

# GEM LAKES CHATTER – April 2010



## MEMORIAL DAY PICNIC MAY 23

Flowers are everywhere, kids in swimsuits are sneaking down to the lake, and my car has turned yellow with pollen. Spring is in the air! And that means it's time to get ready for the **Gem Lakes Memorial Day Picnic** and the annual **GLRA Spring Olympics!** This year's Memorial Day picnic will feature the 3rd Annual Gem Lakes Boat Race. We had a great time with this last year, with only a few sailors lost at sea, so bring your canoes, kayaks, paddle boats, rafts, and whatever else you have that floats. Your boat must be "human powered" by you and your crew. Water balloons and super soakers are legal!

We're adding a new event this year: The Tug of War. If anybody has a big rope we can borrow, please let me know. We'll also feature Beach Volleyball, Horseshoes, and the world's only Double Elimination Egg Toss complete with practice round. We have 42 chickens working overtime night and day to supply this year's egg toss with the finest in aerodynamic cackle fruit.

And the games just wouldn't be the same without the Greased Watermelon Free-for-All. So far, we haven't completely killed anyone with this event, which is limited to folks whose age is in double digits. For the younger crowd, we'll have the Dive for Treasure and Trinkets competition in the shallow end of the swimming area.

Prizes this year are everybody's favorites: Cash, cash, and more cash!

By the way, I'm always open to new ideas for the games. If you have a suggestion, just give me a call or shoot me an email.

I look forward to seeing all of you at this year's picnic at noon on May 23! If you'd like to volunteer with setup or cleanup, please contact Gary Marozas at 642-5026.

- Buddy Brinkley

### *Upcoming Events*

**April 18 – Fishing Rodeo**

**April 20 – GLRA Annual Meeting**

**April 25 – Work Day**

**May 23 – Memorial Day Picnic**

## Gem Lakes Recreation Association Board Members & Officers

**Gary Marozas** (President) 642-5026  
**Bob Mell** (Vice President) 642-8423  
**Allen Taylor** (Secretary/Newsletter) 221-  
**Karen Skiff** (Treasurer) 643-0190  
**Bill Mathison** 643-3035  
**Buddy Brinkley** 642-0281  
**Vickie Murray** 643-3456  
**Rick Samundsen** 335-2109  
**Johnny Spears** (Recreation Manager) 502-1458  
**Susanna King** (Webmaster) 649-6168

## FROM THE PRESIDENT'S DESK



Hello to all of our Gem Lakes residents! This newsletter brings us to the close of another fiscal year for the Gem Lakes Recreation Association (GLRA). As I look back, we can report many accomplishments along with memories of fun times and great fellowship had by all. One of the board's priorities this year, as with most years, is to make improvements to the recreation area such that all Gem Lakes' residents experience the appreciation value to their own property.

The board continues to be asked "why am I paying annual dues when I don't even use the recreation facilities?" The fact is, for one, you don't realize what you are missing until you attend some of our terrific events. In addition, your property value is increasing with every improvement the Gem Lakes Recreation Board implements utilizing your dues. Speaking of improvements and accomplishments for the recreation area, here are some that come to mind for this past fiscal year and planned for the near future:

- A new Gem Lakes BBQ Pit to serve our many events and residents



- Both upgraded walkways from Springwood Drive down to the lakes



- Total upgrade of the Springwood

Drive Wooden Bridge

- Eight new Outdoor Heavy Duty Ceiling Fans/Lights for the Pavilion
- A new Professional Popcorn Machine for all of our events
- A new Fender's Portable Public Address System
- One of the best Memorial Day Picnics and Oktoberfests to date (See photos on our website [www.gemlakes.org](http://www.gemlakes.org))
- Annual Christmas Gathering included St. Mary's Youth Choir led by Andrea Lutz; also a great time with a hayride through Gem Lakes singing Christmas Carols
- In early April, our first annual Fishing Rodeo (more on this later)
- Purchase and start installing at three or more Frisbee Golf Holes in the area.

The GLRA Board Members are preparing for our annual meeting scheduled for Monday April 20<sup>th</sup> starting at 7:00 P.M. at the pavilion. As always, we really need the residents to attend since this is your meeting to meet the board members, receive GLRA status for the past and for the future, but most importantly, voice your opinions, issues, and ideas.

This year, we need a volunteer to take over the Secretary's position as an officer on the board. After a few great terms as the board's secretary, Mr. Gary Bunker will be leaving his position and we need to fill this vacancy as soon as possible. If you know anyone that might be interested, please contact Gary or a board member as soon as possible.

The board wants to extend a very big thank you to Gary since he has done an exemplary job. All of our hats are off to Gary Bunker for a job well done!!

The Memorial Day Picnic will be held on Saturday, May 23<sup>rd</sup> starting at noon so mark your calendars for one of our biggest events of the year. Remember to sign in at the registration table to be eligible for the door prize drawings.

We hope that most of you can make our upcoming Bingo and Movie Nights at the pavilion which has been fun for the whole family. Watch for the calendar dates for both events on our website [www.gemlakes.org](http://www.gemlakes.org)

This year's Oktoberfest has been scheduled for Saturday October 24<sup>th</sup> starting at 5 pm. Please mark your calendars since we've once again reserved Rudy and his oompa band "The Channelheimers".

I'm hoping that the GLRA Board has given and will continue to give you and your family a reason to say, "We love living in Gem Lakes".

Sincerely,  
Your President & Neighbor,  
Gary Marozas

## Recreation Manager's Report

Welcome to another new season at the Recreation Area. The season looks to be very busy, as I have already begun to get many calls for reservations and information about the area. Come join us for the fishing rodeo on April 18 (we provide the bait!). I have also scheduled a workday for Saturday, April 25 - lunch will be provided and we will have a drawing at the end of the day for a gift card!

Just a couple of reminders:

1. Please, no use of Airsoft or BB guns on the recreation association property.
2. Even though the weather will be warm, the lake is closed to swimming until a lifeguard is on duty. Swimming season starts during the Memorial Day picnic.

I look forward to a great season and will see you at the annual meeting on April 20.

- Johnny Spears

## First Annual Fishing Rodeo

We are pleased to announce our first annual fishing rodeo to take place on Saturday April 18<sup>th</sup> starting at 10:00am til 2:00pm.

All interested are to bring their own fishing gear, including chairs if needed, and meet at the registration table set up by the pavilion and ensure you get your ticket since we will be drawing for door prizes at the end of the event. The majority of the fishing will take place from the bank of the dam facing the swimming lake.

Gem Lakes Recreation Association will be providing the fishing bait, soft drinks, and plan to cook hot dogs on our new BBQ Pit. Please remember to leave your area cleaner than when you came if possible. Call Bill Mathison (643-3035) for more details.