

**A Little Slice of Heaven**

**May 2025**

# Elbow Lake Chatter

***Finally...it's the beginning of summer here at Elbow Lake...***

## **Join us for a Golf Cart/ATV Parade & Picnic on Memorial Weekend**

If it has one wheel, two wheels or four, bring it to the parade on May 24th and show off your patriotic spirit! All are eligible to enter the parade on May 24 which is open to all Elbow Lake residents (no cars or trucks, please). Beginning at the Boat Launch, the parade will circle the lake, then return to the Boat Launch for a picnic of hot dogs, chips and drinks. Feel free to contribute a side dish. We are celebrating Memorial Day and all who served so please decorate your vehicles patriotically and in good taste. Three cash prizes will be awarded. Registration begins at 11am; the parade kicks off at noon.

We will also have a membership booth where we will be accepting dues (\$40) that day so bring your wallet or checkbook if you want to join ELCOA and be eligible to win one of two lovely prizes for early membership. See inside for more details.

*We hope you'll join us to kick off an Elbow Lake Summer!*

### **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



### *Our Condolences*

Ken VanRiper, long time resident and friend to all he met, passed away this spring. Ken took on many projects in our community such as keeping roads clear of snow in winter, patrolling our roads during his Neighborhood Watch rounds, and providing the hayride at our annual Hayride event in October. Practically an institution at Elbow Lake, his friendly manner and sweet smile will be missed.

Carol Beck, mother of Russ, also passed away this spring. Our sincere condolences to all of their families.

## Pop & Beer Can Collection Containers

Look for containers specifically marked for can & bottle recycling at the Boat Launch and along N. Athey. Proceeds will go back to our community, thanks to the Koman family.



### **2025 Dates for ROAD DUST CONTROL**

**May 20th**

**July 9th**

**August 29th**

### **2025 Dates to Remember:**

**May 24: 12pm ATV/Golf Cart**

**Parade; registration at 11am**

**May 25: 10am Board Meeting**

**July 5: AM Flare Sale and**

**8pm Boat Parade**

**July 6: 10am Board Meeting**

**Aug. 2: Annual Meeting/**

**Elections & Picnic**

**Aug. 3: 10am Board Meeting**

**Aug. 31: 10am Board Meeting**

**Oct. 11: Hayride**

**Oct. 12: 10am Board Meeting**

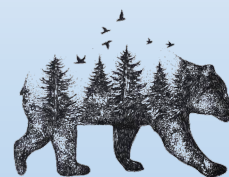
**at Mary Ann Wood's home**

**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](mailto:elbowlakecoa@gmail.com)

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

ELCOA webpage: [www.elbowlakeinfo.wordpress.com](http://www.elbowlakeinfo.wordpress.com)

## It's your property. Please treat it as such.



The green trash bins at the Swim Site and Boat Launch should be pulled to the curb for Thursday garbage pickup if they need to be emptied. This is your responsibility. There are no maintenance people to do this. At the Boat Launch, please use the trash bin for your refuse rather than the blue garbage cans because there is no one to empty the blue garbage cans.



## In appreciation:

Our only Area Clean-up volunteer this year was Marty Neighbors. He also replaced a rotting post along the fence line. The Swim Site still needs raking...plenty of pine needles there! Eric Rouse probably gets the award for first swimmer in the lake this year; he braved the chilly waters and placed the buoys to mark off the swim area a couple of weeks ago. Kendra Koman will paint the dock and Mike DeSloover will be installing it after some repairs are made. If you see any of these people, give them a pat on the back.

## Elections for ELCOA Board will be held at the Annual Meeting on August 2

President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer, Membership, and some directors will have to be nominated and voted on. Newsletter and web-page volunteers are also needed. If you haven't gotten involved before but appreciate what ELCOA provides with events and information, please consider becoming a board member and helping direct ELCOA's future. Thank you.

## ACTIVITIES

### Weed Control for 2025

Lake Spraying is scheduled as follows:

**June 4, 2025**

**July 9, 2025**

**August 13, 2025**

**September 10, 2025**

The above dates are all Wednesdays but in case of weather, spraying will be postponed to Thursdays. The September spraying will include those that want lily pads, etc., sprayed. A payment of \$100 should accompany your request for lily pad treatment. Get your orders in prior to this date.

Questions? Contact Mary Ann Wood at 989-274-4315 or

woodmaryann46@gmail.com

**Reminder: On treatment days, DO NOT SWIM or BOAT for 24 hours. This allows the sprayed chemicals used to sink around the problem areas and be most effective.**



### Fish Stocking

Last November, almost a thousand crappie and walleye were introduced to Elbow Lake. Generous donations totaling \$1911 from residents and an additional \$500 donation from ELCOA allowed many good-sized fish to make their new home in our lake. Thank you, and happy fishing!



### The Boat Parade is July 5

The theme this year is **TOYS!** What was your favorite toy growing up: Matchbox Cars? Barbie's Dream Boat? Legos? Alphabet Blocks? Cash prizes for the top four entries. **Something patriotic is required.** 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.



### Flare Sales

Flares will again be sold the morning of July 5th.

Let's light up the shoreline at dusk, to announce the fireworks!

**3 for \$10**

**5 for \$15**

**7 for \$20**

**10 for \$30**

**14 for \$40**

### TO THE CORN HOLE TOURNAMENT WINNERS LAST AUGUST:

Please drop your trophies off with a board member or

Email: [elcoalakecoa@gmail.com](mailto:elcoalakecoa@gmail.com)

Your names need to be engraved on the trophies. Thank you!

## SUMMARY OF MINUTES FROM ELCOA BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

### **Sunday October 13, 2024**

**Location:** Mary Ann Wood's House

**Present:** Mark Scott, Rick Elenbaas, Mary Ann Wood, Susan Neighbors, Frank DeVuono, Marty Neighbors, Shirley Miller, Lisa Wick and John Krieger.

**Absent:** Deb Smith, Fred Van-DeKerkhove, Eric Rouse, and Ed Henri

**Guests:** Tonya and Donnie Patterson

The meeting was called to order at 10:01 am by President Mark Scott.

**Minutes:** September 1, 2024 minutes were read by Shirley Miller for Mary Ann Wood. Correction was misspelling of Yvonne Gebrowsky's name. Sue Neighbors made a motion to accept the minutes and it was seconded by John Krieger. Motion carried.

**Treasurer's Report:** Shirley Miller read the treasurer's report in the absence of Deb Smith. The balance is \$4532.09 as of October 13, 2024. Sue Neighbors and Frank DeVuono reported receiving monies yesterday at Hayride for fish planting. Sue Neighbors made a motion to accept the treasurer's report. John Krieger seconded. Motion carried.

**Membership Report:** Sue Neighbors reported a membership of 80.

**Report of Committees:**

**Neighborhood Watch:** Frank DeVuono reported a theft of 2 campers and a chipper between Labor Day and now. He suggested that property owners take personal property away from Boat Launch and if it is not yours DO NOT TOUCH. He plans to talk to blight officer about abandoned stacked boats. He also reported that the garbage cans at the boat launch have been stolen twice. Rick said he talked to the township and we need to turn in the address so new cans can be delivered.

**Community News:**

**Facebook:** Mark Scott reported the ad on Facebook for duct cleaning as

the person mentions they are a member. Mark said they are not and ad should be ignored.

**Webpage/Newsletter:** Susan Neighbors will update website with information and pictures from yesterday's Hayride. She said she will put out a newsletter in February.

**Township Meeting:** Mary Ann Wood and Shirley Miller attended the township meeting to inform them of Jeff Benjamin seeking a new contract for paying for supplies. He is currently using his own monies as prices have gone up. The township said the current contract is good until the end of 2025. It was also mentioned Meredith Grade will have an upgrade in 2025 with shoulders widened to allow for bikes, etc.

**Fish Planting:** Frank DeVuono said fish will not be planted until the waters temperatures goes down to 55 degrees.

**Hayride:** Lisa Wick and Tonya Patterson received applause for the awesome Hayride yesterday. They got lots of donations for prizes and a gift card. Lisa said she spent \$231.00 of her and Tonya's personal money. The 50/50 generated \$582.00 income. There was \$1224.00 income from the Hayride which included a fish donation, raffle monies, 50/50 income and cash donations. Marty Neighbors made a motion to reimburse Lisa and Tonya for their expenses. Rick Elenbaas seconded. Motion carried. Discussion held to save raffle monies for next year's event and to have 6 judges next year for chili/soup cook off. The consensus was a big shout out of appreciation for all that donated monies and help for this event but especially to Joel Maes for driving the tractor, etc. Lisa discussed notion to reimburse Joel \$50.00 for gas he used in driving the tractor. Marty Neighbors made motion to give Joel Maes \$50.00 for gas. Seconded by Sue Neighbors. Motion

carried.

**Old Business:** Shirley Miller reported that Eric Rouse took the buoys out and nearly froze his xxx off. The buoys are at his house and need new chains for the anchors. Eric will get a price prior to replacing them next summer.

**New Business:** Vice-President Rick Elenbaas informed the board that he is unable to continue as vice president. He said he would like to stay on the board though. Ed Henri is unable to drive for 6 months, so he also will have absences. Also, Fred Van-DeKerkhove has let a board member know he is too busy for his position at this time. Gravel was delivered at the Boat Launch but it is not enough. There may be monies left over and John Krieger reported he will order more gravel. He also talked to 2 guys to help spread the gravel. Frank DeVuono wants to talk with Mike and Kathy DeSloover about updating all signs—both county and township. He also informed everyone that the noise ordinance is in effect from 10:00 pm until 7:00 am per township regulations. Discussion held regarding a fire pit at boat launch. It should be a 4 foot ring, with bricks/stones surrounding it and have a double ring with rocks between rings. Marty will talk with Kevin Pillon to pursue this project. Discussion entered by Rick Elenbaas that the dock needs repair. It needs to be power washed and some screws are rusting and need to be replaced.

Volunteers named for 2025 projects:  
Memorial Day Parade: Mark Scott  
Boat Parade: Sue Neighbors  
Annual Picnic: Blaire Embry?  
Flare Sales: Frank DeVuono & Marty Neighbors

Hayride: Lisa Wick

**Discussions:** President Scott announced the next board meeting is April-27-2025 at 10:00 am at Mary Ann Wood's house. He also reminded everyone Annual Cleanup is April 26,

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

2025. Sue Neighbors made motion to adjourn, seconded by Rick Elenbaas.

Motion passed. Adjourned at 11:00am.  
**Submitted by Secretary Mary Ann**

**Wood with Shirley Miller taking the notes.**

## SUMMARY OF MINUTES FROM ELCOA BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

### **Sunday April 27, 2025**

**Location:** Mary Ann Wood's House

**Present:** Mark Scott, Mary Ann Wood, Susan Neighbors, Frank DeVuono, Marty Neighbors, Eric Rouse, Rick Elenbaas, and Lisa Wick.

**Absent:** Deb Smith, Shirley Miller, Fred VanDeKerkhove, John Krieger, and Ed Henri.

**Guests:** Kendra Koman and Jacob Scott

The meeting was called to order at 10:03 am by President Mark Scott. He reported that Fred VanDeKerkhove does not wish to continue on the board.

**Minutes:** The October 13, 2024 minutes were read by secretary Mary Ann Wood. Sue Neighbors made a motion to accept the minutes and it was seconded by Marty Neighbors. Motion carried.

**Treasurer's Report:** Sue Neighbors read the treasurer's report in Deb Smith's absence. The balance is \$4,929.04 with a separate line item of \$95.00 for fish donations. Lisa Wick had a question regarding the Hayride. She asked if the \$582.00 collected for the raffle will be saved to this year's hayride. Marty Neighbors said we have \$5,000 in the account and why not spend it on members. President Scott said the annual picnic used to be a big deal with lots of very big prizes with the tickets sent out with the membership forms annually. That has all gone by the wayside. So he said it is necessary now to keep in mind we have bills for porta-potty, insurance, license fees, oxygen, and batteries for AED. We also need funds for maintenance, etc. Sue Neighbors made a motion to accept the treasurer's report. Lisa Wick seconded. Motion carried.

ried.

**Membership Report:** Sue Neighbors reported a membership of 81. She also said we have 1 new member for 2025-2026.

### **Report of Committees:**

**Neighborhood Watch:** Frank DeVuono reported less ice fishing this year.

**Community News:** Marty Neighbors suggested a moment of silence for Rudy and Stephanie Wood as they were active board members for a long time and now are passed on. The notice of Caroline Brinkman's passing was also brought up. There is a house for sale on N. Athey.

**Facebook:** Deb Smith absent. President Scott said we have 349 members on Facebook.

**Webpage/Newsletter:** Susan Neighbors said a newsletter will be out in May. She wants to know the positions available for the board at the annual meeting. There are numerous board members not seeking reelection.

**Township Meeting:** Erie High does not desire to attend any more meetings. Marty Neighbors will be the new liaison for township meetings. He reported the Meredith Grade upgrade has been canceled due to expense. He also reported that large items for disposal with the garbage company need to have a phone call made to the garbage company. He said the road commissioner is at every meeting.

**Fish Planting:** Frank DeVuono said crappie and walleye were planted in the fall. There will be no fish planted now until the fall of '26.

**Clean up Report:** Marty Neighbors reported he was the only one that showed up. He worked at least 2 hours. He said the Boat Launch area

by the fence still needs blowing of leaves. The dock needs scraping, staining and painting. No one has stepped forward to put the dock in this year as of yet. He said the bolts are rusting but still have a fair amount of metal on them. At the Swim Site, he said the 2 large pine trees on either side of the beach drop tons of needles. He raked them in piles but they need to be picked up. He picked up trash and discovered a rotten post on the fence line. He will repair that. The beach driveway needs clean up. Rick Elenbaas reported the garbage cans have not been replaced and when they are maybe should stencil Elbow Lake Boat Launch/Beach on them so if stolen again, they would be easily identifiable.

**Lake Spraying:** Mary Ann reported on the dates for lake spraying. They are: June 4th, July 9th, August 13th, September 10th, with Wednesdays or Thursdays as rain days. Jeff Benjamin said his contract is not up until the end of 2025 and hopes the township will renew his contract.

**Memorial Parade:** President Scott said it will happen but we do need someone to hand out numbers and register people. There will also be a membership table to take your early memberships. Sue Neighbors made a motion to have prizes up to \$100.00 for early bird prizes at the memorial parade. Seconded by Marty Neighbors. Discussion included getting new members especially those new to the community. Kendra Koman suggested prizes for those joining that have not been members for a long time. Motion passed.

**Fourth of July:** Sue Neighbors will make the pennants and numbers for the entries. The theme is "Toys".

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

Marty will handle flares but wondering with the tariffs that prices may have gone way up. Marty will order more to add to those left over from last year. Don Kraynack donated 2 boxes last year and they are hoping he does the same this year. We are hoping selling prices will remain the same as last year.

**Annual Meeting/Picnic:** President Scott said his impression is that Blaire Embrey would do every other year. Someone will be contacting her. Lisa Wick asked who had the trophies for the annual picnic events. Sue Neighbors said she will need them to add last year's winners to them.

**Hayride:** Lisa Wick reported she will ask Tonya Patterson to handle the chili/soup cook off. Lisa has all the prizes already purchased. The Chili and Soup judging will be separate.

**Old Business:** It was brought to the board's attention that more gravel is needed at boat launch. Marty Neighbors reported that he talked with Kevin Pillon and he has agreed to do a new firepit ring at boat launch. He is

busy right now but will get to it this spring. Eric Rouse put in the buoys today in very cold weather with no wet suit. He has a receipt to get to Deb Smith for replacing the chains.

**New Business:** Kendra Koman made a suggestion to have containers at boat launch and beach for returnable beverage containers. She said it is a way to generate income for the treasury. She would handle this project. She will paint/stencil containers and return the bottles/cans. Mary Ann will donate 2 containers. Mike DeSloover may make new cabinets for boat launch and beach area. Marty took out the outdated stuff at clean up. Discussion on placement of dock. Kendra Koman said she would do the painting/staining if someone else gets the products. She will do it this Mother's Day weekend. President Scott will bring his tractor up that weekend and put the dock in if his tractor can handle it. Rick Elenbaas asked about placement of second dock.

Marty Neighbors had a visual aide presentation for the board. He said it

may need to go to general membership for voting. His proposal is to incorporate additional areas to the association/subdivisions. He will take to the township meeting for review.

President Scott said it is not an association matter as deeds, tax assessments, weeds payments etc. is involved and is **NOT** ELCOA's issue. Lisa Wick again brought up her daughter wanting to be a member of association. Lots of discussion followed with a wide range of ideas. It was mentioned about Trout Lake and the destruction of the dam which will drain the lake. It is a done deal and nothing further will be considered.

DNR is ticketing people riding on some trails.

**Discussions:** President Scott announced the next board meeting is 5-25-2025 at 10:00 am at Mary Ann Wood's house.

The meeting adjourned at 11:32am.

**Submitted by Secretary Mary Ann Wood**



## ***Remember . . . Saturday, May 24th***

### **ATV & Golf Cart Parade & Picnic**

**(Registration 11am; Parade at Noon)**

**Prizes for Best Patriotically Decorated Vehicles**

### **Membership Drive**

**If you pay your '25-'26 dues (\$40), you will be entered to win 1 of the 2 pictured prizes:**



XL Zero-Gravity  
Lounger



Cordless Back,  
Neck Massager



**With Honor & Gratitude**  
**We Remember**

**Don't forget to have current ORV stickers on your vehicles if required.**

## CONTACT INFORMATION FOR 2023-2024

|                               |                                              |              |                               |
|-------------------------------|----------------------------------------------|--------------|-------------------------------|
| <b>ELCOA<br/>OFFICERS</b>     | <b>President</b>                             |              |                               |
|                               | Mark Scott                                   | 586-496-3800 | mascott7676@gmail.com         |
|                               | <b>Vice President</b>                        |              |                               |
|                               | Rick Elenbaas                                | 989-890-1700 | relenbaas198523@gmail.com     |
|                               | <b>Secretary</b>                             |              |                               |
|                               | Mary Ann Wood                                | 989-274-4315 | woodmaryann46@gmail.com       |
|                               | <b>Treasurer</b>                             |              |                               |
| <b>ELCOA<br/>DIRECTORS</b>    | 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           |
|                               | Ed Henri                                     | 586-946-0239 | ecchenri@yahoo.com            |
|                               | John Krieger                                 | 248-390-6881 | gailkrieger@yahoo.com         |
|                               | Shirley Miller                               | 586-764-3257 | millershirley36@gmail.com     |
| <b>COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSONS</b> | Marty Neighbors                              | 810-599-6347 | martyneighbors@gmail.com      |
|                               | Eric Rouse                                   | 734-325-3439 | ejrouse56@gmail.com           |
|                               | Fred VanDeKerkhove                           | 586-329-9705 | fredvan@comcast.net           |
|                               | Lisa Wick                                    | 810-288-9719 |                               |
|                               | <b>Community News/Facebook Administrator</b> |              |                               |
|                               | Deb Smith                                    | 989-560-5811 | grammiep1013@yahoo.com        |
|                               | <b>Community Support Person</b>              |              |                               |
|                               | Blaire Embrey                                |              | blaireembrey@gmail.com        |
|                               | <b>Hayride</b>                               |              |                               |
|                               | Lisa Wick                                    | 810-288-9719 |                               |
|                               | <b>Facebook Administrator</b>                |              |                               |
|                               | Rick Elenbaas                                | 989-890-1700 | relenbaas198523@gmail.com     |
|                               | <b>Newsletter/Website/Boat Parade</b>        |              | <b>elbowlakecoa@gmail.com</b> |
|                               | Susan Neighbors                              | 810-599-3366 | susan4neighbors@gmail.com     |
|                               | <b>Water Testing</b>                         |              |                               |
|                               | Charlie Smith                                | 989-424-8633 | kai538@yahoo.com              |
|                               | <b>Facebook Administrator</b>                |              |                               |
|                               | Mark Scott                                   | 586-496-3800 | mascott7676@gmail.com         |
|                               | <b>Lake Weeds Treatment</b>                  |              |                               |
|                               | Mary Ann Wood                                | 989-274-4315 | woodmaryann46@gmail.com       |
|                               | <b>Fish Planting/Neighborhood Watch</b>      |              |                               |
|                               | Frank DeVuono                                | 586-482-0907 | fjdevuono@gmail.com           |

# ELCOA Membership for 2025-2026

(Yearly Membership runs from August 2025 through July 2026)

**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 \_\_\_\_\_

Suggestions or concerns \_\_\_\_\_

Membership dues must be paid before or at the time of the Annual Meeting/ Picnic, scheduled for August 2, 2025 in order to vote.

***Dues received by July 15, 2025 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:

**Or pay at the Golf Cart/ATV  
Parade on May 25th to qualify  
for an additional prize.**

**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

*I'm interested in volunteering for:*

☐ Board Member or Officer ☐ Annual Picnic ☐ Hayride

Other \_\_\_\_\_

|                      |                          |
|----------------------|--------------------------|
| For Office Use Only: | NW                       |
| # or \$: _____       | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Amount: _____        | New                      |
| Date Rec.: _____     | <input type="checkbox"/> |