

LAKE LURE NEWS & VIEWS

TOWN OF LAKE LURE
INCORPORATED IN 1927

Mayor: Jim Proctor

Commissioners: Russ Pitts, Jeanine Noble, Dick McCallum, Chuck Watkins

Town Manager: H.M. "Chuck" Place, III

July 2007

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1MAYOR'S COMMENTS

by Jim Proctor

Happy July 4th!

With our country at war, let us all take time to remember our dedicated armed forces.

Town Budget

At this time the town has not approved the final budget for the upcoming year. With the county's new assessments we are working particularly hard to keep the tax rate as low as possible. However, with increases in costs, unknown state revenues and a continuing uncertain electric income we certainly have some very tough decisions to make. I congratulate our town employees, especially our town manager and department heads for their hard work and help with this procedure. The town is very fortunate to have such a dedicated staff.

Ride for Kids

On August 26th the Annual Ride For Kids will once again come to Lake Lure. The Pediatric Brain Tumor Foundation of the U.S. funds medical research grants and clinical fellowships to help find the cause and cure of childhood brain tumors. Last year more than 450 motorcycle riders raised more than \$96,000. If you would like to donate this year, please mail a check payable to "PBTUS" and mail to PO Box 384, Lake Lure, NC 28746 or you may

leave donations at the Lake Lure Town Hall. The Pediatric Brain Tumor Foundation's website is: <http://ride4kids.org/>.

Fireworks

To be safe and legal, please let the professionals give the fireworks shows this Fourth of July holiday. As you may remember, in years past there was a fire at a boathouse due to a homeowner's fireworks show. If you plan on spending money this year for fireworks, I encourage you to instead give a donation to the Hickory Nut Gorge Chamber of Commerce for their fireworks show. This year fireworks at the Rumbling Bald resort will be held on July 4th and the Chamber's will be held on Saturday the 7th at the town's Memorial Park.

TOWN MANAGER'S REPORT

by H.M. "Chuck" Place III, AICP

Town Manager Chuck Place has been out fighting pneumonia and will not be writing an article this month. Please keep him in your prayers for continual healing.



TOWN COUNCIL ACTIVITIES

by Town Clerk Mary Flack, MMC, CTC

REGULAR MEETING: The regular town council meeting was held on Tuesday, June 12, 2007, 7:00 p.m., in the meeting room of the Lake Lure Municipal Center.

Under the “consent agenda,” Town Council:

* approved minutes of the May 8, 2007 regular meeting, May 22, 2007 special workshop meeting, May 23, 2007 special workshop meeting, & May 30, 2007 special workshop meeting;

* approved a budget amendment transferring monies to the silt reserve fund as presented by the finance director; and

* approved a fabric structure permit for Jerry H. Harvey on behalf of the Pediatric Brain Tumor Foundation “Ride for Kids” annual motorcycle event being held on Sunday, August 26, 2007 and waived the rental permit fees for use of town facilities during this event.

Town Council also:

* held a public hearing and adopted Resolution No. 07-06-12 approving the 2007-2027 Town of Lake Lure Comprehensive Plan and initiating its implementation;

* held a public hearing and adopted Ordinance No. 07-06-12 amending the Town of Lake Lure Zoning Regulations, Title IX, Chapter 92, pertaining to the administration and enforcement of said regulations as it relates to written notices of violation and the assessment of civil penalties by the zoning administrator and the tree protection officer;

* held a public hearing and adopted Ordinance No. 07-06-12B amending the Town of Lake Lure Soil Erosion and Sedimentation Control Regulations, relating to administration and enforcement to accommodate changes mandated by the North Carolina sedimentation control commission; requiring plan submittals depicting measures to accommodate a 25 year storm, rather than a 10 year storm, as it applies to projects one acre or greater, or when engineered designs are necessary; increasing the land disturbance threshold requiring a permit from 100 square feet to 500 square feet unless

within 50 feet of the lake or any natural watercourse;

* held a public hearing and adopted Ordinance No. 07-06-12C amending the Town of Lake Lure Zoning Regulations, Title IX, Chapter 92, relating to the protection of trees;

* held a public hearing regarding the town budget for fiscal year 2007-2008;

* approved the Capital Improvements Program as presented by the finance director;

* tabled the adoption of Ordinance No. 07-06-12D regarding the town budget for fiscal year 2007-2008 for further revisions; town council scheduled a special meeting to be held on Monday, June 25, 2007, at 3:00 p.m. in the Lake Lure Municipal Center to consider adopting the revised budget;

* heard a report from Erosion Control Officer Clint Calhoun on the status of violations of the soil erosion and sedimentation control regulations by Hickory Nut Gorge Construction, Inc. at 144 Dockside Drive property of Joel Seaton and Lois Nelson;

* accepted a proposal from Painter, Russell and Associates as recommended by the finance director and authorized the mayor to sign a contract on behalf of the town for audit services during fiscal year beginning July 1, 2006 and ending June 30, 2007;

* held a discussion regarding a development agreement with Ed Kale for Bald Mountain Farms and authorized the community development director to work with a committee to proceed with this agreement contingent upon certain stipulations;

* heard a report from Community Development Director Shannon Baldwin and Planner Amos Gilliam regarding a study update pertaining to single family dwelling/vacation rentals; council members directed the community development director to present a resolution for consideration to formally commission the study of single family dwelling/vacation rentals (SFD/VR) at the July 10, 2007 regular council meeting and place an article in the town’s newsletter prior to this meeting requesting volunteers to fill out an application at town hall to serve on a steering committee for this study; town council will appoint members to serve

on this committee at their July 10, 2007 regular council meeting;

* approved the following recommendations from the Lake Advisory Committee: (1) schedule a public hearing to be held at the July 10, 2007 regular council meeting, at 7:00 p.m. or thereafter in the Lake Lure Municipal Center to consider suspending the issuing of any lake structures permits for structures that are designed or intended to serve more than one dwelling unit until such time that regulations can be adopted which address the intensity and frequency of use of these structures adjacent to R-1 lots; (2) direct the community development department to take ownership of the 2007 marina and cluster mooring inventory document, resolve any remaining questions on the content and complete all recommended action items; (3) adopt the initial inventory as presented by the community development department and address any specific issues and recommendations; (4) direct the community development department staff to re-inventory, update and publish the document annually; and (5) direct the community development department staff to incorporate certain language outlined in section 94.01 (B) of the Lake Structures Regulations into the permit application form to clarify the town's ownership of the lake;

* appointed Richard Lamb to fill Woodrow Price's position on the golf course advisory committee with a term expiring on December 31, 2007;

* appointed Carl Nelson to fill John Thompson's position on the golf course advisory committee with a term expiring on December 31, 2007; and

* appointed Paula Jordan to fill Jack Lawrence's position on the zoning and planning board with a term expiring on December 31, 2009.

In other activities:

* heard reports from council liaisons on the activities of various boards and committees.

SPECIAL WORKSHOP MEETING: Town council held a special workshop meeting with town staff members to discuss preliminary budget items for fiscal year 2007-2008 on Tuesday, May 22, 2007, 9:00 a.m. in the Lake Lure Municipal Center.

SPECIAL WORKSHOP MEETING: Town council held a special meeting on Wednesday, May 23, 2007, 3:00 p.m. in the Lake Lure Municipal Center to review the town's pay/classification plan and consider proposed amendments to the personnel policy. Town Council agreed to schedule another special meeting to be held on Wednesday, May 30, 2007, 9:00 a.m. in the Lake Lure Municipal Center to further review the pay/classification plan and proposed amendments to the personnel policy.

SPECIAL WORKSHOP MEETING: Town council held a special workshop meeting to discuss preliminary budget items for fiscal year 2007-2008 on Wednesday, May 30, 2007, 9:00 a.m. in the Lake Lure Municipal Center. Town Council approved a pay/classification plan and adopted Resolution No. 07-05-30 amending the Town of Lake Lure's personnel policy.

COMMUNITY POLICING NEWS

by Chief Eric Hester

While fireworks make great noises and are spectacular to watch, they can also be extremely dangerous in the hands of amateurs. Statistics show that fireworks annually cause tens of millions of dollars in property damage and thousands of injuries, as well as some deaths. Even sparklers, which are often thought of as harmless devices, can burn as hot as 1200 degrees.

While on the subject of fireworks it is against the law to possess or use certain types of fireworks or **Pyrotechnics** in North Carolina without a valid permit. North Carolina General Statutes 14-414 gives a list of **Pyrotechnics** that are legal. In a basic nutshell if the fireworks make a loud bang or leave the ground in any shape or form they are illegal. Any person violating these provisions shall be guilty of a Class 2 misdemeanor. If anyone has a question about buying fireworks, please contact the Lake Lure Police Department and we will try to answer any questions that you might have. Once again we want everyone to have a safe

and enjoyable summer, all we ask is for everyone to do their part to ensure we have a safe and fun filled summer.

COMMUNITY FIRE NEWS by Ron Morgan

Emergency Management and emergency services have prepared for and provided shelters for people affected by large incidents and disasters for many years. We here in Lake Lure have provided shelters to the public from flooding, winters storms and extended power outages. We as other agencies have tried to follow the guidelines set forth by the American Red Cross in managing these shelters. These rules have not allowed pets to be sheltered in the past, due to health and safety concerns. This meant that people had to leave their pets behind and in many cases people would not leave their pets and stayed with their pets in harms way.

After Hurricane Katrina many things changed on the national level. Among these changes is pet sheltering. The Federal Government has now mandated that all local governments must have a plan concerning pet sheltering during disasters. This has some benefits, but there are some significant costs involved. Unfortunately, there is no funding or aid for this new requirement.

People arriving at shelters with pets will be checked in as normal and now their pet will also be checked in and a tracking system implemented to identify to whom the pet belongs. The pets will likely be housed in pet kennels in the apparatus bays of the fire stations and the people will be housed in our meeting rooms. The apparatus bays are heated in cold weather. People with pets will be expected to feed, water and walk their own pets daily unless they are physically unable to do so.

Normally emergencies in our area are short lived and shelters are only needed for one or two days. If long term shelters are needed individuals with pets may be re-located to a more suitable County shelter. Right now we don't have the ability to shelter large animals, such as horses, etc. and individuals will still need to make arrangements for

these animals. Exotic animals such as snakes, lizards, etc. also cannot be provided for at this time.

We are glad to make provisions for pets but we need your help to accomplish this. Obviously we cannot have animals running loose. Housing these animals will require the purchase of some pet carriers or crates that can be stored and deployed when needed. We do not have funding for this and need your help. If you have a pet that you would bring to a shelter please consider making a donation to this project. The collapsible pet crates cost approximately \$70 each. Other supplies will also be needed. We will also need volunteers. Our emergency responders are overwhelmed during emergencies and we don't have the personnel to manage this program. We would like to organize a group of volunteers to take this project and run with it. If you are interested in volunteering please contact me at 828-625-9333. If you would like to make a donation to this project please send a check to Lake Lure Emergency Management PO Box 255 Lake Lure NC 28746 and designate it for pet sheltering. If you have any questions please feel free to call our office.

1CUSTOMER SERVICES by Linda Ward

Reminder - Our weekly boating permits during the peak season **do not** include Saturday's and Sunday's and we do not sell daily permits during peak season.

If you rent out your home, please be sure to give this information to any renters that may be thinking about bringing their own boat for the week. We have had a few renters tell us that they were not informed of this and thought they should have been told.

1 SEDIMENT AND EROSION CONTROL NEWS 1 by Clint Calhoun, Erosion Control Officer

The Blobs are back!! You might remember that I wrote an article similar to this one a couple of years ago. It was an article about mysterious jelly-

like blobs that had appeared in the lake. I was out on the lake a couple of weeks ago doing some routine inspections, was pulling into the boathouse and spotted a head-sized blob floating beneath the surface. I got to looking around and saw several more.

If you don't remember the particulars, I will refresh your memories, and maybe even add a little info that I didn't have the last time I discussed this. The "blobs" are known in scientific circles as *Pectinatella magnifica*, but you can call them Jelly-blobs, Brain-blobs, or anything else that you see as fitting. *Pectinatella* is a bryozoan or "moss-animal," named for the moss-like texture and appearance that is common with this group of animals. Most bryozoans are marine, but a few species live in freshwater. Bryozoans are somewhat similar in appearance to corals but lack stinging cells, and are in fact not really related to corals. They do have tentacles which are used to filter microscopic organisms and matter from the water. One blob is composed of literally thousands of individual animals, called zooids, each having its own set of tentacles. Upon close observation of a colony, they look fuzzy due to the displaying of the tentacles which sort of sway in the water. They are very interesting creatures.

Based on my personal observations and a lot of reading about this particular animal, *Pectinatella* is a common occurrence in freshwater lakes and slow-moving streams throughout North America. They seem to proliferate when the water is at its warmest. Obviously when Lake Lure is warmer than usual, there will probably be a larger population of *Pectinatella* which seems to be the case this year. When the water temperature cools this fall, the blobs will disintegrate and you won't see them again until conditions become favorable.

Most bryozoans would be virtually unnoticeable because most are rather inconspicuous, but *Pectinatella* gets really big. One blob can grow to the size of about 24 inches in diameter. That's a big blob! Bryozoans typically anchor themselves to stable structures such as docks, pilings, bulkheads, and even submerged logs and rocks. *Pectinatella* seems to favor areas of the lake where the water is

the warmest which is typically going to be areas that are fairly shallow and get plenty of light penetration. These also tend to be places where people tend to be as well, so don't be alarmed if you bump into one while swimming.

Some might suggest that the appearance of such an odd creature might mean that water quality has declined. This is quite the contrary. In fact, bryozoans are generally an indicator of good water quality, and high productivity in terms of food availability. There are some reports from some northern areas of the country that large *Pectinatella* numbers actually improved lake visibility due to the amount of suspended material that they were filtering. These results came from secchi disk readings taken at various times over a period of time when bryozoan numbers would be up and compared to times when bryozoan numbers were down. I have not taken any actual readings myself (and it is already too late in the year to start a science project), but where I have seen *Pectinatella*, the water is fairly clear and there is plenty of light penetration.

I am always intrigued by unusual organisms, and quite frankly, they don't get any more unusual than *Pectinatella magnifica*. How often is it that you get to see something that looks like an alien brain floating around in the water? How cool is that? If you would like to see some pictures or would like more information, drop me an e-mail or call me and I will be happy to share what I know. You can reach me at (828)625-9983 ext. 123 or by e-mail at eco@TownofLakeLure.com.

Oh yeah! I almost forgot. If you have an erosion problem or know someone else who does, you should contact me about that too!

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DEPT.
by Shannon Baldwin

You will find a vision statement in the newly adopted *Town of Lake Lure 2007-2027 Comprehensive Plan* as follows:

“Lake Lure, the gem of the Carolinas, is a mountain lake community that has a harmonious balance of interests of our citizens, businesses and visitors, achieved through open communication and managed growth that emphasizes fiscal responsibility and stewardship of our natural beauty and environment.”

Goals and policies were also established in this new plan. As each policy is implemented and each goal realized, the town’s vision will come to fruition. The plan expresses the town’s desire of wanting its land uses to coincide with its long term vision as well as having a balance between residential life and tourism. To achieve this balance, a planning study is being conducted regarding a particular land use, single family dwellings used as vacation rentals (SFD/VR’s). The study will be based on the goals and policies in the comprehensive plan.

Through research and careful study, the town will gauge the impacts (e.g. economics, quality of life, etc...) of vacation rentals, particularly those along the lakefront, to determine the need for controls (e.g. additional regulations) or possibly other measures to ensure that the value and enjoyment of all lakefront properties are maintained. Through the planning study, the town will also identify the effects of vacation rentals on tourism and the local economy.

Currently, town staff has identified 90 SFD/VR’s through a quick inventory. This provides a framework for understanding the distribution of known SFD/VR’s in Lake Lure. The next step in understanding the impacts of this land use is to gather information from those directly involved/impacted by SFD/VR’s. Staff presented a draft scope of work for this study to Town Council at the June 12th meeting.

The scope of work recommends a steering committee, consisting of stakeholders, be appointed by Town Council at the July 10th Town Council

meeting. The various groups represented will be: 1) owners of SFD/VR’s; 2) owners of dwelling units adjoining SFD/VR’s; 3) property managers of SFD/VR’s; 4) realtors; 5) local business owners/managers (restaurant, hotel/motel, and retail); 6) citizens at large; 7) Rutherford County Tourism Development Authority Board; 8) Lake Advisory Committee; and the 9) Zoning and Planning Board. Town Council may consider adding a representative from the Hickory Nut Gorge Chamber as well. The steering committee will assist staff and make recommendations to the Zoning and Planning Board for Town Council to consider. If you’re interested in serving on the steering committee, please pick-up and complete an application available in Town Hall or by contacting Amos Gilliam at psa@townoflakelure.com. Good public policy can only come from an open discussion involving all parties. If you have an interest in this study and feel you can represent one of the stakeholder groups on the steering committee, please send us your application!

UPPER BROAD RIVER WATERSHED PROTECTION PROGRAM by Jennifer Beck

Riparian buffers are vegetated areas between a landscaped yard and waterway that are an essential tool in helping capture stormwater pollution before entering our creeks and streams. Vegetation can help trap fertilizer, pesticides, sediment and pet waste from entering into the water as well as slow down the velocity of the runoff. These benefits have been recognized for some time and have been often highlighted in this article.

Research conducted at North Carolina State University by Dr. Bill Hunt and Matthew Jones suggests that riparian buffers can also play a role in reducing the temperature of stormwater runoff. Why is the temperature of water important? Well ask any fisherman and they will tell you that many aquatic organisms, especially trout, are sensitive to warm water. Fish and insects body temperatures are regulated by the temperature of their environment.

Trout, which live in cold water streams, prefer water between 40-70°F. An increase in water temperatures can have adverse effects on fish behavior. Studies have shown warmer temperatures are correlated with increased feeding, aggressiveness, increased metabolism rates, loss of motor function, and sometimes death.

Vegetation within a riparian buffer can limit the amount of solar radiation that increases the temperature of cold water streams. Broad leaf vegetation along streams edge can reduce the amount of solar radiation that reaches the water by reflecting sunlight off the leaf's surface and back into atmosphere. Roots from the vegetation can reduce the velocity of warmer stormwater runoff from impervious surface. These surfaces, especially driveways and rooftops, are capable of capturing solar radiation on a warm day. Solar radiation is transferred to thermal energy (recall crossing a driveway barefoot on a hot July day). As rain falls and flows across these impervious surfaces the thermal energy is transferred to the stormwater causing an increase in the water's temperature. If this stormwater were to flow directly into a cold water creek it could raise the temperature of the water for a short period of time. While the impacts of this short spike in temperature would not cause fish mortality it can still disturb fish behavior. Vegetation slows the velocity of the stormwater allowing for the temperatures to cool before entering waterways. Just one more reason to plant healthy buffers between your yard and the waterway!

NEWS AROUND LAKE LURE

Coming in July to Lake Lure Morse Park Meadows
Esmeralda – A new Musical

Based on the story by Frances Hodgson Burnett

In 1977, Frances Hodgson Burnett, author of "The Secret Garden," "Little Lord Fauntleroy," and "A Little Princess," stayed for a time in Hickory Nut Gorge at the Logan House (now called Pine Gables and home of Mayor Jim Proctor) in what is now Lake Lure, where she wrote a novella entitled "Esmeralda", the captivating love story of a North Carolina mountain girl whose love for a young farmer is thwarted by her

ambitious mother. The Esmeralda Inn above Chimney Rock was later named for the charming heroine of the story. The story was adapted into a play, which opened on Broadway in 1881 and became an instant sensation, achieving 350 performances, one of the longest runs of the era. Now in an air conditioned tent on the Meadows a new musical version adapted by Diane McEnnerney will be performed professionally by the Globe Repertory Company on five evenings in July in the same beautiful location which inspired the original story 175 years ago! Performances will include the gala opening on 20 July, reserved for Patrons and members of the Director's Circle and Producer's Circle, with public performances on 21, 26, 27, and 28 July. Tickets are available by calling 1-800-874-5623 or online at www.esmeralda.net. Tickets may also be purchased in person on and after 4 July at the Lake Lure Visitors' Center. Tickets for public performances on July 21, 26, 27 and 28 are \$16, \$24, and \$32, with students K-12 at half price. All seats are reserved.

You can help support *Esmeralda* and the effort by the newly formed Arts in the Gorge group of Lake Lure residents to bring performing arts to Lake Lure by becoming a Patron, a member of the Director's Circle, or a member of the Producer's Circle. As such, you will attend the gala opening night festivities on 20 July, reserved for supporters, and be listed prominently in the program. The gala opening will include a gourmet dinner at the 1927 Lake Lure Inn and Spa before the show, the opening night performance of *Esmeralda*, and an after-show champagne reception with the cast. Patron level is \$150, with Director's Circle starting at \$250. Please make your reservations early and support Arts in the Gorge.

Chimney Rock Baptist Church will have their **Vacation Bible School** July 16 -20 from 6:30 pm to 9:00 pm. The theme this year will be "Game Day Central" and all children ages 3 and up are welcome and encouraged to attend.

Come and bounce with us in our inflatable castle during **Vacation Bible School**.

The World and British National Champion **Smithills School Senior Brass Band**, from Bolton, England, who won our hearts in their 2005 concert in Rutherfordton, will return this summer to RS Central High School as a stop on their six city Carolinas Tour. The free concert will be held Monday, July 30 at 7:30

PM in the RS Central High School auditorium. Do not miss the glorious sound of British brass at its best!

The Smithills School Senior Brass Band is recognized as the finest school brass band in Britain over the past 12 years. Since 1993 the Band has won 46 out of 57 national and international competitions, including six British National Championships and the 1997/2001/2005 World Championships in Holland. They have been named six times by BBC Radio as School Brass Band of the Year. They have played before British royalty and before audiences across Europe, Japan, New Zealand and the United States. We are honored to have them in concert in our area.

Two other concerts are scheduled in area schools:

Saturday, July 28

7:30 P.M. Concert at Hendersonville High School Auditorium

Contact: Mr. Walter Moore 825-693-8790

Tuesday, July 31

7:30 P.M. Concert at Shelby High School

Contact: Ray and Carole Rice 704-487-0310

For more information call 828-625-9995.

We are less than three months away from the **3rd Annual Hickory Nut Gorge Olympiad** scheduled for September 6 - 9, 2007. Patterned after the Olympics, athletes and weekend warriors of all ages will compete for gold, silver and bronze medals in over thirty events over the four days. Regular events include golf, tennis, volleyball, basketball, soccer, swimming and kayaking. Fun events include a one-mile family Run, ping pong, horseshoes, miniature golf, bocce and bridge. For the kids, we have individual and group competition in running, throwing, mini-biking and a waterpark obstacle course. Featured events include a triathlon, Firemen's Skills Competition and rappelling. We expect over 250 triathletes from all over the Southwest to participate. New this year we have added Archery and a Race to the Rock. The "Race to the Rock" is a 5K run or bike ascent of Chimney Rock from the Village to the base of the Rock. Ouch!

Other activities include a colorful Boat Parade coordinated by LakesEdge Realty, a dynamic Water-Ski Show by the Lake Lure Ski Club and Lake Lure Adventures, a Shag Dance and Competition at the Lake Lure Inn and Spa, a dazzling Fireworks Display, a precision Drill Team performance and live music. We are fortunate to have a 30-piece Army Band in concert on Saturday at the town gazebo (bring folding chairs or come by boat), a group called "Quarter Inch Jack" perform at our Friday night dance and free ice cream social and the Polk County HS Band, which has been honored by being selected to go to perform at the 2008 Summer Olympics in China.

And what about food you may ask? On Friday night at the Opening Ceremonies, the volunteers from Bat Cave VFD will put on one of their famous barbeques. Shepherd's Care will again handle breakfast at the town beach on Saturday morning. And you don't want to miss the "Gorge Yourself at the Gorge" Food Festival at the town park on Saturday afternoon which features the finest sampling from several of our local restaurants. On Sunday morning, our other three VFD's, Bills Creek, Chimney Rock and Fairfield Mountains, will be cooking sausage and pancakes with all the fixings while we watch the triathletes take the first plunge into the lake for the swim leg of the triathlon. All proceeds benefit local and county charities.

If you would like to volunteer, sponsor or get more information on times, places and details, go to www.HickoryNutOlympiad.com or call our hotline at 828-429-9011 with questions.

Lake Lure Newcomers invite those who are new residents in Lake Lure (24 months or less) to join them in various activities which include: potluck, gourmet, out'n about, theater, bridge/poker, book club, and hiking. Anyone interested in becoming a member, call Chuck and Char Leneschmidt 828-625-5201.

Lake Lure Lakefront Owners Association (LLLOA). If you are interested in Lake issues and concerns and own lakefront property on the shores of beautiful Lake Lure, the LLLOA invites you to become a regular member. Associate memberships are also encouraged for those who are interested in our Lake. Each year members receive a directory of members, informative Muse Letters, and a first class mailed subscription to the Town of Lake Lure monthly newsletter, Lake Lure News & Views. Members meet at the Town Community Center socially at least annually to meet neighbors and discuss issues. Annual dues are currently a modest **\$20.00**. You may pick up an application for membership at the Municipal Center, or via the website at www.townoflakelure.com under Lake Management or call Harvey Harris, Pres. at 828-625-8872 for an application or any questions you may have.

For the convenience of the public, the VFW Post 10473 has placed a receptacle for old and worn out American flags in the covered walkway at the town hall near the entrance to the police department's door. If you would like a replacement flag, for a small fee, or are eligible and wish to join the VFW contact VFW Vice Commander Charles Hicks at 828-625-9278.

Free online newspaper for Lake Lure, Chimney Rock and Rutherford County. Local history, comprehensive calendar, groups, preserving the Gorge, fun things to do in the Gorge and local authors.

<http://www.hickorynutgorgenews.com>

U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary...The newly formed Lake Lure Detachment consist of local area volunteers. Our main missions are to conduct vessel safety checks, educate the public in recreational boating safety, assist the Coast Guard, state and local authorities in operations such as search and rescue missions. We do not perform ANY direct law enforcement functions and many of our safety courses and vessel checks are free to the public. We are currently accepting applications for volunteers in the Lake Lure Detachment.

If you are interested in joining our team contact either Jim Boxerman at 828-779-2670 or Clyde Ingersoll at 828-606-8510. Regular meetings are held the second Tuesday of every month at 4:00 pm at 718 Buffalo Creek Road.

We will be doing our FREE spring Vessel Safety Checks (VSC) on April 14th at both the town and Rumbling Bald Resort boat ramps from 10:00 am to 3:00 pm.

NOTICE

Weather permitting, Lake Lure Tours is open 7 days a week from 9 am – 5 pm for gas or your other needs. For questions or comments about the hours or operations of the Lake Lure Tours, call 828-625-1373.

The deadline for newsletter articles to be received at Town Hall for the August issue is July 18, 2007.

