



The **ELPOA** Courier

PHOTO SUBMITTED BY ELAINE LESH

## From The President's Desk

Go grab your vinyl, cassette, CD—or queue it up on iTunes—and find American Girl by Tom Petty and the Heartbreakers. Then, in the immortal words of Nigel Tufnel: turn it up to eleven.

It was the early 2000s. My friends and I were in our late teens and early twenties, and every summer, it felt like the entire town of Ringwood—especially Erskine Lake—piled into cars and headed down the Garden State Parkway to Exit 116, bound for the PNC Bank Arts Center to see Tom Petty and the Heartbreakers live.

The day usually began at Little Beach, with hot dogs and hamburgers at the Lifeguard Appreciation Luncheon. Then we'd hit the road with the music blasting. That concert was a summer highlight—every single year.

Whenever the days become longer, the sun shines brighter, and the lake begins to warm, I can't help but think back to those memories—tailgating, jamming out, and yes, mudsliding down the grass hill when the summer rains rolled in. A few days before the concert, we'd load eight D batteries into a massive portable stereo—the size of a toaster oven—and blast American Girl on repeat.

## Upcoming Events

**FRIDAY, JUNE 6TH**

**FUN FRIDAY**

**UPPER LAKE PAVILION**

**5:00 P.M.**

**FRIDAY, JUNE 13TH**

**FUN FRIDAY**

**UPPER LAKE PAVILION**

**5:00 P.M.**

**FRIDAY, JUNE 20TH**

**FUN FRIDAY**

**UPPER LAKE PAVILION**

**5:00 P.M.**

**FRIDAY, JUNE 27TH**

**46TH ANNUAL**

**ELPOA GOLF OUTING**

**MORE INFORMATION BELOW**

**FRIDAY, JULY 4TH**

**JULY 4TH PICNIC**

**UPPER LAKE PAVILION**

**12:00 P.M.**

## From the President's Desk

### Continued

As summer approaches, this song always comes to mind—so I looked up a description of it:

"The opening chords of American Girl by Tom Petty and the Heartbreakers are bright, jangly, and full of energy. Played on a Rickenbacker 12-string guitar, they have a shimmering, chiming quality reminiscent of The Byrds. The rhythm is driving and urgent, with a slight delay effect giving it a spacious, almost echoing feel. The rapid downstrokes create a sense of motion, like an engine revving up, setting the stage for the song's relentless pace. It's both nostalgic and electrifying—a perfect mix of classic rock and heartland storytelling."

What a way to describe a song. And honestly, it's not just a perfect description of American Girl—it's a perfect description of summer at Erskine Lake.

Right about now, we're all starting to plan our summers—circling dates on the calendar, making mental notes of events to attend and friends we want to catch up with. There's an urgency to enjoy every minute of the short summer season. This is the time of year when our community truly comes alive. Everyone becomes part of the story.

And what a story it is. As we enter our 97th summer of ELPOA, I think of all the people who have shaped this place—the laughter, the memories, the countless summer days that came before us. It fills me with excitement for what lies ahead. I know I say it often, but it's worth repeating: we are incredibly lucky to live here. Even luckier to raise our children here.

As excited as I am for another summer, I'm even more grateful that my kids get to help write the next chapter of the ELPOA story. Whether it's kids riding around the lake from one activity to the next, or parents racing home from work just to cool off with a quick lake swim at the end of a hot day—there's a rhythm and energy here that's unmistakable.

We're fortunate to have so many great events and clubs to be part of—like Fun Fridays, the Golf Outing, Men's Club, Women's Club, Tennis Club, and Fitness Club. There's something for everyone. Get involved. Be a part of the story.

We all lead busy lives, and sometimes at the end of the day, it's tempting to just crash on the couch. But making that extra effort to show up, participate, and connect—it's always worth it.

This is a place where strangers become friends, and friends become family.

So press play. Turn it up. And let's make this summer another one to remember.

-Tommy Law

## Information Technology Committee Update

Summer activities are getting underway. We will be sending information out to keep everyone up to date through our eBlasts and calendar updates. Be sure to see the ELPOA calendar for upcoming events and activities. Please keep us posted on any calendar changes at [calendar@elpoa.com](mailto:calendar@elpoa.com). The online ELPOA email database is now updated for email blasts. Please be sure to log into [ErskineLakes.com](http://ErskineLakes.com) if you need any changes to your primary or secondary email addresses.

## Information Technology Committee Update Continued

Please check your spam or junk folders regularly and click the "not spam" or "safe sender" box in any ELPOA email found there to help minimize this problem. If you hear of any member that is not receiving emails, please let us know at [ELPOA@elpoa.com](mailto:ELPOA@elpoa.com) or [Admin@ErskineLakes.com](mailto:Admin@ErskineLakes.com) so we can make any needed corrections.

For current activities, see [www.erskinelakes.com/events](http://www.erskinelakes.com/events) for information. You can also check out the ELPOA Facebook community group for current information if you are a Facebook user. Go to <https://www.facebook.com/groups/ELPOA/> and request to be part of that group if you are not a member already.

And as a reminder, please do not provide any personal or banking information in any emails. ELPOA will never ask you for payments or any sensitive information, such as usernames or passwords, via email.

Thank you, Information Technology

## Water & Ecology Committee Update

We are continuing to be active with lake treatments and having our water movers and fountains in place at the beaches and common areas. Weed treatments have shown benefits already and the lake water is safe to be used to water lawns and flowers as desired. Our lake treatment provider has been on the lake a few times already to treat the water and we are waiting to see if we need the harvester to come out to remove surface level weeds and algae.

The latest service reports show good water quality, and we expect that to continue through the summer. As with every summer season, we are affected by various weather conditions. High temperatures, strong sun and dry weather can create conditions that contribute to algae growth. These are normally temporary and we will do our best to stay on top of it.

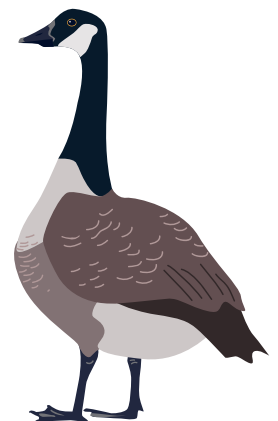
Good water flow around the lake is important to keep our waters clear. It is very important that lake front owners position their boats, particularly the larger ones, parallel to the shoreline to minimize the blockage of water flow. The water movers and fountains operate on a regular schedule to keep water flowing. With that, we want to remind all boaters and fishermen to please keep a minimum five-foot distance from these devices and their anchor lines. It is easy to disrupt the anchors and knock them out of line, and more important it is dangerous for our W&E team checking on them when they find fishhooks lodged in the anchor lines and protective netting. If you notice any issues or concerns, please email us at [water@elpoa.com](mailto:water@elpoa.com).

As always, please limit your use of fertilizer that may find its way into the lake and always bag your lawn clippings and leaves and don't let them wash into the lake, either directly or through the storm drains around the lake.

Thank you, Water & Ecology

**REMINDER**

**PLEASE DO NOT  
FEED THE GEESE!**



## BRAP Committee Update

### Boats, Rafts and Access Points

Members who leased Boat Storage Spaces at an Access Point or Beach last year do not have to submit paperwork or pay any fee for the 2025 season because the Boat Storage Leases were for two years, 2024 and 2025. These leases expire November 15, 2025.

Members wanting to store a boat at an Access Point/Beach for the first time must submit a signed Application with fee. (\$40 for the 2025 season). Lease Applications are available from [brap@elpoa.com](mailto:brap@elpoa.com).

In accordance with ELPOA Rules and Regulations, all boats and anchored rafts, including inflatable anchored rafts, on ELPOA property must have a current decal.

**The BRAP Committee will begin checking 2025 boat decals after June 1<sup>st</sup>, so please place your decal in a visible location on the stern of the boat.**

## ELPOA Security

To help protect you and your ELPOA property, we have resumed evening patrols by a licensed security officer.

While on ELPOA property, you and your household should have your 2025 ELPOA badge/tag ready to present to the security office. This is the only way the security officer can be sure of your membership. Photos of a badge on a phone or other device are NOT allowed as proof. Remember, ALL ELPOA properties are CLOSED for use after 11:00pm, unless it is being used as part of a sanctioned ELPOA event.

Guests are only allowed if accompanied by an adult ELPOA member (18 years or older).

Guests are NOT allowed to use ELPOA facilities alone. Each guest is required to give the security officer their name, address, phone number, and age.

Dogs or other animals are NEVER ALLOWED on any ELPOA property.

All bicycles (foot operated, electric or gasoline powered), scooters, hoverboards and the like are only permitted in parking lots (NOT on sidewalks, basketball or tennis courts).

No glass of any kind is allowed on any outdoor ELPOA properties.

Alcoholic beverages (including beer, wine, coolers, etc.) are prohibited at all times, unless they are part of an ELPOA sanctioned event.

Smoking of any substance, vaping, E-Cigarettes and other uses of tobacco products are prohibited on ELPOA property.

For more information on these and other items, please consult the current "ELPOA RULES & REGULATIONS ENFORCED ALL YEAR ROUND". You can email [secretary@elpoa.com](mailto:secretary@elpoa.com) if you need another copy.

If you would like to help with security functions or have general questions or see something that needs some further investigation, email us at [security@elpoa.com](mailto:security@elpoa.com). You can also text 201-916-3582. As security is not on patrol every day or all night, if you see something anytime, day or night, that requires immediate attention (vandalism, accident, trespassing, etc.), you can call the Ringwood Police at 973-962-7017.

Let's work together to make this a safe and enjoyable ELPOA summer!

## Nominating Committee

President T. Law announced the members of the 2025 nominating committee at the May 20, 2025, General membership meeting. They are as follows:

### 2025 Nominating Committee

1. Janet Spirko (Chair)
2. Kim Link
3. Colleen Spence
4. Mindy Sullivan
5. Mike Mullin

### Qualifications of the Nominating committee

- The nominating committee must have three years of membership in good standing.
- Four members must be on the Board of Directors

### Nomination process

- Anyone who desires a specific position must make their desire known to the nominating committee at least 3 weeks prior to the second General meeting by e-mailing [secretary@elpoa.com](mailto:secretary@elpoa.com).
  - Qualifications for Officers and Directors can be found in the ELPOA By-Laws, Article VIII, Sections 1 through 6
  - The deadline for submission is June 24, 2025.
- Nominations for each of the officers may be made only at the General Meeting immediately preceding the Annual Meeting.
- Recommendations of the Nominating Committee will not preclude any member from making nominations by submitting a nomination to the chairperson of the Nominating Committee 5 days before the general meeting aforesaid, this must be supported by a Nomination Petition signed by not less than twenty-five (25) voting members.

## What Your Lifeguards Want You to Know

Your 2025 ELPOA Lifeguards are getting ready for another magical summer at Erskine Lakes! Safety is every lifeguards' first priority. Before heading to the beach, the lifeguards want to remind you:

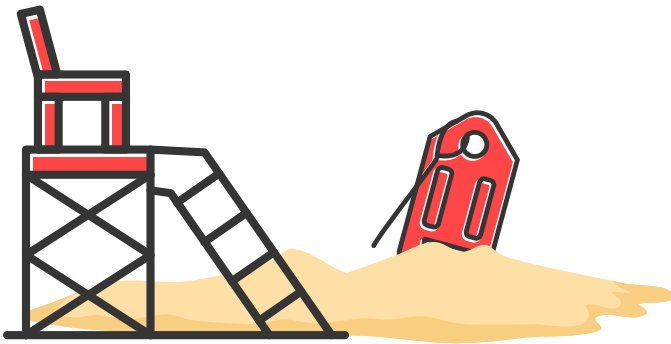
- 💧 Lifeguards are on duty from 12:00pm-6:00pm
- 💧 Please do not talk to a lifeguard that is on the stand, they are watching the water. If you need to speak to a guard, please head to the tag check area.
- 💧 There is absolutely NO glass allowed on the beach.
- 💧 There is absolutely NO alcohol, smoking, or vaping allowed on the beach.
- 💧 After hours, please remember that there is a carry-in, carry-out policy for all trash.
- 💧 Swim only in the designated swim areas. There is no swimming allowed out of or into the swim areas from boats, paddleboards, or floats.
- 💧 There are NO boats allowed in the designated swim areas. This includes between the buoys and diving boards.
- 💧 Children under 8 years old must be supervised by a family member or caretaker at all times. This includes in the water, sand, and on the playground.
- 💧 Please show your badges each time you enter our beaches.
- 💧 Badges cannot be shared. Only those living in your household can use the badges

# What Your Lifeguards Want You to Know

## Continued

💧 Please review the rest of the ELPOA General Rules and Regulations so that we can all have a SAFE and amazing summer at Erskine Lakes!

Lifeguards will be on duty starting Memorial Weekend. If we cannot fully staff all beaches, notification will be sent out through email and it will be posted on the ELPOA Facebook page. It is our hope that lifeguards will be on duty every weekend after Memorial Day and then full time beginning Thursday, June 19th through Labor Day. If you have any questions, please reach out to the Lifeguard Coordinators, Christine Schouten and Cindy Van Allen at [lifeguard@elpoa.com](mailto:lifeguard@elpoa.com). We are looking forward to a great summer! See you at the lakes!



## Membership Reminders

- Badges must be worn at all times when on ELPOA property. This includes beaches, playgrounds and basketball courts.
- Any guest under the age of 18 must be accompanied by an adult member .
- ELPOA members under the age of 18 cannot bring a friend who is not an ELPOA member onto ELPOA property without an adult ELPOA member.
- Any person who is eligible to be an ELPOA member cannot be a guest.
- You must be with your guest while on ELPOA property.



## ELPOA Library

The ELPOA Library will be presented on Saturday, July 19<sup>th</sup> from 9am until noon at the Little Beach Clubhouse. Come on over for a cup of coffee and see the extensive collection of ELPOA artifacts that continues to grow! If you have anything to donate to the Library, or if you would like to volunteer to help at the event, please contact Janet Spirko at [jspirko@optonline.net](mailto:jspirko@optonline.net). Service hours are available for church, school and scout members.



## REMINDERS

ELPOA is run by all volunteers. All the club, committees and board of directors dedicate their time to make Erskine a beautiful place to live, recreate and affordable. We are always looking for new volunteers. Every member received a directory with their badges which lists all the clubs and committees with contact information. You can always send an email to [elpoa@elpoa.com](mailto:elpoa@elpoa.com) and your message will be forwarded to the appropriate person.



**SEPTICS SHOULD  
BE PUMPED EVERY  
2 - 3 YEARS**

# 46th Annual ELPOA Memorial Golf Outing

Proceeds to Benefit ELPOA Memorial Scholarship Fund

The ELPOA 46th Annual Memorial Golf Outing is only a few weeks away on Friday, June 27<sup>th</sup>. If you haven't already signed up, please do so ASAP via the website link below. The foursomes are filling up fast. This will be a great kick off to the Summer.

This year's Outing will once again take place at the Crystal Springs Country Club, where we will take over the entire course including Cascades for an afternoon shotgun. As usual we have a full day of activities planned, starting with our registration and barbecue lunch @ 11:30.

The day is capped off back at the Erskine Lake Hilltop Clubhouse with a full catered dinner for you and your guest. We will introduce our scholarship winners during the evening. Also, we are happy to announce that we will be honoring Gary Wogisch at the Golf Outing dinner as our Person of the Year. Gary has selflessly served ELPOA for many years, in many different capacities. Thank you Gary!

The outing will again support college scholarships in memory of ELPOA members who are no longer with us. The Outing falls under the umbrella of the Erskine Lakes Foundation which is a Non-Profit organization dedicated to providing recreational/sports programs for the children of members of the Erskine Lake Property Owners Association and is recognized as a 501 C (3) organization (Tax ID # 46-4689835).

We now also accept payment via Zelle at [ELF@ELPOA.com](mailto:ELF@ELPOA.com). **No fee is charged on Zelle payments.** Payment is due by June 23rd.

If you have any questions, please send us a note, and we look forward to seeing everyone on June 27th!

Crystal Springs Golf Club, Hamburg, NJ

Friday June 27th 2025

Registration and Lunch 11:30 – 12:30

1:00pm Shotgun Start

\$200 per Golfer Includes: Greens Fees,

Golf Cart & Lunch @ Crystal Springs

7PM - Dinner @ Hilltop Clubhouse

including a Guest

Trophies, Awards & Giveaways including:

- ELPOA Sportswear, Balls & Tees
- Raffle Prizes (including): Golf Clubs, Golf Bags, Golf Foursomes, Home Electronics, Golf Apparel, Paddle Boards and much more...

Please sign up online at <https://elpoa-memorial-golf-outing.perfectgolfevent.com>

For questions contact:

Ken Spirko

973-699-4322, [spirko@optonline.net.com](mailto:spirko@optonline.net.com)

Chris DeDeyn

201-704-4987, [dedeyncc@gmail.com](mailto:dedeyncc@gmail.com)

**Please see additional attachment for sponsorship information**



# Kids' Corner

Back in early January, I received a handwritten letter from Keira Leone, along with a beautiful drawing she created to show her love for ELPOA. Her thoughtful gesture really stuck with me and made me reflect on how much our kids appreciate and cherish Erskine Lake. Even at a young age, they recognize just how special our community is.

That moment inspired the idea for ELPOA Kids' Corner—a dedicated space in the Courier for our youth to get creative and express what Erskine Lake means to them. Whether it's a drawing, a story, a poem, or any form of creative expression, Kids' Corner is a wonderful way for our children to showcase their talents and share their love for our community.

We invite all ELPOA kids to submit their creative work for a chance to be featured in Kids' Corner! Whether it's a drawing, a short story, a poem, or any other form of expression, we'd love to see what Erskine Lake means to you.

Please note: While we welcome all submissions, space in the Courier is limited. We may not be able to publish every entry, but we'll do our best to feature a variety of voices throughout the year.

Submissions can be sent to [courier@elpoa.com](mailto:courier@elpoa.com). Be sure to include your name, age, and a brief description of your work.

Let's celebrate the creativity of our ELPOA youth!

-Tommy Law





# "A Day at the Beach"

## By, Connor Shea

Today I went to Little Beach  
We packed cherries, watermelon, and even a peach!

First thing's first - we show our tags,  
I carry my fishing pole and my mom carries ALL the bags!

Next, I put on my suntan lotion - it smells **so sweet**  
I feel the soft sand underneath my feet.

After that, into the cold water I walk  
My little brother goes to the B-Ball court to draw with chalk.

When I was walking into the water, I felt a breeze -  
The water feels colder, so I started to freeze!

What unfroze me? The sun came out and unfroze me!  
Then I shout, "YIPPY!"

My little brother is drawing the sun -  
What fun to draw the sun!!

Next my little brother draws a stormy cloud -  
He says the thunder is **very loud!**

Speaking of things that might make you scared,  
Next I'll jump off the diving board - which once, I wouldn't have dared!

More things that we don't like -  
Dragonflies, stormy skies, goodbyes...  
And don't even get me started on horseflies!

Swimming, laughing, playing with friends,  
I hope the Little Beach story **NEVER ENDS!**



# Kids' Corner

<b>ELPOA Contact Information</b>	
<b>E-Mail (Preferred)</b>	<b>Phone</b>
General - <a href="mailto:elpoa@elpoa.com">elpoa@elpoa.com</a>	973-962-6407
Secretary - <a href="mailto:secretary@elpoa.com">secretary@elpoa.com</a>	<b>Address</b>
Water & Ecology - <a href="mailto:water@elpoa.com">water@elpoa.com</a>	P.O. Box 723
Membership - <a href="mailto:membership@elpoa.com">membership@elpoa.com</a>	Ringwood, NJ 07456
Information Technology - <a href="mailto:admin2@elpoa.com">admin2@elpoa.com</a>	<b>Website</b>
	<a href="http://www.elpoa.com">www.elpoa.com</a>

From the Editor: If you would like any announcements or articles published in the courier, please send an e-mail to [courier@elpoa.com](mailto:courier@elpoa.com). Please submit photos to be featured on the front page! Deadline for the July 2025 Courier is June 20, 2025.

Upper Lake Memory Garden Reflection Brick Order Form

Your Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Reflection Brick Information

Deceased E.L.P.O.A Member's Name:  
(max 12 letters per line; 2 lines max)

First Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Last Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Donation: \$100 (checks payable to U.L.S.F.)  
Return to: U.L.M.C. Scholarship Fund c/o Dave Smith  
82 Upper Lakeview Avenue , Ringwood, NJ 07456

Paving bricks in the Memory Garden, located at Upper Lake, will be engraved with the name of a deceased ELPOA member of your choice. For more information contact Don at 973-962-0182.

