

LRA General Membership Meeting
Sunday, August 31, 2014 @ 10:00 a.m.
Lake Rabun Pavilion

Trustees present: Yetty Arp, Lyn Asbill, Becky Blalock, Ruddy Deas, Jack Dickens, Chris Dunn, Kelly Keeler, Federico Lander, Anita Pittman, Barbara Roper, Mary Cobb Stone, Ed Van Winkle, Ann Veal, Darlene Warren, John Williams, and Bunky Witham.

Dan Dunwody, presiding, opened the meeting and welcomed everyone.

The invocation was led by Rev. Jeremy Lawson, new minister, of Clayton United Methodist Church.

The pledge of allegiance was led by Dan Dunwody.

Dan Dunwody recognized the meaning of Labor Day as a national holiday.

The minutes of the 2014 LRA Memorial Day Meeting were approved by a motion and are posted on the LRA website.

Foundation Report:

- The Annual Fund is the cornerstone for the Foundation and trying to help it grow to be more self-sustaining.
- Memorial gifts continue to increase.
- Various LRA fundraisers (Tour of Homes, Rabun Ramble, LRA merchandise sales (\$5000 ck recently), and North Ga. Arts Guild (\$1100 ck recently) all contribute to the Foundation.
- The budget is about \$80,000 with proceeds going to Rabun County (\$50,000 in scholarships and the rest to various charities) with the average donation about \$1000.
- Steve shared a few stories about our scholarship students where lives have been touched and changed.
- There are named scholarship opportunities (\$10,000 for 4 years to sponsor 1 student) and (\$50, 000 perpetual scholarship for 1 student for 4 years

then another, etc. & \$200,000 for a new student every year forever). The college scholarship is \$2000/student for 4 years. The technical school scholarship is \$1000/student for 2 years. There are currently four named scholarships-Rich and Angela Clay, Dwight and Mary Shannon Scott, Greg and Laura Rhodes, and Christina Freeman (\$50,000 scholarship in memory of Herta Schartle).

- Connections program, with Nan Troutman's help, is ongoing with LRA members assigned to scholarship students to develop relationships and help mentor.
- The Food Bank has been delayed in opening and is expected to be up and running later this year.

Introduction of Retiring and New Trustees:

- Dan recognized the current Trustees who have served their term and thanked them for their commitment. Trustees retiring are Yetty Arp, Kelly Keeler, Federico Lander, Jack Dickens, Mary Cobb Stone, Darlene Warren, John Williams and David Deeter. In addition, Joe Mims is rotating off as Chair.
- New Trustees nominated are Andrea Altholz, Elizabeth Bitter, Chris Dunn, Peter Fozzard, Dee McElroy, Richard Maddox, Dick Newkirk and Max Steuer. John Williams is nominated for the Secretary/Treasurer officer position. A motion was made with a second and approved.

Tour of Homes Report:

- Dan commented that the tour was very special this year. Bob and Anne Pledger were recognized and appreciated for all they did as it was a team effort.
- Anne thanked all of the volunteers, mentioned 606 tickets were sold, magazine with history of the tour homes was published, co-chaired by Elaine Dickens & Andrea Altholz, 18 other chairs, 13 homeowners, 31 sponsors, 15-20 businesses advertised in the magazine, and over 220 other volunteers. A check was presented to the Foundation for \$39,000.

Golf Tournament Report:

- Dan reminded everyone that it was not a fundraiser this year.

Rabun Ramble Report:

- Sandy O'Brien was not available to give a report but Dan commented that it appeared to be successful and the profits go to the Foundation.

Centennial Report:

- Bob Voyles recognized Barbara Roper, Mary Cobb Stone, Anne Pledger, and Helen McSwain are involved in the history, research, interviews and photos of Lakemont for the DVD and book to be published.
- Bob mentioned a few trivia Lake Rabun history details.
- The DVD has a short teaser on the website and encouraged members to view it.
- The book will be completed and available late Summer 2015.
- Photo contest deadline is 12/31/14 (for photo submissions). Currently, working on lakerabunphotocontest.com for photos to be submitted.
- Helen McSwain is working on a list of boats and boathouses with names to be submitted for publishing in the book.
- Advance orders (via LRA website eblast) will be ready around Thanksgiving 2014 for both editions of the book.
- Laura Rhodes and Bob Voyles are meeting later this week to plan the Centennial events on the calendar.
- A new Lake Rabun map with the Centennial logo will be available for sale.
- Father's Day weekend 2015 will include a wooden boat show, art show and cocktail party with Banks & Shane as the entertainment. And, Hall's 1 and Hall's 2 boat tours will be conducted.

Other Business Reported by Dan:

- Georgia Power was able to control and prevent further parrot feather infestation and the LRA is appreciative of their efforts.
- Anita Pittman was recognized and thanked for her bookkeeping and CPA abilities and presented with a gift.

- Tim and Veanne Smith were recognized and thanked for continuing as webmasters for our LRA website.
- Bobby Clinkscales was recognized and thanked for heading up the lake cleanup activities twice a year.
- Rick Asbill and Kirk Knous were recognized and thanked for overseeing the Pavilion.
- John King was recognized and thanked for organizing the Lakemont University programs.
- Chris and Jennifer Adams were recognized and thanked for spearheading a successful Bingo Summer.

Whipporwill Award:

- Buz Stone explained the meaning of the award-given to an LRA member who exemplified a spirit of volunteerism. It was started in 1991 by Mary Evans to recognize those members going above and beyond with volunteer efforts around the lake.
- Buz spoke about this year's winner being at every lake clean up, boat parade, volunteers with LWVFD, assists with the boater safety class each year, heads up the LRA Navy, former Trustee and behind the scenes of every LRA event (and known by his email address as "lift and tote").
- This year's award was presented to Mike Swink.

Chairman's Report:

- Joe Mims thanked the organization and had no report.

Vice-Chairman's Report:

- Ridley Williams was absent.

President's Report:

- Dan thanked the community and expressed his appreciation for everything everyone does to make Lakemont so special.
- Dan announced that the 2015 member dues are being increased from \$200 to \$250 to help with our many social events (we try to break even with our catered events), increased Pavilion rent next year and additional Centennial events in 2015. Dues were last increased in 2006 (from \$125 to \$200).

Vice President's Report:

- Bob reminded everyone of the Labor Day Dinner and Dance this evening with The Varsity serving at 6 p.m. and the band beginning at 7 p.m.
- Lake Clean up is scheduled for Friday, Sept. 19th.
- Halloween party is cancelled this year due to no one chairing it and interest has diminished.
- The after-Thanksgiving hike and pot luck dinner are scheduled with Dan in charge of the hike and the dinner will be held at Glen-Ella.
- Father's Day weekend 2015 will be filled with Centennial events.
- Tim and Veanne Smith have been a huge help with our website and implementing the Bulletin Board feature. Email vp@lakerabun.org with any questions or problems when logging in.
- We are now requiring members to log in to purchase tickets for our social events to help with catering guidelines and having to pay for a guaranteed minimum.
- Kirk Knous and Rick Asbill have established wifi at the pavilion which is open (no password) to our members.
- Look for an eblast later this Fall regarding Centennial information.
- A new 2015 directory will be published and members should review their profile to be sure it's accurate and up to date.
- Stay safe on the lake during this holiday weekend.

Treasurer's Report:

- Laura reminded everyone that our dues fund the general LRA operating account and to please renew on time.
- Some of our major expenses include pavilion rent (and it will increase in 2015), insurance, fireworks and our many social events.

- The 2013 tax return has been filed by Anita Pittman-it was delayed due to LRA name issues and confusion of the IRS records not matching up.
- Anita was recognized and thanked by Laura stating she has been a godsend to our organization and is a blessing and joy to work with. Her expertise and knowledge is invaluable.

Miscellaneous:

- Dan encouraged members to buy the Centennial book
- Dan encouraged all lake residents to join the LRA
- Wanda Gray announced that the kayakers on the lake have challenged the LRA officers to take the ALS challenge.
- Dan mentioned the upgrades in Rabun County-green space, wildflowers on roads, improved signage, etc.
- The reprinting of the Lake Rabun cookbook is in process and will be available for sale around Thanksgiving with proceeds benefiting the LWVFD.
- There is a local election this Fall so please vote if you are a resident.
- Dan passed the gavel to Bob Pledgeras the new President.
- Bob presented a rocking chair to Dan for retiring as President and moving into the Vice Chairman's position.

Meeting adjourned at 11:05 a.m.

Respectively submitted by Laura Rhodes, Secretary-Treasurer