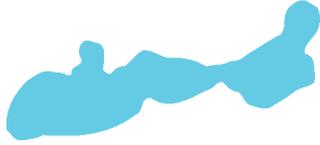


Geneva Lake Guardian



GENEVA LAKE ASSOCIATION
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Fall 2015

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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BMSC hosts community events, regatta

Barely finished, but ready for action

The new Buddy Melges Sailing Center, home of the Lake Geneva Yacht Club (1874) and the Geneva Lake Sailing School (1938), was an early host in 2015 to two community events as well as one of the largest sailing regattas in Geneva Lake history.

Fraught with bad weather for finishing construction, the facility was open just in time for Linn Township to christen its new fire boat on July 26.

The fire boat was purchased with funds raised by the Geneva Lake Association, and in appreciation the Linn Fire Department named the boat *Guardian*, the name of this GLA publication.

Jim Gee, Past President of GLA, and Director Dianna Colman were honored for their part in making the fire boat a reality. Gee had proposed the project to the GLA Board as President, and Colman accepted the chairmanship of the GLA ad hoc Fire Boat Fundraising Committee.

One week after the christening, on Sunday, August 3, the Environmental Education Foundation, an affiliate of the GLA, celebrated 35 years of providing scholarships to area students for environmental studies. Invited were current and past scholars along with the many donors who have supported the mission over the years. The EEF has provided over \$425,000 to area students in its 35 year history.

As these events occurred, the Yacht Club was immersed in planning for the biggest scow regatta in

its history. With just a few weeks of operational experience, the club welcomed 206 competing yachts and hundreds of sailors, race committee, friends and family to its facility under the umbrella of the Inland Lake Yachting Association (ILYA).

Success of the regatta was critical, as both the ILYA and the LGYC and their sponsors had committed to three years in a row for the event, with each succeeding event expected to be bigger and better.

Regatta dinner parties were planned for Friday and Saturday evenings, and originally dining limits of 450 were established by the planners. So much for original plans! Ultimately 700 or more people gathered on Friday night for a pig and chicken barbecue, and 600 of them had dinner tickets!

Amazingly, the 700 were comfortably accommodated with no crowding at all, finding suitable seatings in the tent, on the patio, on the upper deck, and at the bar. Saturday's more formal dinner served over 500.

Parking was limited on site, so remote parking was available via shuttles to and from Jerry's Majestic Marine off Maple Ridge Road.

Higher than average winds were both a blessing and a curse for the regatta, with some winds allowing for racing through the chop of numerous weekend boaters and spectators, but some winds exceeded the limits for the smaller craft. Twenty-three of the 30 scheduled races were completed in a most spectacular event.



Jim Gee, Past President of GLA, and Director Dianna Colman were given honorary fire helmets from the Linn Fire Department at the christening, July 26, in front of the Buddy Melges Sailing Center

Welcome, new members

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

Residential

Francis Beidler III
Tom Connon
John & Lor Ehlenbach
Sheila and Chris Faber
Dr. Bradley and Rebecca Fiderer
T. Freytag Family
Kevin and Dee Dee Goggin
John & Joan Hastings
Dave and Linda Hendrickson
Mark Henning and Robin Ross-Henning
Tom Myers
Charlene and Gene Needles
Bob Peck
Brian and Dana Porter
Paula and David Rogers
John and Dana Rolander
William and Susan Rolander
Geoffrey and Alison Wrigley Rusack
Savino Family
Antoinette Sottrell
Richard and Charlotte Thompson
Dan and Patty Walsh
Mark and Eva Walsh

Commercial

Clear Water Outdoor, LLC
Daddy Maxwell's
Nei-Turner Media Group

Am I a current member?

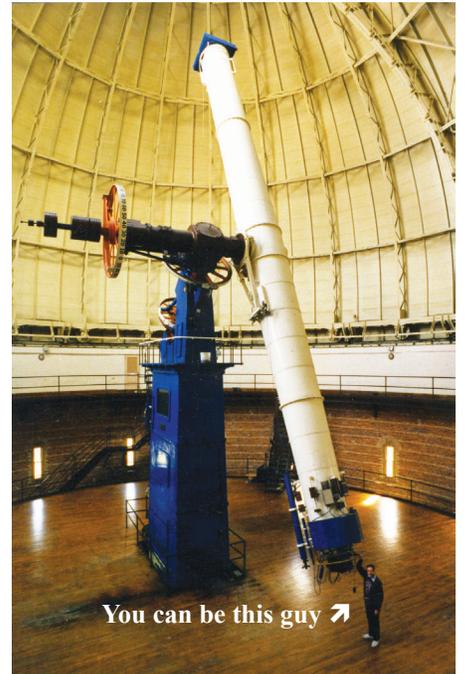
GLA members are encouraged to renew their memberships on an annual basis to receive the *Directory* and to be listed in the *Directory* as members. See the note under your mailing label to determine if your membership is current.

Yerkes' 40-inch refractor now available for public observing

Yerkes public tours have now been expanded to include observing through the world-famous Yerkes 40-inch refractor telescope, the largest of its type in the world. For a fee, public viewing sessions may be scheduled for private tours and private and corporate events.

The 40-inch telescope has recently been retrofitted with a new eyepiece and focuser expressly for this purpose. Visitors can now look through this historic instrument for the first time ever and see celestial objects in amazing detail and clarity. Visitors stand on the same 73-foot diameter elevator floor and look through the same telescope used by generations of Yerkes astronomers including Edwin Hubble and Carl Sagan, and visiting dignitaries like Albert Einstein. The 40-inch refractor observing program provides an unparalleled opportunity to observe with an historic astronomical marvel of the 19th century.

In response to the ever-growing demand for public viewing through Yerkes' large telescopes, the number of evening programs has also increased, enabling visitors to view with the 24-inch diameter reflecting (mirror-type) telescope as well. The nighttime programs are designed to teach visitors about the Observatory and telescope operations and the chance to view a wide variety of celestial objects including the Moon, planets, star clusters, galaxies and nebulae.



Public tours of the Observatory building and 40-inch refractor telescope have also been expanded to include weekday mornings and afternoons throughout the year. The tours staff also continues their long-standing tradition of hosting tours on Saturday mornings and early afternoons every month of the year.

For more information please contact Dan Koehler, Director of Tours and Special Programs, 262-245-5555, ext. 825, or at dkoehler@yerkes.uchicago.edu.

Yerkes and EEF join LG Dark Sky Initiative

Founded by summer resident and Colorado College undergrad Colin Griffith, the Geneva Lake Dark Sky Initiative has gathered momentum as several local organizations, including the Geneva Lake Association, the Environmental Education Foundation, and Yerkes Observatory, are supporting the initiative to improve dark skies in the Geneva Lake area.

One of the goals of the LG Dark Sky Initiative is to foster environmental education about light pollution through a focus in astronomy. Toward that end, Colin's summer efforts culminated in

one of the best-attended star parties on record at Yerkes. Nearly three hundred people came to learn about the problem and solutions of light pollution. Proceeds from that event have been reinvested to bring dark skies expert Dr. Connie Walker to Yerkes Observatory on November 21st for a workshop followed by a dark skies star party that evening. For more details contact Yerkes Education Outreach (YEO) at yerkesassist@starsa-yerkes.net.

The Environmental Education Foundation, a leader in providing scholarships

to area students in the field of environmental studies, recently agreed to manage a new scholarship under its auspices and funded by the Griffith family for five years. The EEF anticipates that the Griffith Dark Sky Scholarship will be available to graduating seniors from the local high schools. For more information on the environmental scholarships offered by the EEF, see the article on page 3 and their web site at envedfnd.org.

The GL Dark Sky Initiative has 501(c)(3) non-profit status as a chapter of the International Dark Sky (IDA).

EEF announces 2015 scholarship winners

At the GLA annual meeting last summer, the 2015 scholarship winners of the Environmental Education Foundation (EEF) were announced and introduced. These bright young students from Geneva Lake area schools became the 35th group of students supported with EEF scholarships, since the founding of the foundation in 1980.

The day after the annual meeting, more than 75 long-time supporters of the EEF gathered, along with this year's scholarship winners, to celebrate the organization's 35th anniversary, at a reception at the new Lake Geneva Yacht Club.

One highlight of the reception was the introduction of the \$2,500 Thomas Cashman Postgraduate Scholarship winner, Kelly Speare, who is attending the University of California for a Ph.D. degree. This scholarship was named in honor of Thomas J. Cashman, the first president of the EEF, who attended the event with his family.

The other 2015 EEF scholarship winners include: the \$10,000 four-year

Thomas E. Reynolds, Sr. Scholarship winner, Molly Cocroft of Badger High School, who is attending UW-Stevens Point; winners of the individual \$2500 High School Graduate Scholarships, Jack Sinclair and Joshua Kundert of Badger High School and Brooke Berryman of Big Foot High School; individual \$525 winners of the Willard Gross Natural Resource Career Workshop Scholarships, Wyatt Harris, Stephanie Jansen and Sabrina Flores, all of Williams Bay; and the new George Williams College Undergraduate Scholarship of \$2500 to James Oberholtzer of Badger High School.

Also announced were Charlotte Peterson Outdoor Education Grants of \$560 each to the following elementary schools: Fontana, Genoa City, Lake Geneva Middle, Reek, St. Francis De Sales, Traver, Walworth Middle, and Woods.

The EEF will be offering a record of more than \$30,000 in scholarships and school grants in the 2015-16 school year, including a new \$2,500 annual Dark



Tom Cashman, first EEF President poses with Kelly Speare, who won the newly named Cashman Postgraduate Scholarship

Sky Scholarship for a graduating local high school student studying dark sky conservation.

Historic sailboat replica to be launched on Geneva Lake in 2016

Sailboats have raced the length of Geneva Lake and back for the Sheridan Cup since commemorating the visit of General Sheridan to the lake in 1874.

Today, the Lake Geneva Yacht Club's "A Scow" fleet races for the Sheridan Trophy each year on a late August weekend. It's a sight to see.

In 1893 a "sandbagger," an extreme sailboat of the day, named *Tattler*, won the race. It was called a sandbagger be-

cause the crew moved bags of gravel to the windward side of the boat to help keep it upright. It was a sight to behold then.

In June of 2016, the Charles and Dianna Colman family will launch a somewhat modernized *Tattler II* in memory of its predecessor. The actual hull is 29 feet long, and 12 and a half feet wide. But from the front end of the bowsprit to the back end of the boom, under sail this gaff rigged boat spans 60 feet.

There are some hidden surprises in *Tattler II* to help her stay upright in addition to her eight or more crew members. Look to see her plying the waters of Geneva Lake this summer. And, who knows, *Tattler II* might just sail in the 2016 Sheridan Race along with the A Scows of the Lake Geneva Yacht Club.



Tattler II, a replica of the 1880's 'sandbaggers,' will launch on Geneva Lake in 2016

New shoreland zoning standards raise questions

On July 12, 2015, Governor Scott Walker signed the Biennial Budget Bill for the years 20156-2017 (Act 55). In part, it modifies statewide shoreland zoning provisions. Specifically, Act 55 changes the authority counties have in the development of shoreland zoning ordinances that are more restrictive than the shoreland zoning standards contained in Wis. NR 115, and it changed other shoreland zoning standards.

Counties and municipalities with more restrictive zoning standards are presently wrestling with how to both interpret and govern within the confines of Act 55 and NR 115. Note that the Act took effect on July 14, 2015, so you can expect to see lax enforcement while the counties and municipalities decide how they can act.

We have included online a memo from the DNR Shoreland Policy Coordinator which deals with striking change in the law: <http://genevalakeassoc.org/docs/Act55shorelandzoningmemo.pdf>

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.
A membership application is also found on the GLA website: www.genevalakeassoc.org

*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. "Heavenly Acres") _____

Phone _____

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