

Hello All,

We hope this letter finds you all in good health and happily awaiting another wonderful summer at the lake. We have been quite busy working to ensure that you will have the best experience our lake community can offer this coming summer.

In late February and early March, the Lake Elmore Association (LEA) sent out emails to members and posted notifications on Front Porch Forum regarding our need for additional financial support for the removal and control of the milfoil in Lake Elmore.

Last summer our membership voiced concern about the increased milfoil in our beautiful lake. The milfoil has caused problems with fishing, boating, and is even encroaching on our beach. Our association heard your concerns. To address the increasing milfoil problem, we are expanding our efforts to remove/control this invasive weed. To start with, we will be purchasing bottom barriers/mats to be used on the most densely affected areas. These mats are a long-term investment that should last at least 10 years. We are also increasing the diver harvesting efforts by hiring a highly recommended, professional company that specializes in this task. Additionally we are implementing a Greeter Program at the boat launch over the summer (weekends and holidays) to educate boaters and aid them in identifying and removing milfoil they may be inadvertently bringing into or taking away from Lake Elmore. Through the efforts of our Board, this year's Greeter Program will be 100% state funded! We hope to be able to expand the Greeter Program in coming years to include weekday coverage and a boat wash station. Our goal is to improve the health of Lake Elmore.

To help offset the cost of these endeavors, the LEA worked closely with the state to secure a generous grant, but in order to receive this money WE MUST MATCH THE FUNDS. The LEA has been brainstorming ways to increase its revenue through various fund-raising events. We are adding two pancake breakfasts - one in July and one in August - and we are extending our weekly Bingo by one additional week. An outdoor concert /ice cream social and a craft fair are also in the works. All money raised will go directly to financing the milfoil removal fund. For this reason, and after much deliberation, the Board has also decided to increase our annual LEA dues to \$25.

Any additional monies you choose to donate to the milfoil removal fund will be greatly appreciated and go directly to the clean-up of our community's lake. Implementing these events, as well as some other fund raisers we have planned (50-50 raffles, a handmade quilt raffle, a community cookbook) requires a great deal of volunteer time and effort. We encourage you to become active with our community association. Your donation of time and/or services, and your participation in our fundraisers, is vital to the success of obtaining our goal – a clean and sustainable lake. Please, feel free to contact any member of the LEA executive board, or message us on Facebook (enter Lake Elmore Association in the Facebook search box to find us) to become personally involved. Donate an hour of your time; meet your neighbors; make some friends.

Thank you.

The Executive Board of the Lake Elmore Association

Co-Presidents: Cheryl Barkley and Glenn Schwartz

Vice President: Buster Furman

Treasurer: Patricia Anderson

Secretary: **OPEN POSITION**

Board Members: (Past President) Martha Twombly, George Twombly, Kevin Garry, Marsha Garry, Jim Magoon, Sharon Fortune