.com

Winners of 2007 Special Member Contribution Awards

Submitted by Petra Massey

The Lake Hartwell Association is pleased to announce the winners of the 2007 annual LHA Special Member Recognition Awards. This unique award acknowledges LHA members who make outstanding contributions to LHA and its ongoing efforts "for the sake of the lake."

Kroeger Marine Construction, Inc.



LHA business member Kroeger Marine of Seneca, SC, was recognized for proactively volunteering barges, equipment and personnel for designated lake "clean-up days" in 2007. On the initial effort on June 29, Kroeger Marine, Corps personnel and volunteers removed tons of illegally discarded white bead flotation blocks and other debris from the Lake Hartwell shoreline along a section of the Tugaloo River. At the LHA Fall Meeting on November 14, LHA President Joe Brenner presented Kroeger Marine representative, Opie Gilbert, with a special plaque commemorating the generous contribution and the dedication demonstrated by Dave Kroeger and the Kroeger Marine team.

Marv Tabor, LHA Interim Treasurer



LHA member Marv Tabor of Toccoa, GA, was recognized for generously volunteering his time and expertise to serve as interim treasurer from July 2006 to October 2007. As acting treasurer, Marv did a superb job of supporting LHA officers and board members. He also worked hard to ensure good stewardship of LHA financial management and accounting records. Marv received a gift certificate for dinner at The Galley restaurant at Portman Marina, an LHA business member establishment.

Please join us in thanking and congratulating our 2007 award winners!

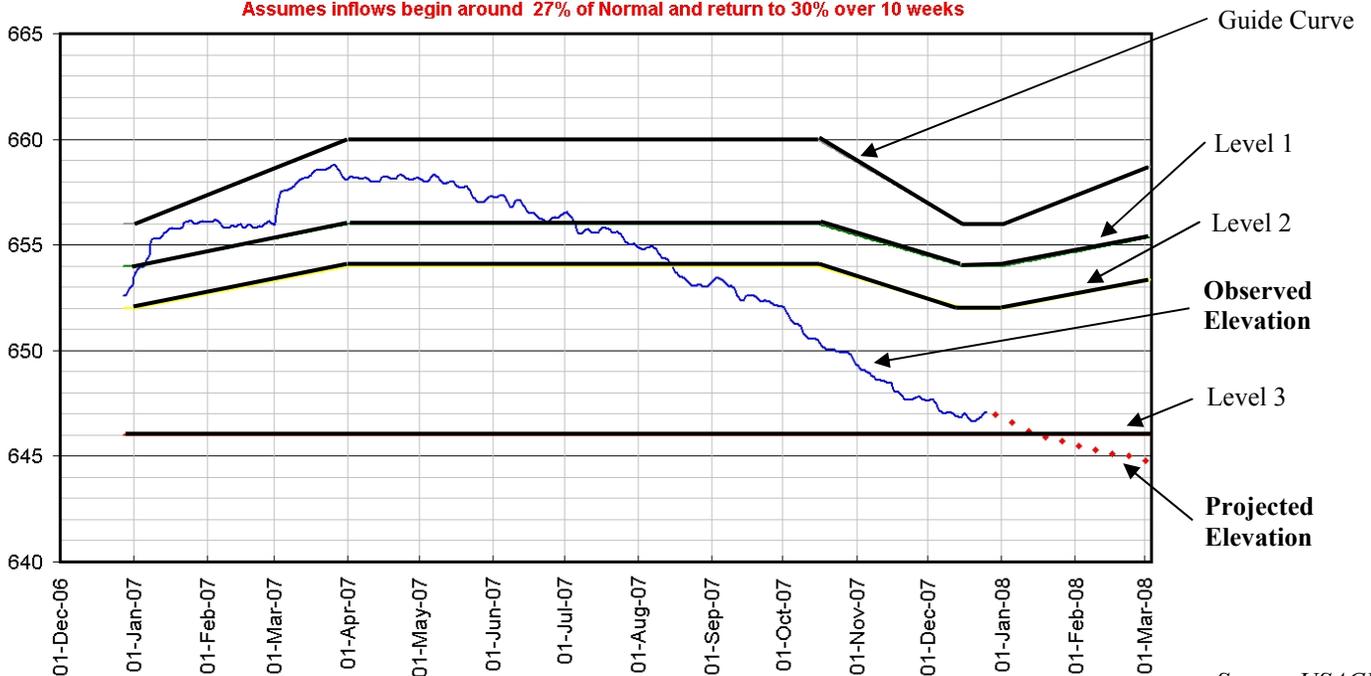
Business that Donated Prizes

LHA wishes to thank those businesses that donated door prizes for the recent Lake Hartwell Cleanup Campaign picnic.

Anderson Boat Canvas, Anderson County Safe Kids Coalition, Anderson Federal Credit Union, Appleby's Grill & Bar, Athens First Bank and Trust, Bank of America Belk of Hartwell, Big Water Marina, Buffalo Southwest Café, Captain Dave's Marine, Carolina Beer Company, Catechee Golf Club, Corbett McGee's Irish Pub, Dairy Queen of Hartwell, Foothills Outfitters, Fuddrucker's Restaurant, Gordon's Marine, Grady's Great Outdoors, Harbor Inn Restaurant, Harbor Light Marina, Hartwell Marina & Boat Sales, L & J Hardware and Variety, Lake Hartwell Fishing & Marine, Lee's Marine, Longhorn Steakhouse, McDonalds Corp, Nami Asian Bistro, Galley Restaurant, Olive Garden Restaurant, Outback Steakhouse, Outdoor RV & Marine World, Pinnacle Bank, Red Lobster Restaurant, Siblings Restaurant, Strickland Marine Center, Texas Roadhouse, Coach House Restaurant, The Gray House, Wal-Mart, West Marine, Zaxby's Real Chicken and The Dock Depot

Lake Levels and Projections

Assumes inflows begin around 27% of Normal and return to 30% over 10 weeks



Source: USACE

LHA Community & Business Members

Please support the Community & Business Members who support LHA!

Please visit the LHA website today and look under the "Community & Business Members" webpage to find contact information and website links, where available, for these LHA patrons:

Associations

Foxwood Hills Property Owners Association - Bill Lewis
 Lake Hartwell Sail & Power Squadron - Mary Orem
 Leeward Landing Association of Boat Dock Owners - Susan Lasley
 Paradise Point Inc. - William Roberts
 Pintail Point Property Owners - Sheree Moates
 Swaney's Point Association - Tom Williams
 View Point Lot Owners Association

Boat Sales, Service & Supplies

Captain Dave's Boating World - David Strickland
 Hartwell Marina & Boat Sales – Brant Tew
 Lee's Marine LLC - Randy Lee

Commercial & Residential Construction

Currahee Club - Chris W. Whitley
 DALCO Custom Homes - Flay Dalrymple
 Harding Waterfront Construction - Pete Harding
 Indian Creek Contracting - Lori & Duke Jones
 Lake Home Renovations - Paul A. Erickson
 T N Construction Company, Inc. - Thad Strickland

Dental & Medical Services

Dr. Andrew Adams, DDS

Docks and Marine Construction & Supplies

Custom Steel & Wood, Inc. - Don Haynie
 Dock Depot & Marine Supply - Richard & Georgeanne Henshaw
 Docks South LLC - Bill Griggs
 Kroeger Marine Construction, Inc. - Dave Kroeger
 Superior Dock Systems, Inc. - Horace McGee
 T & M Custom Docks - Donnie Thacker

General

Robert & Connie Banks
 Paul & Susan Meng

Government

USACE Hartwell Project – Virgil Hobbs

Insurance

State Farm Insurance - Terence Roberts

Marinas

Big Water Marina - Jane W. Davis
 Harbor Light Marina - Larry Rich

Portman Marina - Dave Freeman

News Media

The Hartwell Sun - Robert Rider

Other Specialty Services

Green Space Surfaces, LLC – Bill England

Real Estate

Century 21 Watermark Realty – Pat Rowland
 Coldwell Banker Fort Realty - Fort Oglesby
 Hartwell Lake Properties - Mike Gray
 Remax Properties - Charlene & Anthony Lee
 SC Homes and Lake Realty by Victoria McCormick

Utilities

Anderson Regional Joint Water System - Scott Willett

New LHA Members and Donors Welcome Aboard and Thank You!

We know we couldn't do it without all of our dedicated members and donors, who share a commitment to support LHA's efforts "for the sake of the lake!" Please welcome the following members who have joined since our last newsletter:

New Family Memberships

Mike Barry, Ted D. Burgess, Kirk & Marguerite Carter Gordon & Linda Duffey, Larry & Susan Dunster, Daniel & Pamela Euliss, Martin Fahsel, William & Ruth Friedman, Denis & Geri Hynds, Jim Januzelli, Vince & Carolyn Jennings, Randy & Robin Kaja, Bruce & Elaine Marron, Jim & Susan Montgomery, Don & Rosemary Priest, David B. & Deborah A. Reed, Rick & Jeannette Ross, Dan & Kay Rufo, Mike & Lynne Sewell, Russell & Susi Smith, Scott & Jackie Summerville, Gary & Marilyn Taylor, Craig & Shauna Yardley, Guy & Tina Young.

New Business Membership

Closet Tailors of Anderson - Robert Colcolough

Donations to LHA

We also wish to thank the following LHA donors. If you happen meet them along the way, be sure to let them know how much we all appreciate their generosity!

John & Marilyn Bowman, J. William Butler, Lorna Campbell, Larry & Cecile Dyck, William & Ruth Friedman, Todd Heller, Mark Howell, Derek E. Hutchinson, James Hipkens & Rob Lamy, Dale & Nancy Linvill, Mike & Petra Massey, Mr. & Mrs. Harold Martin, Randall J. Martinez, Lois & Gene Masini, Buddy Moore, Frank H. Pettit, George & Julie Reimer, Mrs. & Mrs. Riley T. Stephens, Paul & Monica Zielinski.

Welcome Aboard & Thanks for your support "For The Sake Of The Lake!"

Georgia Legislative Committee Report

Submitted by Pat Goran

The 2008 session of the Georgia Legislature should be one of the most important sessions in many years as the Statewide Water Plan will be submitted to the Legislature from the Environmental Protection Division of the Georgia Department of Natural Resources. The Lake Hartwell Association has participated in development of the Georgia Statewide Water Plan through membership on the Savannah Basin Advisory Committee and through our affiliation with the Georgia Water Coalition.

LHA was successful in having Hart County, the City of Hartwell and the City of Lavonia pass resolutions that urged the General Assembly to fully fund the comprehensive water planning process and its implementation. LHA also urged the Legislature to pass a law that prohibits the transfer of water from one river basin to another if that transfer would harm the economy or the natural health of either basin. A list of cities and counties that have passed similar resolutions is available at www.gwf.org/gawater, along with additional information about the positions of the Georgia Water Coalition.

We urge you to get detailed information on the Draft Comprehensive Statewide Water Management Plan by visiting the Georgia Water Council's web site, www.georgiawatercouncil.org/. You will note that the time for submitting official comments on the plan has passed. This does not prevent you from making your feelings known to your legislators and we encourage you to continuing to do so.

As always, if you can spare some time to help LHA stay on top of this and other important lake-related issues, please let us know!

Osprey on the nest

Corps Extends Dock Installation Dates

Submitted by Billy Birdwell, USACE

Due to ongoing drought conditions, Colonel Edward J. Kertis, commander of the U. S. Army Corps of Engineers' Savannah District, has extended dock installation dates on Hartwell Lake. According to the Hartwell Project Shoreline Management Plan (SMP), implemented in Jan. 2007, docks issued prior to June 27, 2006 were to be installed by Jan. 1, 2008. Additionally, docks issued after that date were to be installed within one year of issuance. The June 27, 2006 date was the date the draft SMP update was presented to the public and implemented as an interim plan.

As a result of the extreme drought conditions and the forecast for continued dry conditions, the deadline for installing all docks issued prior to Jan. 1, 2008, was extended one year to Jan. 1, 2009. Docks issued after Jan. 1, 2008 must be installed within one year of issuance date. The extension does not negate the requirement for individuals with lots less than 75 ft. wide to make an application request prior to Jan. 1, 2008. Properties with less than 75 ft. of frontage will not qualify for a dock permit after Jan. 1, 2008. Additionally, individuals with existing dock permits in less than 4 ft. of water at full pool, wishing to be considered for larger docks, must also make application by Jan. 1, 2008.

For more information, contact Park Ranger Sandy Campbell at the Hartwell Project Office toll free at (888) 893-0678, ext. 315.

Deer near the water's edge.

Photos by the editor



Upcoming Events for LHA-Related Activities

Event	Date
LHA Board Meeting, 7:00 PM, Hartwell GA	1/14/08
LHA Board Meeting, 7:00 PM Anderson Public Library	3/10/08

LAKE HARTWELL ASSOCIATION, Inc.
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Fair Play, SC 29643

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

LAKE HARTWELL ASSOCIATION MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION
P.O. Box 312; Fairplay, SC 29643

*Winter
2008*

Membership Information: Check all that apply

New Renewal Address change Amount Paid _____ Date _____

Family \$25 Community, Association or Business \$100
 Gift Membership Additional Donation _____

Name _____

Spouse's Name _____
(Family Membership Application Only)

Mailing Address _____

City _____ State _____ ZIP _____

Phone (H) _____ (W) _____

E-Mail _____

Occupation(s): Yours _____ Spouse's _____
(If retired, check here and give former occupations above)

Lake Address & County _____
(*or Gift Recipient's address) _____

Give something back to the lake.
Select a committee on which you
would be willing to serve.

- Legislative
- Program
- Financial
- Lake Cleanup
- Safety
- Technical
- Membership
- Publications

Pay by Check: Make checks payable to **Lake Hartwell Association, Inc.** Send to address above.

⇒⇒⇒ Your membership fees and donations are fully tax deductible. ⇐⇐⇐