



Lake Hartwell Association, Inc.

for the sake of the lake



FALL 2017

Doug Young LHA President Passes Away



Lake Hartwell Association (LHA) president Doug Young passed away September 30th following emergency heart surgery at the Greenville Memorial Hospital. He is survived by Ellen, his wife of fifty years, and their two children, Daniel and Laura.

Doug, an Eagle Scout, was very active in outdoor conservation issues. In addition to his Lake Hartwell activities he was active in the Oconee Forever conservation group and as an adult leader for the Boy Scouts of America where he was given the Silver Beaver Award for excellence in volunteer work.

Doug had been a valuable member of the LHA since joining in 2008. He was very active as a board member for several years and was reliable and timely in whatever tasks he undertook. He served as treasurer for several years before becoming president. He was also the treasurer of the Chickasaw Point Property Owners Association that has made their Club House available to the LHA for its annual meetings for which we are truly appreciative.

Doug ended emails with “When the last tree has been cut down, the last fish caught, the last lake poisoned, only then will we realize that one cannot eat money”. He will be missed.

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GREEN POND LANDING: WRITING A NEW CHAPTER IN LAKE HARTWELL'S HISTORY

By Glenn Brill, Director: Anderson County Parks, Recreation & Tourism Division

As I write this story, the *Academy Sports & Outdoors BASS Nation Championship* is at *Green Pond Landing & Event Center*. Anglers from 47 of our 50 states and nine foreign

countries, including three from Africa, are fishing the waters of Lake Hartwell. The top three anglers will earn a place in the 2018 *Geico Bassmaster Classic*.

Green Pond, which turns three years old on December 19th, is writing an exciting new chapter in Lake Hartwell's 55 year history with every tournament it hosts. As 2017 comes to an end, it has hosted tournaments with a combined economic impact of \$28 million. By the end of 2018, the number will be almost \$53 million!

We'll kick-off the year on the first weekend of 2018 with the 100+ boat *Striped Bass Winter Classic* January 5-6. The *TH Marine Bass Fishing League* will be here twice, on February 10th and May 12th.

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Green Pond Landing, continued from page 1

The *Geico Bassmaster Classic* will visit *Green Pond* for the second time and *Lake Hartwell* for the third on March 10-18. Though small by *Green Pond's* standards, the 56 boat event, its trade show, weigh-ins and international media coverage will generate \$23 million in economic impact. Fun fact: Of all the places the *Classic* visits, *Green Pond & Greenville* give BASS the shortest distance between where they fish & weigh-in of any other venue in the nation.



The *American Bass Anglers (ABA) Couples Championship* makes a return visit on September 17-21. More than 70 boats fished it at *Green Pond* in 2015. Our final major tournament of the year will be October 21-26 when the *RAM American Fishing Tour National Championship* returns to *Green Pond*. When we hosted this ABA tournament in 2015, 207 boats competed for the title.

Additionally, we'll host several tournaments for the *Palmetto Boat Center High School Tournament Trail*. One of its 2016 tournaments brought a record 243 boats to *Green Pond & Lake Hartwell*.

\$53 million in fishing tournaments in just four years: The future of *Green Pond, Anderson County & Lake Hartwell* is brighter than the sun!



Team Mexico was one of the nine international teams



NATIVE PLANTS

Protecting Water Quality Healthy Watersheds

Spotlight on Witch Hazel

*Sarah White: Clemson University Associate Professor, Nursery Extension Specialist
Cathy Reas Foster, SC Native Plant Society & LHA Board Member*

Walking through the woods in late fall and through winter, you may be surprised to see a glimmering display of color in the forest understory. Witch hazel (*Hamamelis* sp.) is a native deciduous large shrub or small tree that provides shelter and food for wildlife, protects water quality, and is valued by its diversity of settings, for its flower color, and winter-flowering period. It differs from most other flowering plants because flowers, fruits, and leaf buds emerge all at once and are present at the same time in a beautiful color palette ranging from pale yellow to orange, deep red, or reddish-purple. The flowers have a citrus fragrance, and they cluster along bare stems from October through March. The common witch hazel (*H. virginiana*) begins to flower in the fall and reaches 10 ft tall. As a special bonus of color, the leaves begin to turn yellow, then orange, before maturing to bright red in winter, adding yet another season of interest to this valuable landscape shrub.

Common witch hazel grows in a wide variety of naturalized settings: moist to dry woodlands, shady north-facing slopes, forest margins, floodplains, stream-banks, lake shorelines, and along fence rows. Consider planting witch hazel with species in its native community: deciduous trees like black gum and flowering dogwood; evergreens like American holly; and deciduous shrubs like Virginia sweetspire, sweet pepperbush, and common ninebark. Witch hazel colors shimmer when paired with ornamental grasses like muhly grass and showy herbaceous perennials such as swamp milkweed, beebalm, cardinal flower, narrow-leaf sunflower, and Georgia asters.

Witch hazel provides essential food and shelter for wildlife. Its flowers provide a late-season sugary snack for pollinators including bees, butterflies, and songbirds. Its seeds are food sources for turkey, ruffed grouse, northern bobwhite quail, and cottontail rabbit. The low branches provide nesting sites for birds such as wood thrushes and flycatchers.

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The Wallet Cont.

On a side note, if you add witch hazel astringent to your medicine cabinet, it will be the star! The bark, twigs and leaves of witch hazel were used by Native Americans as an astringent and to treat skin ulcers, muscle aches, colds and coughs, bruises, cuts, and insect bites. The name witch hazel, the common name of the Hamamelis genus, was derived from its use by colonial Americans. Forked branches of witch hazel or “witching sticks” were used to search for water or precious metals.

Witch hazel is a beautiful native plant that protects water quality and is an approved shoreline plant for Lake Hartwell. Once established, Nnative plants require less water, less fertilizers, and less pesticides.

Their Witch hazel has deep roots that grow easily in our red clay soils and help prevent erosion and water runoff by growing easily in our red clay soils. Not only do native plants such as like witch hazel provide environmental benefits of protecting water quality and providing for wildlife, but they also provide a sense of place and regional character for everyone to enjoy.



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FREE MOBILE PHONE APP FOR LAKE INFO

The Corps of Engineers has a free app for your iPhone, iPad or Android device that shows a ton of information on the Savannah River Basin and its Lakes.

- Lists all Lake Levels for Hartwell, Russell and Thurmond
- Outflows at each dam along with significant points all the way to Savannah Harbor
- Observed rainfall for each Lake
- Rainfall forecast
- Stream flow forecast
- USGS Gages
- Level projections for all lakes
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ANNUAL MEETING OVERVIEW



Dedication and Memorials.

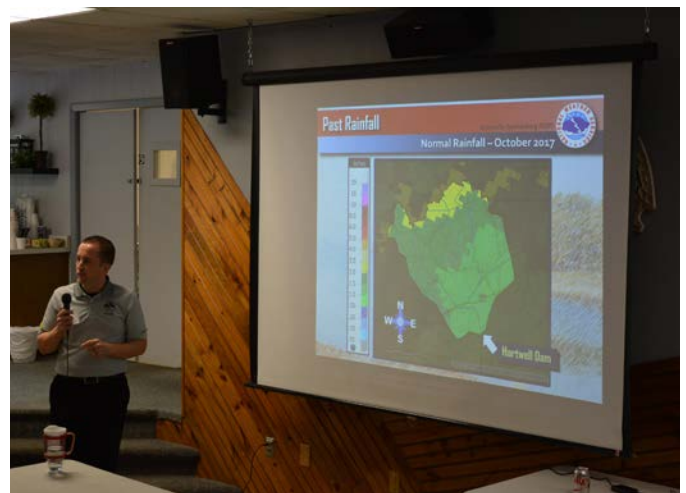
The annual meeting was attended by 92 members and guests. It was dedicated to our late president Doug Young, who unexpectedly passed a few weeks ago following an emergency heart surgery. A moment of silence was called to remember Doug and Devin Hodges. Devin was the Anderson County Sheriff's Deputy who lost his life in a boating accident while on a training exercise with the Corps of Engineers and the SC Department of Natural Resources (SCDNR). The three organizations work together providing boat patrols on the lake. Lake Hartwell Association members donated more than \$3000 to Devin's memorial

fund which was presented to his wife and his four children under ten years old, two of whom have special needs. *Special thanks to all who donated.*

One hundred Foot Wake Zone Update

SC State Senator Thomas Alexander and Captain Mike Sabaka of SCDNR advised that South Carolina boating laws currently requires a No Wake Zone of 50 feet, while Georgia and North Carolina have 100 feet laws. This means when operating a boat within 100 feet of swimmers, anchored boats, docks and other stationary objects that could be damaged by a wake, you must slow to a speed that leaves minimum wake...usually an idle. The change will bring South Carolina up to date with its neighboring states, and is especially needed on Hartwell since the lake is shared with Georgia.

The bill changing the law was passed by the SC Senate in their last session, but time ran out before the SC House of Representatives was able to address the bill. Senator Alexander said It will be among the first issues addressed in the next session that starts in January 2018.



Savannah Basin Comprehensive Study Update

Using decades of data and experience Phase 2 of the Comprehensive Study was to specifically address drought conditions in the basin and “fine tune” how the release and storage of water in the lakes is handled. The Corps of Engineers, both state’s DNRs and the Nature Conservatory (TNC) participated in the exercise. Results of the study were released in June in the form of a detailed (117 page) Feasibility Report and Environmental Assessment for the Drought Contingency Plan Update. The update was made public for review and comment and is now being finalized.

The study resulted in six alternatives for handling future drought conditions. Alternative number two was recommended and selected after public reviews and meetings. Alternative two:

- Lowers the amount of releases at each drought trigger level increasing the amount of water to be held in the conservation pool.
- Eliminates the winter drawdowns requirement for any of the drought trigger levels.
- Eliminates the previous large differences between the second and third drought trigger levels.
- Continues the lower flows during the winter months when in drought levels 2 and 3.

For the last 31 years Stan Simpson of the Corps Savannah District Office has been responsible for monitoring and directing flow rates and storage of water in the basin. His presentation of the above and answering of numerous questions was one of the highlights of the meeting. *Thanks Stan.*

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Annual Meeting Overview Cont.

Local Weather Forecasting and Rainfall Reporting

We all know how frustrating it is when lake levels keep retreating even when we have had “normal rainfall in the area” according to “official reports”. Josh Palmer with the National Weather Service office in Greenville gave a detailed presentation of why this happens in the case of Lake Hartwell.

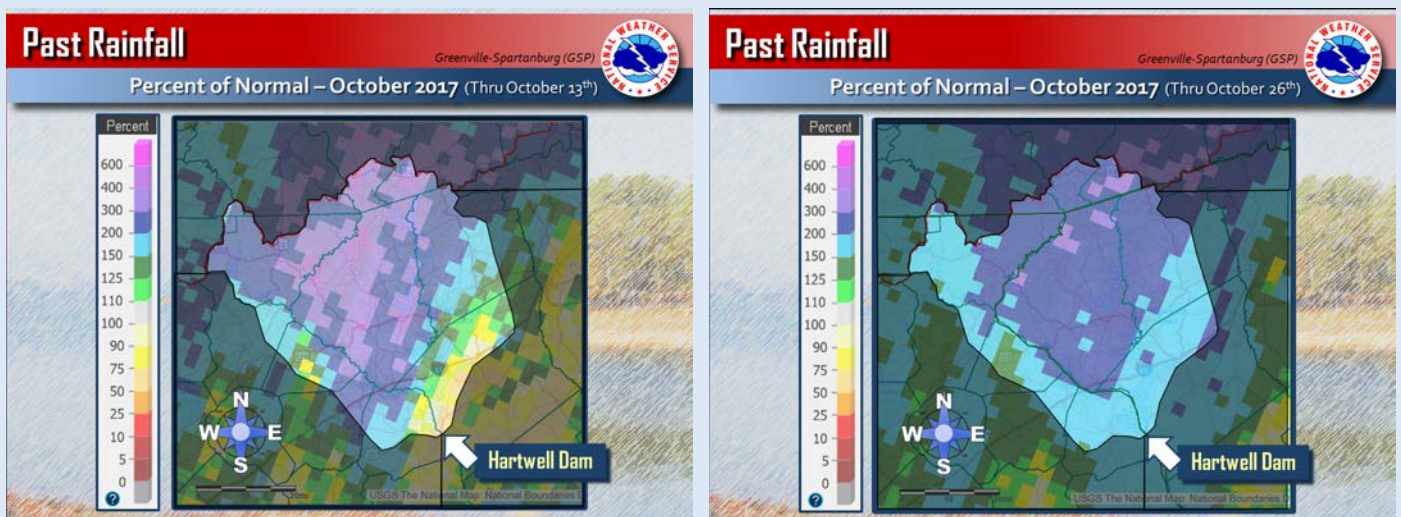
It turns out that the watershed, or “drainage area” for the lake is quite small as shown by the following diagrams. For example, much of the rain that falls in the City of Anderson drains around the dam and flows into Lake Russell. And it is not unusual for the amount of rain in my gauge and the amount in a neighbor’s gauge will differ by a quarter inch or more

following a local shower. Josh explained that the Weather Service uses the models depicted in the diagrams show herein in order to provide the most accurate readings possible with today’s technology. The diagrams depict the Hartwell watershed as a number of 4 Km by 4Km areas, each monitored as a separate “localized” area, and each monitored by special weather radar that measures wind speeds, temperatures, humidity levels, average rainfall, etc. This provides very accurate data for tracking, reporting and projecting local weather events. By averaging the readings for all the Hartwell 4 X 4 areas you also get a very accurate reading for how much rain actually falls in the Hartwell watershed, and is available for raising lake levels.

Josh also explained that long hot dry periods also impact the amount of water that actually ends up in the lake. This is due to the fact that very hot and dry soil, like we have experienced this year, will absorb larger amounts of water which would otherwise flow into the lake. *Thank you Josh for your presentation and for making the diagrams available.*

Diagrams from Joshua Palmer, National Weather Service at GSP Airport

The images show estimated percent of normal rainfall for the Lake Hartwell watershed for the period October 1st through Oct 31st, 2017. The image is a grid of 4kilometers square cells produced by comparing normal rainfall with October 2017 rainfall estimates. The October 2017 rainfall estimates are produced by merging radar estimates of rainfall with rain gauge measurements.



CORPS ANNOUNCES FALL AND WINTER PARK CLOSINGS

As the 2017 summer recreation season closes, officials with the U. S. Army Corps of Engineers released the annual fall park closing schedule for Hartwell Lake.

Coneross, Georgia River, Oconee Point, and Paynes Creek Campgrounds will close for the season Oct. 1. Crescent and Springfield Campgrounds will close Nov. 1. Twin Lakes and Watsadler Campgrounds will undergo partial closure starting Dec. 1, however selected sites/loops remain open year round.

Camping reservations can be made up to six months in advance by calling 877-444-6777, or online at www.ReserveUSA.com.

The following day use areas closed for the season Sept. 5: Elrod Ferry, Friendship, Poplar Springs, River Forks, Twin Lakes, and Weldon Island. Singing Pines and Twelve Mile Day Use areas will close Oct. 1. Ramp and fishing pier facilities at the above listed locations, and all other Corps-operated access areas not mentioned, will remain open throughout the year.

For additional information, contact the Hartwell Dam and Lake Office toll free at 888-893-0678.

WINTERIZE YOUR BOAT ENGINE NOW!

Outboard Engine

- Fill installed fuel tanks and add stabilizer
- Turn off fuel supply and run until engine stops
- Flush engine cooling system with lower unit muffs and fresh water
- Store engine in upright position so water does not collect in foot
- Inspect and replace anodes
- Empty fuel from portable tanks
- Remove battery, charge and store

Inboard and Inboard/Outboard Engine

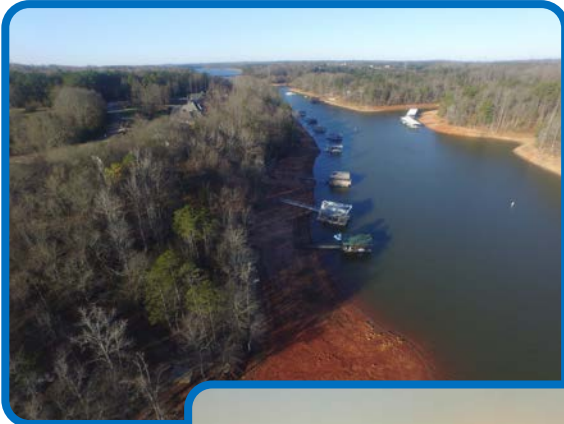
- Fill fuel tanks and add stabilizer
- Drain all raw water cooling areas, block and exhaust risers
- Change oil and filter
- Change fuel filters and water separators
- Check coolant level in freshwater cooling system
- Top off battery with distilled water and place on charger
- Drain gear oil in outdrive and add fresh lubricant
- Inspect and replace anodes

*Submitted by the Lake Hartwell
Sail and Power Squadron*

Welcome Aboard, New Members!

Please welcome the following members, who have joined LHA since our last newsletter.

Photos by member, Cal Looney



UPGRADE

COMMODORES CLUB

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UPGRADE

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Cira Traber

Jeter E. & Carol Yates

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CAPTAIN'S CLUB

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NEW FAMILY LEVEL MEMBERS

Simms Brooks

Sarah Hodges

Robert Smith

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Please remember to update your email address to make sure you're getting the latest LHA news meeting notices and action alerts!



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LHA respects the privacy of its members and does not share contact information, including email address, with anyone.

Thank you for your support of LHA's work "For the Sake of the Lake!"

LHA COMMUNITY & BUSINESS PARTNERS

THANKS FOR YOUR SUPPORT!

We are especially thankful for the Community and Business members that generously support LHA!
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New Membership Levels

Fall 2017

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<p>MEMBER All member benefits PLUS Company Name on LHA website \$100</p>	<p>SILVER All member benefits PLUS Company Name, logo and website link on LHA website and listing in newsletter \$250</p>	<p>GOLD All member benefits PLUS Company Name, logo and website link on LHA website AND business card size ad in quarterly newsletter. \$500</p>
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Fall 2017

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