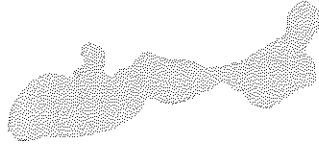


# Geneva Lake Guardian



GENEVA LAKE ASSOCIATION

P.O. Box 412

Lake Geneva, WI 53147

Phone 262/248-6184 • glguardian@yahoo.com

www.genevalakeassoc.org

Spring 2010

The Association is dedicated to Conservation, Ecological Preservation and Education, and the General Welfare of the Geneva Lake Area.

QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER OF GENEVA LAKE ASSOCIATION, INC. • PROTECTING GENEVA LAKE SINCE 1935

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## ASSOCIATION FORMED BY LAKE REGION GROUP CALLED GENEVA LAKE PROPERTY OWNERS PROTECTIVE ASSOCIATION

This was the heading of the front page article (not the headline, which was an update on the milk strike) of the August 22, 1935 issue of the Lake Geneva Regional News. The association had just received on July 29, 1935 their Wisconsin registration as a non-profit corporation. The initial Board of Directors was as follows:

E.H. McCarty	H.L. Clark
R.W. Wakeley	Frank Schwinn
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The stated purpose of the association was the regulation, control and promotion of the property surrounding Geneva Lake. One of the first orders of business was to arrange for the Sheriff's office to commence regular patrols of the area around the lake. It has to be remembered that the area around Geneva Lake was a lot less densely populated than it is today, 75 years later. Most of the properties around the lake were of considerable size, and were predominately summer homes.

The association stated in an interview with the Regional News' staff that membership in the association was intended to be open to all people in the region, not just to those who owned land around the lake. The Regional News' editorial page lauded the organizers of the association, stating this was an idea that was long in coming and certainly welcome, since there was no sense of organization to police or fire protection around the most valuable resource in the area, Geneva Lake. Thus was born what is today known as the Geneva Lake Association.

Lest you think the association was the only newsworthy event of 1935 in Lake Geneva, here are a few of the featured articles and/or headlines of 75 years ago:

*Mayor Dunn's office at the coal company was burglarized in January. This was pertinent since the Regional News editorial page stated the need for a City Hall in Lake Geneva.*

*Editorials throughout the year questioned how the city could attract visitors, especially in the winter.*

*Pot roast or beef at the National sold for 7 1/2c per pound, with ground beef selling for 8 1/2c per pound.*

*A subscription to the Regional News was \$2.00 per year or 5c per copy.*

*The big news in January was preparation for FDR's 53rd birthday celebration on January 30th.*

*The Lake Geneva Films Council approved the showing of "One Night of Love".*

*Corbett's grocery installed a new refrigerator.*

*Walworth County refused to contribute \$10,000 to finance the County Fair. The editorial board felt this was the end of the fair in the county. In March, the county relented and contributed \$6,000.*

*Lake Geneva elections in the Spring showed no contests—all candidates ran unopposed.*

*From April to August, the big news was the paving of Main and Broad Streets.*

*A new Ford V8 coupe sold for \$495, while the all-steel Hudson & Terrapin sold for \$585 and up.*

*Williams Bay voted to go "wet" 196-161, thus allowing the sale of alcoholic beverages.*

*The regional Marble Tournament was held June 23-25 on the Lake Geneva beach.*

*Williams Bay was notified in May that U.S. government mail service would start in the village.*

*1.5 million walleyed pike were dumped in the lake from the state hatchery in Burlington.*

*Lake Geneva Fire Chief Foster urged better equipment for rural(farm) fires..city was equipped for city fires, not rural fires.*

*The College Camp of Lake Geneva celebrated its 50th anniversary.*

*A new comet was observed at Yerkes, the Van Biesbroeck Comet, named after Dr. George Van Biesbroeck.*

*Carp traps were set in Delavan Lake.*



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## FIRE PROTECTION IN THE LAKE GENEVA AREA

Spring is on the horizon, and many of our members who do not live in the area during the winter months will be returning to their Lake Geneva homes in preparation for the "lake season". The past year has seen a horrific fire on the north shore of Linn township which demonstrated the need for quick response from our fire protection departments that serve residents in the periphery of the lake proper. Since the mentioned fire last year, hardly a week has gone by without an article in the Regional News commenting on the progress, or lack thereof, of talks among the various fire protection agencies about cooperating in ensuring quick response to areas such as the north shore which has no station of its own.

Whether all the parties eventually agree on a new station or continuation of the status quo, property owners are reminded that they have the responsibility to ensure the access to their property is properly maintained so that emergency vehicles can quickly and safely respond to any emergency. We wish to make the following points about maintaining property:

- The driveway and entrance should be clear of any and all obstacles. In addition to required snow removal during the winter, owners should make sure that there are no tree branches, bushes, or any other obstacles that could possibly inhibit or obstruct an emergency vehicle, be it fire truck or ambulance, responding to your property.
- In the event you have a private drive with a gate, or a personal residence with an alarm system, you should consider purchasing a Knox Box Rapid Entry System. A Knox Box will enable the Fire Department to rapidly and securely access your locked home when a fire alarm or other emergency call has been sent. Your local fire department can

give you information on how to purchase this low cost equipment.

- The city, village, and township fire departments serving the Geneva Lake area continue to investigate the acquisition of a suitable fire boat that can respond to a lake shore home fire and pump water from the lake to a structure near the shore line. Although funds are extremely difficult to obtain in this recessionary environment, the obvious necessity of having equipment capable of responding to lake shore homes is a given.
- All members of the GLA should know that Linn Township has terminated a long and historically successful agreement with the Lake Geneva Fire Department and have entered into a new agreement with the Williams Bay Fire Department to respond to specific areas of the township on the north shore of Linn. Although there are financial advantages to the new agreement, there is significant controversy concerning the decision to have the Williams Bay Fire Department, an excellent but volunteer group, respond to fire and emergency calls to properties in north Linn Township that are in fact much closer to the Lake Geneva Fire Department. In light of the fact that many fires can double in size in five short minutes, and rescue calls often involve such critical minutes, many citizens and emergency services' personnel believe that response time alone should be the determining factor when making the decision to dispatch emergency equipment.

Rest assured that the GLA will continue to monitor the emergency services' agreements around the lake and make every effort to keep our members informed.

## MEMBER DIRECTORIES

The annual member directory will be distributed in early June. We are waiting a bit longer this year to mail the directories in order to avoid missing some members who return to the lake region around Memorial Day. Last year, quite a few directories were mailed to summer addresses and arrived before the member, resulting in returned mail and delays in the receipt of their directories.

As a reminder, in 2010 only current members of the Geneva Lake Association will receive the directory. This change was sent in a letter last autumn to all members who, according to our records, were not current in their donations. Current membership for directory purposes is defined as paid between January 1, 2009, and the date of issue of the directory.

## PAINT CHIPS IN GENEVA LAKE

An interesting topic was raised in the March 11th issue "WHAT'S HAPPENING IN LINN?" section of The Lake Geneva Regional News. The article describes concern of local fishing guide John Trossen, who said, "...he routinely witnessed hundreds of piers being sanded and pressure-washed each year on Geneva Lake...and every time, those paint chips are falling into the water." Trossen spoke at the Linn Town Board meeting, and was told by Supervisor Mike Palmer, "...part of the problem is there hasn't been a study on it that says (paint chips) are harmful." Trossen asked if paint chips could be considered littering. Palmer explained that the GLEA (Geneva Lake Environmental Agency) cannot issue citations.

After some discussion, Town Attorney David Schiltz said he will research whether dumping paint chips could be considered as a littering violation. Supervisor Palmer said,

"Personally, I think we should be talking about paint chips in the lake."

The Lake-Link web page ([www.lake-link.com](http://www.lake-link.com)) has a posting from Jory Simmons (Monasark Guide Service), who states that efforts have been made in the past to get more people involved in this issue. Another posting from 2008 on this website is from Jason Roberts, the local warden in Walworth County, who stated that he contacted newspapers asking them to print something about this. He wrote that the pier paint used today technically doesn't pose any significant environmental concern, but did not address the topic of paint chips in sediment and fish, such as Northern Pike which are bottom feeders, consuming and being harmed by them. Another point to consider is the desirability of toddlers playing at the shoreline who might ingest chips that have

CONTINUED ON PAGE 3

# MEMBERSHIP FORM

All persons interested in the conservation, preservation, environmental education and general welfare in the Geneva Lake Region are invited to become members. The contributions requested from members are as follows:

Regular Membership - Annual Contribution \$30.00

Sustaining Membership - All Members who so elect, Annual Contribution \$50.00

Contributing Membership - All Members who so elect, Annual Contribution \$100.00

Donor Membership - All Members who so elect, Annual Contribution \$150.00

Benefactor Membership - All Members who so elect, Annual Contribution \$250.00 or more

Commercial Membership - Annual Contribution \$60.00

Send Membership form to: GENEVA LAKE ASSOCIATION, INC. P.O. Box 412, Lake Geneva, WI 53147

APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP  OR RENEWAL   
(Please Print)

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Home Address \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Summer Address \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Pier # \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Business or Profession \_\_\_\_\_

Business Address \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Send Mail to: \_\_\_\_\_

Regular  Sustaining  Contributing

Donor  Benefactor  Commercial

All Contributions Are Tax Deductible

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## NEW MEMBERS

Since our last newsletter, we have the following new members of the Association

Frank & Debra Catalano

Dr. & Mrs. Clifford Poplar

John M. Tunney Williams Bay Muni

Edward & Cynthia Cox

John D. Simms, Jr.

James P. Walsh

### COMMERCIAL

Clear Water Salon & Day Spa Williams Bay

McCormack & Etten Architects Lake Geneva

### *Welcome!*

We intend to list all new members of the GLA in the newsletter. Membership automatically includes listing in the annual Directory due out in early June. We also welcome back some long-time members who have brought their donations up-to-date.

## GENEVA LAKE ASSOCIATION ANNUAL MEETING

The annual meeting of the GLA will be held on July 31, 2010, at the Lake Geneva Country Club.

The meeting begins at 9:00 and should last several hours. All members are invited to attend.

## CONTINUED FROM PAGE 2 PAINT CHIPS IN GENEVA LAKE

been washed up on to beaches. Even if the paint does not contain lead, choking or other harm could occur.

The U. S. Environmental Protection Agency estimates that more than half of all water pollution nationwide comes from nonpoint sources. Nonpoint water pollution cannot be connected to one specific source. It results from the everyday activities as opposed to "point" sources of water pollution, e.g., sewer pipes or industrial waste outlets. One nonpoint source, paint chips in sediment as a result of painting boats is referenced on many websites, but scraping and painting of piers is not specifically included. For boats, they recommend "capturing and filtering pollutants out of runoff water with permeable tarps, screens, and filter cloths." If this practice is recommended for boats, it stands to reason it's a good idea for piers. Perhaps further research would discover more information, but the "EPA National Organic Compound

Emission Standards for Architectural Coatings" does state that nonpoint pollutants include pigmented coatings, which the agency defines as... "containing finely ground soluble powder used to provide one or more of the following properties: color, corrosion inhibition...or fouling resistance." It continues with explanation of industrial maintenance coatings which include those exposed to one or more conditions, of which number four is pertinent: "Immersion in water or wastewater or chronic exposure of surfaces to moisture condensation."

The question of what happens to paint chips from piers when they are washed into the lake begs further investigation and discussion. In the spring, when you see your pier or any pier being scraped in preparation for painting, please be aware and question the current policy in the state of Wisconsin.

## CONTINUED FROM COVER ASSOCIATION FORMED BY LAKE REGION GROUP CALLED GENEVA LAKE PROPERTY OWNERS PROTECTIVE ASSOCIATION

*Taggart's Lumber Company burned-\$75,000 damage.*

*Sidney Smith of Andy Gump fame was killed in auto accident south of Harvard.*

*The Milk Co-op voted to buy the Borden Dairy plant.*

*The year ended with the discovery of a large still on a farm near Richmond.*

There were events elsewhere in the USA and the world in 1935. Here are some (hopefully) interesting ones:

*Tripoli and Cyrenaica merged into Libya.*

*Elvis Presley was born in Tupelo, Mississippi.*

*Amelia Earhart became first person, not just first woman, to fly solo from Hawaii to California.*

*Bruno Hauptmann was convicted of the kidnapping and murder of the Lindbergh baby.*

*Hitler announced that Germany was rearming in violation of the Versailles Treaty.*

*Persia was renamed Iran.*

*The infamous Dustbowl spread across the country, originating in New Mexico, Colorado, and western Oklahoma. Chicago experienced 109 degree weather.*

*Fibber McGee and Molly debuted on radio.*

*The New Deal created the WPA (Works Progress Administration).*

*T. E. Lawrence, better known as Lawrence of Arabia, died in a motorcycle accident.*

*The first night baseball game was held at Crosley Field in Cincinnati v. the Philadelphia Phillies.*

*Babe Ruth retired, playing his final game as a Boston Brave.*

*James Braddock (Cinderella Man) beat Max Baer in Madison Square Garden for the heavyweight championship.*

*The NLRA (National Labor Relations Act) became law.*

*Social Security Act became law. First payroll taxes began in 1937. First benefits went to widows. The first payment was in 1940 to Ida May Fuller of Ludlow, VT. She had paid a total of \$24.75 in payroll taxes and lived to be 100, collecting a total benefit of \$22,889. In 1940, a total of \$35 million was paid in benefits; in 2009, \$650 billion.*

*Will Rogers and Wiley Post were killed in a plane crash in Alaska.*

*Hoover Dam was dedicated-was known as Grand Coulee Dam.*

*Monopoly was released by Parker Bros.*

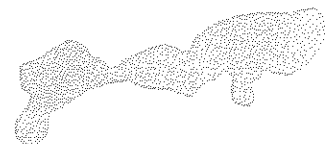
*"It Happened One Night" won for best picture of 1934.*

The source for the national/international headlines is Wikipedia.

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