

A Little Slice of Heaven

JUNE 2023

# Elbow Lake Chatter

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

While temperatures have fluctuated this Spring and early Summer, we have had an exceptionally dry Spring. Yet the beach has been in full use and the 'tooners, jet skis and fishing boats have all been plying the waters.

A special thank goes out to Mark Scott for his organizing of our Memorial Day Parade. He said all need to stay tuned for next year's, as he promises a bigger and better event, with food after. Another interesting development: Rick Tank and his brother Ben, have mapped the bottom contours of the lake and are planning for frameable maps and 3D relief maps of the lake. They will announce on the website when and where to obtain. Thanks guys, as I have seen maps of other lakes and have often wondered how to get one of our lake. And—just for fun—should we name our resident loons, even if they won't answer to their names? Email your suggestions to [elbowlakecoa@gmail.com](mailto:elbowlakecoa@gmail.com) We'll vote on names at the Annual Meeting.

Wishing all who seek peace and serenity and those looking for recreation, an ample amount of each! Have a great summer all of you Elbow Lakers!

## 2023-24 Memberships are \$40

Pay your dues by July 15 to qualify for the Early Bird Drawing to win \$100! The winning name will be drawn on August 5th at the Annual Picnic/Potluck. See page 3 for more information.

## You Need to Know

### **Sheriff**

989-539-7166

### **Fire Department**

989-539-7145

### **Oxygen**

Mary Ann Wood  
10385 N. Athey Ave.  
989-274-4315

Frank & Sherilyn DeVuono  
9982 South Shore  
989-630-4287 or 586-482-0907

### **Oxygen and AED**

### **Emergency Walkie-Talkies**

Charlie & Deb Smith  
9895 Toohy Trail  
989-560-5811 or 989-424-8633

*Elbow Lake Chatter* is the official voice of ELCOA. We invite you to send comments, ideas, or photos to: [elbowlakecoa@gmail.com](mailto:elbowlakecoa@gmail.com)  
ELCOA's Facebook page is: **Elbow Lake community page**

## COMMUNITY NEWS

### 2023 Dates to Remember:

**July 1– Flare Sales, 10am**  
**at Boat Launch**  
**Boat Parade, 8pm**  
**Fireworks, 10pm**  
**July 2– Board Meeting**  
**August 5– Annual Meeting/Picnic**  
**August 6– Board Meeting**  
**September 3– Board Meeting**  
**October 14– Hayride**  
**October 15– Board Meeting**  
 Board Meetings begin at 10am  
 and meet at 9952 South Shore  
*All are welcome to attend*

## Lake Weeds Spraying

The 1st lake weed treatment should have already happened on June 14th. Treatment days can be delayed a day due to inclement weather. New state rules that protect fish beds delayed the start of the treatment. Mary Ann Wood is coordinating the spraying this year. Contact her at 989-274-4315 if you want lily pads eradicated or other special needs. She will advise you of the cost for treating 50 feet of frontage. On lake spraying days, it is requested to refrain from lake usage for 24 hours, allowing treatment to settle to lake bottom where it will be most effective. Thank you in advance for your cooperation in this.

## Fire Danger Awareness

Fire Danger changes on a daily basis. Burn permits are needed for fires not contained in a firepit. Contact Clare County on the DNR webpage for more information or call: 866-922-2876.

### Lake Weeds Treatment Schedule

June 14th  
 July 12th  
 August 9th  
 August 30th  
 September 13th

Please do not use the lake for 24 hours, allowing the chemicals to settle and be most

## Community News

It's sad to report that we have lost some Elbow Lake friends this spring. Felicia Collins, wife of John, passed away in late March. Yvonne Gebrowsky died in May. And Bill Newman, husband of Janiece, also passed away in June. Sincere condolences to their families. In addition to their grief, Janiece Newman is again recovering from a broken ankle and Tina Tipton (Yvonne Gebrowsky's daughter) is being treated for a lengthy illness. Mary VanDeKerkhove has also been hospitalized; Ken VanRiper continues to recover; and Andrea Larson is still dealing with health issues but is hoping to be at her lake home by the end of June. Ruey Wood and Sally Rouse are both recovering well from recent surgeries. All of our Elbow Lake neighbors will benefit from kind thoughts sent their way for recovery from illness and grief.

## ORV Stickers

Don't get fined because of out-of-date stickers! You can purchase 2023 stickers at many local stores, including *Hunters Paradise*.

## Your Dues

Please note what has been made possible by members' dues and volunteers:  
 Oxygen tanks, AED, lake safety guidelines and signs, fish stocking, picnic, hayride, raffles, boat launch lighting, speed limit signs, access clean-up at both swim site and boat launch, Neighborhood Watch, flare sales; prizes for Halloween costume contests, boat and golf-cart parades; porta-potty and sand for swim site; grass cutting; tree trimming and removal if needed; docks at boat launch, website, facebook page, and postage for this newsletter. In other words, **your membership dues benefit everyone . . . even non-members.** So, please do your part and join ELCOA. Dues are only \$40 for the entire year. And please note, you do not have to be a member of ELCOA to participate in any of our sponsored activi-

## Road Brining Dates

- July 6th
- August 25th

## Volunteer Opportunities for ELCOA

### Grass Cutting at Swim Site and Boat Launch:

July, August, or September

### Independence Day Festivities, July 1st:

Flare Sales and Distribution

Boat Parade participant or Judge

### Annual Picnic August 5:

Tent set-up on August 4, 10am/Tear down on August 6, noon

Site clean up (before/after)

Volunteers to run for ELCOA office

Help with raffle sales and games

### Annual Halloween Hayride, October 14:

Chairperson(s) needed

Tent set-up/Tear down

Site clean-up (before/after)

Help with raffle sales and games

*Contact any board member to volunteer . . . Thank you!*

# We'll celebrate America's Independence Day on Saturday, July 1st!

## **Annual Flare Sale begins at 10am**

Flares will be on sale at the Boat Launch beginning at 10am. They will also be sold door to door. You can pre-order flares at: [elbowlakecoa@gmail.com](mailto:elbowlakecoa@gmail.com)

As with everything else, prices have increased: 3 Flares for \$10 is the 2023 price. The small profit we make on these sales purchases flares for the flareboat. If you have lake frontage but can't be here for the fireworks, ask a neighbor if they can set out your flares so the entire lake will be ringed with them at dusk, signaling the beginning of the fireworks.

## **The Boat Parade is at 8pm.**

## **"Disney Cartoons" is this year's theme**

Russ & Lorie Beck, as the winners of last year's parade, got to pick the theme for 2023, and have announced "Disney Cartoons" as the theme. Who doesn't have a favorite Disney cartoon or character? Talk it over with family, friends, or grandkids (they're the experts!) to come up with your winning idea. Remember, there must be something Patriotic about the boat (after all, we are celebrating America's Independence Day).

And remember, there are cash prizes for the top four boats. We'll ask 4 or 5 residents to volunteer to be judges and score each entry from 1 to 10 in different categories such as Originality, Adherence to the Theme, Patriotic, and Construction Details. Scores are tallied and the four boats with the most points are the winners.

You don't have to be a member of ELCOA to enter or win. It's free to enter. Last year, we had a terrific turnout with 13 boats in the parade and everyone had a great time. We hope to see lots of entries this year, too.

## **Fireworks begin at dusk, around 10pm**

The Flare Boat will circle the lake twice, signalling for the flares to be lit around the shoreline. And then it's time for the Fireworks! The fireworks display is not sponsored by ELCOA; it is by private individuals. Please be sure to use them safely and carefully, watching for fire danger.

**All fireworks and noise should be ended by 11 pm.** Please be considerate of your neighbors.



### **Price List for Flares**

3 for \$10

5 for \$15

7 for \$20

10 for \$30

14 for \$40

Send an email to: [ElbowLakeCOA@gmail.com](mailto:ElbowLakeCOA@gmail.com)

- To Pre-order Flares
- To Pre-register for the Boat Parade.
- To Register for the Corn Hole Tournament on August 5th.

### **Holiday Boating Hours**

Elbow Lake is "All Sports" between 11am and 6pm on holiday weekends only. On all other days, 5pm is the slow down/no wake time. Please stay at least 100 feet away from the shore, docks, rafts, boats, either anchored or not under power for safety. Remember, travel is counter-clockwise on the lake.

## IMPORTANT CONTACT INFORMATION FOR 2022-2023

|                                |                                              |              |                           |
|--------------------------------|----------------------------------------------|--------------|---------------------------|
| <b>ELCOA</b><br>BOARD OFFICERS | <b>President</b>                             |              |                           |
|                                | Marty Neighbors                              | 810-599-6347 | theneighbors@comcast.net  |
|                                | <b>Vice President</b>                        |              |                           |
|                                | Ed Henri                                     | 586-946-0239 | ecchenri@yahoo.com        |
|                                | <b>Secretary</b>                             |              |                           |
|                                | Mary Ann Wood                                | 989-274-4315 | woodmaryann46@gmail.com   |
|                                | <b>Treasurer</b>                             |              |                           |
| <b>ELCOA</b><br>BOARD MEMBERS  | Deb Smith                                    | 989-560-5811 | grammiep1013@yahoo.com    |
|                                | <b>Membership</b>                            |              |                           |
|                                | Susan Neighbors                              | 810-599-3366 | susan4neighbors@gmail.com |
|                                | Frank DeVuono                                | 586-482-0907 | fjdevuono@gmail.com       |
|                                | Rick Elenbaas                                | 989-890-1700 | relenbaas198523@gmail.com |
|                                | John Krieger                                 | 248-390-6881 | gailkrieger@yahoo.com     |
|                                | Mark Scott                                   | 586-496-3800 | mascott7676@gmail.com     |
| <b>COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSONS</b>  | Fred VanDeKerkhove                           | 586-558-7817 | fredvan@comcast.net       |
|                                | Mary VanDeKerkhove                           | 586-558-7817 | maryvan@comcast.net       |
|                                | Ken VanRiper                                 | 989-539-0360 |                           |
|                                | <b>Community News/Facebook Administrator</b> |              |                           |
|                                | Deb Smith                                    | 989-560-5811 | grammiep1013@yahoo.com    |
|                                | <b>Annual Picnic</b>                         |              |                           |
|                                | Blaire Embrey                                |              | blaireembrey@gmail.com    |
|                                | <b>Hayride</b>                               |              |                           |
|                                | <i>Chairperson needed!</i>                   |              |                           |
|                                | <b>Neighborhood Watch</b>                    |              |                           |
|                                | Ken VanRiper                                 | 989-539-0360 |                           |
|                                | <b>Newsletter/Website/Boat Parade</b>        |              | elbowlakecoa@gmail.com    |
|                                | Susan Neighbors                              | 810-599-3366 | susan4neighbors@gmail.com |
|                                | <b>Golf Cart Parade/Fish Planting</b>        |              |                           |
|                                | Mark Scott                                   | 586-496-3800 | mascott7676@gmail.com     |
|                                | <b>Lake Weeds Treatment</b>                  |              |                           |
|                                | Mary Ann Wood                                | 989-274-4315 | woodmaryann46@gmail.com   |
|                                | <b>Water Testing</b>                         |              |                           |
|                                | Charlie Smith                                | 989-424-8633 | kai538@yahoo.com          |

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We invite you to send comments, ideas, or photos to:  
**elbowlakecoa@gmail.com**

*Please join us for the*  
**ELCOA Annual Meeting  
and Picnic/Potluck**

**Saturday, August 5th**

**Meeting begins at 10am**

*at the Boat Launch*

At this meeting, there will be an election of officers and board directors. You can be eligible to run for the board with your paid membership in the association.

Please consider running for an office; you must make a commitment to attend meetings and offer up your input.

**Picnic/Potluck at 12 noon**

*at the Boat Launch*

ELCOA will provide meat, pop and water.

A dish to pass — large enough to share —  
is your ticket into the picnic.

Bring your own table service and BYOB.

To be eligible to win \$100 in the Early Bird Drawing, your membership dues for 2023-24 must be received by July 15, 2023.

**Corn Hole Tournament - Face Painting**

**Duck Pond Racing - Balloon Pop - Dunk Tank**

**50/50 Raffles (6 tickets for \$5)**

**Registration  
Deadline is  
July 31st**

**You must PRE-REGISTER your 2-man team for the  
Corn Hole Tournament by JULY 31st:  
[blaireembrey@gmail.com](mailto:blaireembrey@gmail.com)**

so a schedule can be set up with assigned times.

**Senior Division: ages 16 and up, \$10/team.**

**Junior Division: ages 5-15, \$5/team.**

*Cash prizes based on number of participants.*

## SUMMARY OF MINUTES FROM ELCOA BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

**Sunday, May 28, 2023**

**Location:** Marty Neighbors' house

**Present:** Marty Neighbors, Ed Henri, Susan Neighbors, Deb Smith, Frank DeVuono & Mark Scott.

**Absent:** Mary Ann Wood, Rick Elenbaas, Fred VanDeKerkhove, Mary VanDeKerkhove, Ken VanRiper, and John Krieger

**Guests:** Joe Krieger

The meeting was called to order at 10:07 am by President Marty Neighbors. He commented on how successful the Golf Cart Parade was.

**Minutes:** The April 30, 2023 minutes were read by Susan Neighbors. Corrections to minutes involved a few misspellings of names. Minutes approved with corrections,

**Treasurer's Report:** Deb Smith reported a balance of \$2576.30 after \$335.91 expenses. She reported that the cost of the light at the Boat Launch used to be more than \$200 in the past but with the new LED light installed, the bill was \$167.62 for the year. Treasurer's report was approved.

**Membership Report:** Sue Neighbors reported that 11 homeowners have paid for the upcoming year. An additional 13 membership envelopes are waiting at home to be opened.

**Report of Committees:**

**Neighborhood Watch:** Ken VanRiper absent.

**Community News:** Deb Smith reported that Ken VanRiper continues to heal and recover. The Ouellette home is now for sale, asking \$285,000. Other properties in our resort area have recently sold at or above asking price.

**Facebook:** Mark Scott reported 220 members on the page. There was a request from a former member to be reinstated on the site. Discussion followed and it was generally recommended to reinstate with caution.

**Webpage/Newsletter:** Sue Neighbors said the May newsletter was sent the week before Memorial Day. A mid-June newsletter will be emailed to all addresses we have on record and only

mailed to registered ELCOA members who do not have an email address. The June newsletter will have 4<sup>th</sup> of July and Annual Meeting/Picnic information.

**Lake Spraying:** Mary Ann Wood absent, but 5 dates have been scheduled for weed treatment: June 14, July 12, August 9 and 30, and September 13.

**Buoys/Docks:** Mark Scott said a D-ring was missing on one of the buoys. After it is replaced, they will be set into the swim area.

**Committee 234:** Mark Scott reported there was little to no interest in residents joining him as a committee. He recommended that the committee be disbanded, saying off-lake residents can make their own decisions on the sites, therefore eliminating any ELCOA involvement.

**Township Meetings:** Nobody from ELCOA was available to attend the May meeting so there is no update.

**Summer Picnic:** Deb Smith has met with new resident and Annual Picnic chairperson, Blaire Embrey. Diane Dangremond has offered to do Face Painting at the event.

**Old Business:**

**Golf Cart/Side-by-Side Parade:**

Mark Scott said 31 vehicles participated. Prizes of \$25, \$15 and \$10 were awarded. First place: Roger Sylvester Family. Second place: Shirley Miller Family. Third place: The LeMieux Family. It was a great way to kick off the summer season. Next year following the parade, he suggested having burgers and hot dogs at the Boat Launch to continue the occasion. President Neighbors said that the Kevin and Annette Pilon have a large gas grill that they would like to donate to ELCOA. It is large enough to cook for a crowd. President Neighbors gave the dates of road brining for the area. The dates are: May 19, July 7, and August 25, 2023. This is provided by Franklin Township.

Ed Henri will investigate the cost for new Elbow Lake Resort signs per President Neighbors' request, but many felt the existing signs were adequate. Sue Neighbors volunteered to freshen up the old signs.

**Fishing Derby:** Mark Scott is considering another Pike Contest, possibly in August. So far, there is no news on a fishing contest that Adam Raby was thinking about organizing for this summer.

**New Business:**

President Neighbors brought up the Float-In Movie Night idea. Lots of accommodations would have to be made for electricity, etc. A stationary projector and screen would have to be used or wave action would distort the viewing. The idea was tabled for now.

The Name the Loon contest was discussed and moved forward. It will be advertised on Facebook and the Webpage. Ideas must be submitted by June 15<sup>th</sup> and voted on by the ELCOA board. So far, "Barney & Betty", "Fred & Ethyl" and "Louie & LuLu" have been suggested. The board heard from one resident who did not like the idea of promoting them, because of how much fish they take from our lake. Others felt that it was a blessing to have them choose our lake and 2 loons were better than a bunch of geese.

Recognition of a resident's service to this community was proposed by the president. It would be nice to honor that person at the Annual Meeting. Mark Scott will look into awards and a \$50 maximum cost was unanimously approved.

President Marty has ordered 2 gross of flares for the Independence Day celebration to add to those left from last year. Due to price increases, flares will be sold 3 for \$10.

**Discussions:** A "decorate your dock" idea was brought up. Concern that participation could only be limited to lake front property owners had the

## MINUTES —continued

idea lacking support.

President Neighbors announced the next board meeting: July 2, 2023 at 10:00 am at his house. Meeting was adjourned at 11:26 am.

**Submitted by Susan Neighbors.**

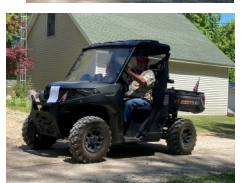
## ACTIVITIES



## Golf Cart Parade on May 27th

Congratulations to all 31 participants! It was a great success, with first place honors going to the Roger Sylvester Family. The Shirley Miller and LeMieux families took second and third prizes. Watch for this to return next year, better than ever, maybe with hot dogs at the Boat Launch after the parade.

Thank you,  
Mark Scott,  
for making  
this happen.



# ELCOA Membership for 2023-2024

Please fill out and send with check to address below:

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Elbow Lake Address \_\_\_\_\_

Home Address, if different \_\_\_\_\_

City/State/Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone(s) \_\_\_\_\_ cell \_\_\_\_\_ landline \_\_\_\_\_

Elbow Lake Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Lot Number \_\_\_\_\_

Email address \_\_\_\_\_

Membership dues must be paid before or at the time of the Annual Meeting/ Picnic, scheduled for August 6, 2022 in order to vote.

***Dues received by July 15, 2022 qualify for the “EARLY BIRD DRAWING” prize of \$100. (The winner will be announced at the Annual Meeting.)***

Please send this membership form and a **\$40.00** check, payable to ELCOA to:

**Susan Neighbors  
10760 Oakhill St.  
Fenton, MI 48430**

If you don't have a printer, just send the above information by mail or email and forward a check. Any other questions?

Contact Sue at [susan4neighbors@gmail.com](mailto:susan4neighbors@gmail.com)  
or [elbowlakecoa@gmail.com](mailto:elbowlakecoa@gmail.com)  
or 810-599-3366