

Labor Day General Membership Meeting
September 2, 2018
10:00 a.m.

Invocation: Given by Reverend Stephen Streett, Clayton First Methodist Church/Boat Church

Pledge of Allegiance

Approval of Memorial Day 2018 Minutes: Approved

Recognition of New Members: Diana and David Beckler, Joanna and Mark Ghegan, Ashlie and John Graham, Corrine and Joe Irving, Katherine and Kevin Isakson, Mary and Frank Jackson, Elizebeth and Hayward McEver, Margaret and Cory Moore, Christy Alexander and Sandy Simon, Cindy and Brian Terrell, Missy and Bruce Terrell, Marion and Hamilton Williams, Carole and Jack Wintle, and Bunny Witham.

LRA in Memoriam: John Patrick, Mary Louise Stark and Lea Richmond

Recognition of Retiring Trustees: Jennifer Adams, Jud Graves, Mary Love McArthur, Helen McSwain, Betsy Mixson, Michele Persons, and Susan Lundeen Smith

Nomination of new Trustees and Secretary:

- New Trustees: Jay Morgan, Clay Snelling, Pat Hickey, Laura West, Robert Tritt, Lisa Hoffman and David Dupuy.
- Secretary: Dick Simms

A motion to approve the nominees was made, seconded and approved by acclamation.

Chairman's Report – Laura Rhodes: None

Vice Chairman's Report – John Williams: None

President's Report – Sandy O'Brien Strong:

- The LRA will be conducting a members' survey this fall to get the membership's input on several topics. An e-blast will be sent asking for input for the survey. Please reply to any officer with your ideas for topics and questions.
- Veanne and Tim Smith developed and have been supporting the LRA website for ten years and have decided it is time to hand over the reins to someone else. The LRA owes them a lot thanks and gratitude for the work they have done.
- The Officers and Trustees will be considering a suggestion from John King to separate Lakemont University and Bingo and move Lakemont University to a different night and start at 6:00 p.m. versus the present 5:00 p.m.

- There is a history of the Pavilion prepared by Rick Asbill on the seats. Please read it, as it provides a great story of how the Pavilion came about and its history.
- If you have an infestation of Parrot Feather Weed or other aquatic plants, please call Cheryl Parker with Georgia Power to report it and get on the list for treatment.
- The LRA has reached a crossroads with regard to the LRA Market and what to do in 2019. The officers and trustees have decided it is time to let go of the “flea market” that has been held for many years. So, if anyone has a suggestion for what to do next year – an event with a silent auction and live auction, or something else, and are willing to chair the event please let one of the officers know.
- On behalf of the LRA, Sandy thanked Michele and Thad Persons for coordination Bingo for the last three years. They are ready for a change and to hand over Bingo to another family. So, let us know if you would like to take on Bingo for 2019.
- The last LRA sales of the Centennial Books is today and the remaining books will be distributed to business and non-profits throughout Rabun County.
- Mary Boland has cookbooks available for sale today. And we want to thank Mary for the donation of the decorative lights around the perimeter of the Pavilion.

Vice President/Secretary Report – David Tatum: Reminded everyone about the Labor Day Party Sunday night starting at 6:00 p.m. with food provided by Mountain Fresh Grocery and music 7:00-11:00 p.m. provided by Atlanta Rhythm and Groove.

CFO Report – Anita Pittman:

- Rabun Ramble generated approximately \$24,000 for the Lake Rabun Foundation
- LRA merchandise is for sale on the patio
- Cumulative net proceeds from the Centennial book and DVD total about \$36,000.
- Anita noted there would be more about the successful Tour of Homes later.
- Approximately 800 copies of the cookbook have been sold to date
- LRA’s program and administrative expenses are tracking closely to budget with member dues higher than budgeted and administrative expenses a bit lower than budget.
- Our expenses for the DNR/RCSO Deputy lake patrols are under budget due to DNR staffing shortages and patrol responsibilities on numerous lakes as well as the excessive rain this summer.
- Significant non-recurring expenditures in 2018 include cookbook printing and advanced bookings for 2019 and 2020 events which will be repaid by future sales and membership dues. An additional cost is anticipated for the new website development.
- Financial statements will be posted to the website.

Foundation Report – Steve Raeber:

- Thanked the membership for all that it does for the Lake Rabun Foundation.
- Noted that there are 42 scholarship students getting \$2,000 per year for four years.
- Acknowledged the Connections Program as a significant part of the scholarship program and thanked Nan Troutman for her leadership of that program.

- In addition to the scholarship program, the Lake Rabun Foundation has budgeted \$45,000 for Rabun County non-profit organizations.
- Thanked the Tour of Homes Chairs Dee McElroy and Betty King
- Thanked Sandy O'Brien Strong for leading the Rabun Ramble
- Thanked Mary Boland, Dee McElroy and Betty King for their leadership on the cookbook project, especially Mary Boland for her hard work getting the book ready for publication.
- Announced that the once a year Annual Fund Drive letter will go out in November. This is the one-time request from the Lake Rabun Foundation for fund donations. The Foundation's funds are administered and managed by the North Georgia Community Foundation.

Tour of Homes – Dee McElroy (Betty King could not attend):

- Announced that Julie Taylor and Cindy Taylor will Chair the 2020 Tour of Homes
- Thanked the membership for its support and distributed a booklet with a listing of all sponsors, volunteers, etc.
- Presented a check for \$61,842 to Steve Raeber and the Lake Rabun Fund/North Georgia Community Foundation.

Rabun Ramble – Sandy O'Brien Strong: The race was a safe race this year. Sandy thanked Rabun County EMS for positioning an ambulance at the race start and Michael Crowe for the use of his walkie talkies which were assigned to marshals positioned along the course.

Fire Safety – Bob Pledger

- Thanked the membership for a successful fund raising campaign to purchase the new fire boat.
- There is work being done to the Mathis Dam slip and the Hall's slip to accommodate the larger size of the new fireboat and decrease the time it takes to launch the fire boat.
- We are working on Phase Two which is to increase the fire service coverage for Bear Gap Cove up in order to lower the premiums for those homeowners. First we are working with Rabun County Fire Department and Habersham County Fire Department to formalize an automatic aid agreement that Habersham Station 17 will cover Bear Gap Cove to Minnehaha Falls on that side of the lake. Mapping work needs to be completed to finish the agreement. The other thing being discussed is a new Rabun County Fire Department sub-station on the Lake Rabun Road side of the lake that would improve the coverage on that side of the lake by filling in the gap between RCFD Stations 4 and 16.
- Also working with the Rabun County Fire Department to increase the number of stand pipes.

Whippoorwill Award – Carol Raeber: The Whippoorwill Award is given to someone with service to and involvement with Lake Rabun activities over many years. Bob Voyles is the 2018 Whippoorwill Award recipient for all that he has done, including work on getting the Pavilion

built, service as LRA Trustee and President, Lake Rabun Foundation Trustee, spearheading the Centennial Celebration for three years, including publishing the book and the DVD with the oral history of the lake.

Whippersnapper Award – Mike Swink: the Whippersnapper Award was created to recognize a member of the younger generation on the lake who has contributed a lot over the last year. Forrest Kennedy is the 2018 Whippersnapper Award recipient for all that he has done over the last year.

Although Ruddy Deas could not be present Sandy O'Brien Strong passed the gavel to Ruddy in absentia.

Recognition of the 2018 President: John Williams presented Sandy O'Brien Strong with her present and thanked her for the work she has done as the 2018 President. Laura Rhodes was also presented a gift for being the outgoing Chair of the LRA Trustees.

North Georgia Community Foundation – Megan Martin, NGCF Director of Marketing and Development: Megan noted that her first exposure to the Lake Rabun Association was running in the 2009 Rabun Ramble. Megan announced that for the first time NGCF's Celebration of Community dinner will be held outside of Gainesville at the Dillard House on October 29. This event is to recognize philanthropy in Rabun County. The LRA and the Lake Rabun Foundation will be the recipient of the Woodrow Stewart Leadership in Philanthropy Award. Chris Clay will receive the Gus Whalen Young Philanthropist Award. The funds raised by this event will be used for the NGCF's For Good For Ever Endowment. Megan encouraged as many members of the Lake Rabun community as possible to attend the event.

The meeting adjourned at 11:00 a.m.

David Tatum
Secretary