

April 2026

Elbow Lake Chatter

Photo Courtesy: Pure Michigan

Spring has sprung here at Elbow Lake!

The birds are chirping, the lake is filling up, and the sun is beaming down to warm up the soil for those delicious morels hiding about. We are looking forward to seeing everyone, new and familiar, flock back to the lake!

Our first ELCOA Board Meeting of the season is on **April 25th**. Please join us at the **Boat Launch** at **10:00AM** to discuss our local happenings. These board meetings are open to the public, and all are encouraged to join.

Following the Board Meeting will be our Spring Cleaning session, where we aim to tidy up the playground, the beach, and the Boat Launch for the benefit of our friends, family, and neighbors. Please consider volunteering to help!

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 and Deb Smith
9895 Toohy Trail
989-560-5811
989-424-8633

The 2026 Boat Parade theme is



THE PARADE IS
8 pm, Saturday, July 4th

Cash prizes for the top four entries.

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.

11 am to Noon: Boat Registration and Flare Sale at Boat Launch or at Neighbors' cottage: 9952 South Shore

Registration involves giving your name and getting a number to display on your boat so judges can vote for you.

2026 Dates to Remember

- **April 25th**
 - Board Meeting, 10:00AM
 - Area Clean Up, 11:00AM
- **April 29th**
 - Ladies' Luncheon, 12:00PM
- **May 23rd**
 - Board Meeting, 10:00AM
 - Golf Cart/SxS Parade (TBA on Time)
- **July 4th**
 - Board Meeting, 10:00AM
 - Parade Registration, Flare Sales, 11:00AM
 - Boat Parade, 8:00PM
- **August 1st**
 - Annual Meeting, 10:00AM
 - Annual Picnic, 12:00PM
- **August 2nd**
 - Board Meeting, 10:00AM
- **September 5th**
 - Board Meeting, 10:00AM
- **October 10th**
 - Board Meeting, 10:AM
 - Hayride Event (TBA on Time)

Boat Launch Maintenance

To stave off erosion at the boat launch, ELCOA has facilitated a gravel installation in late 2025. This should aid in keeping water runoff from wearing down the boat launch. Photos are on the next page.

Volunteers Needed

Looking for opportunities to help out? Please consider volunteering for future events. Whether you help organize and run games for the kids, judge for our exciting chili cook-off competition, or lend an extra hand cleaning up the boat launch and beach, your efforts will be greatly appreciated by the community. Stay tuned for upcoming opportunities!

Join the Chatter!

Elbow Lake Chatter is the official voice of ELCOA. We invite you to send local news, comments, ideas, or photos to: elbowlakecoa@gmail.com
Facebook page: **Elbow Lake Community Page**
ELCOA webpage: www.elbowlakeinfo.wordpress.com

2026-27 Membership

Membership dues for the 2026-27 season have been increased from \$40 to \$60 to aid in maintenance and facilitate events around the lake throughout the year. Membership forms will be available at the April 25th Board Meeting, and will be handled by Tonya Patterson going forward. Neighborhood Watch signs are provided to ELCOA members. As always, **membership is not required**, however we appreciate all of our members and their continued support in keeping the lake and neighborhood enjoyable for all. The current active membership count based on the 2025/26 data is **79 memberships**.

Considering becoming a member? Your support helps contribute to:

- Boat Launch Maintenance
- Playground and Beach Maintenance
- Annual Holiday Events
- Public Porta-potties
- Emergency Equipment
 - Oxygen Tanks
 - Automated External Defibrillator (AED)
 - Walkie-Talkies
- Fish Stocking
- Insurance
- And so much more!

Ladies Luncheon

The upcoming Ladies Luncheon will be on Wednesday, April 29th at 12:00PM. at Crystal Raby's home on 10618 N. Athey.

Thanks to our local supporters!



ACTIVITIES



Photos of the Boat Launch's gravel installation from October 2025, courtesy of Frank DeVuono.



Trever, Garrett, Spencer, and Chase enjoying a day on the ice back in January.
courtesy of Frank DeVuono



Elbow Lake's ice was still thawing out as of March 30th. Photo courtesy of Cassie Kelly.

SUMMARY OF MINUTES FROM ELCOA BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

ELCOA Meeting Minutes from Sunday, October 11, 2025

Location: Boat Launch

Present: Mark Scott, Donnie Patterson, Jonathan Kelly, Sally Rouse, Tonya Patterson, Eric Rouse, Marty Neighbors, John Krieger, Frank DeVuono, Lisa Wick, Tyler Hay.

Absent: Fred VanDekerhove, Shirley Miller, Ed Henri

Guests: Ken Scott, Matt Wilton

The meeting was called to order at 10:12 a.m. by President Mark Scott.

Minutes: Sally Rouse read the minutes from Sunday, August 31, 2025. Marty Neighbors made a motion to accept the meeting minutes as written and seconded by John Krieger. Motion passed.

Treasurer's Report: Jonathan Kelly reported a starting balance of \$6,470.22 as of August 31, 2025. Checking Balance of \$6,460.22. Jonathan added donations total amounts on the financial report. The group liked this format. The fish fund requires \$500.00 in 2026. Jonathan will move the funds into the 2026 budget. All raffle money goes into the general fund and we as a collective group decide where we spend the raffle money. If the donation was specifically noted, then the money goes into that specific category. There was a motion to approve the budget by John Kreiger and seconded by Donnie Patterson.

Membership Report: Tonya reported 1 new member. There are 80 members as of today.

Reporting of committee members:

Neighborhood Watch: Frank DeVuono indicated there is a lot of construction around the association. He said he is changing the fire signs constantly.

Facebook: Tyler reported there are 350 members on the Facebook page. Due to the high volume of spam members, it was suggested that the Facebook Admin ask questions when excepting new members.

Webpage: Tyler indicated that the webpage is going to change. More details to follow.

Newsletter: Tonya will give addresses to Tyler to mail out the newsletter in the spring. For those members that do not have email access, copies will be put in Mike DeSloover's little library box.

Memorial Day Parade: Mark asked members to start thinking about the coordinator efforts for the Memorial Day Parade. Sally Rouse indicated she would volunteer in some capacity.

Annual picnic 2026: No discussion.

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

Hayride: It was noted that some of the kids games this year were self-service, as there were no volunteers. Some feedback regarding volunteers including, limiting time for each volunteer to 1 hour increments so that they can enjoy the festivities as well. Tonya indicated that she had three 3rd place ties for the house decorating contest. Georgia and Randy Wilson, Mike and Kathy DeSloover and Deb and Charlie Smith. She asked for a volunteer to be the tie breaker. It was pointed out that Hunters Paradise made a \$500 donation for the hayride event.

Township/ELCOA Liaison: Marty had nothing to report.

Old Business: Jonathan indicated that we have State Farm insurance and we are good with the policy that we currently have. Our current premium is \$500, but any changes could raise it to \$2,000. Donnie made a motion to get gravel for the boat launch but not to exceed \$1,000.00. Tyler Seconded the motion. Motion Carried. John Kreiger will call and get it scheduled.

New Business: Sally Rouse forgot to add the new business category on the agenda. John Kreiger requested that the donation buckets for the Gravel and Fish be put out today at the hayride event.

Next meeting will be April 25, 2026 at 10:00 a.m. at the boat launch. Johnathan made a motion to adjourn at 11:03 a.m. Eric Rouse seconded. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted by Sally Rouse, Secretary for ELCOA

CONTACT INFORMATION FOR 2026

ELCOA OFFICERS	President Mark Scott 586-496-3800 mascott7676@gmail.com Vice President Donnie Patterson 517-375-2500 dpatterson@ditchwitchmi.com Secretary Sally Rouse 586-709-0401 sallykaufman2005@yahoo.com Treasurer Jonathan Kelly 734-624-8299 kellyj734@gmail.com Membership Tonya Patterson 517-219-3121 Tonyacunnings@yahoo.com
ELCOA DIRECTORS	Fred VanDekerhove 586-329-9205 fredvan@comcast.net Eric Rouse 734-325-3439 ejrouse56@gmail.com Marty Neighbors 810-599-6347 thenighbors@comcast.net John Krieger 248-390-6881 gailkrieger@yahoo.com Frank DeVuono 586-940-9958 fjdevuono@gmail.com Shirley Miller 586-764-3257 millershirely36@gmail.com Lisa Wick 810-288-9719 Ed Henri N/A ecchenri@yahoo.com
COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSONS	Community News/Facebook Administrator Deb Smith 989-560-5811 grammiep1013@yahoo.com Community Support Person Blaire Embrey blaireembrey@gmail.com Annual Picnic Mary Ann Wood 989-274-4315 woodmaryann46@gmail.com Shirley Miller 586-764-3257 millershirley36@gmail.com Hayride Lisa Wick 810-288-9719 Facebook Administrator Rick Elenbaas 989-890-1700 relenbaas198523@gmail.com Newsletter/Website Tyler Hay 269-303-5906 haytyler7@gmail.com Water Testing Charlie Smith 989-424-8633 kai538@yahoo.com Facebook Administrator Mark Scott 586-496-3800 mascott7676@gmail.com Lake Weeds Treatment Mary Ann Wood 989-274-4315 woodmaryann46@gmail.com Fish Planting/Neighborhood Watch Frank DeVuono 586-482-0907 fjdevuono@gmail.com

ELOCA Membership for 2026-2027

(Yearly Membership runs from August 2026 through July 2027)

Membership dues \$60.00

NAME: _____

ELBOW LAKE ADDRESS: _____

HOME ADDRESS, if different: _____

PHONE: _____ **OR** _____

EMAIL ADDRESS: _____

Interested in Charing: ___ Annual Picnic ___ Hayride ___ Golf Cart/ATV Parade Interested in
volunteering for: ___ Annual Picnic ___ Hayride ___ Golf Cart/ATV Parade ___ Sub Crawl (new
event)

Donations for Fish Fund \$ _____ Donations for Boat Launch Gravel \$ _____

(If you are donating for the fish fund or boat launch gravel, clearly specify above how much to
go to either fund and you can write one check for membership and your donation total.)

- Membership dues must be paid on or before the Annual Meeting/Picnic to vote
- Dues received by **July 10, 2026** will qualify for the **"Early Bird Drawing"** Prize of \$100.00
(Winner announced at the Annual Meeting)

Please send this Membership form and check for \$ 60.00 PAYABLE to ELCOA to:

Tonya Patterson
3507 Hogback Rd
Fowlerville, MI 48836

Office use only Ch# _____ Cash _____ Date Rec: _____