



The ELPOA Courier

PHOTO BY MARIA MENICO

From The President's Desk

As our community of Erskine Lakes celebrates America's 250th anniversary and our nation's independence, I've found myself thinking a lot about history.

I was never much of a history buff growing up. I remember sitting in Social Studies class wondering how all of this old stuff could possibly matter. Now that I'm older and a little more mature (and I mean just a little), I've developed an appreciation for history and the generations that came before us. The foresight, bravery, and selflessness of those who helped shape our country are truly inspiring.

I'm also inspired by those who continue to put others before themselves every day. Our military members, law enforcement officers, nurses, teachers, first responders, and so many others. We are fortunate that our nation's founders led such a noble cause, and we remain grateful to all of our veterans and their families. Your sacrifices do not go unnoticed.

We all know the story of the American Revolution. In 1776, America declared its independence from Great Britain. Less well known is the fact that in 1945, Cupsaw declared its independence from Erskine Lakes.

Upcoming Events

FRIDAY, JULY 3RD
NO FUN FRIDAY

SATURDAY, JULY 4TH
JULY 4TH PICNIC
UPPER LAKE PAVILION
12:00 P.M. - 5:00 P.M.

ELPOA WEEKEND!
FRIDAY, JULY 17TH
FUN FRIDAY
UPPER LAKE PAVILION
5:00 P.M.

SATURDAY, JULY 18TH
MINI TRIATHLON
MAIN BEACH
8:00 A.M. SHARP

ELPOA LIBRARY
LITTLE BEACH
9:30 A.M. - NOON

ELPOA BALL
HILLTOP CLUBHOUSE
8:00 P.M. - 12:00 A.M.
MORE INFO TO COME!

SUNDAY, JULY 19TH
ELPOA DAY!
12:00 P.M.

FRIDAY, JULY 24TH
FUN FRIDAY
UPPER LAKE PAVILION
5:00 P.M.

FRIDAY, JULY 31ST
TRICKY TRAY!
MORE DETAILS BELOW

From the President's Desk Continued

In 1927, the Ringwood Company dammed Tice's Pond, creating the 90-acre Lower Erskine Lake. Five years later, two additional dams created Cupsaw Lake (65 acres) and Upper Erskine Lake (33 acres). Together, the three lakes became known as Erskine Lakes.

Then came the rebellion.

Historians believe the first act of rebellion occurred when a Cupsaw resident tossed a box of Lipton tea into the lake, no longer willing to enter the beach area under an "Erskine Lakes" beach tag.

The directors of Erskine Lakes attempted diplomacy. Unfortunately, negotiations broke down. Nearly 170 years after the American Revolution, and determined to avoid a second Revolutionary War and any further bloodshed, the leaders of Erskine Lakes made the difficult decision to grant Cupsaw its independence.

Of course, I'm just teasing. No one may have actually thrown tea into the water. But Cupsaw was once part of Erskine Lakes before becoming its own community in 1945. I've never second-guessed their decision. Maybe that's why our friendly rivalry continues to this day.

Looking back, I think letting Cupsaw go was the right course. Eighty-one years later, I'm confident we'd make the same decision.

After all, who would rather sit on grass instead of sand?

Happy 250th Anniversary America!!

God Bless Erskine Lakes and God Bless the UNITED STATES OF AMERICA!

Information Technology Committee Update

Keep up to date with the weekly eBlasts and the ELPOA calendar. Let us know if you or anyone you know is having a problem receiving ELPOA emails.

Stay current with the ELPOA Facebook page and see additional information shared by the members in this ELPOA only group. Go to <https://www.facebook.com/groups/ELPOA/>. Please be sure to answer the security questions and agree to the group rules in order to be approved.

Also, please do not provide any personal or banking information in any emails, and please reach out to anyone on the Technology Committee, via ELPOA@elpoa.com, if you experience any issues receiving emails from us, or any problems you see on the web site or calendar at www.elpoa.com and www.erskinelakes.com.

Thank you,
Information Technology Committee

Water & Ecology Committee Update

Water & Ecology continues to work to keep the algae and weeds under control. This includes multiple treatments on both lakes as well as regular monitoring and algae removal.

We continue to remind members that when we see days of high sun and heat, and little rain, the weed growth will continue, and we will see algae pop to the surface. When this happens, please be patient and know that we will be working hard to minimize the problem, but instantaneous results cannot be guaranteed.

Water & Ecology Committee Update

Continued

Please assist where you can and pull any of the algae out at your lakefront, allow it to dry and then discard with your regular yard cleanup.

We also want to remind our boaters, fishermen and swimmers to be mindful of the water movers and fountains. Please maintain a safe distance from them. Note that these devices require multiple anchor lines that extend out at an angle. So, a wide berth is needed to minimize the risk of catching one of the lines and damaging the pumps. These water movers have been extremely helpful in keeping the water flowing and keeping our lakes clear.

Enjoy the summer and we'll see you on the lake!

Water & Ecology

BRAP Committee Update

Boats, Rafts, and Access Points

The lake is looking great, summer programs are beginning, and lots of boating is taking place as the summer continues to unfold.

All previous Boat Storage Space lessees storing a boat at an Access Point/Beach had to submit a \$40 per space fee to secure their space(s) for the 2026 season.

Members wishing to store a boat(s) at an Access Point/Beach for the first time must submit an Application with fee. These Applications are available from brap@elpoa.com.

BRAP is emailing members to remove stored boat(s) from Access Points/Beaches if a Boat Storage Lease Application with fee has not been submitted.

Please be sure that 2026 decals placed on your boat(s) and rafts are visible.

BRAP will be notifying members regarding decal non-compliance.

ELPOA Rules and Regulations govern the use of boats, rafts, large inflatable rafts, and Access Points/Beaches.

Of special note:

1. All ELPOA waters are considered to be a no-wake zone regardless of vessel.
2. No motorized rafts are permitted on the lake.
3. No mooring of boats in the water is permitted at access points.
4. Please store your boat(s) in your assigned space(s) at Access Points/Beaches
5. Kayak/paddle board ramps installed at Upper and Main beaches are only for kayak and paddle board launching. No launching of other boats, fishing, or walking/jumping is permitted on these ramps.
6. Please take all trash with you, when leaving any of the access points.
7. No inflatable tubes, rafts, oars, or paddles should be left at beaches and access points.

The BRAP Committee thanks everyone for their cooperation in keeping ELPOA members safe in and on the water, and for keeping our ELPOA facilities looking beautiful yet being functional.

ELPOA

trivia

Guess what the 1961 enrollment numbers were for the Ringwood Public Schools, St. Catherine's School, Lakeland Regional High School, and Shelton College???

Answer on Page 7

ELPOA Library

Mark your calendars! The ELPOA Library will be on display on Saturday, July 18th from 9:30-noon at the Little Beach Clubhouse. If you have any Erskine items that you would like to contribute, or if you would like to help with the set up on Friday, July 17th, please call Janet at 201-403-1699.

Tricky Tray Committee

Beach Club Tricky Tray tickets are on sale!!! Please see the attached form for ordering information.

The Beach Club Tricky Tray will be held on Friday, July 31st. If you would like to donate a basket, please drop off at Hilltop Clubhouse on the following dates and times, or contact us at erskinelakesfoundation@gmail.com to arrange an alternate time.

- Sunday, July 26th from 5:00pm until 8:00pm
- Monday, July 27th from 5:00pm until 8:00pm

The Tricky Tray Committee has community service hours available. In the past, these hours have been accepted at non-public schools in the area, Lakeland Regional High School for National Honor Society, and at St. Catherine's for Confirmation. You can come for part of the time or the whole time slot. Please email us at erskinelakesfoundation@gmail.com with any questions or to sign up.

Service hours timeslots

- Sunday, July 26th from 9:00 until 11:00am
- Monday, July 27th from 6:00 until 8:00pm
- Friday, July 31st starting at 7:30pm



Please Join Us For The
Erskine Lakes
Beach Club Annual
TRICKY TRAY

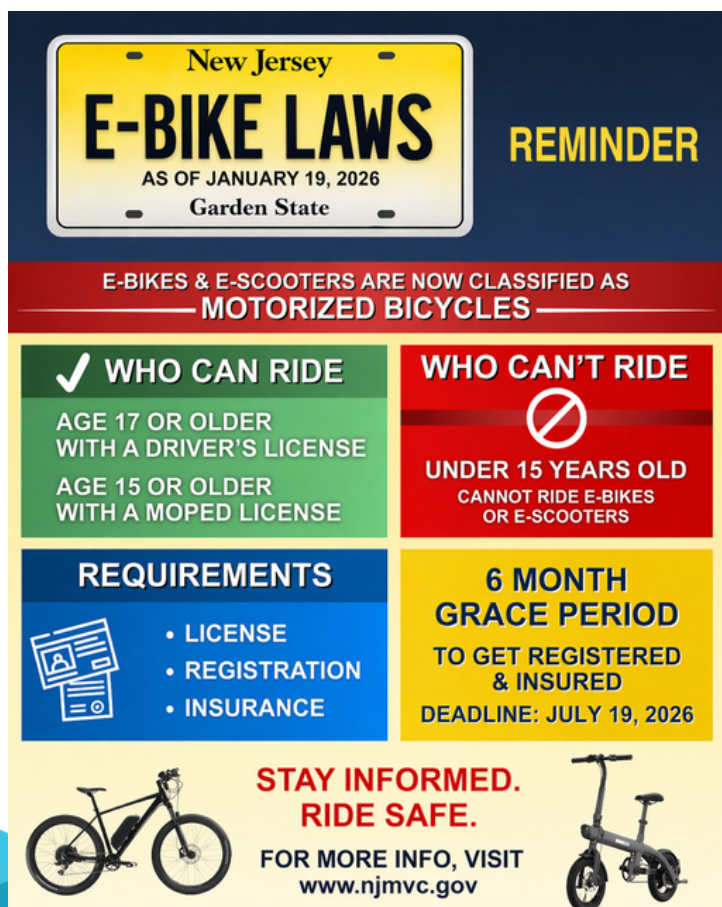
Friday, July 31, 2026
 Doors Open: 6:30pm - Hilltop Clubhouse

TICKETS AVAILABLE JULY 6TH
 Reserve your table and purchase tickets with
 Carolyn Monroe at 973-464-9583

Entrance Fee = \$20 per person
 Includes 1 sheet Regular Prize tickets and entry for the Door Prize
(Mandatory purchase to attend.)

Pre-Sale Package = \$30 per package (\$40 value)
 Includes 3 sheets Regular Prize tickets,
 2 sheets Special Prize tickets, 3 Grand Prize tickets,
 1 Purple ticket, and 1 "Win Your Money Back" ticket
 Win Your Money Back only available with pre-sale package.
(This is an optional add-on package.)

"No one under the age of 18 years old is permitted to participate."
 "If gambling is a problem for you or someone in your family, Dial 1-800-GAMBLER."



New Jersey
E-BIKE LAWS
 AS OF JANUARY 19, 2026
Garden State

REMINDER

**E-BIKES & E-SCOOTERS ARE NOW CLASSIFIED AS
 —MOTORIZED BICYCLES—**

✓ WHO CAN RIDE AGE 17 OR OLDER WITH A DRIVER'S LICENSE AGE 15 OR OLDER WITH A MOPED LICENSE	WHO CAN'T RIDE  UNDER 15 YEARS OLD CANNOT RIDE E-BIKES OR E-SCOOTERS
REQUIREMENTS  • LICENSE • REGISTRATION • INSURANCE	6 MONTH GRACE PERIOD TO GET REGISTERED & INSURED DEADLINE: JULY 19, 2026

**STAY INFORMED.
 RIDE SAFE.**
 FOR MORE INFO, VISIT
www.njmvc.gov

47th Annual ELPOA Memorial Golf Outing

The 2026 ELPOA Golf Outing was a huge success, a good time was had by all! We had 184 golfers participating who enjoyed beautiful weather for a fun day of golf. Golfers along with their guests enjoyed a great dinner at Hilltop to cap off the day.

At our dinner we recognized our Honoree, Janet Spirko for her many years of service to our ELPOA community.

Special thanks to our Gold Sponsors:

- Thomas “Chopper” Russo – RE/MAX Select
- David and Meg Edwab
- Pat & Yvonne Murphy
- SIGNET Financial Management – Steve Tuttle

Thanks to the generosity of all our supporters and participants we were able to award \$10,000 in scholarships.

Congratulations to our scholarship award winners:

- Jaclyn Catalioto
- Owen Alway
- Christina Link
- Claire Link
- Antimo Ferretti

Winners on the links were as follows:

First place team (Winners of the coveted Zavaglia trophy).

- Tristan Davison, Chad Wallach, Brendan Ross and Brian Kincaid

Second place team

- Michael Bale, Matt Lonschien, Brian Herzbrun, Kyle McElroy

Third place team

- Jim Phillips, Paul Urbano, Jack Urbano, Dan Demola

Crystal Springs longest drive #18

- Tristan Davison

Crystal Springs closest to the pin #9

- Mike Macnamara

Crystal Springs straightest drive #7

- Steve Walck

Cascades longest drive #7

- Pat Healy

Cascades straightest drive #2

- Kristen Sullivan

Cascades closest to the pin #4

- Matt Dowd



Old Timers' Corner

An interview with Marie DeNyse
by Janet Spirko

Happy Summer, everyone! So happy to sit down with Marie DeNyse, one who has somehow managed to evade me and my interviews....until now!

Marie spent her childhood in Little Falls, but has fond memories of enjoying the summers at Cedar Lake in Denville. Her family owned a bungalow there and Marie grew to love that "Lake Life" that she still loves today.

After graduating from Passaic Valley High School, Marie attended William Paterson for Education because "you could only be a teacher, nurse or secretary back then!" She went on to get a Master's degree in Sociology from the New School for Social Research.

During college, Marie had the opportunity to spend six weeks abroad three summers in a row. She stayed in El Salvador, Mexico and Guatemala as part of a program where she helped the locals, while also having the chance to travel around the country and learn the culture. Perhaps this is where her love of travel began.

After college, Marie taught in Oakland and Ringwood, and in 1968 she bought a house on Upper Lake. She lived there for 11 years and then bought the house on Lakeview where she still lives today. She raised four daughters in this house. "I loved raising my children here", she said. "There was always so much to do. They would come home from school and head right to the lake." In the summer, the girls would participate in all that the lake had to offer. "The girls were in ELAC because I wanted them to be strong swimmers. It was a special time because being a teacher meant that I had time off to spend with the kids.

I remember going to all the lakes for swimming events. We just kept going!"

Marie remembers playing volleyball with the Women's Club. "We would play against Cupsaw and Pinecliff. We brought the kids and they would run around the beach. They would have a good time and the Moms would have a good time!

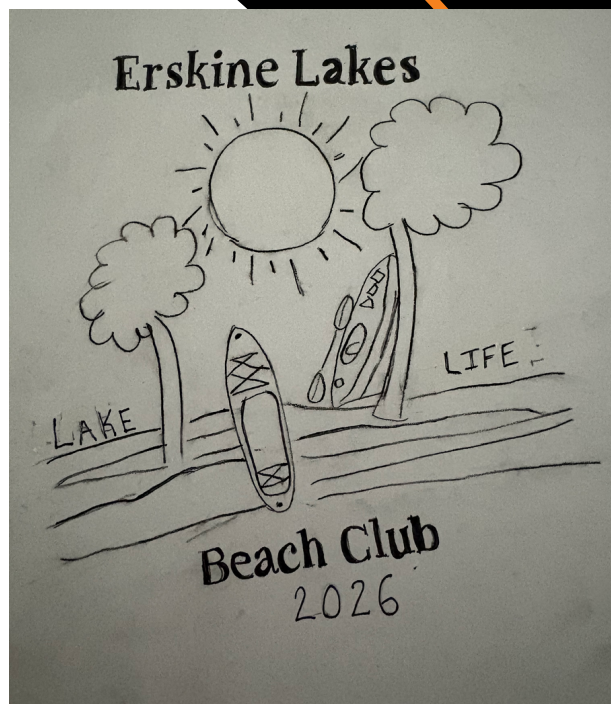
Fast forward, Marie has 11 grandchildren and a great-grandchild. She is a very, very active Senior! She belongs to two book clubs, three senior groups, and is involved at St. Catherine's Church. She plays cards and Mahjong and swims in the lake several times a week. But perhaps Marie's favorite hobby, in addition to spending time with her family, is travelling. When I asked her about her favorite destinations that she has visited, Marie said that she loved China and Japan, Budapest, and the private islands that some of the cruise lines own. She has been on dozens of cruises and will actually go on three more cruises this summer. (Holy cow!) However, Marie was quick to say that she loves coming back to Erskine. "I love it here. I've met so many nice people. It's a great community."

Thanks for the interview, Marie. Keep on doing what you're doing!



Kids' Corner

Beach Club held its second tie-dye t-shirt art contest in the spring. Beach club members submitted original designs and each beach club participant had the opportunity to vote. **Congratulations to Mackenzie Ryan for winning the contest!** All designs were unique and expressed the each child's love of ELPOA and Erskine Lakes Beach Club. We look forward continuing this event in the future.



ELPOA trivia

Answer:

Ringwood Public Schools: 625 students
St. Catherine's: 365
Lakeland: 650
Shelton College: 185

Erskine Lakes Fitness Club

ELPOA Mini-Triathlon

Saturday, 7/18 at Main Beach

Check in time: 7:15-7:45am

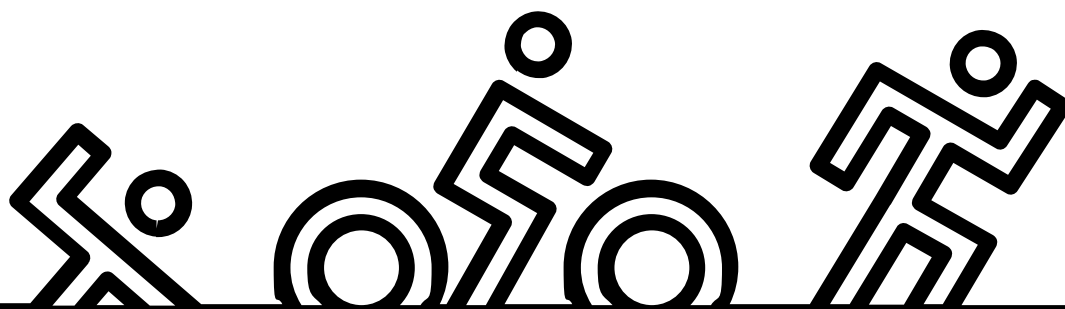
Start time: 8am SHARP

Rules are attached in the eBlast that was sent with this Courier!

Register online by [CLICKING HERE](#)

Registration will close Thursday, 7/16 - NO EXCEPTIONS!

Please email erskinefitnessclub@gmail.com with any questions.



SPOTLIGHT

ON OUR VOLUNTEERS



Many cooks in the kitchen



Kyle and Joey
changing the world!



Keith imposing pain and
suffering at Boot Camp



Spirkos taking on the merry go round

ELPOA Contact Information

E-Mail (Preferred)

General - elpoa@elpoa.com

Secretary - secretary@elpoa.com

Water & Ecology - water@elpoa.com

Membership - membership@elpoa.com

Information Technology - admin2@elpoa.com

Phone

973-962-6407

Address

P.O. Box 723
Ringwood, NJ 07456

Website

www.elpoa.com

From the Editor: If you would like any announcements or articles published in the courier, please send an e-mail to courier@elpoa.com. Please submit photos to be featured on the front page! Deadline for the August 2026 Courier is July 20, 2026. Thank you!

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.

