



Committed to a Clean and Full Lake Lanier

# Lanier Outlook

Newsletter for the Lake Lanier Association  
April 2016

## Calendar of events:

**Earth Week Clean Water Event – Saturday, April 23rd, 2016 4:00 -7:00PM at Skogies/ Gainesville Marina**



**Shore Sweep – Saturday, September 24th, 2016**

**Lake Lanier Association**  
615 F Oak Street, #100  
Gainesville, GA 30501  
770-503-7757  
[www.lakelanier.org](http://www.lakelanier.org)  
[lakeinfo@lakelanier.org](mailto:lakeinfo@lakelanier.org)

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### STAFF

**Executive Director**  
Joanna Cloud  
(770) 503-7757  
[jcloud@lakelanier.org](mailto:jcloud@lakelanier.org)

## Message from the Board of Directors

As spring has started, we are thankful for a relatively mild winter. The rains have enabled the Lake to remain at full pool or higher since the fall. The forecast for the next several months will support high water levels into the summer. That should make 2016 a great year for Lanier and the enjoyment of millions of Lake visitors.

Your association has experienced an excellent first Quarter of 2016, punctuated by the best Annual meeting we have ever had. Almost 500 people attended the meeting in March at Port Royale Marina. The association was particularly pleased with the 35 new members that joined at the meeting. The Lanier Crappie Club fried over 1500 crappie fish filets and the food was enjoyed by all. In addition to our board members reporting on their projects, the key note speaker was Doug Collins, US Congressman from the Lake area. He outlined the successes that he and his staff have had regarding Lanier.

Inside this newsletter you will find status reports regarding ongoing initiatives, updates on the Ga / Fla legal action, and the status of the Corps of Engineers water control plan. Of particular note is the success of 2 new programs:

1. The Abandoned and Derelict Boats and Docks program is in full swing, and it has



## 2016 continued Progress & Programs

received special attention from the Ga Legislative Caucus by providing support to assist in removing these hazardous items.

2. The Rip Rap of Eroding Islands program has received confirmed support from several counties and some independent businesses. This will enable the conversion of additional islands this year.

As everyone enjoys the Lake this summer, please keep water safety uppermost in your mind.

Have an outstanding summer on the Lake.

*Val*

## LLA 2016 Annual Member Meeting

Photos from LLA 2016 Annual Member Meeting at Port Royale Marina – thanks to the ~500 people that turned out for the event. What a fun time for all! Special thanks to the Lanier Crappie Anglers club for the fabulous fish fry and to Congressman Doug Collins for speaking at the meeting.



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## Abandoned Docks



*Abandoned docks on Lake Lanier*

**I**t has been a very unusual 1st Quarter as it relates to Abandoned & Derelict Docks & Vessels on Lake Lanier. We have seen an increase in the number of abandoned docks, particularly in the Chestatee area. On the positive side, we have experienced an increase in community involvement, and in one particular incident, the neighborhood citizens have identified the previous location of the abandoned dock and are facilitating resolution of this issue. We greatly appreciate help and support from the Lake community. It is the best way to identify owners quickly and enables us to pursue a timely, proper removal. If you see something that is non-compliant with Shoreline Management Policy - report it immediately including location, condition, permit numbers. This allows us to trace

ownership and force accountability. The Result is a Clean & Safe Lake.

The BIG news is the announcement made at the LLA Annual Meeting. With the support of State Representative Kevin Tanner, the State's fiscal budget for 2017 includes an appropriation of \$25K for the DNR to remove abandoned vessels from Lake Lanier. This appropriation is one step away from coming to fruition. When Governor Deal signs the proposed budget for 2017, we will begin planning the removal of several long-term problematic vessels from Lake Lanier. This is a significant accomplishment and a huge step forward for this initiative.

We are also engaging with local County Commissioners to pursue local ordinance enforcement that would treat abandoned

boats and docks much like that of automobiles. This discussion is in its infancy but holds much promise to provide effective enforcement that will reduce the number of abandoned boats and docks.

Thanks for all who contributing to the success of this initiative. We are making progress and plan to develop a sustainable process going forward to eradicate these eyesores and safety hazards. Working together we can make it happen. Our goal remains to keep Lake Lanier Clean, Full, and Safe for everyone.





# Celebrate Earth Week 2016 And Help Keep It Going Year Round!

Come join the Lake Lanier Association, teaming up with Mother Earth Brewing, to help us in our mission of keeping Lake Lanier CLEAN, FULL, and SAFE!

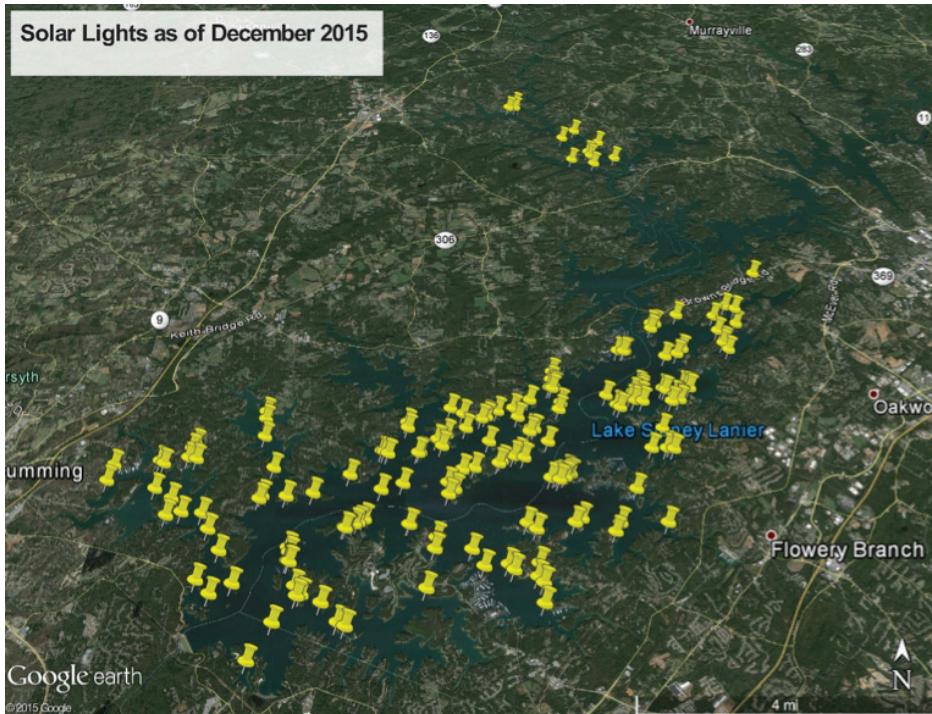
- ❖ Saturday, April 23rd, 2016 from 4:00PM-7:00PM
- ❖ Skogies Restaurant at Gainesville Marina—come by boat or car
- ❖ Mother Earth Brewing Beer Samples—\$2.00 suggested donation benefitting the Lake Lanier Association
  - ❖ Live DJ
  - ❖ Skogies will donate 10% of food sales to the Lake Lanier Association
    - ❖ Free giveaways
    - ❖ Shore Sweep lake cleanup volunteer signup
  - ❖ Opportunity to become a member of the Lake Lanier Association
- ❖ Lake Lanier Association member only drawing for Big Green Egg BBQ cooker

**GREAT BEER ❖ GREAT CAUSE ❖ GREAT PARTY**

Several local retailers are joining in this effort by offering a special deal on Mother Earth beer purchases and giving a portion of the sales back to Lake Lanier Association to help keep Lake Lanier clean. Retailers in your area include: Cumming Beverage Mart and Jax Fine Wine & Spirits in Cumming; Dawson Fine Wine & Spirits in Dawsonville; Hometown Spirits and Village Spirits in Flowery Branch; Northlake Package Store (formerly Leggs Package Store) in Gainesville.



# Solar Lights Update



The solar light committee will be starting our 2016 solar light install north of Browns Bridge. We hope

to have a good year placing solar lights and yellow reflecting tape on the hazard markers between

Browns Bridge and the Gainesville Marina and also finishing our light install in Dawson County.

We are working with the Corp of Engineers to bring our GPS light locations in agreement with the Corp markings. This will result in an accurate chart being made to reflect all of the solar light hazard markings. This chart should be available to all concerned boaters when finished on the Corps web site.

After each solar light install we will meet with the Corp to assure accurate GPS information is exchanged.

We welcome any comments you may have regarding our solar light program. Please call our office with any comments or suggestions.

## March 2016 Lake Lanier Index

The Lake Lanier temperature averaged 52 this was 7 degrees warmer than last year and 1.4 degrees warmer than February. The Secchi readings dropped 0.6 from 2015. "A" averaged 3.2 feet, "B" 6.6 feet, and "C" 11.9 feet. Our chlorophyll a average jumped to 7.3 micrograms/liter 1.5 higher than 2015. We had four readings above 10. These were Wahoo Creek, Off Watuga Dr., North of River Forks Park, and Brown's Bridge. We will drop our *Lake Lanier Index* to 5.5 with lower Secchi and higher

chlorophyll a averages. The Lake levels were 1071.02 on the 1st, 1070.21 on the 15th, 1070.06 on the 30th. All of these readings differed less than a foot from the March lake levels in 2015 and 2014.

Adopt-A-Lake divides Lake Lanier into three sections "A" north of Brown's Bridge, "B" the center region south of the Bridge to a line from Six Mile Creek east to Aqualand Marina, and "C" south of this line to Buford Dam. We have 25 stations that volunteers test the

first week every month. Secchi readings are taken by lowering a weighted disk into the water and measuring the distance it can be seen thus giving a gauge of clarity. Chlorophyll a is used to determine nutrients in the Lake. The Lake Lanier Index is only a measure of nutrients and clarity and not of water safety.

Thanks to our wonderful Adopt-A-Lake volunteers, Gwinnett Water Lab for our chlorophyll a analysis, and the support of all Lake Lanier Association members.

# Funding secured for Six Mile Creek Rip Rap Project

A commitment to fund the island rip rap project located in six Mile Creek has recently been received from Mr. Tommy Bagwell, President of American Proteins Company on Cumming, GA. Mr. Bagwell's contribution will be added to the previously announced grant from the US Army Corps of Engineers. We anticipate installing approximately 500 lineal feet of rip rap to protect the severely eroding shoreline of this island. Now that we have secured complete funding for this project, we expect to complete this project before the end of June.

Shoreline erosion is a serious problem for the lake. Boat wakes and waves driven by the wind eat away at unprotected shoreline and cause banks to collapse. This

leads to increased siltation. As silt builds up on the bottom of the lake, it reduces the water storage capacity and also impacts water quality. Lake Lanier provides drinking water for over 4 million residents in North Georgia. Any reduction in the amount of water available for drinking supplies is a serious concern.

We are still seeking additional funding to complete three other island rip rap projects in the south lake during 2016. If we are able to secure sufficient funding, we plan to install an additional 3,500 lineal feet of rip rap. These projects would require approximately 6,500 tons of stone to be installed on these eroding shorelines. These projects are estimated to cost of over \$400,000.

We are continuing to develop our partnership with Hall County. They are providing support of our rip rap projects through the use of recently approved SPLOST Funds. Gwinnett County has also expressed interest in helping us with these projects.

We are also working with prospective vendors to seek preferential pricing to accomplish these important public service projects. We are doing all we can to stretch the available funding to reducing shoreline erosion which helps protect the future of Lake Lanier for all of its stakeholders. We welcome any businesses or individuals who would like to contribute funding for these efforts.



# Photos from LLA 2016 Annual Member Meeting at Port Royale Marina, THANK YOU!



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# MEMBERSHIP FORM

615 F Oak Street, #100 Gainesville, GA 30501  
770-503-7757  
[www.lakelanier.org](http://www.lakelanier.org)

Please enter your name and address information below / New Address? Please write below

Name:

Address:

City, State, Zip:

Phone Number:

Email Address\*:

- Please be sure your email address is correct. We are moving toward email based communications for several of our membership services.

## PERSONAL MEMBERSHIPS:

<b>Family Levels:</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Bronze \$50	<input type="checkbox"/> Silver \$100	<input type="checkbox"/> Gold \$150
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<input type="checkbox"/> Captain's Club, \$200-\$499	<input type="checkbox"/> Admiral's Club, \$500-\$999	<input type="checkbox"/> President's Club, \$1000 and up
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Please send me my free Lake Lanier Association hat for my gift of \$200 or more. For online payments, email [lakeinfo@lakelanier.org](mailto:lakeinfo@lakelanier.org) to request a hat be mailed to you.

## BUSINESS MEMBERSHIPS:

<input type="checkbox"/> Business Membership, \$250	Name listing on LLA website
<input type="checkbox"/> Business Membership, \$500	Name listing plus logo on LLA website
<input type="checkbox"/> Business Membership, \$1,000	Name listing, logo, plus brief company description on LLA website

My check is enclosed.

### Credit Card Payment

Please charge my  VISA  MasterCard  American Express  Amount \_\_\_\_\_

Name as it appears on card \_\_\_\_\_

Account Number \_\_\_\_\_

Expiration Date \_\_\_\_\_ Security Code \_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

YOU MAY ALSO RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP BY PAYPAL VIA OUR WEBSITE,  
[WWW.LAKELANIER.ORG](http://WWW.LAKELANIER.ORG). IF YOU HAVE A PAYPAL ACCOUNT, YOU MAY SET UP YOUR PAYPAL  
 ACCOUNT TO AUTOMATICALLY ANNUALLY BILL

All dues and donations are tax-deductible under IRS 501(c)3 Not for Profit tax code, as permitted by law



Lake Lanier Association  
615 F Oak Street, Suite 100  
Gainesville, GA 30501

***Committed to a clean, full, and safe Lake Lanier to enhance its economic value in Georgia.***

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## Kroger Community Rewards



Don't forget to update your Kroger Community Rewards designation for the Lake Lanier Association nonprofit organization as your beneficiary. Kroger requires individuals to update their beneficiary organization annually. So far in 2014, the Lake Lanier Association has received over \$230 in income from Kroger to support lake programs and services

though our members shopping at Kroger and designating us as the beneficiary!

If you haven't already signed up, you need a Kroger Plus Card to participate. You can get a Plus Card at the customer service desk at any Kroger store. Once you have a Kroger Plus Card, go to the Kroger website:  
[https://www.kroger.com/  
communityrewards](https://www.kroger.com/communityrewards) and register your Plus Card. As part of that registration process, you will be asked to designate a beneficiary organization. Please choose the Lake Lanier Association, organization #37224.

### Support Lake Lanier Association Inc.

When you shop at  
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Shop at AmazonSmile and Amazon will donate a portion of the sale to the Lake Lanier Association! Use the below link to directly access the Lake Lanier Association support program from AmazonSmile!  
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