

Elbow Lake Ch-Chatter



A Little Slice of Heaven

February 2024

Photo courtesy of Jessie J McRae

Winter sometimes acts like it could be over but typically there's probably a few more snowflakes to fall before Spring actually takes hold.

The Board has activities planned for this year where we get to join in the fun and renew our Elbow Lake friendships.

April 20th will be our annual clean-up day at the Boat Launch and Swim Site . . . picking up debris left from winter and getting the sites ready for warmer weather enjoyment. Please join us for an hour or two: bring your rake or blower and meet your neighbors!

May 25th brings our 2nd annual Golf Cart/ATV parade with food and fellowship following at the Boat Launch. Look for the May newsletter to provide more details.

And **July 6th is the date for the Boat Parade**. This year's theme is *DEC-ADES* so get your thinking caps on and plan your entry!

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 DeVuono
9982 South Shore
586-482-0907

Emergency Walkie-Talkies

Oxygen and AED

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

COMMUNITY NEWS

Introducing:

Let's welcome our new neighbors on N. Athey in the little blue house: John and Kendra Koman from Trenton. Their two boys, Tyler-11, and Colin-8, are looking forward to meeting some new friends who hopefully enjoy fishing as much as they do!

Golf Cart/ATV Parade on Memorial Weekend

Anything with wheels, other than cars or trucks, is eligible to enter the parade on May 25. Beginning at the Boat Launch, the parade will circle the lake, then return to the Boat Launch for a picnic. Patriotic decorations are a must and prizes will be awarded. In our inaugural event last year, there were 31 entries!

Look for more details regarding this event in the May newsletter.

Boat Parade is July 6

The theme this year is *DECADES*, and there are so many ways to represent this. Start thinking about how you will decorate your boat. Cash prizes for the top four entries. And always, something patriotic is required. Again, more information will follow in next newsletter.

And, as always, it's free to enter and you do not have to be a member of ELCOA to participate and win in ANY of ELCOA-sponsored events.

ROAD DUST CONTROL DATES

May 17th
July 9th
August 27

A new Chairman is needed for the Annual Picnic. You do not need to be on the Board to organize this event. Volunteers have already committed to assist you. Please consider volunteering.

Dates to Remember:

April 20: 10am Area Clean-up
April 21: 10am Board Meeting
May 25: ATV/Golf Cart Parade
May 26: 10am Board Meeting
July 6: Flare Sale and Boat Parade
July 7: 10am Board Meeting
Aug. 3: Annual Meeting & Elections
Aug. 4: 10am Board Meeting
Sep. 1: 10am Board Meeting
Oct. 12: Hayride
Oct. 13: 10am Board Meeting at Mary Ann Wood's home
10385 N. Athey Ave.
All are welcome to attend Board Meetings

Thank you,
Hunters Paradise!
Your generous donations to ELCOA events in this, and past years, are greatly appreciated.



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

ELCOA's Facebook page is: **Elbow Lake community page**

ELCOA webpage: www.elbowlakeinfo.wordpress.com

Some Interesting Facts about ELCOA

ELCOA currently has 85 members out of 161 property owners in the 4 Elbow Lake subdivisions. 16 of this year's members are new to ELCOA. Last year, our membership peaked at 75. Our Facebook page has 266 members. Our webpage had 229 views in January.

ACTIVITIES

Fall Hayride was Fun for All!



The chili/soup cookoff prize was captured by John Krieger. There were prizes for best costumes, best decorated Trunk-or-Treat (DeSloovers won), raffles and 50/50 drawings. Many thanks to all who joined in for a great time last October. Thank you, Sally Rouse and Georgia Wilson for chairing this event and thanks to all of their helpers who made it so successful!



HAYRIDE—continued



KID'S CRAFTS



COSTUME JUDGING



TRUNK or TREAT



SUMMARY OF MINUTES FROM ELCOA BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

Sunday, October 15, 2023

Location: Mary Ann Wood's house

Present: Mary Ann Wood, Susan Neighbors, Deb Smith, Frank DeVuono, Marty Neighbors, John Krieger and Shirley Miller.

Absent: Mark Scott, Rick Elenbaas, Mary VanDeKerkhove, Fred VanDeKerkhove and Ed Henri.

Guests: Erie High, Lisa Wick and Georgia Wilson.

The meeting was called to order at 10:02 am by past president Marty Neighbors. Marty related appreciation to Georgia Wilson and Sally Rouse for all they did for a successful hayride. He said Sherilyn DeVuono donated back to the association 50% of her winnings. Shirley Miller explained confusion of voting for the chili and soups contest. It was suggested that next year there be 2 different areas for the food to be voted on.

Minutes: The September 3, 2023 minutes were read by secretary Mary Ann Wood and they were approved.

Treasurer's Report: Deb Smith reported a balance of \$4902.51. Report was approved.

Membership Report: Sue Neighbors reported a membership of 82 as of today and expecting it to be 83 this week. There are 161 property owners so we have over a 50% membership rate.

Report of Committees:

Neighborhood Watch: Rick Elenbaas absent.

Facebook: Deb Smith reported the Facebook group has 259 members. Concern involved needing property owners address to allow other non-residents access to the Facebook page. But there have been many positive comments.

Webpage/Newsletter: Susan Neighbors reported the need for the trophy to come back so that names can be engraved on it. In September, Sue reported 160 views of our webpage and 61 visitors. In July, we had 230

views and 83 visitors. She suggests we put a link on the Facebook page to the web page, or hyperlink it or use QR code. Erie High suggested being careful regarding people being ill or absent or limit the details so people won't be broken into or use discretion on webpage, newsletter and Facebook.

Sign Discussion: Sue Neighbors says the target date for new signs at each end of the resort area is spring. A comment was made about perhaps not having so many pine trees on sign and more regular trees. It was suggested that old signs be raffled or auctioned off at the annual picnic/meeting. It can also be posted on our FB page and website and newsletter. This would allow for online silent bids.

Fish Planting: No report. Frank DeVuono reported Kevin Pillon's nephew caught 2 pike last weekend. The biggest was 24 pounds and 42 inches. It was estimated to be at least 15 years old.

Lake Spraying: Frank DeVuono reported an increase in lily pads and he is disappointed in the lake spraying. Mary Ann Wood reported 5-6 households are getting lily pads sprayed. Frank DeVuono suggested ELCOA pay for spraying at Boat Launch area. Mary Ann Wood reported a new invasive species has been detected in southwest Michigan.

Buoys and Docks: President Scott announced at the last meeting the docks will not be coming out until October 31, 2023. He also announced he is waiting for the off season to get quotes on the buoys hoping the price will drop for the off season. He also said he is not doing the anchors and maybe we could get Erie High to drill them in place underwater. President Scott will talk to him.

Memorial Day Weekend: It was reported that President Scott will

expand the parade with food and beverage after the conclusion. It will be further planned at the April meeting.

Township Meetings: Erie High reported the township is ready to vote on fire protection, but the township does not have actual contracts available for an attorney to look over. They are also having trouble finding an attorney. However, passage of fire suppression mileage will be next Thursday and failure to pass will mean increased insurance rates on all homes.

Ambulance coverage was discussed. MMR (ambulance service has said no to servicing this area and so the county commissioner will investigate putting on ballot for a vote. MMR is housed near Jays. Saginaw is the dispatcher and it is an unrealistic expectation regarding wait times for calling for an ambulance. Erie also reported that the township has become aware of a grant to help with lake spraying. He asked them to apply for the grant and maybe this area could get a portion of the grant. Lisa Wick had complaints about the area roads being terrible. It was advised the residents should go on computer and submit a ticket to the Clare County road commission. This is the only way to get them to respond.

Hayride: The co-chair Georgia Wilson thanked all helpers for the hayride. She suggested tags be placed on each crockpot and surface area to increase with more tables. Another suggestion is to increase the activities for kids. She reported that Sally Rouse would like to know where to put the stuff for storage. There was a complaint that the hayride did not go further down on Athey so she suggests planning a route for next year. It was also suggested to increase the budget for the next hayride because of inflation. There was discussion about the plaque at Hunter's Paradise and that it is not being displayed. She also suggested the hayride be pro-

SUMMARY OF MINUTES FROM ELCOA BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING—*continued*

moted at the annual picnic and in the newsletter. Georgia also said it was a pleasure working with the people next to the boat launch (the Wilton-Hay cottage) regarding electricity for the hayride.

Old Business: Marty Neighbors brought up that the buoys are out and Kevin Pillon helped him pull them. He said they are water-logged and very heavy and maybe we should look at new ones in the spring. He said there is also the issue of securing to the bottom. He thought maybe we could ask Erie High to put anchors in and we could make a donation to him for his efforts.

New Business: Marty Neighbors said our need for storage is becoming a high priority. The storage at M-18 has been looked at and John Krieger is willing to share space at a unit. It costs about \$40.00 a month and EL-

COA would pay half. Some racks would be needed. He thought a 10x12 size would be sufficient. Laurie and Shane still own it. All tents were taken down yesterday but they are wet and heavy. They are drying at Marty's today. Motion passed with 1 opposed. Discussion followed regarding getting keys made for President, or Secretary or Treasurer. Lake levels were discussed. The springs are bubbling up and it is a cycle of nature. A suggestion was made to have evaluated. Erie explained nothing can be done about water levels being low. Bob Bates gave a \$500.00 estimate to clear muck and sand from the cement at boat launch. Shirley Miller made a motion to get concrete apron cleared off and trying to get EPA to look at muck area and get their approval. Sue Neighbors seconded. Discus-

sion followed. John Krieger said he will work on getting better pricing. Because of past complaints of lack of shoreline parking for their boats or pontoons, the muck area could be cleaned up to increase space. A permit from the DNR will probably be needed. Shirley Miller will contact the DNR. It was suggested that \$500.00 could be donated. Erie High said wood chips could be put down in muck area since it is considered organic. The motion was approved to investigate this possibility. It is to be put in newsletter and Facebook asking for donations for muck removal.

Discussions: Past President Neighbors announced the next board meeting is 4-21-2024 at 10:00 am at Mary Ann Wood's house.

Meeting adjourned at 11:33am.

Submitted by Secretary Mary Ann Wood.



CONTACT INFORMATION FOR 2023-2024

ELCOA OFFICERS	President		
	Mark Scott	586-496-3800	mascott7676@gmail.com
	Vice President		
	Rick Elenbaas	989-890-1700	relenbaas198523@gmail.com
	Secretary		
	Mary Ann Wood	989-274-4315	woodmaryann46@gmail.com
	Treasurer		
ELCOA DIRECTORS	Deb Smith	989-560-5811	grammiep1013@yahoo.com
	Membership		
	Susan Neighbors	810-599-3366	susan4neighbors@gmail.com
	Frank DeVuono	586-482-0907	fjdevuono@gmail.com
	Ed Henri	586-946-0239	ecchenri@yahoo.com
	John Krieger	248-390-6881	gailkrieger@yahoo.com
	Shirley Miller	586-764-3257	millershirley36@gmail.com
COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSONS	Marty Neighbors	810-599-6347	martypneighbors@gmail.com
	Fred VanDeKerkhove	586-329-9705	fredvan@comcast.net
	Mary VanDeKerkhove	586-242-4665	maryvan@comcast.net
	Community News/Facebook Administrator		
	Deb Smith	989-560-5811	grammiep1013@yahoo.com
	Hayride		
	Georgia Wilson	810-577-6879	rn6984@aol.com
	Sally Rouse	586-709-0401	sallykaufman2005@yahoo.com
	Neighborhood Watch/Facebook Administrator		
	Rick Elenbaas	989-890-1700	relenbaas198523@gmail.com
	Newsletter/Website/Boat Parade		elbowlakecoa@gmail.com
	Susan Neighbors	810-599-3366	susan4neighbors@gmail.com
	Water Testing		
	Charlie Smith	989-424-8633	kai538@yahoo.com
	Fish Planting/Facebook Administrator		
	Mark Scott	586-496-3800	mascott7676@gmail.com
	Lake Weeds Treatment		
	Mary Ann Wood	989-274-4315	woodmaryann46@gmail.com
	Annual Picnic		
	Chairperson(s) needed		