



SMITH MOUNTAIN LAKE ASSOCIATION

400 Scruggs Road, Suite 2100, Moneta, VA 24121

www.SMLAssociation.org

Protecting the Investment of SML Residents

April 2015

President's Message

Spring is upon us and it's time to start, if you haven't already, those many associated activities. These include Spring cleaning, both inside and outside, and the more pleasurable pastimes of planning and preparing the garden and getting the boat ready to go.

This is also a good time, if you're interested, to investigate installing some buffer landscaping. Call the SMLA office at 540-719-0690 and ask about getting an expert to show you what possibilities there are for your property. It's all free and places you under no obligation.

I strongly recommend that once your boat is on the water you get a free Vessel Safety Inspection. Qualified members of the SML Sail and Power Squadron or the U. S. Coast Guard Auxiliary will check all the items you are required to have, as well as suggesting some you may want to add. If your boat does not pass, they will discuss what you need to do to set it right. There is no report made except to you.

While on the subject of boats, a great many thanks are due to Delegate Byron and Delegate Poindexter for their efforts to defeat a measure that would have gutted the Boating Education Bill by exempting those over a certain age from having to take the course. That this group was responsible for two thirds of deaths on Virginia waterways in 2014 makes no impression on its supporters. They just don't want to take the course.

Before you know it, the lake clean-up (scheduled for Saturday, May 2) will be off and running. This newsletter includes information about the clean-up, as well as a registration form, to make it easy for you to participate. I am told that the upper Roanoke river, in particular, has a great deal of debris this year.

Due to particularly nasty weather on March 5th, our annual Town Hall Meeting was postponed until Thursday, March 19th. We will be reporting on it in our next newsletter.

Meanwhile stay safe,

Pete Lewis

Pete Lewis

SMLA President

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*Smith Mountain Lake's 50th Anniversary Celebration is under way! To learn more, go to [www.visitsmithmountainlake.com](http://www.visitsmithmountainlake.com) and click on the 50th logo to read more. While you are there, click on the Slide Show, and make sure your sound is turned on for a special treat!*  
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Water Safety Council: Legislative Report

The 2015 General Assembly Session was both interesting and of concern to Virginia's recreational boaters. Three bills in the Legislature, SB 996 and HB1324 and HB 1298 captured the attention of the Association's Water Safety Council.

No positions were taken by the WSC on either of the House Bills.

Such was not the case with SB 996. This Bill as introduced would have exempted recreational boaters born before January 1, 1972, from having to take a boater education course. The WSC and the Virginia Safe Boating Alliance took strong positions on this exemption. It was felt the bill's exempting individuals 43 and older from having to take a Boater education course did not represent the real world. Statistics clearly show that individuals 45 and older represent the largest age group involved in boating accidents. In fact of the 16 boating fatalities in the Commonwealth in 2014, 11 of them were caused by operators 45 and older.

There were numerous efforts to amend the Bill, both in the Senate and the House of Delegates. Suffice it to say that all the amendments and substitute amendments were voted down in the House and the Bill itself was rejected by a vote of 38 for and 61 against. An attempt to bring the bill back also failed.

Residents of the Lake Community, along with their counterparts from Lake Gaston and Lake Anna did yeomen work by contacting their respective State Delegates and Senators urging them to vote against SB 996. They were joined in this effort by organizations such as the U.S. Power Squadron and members of the Coast Guard Auxiliary. In addition the Smith Mountain Lake Chamber Partnership had one of its staff in Richmond to testify against the Bill. Also, many national organizations joined their voices in opposition the Bill.

Special thanks should go to Delegates Kathy Byron and Charles Poindexter for their efforts to defeat the Bill.

While we expect the Bill to come back next year we can take some comfort in knowing that as of July 1, 2015, anyone 50 and under will need to have taken a boater education course in order to operate a boat on the waters of the Commonwealth.

Remember, the snow will end and the sun and warm weather will not be far behind. Have a safe and enjoyable summer.

Respectfully submitted – Bruce Dungan



2015 Annual Meeting and Town Hall highlights, including President Pete Lewis presenting the Melvin Johnston Award for outstanding volunteerism to recipient Larry Iceman, Pat Massa presenting the Karl Martin Water Safety Award to David Brown, highlights of the 50th Anniversary preparations shared by Jerry Hale and other highlights by board chairs.

Save Our Streams 2014

In 2014, twenty-one stream sites around Smith Mountain Lake were monitored by 35 certified Save Our Streams (SOS) monitors who identify and count benthic (bottom dwelling) macroinvertebrates (“bugs”) living in streams. Data on the types and numbers of bugs are entered into a formula developed to indicate a stream’s biological health at a given point in time—whether the water quality is considered to be acceptable, unacceptable or in a gray zone where the results were not definitive.

Summary data on the biological health of stream sites for 2014 show that 13 sites (62%) scored in the acceptable range, 5 sites (24%) fell in the unacceptable range, and 3 sites (14%) scored in the gray zone. It is important to note that we must look at trend data over the years in assessing the overall health of a stream site. Specific information on stream sites and charts with yearly summary scores will be posted on the SMLA website in the near future.

We encourage individuals interested in learning more about water quality and/or becoming a SOS monitor to participate in a 3 hour Orientation Session later this spring – date to be announced in the near future. Our trainers then work with individuals interested in becoming monitors at various stream sites around the lake. In addition, we are always interested in exploring new monitoring sites in streams with riffles where the water flows over lemon to melon size rocks and the bugs live.

For further information, please contact De English at de.english100@gmail.com or by leaving a message at the SMLA office.



Kelso, Daros, Orth, and Hurt gather samples



Don Kelso and Geoff Orth look at bugs.

Water Management Committee

Appalachian Electric Power is required every 5 years as part of their license to “... solicit comments on the performance of the project in maintaining lake levels and in providing flows necessary to protect instream beneficial use.” The Smith Mountain Lake Association formed the Water Management Committee 2 years ago to develop appropriate comments. The Committee determined the primary cause of low lake levels was prolonged rainfall deficits with low groundwater recharge in the previous winter a contributing factor. The Committee also showed that an accurate predictive model of lake level coupled with closer adherence to the current discharge protocols could generally keep Smith Mountain Lake above an adjusted level of 791 ft. Five recommendations together with the parties considered responsible for implementing them were developed by the Committee and are listed below.

- Use actual Leesville discharges since 2010 to improve predictive accuracy in the June-December timeframe (Hydrologics)
- Maintain closer adherence to following the minimum Leesville discharges specified in the Water Management Plan (AEP)
- Request adding a probability value for the lake falling below 791 ft. in the Trigger 3 definition (Bedford Regional Water Authority)

Continued on page 4

- Request that DEQ renew the AEP permit for the next 5 years and review our recommendations and issues (DEQ)
- Continue to assess predictive model performance and address issues during the next 5 years (SMLA)

The Committee also developed a set of issues and questions that it felt should be examined over the next 5 years. These issues are listed below. The full report will be available on the new SMLA website (www.smlsassociation.org).

- Use NOAA CPC drought predictions to identify low rainfall years
- Examine more “realistic” groundwater models
- Examine interaction of rainfall and groundwater deficits
- Examine effect of inflow/discharge correlations
- Consider alternate methods for generating synthetic streamflows
- Reevaluate the 40 cfs addition to the Roanoke gage
- Consider using the Niagara rather than the Roanoke gage
- Reconsider the “groundwater loss” term
- Examine evaporation loss variability

Contributed by Russ Johnson and Chuck Sinex

Water Quality Monitoring

The water quality at SML in 2014 was very good as measured by both Key Parameters, the Combined Trophic State Index (TSI) and Bacteria count. The TSI was 45.1 as compared to the 10 Yr. average of 48.0. The E. coli bacteria count lake average was 6.6 cfus/ml (mpn)* versus the 10 Yr. average of 24.7. If we exclude the data for the three headwater sample sites, that are always much higher, the bacteria count for 2014 was 5.4 versus the 10 yr. average of 10.1 and the Va. Dept. of Health maximum of 126 for recreational waters.

The components of TSI are phosphorus, chlorophyll-a, and secchi depth. The 2014 average data compared to the 10 yr. avg. are shown below:

<i>Parameter</i>	<i>10 Yr. avg</i>	<i>2014 result (% difference)</i>
<i>TSI</i>	<i>48.0</i>	45.1 (- 6.0%)
<i>Total Phosphorus Lake, ppb</i>	<i>25.9</i>	26.9 (+ 3.9%)
<i>Total Phosphorus Tributaries, ppb</i>	<i>76.7</i>	94.2 (+22.8%)
<i>Chlorophyll-a, ppb</i>	<i>5.7</i>	2.7 (- 52.6%)
<i>Secchi Depth, meters</i>	<i>2.2</i>	2.3 (+ 4.5%)

Key: **GREEN is Better vs. the 10 yr. average** **RED is Worse vs. the 10 yr. average**

**cfus/ml is “colony forming units” per milliliter and mpn is “most probable number”*

The SMLA WQMP is the result of 50 volunteers taking samples six times during the summer at 84 sites. Thank you Water Quality Monitors!

Also we are very grateful to the following for their financial support: APCO, Va. DEQ, TLAC, SMLA, and Western Virginia Water Authority.

None of this monitoring is possible without the collaboration and work of the professors, staff, and student interns at Ferrum College. 2014 was the 28th year of the SMLA Ferrum College Partnership of which SMLA is very proud.

MONITORS: Please note that the 2015 kick-off meeting for WQM training takes place at the SMLA office on Thursday evening May 7th at 6:00 PM. If anyone wants to be a Water Quality Monitor please E-mail or call Larry Iceman at icemanle@gmail.com or call (540) 721-4694 and leave a message.

Larry Iceman

WATER SAFETY COUNCIL

Cold Water Survival—Are you ready? *“Person, rescued by fast-acting neighbor, hospitalized for hypothermia after watercraft mechanical problems led to operator being immersed for 12-15 minutes in 40 degree Fahrenheit water.” Smith Mountain Lake, Feb. 2015*

As the ice-bound main creeks re-open the hearty watersport lovers resume their pursuits on our lakes. Let us take stock in what the dangers are to us being immersed in the 32-40 degree Fahrenheit (F) water we have had this winter.

When we find ourselves immersed in cold water our body heat is conducted away from the body through the surrounding water, hypothermia (the lowering of the body’s core temperature) sets in, we become weak and lethargic, we slip into unconsciousness, and we can drown. This is actually our body trying to survive through the natural physiological response known as the Mammalian Diving Reflex. The cold triggers the reflex slowing down our respirations and heartbeat, (they are nearly undetectable), constricts our muscles in our extremities, and only allows oxygen laden blood to circulate among our brain and critical organs.

United States Coast Guard and United States Navy Search and Rescue (SAR) facts reveal a person in such water temperatures has no more than 15 minutes of useful consciousness with which to help themselves, and only 15-45 minutes of life. Those numbers reduce with exertion, winds and continuous emersion.

Here are some actions we should do to minimize the risks of being unceremoniously immersed in cold water and surviving the “polar” plunge!

- First and foremost, **wear a personal flotation device** (PFD-lifejacket) around the shoreline, on your dock and in your boat in cold weather. “But I’m a great swimmer,” you say. Slip on a slick spot; hit your head and even Olympic caliber athletes can’t swim when they are dazed or unconscious. Have you ever tried to swim in clothes, much less winter coats and boots?
- Avoid venturing down to the water alone; **take a partner** when possible.
- **Leave your intended route and return time** with someone keeping tabs on you. Check in via cell phone or radio frequently while underway.
- Operationally warm up and **check your watercraft dockside**. Frozen lines, destabilizing bilge ice, cracked or stuck check valves, condensation in fuel and depleted batteries are common in sustained cold temperatures.
- **Dress in layers** using wool and other like insulating materials that trap air. Make sure your clothing does not inhibit proper PFD employment.
- **Keep your head covered** with something that will stay on if you fall in the water. More heat is lost through our head than any other part of the body.
- If you take the plunge, **strive to remove yourself from the water**. The side stroke, breast stroke or elementary back stroke, all with underwater recoveries (arms stay in the water) are the best strokes to use when forced to swim clothed. Never give up floatation of any kind.
- If you can’t get out of the water try to **get your head and torso out** as much as possible using floatation available. If limited to your life jacket, get in an American Red Cross HELP position, bringing your knees to the chest, making your body compact, and retain heat. If you are not alone, get in an ARC HUD-DLE position, again bringing your knees to the chest, and like in a football huddle, get side to side placing your arms around the persons’ waist next to you and retain heat.

Good Rule of Thumb: Any time you face the potential of being in the water with conditions where the combined water temperature and air temperature add up to 100 degrees F or less (example; 40 F water + 35 F air = 75 F), you are dealing with 30 or fewer minutes of life in optimal conditions. Take time to prepare.

There is a great deal of fun to be had in the winter in our lake environment. A bit of forethought and planning will keep you safe and enjoying your surroundings. Knowing there is little margin in cold-water survival, ask yourself if weather conditions make it the best time to be on, over or near the water.

Written by Mr. Patrick Massa, Chairman of the SMLWSC, former EMT, college swim coach and Lifeguard Training instructor; and retired Navy Rear Admiral C.E. Smith, former test pilot and SAR Mission Commander.



28th Annual Take Pride in Smith Mountain Lake
INFORMATION SHEET
Saturday, May 2, 2015 8:00 am to 3:00 pm

Registration Information

Return Completed Registration Forms by Monday, April 20, 2015 to:
 Tri-County Lake Administrative Commission (TLAC)
By Mail: PO Box 55, Moneta, VA 24121
By Fax: 540-721-4450
In Person: 400 Scruggs Road, Suite 200, Moneta, VA 24121
 Phone Number: 540-721-4400
 TLAC's office is located on the upper level of "The Plaza"

Supply Package Information

Pick-up Dates: Monday, April 27th through Thursday, April 30th
Time: 9:00 am to 5:00 pm
Location: Smith Mountain Lake Association (SMLA) 540-719-0690
 400 Scruggs Road, Suite 2100, Moneta, VA 24121
 SMLA office is located on the lower level of "The Plaza"

DEBRIS DROP OFF SITES ARE NOT FINAL. PLEASE CHECK THE LOCAL NEWSPAPERS TO CONFIRM.

Blackwater River

4- H Center	B-40	Franklin County
Gills Creek Marina	G-4	Franklin County

Roanoke River

BayRoc Marina	R-87	Franklin County
Moorman's Marina	R-76A	Bedford County
Pleasure Point	R-52	Bedford County
Westlake Waterfront Inn	R-37	Franklin County
HalesFord Bridge Site	R-28	Bedford County
SML State Park	R-20	Bedford County

Craddock Creek

Mitchell's Point Marina	C-3A	Bedford County
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Highlights included drawings for the many awesome door prizes provided by SMLA partners.

Take Pride in Smith Mountain Lake!

April 2015

Dear "Take Pride in Smith Mountain Lake" Volunteer,

The Smith Mountain Lake Association (SMLA), Smith Mountain Lake Regional Chamber of Commerce (SMLRCC) and the Tri-County Lake Administrative Commission (TLAC), are pleased to announce the **28th annual "Take Pride in Smith Mountain Lake" Clean-up Event**. This cooperative event is held to provide an opportunity for civic organizations, church groups, neighborhood groups and individuals in our community to come together and help remove debris from the lake and to keep our lake clean.

This year's clean-up event will be Saturday, May 2, 2015 from 8:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. Volunteers throughout the community are encouraged to participate. This year, nine locations have generously provided drop-off sites for volunteers to leave debris. Please refer to the following information list for specific locations.

Please complete the registration form on the page that follows and return it no later than Monday, April 20 to TLAC, P.O. Box 55, Moneta, VA 24121. Registration forms may also be brought to the TLAC office at 400 Scruggs Road, Suite 200 or faxed to (540) 721-4450.

Each volunteer will receive a package including gloves, trash bags, a safety and information sheet and a commemorative t-shirt (while supplies last). Registered volunteers may pick up their package at the ***SMLA office on Monday, April 27 through Thursday, April 30 from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.*** The SMLA office is located at 400 Scruggs Road, Suite 2100.

If you have questions or require additional Clean-Up event information, please contact the TLAC office at (540) 721-4400. Your participation is of great value and is essential to the success of this endeavor.

Sincerely,



Frank Chrzanowski
TPISML Chairman



In 2014 over 500 volunteers removed 41.5 tons of debris from SML, preparing it for another wonderful boating season.



Application for NEW Membership to SMLA

Members: Do you know someone who would support the mission of SMLA? Please give them this membership application. Membership is one of the easiest ways to safeguard Smith Mountain Lake, and SMLA is a non-profit organization. Dues are tax deductible. Joining is as easy as mailing a check or calling 540-719-0690 on Tuesday or Friday to pay by credit card.

Free gift to NEW Members with 4 membership levels! Select Annual Membership level below:

- | | |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Family Membership.....\$30.00
<input type="checkbox"/> Bronze Membership.....\$50.00
with complimentary Lake Map
<input type="checkbox"/> Silver Membership.....\$100.00
with complimentary "No Wake" dock sign | <input type="checkbox"/> Gold Membership.....\$250.00
with both Lake Map and "No Wake" sign
<input type="checkbox"/> Platinum Membership.....\$500.00
with both Lake Map and "No Wake" sign
<input type="checkbox"/> Business Membership.....\$50.00 |
|--|--|

Business Name: _____

Address: _____

Total Amount Enclosed: _____

Phone: _____

Please provide the following information for each person in your family/organization who will be a part of your membership. Use an additional sheet if needed to provide the information on additional members.

Name: _____

Name: _____

email: _____

email: _____

Additional phone: _____

Additional phone: _____

Paperless Newsletter (receive pdf file by email only)

Paperless Newsletter (receive pdf file by email only)

Please indicate any programs in which you would like to participate:

Please indicate any programs in which you would like to participate:

- | | | |
|--|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Environmental Education | <input type="checkbox"/> Lake Council | <input type="checkbox"/> Lake Issues |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Buffer Landscape | <input type="checkbox"/> Litter | <input type="checkbox"/> Storm Water Runoff |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Royal Flush | <input type="checkbox"/> Weed Monitors | <input type="checkbox"/> Septic Pump out |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Water Management | <input type="checkbox"/> Save the Islands | <input type="checkbox"/> Water Quality Monitoring |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Save our Streams | <input type="checkbox"/> Fertilizer | <input type="checkbox"/> Save our Streams |

- | | | |
|--|---|---|
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| <input type="checkbox"/> Save our Streams | <input type="checkbox"/> Fertilizer | <input type="checkbox"/> Save our Streams |

- Lake Map Program
- Local Government
- Membership & Business Partners
- Office Volunteer
- Public/Media Relations
- Shoreline Management Plan
- Take Pride in SML (lake cleanup)
- Water Safety Council

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New Members Only: Please mail your tax deductible check to –

Smith Mountain Lake Association, 400 Scruggs Road, Suite 2100, Moneta, VA 24121

Existing Members: This is not a renewal notice. The office will contact you when it is time to renew your membership. You can find your renewal date near your address on the mailing label page of this newsletter. You may charge your membership level, or pay via credit card, by calling 540-719-0690 on Tuesday or Friday when our administrative assistant will be available to assist you.

Phone: 540-719-0690

Fax: 540-719-0690

e-mail: TheOffice@smlassociation.org

Partner Businesses

SMLA is very appreciative of our Partner businesses that support our mission and recognize the value of membership by extending special discounts to our members. The generosity goes full circle in our community, and many members tell us that in an effort to fully support local businesses they do not request SMLA discounts. If you are one of those members who is kind enough to waive the SMLA member discount at a partner business, please express your appreciation to the proprietor. Partner business advertisements appear beginning below. We want supporting businesses to know that these advertisements are noticed by members and that their support of SMLA is appreciated.



SEA TOW
Where Boaters Belong™

Capt. Rick Ellett
P 540-719-5555 F 704-302-1930
rellett@seatow.com www.seatow.com

\$21.00 off new Sea Tow memberships for SMLA members



8360 Hardy Road • Hardy, Virginia 24101
www.bayroc-marina.com

Ph: (540) 890-2194 Fax: (540) 890-2178 **Kristina Mize**
Owner

10% discount for food or retail items, excludes service, parts, & gas



Haywood's
Jewelers

Phone: 540.721.2210 Phone: 540.483.5191
13020 B.T. Washington Hwy 346 Franklin St.
Smith Mountain Lake, VA 24101 Rocky Mt., VA 24151

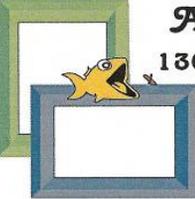
Free Ring Cleaning!
HaywoodsJewelers.com



Designing and Building Outdoor Environments

SOUTHLAKE WESTLAKE
11509 Old Franklin Tpk Adjacent to
(Rt. 40) Union Hall Smith Mtn. Bldg. Supply
540.576.2781 540.719.0028

10% Discount for SMLA Members



Artfully Framed at the Lake
13699 Booker T. Washington Hwy
Moneta, VA 24121
The Forum at Westlake
540-721-1218

Custom Picture Framing & Gallery
Karen Maynard

15% off custom picture framing

Roanoke River Valley Log Homes
Log Home Packages & Timber Frame Products

www.ilovelogs.com
540.420.0338 or 540.420.8326
ilovelogs@yahoo.com

Independent Representative for
Log Homes of America, Inc.

Inquire about discounts and
incentives to SMLA Members



Take Pride in SML!

Mark your calendars for May 2, 2015.

This year will mark the 28th year of Take Pride in SML!

Please make plans to participate on the first Saturday in May.

Smith Mountain Lake Association
400 Scruggs Road, Suite 2100
Moneta, VA 24121

NON-PROFIT ORG
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
PERMIT #78
ROANOKE, VA



Change of Phone? - Change of Email?

Please let us know about these changes
so we can continue to keep you informed.

Email: theoffice@smlassociation.org
or call 540-719-0690

Thank You

50th Anniversary of SML Coming in 2016

Planning for the 50th Anniversary of SML is underway! The Steering Committee formed by the SML Chamber of Commerce and lead by Randy Stow is looking for people with great ideas about how to make SML even more comfortable for residents and welcoming to visitors. If you have something that you are passionate about, and would like to see implemented as part of the 50th Anniversary, please speak up while there is still time!

We want people who are willing to take the lead on their ideas and drive them to a successful conclusion. The Steering Committee will provide support by vetting your ideas, making them part of the official planning, raising their profile in the eyes of the local community and giving you an excellent platform from which to execute. If you have an idea and would like to make it happen, call or email Bill Piatt (540.297.8617 or bpiatt@me.com).