



GENEVA LAKE ASSOCIATION
P.O. Box 412
Lake Geneva, WI 53147
262-203-7108
GlaOffice@aol.com
www.genevalakeassoc.org

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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Membership Cmte completes *Directory* review

Pier number listings updated

by David B. Williams
Chairman, GLA Membership Committee

The Geneva Lake Association *Directory*, formerly the *Directory of Members*, and renamed starting in 2012, has published a Pier Number List of Members and Property Owners, and an alphabetical list of members and area non-members for many years, such lists making up more than one-half of the booklet's content.

Responsibility for managing the accuracy of the lists, taking into account annual sales or transfers of lakefront property, deaths of property owners, subdivision of lakefront real estate, and changes in the membership rolls has been largely provided by the Executive Secretary of the Geneva Lake Association. In 2010, the Membership Committee took on the task of a comprehensive review to the pier list in order to update the information and provide a more accurate listing.

At the same time, the Board of Directors determined to discontinue mailing copies of the *Directory* to non-members of the GLA, and the committee has undertaken an effort to obtain new members from the resident non-members listing and from non-lakefront property owners and residents

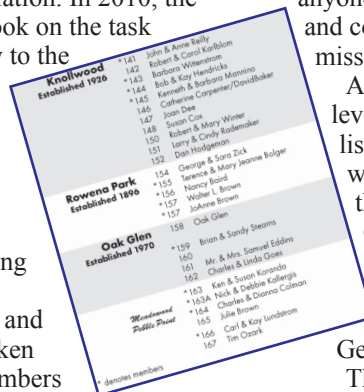
who are interested in the mission of the GLA.

The pier list review has basically been completed with preliminary results published in the 2011 *Directory of Members* and further results to be contained in the 2012 *Directory*. Kudos to Don Taylor and Sally Jouris! This effort, of course, will be ongoing, and, in this regard, notice of needed changes, additions, corrections, comments and suggestions are requested from all and can be forwarded to the Executive Secretary or any member of the Membership Committee.

A new wrinkle has been added to membership development. To correct a possible misconception, it is not necessary that membership be limited to lakefront property owners; membership in GLA is open to anyone interested in promoting the general welfare and conservation of the Geneva Lake region, or the mission of GLA.

All members, and corresponding contribution levels, are listed in the *Directory* both in the pier listing and in the alphabetical listing; members without lakefront property or piers are listed in the community of residence, i.e. LG for Lake Geneva, or at the municipal piers for Williams Bay, Fontana, and Linn Township, or at subdivision piers, such as Cedar Point Park, Buena Vista, Country Club Estates, Lake Geneva Club, Linnwood, and Loramoor.

The 2012 *Directory* will go to print in May, and any input, or new/ renewed memberships are welcome now.



Host of the 2011 ACBS International Boat Show, Geneva Lake was touted as the 'Jewel of the Midwest' (see page 3)

Arsenic and deep wells

[Many of us test our wells regularly, but since those tests don't always check for arsenic, we asked GLEA Director Peters to give us some pertinent information.]

by Ted Peters

Geneva Lake Environmental Agency

In 2001, groundwater research on Geneva Lake's north shore found elevated arsenic levels in several deep drinking water wells. Additional research by the Wisconsin Geological and Natural History Survey found the arsenic to be a result of natural processes in the deep (200 ft.) rock formation.

Wells whose water supply was from the deep formation had higher arsenic levels than wells whose water was from the shallower sand and gravel aquifer.

In an attempt to better understand the distribution of the high arsenic the GLEA and Linn Sanitary District initiated a well testing program in 2011. While arsenic is not typically tested for in traditional well water testing, because of the history of arsenic in the Geneva Lake area the Wisconsin State Lab of Hygiene was asked to include it in the water analysis.

Of the 59 wells tested under the 2011 testing program, 18 wells had arsenic present with seven substantially exceeding the drinking water standard of 10 micrograms per litre. This compares with a 2002 testing in which 66 out of 76 well had arsenic presence but only 10 had

levels that exceeded the drinking water standard. The one thing that both testings had in common is that the wells with high arsenic were deep wells.

Arsenic is a heavy metal that is odorless and tasteless. Arsenic has been found to cause numerous illnesses such as nausea, diarrhea, numbness, paralysis and blindness. People who, over their lifetime, consistently consume water containing 10 micrograms per litre of arsenic have much higher probability of developing bladder or lung cancer.

There are several treatment processes that can reduce arsenic levels in private wells. The most popular is a reverse osmosis process that looks similar to a water softener. To find the treatment best fit for your personal water supply, contact your local

water treatment specialist. The best way to absolutely lower the concentration of arsenic in your drinking water is to drill a new well into an aquifer that doesn't have the arsenic problem.

For more info on arsenic and drinking water visit the following web pages:

- <http://www.epa.gov/ogwdw/arsenic>
- <http://dnr.wi.gov/org/water/dwg/arsenic/>

For questions on the local Geneva Lake environment, contact GLEA at 262-245-4532. If you are interested in having your well tested for arsenic, contact a professional lab and discuss the matter with them. It is important that they know you are testing for arsenic and that you have the proper type of bottle for testing.

Contract preserves future of KNC

A conservation easement agreement between the Village of Williams Bay and the Geneva Lake Conservancy will protect the 215 acres of natural lands in the Kishwaukee Nature Conservancy into the future.

Among the terms of the 165 page document, the Village retains ownership of the land, but if it is ever sold, it must be sold as a single parcel, and all the trails must be maintained, and the property must be maintained according to DNR best land conservation practices.

KNC is prohibited from building new structures on the land, but may replace or repair existing structures or walkways. KNC kept a small parcel out of the agreement for a possible future information center.

Member email drive continues

Acting on its mission of 'timely and issue-centered communication' as a major purpose of the Association, the GLA continues to solicit member email addresses via its membership application/renewal form.

We thank those of you who have included your email address with your renewal, as well as current members who have sent a short email to us with your address.

We renew our pledge to use your information only to alert you in a timely manner of issues that may be of importance to you, and for no other purpose than GLA business.

Am I a current member?

GLA members are encouraged to maintain their memberships on an annual basis to receive the *Directory* and to be listed in the *Directory* as members. Just check your address label on this publication. Above your name you should see three pieces of information. The first is the classification of 'current' or 'noncurrent.' The second is your membership category, indicating your past or current level of participation, such as 'regular' or 'sustaining,' etc., the third is your last date of payment. Members who have paid membership contributions within twelve months of May 1, 2012 are eligible to receive the 2012 GLA *Directory*.

The GLA has annually supported the hiring of a summer intern to work with Geneva Lake Environmental Agency. In 2012 the agency will be looking for a college student trained in invertebrate identification to discern the effects of zebra mussels in the lake on its bottom critters, such as the biodiversity and numbers of bottom dwelling organisms.

Area Garden Clubs promote conservation

Congratulations to the Lake Geneva Garden Club for receiving the 2011 Geneva Lake Conservancy Stewardship Award on Dec. 3, at the annual Holly Ball. The club was recognized for nearly 100 years of beautification and conservation projects all around the lake, as well as for substantial grants in support of everything from rain gardens, shore land erosion remediation, native plantings, historic preservation and beautification projects. The Kishwaukee Nature

Conservancy, Linn Park, Geneva Lake Conservancy, Horticulture Hall, and many others have benefitted from their efforts or financial largess.

On the other end of the lake, the Fontana Garden Club is growing in its environmental impact as well, including its philanthropy outreach. This fall the club made substantial donations to the Geneva Lake Conservancy, Kishwaukee, and other local area organizations deemed worthy of the club's support.

Int'l boat show hosted on Geneva Lake

It comes as no surprise to those of us receiving this newsletter that Geneva Lake would be called the "Jewel of the Midwest," a distinction no less impressive because it came from long time resident and classic boat enthusiast Larry Larkin.

Larkin was the keynote speaker for the 2011 Antique and Classic Boat Society Boat Show hosted on Geneva Lake in Fontana. But the 'jewel' metaphor was not lost on our visitors.

Kurt Rothe, editor of the *Sheerline*, ACBS Sunnyland Chapter, wrote: "Geneva Lake is unique with [its] beautiful white piers and equally unique pier numbering created by the seventy-six year old Geneva Lake Association." And "Geneva Lake is rich

in history, especially beginning in the later 19th century and continuing into the early 20th century. "The Lake has many 'turn of the century' launches motoring its cold clear waters. There is even a US Mail Boat that delivers mail to the summer residents..."

ACBS visitors enjoyed the Music by the Lake Singers at the Ferro Pavilion at George Williams College, plus estate tours including the Griffith Estate, the Otzen Estate, and the Smith Estate.

The finale was held at the Dreihaus Estate, one of the most photographed homes in the United States. Members were ferried to and from the gala aboard some of the finest historic launches from yesteryear.

Water Safety Patrol busy in 2011 season

Water Safety Patrol boat crews responded to 21 emergency rescue calls during the 2011 summer season, most of which resulted in happy outcomes. In addition, Patrol lifeguards at the beaches recorded 11 pull-outs where swimmers needed to be rescued or assisted to shore. That number followed a record year in 2010 when there were 18 pull-outs recorded.

Sadly, there were two fatalities on the lake this past summer—one involving a young man who was swimming from his boat, and another involving an elderly woman who was



Patrol crew member keeps a careful watch as swimmers enter the water for the 2011 Lake Geneva Triathlon. Over 1200 participants competed, and the Patrol rescued 4 distressed swimmers during the event.

swimming from a private pier.

Aside from rescue calls, the Water Safety Patrol reported that the number of Boater Assistance calls remained very high for the second year in a row. These calls include: boaters in distress from mechanical problems—running out of fuel, dead batteries, swamped crafts, boat tows, capsized boats, ropes in propellers, and other general forms of assistance. The Patrol reported that it responded to hundreds of these types of situations throughout the summer.

The Patrol, a private, non-profit organization, just completed its 91st year of service on Geneva Lake. The group employs a staff of 80 people during the summer months, and runs a fleet of six boats for rescue and assistance on the lake. The Patrol also provides Lifeguard services for thirteen public and private beaches, and offers educational programs which include Boat Safety Classes and Swimming Lessons.

The Patrol's existence relies on private donations, and appreciates the support of the GLA and its members. Check out their web site at www.watersafetypatrol.org.

Welcome, new members

The GLA welcomes the following new members. We appreciate your support. You will be listed as members in the 2012 *Directory*. Thanks for your support!

Residential

Adam Adams
 Helen Bjorkman
 Ruth Ann Campbell
 Fairbank & Lynn Carpenter
 Jon & Patty Clare
 Marsha Enquist
 Michael & Jacky Ferro
 William B. Fischer
 Greg & Jane Fletcher
 John & Joan Hastings
 Donald & Marilyn Hedberg
 Rolf Hempel
 Mary & Peter King
 Robert J. Kirkland
 John & Halina Marra
 Edward A. & Mary J. McCarthy
 David & Sarah McConnell
 Scott & Kristy Miller
 Gerald & Cathy Millsap
 Robert & Patricia Moore
 Rick & Janie Nunemaker
 Hugh & Joan Plunkett
 Peggy L. Pollit
 David A. Rasmussen
 Lawrence & Sally Rayner
 Dean & Mary Schraufnagel
 Beth Shodeen
 Toby & Shari Steivang
 Tom & Sharon Streit
 Patrick & Carol Swed
 Scott & Michelle Voris

Commercial

Bay Colony South
 Interstate Insurance
 Patrick W. Romanesko, S.C.
 Sybil Lane Association

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

Name _____

E-Mail Address _____

Mailing Address _____

(for all mailings) _____

Phone _____

Geneva Area Address _____

(if not the same) _____

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

Subdivision or Association (If any) _____

Estate Name (ex. "Rock Haven") _____

Phone _____

Send Membership Form and check to
Geneva Lake Association, Inc. (GLA)
PO Box 412
Lake Geneva, WI 53147

All Contributions are Tax Deductible

Am I a current member?

Just check your address on this publication (below). Above your name you should see three pieces of information. The first is the classification of 'current' or 'noncurrent.' The second is your membership category, indicating your past or current level of participation, such as 'regular' or 'sustaining,' etc., the third is your last date of payment. Current members are eligible to receive the GLA Directory.



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