



# GEM LAKES CHATTER – April 2007

## ANNUAL MEETING APRIL 23

The Annual Meeting of the Gem Lakes Recreation Association (GLRA) will be held on Monday, April 23, 2007 at the Pavilion in the recreation area. This year's accomplishments and recreation business will be discussed. Elections of new Board members will be held, and four positions will be filled.

A slate of candidates will be presented, and nominations from the floor will also be accepted. Board membership is a 2-year commitment. As time permits, items of community interest can also be discussed.

## MEMORIAL DAY PICNIC MAY 26

The annual Gem Lakes Memorial Day Picnic will be held on Saturday, May 26, 12 noon at the Pavilion. Mark your calendars for this afternoon of family fun, fellowship, and good food! If you're interested in helping to make our picnic a rousing success, please call **Buddy Brinkley** at 642-0281.

## FROM THE PRESIDENT'S DESK

Hi folks! Spring has pounced upon us in all of its pollinating fury and you know what that means: It's time to dust off the picnic tables and open up the recreation area for the new season!

Of course, there's always a lot of work to be done this time of year, so get your chainsaws, rakes, and shovels ready, because I'm sure we'll have a workday soon. There's so much going on as we prepare for the Memorial Day Picnic and the 2007 swimming season. Here's a quick look at what's coming in the next few months:

\* We've already begun sprucing up the recreation area. Recreation Manager Johnny Spears is working hard to get the grounds in good shape. The lake has been filled back up (we lowered it to kill weeds during the winter). In the next few days, we'll repair damaged locks and doorknobs at the bathrooms. In

## Gem Lakes Recreation Association Board Members & Officers

**Buddy Brinkley** (President) 642-0281  
**Gary Marozas** (Vice President) 642-5026  
**Gary Bunker** (Secretary/Newsletter) 642-4461  
**Ed Seufert** (Treasurer) 643-9395  
**Bill Mathison** 643-3035  
**Bob Mell** 642-8423  
**Vickie Murray** 643-3456  
**Dennis Saylor** 642-6959  
**Johnny Spears** (Recreation Manager) 502-1458

the next few weeks, we'll repair walkways and add new steps from the pavilion down to the bathrooms. Soon, we'll put up signs for the next workday. Please watch for those signs and come on out to share a morning of work and a free lunch with your neighbors.

\* The annual neighborhood meeting will be on April 23. We'll elect several new board members this year so please be sure to attend. If you're interested in joining the board of directors, please contact any board member to add your name to the ballot.

\* The Memorial Day Picnic, scheduled for May 26, will be here in no time. This is our biggest event of the year with fun and games (and lots of great food) for all ages. Last year, we introduced the greased watermelon free-for-all. This year, as director of the games, I have a new surprise game. If you thought the watermelon grab was mayhem, just wait 'til you see what I have in store for this year's grand prize! I'm also considering a boat race this year. If you're interested in racing a "self-powered" boat (paddleboat, canoe, etc.), please contact me at 642-0281. You'll have to provide your own boat. If we get five or more entries, then we'll do it!

\* As always, the swimming season "officially" opens on Memorial Day. We'll be hiring lifeguards again this year. This is a great summer job for anyone who is at least 15 years old. Please contact

**Johnny Spears** ASAP at 502-1458 if you're interested.

\* Fishing season is open now, but there's a catch -- you still can't fish in the swimming lake until Memorial Day. We restocked this lake last year and the fish still need another month or two to grow before we start hooking them. We will keep the "No Fishing" signs posted at the swimming lake until then. The good news is that fishing is great on the other three lakes so get out there and give it a try!

\* The vandalism season has begun! Well, that sounds a bit strange, but it's true -- most of the vandalism done to recreation area property is done during the spring and summer. In 2006, vandals did about \$500 worth of damage at the recreation area. This includes damaging doorknobs at the bathroom facility, spray painting buildings and equipment, and stealing items (including a \$100 megaphone) from the bathroom building storage area. If you have teenagers, please talk to them about this issue.

\* Movie nights and bingo parties will return again this year! Check the website in the coming weeks for details.

All in all, this promises to be a banner year for the Gem Lakes Recreation Association. I look forward to seeing you there!

- Buddy Brinkley

## RECREATION MANAGER'S REPORT

I would like to welcome all of the new residents to our neighborhood. Reservations for the pavilion area can be made by contacting me at 502-1458. In addition, the combination to the tennis courts remains 4-7-1-1. Additionally, all of the lifeguards are set for the season! We are looking forward to the Memorial Day picnic on May 26!

- Johnny Spears

## Update on Ongoing Projects

**Gary Marozas** awarded the contract to Tim Newcome of Brick Creations to install the remaining concrete steps from the pavilion down to the beach. In addition, Tim will be repairing the two walkways that branch off of Springwood Drive which have been designated as a safety hazard. All of this work

should be completed before our annual Memorial Day Picnic this year.

## Visit the Gem Lakes Recreation Area Website ([gemlakes.org](http://gemlakes.org))



*Webmaster: G. F. Marozas, GLRA Vice-President*

## Updated Menu Items at Your Finger Tips:

Gem Lakes Resident's Business Links

Events and Activities:

- Fishing to reopen in swimming lake at our Memorial Day picnic.
- Gem Lakes Fish Species - Photos of all Gem Lakes species and a new link to help identify fish



**Bluegill**  
(*Lepomis macrochirus*)

- Family Movie and Bingo Nights to resume soon -- watch for future dates in the website calendar.

**GLRA E-Mail Address: [info@gemlakes.org](mailto:info@gemlakes.org)**

- Use for any improvement ideas, comments, or needed input to the Gem Lakes Residents.

