

Geneva Lake Guardian



GENEVA LAKE ASSOCIATION
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FALL 2014

Our mission is to enhance the conservation, preservation, environmental integrity and general welfare of Geneva Lake with timely and issue-centered communications and education through a wide membership base of area residents and local businesses.

OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE GENEVA LAKE ASSC., INC. • PROTECTING GENEVA LAKE SINCE 1935

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Fire Boat Project: Mission Accomplished!

Fire boat to be delivered to Linn Township November 4th

The Geneva Lake Association Fire Boat Project, proposed in August of 2013 by then President Jim Gee, and assigned to Project Committee Chair Dianna Colman, is now complete. The fire boat will be delivered to the Linn Township Fire Department in November, thanks to the fundraising efforts headed by the GLA.

Gee proposed the venture after experiencing a neighbor's fire and talking to the Linn Fire Department about the difficulty of getting water to many of the homes both on and near the lake.

Fighting fire with water is obvious, and the lake is full of water; what is not so obvious is the fact that it is hard to get the water from the lake into a fire truck.

That's where the fire boat comes in. A fire boat, such as the one designed for the Linn Fire Department, can push water from the lake at a rated 1500 gallons per minute via its Darley pump, with no loss of pressure within its 1500 feet of hose, regardless of the elevation. That's equal to or better than what comes out of a hydrant. A fire truck, on the other hand is ineffectual at sucking up water at any elevation more than 18-20 feet.

The fire boat, therefore, is a mobile hydrant which can be used to either fill fire department tankers or feed fire trucks directly with an unlimited (almost) supply of water.

Linn Township covers over 60% of the Geneva shore line, and has no fire hydrants. While other municipalities around the lake do have hydrants, all the fire departments, including Elkhorn, enthusiastically supported this project. And Linn FD has invited all the departments to train on the use of the boat.

Linn's training will begin this fall, soon after the

delivery of the boat November 4. Linn FD Assistant Chief Pete Jones has been named 'Boat Chief,' responsible for coordinating and managing the training and use of the boat. Once Linn has trained this fall and again in the spring under the direction of the boat's builder, Lake Assault, Linn will train the other community firefighters.

As is the case in any fire, all area departments are ready to help as needed. Linn will be ready to have personnel on the boat at any time to assist with fires anywhere on the lake.

Boat Chief Jones plans to keep the boat ready for all emergencies, and, as the boat has EMS capability and room for medical backboards, Linn will have a licensed medical EMT or First Responder on the boat on all calls.

In addition to emergency operations, Linn FD Chief Jason Smith and Assistant Chief Dan Pitt plan to provide assistance at all fireworks events when requested and as practical.

None of this would have been possible without the generous donations of over 130 families and associations in the Geneva Lake area. And while they will remain substantially anonymous, all will receive special invitation, along with the public notice, to a christening of the boat during the summer of 2015, yet to be planned.

Meanwhile, watch for the boat during its training exercises this fall or next spring, and when it is on patrol. If you are doing a drive by next spring, check out the mooring at the foot of Shadow Lane (west of the South Shore Club) in Linn Township. The pier for the boat has been donated by local homeowners, and the electric powered hydraulic boat lift too is purchased with funds raised by the GLA and the Linn FD.



The 32 foot Linn Township Fire Boat, under construction on October 10, with its twin Mercury 250 h.p. engines. The sides will be lettered 'LINN FIRE.'

Welcome, new members

The GLA welcomes the following new or returning members. We appreciate your support.

Residential

Stuart Bagni
 Barbara Bonziger
 JoAnne Fontanini
 Pat and Tammy Frazier
 Thomas and Gail Hibbard
 Jamie and Jean Holden
 Bret and Angie Kimes
 Lombardo Family
 Vern Magee
 Scott and Gretchen Matzelle
 Becky Merwin
 Doug Powell
 John and Barbara Salyer
 Mary Schwinn
 Frank and Kisa Sottrel
 Greg and Laurie Trapani
 Dale and Sue Vavra

Am I a current member?

GLA members are encouraged to renew their memberships on an annual basis to receive the *Directory* and to be listed in the *Directory* as members. See the note under your mailing label to determine if your membership is current.

No-Wake buoys aligned

Congratulations to the Lake Geneva Water Safety Patrol, the Geneva Lake Law Enforcement Agency, area pier builders, lakeshore residents and associations, and DNR Warden Gomez, for working together to achieve more sensible and uniform placement of Slow No Wake buoys around the perimeter of Geneva Lake. Regulations regarding the location of these markers make sense, and proper placement improves boating and boating safety for everyone on the lake.

Let's see the stars again!

Geneva Lake Dark Sky Initiative

by Colin Griffith

If you ask them about it, many of Lake Geneva's visitors and residents fondly remember the splendor of the Lake area's vibrant nighttime sky. At one time not too long ago, on any warm summer evening, you could gaze upward and see shooting stars streaking across the heavens or the dense with stars rim of the Milky Way.

Unfortunately, due to area light pollution, the beautiful night sky above Lake Geneva is gradually becoming less and less visible. Given this, we need to ask ourselves, "What if we could see the stars again?"

The Geneva Lake Dark Sky Initiative is a broad-based community group movement committed to seeing the stars again by promoting sustainable and intelligent light sources in the Geneva Lake area. The GLDI passionately believes through responsible, cost-effective actions we will once again clearly see what the night sky over Lake Geneva offers.

Lake Residents and Organizations Working Together

Made up of committed individuals and in local partnership with the Geneva Lake Association, Environmental Education Foundation, Geneva Lake Conservancy, Yerkes Observatory as well as the International Dark-Sky Association, the GLDI is working towards making the Geneva Lake area night skies more beautiful. Lake residents are an essential part of the Geneva Lake Dark-Sky Initiative and crucial to its ultimate success. This is why the Geneva Lake Association is among the committed GLDI supporters.

Intelligent Lighting

More energy efficient and responsible lighting is the key to returning Lake Geneva's sky back to the wonderful attraction it is. The first step for the GLDI will be to identify lights that contribute glare and obscure seeing the night sky. With the current lighting technology readily available, aka Intelligent Lighting, it will be relatively easy to solve the glaring light situation. Much of this lighting can be easily and inexpensively transformed into intelligent lighting.

By "intelligent lighting" we mean lighting solutions that illuminate with intent. In addition to regaining a beautiful night sky, intelligent, purposeful lighting provides other tangible benefits including nighttime home and personal safety and security while providing energy cost savings.

Easy, Sensible Solutions

We would like to work towards light-

ing solutions that shine down with purpose, not in all directions. Many lights do not illuminate what they were intended to, and end up shooting unabated light into the sky. Simply put, improperly directed light sources create glare and impede visibility. Shielding a light with a barrier is one of many inexpensive and easy solutions to this problem.

Additionally, many lights could be placed on simple timers, remaining on only at times when illumination is actually needed. Motion-sensing light activators are also a cost effective and practical way to provide illumination only when it is absolutely necessary.

Historic Night Sky Viewing

The Lake Geneva area is the proud home of Yerkes Observatory. The 1897 Yerkes Observatory is the largest refracting telescope in the world. This historic landmark still conducts astronomical research. Astronomer Edwin Hubble studied at Yerkes and received his PhD there. Albert Einstein came all the way to Geneva Lake to view the vibrant tapestry of stars from Yerkes. Wouldn't it be great to once again see what Hubble and Einstein made a special trip to the Midwest to experience?

Restore and See the Stars Again

The Geneva Lake Dark Sky Initiative is just beginning to take shape. Look us up at gldarksky.org. We are excited to work side-by-side with residents and community organizations to restore the remarkable night sky above the Geneva Lake area and see the stars again!

[Colin Griffith is a sophomore at Colorado College studying Environmental Policy. He is a fourth generation Geneva Lake summertime resident. He decided to start the Geneva Lake Dark Sky Initiative because he saw an opportunity to make a difference with others and to give back to a place everyone loves.]

Pier side curtains questioned by DNR

In order to find facts on the situation, GLA President Jack Goggin will meet soon with a DNR representative who has been objecting to the use of side curtains on some boat slips and boat lifts around the lake. The GLA is concerned about interpretation and selective enforcement by DNR when municipalities that have ordinances treat the issue benignly.

EEF honors scholars, elects directors, officers

The Environmental Education Foundation honored its 2014 scholarship winners and elected directors and officers at the annual meeting of the Geneva Lake Association (GLA) last summer.

2014 scholarship winners

Carly Swatek, a 2005 graduate of Badger High School, received a \$1000 graduate scholarship from EEF. She is attending UW-Stevens Point and studying Natural Resource Management.

The \$8,000 2014 Thomas E. Reynolds Scholarship (payable at \$2,000 per year), was awarded to Paige Stork of Lake Geneva, who graduated from Badger High School and will attend the University of Vermont, majoring in environmental engineering.

The 2014 EEF High School Senior Scholarships of \$2,500 each were awarded to Shanell Judeth Budleski of Williams Bay, who graduated from Williams Bay HS, and will be attending UW-Stevens Point majoring in Wildlife Ecology; John Nicholas Merry of Lake Geneva, graduate of Badger High School, who will attend UW-Stevens Point, majoring in Natural Resource, Forestry, Geo-Science and Hydrology; and Kaitland R. Woekly of Fontana, who graduated from Big Foot HS and will attend UW-Madison, majoring in Biology.

A Willard Gross Natural Resource Careers Workshop Scholarship of \$175 was awarded to Naomi Fredrick of Williams Bay HS.

Celebrating 35 years

The year 2015 will mark EEF's 35th year of providing scholarships and grants to Geneva Lake area students and schools for study of environmental subjects. The organization also supports advancement of community environmental awareness.

EEF is a not-for-profit founda-



Ted Peters, EEF Ex-Officio board; scholarship winners **Paige Stork, Lake Geneva;** **John Nicholas Merry, Lake Geneva;** **Shanell Judeth Budleski, Williams Bay;** and **Carly Swatek, Lake Geneva;** **Terry Quinn, outgoing EEF President;** and **Tom Reynolds Jr., outgoing EEF VP.** (not pictured, scholarship winner **Kaitland R. Woekly, Fontana**)

tion, affiliated with the Geneva Lake Association, and supported by community donations. As an all-volunteer organization, all funds donated go directly to scholarships and grants to local students and schools.

Board, Officers elected

Officers of the EEF for 2014-15 announced at the GLA meeting were Chuck Ebeling, President; Jim Voss, VP; Cindy Rademaker, Secretary; and Gwen Clausius, Treasurer.

New Board members announced were Bill Duncan and Lynn Ketterhagen. Outgoing Board members honored were Terry Quinn, President; Tom Reynolds Jr, VP; and Jim Gebhardt.

Jim Gee, outgoing GLA President and ex-officio member of the EEF Board is replaced by John Goggin, incoming GLA President. Tom Reynolds, Jr. and Terry Quinn continue as ex-officio members of the board's executive committee.

Applying for Scholarships or Grants

The EEF maintains an informative web site at www.envedfnd.org as well as a FaceBook page under Environmental Education Foundation. The phone is 262-203-7108.

The website includes descriptions of the funding that is available, as well as download-able application forms. The application deadlines are varied, so applicants are encouraged to browse through the programs and applications to avoid missing out on the opportunities which are offered, deadlines for some of which are in April.

Donors Welcome

Contributions to the Environmental Education Foundation, Inc. are deductible for income tax purposes, and can be mailed to EEF, P. O. Box 244, Fontana, WI 53125.

GLA Membership Application/Renewal Form

All persons interested in enhancing the conservation, preservation, environmental integrity and general welfare of Geneva Lake and its surrounding area are welcome as members. The tax deductible contributions requested of members are as follows:

MEMBERSHIP CATEGORY:

- \$ _____ **Regular Membership**
Annual Contribution \$30
- \$ _____ **Sustaining Membership**
All members who so elect,
Annual Contribution \$50
- \$ _____ **Contributing Membership**
All members who so elect,
Annual Contribution \$100
- \$ _____ **Donor Membership**
All members who so elect,
Annual Contribution \$150
- \$ _____ **Benefactor Membership**
All members who so elect,
Annual Contribution \$250 or more
- \$ _____ **Commercial Membership**
Annual Contribution \$75 or more

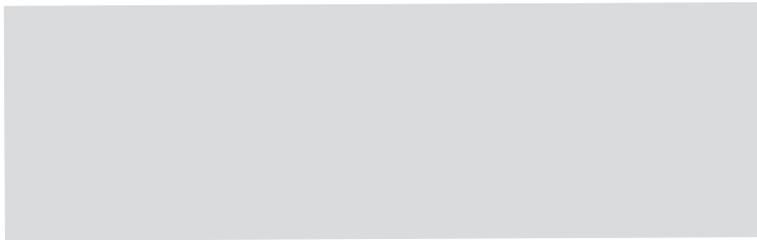
All Contributions are Tax Deductible

Am I a current member?

Just check your address on this publication (below). The status of your membership in the GLA is noted in the line above your name.



Check your label to see the status of your membership!



Name(s) _____

(as you want to be listed in the Directory)

Check here to use the data that is on file and or...

E-Mail Address _____

Mailing Address _____

(for all mailings) _____

Phone _____

Geneva Area Address _____

(if not the same) _____

Pier Number _____ (if none, use LG, F, WB, WAL, etc)

Subdivision or Association (If any) _____

Estate Name (ex. "Our House") _____

Phone _____

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