

# WAVES



## What is different about Lake Rabun?

**I**F YOU ARE like me, when the topic of Lake Rabun comes up in discussion with those who are unfamiliar with the lake, usually I will be asked the question, "What is different about Lake Rabun?". Also if you are like me, you begin to describe the lake and feel that your words are completely inadequate to sum up the Lake Rabun experience. My first trip to the Lake was in 1979 and I knew immediately that it was a special place. I loved the clear water, lake cottages, interesting boathouses and classic wooden boats found in this beautiful mountain setting. While I still appreciate all of this, the lake means so much more to me today.

I believe what distinguishes Lake Rabun is the sense of community. When I go the lake I feel like I am coming home because of the relationships built with you while recreating and breaking bread together. You are part of my family. The LRA has facilitated community

by providing a myriad of events over the years that let me get to know my neighbors. This summer will be no different as your officers and trustees have worked diligently over the winter to plan a full slate of activities that is sure to please young and old alike. From the Memorial Day member brunch, Tour of Homes, Fourth of July, Lakemont University, summer band party and more through to the After Thanksgiving Potluck, you will find numerous opportunities to reconnect with old friends and make new ones. You will also have a multitude of opportunities to volunteer your time and talents for the good of the LRA.

I strongly encourage everyone to get involved. Volunteering is a great way to expand your community and enrich your experience at Lake Rabun. So when you are asked, "What is different about Lake Rabun?", you will be ready with an enthusiastic reply!

Joe Mims, *President LRA*

### Lake Rabun Association Membership Directory Updates

Directory Updates will be available for pickup at the  
Memorial Day Meeting & Brunch on  
Sunday, May 27th

Please make plans to pick up your additions  
at the meeting!

Delivery to your neighbors  
will save the LRA unnecessary postage!





Photo by K.A. Hamdy-Swink

# Lake Rabun Foundation News

The Lake Rabun Foundation is in very good financial shape heading into the summer season...thanks primarily to your enthusiastic response to the Lake Rabun Foundation Annual Fund Drive. Thanks to your generosity, more than \$17,000 has been received. We have added a new scholarship this year – \$1,000/year for 2 years for a student to attend a technical school. We will still be awarding six scholarships to graduating college-bound students. Anne Pledger and Lyn Asbill are heading the selection committee this year.

We have re-organized the Foundation so that various committees can help with the workload of serving in the areas of scholarships, fire department, community grants, and fund raising. Our goal is to grow so we can do more for the needy and the needs of Rabun County.

As you review your estate plans, please remember to include the Lake Rabun Foundation in your Planned Giving arrangements. You can contact Jim Mathis, President of North Georgia Community Foundation, 770-535-5880 or LRA member Lisa Longino or Rick Asbill.

Buz Stone, *Director*

## Lake Rabun Gives Back



Photo by K.A. Hamdy-Swink

**Buz Stone (L) and Sandy O'Brien (R) with five of our Scholarship recipients at the 4th of July activities.**



Waves is a publication of the  
**The Lake Rabun Association**  
 P.O. Box 490  
 Lakemont, Georgia 30552

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 Michael Crowe (2)  
 Michael McGaughey (2)  
 Philip Dunklin (1)  
 Roger Harrison (1)  
 Yetty Arp (3)

( ) Years left to serve

Lake Rabun Foundation - Buz Stone  
 Steve Raebler

Lake Rabun Pavilion Fund - Rick Asbill

Lake Rabun Pavilion Operations –  
 Kirk Knous

Dear Buz Stone,

I am honored to have been chosen as a recipient of the Lake Rabun Fund Scholarship. Thank you for your generosity in funding this scholarship. Being a twin, this scholarship will greatly aid my family and me with paying for my education. Furthermore, I want to apologize for not being able to attend the Memorial Day Meeting.

I will be attending Georgia Tech and I will major in computer science. I plan to graduate and become a computer programmer. Receiving this scholarship, makes me one step closer to reaching my dreams.

Once again, I would like to thank you for offering the Lake Rabun Fund scholarship.

Sincerely,

*Viral Patel*

Viral Patel  
 707 Highway 441 South  
 Clayton, GA 30525  
 706-782-4269

Dear Lake Rabun Association Members,

Thank you so much for the scholarship you've given me. I hope to spend my years at the University of Georgia wisely and, one day, return to my community. I will remember your generosity toward me, and will emulate it when I return. Thank you for all your dedication as great community leaders.

Sincerely,  
*Cameron Howell*

Dear Members of Lake Rabun Assoc,  
 I am honored to have been chosen as a recipient of the Lake Rabun Scholarship. I will work hard to be a worthy recipient. Thank you for all who donate their time and money to make going to college a reality. Thank you again!

Sincerely,  
*Julianna*

**Letters from three of the Scholarship recipients from the Class of 2011. We are making a difference in the lives of the young people of Rabun County!**



# 2012 Lake Rabun *Tour of Homes*

The biennial Lake Rabun Tour of Homes is right around the corner and preparations are in full swing. This year the tour will take place from 10:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. on Saturday, June 16, Father's Day Weekend. As is tradition, the homes will be accessed by water, with pontoon boats transporting you from Hall's Boathouse to each of the five fantastic homes and returning you back to Hall's, all under the safe and courteous guidance of Admiral Mike Jones and his very capable group of boat captains and shipmates.

Your ticket price of \$45 per person will contribute to all the worthy activities supported by the Lake Rabun Foundation. You will also be receiving the first ever issue of *Lake Rabun Living Magazine*, containing information and photographs of the homes that will be toured. Thanks to their kindness and generosity, the following beautiful homes will be shared:

- Maria Guarisco
- Clara and Federico Lander
- Jane and Jack Head
- Julie and David Vickers
- Lennie and David Wilson

We hope everyone can participate and support this fun event. It is a unique opportunity to meet neighbors, see beautiful and historic homes on Lake Rabun and spend a day touring our wonderful lake.

Volunteers are still welcome and needed to assist in all areas, including boat transportation, docents for each of the homes and the many other functions that will help insure the tour runs smoothly. Please email Sherry Cohen, [scohen@postproperties.com](mailto:scohen@postproperties.com).

Stay tuned for further announcements related to online ticket sales.



Photo by K.A. Hamdy-Swink

## SPRING CLEANING?

Are you cleaning out your lake house this Spring or Summer? If so, please keep in mind that donations are being accepted for the 2013 Flea Market and Auction now. Any household items (no mattresses, appliances or clothing) are appreciated. Contact Michael Crowe (706-491-7720) for pickup and storage details.



## Lake Rabun Association **Boater Safety and Certification Class**

**Come Meet Cpl. Jesse Cook,  
our new Boating Safety Officer**

Date: **Saturday, June 9th**

Time: **9:00 a.m. and runs through Lunch**

Location: **Pavilion**

Food: **Yes.....catered by Louie's**

Who is teaching? **DNR**

Who is invited? **All Lake Rabun Boat Drivers and Future Boat Drivers**

What to bring? **Social Security Number for those taking the test**

The Boater Safety and Certification Class is a DNR-taught program covering a wide range of Boater Safety Topics. Children ages 12-15 are required by law to take (and pass) this class, but the topics covered are so important and far-reaching to overall Boating Safety that all ages are encouraged to attend. Those who attend will be fed and prizes will be given away to everyone. Stay as long as you can, but we hope you will stay for the whole class and become a **CERTIFIED LAKE RABUN SAFE BOATING CAPTAIN!**

Some, but not all, of the topics covered:

- Boater Safety Checklists
- Rules and Regulations of Boating
- General Rules of the Water
- DNR's involvement at Lake Rabun
- Deputy Program
- How you can become a better driver
- How we can make the lake safer

This class runs in conjunction with the LRA's hopes of educating our community on Safe Boating Practices and further ties us in with our friends at the DNR. They are very supportive of this initiative, and we, in turn, hope to show our support of the DNR with a large turnout to this event.

Think of it this way . . . if you attend this program you will get to know the folks at DNR. If somehow you are pulled over on the lake during the summer for some reason, you'll at least know the DNR-ticketing officer by name and maybe you can talk your way out of it.



Photo by K.A. Hamdy-Swink

## Lakemont Wiley Fire Department

The Lakemont Wiley Fire Department / Station 4 would like to welcome everyone back to Rabun County and Lake Rabun. Our community enjoyed a quiet 2011, with no major incidents on or around the lake.

Safety First! We remind you to replace smoke detector batteries and test for proper functioning or replace the unit if necessary. Inspect all your home fire extinguishers as well as the one required in your boat. LWFD will be happy to assist you in making your home safe for the summer.

Lakemont Wiley Fire Department has implemented a new volunteer program, Fire Corps. This is a national program that is designed to train additional volunteers as support staff in emergency situations as well as community functions. This program will be particularly beneficial during the summer months. We would like to welcome our new volunteers for Fire Corps: Mike Swink, Steve Wright and Bob Pledger. We appreciate these volunteers but always need additional personnel. Training will begin soon, so contact LWFD or Michael Crowe. This program will expand the reach of emergency safety personnel and the efficiency of our fire department.

LWFD Station 4 would like to acknowledge the generous contributions made by the LRA to repair the engine on the Lake Rabun Fireboat, housed at Hall's Boat House. Lakemont Marine did a great job getting the repairs completed and minimizing the down time of the fireboat. Additionally the LRA purchased radio equipment to keep the fireboat in communication with emergency teams on the ground.

Thanks again for your continued support and donations that help keep your families and homes protected.

***Support the Lakemont Wiley Fire Department.***

*Michael Crowe*



Photo by K.A. Hamdy-Swink

## Water Quality

### The Tallulah River Watershed Council

We have previously reported on activities of the Tallulah River Watershed Council, a group of local volunteers focused on various issues of interest and concern within the watershed. The Water Quality Task Force of the TRWC recently finished an extensive analysis of water quality issues throughout the watershed, complete with recommendations regarding new practices believed to be important in assuring that water quality remains at high levels for the foreseeable future.

The Task Force met with representatives of Georgia Power Company to discuss the recommendations, and is currently developing plans for funding and implementing the relevant portions of the overall recommendations. The TRWC's Communications Task Force is currently working to create a website for the TRWC, and the full report from the Water Quality Task Force will be one of the first items to be posted on the website. We will advise you of the status of the website development and availability of the water quality report in a future newsletter.

JULY 1ST AT DARK THE LRA PRESENTS:  
**THE SPECTACULAR, ONE AND ONLY:  
 LAKE RABUN FIREWORKS SHOW**



**"MAKE NO WAVES"**  
 ENJOY THE SHOW • LEAVING:  
 FOLLOW DNR BOAT • @NO-WAKE  
 SPEED • FIREBOAT BRINGS UP THE  
 REAR

THIS IMPORTANT MESSAGE BROUGHT TO YOU BY THE BOATED SAFETY  
 COMMITTEE OF THE LAKE RABUN ASSOCIATION. PLEASE STAY SAFE !!!

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 PHOTOGRAPHY & POSTER DESIGN CONCEPTS BY  
 K.A. HAMDY-SWINK & PETER WILSON

Photo by K.A. Hamdy-Swink



# 2012 Summer Events

*There are no less than 20 LRA-Sponsored events beginning Memorial Day Weekend and running through Labor Day! We have a variety of events to interest young and old alike.*

## May

Memorial Day weekend kicks off the summer season and our first **General Membership Meeting** begins Sunday, May 27 at 10:00 a.m. The Tallulah Gorge Grill will offer a fantastic Sunday light brunch including the requisite Mimosas for adults. This is a great kick-off event to see friends and meet new Lake Rabun Association members.

## June

There are more LRA activities this month than any other, starting with our annual **Lake Clean-Up Day** on June 8. Put on your old clothes and get messy so the lake will look great for the summer.

And don't miss the annual **Boater Safety & Certification Class** held at the Pavilion from 9:00 a.m.-12:00 on Saturday, June 9. This class is taught by the same DNR deputies who patrol our lake, so it's a great idea to get to know your DNR friends! The class is free and so is the pizza provided by Louie's. Children from the ages of 12 and above are able to take the short test (answers are covered during the class) and become "CERTIFIED" right on the spot!

The **Tour of Homes**, led this year by Sherry and Jeff Cohen, will take place Saturday, June 16. This every-other-year event takes a crew of many to pull off and there are some spectacular homes on the docket this year.

To top the evening off on the 16th, **Lakemont University** and **Bingo** will be held at the Pavilion...always a very-well attended and fun event.

**With July 4th falling on a Wednesday** this year all festivities celebrating our country's birth will be held between Friday, June 29 and Sunday, July 1. Topping off the weekend's jam-packed activities is the **LRA Golf Tournament** held at The Orchard Golf and Country Club with lunch and registration by 11:00 a.m.

The following morning (Saturday, June 30) the ever-growing **Rabun Ramble** 5k and 10k races will be held starting at the Pavilion at 7:00 a.m.

After enjoying the morning workout splurge on **BBQ** Saturday night at the Pavilion starting at 6:00 p.m. with our annual **Bluegrass Jam** with the *Foxfire Boys*.



Photo by K.A. Hamdy-Swink

## July

The **34<sup>th</sup> Annual Wooden Boat Parade** will start Sunday, July 1 at 11:00 a.m. at the Dam and this year's event will feature fabulous new additions to "the fleet." The weekend culminates Sunday evening with the **Fireworks Show** to beat all Fireworks Shows starting at dusk from the Earthen Dam.

The popular **Lakemont University** series continues under John King's leadership Saturday, July 14 at 5:00 p.m. at the Pavilion, followed by our second **Bingo** game night of the summer (7:00 p.m.).

The month caps off with the newest and wildest party to date...**Beach Party Night** with the *Dirk Howell Band* Saturday, July 21 at 6:00 p.m. The event last year, which included Willy's Mexican Food, is still being talked about as one of the most fun-filled events of last year.

## August

We slow down a bit in August to recover from the action-packed events of July with a continuation of the **Lakemont University** and **Bingo** night event held Saturday, August 11 at 5:00 p.m. at the Pavilion.

## September

Our final **General Membership meeting** will be held Sunday, September 2 at 10:00am.

That evening, there will be a new "**Dinner and Dancing**" night at the Pavilion starting at 7:00 p.m. Your Social Committee is working with a brand-new food vendor and musical entertainment as well. More details to follow as the event time draws near.

## November

The **Annual Post Thanksgiving Pot Luck Dinner** was held at Glen Ella Springs Hotel last year and the change of venue provided a great spark to the event. More than 90 LRA members and extended families attended for what was a truly relaxing and enjoyable evening. Glen Ella will again host the gathering on the evening of Friday, November 23, starting at 5:30 p.m.

# Your Lake Rabun Neighbors Are Saving Hemlocks! *Are You?*



I am pleased to see and learn that many of our neighbors are saving their hemlocks. I get many unsolicited, very positive comments everywhere I go, confirming that awareness of the hemlock problem around our lake is at a high level and that the recommended treatments are really making a noticeable difference.

In late 2011 Georgia Power Company granted access and permission to LRA to treat hemlocks on their unoccupied property surrounding Lake Rabun. As quickly as possible, a plan was devised and two of your trained LRA Hemlock Facilitators and two volunteers began hemlock treatments on the unoccupied property along the shoreline of the "Narrows". The infestation is easily visible here and this area would not otherwise be treated. About 25% of the "Narrows" area was treated by this small group of four, before winter weather precluded any further treatments.

Due to the level of infestation in the "Narrows", the more aggressive chemical, Safari, was required to treat such large and/or sick hemlocks, particularly on the rough, overgrown, rocky, steep terrain in which they grow. A basal trunk spray is the only practical method of application in situations like this. Safari is a highly effective, stronger chemical and basal trunk spray application can be a do-it-yourself project, just as the soil injection application.

In the spring of 2012, the hemlock treatment project was restarted as soon as the weather permitted. A larger group, eighteen in number, of trained Lake Rabun Hemlock Facilita-

tors and other volunteers came together to treat additional hemlocks along the "Narrows" shoreline. The treatment of approximately 80% of the hemlocks in this area was completed. An additional project work day was scheduled for four very committed volunteers who brought the project to a conclusion during the first week of April. These treatments cannot bring back the lower dead limbs or dead trees, but will help to restore the lush green color and density of the needles on the treated hemlocks which precludes additional hemlocks from dying, thus preserving the natural beauty of this area.

These trained hemlock facilitators and volunteers have given freely of their time and "significant effort" to benefit all of us in preserving the lake we know, love and enjoy. Have you looked at your hemlocks? Have you treated or had your hemlocks treated? The infestation is extremely heavy this spring and infested hemlocks will be significantly impacted as will healthy, but untreated hemlocks. Take action today to preserve your untreated hemlocks to preserve the beauty of your property as well as the overall beauty of our lake. Don't let your property become the example of a neighbor who did not act.



For those of you who desire help, remember that the Lake Rabun Association has trained hemlock facilitators that are available to provide free on-site consultations to inspect your hemlocks and explain your treatment choices. Check the LRA web site at [www.lakerabun.org](http://www.lakerabun.org) under the Hemlock Program tab for contact information for Bob Pledger, Buz Stone, Dick Simms, George Longino, Hank Roper, Louis Belline and Ruddy Deas, our lake facilitators.

Paraphrasing an adage, "It takes a community to save our hemlocks...and the beauty of our lake." A stalwart, proactive group of our lake community has taken action, both on their own respective properties as well as unoccupied Georgia Power property. Are you doing your part?



Bob Pledger,  
LRA Hemlock Program Coordinator



## Lakemont University Releases Summer Schedule

While attendance at LU shattered all records last year, the university continues to be plagued with allegations that it is little more than a party school. To address these concerns, administrators agreed they will place more emphasis on academics in 2012. Or maybe less, they haven't decided yet. Regardless, they are pleased to announce their summer semester schedule:

**Saturday, June 9, 5:00 PM**

### **Arts-101 Introduction to the Hambidge Center**

Rabun Gap is home to the Hambidge Center, an absolutely extraordinary artist community that most of us know little or nothing about. Several current resident artists will demonstrate and discuss their work as well as the Center's impact on their lives and our community. [www.hambidge.org](http://www.hambidge.org)



Photo by K.A. Hamdy-Swink

**Saturday, July 14, 8:30 PM**

### **Dance-102 Clogging II**

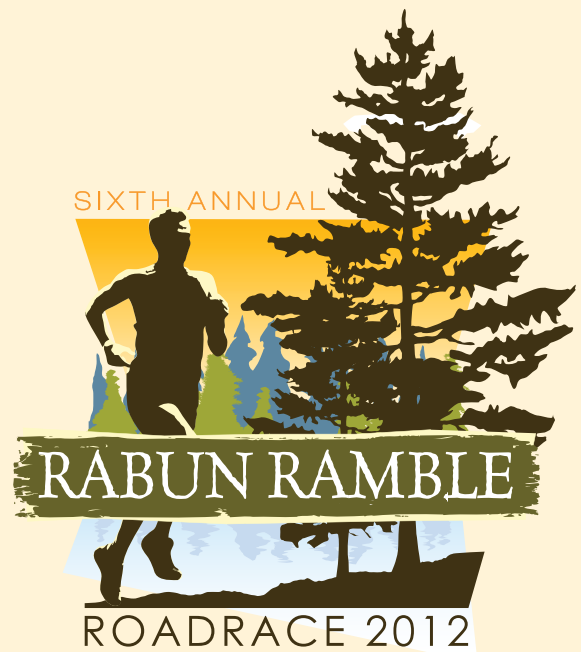
If you got an "F" in Clogging 101 last year (and many of you did, but also agreed never was an "F" so much fun) we recommend you take it again this year. Professor Connie Thompson, and her graduate assistant Tommy, (employing a much improved sound system) will once again set the rafters to shaking with genuine mountain music and dance. This course is required for anyone who remembers Mountain City and especially for those too young to have experienced it.

**Saturday, August 11, 5:00 PM**

### **PE-101 Football Home Opener with Coach Dan Reeves**

LU Athletic Director Dan Reeves will address various aspects of a life in football. As you know, Coach Reeves played in two Super Bowls with Dallas, took Denver to three Super Bowls in four years as a head coach, and is of course the only coach to get the Falcons there. Does he have plans for a football program at LU?

*All LU classes are held at the Lake Rabun Pavilion, are free, intended for all ages, and no registration is required. Bring your beer, wine, soft drinks, snacks, children, grandchildren, friends and neighbors. Lakemont University – the cocktail party with people and programs you remember for years.*



## Top 10 Reasons to Run the Rabun Ramble:

10. It's the 6<sup>th</sup> Annual running and you know someone who has run it. *Have you?*
9. Runners (and walkers) range from age 4 to 80-ish so *no, you're really not too old*
8. If you're thinking you're out of shape, almost 1/3 of the runners are WALKERS so *that excuse doesn't work either*
7. Professional computer timed results are quick with this official marathon qualifying race
6. Cool winding Lake Rabun Road or hot pavement on Peachtree Street...*now, really?*
5. It's only \$25 if you sign up early, or \$30 on the day of the race for procrastinators
4. You can even sign up online...or you can print your application from our [www.rabunramble.com](http://www.rabunramble.com) website. *No excuse there*
3. The proceeds go to our own LRF that funds scholarships for local area college students. *Now that's a great reason to run*
2. Free snacks and water from a few of our many wonderful sponsors
1. ***It's all about the tee shirt!***

Race is Saturday, June 30 at 7:30 a.m. Contact Sandy O'Brien with any questions OR if you'd like to sponsor: [sandyobrien1@mac.com](mailto:sandyobrien1@mac.com) or 917-903-8961.

## 2012 Events

*We have plans for an exciting 2012  
Summer and Fall on Lake Rabun!*

<b>Saturday, May 26</b>	Trustees meeting (8:00 a.m.-12 noon)
<b>Sunday, May 27</b>	General membership meeting and brunch (all day)
<b>Friday, June 8</b>	Lake Clean-Up Day
<b>Saturday, June 9</b>	Boater Safety Class (9:00 a.m.-12:00 noon) with lunch from Louie's
<b>Saturday, June 16</b>	Tour of Homes
<b>Saturday, June 16</b>	Lakemont University (5:00 p.m.), Bingo (7:00 p.m.)
<b>Friday, June 29</b>	Golf Tournament at The Orchard (lunch and registration by 11:00 a.m.)
<b>Saturday, June 30</b>	Rabun Ramble (a.m. only)
<b>Saturday, June 30</b>	BBQ and the Foxfire Boys (6:00 p.m.)
<b>Sunday, July 1</b>	Wooden Boat Parade (11:00 a.m.)
<b>Sunday, July 1</b>	Fireworks at Earthen Dam (Dusk)
<b>Saturday, July 14</b>	Lakemont University (5:00 p.m.), Bingo (7:00 p.m.)
<b>Saturday, July 21</b>	LRA Beach Music Party (7:00 p.m.)
<b>Saturday, August 11</b>	Lakemont University (5:00 p.m.), Bingo (7:00 p.m.)
<b>Saturday, September 1</b>	Trustee meeting (8:00 a.m.-12:00 noon)
<b>Sunday, September 2</b>	LRA General membership meeting (10:00 a.m.)
<b>Sunday, September 2</b>	Dinner and Dancing (7:00 p.m.)
<b>Friday, November 23</b>	Post-Thanksgiving Potluck Dinner

