



## Orchid Lake Estates

### *The Orchid Lake Heron*

APRIL 2022

Volume 2, Issue 4

#### **ADDRESS:**

1 Bass Avenue,  
Gum Spring, VA 23065

#### **EMAIL:**

[OrchidLake1@gmail.com](mailto:OrchidLake1@gmail.com)

#### **BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

Debbie Blanchard, President  
Corinne de Jesus, VP  
Rick Cromwell, Treasurer  
Hope Goza, Secretary  
Chris DeMaioribus  
Melanie Oslin  
Brian Steele

#### **Community Involvement Committee**

Chris DeMaioribus

#### **Dam and Environmental Committees**

Prentiss de Jesus

#### **Road Committee**

Brian Steele

#### **Workday Committee**

OPEN

## PRESIDENT'S THOUGHTS

It's been a little more than five months since our Lot Owners Meeting in October, and our Board and Committees have been hard at work. Below is a list of just a few of the events and items that they have been working on:

- Monthly newsletter distributed to residents beginning in November
- First Annual Tree Lighting and Cookie Swap held in December 2021
- January Board meeting held via Zoom with link available to all residents upon request
- Trapping/removal of muskrats compromising the integrity of the dam
- Started raking of grasses to remove invasive species
- Community Garden launched
- First OLE Directory for residents is being finalized
- Emergency preparedness planning and survey are in progress
- Annual inspection of our dam by engineer
- Account set up with Department of Conservation to track status of our dam certification/documents
- Ongoing repair of the roads

As you can see, there's been a lot happening since we last gathered together. I hope you'll attend our April 30 Lot Owners Meeting to learn more about what is planned for the future.

Also, if you have children, please mark **Saturday, April 16 at 2:00 p.m.** on your calendars. There will be an Easter Egg Hunt for children 10 and under.

See you around the Lake,  
*Debbie Blanchard*, President

*Lot Owners Meeting,  
Workday and Potluck*

**WHEN:** April 30, 2022

**WHERE:** OLE Pavilion

10:00 a.m. – **Workday**

12:00 Noon – **Potluck**

1:00 p.m. – **Lot Owners  
Meeting**

Hot dogs, chili, bottled water, buns, paper plates, cups, and napkins will be provided. If you would like to contribute to the potluck, please consider bringing snacks, desserts or items that do not need to be refrigerated.

*\*If you are participating in Workday, it's recommended you bring work gloves.*



## EASTER EGG HUNT

Our first Orchid Lake Easter Egg Hunt is planned for **Saturday, April 16 at 2:00 p.m.** at the Pavilion. All children 10 and under are invited to participate.

## WORKDAY COMMITTEE VOLUNTEERS NEEDED



As we plan for our first Workday for 2022, the Board is looking for someone interested in serving on the Workday Committee. You would be in charge of promoting Workdays and organizing volunteers for the tasks that need to be done. If you've been looking for a way to become more involved in your community, this is a great opportunity to get to know your neighbors while improving our surroundings. Please email [OrchidLake1@gmail.com](mailto:OrchidLake1@gmail.com) with your name and phone number if you are interested. Thank you!

## INTERESTED IN BECOMING CPR CERTIFIED?

Plans are underway to hold a CPR AED and First Aid Class for interested residents in May (date to be determined). The class will be on a Saturday from 8:00 a.m. to Noon. Participants must be 12 or older, and the class will be limited to seven (7) individuals. If you'd like to get your certification, please email [OrchidLake1@gmail.com](mailto:OrchidLake1@gmail.com) to sign up. Provide your name, address and phone number. Depending on the response, a second class may be scheduled.

## COMMUNITY GARDEN IS UNDERWAY

Work on the Community Garden is beginning. While it may not look like much at the moment, several residents have been busy germinating seeds like tomatoes, peppers, eggplant, parsley, mint tea, lavender and more. If you know where we can get free straw or manure, or if you'd like to volunteer with preparing the garden for planting, please email [OrchidLake1@gmail.com](mailto:OrchidLake1@gmail.com).

**Don't  
forget!**

If you notice any muskrat activity around the lake, please email

[OrchidLake1@gmail.com](mailto:OrchidLake1@gmail.com)

immediately!

**The speed limit on all roads at the lake is 15 MPH.** Following the speed limit helps keep road repairs to a minimum and also ensures the safety of our residents and their pets.

Annual Dues are due now! If you have a problem meeting your obligation, please email [OrchidLake1@gmail.com](mailto:OrchidLake1@gmail.com) for information on how to set up a payment plan.

If you have ideas, questions or concerns, please email [OrchidLake1@gmail.com](mailto:OrchidLake1@gmail.com) to share your thoughts.