

# Gem Lakes October 2014



## From the President,

Hi to all Gem Lakes residents! We are continuing our GLRA newsletter, which always is an excellent communications tool, with this Fall edition.

The board members of your association continue to work hard to bring you the best recreation area and frequent family oriented events.

As you know, one of our most popular annual events is our Oktoberfest. This year's event will be held on **Saturday October 18th starting at 5:00 PM**, so mark your calendars. Once again, Rudy & the 'Channelheimers Oompah band will be our primary entertainment along with great food and the pumpkin carving contest. If you have not yet attended one of our many events, this one should be on the top of your list to attend!

I hope the Gem Lakes Recreation Association continues to give you and your family a reason to say "We love living in Gem Lakes!"

**Gary Marozas**

**Treasurer's Report:** Association Financial Report: Through the end of July, the Association is running favorable to the 2014-15 budget for both dues collection and expenses. This year's major events, the fishing rodeo, Memorial Day picnic and July 4th potluck, have been within 5% of budget. Despite several significant unbudgeted expenses (such as replacing the mower), overall expenses are within 1% of budget.

**Association Dues:** As a reminder, Gem Lakes dues reflect the Association's by-laws and fiscal year. The by-laws specify that dues be adjusted every 5 years in proportion to prices as reflected by the consumer price index. Dues invoices for the 2014-15 fiscal year reflected the new yearly dues of \$172, which will be in effect from 2014 to 2019.

The Association fiscal year runs from May 1st to April 30th of the following year. Dues is invoiced, and is payable, starting in May and is past due if not paid by December 31st. A 5% discount is available for residents paying dues before June 30th and a 10% penalty is charged for dues not paid by December 31st.

Note: when residents are not current in paying dues, they cannot reserve or use Association facilities, or attend Association functions. This would include fishing, swimming, using the pavilion, playground or tennis courts and attending the up-coming Oktoberfest.

In addition, when residents purchase property in Gem Lakes, they agree to pay Association dues, creating a legal obligation to pay. The Association can bring legal action to collect dues, and has in the past. Obviously, this is considered a last resort, but legal action will be taken when necessary.

If you have yet to pay your 2014-15 dues please do so with a check to Gem Lakes Estates Association, mailed to PO Box 5087, Aiken 29804, or by using the PayPal feature of the Gem Lakes web site ([www.gemlakes.org](http://www.gemlakes.org)).

Finally, on a personal note, I sincerely appreciate the support and patience I've received in my first few months as treasurer. Thank you all!

**Lloyd Copenhagen**

## SPECIAL OFFERS FOR GEM LAKES RESIDENTS!

**MULCH:** Due to Johnny Spears' finely honed negotiating skills, the Association secured roughly 120 cubic yards of mulch produced



from winter storm Pax debris. With Johnny's awe-inspiring end loader prowess, and some help from board members not knowing to stay out of the rain, mulch was spread near the pavilion and on paths near the upper (horseshoe) lake dam and the upper

(blueberry) pond dam. With a little minor leveling and smoothing yet to do, there is still 20 yards or so left. **THIS**

**MULCH IS FREE FOR GEM LAKES RESIDENTS, ON A FIRST-COME, FIRST-SERVED BASIS.** It is in the upper pavilion parking lot, near the storage shed. Residents are advised that, like any organic mulch, this mulch should not be used in direct contact with wooden structures such as fences, or next to building foundations. **THE PRICE IS RIGHT!**



**MOWER:** After many years of faithful service, the Association retired our John Deere model X304 riding mower, replacing it with a new Husqvarna more suited to the ups and downs of dam mowing. The mower needs a new deck and a new engine cover, but the 18.5 Hp engine still runs like a Deere. Available, AS-IS, FOR THE HIGHEST BID from a Gem Lakes Resident RECEIVED BY OCTOBER 1st.

On behalf of ALL Gem Lakes residents, the board would like to once again thank [Chet Taylor his fellow scouts and his family](#) for a great job on the Springwood Drive Handrail Eagle Scout Project. If you have not seen the new handrails yet, walk along the path from Springwood Dr. toward the beach and check it out, it is a wonderful improvement!



**Board Members Contact Info.**

President - Gary Marozas, 803-642-5026, 803-507-3179(C)  
VP & Security Mgr. - Bill Mathison, 803-643-3035, 803-507-3818(C)  
Treasurer - Lloyd Copenhagen, 803-502-1153, 803-671-4194(C)  
Secretary - Orchid Grass, 803-649-1309, 803-522-0488(C)  
Recreation Mgr. - Johnny Spears, 803-502-1458  
Webmaster - Susanna King, 803-649-6168, 803-341-8810(C)  
Board Member - Bob Mell, 803-642-8423, 803-617-8015(C)  
Board Member - Hai Nguyen, 803-649-0094, 803-507-4767(C)  
Board Member - Carol Lepp, 803-648-4849, 803-645-1380(C)  
Board Member - Vickie Murray, 803-643-3456, 803-640-0771(C)  
Board Member - Kevin Armstrong, 803-842-6459(C)  
Board Member - Suzi Kilgo, 803-648-9296(C&H)

**Hartwell median:** Any neighbors interested in being part of the group which is being formed to consider options on improvements to the Hartwell median please Contact Erin Boyleston at 642-9075, (Thanks for the community spirit Erin!)

Dear Neighbors, **"It's Spooky to be Hungry,"** a food and monetary donation drive which benefits Aiken's Golden Harvest Food Bank, **will take place on Saturday, October 18;** and volunteers are being sought to help deliver flyers to your neighbor's **during the week of October 6-11.** If you would like to help deliver flyers, please contact **Sharon Filler (648-3973) or at [503sharon@bellsouth.net](mailto:503sharon@bellsouth.net).** Please join us in this fun neighbor-helping-neighbor food drive!

Gem Lakes Estates Association,  
PO Box 5087,  
Aiken SC 29804



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“To add your email to the Gem Lakes **NEWS list**, Go to [www.GemLakes.org](http://www.GemLakes.org), and under ‘Useful Links’ (near the bottom of the page) click on: ‘Gem Lakes email announcement list’. Follow the instructions to sign up.”

“To add your email to the: **Gem Lakes Crime Watch list**, to get useful Crime-Watch info and be informed on criminal activity. Send an email to: [GemLakesWatch@AOL.com](mailto:GemLakesWatch@AOL.com).”