

April 30, 2009

Dear Community-

**The next meeting of the Ballentine – Dutch Fork Civic Association** will be the Board meeting which begins at 6:00 pm on Monday May 4 at the Community Center in Ballentine Park. Although this is a Board Meeting, it is open to the public and I encourage you to attend.

The Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) is continuing the relicensing process for SCE&G's Saluda River Project (Lake Murray). **One very key aspect that remains is the Water Level Management.** This directly affects the recreational use of the Lake, including the fish & wildlife habitat. It will also directly affect property values and the rights of property owners.

**The Lake Murray Association and the Lake Murray Homeowners Coalition** have been spreading the word about their stance for the acceptance of SCE&G's proposed one-foot drop of water to trigger slowing the release of water during times of low inflow (such as drought). I heartily agree and urge you to take the time to send a letter or email in support. For more information, please visit our website at [www.ballentinedutchfork.com](http://www.ballentinedutchfork.com) or the Lake Murray Homeowners Coalition website at [www.lakemurrayhomeowners.com](http://www.lakemurrayhomeowners.com) **Our website will post the information from the Lake Murray Association and the Homeowners Coalition website contains lots of background information. For more information about the environmental impact, call Steve Bell of Lake Watch at 803-730-8121.** For those without Internet access, please leave a message on the BDFCA message machine (304-5100) and we will get you the information.

Please spread the word. Please don't hesitate to contact me for any further clarification on this important matter. The time lines are drawing near for the actual decision-making on the water level management policy. **Remember, the policy will have longterm economic, environmental, and recreational effects on our community.**

The next class of the **Richland County Sheriff's Department Citizens Academy** will start on May 26. For more information, please visit [www.rcsd.net/prog/citizenacademy.htm](http://www.rcsd.net/prog/citizenacademy.htm)

Kem and Janis Dempsey would like to thank all those who have sent prayers and offered support after the recent loss of their daughter, Holly Grace.

Suggestions, comments, and input for our website are always welcome.

**Let's enjoy the Spring/Summer!**

Thank you,  
Ken Tallman  
BDFCA President