



Photo by Cherry Kinnunen

## Outgoing President: 2015 – One Amazing Year!

We planned for it – we worked toward it – and now we have celebrated in style the first one hundred years on beautiful Lake Rabun. The list of events is extensive as is the number of publications that featured Lake Rabun, our Centennial, and the impact that Lake Rabun has had on Rabun County.

As we reflect on the year 2015, I would like to “lift up” some of those insightful passages that were published in *The Clayton Tribune* and the *Georgia Mountain Laurel*:

*Several of the part-time and full-time Lake Rabun residents have assumed positions of responsibility in Rabun County, and the Lake Rabun Association has distinguished itself with its level of giving back by way of scholarships and other awards.*

*The Clayton Tribune, May 14, 2015*

*As the waters filled the valley, enveloping the old Mathis area, a secondary power was growing behind the dam walls – the power to draw generations of lake lovers to its shores.*

*The Clayton Tribune, May 21, 2015*

*But the Lake Rabun community isn't solely defined by the bulk of its bank accounts or beautiful lakefront views. It is also defined by its residents' belief in bettering the county.*

*The Clayton Tribune, May 28, 2015*

*In the meantime, those folks carrying the torch in this generation are following in the footsteps of those who established the traditions of Lake Rabun that live and thrive today.*

*Georgia Mountain Laurel, July 2015*

*With the people, Lake Rabun is a way of life envied by many, and well on its*

*way to a two hundredth birthday, as another generation passes the torch.*

*Georgia Mountain Laurel, July 2015*

This winter as you savor the pages of *Lake Rabun: Georgia's Lake Como*, and laugh at the stories on the Living History DVD, please also take the time to ponder how fortunate we are and how we have truly become a larger part of a broader community. Let's continue to enjoy the past while we work to write the future.

Thank you, LRA members, for selecting me to serve as your President during this very special year. All of you made this a memorable experience for our lake, each in your own way. It was my pleasure to serve our lake community in this manner.

See you on the lake!

Bob Pledger  
Outgoing President

## Marie Brownlow awarded the 2015 Whippoorwill Award



Photo by Anne Pledger

Marie Brownlow received this year's Whippoorwill Award amidst a long standing ovation at the Labor Day meeting. Marie is a quiet but energetic member of the LRA who goes about doing good deeds never seeking recognition. She has been “on the lake” since 1953, and has demonstrated a deep and abiding love for Lake Rabun and its history. Presenting the award were Buz Stone and Carol Raeber

Please be thinking about nominating a person to receive the award next year. The nomination forms are on the LRA website.

Thanks,  
Buz Stone



LAKE RABUN ASSOCIATION  
CENTENNIAL  
1915-2015

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

## Officers and Trustees 2016

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( ) Years left to serve

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*Lake Rabun Association, Inc. (LRA) is a nonprofit, social welfare organization dedicated to nurturing the beauty, serenity and quality of life on and around Lake Rabun.*

# President's Message

## The Centennial Hangover



Photo by Anne Pledger

I'm honored to have the opportunity to serve as your President in 2016. Because of so many dedicated and lake-loving people who have served in the past, there are endless possibilities for our organization. I'm often reminded that we are all volunteers and yet it is amazing to experience what we accomplish every year in our lake community. From maintaining a safe and clean lake, educating our members on interesting topics, continuing traditions such as Bingo for our children and buckdancing to bluegrass music, raising money through our various fundraisers, providing college scholarships for Rabun County students, helping those less fortunate in our local community, and having fun and enjoying fellowship with each other, we have set a special standard on this lake.

This past summer recognized our Centennial year in many ways. In addition to

our regular events, Saturday, June 20th was a day and evening full of activities including a children's birthday party, wooden boat rides, a special photo contest, a silent art auction, and a cocktail party with Banks and Shane entertaining us. Throughout the summer, our 100 years continued to be highlighted with a record number of wooden boats in our annual parade each flying a special Centennial banner, 100 booms blasting in the fireworks show, Centennial merchandise sales resulting in a \$15,000 donation to the Foundation, publishing a Centennial book, producing a Centennial oral history on a DVD, and various social events making us all feel as if we were truly living the song "Party like it's 1 9 1 5". Thank you for your time, energy and talent in making all of these events and fundraisers successful. We experienced huge support and attendance at every event. As summer came to a close, I personally felt as if I was "hungover" from the three-month celebration! This was truly a special summer, which was enjoyed by all.

I never imagined when my family settled on this lake twelve years ago what this place and its people were all about. These short years have blessed us with friends and a unique community that will continue to enrich our lives. I look forward to working and playing with you in 2016.

Laura Rhodes, President



Photo by Anne Pledger

## Fred Stewart Award

Ben McCracken was awarded the Fred Stewart Award during the Labor Day General Meeting. The Fred Stewart Award has been awarded **only three times** and goes to an individual who acts heroically and unselfishly when called upon. Ben has acted courageously in many traumatic occurrences at Lake Rabun and the surrounding community of Rabun County. He is typically the first one called to help those in distress. Ben does so without fanfare or concern for acknowledgement. Ben's humble nature is further evidenced by the generosity he shows to the kids in the Rabun County School District and those in need in the county both emotionally and financially.

Ben is a true hero and friend to Lake Rabun and we are honored to present this award to him.

# Centennial Report

## Centennial Wooden Boat Parade

The Centennial Wooden Boat Parade was well attended. We think that, with approximately 63 participants, it may have been one of the largest parades in the history of the event. Congratulations to the captains and crew for making this so special. Special thanks to John Lundeen in Cocktail Cruiser, the oldest boat original to the lake, for leading at a civilized pace. Thanks to Scott Poss for the aerial photographs – they were spectacular. Thanks to the parade committee.

All wooden boat owners, keep your boats afloat and running and let's do it again next year!

Charlie Arp



Photo by Bob Voyles

Dear Friends:

*The Centennial books finally arrived in Lakemont the third week in September. The "editorial team" has been busy getting the books ready for pick-up and purchases. Those who have seen the book would say without hesitation that it was well worth both the effort and the wait! Thanks to the many, many folks whose contributions have made this book a memorable one for all of us.*

*If you have purchased, but not picked up, your book(s) yet, information on pick-up in Lakemont (at Lake Rabun Trading Company in the Seven Oaks building in downtown Lakemont) or at Bob Voyles's office in the Cumberland area of Atlanta, can all be found on the website. In addition, we have made arrangements with Goin' Postal in Clayton to have books shipped at a nominal fee. Please be sure and pick up your books. We have now opened up offering the book to the general public, so encourage others to purchase them. And, be sure you have purchased additional books as holiday gifts for family members. No doubt they will become cherished keepsakes in the years to come! So do not delay.*

*Happy Holidays to everyone, and many thanks to each of you that have made this Centennial such a great success.*

Bob Voyles

## Centennial Swag

**One last Centennial freebie!** A special updated map of our lake is available to each LRA member (family unit) at no charge. Additional maps can be purchased for \$10 each. If you did not pick up your map at the Labor Day meeting, they will be available for distribution at the Potluck Dinner at Glen-Ella Springs on Friday, Nov. 27th. They will also be available at the 2016 Memorial Day meeting on Sunday, May 29th. Please contact Laura Rhodes (rhodeslaura@bellsouth.net) with any questions.



## Holiday Specials!

Ring in the new season  
with **Lake Rabun Crystal** from Evergreen

**The perfect gift for your special Rabunite!**

 <p><b>Rocks Glasses</b> 4 per box / \$125 per set S&amp;H \$12 per box</p>	 <p><b>Stemless Wine Glasses</b> 4 per box / \$100 per set S&amp;H \$12 per box</p>
 <p><b>Microwavable!</b> <b>15 oz. Mugs</b> Great for Beer, Coffee, Ice Cream or Mulled Wine! 4 per box / \$75 per set S&amp;H \$12 per box <small>Boxed in sets of four, all of these beautiful glasses from Evergreen Crystal will arrive at your door with a holiday ribbon on the box.</small></p>	 <p><b>NEW!</b></p>

To purchase your Holiday Special items, contact Penny Burkitt at 706 782-2825 with your credit card today!

NOT AVAILABLE FOR PURCHASE ON THE WEBSITE.

All net proceeds benefit The Lake Rabun Foundation

## A Great Christmas Idea!

Six reasons to give the Centennial Lake Rabun Association DVD as a Christmas present.

1. Requires very little wrapping paper
2. Do not need to know a size
3. Inexpensive to mail
4. No assembly required
5. No shopping at crowded malls - order on LRA website
6. The recipient will love it!



The DVD makes a great gift for friends and relatives who formerly visited or lived on the lake. There are two one-hour sections on this fascinating DVD. The first section has lake residents reminiscing, music playing, historical photographs being shown and even some old home movies recording aquaplaning, water skiing and hilarious water antics. The bonus section contains some wonderful colorful stories about happenings on the lake. This makes an excellent companion piece to the standard version of the Centennial Book. It adds a whole new dimension.

People who have lived on the lake for years enjoy connecting with "old time" residents being interviewed. Newcomers want to learn about some of the early history and traditions. Visitors can gain insights about why this lake is so beloved. Besides history, there is fun, laughter, memories, nostalgia and pure entertainment. All of this is at the mere cost of \$20.00.

If you have questions or need more information contact Barbara Roper (H) 706 782 4682 or (C) 404 312 2433.

# LAKE RABUN FOUNDATION NEWS

## Lake Rabun College Scholarship Connection Program

Thank you to the families that have volunteered to be the connection between the lake community and our scholarship recipients. If you were at the Labor Day meeting, you had the opportunity to hear two of our members share their experiences as Connection families. Being a Connection family is very rewarding. Our students will amaze you, and solidify (albeit no one needs validation) your dedication and devotion to the important work of the Lake Rabun Foundation.

As a Connection family you would be the liaison between our members and one of our scholarship students. You would occasionally reach out to them, cheering as they embark on their academic journey.

If you wish to be a Connection family for one of our 2016 college scholarship students, please contact me. You will be blessed!

Nan Troutman  
Connection Program Chair  
nan@numail.org / 678.464.4626

## Dorothy Ann King Honored with 2015 Buz Stone Award

Long time Rabun CASA (court appointed special advocate), Dorothy Ann King, was presented the 2015 Buz Stone "Lake Rabun Cares" Award. Dorothy Ann was a member of the first CASA volunteer training class in 2004 sworn in as advocates for children in Rabun County. CASA volunteers represent children in foster care, ensuring that their physical, emotional, and educational needs are met. They strive to find safe, permanent homes for children. In her 11 years as a volunteer, Dorothy Ann has advocated for 22 children in Rabun County. No one was surprised to learn that Dorothy Ann has a reputation as a spirited, tenacious defender of the children assigned to her.



Photo by Cherry Kinnunen

The Buz Stone Award was created in 2012 to honor Buz for his 25 years of leadership with the Lake Rabun Foundation. Recipients reflect the "spirit of Buz Stone and the goodwill of LRA Members" in serving the welfare of Rabun County. The award carries with it a \$2,500 grant, which Dorothy Ann directed to Northeast Georgia CASA.

## Lake Rabun Foundation Update

LRA members support the work of the Foundation in so many ways—as volunteers, leaders, donors. This is one of the things that make the Foundation and its work so meaningful. THANK YOU!

This fall, there are THIRTY Rabun scholars attending college with the support of Lake Rabun Scholarships. Five more students from Rabun County attending North Georgia Technical College have requested and received grants to assist them with school expenses. Each week, it seems we hear stories of the successes, and challenges, of our scholarship students. In many cases, the LRA Connections person has been there to celebrate or help work through a **roadblock**. Thanks to Nan Troutman and Anne Pledger for making all this possible.

Leckie Stack, who heads our Outreach program, has helped define our "mission". As community partners, the Lake Rabun Foundation seeks to improve lives in Rabun County through support of local organizations involved in education, child welfare, food ministries, environmental programs and community development. Focus will be on programs which encourage long term efforts to develop people, promote self-sufficiency and improve the standard of living. Leckie and her

team regularly meet with local organizations to better understand and evaluate the work they are doing. Hollis Heeney recently joined this committee and brings insight to ways we might impact the local schools and their mentoring efforts. The Foundation budgeted \$30,000 for Outreach grants in 2015.

A special thanks to Bob Voyles, who has been the inspiration for the Centennial Celebration. Proceeds from these efforts will support the work of the Foundation. Betty King and Andrea Altholz headed a very successful art auction resulting in a net profit of \$27,514 to the Foundation. Once again, Sandy O'Brien was up early to lead a fun, family-friendly Rabun Ramble. Thanks to Kelly Keeler and Penny Burkitt for their efforts in providing Centennial flags, clothing and items for all of us. It is a team effort!

Our Annual Fund has become the financial cornerstone of our Foundation. Thanks to all who made this a record year for the Annual Fund. Lisa Longino and Ron Hinson introduced the 1915 Society to recognize those who have made provisions in their estate plans to support the work of the Foundation in years to come.

It is an honor to be part of all this good work.  
Steve Raeber



Join the

LAKE RABUN  
1915 SOCIETY

and help endow the  
Lake Rabun Foundation  
through a Planned Gift

Lake Rabun Foundation  
P.O. Box 114  
Lakemont, Georgia 30552

## Thanks, Lake Rabun Foundation!



Dear Association Members,  
 How grateful we are for your continued support. Friends like you enable us to bring joy and knowledge through reading to over 400 Rabun County children from birth to five years. We continue to hear uplifting stories of how the children benefit from book ownership and how family bonds are strengthened as families read together. We know much hard work goes into your projects as you see money to share with needy Rabun organizations and we thank you for including us in your giving. We appreciate you! Sincerely, Shirley Eickman

## Remembering WINNIE BROWN

Our community lost a dear friend this year, Winnie Brown. Winnie loved Lake Rabun with her heart and soul. We not only lost a friend; we lost an advocate for those that help protect our families on the lake – the Lakemont Wiley Volunteer Fire Department. Winnie was a true champion of the fire department and worked hard raising funds for them having initiated the first Lake Rabun Flea Market and continuing that fundraiser for many years. Those funds helped transform Station 4 into the state-of-the-art facility that it is today.

The officers and the board reflected on her legacy and want to remember her in a special way. Naturally, we gravitated to her favorite cause, our volunteer fire department. As we did research to see what was needed, we found that there are not always enough funds for training these firefighters. With that in mind, LRA has chosen to remember Winnie in two ways. First, a plaque will be prominently displayed in the Lake Rabun Pavilion honoring her for her years of commitment and accomplishments. Additionally, we will be establishing a funding mechanism to support our Lakemont Wiley Volunteer Fire Department with ongoing training expenses. Stay tuned for more details.

## lakerabun.org Technology

We have celebrated the Centennial of our beloved Lake Rabun this year and through the stories of many of our seniors we have learned about the past. Do you remember that the nearest on-lake telephone to connect to the outside world was at Hall's? If you received a call, they would deliver a message to you by boat. The changes that have occurred over the years are numerous. And changes will continue, but at a much faster pace.

Who could have conceived of the internet, websites and email in those days? But we now have children and grandchildren who cannot understand a time when those things were not available. Technology to them is second nature.

Many of us rely on our children and grandchildren now for technical advice. A frequent answer I receive from them to my questions is "Google is your friend". The **lakerabun.org** website is also your friend when it comes to LRA and Lake Rabun news and activities. There is a wealth of information on our website and our Association continues to enhance the website to meet member needs by providing LRA and lake news, resources and information. Recent enhancements include:

- an indicator of year-round or full-time residency on or near the lake as our population of retirees grows
- choices for electronic delivery of *The Clayton Tribune* and LRA newsletters
- the inclusion of our Articles of Incorporation and By-Laws for quick and easy reference
- expanded bulletin board
- conversion of a little-used database field to allow for the addition of a third email address in member profiles so others could access our website and receive eblasts

There is also a project underway to bring the Lake Rabun boathouse online map in-house to help facilitate timely updates and ensure that map info and database info are in sync.

Have you reviewed your member profile recently? Are you interested in receiving the newspaper or newsletter electronically? Are you a new full-timer or year-rounder and want to connect with others during the winter? It's easy. Just log-in and go to Members Only and select My Profile. Make sure your member profile and directory listing are current and accurate.

Many of these enhancements have come about as a result of member suggestions and inquiries. Are there subjects and ideas for further enhancements that you would like to see? Let your Officers know so we can keep pace with today's technology while still enjoying the beauty and atmosphere of our Shangri-La.

Bob Pledger

## From our friends at Georgia Power

Lake Rabun is scheduled to begin drawdown on November 29th, 2015. The lake will be down ten feet and is expected to begin refilling on December 20th. The lake should be back to normal pool on December 24th. Please remember if you have any plans for construction during the drawdown period, you will need to obtain a construction permit from Georgia Power.

Also as Fall and Winter approaches, remember that leaves and yard debris should be removed and not disposed of in the lake.



Photo by Charlie Pledger

## Ramble Update

The Rabun Ramble didn't let a little rain this past July 4th weekend dampen our spirit. We had over 700 runners join us for a wet run along the shores of our beautiful Lake Rabun. That spirit helped us raise over \$16,700 to date as we give back to the Lake Rabun Foundation. Of course it really wouldn't be possible without our amazing group of sponsors who support us year after year. A big "Thank You" goes out to each of them — a list can be found on the back of our fun tee shirts (and on our website). Please support these people and their companies that help us to give so generously to our community.

Looking forward to next summer, the Rabun Ramble is celebrating a big birthday and you're invited to the party! Can you believe it will be our 10th race since we first rambled down Lake Rabun Road? Mark your calendars for Saturday, July 2 and lace up those running shoes now for your best race this year. And yes, Rabun peeps, you can walk the race too. See you at the party!

Go to [rabunramble.com](http://rabunramble.com) for race info.

Sandy O'Brien

## 2016 Membership Dues

You should have already received your 2016 dues invoice in the mail. Thanks to each of you who support the Lake Rabun Association and all that it offers. Annual dues of \$250 afford great member benefits, which include the following and more:

- Support of LRA preservation and conservation programs like Boater Safety, Lakemont University, and Lake Cleanup Days.
- Participation in community events throughout the year, from Memorial Day's Summer Kickoff to July 4th Fireworks to the Beach Music and Labor Day band parties.

Ticket sales cover only a portion of the cost of LRA activities. Your membership dues cover the rest, such as event entertainment, pavilion rental, fireworks, newsletter printing and mailing, *Clayton Tribune* subscriptions, and liability insurance.

Your Officers and Trustees, along with hundreds of members who volunteer time and expertise, work diligently to be good stewards of your membership dues. We trust that you will renew your membership promptly and encourage your neighbors and friends to also enjoy all the many benefits and privileges of membership.

Thank you to all who have paid in advance. Please note that the IRS states: "Contributions, gifts or dues to the Lake Rabun Association are not tax deductible as a charitable contribution."

## SAVE THE DATE

### JUNE 18, 2016

Saturday of Father's Day Weekend

Mark your Calendar for

## The Lake Rabun Tour of Homes

*More information coming soon!*

*Volunteers needed –  
Docents; Pontooners;  
Captains & First Mates; Dock Masters;  
Flower Arrangers; and MORE!*

Contact: Andrea Altholz  
[aaaltholz@yahoo.com](mailto:aaaltholz@yahoo.com)

Elaine Dickens - [edickens@windstream.net](mailto:edickens@windstream.net)  
Mike Swink - [liftntote@bellsouth](mailto:liftntote@bellsouth)

## Flea Market Update

*Save the Date!*

**June 17, 2017**

*The Flea Market*

**Returns to Lake Rabun!**

**But Bye, Bye Bargain Barn!**

**We're going to make this the  
most spectacular Flea Market  
Extravaganza Ever!**

**Join the Fun!**

# Lake Rabun Pavilion

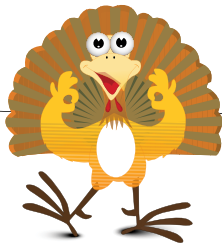
Pavilion rentals continue to be made at a brisk pace, not only for LRA events, but also for weddings and multiple other community functions. In the past, the base rates were supplemented by chair and table usage rental fees, often requiring a second bill to renters after the event. That will change for 2016.

Rates will increase slightly for non-LRA events, but will include tables and chairs as needed at no additional cost. Full day rentals will range from \$1,200-\$1,500 depending on whether it is a peak or non-peak time. Partial day rentals range from \$600-\$750, depending on whether it is a peak or non-peak time. Finally, rates for events of 2 hours or less range from \$360 for non-peak times to \$450 for peak times.

Discounts for Lake Rabun Pavilion Navy renters, ranging from 10%-50%, also continue to be granted. Full rental details can be found on page 12 of the current Membership Directory, at our "lakerabun.org" website, or by contacting our Pavilion managers, Jan or Nancy, at 706-782-6110 or by email, lrapavilion@gmail.com.



*Far right front (with balloon hats) – Charlie Olson and Drew Backer, two of our Scholarship recipients – help with balloons at the Centennial Birthday Party.*



## Day after Thanksgiving Gathering & Potluck Dinner

Join us as we wind up the 2015 slate of LRA activities and Centennial celebration with our annual Day After Thanksgiving Gathering & Potluck Dinner.

Plan now to join your lake family and friends at Glen-Ella Springs Inn as we kick off the holiday season.

Bring your family, house guests, friends, potluck dish and your choice of beverage. The fun starts at 6:00 p.m. on Friday, November 27, 2015.

Please register in advance at [www.lakerabun.org](http://www.lakerabun.org) so we can plan to accommodate everyone. See you there!

And don't forget the Pigeon Mountain Hike on Friday afternoon at 1:30 p.m. to rev-up your appetites. Meet at the Georgia Power gate located on Brandon Mill Road near Keller Lane. Family, friends and pets welcome.



## Boating Safety Reminders

On behalf of the Boating Safety Committee, thanks to everyone for a safe summer on the lake. We only had one minor incident involving two jet skis at the beginning of the season. Keep the following in mind this winter:

- Be aware of debris floating in the main channels of the lake due to no boat traffic at this time of the year.
- Disconnect the battery cables on your boats to reduce potential fire hazards while boats are winterized.
- Secure all recreational equipment (paddleboards, canoes, kayaks, etc.) so they won't be blown in the lake and present hazards to other boaters on the lake.

Many LRA members expressed several concerns during the summer lake activity:

- Jet skis are coming too close to skiers and boathouses.
- Large wakes on the lake damage shorelines as well as boats in boathouses, so please respect your lake neighbors and other boaters when creating large wakes.
- Pay attention to the 100' rule.
- When entering the no wake zone into Hall's Marina, all tubers should be in boats (not still tubing) due to the boat traffic and narrow area.

Please remind your houseguests and visitors of these rules. The next Boating Safety Class will be held on Saturday, June 11, 2016.

Michael Crowe,  
Boating Safety Committee Chair



## Lake Rabun Association Calendar of Events 2016

Saturday, May 28th	Trustees Meeting at the Pavilion (9:00 a.m.) Memorial Day Party (7:00 p.m. – 11:00 p.m.)
Sunday, May 29th	General Membership Meeting at the Pavilion (10:00 a.m.)
Friday, June 3rd	Lake Clean-up Day at Hall's (9:00 a.m.)
Saturday, June 11th	Boater Safety Class at the Pavilion (9:00 a.m.) Lakemont University at the Pavilion (5:00 p.m.) Bingo at the Pavilion (7:00 p.m.)
Friday, June 17th	Tour of Homes Volunteer Party at the Pavilion
Saturday, June 18th	LRA Tour of Homes
Friday, July 1st	Golf Tournament at The Orchard Golf & Country Club
Saturday, July 2nd	Rabun Ramble (7:30 a.m.) The Dillard House BBQ Dinner & The Foxfire Boys Band (6:00-11:00 p.m.)
Sunday, July 3rd	36th Annual Wooden Boat Parade beginning at the Dam (10:30 a.m.) Annual Pass in Review at the Clayton UMC Boathouse Fireworks on the lake - dusk
Saturday, July 16th	Willy's Dinner and Beach Party at the Pavilion (6:00 p.m.-11:00 p.m.)
Saturday, July 23rd	Lakemont University at the Pavilion (5:00 p.m.) Bingo at the Pavilion (7:00 p.m.)
Saturday, August 13th	Lakemont University at the Pavilion (5:00 p.m.) Bingo at the Pavilion (7:00 p.m.)
Saturday, September 3rd	Trustees Meeting at the Pavilion (9:00 a.m.)
Sunday, September 4th	General Membership Meeting at the Pavilion (10:00 a.m.) Labor Day Dinner & Band party at the Pavilion (6:00 p.m.-11:00 p.m.)
Friday, September 16th	Lake Clean-up Day at Hall's (9:00 a.m.)
Friday, November 25th	Pigeon Mountain Hike (1:30 p.m.) Day after Thanksgiving Potluck Dinner at Glen-Ella Springs Pavilion (6:00 p.m.)

\*Dates, times and events subject to change  
(refer to [www.lakerabun.org](http://www.lakerabun.org) for updates).