

A Little Slice of Heaven

May 2020

Elbow Lake Chatter

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Hello, FELLOW AMERICANS—better known as the Elbow Lake Community! I think Spring is finally here—downstate the daffodils are blossoming and up here, the crocuses have finally been delivered.

As you know, the Covid-19 pandemic has affected each and every one of us. The hospitals have been slammed and small businesses are suffering big time. Those of you that live year round at Elbow Lake did your part and stayed home and away from others. Those in other areas were either out of work and staying home or working as essential workers in hospitals, grocery stores, emergency rooms, banks, etc. The economic impact to each and every one of us is huge. The government is predicting the second half of the year will see an economic rebound like we have never seen before. I wonder!!

Anyway, the ELCOA board had to cancel their first board meeting due to the pandemic, hence the area clean up for the area was also canceled. It has now been rescheduled for May 23, 2020 with gathering at the boat launch at 9:00 am. Bring your rakes, shovels, garbage bags, gloves and energy and let's make this area beautiful for the summer. The board meeting will be on May 24, 2020 at 10:00am in case anyone wants to attend, at Karl and Mary Ann Wood's home (if we have clearance from the pandemic.)

I'm looking forward to the summer and seeing each of your smiling faces. I have retired and should be up there working on my house a whole lot more frequently. Remember: we are in this together.

Till then,
John

You Need to Know

Sheriff

989-539-7166

Oxygen

Charlie & Deb Smith
9895 Toohy Trail
989-539-1743

Karl & Mary Ann Wood
10385 N. Athey Ave.
989-539-1817

Oxygen and AED

Ruey & Stephanie Wood
10328 Toohy Trail
989-539-1580

Elbow Lake Chatter is the official voice of ELCOA. We invite you to send comments, ideas, or photos to:

elbowlakecoa@gmail.com

COMMUNITY NEWS

Welcome to our New Neighbors...

Kevin and Annette Pilon have purchased Brian and Julie McDonald's home on South Shore Drive. The couple hail from Harrow, Ontario.

Tammy Fedor and Fred have completed their move from Elmira, MI. They will make their permanent home at Elbow Lake.

On the Mend, We Hope...

Bob Smith is dealing with some health issues.

Andrea Larsen has had several hospital stays while wintering in Florida.

Tom Niemi is now in a nursing home.

We're sure they would appreciate a note from their Elbow Lake friends.

Some Sad News

Long time Elbow Lake resident Tom Helinski passed away in April. He was an army veteran who served in Vietnam.

Stranded!

Carol Ouellette's visit to Canada is lasting longer than expected. While visiting her family there, US/Canadian borders were closed, stranding her there.

An Award for Perseverance?

Check out Deb and Charlie Smith's new wardrobes. Congratulations, you two!

Fantastic Photography

Thank you to all our wonderful photographers who post on the ELCOA Facebook page. Sometimes we pull a photo off to use in a newsletter or our webpage and we try to give the photographer credit for it.

If you aren't on ELCOA Facebook, please feel free to email any photos to: elbowlakecoa@gmail.com

We are always looking for pictures to beautify our communications.



Happy News!

Shirley Miller is happy to welcome the newest addition to her expanding family — a great grandson named Rockwell Thomas. In addition, a great granddaughter is due any day now. Congratulations, Shirley!

Trying to Stay Positive in these Viral Times

Hopefully, everyone is staying positive in this uncertain world we have found ourselves in. We really can't foresee how much things will change or if they will ever go back to the way they were before. But as the weather warms up, hopefully we will be able to see people enjoying the lake as before — enjoying kayaking, canoeing, paddleboats, jet skis, pontoon boats, etc. We might be six feet away from each other, but still close enough for good conversation and good fun.

Remember: Wear a mask.

Wash your hands often.

Socially distance.

We'll get through this!



ACTIVITIES

Fourth of July Boat Parade and Firework Display

We are hoping that our border between Canada and Michigan will be open and we will be able to celebrate our tradition-



al Fourth of July boat parade and fireworks. There is nothing more magical than seeing the flares lining the shoreline as the dark settles and fireworks begin. Flares will be available for purchase between 10 am and 2pm at the Boat Launch. Don't light them until the Flare Boat passes by close to 10pm . . . that's the signal that the show is about to begin! Firework displays are offered by residents and not by ELCOA. Please consider donating to assist them in purchasing the fireworks. Any member of the board can direct you to those individuals.



The 2019 theme was MOVIES and *Star Wars* took first place.

The Boat Parade begins at 6:45 pm. Register at the Flare Sale in the morning or at the Neighbors/Tenorio cottage or dock at 9952 South Shore Dr. You'll get a number to display on your boat so the judges can identify and vote. Judges are at four locations—including the east and west ends of the lake so be sure to travel around the ENTIRE lake and

not cut any corners off. Two complete laps around will show you off to everyone and all four judges. The theme this year is *MICHIGAN!* Four cash prizes will be given, based on: adherence to the theme, construction details, and overall impression. Judges are needed from off-lake residents to north-, south-, east- and west-shore residents. Join the fun . . . decorate your boat or volunteer to judge!

(Ideas for MICHIGAN: sports teams, universities, camping, Mackinaw bridge, breweries? Come up with something clever!)

US/Canada Border Reopening Mid-May?

On April 20th, it was announced that the border would remain closed for an additional 30 days. That would make it around May 20th before many of our Elbow Lake neighbors are able to head this way. We're sure they are anxious to catch up on spring cleanup and tackle the rest of those oak leaves that waited until early spring to finally fall. Hopefully, we'll be able to welcome them back soon!



Boat Stickers

If you don't have stickers for all of your watercraft, contact Mike De-Sloover. Your first one is free and additional stickers are \$2.00. The stickers identify resident-owned watercraft which are allowed on our lake. As it is a private lake, those without a sticker can be asked to leave.

Your Dues Makes Things Happen!

Please note that the following has been made possible by members' dues and volunteers: Oxygen tanks, AED, lake rules, ELCOA signs, fish stocking, picnic, hayride, raffles, bulletin boards, access lighting, speed limit signs, cleanup, neighborhood watch, water safety, flares, prizes for events, boat parade, sand for beach, grass cutting and snow plowing, new dock, website, Facebook, and your newsletter. In the past, we have hosted garage sales, CPR, golf, mil-foil presentations, gate lock, fencing, tree removal, etc.

Dates to Remember:

May 23, 9am: Area Clean Up at Boat Launch

May 24, 10am: Board Meeting at Karl/Mary Ann Wood's home 10385 N. Athey Ave.

July 4, 10-2pm: Flare Sale at Boat Launch

July 4, 6:45pm: Boat Parade Pre-registration required

July 5, 10am: Board Meeting

August 1: Annual Meeting and Picnic

August 2, 10am: Board Meeting

September 6, 10am:

Board Meeting

October 10: Hayride

October 11, 10am: Board Meeting

SUMMARY OF MINUTES—PENDING APPROVAL—FROM ELCOA BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

Sunday October 13, 2019, at home of Karl and Mary Ann Wood.

Meeting called to order at 10:05 am by President John Krieger.

Present: John Krieger, Mark Scott, Ruey and Stephanie Wood, Deb and Charlie Smith, Jerry Hurst, Susan and Marty Neighbors, Ross McCallum, Lisa Poston, Lisa Wick, Mary Ann and Karl Wood, Ken VanRiper, Janet VanRiper, and Mary VanDeKerkhove.

Absent: Mike and Kathy DeSloover, and Fred VanDeKerkhove.

Visitors: Tammie Fedor, Fred Stutzman, Wendy Hurst, Darrell Poston, Richard and Julie Cline.

Minutes: Minutes from the September 1, 2019 meeting were read by Susan Neighbors. Report accepted.

Treasurer's Report: Report read by Susan Neighbors in treasurer's absence. Opening balance was \$4534.76; expenses were \$242; income of \$460 for a balance as of Oct. 13, 2019, of \$4752.76. Current membership is 71 members. There was a question of membership dues income being inaccurate in report, but treasurer was absent. Clarification expected at next meeting.

Activities Report:

Neighborhood Watch: Ken VanRiper said there are no issues.

Community Watch: Mary Ann Wood reported that Ruey Wood's sister-in-law passed away; the Browns will be year round residents at Elbow Lake; Ron Seabold is home from the hospital, and Ross McCallum is having some problems with his leg.

Fish Planting: Jerry Hurst says yellow perch and blue gills – 3"-7" long – will be planted any day now. Crystal Springs Farm is the supplier. Cost will total \$1100.

Face Book Update: Lisa Poston will eliminate one of the Facebook pages so that there will just be one. It's

been confusing having two so she will "clean up" that media.

Area Cleanup: Spring cleanup is scheduled for Saturday, April 25, 2020, the day before the first meeting of the year.

Hayride: Janet VanRiper reported that about 70 people attended the hayride and everything went well. There were a lot of kids present. \$93 was collected on the 50/50 Raffle. There were many people contributing and helping, but she went slightly over budget. Kudos were given to Janet for a great job.

Old Business:

Road Maintenance: Mark Scott tried contacting road commission but didn't get far. Several residents reported dangerous situations they observed on our roads around the lake.

Lake Weeds: Ruey Wood says we are signed up for next year. A schedule still has to be made, although lake water has to have reached at least 65 degrees before treatment can begin.

Emergency Help: AED Pediatric paddles need to be replaced if the existing ones have expired. Oxygen tanks need to be checked that they are operating correctly. Those residents who maintain these items will verify their condition.

Pavilion Committee: Mary Ann Wood asked the Board to separate the Committee from ELCOA, according to Article 4, Section 3 of our By-Laws because of the great divide, anger, hardship it is causing in our community. Residents are concerned about how this is driving a wedge between neighbors and affecting property values. ELCOA set conditions to loan the Committee up to \$1700 if permits were obtained and the pavilion built by the time of the annual picnic. Since that never happened, John Krieger says ELCOA will no longer

support it.

Ruey Wood was questioned on the results of the petition he sent to Resort 2, 3, and 4 residents; he said a majority was in favor but expecting more to be returned. No actual numbers were mentioned, nor a cut-off date. Then it was discovered that the petition and Ross McCallum's memo to the board, presented at the last board meeting in September, are invalid since they both refer to incorrect lot numbers.

It was determined that the Pavilion Committee is a separate entity, ELCOA doesn't control the Committee, and hence, the pavilion will not be discussed at future meetings.

If the Pavilion Committee seeks action from ELCOA in the future, they can request to be added to the agenda and send a representative who can make a presentation to the board for their consideration.

Action: motion to remove Pavilion Committee (from ELCOA), seconded, carried with 4 ayes.

Elections: Mary Ann Wood was asked to study the By-Laws and determine if we are following them pertaining to term limits, etc.

Website: Susan Neighbors is meeting with Sally Rouse in early November to take over the website.

Swim buoys will be removed around Labor Day weekend next year.

New Business:

Board of Directors meetings for next year will be April 26, May 24, and July 5, 2020. August 1, 2020 will be the Annual Meeting and Picnic.

The next board meeting will be April 26, 2020 at 10 am at Karl and Mary Ann Wood's house.

Meeting adjourned at 11:33 am.

Respectfully submitted by Susan Neighbors, retiring ELCOA secretary.

IMPORTANT CONTACT INFORMATION for 2020-2021

ELCOA Board Officers:

President

John Krieger	248-390-6881	gailkrieger@yahoo.com
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Vice President

Mark Scott	210-284-7700	mascott7676@gmail.com
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Secretary

Mary Ann Wood	989-539-1817	onecoolz@hughes.net
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Treasurer

Mike DeSloover	734-243-2221	mgdesloover@gmail.com
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ELCOA Project Coordinators:

Area Cleanup

tbd

Community News

MaryAnn Wood	989-539-1817	onecoolz@hughes.net
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Facebook Administrator

Lisa Poston	989-630-4628	abbyjoe@comcast.net
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Fish Planting

Jerry Hurst	989-539-2398	jhurst63@yahoo.com
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Hayride

Janet VanRiper	989-539-0360	janetvanriper54@gmail.com
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Lake Weeds Treatment

tbd

Neighborhood Watch

Ken VanRiper	989-539-0360	
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Newsletter/Website

Susan Neighbors	810-599-3366	elbowlakecoa@gmail.com susan4neighbors@gmail.com
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Water Testing

Charlie Smith	989-539-1743	kai538@yahoo.com
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ELCOA Board Members:

Kathy DeSloover	734-243-2221	
Ross McCallum	989-671-7374	bmccallum48726@yahoo.com
Marty Neighbors	810-599-6347	theneighbors@comcast.net
Deb Smith	989-539-1743	grammiep1013@yahoo.com
Fred VanDeKerkhove	586-558-7817	fredvan@comcast.net
Mary VanDeKerkhove	586-558-7817	maryvan@comcast.net
Lisa Wick	810-288-9719	
Karl Wood	989-539-1817	onecoolz@hughes.net
Stephanie Wood	989-539-1580	randswood@hughes.net

ELCOA Dues 2020-2021

Membership dues can be paid before or at the time of the Annual Meeting/Picnic on August 1, 2020. Please complete the section below and include with your membership dues payment.

Your dues must be received by our treasurer no later than July 19, 2020 to qualify for the "EARLY BIRD DRAWING" - a prize of \$25. The winner will be announced at the Annual Meeting.

For those paying by mail, please send a \$50.00 check (\$40 for Dues *PLUS* \$10 for Raffle Tickets), payable to **ELCOA** along with the membership form below to:

Mike DeSloover, 2324 Bluebush Rd., Monroe, MI 48162

For additional tickets, contact Mike at 734-243-2221 or mgdesloover@gmail.com

Cut at dotted line, complete and return with your payment

ELCOA MEMBERSHIP 2020-2021

Name _____

Home Address _____

City/State/Zip _____

Phone(s) _____ indicate cell or landline

Email address _____

Elbow Lake Address _____

Elbow Lake Phone _____ Lot Number _____

IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO HELP SAVE POSTAGE AND RECEIVE THIS NEWSLETTER BY EMAIL, PLEASE NOTIFY SUSAN NEIGHBORS AT ELBOWLAKECOA@GMAIL.COM. YOU WILL THEN BE REMOVED FROM THE POSTAGE LIST AND PLACED ON THE EMAIL LIST.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR HELP!

**The Spring newsletter is being
emailed to all residents of
Elbow Lake Resorts 1, 2, 3 & 4
whether you are a member of
ELCOA or not.**

If you own a property at Elbow Lake,
please send your email information to the
address below so you will
receive all of the newsletters for Elbow Lake.
We email them 4 times a year.

If you would like to contribute photos, ideas,
or have comments, please contact me at:

elbowlakecoa@gmail.com