A Note from the Executive Director

As some of you may already know, this will be my last newsletter as the Executive Director of the Lake Lanier Association. After almost nine years in the role, I have accepted another position with a marine services company in the area. It has been a bittersweet time for me and coming to this decision was difficult but I know the LLA is well positioned to continue to grow and serve lake stakeholders and I am happy that I will still be a part of the community both from a work and personal residence standpoint – just operating under a different capacity. This is not so much a “goodbye” as it is a “see you around”.

As I have said many times, the Executive Director role has been the most interesting job in the world. Not a week has gone by that I didn’t get into an interesting phone call, email or personal conversation with someone that had something concerning, funny, surprising, or downright weird happening in their world related to Lake Lanier. We have joked many times that I should be writing all of those little events down so that I can one day write a memoir of the experience. I might have to consider that someday!

I do want to take a quick moment to say thank you to the LLA board members – all of whom have been very supportive of me both in my role as Executive Director and now, also, of my decision to move on.

But the biggest thank you is to all is to the “ordinary” members. You are extraordinary. It was amazing how many phone calls or emails I have received over the past nine years related to mundane or administrative matters that ended with someone sincerely thanking me for doing a job I was being paid to do. I wish everyone has the opportunity at some point in their life to be employed in a role where people thank you as frequently as I have experienced. It truly made waking up in the morning and thinking about what was going to be accomplished that day something to look forward to.

(continued)
A Note from the Executive Director (continued)

TEN THINGS I HAVE LEARNED WORKING FOR THE LLA:

1. Until you learn to navigate the lake via the navigation markers, the pine trees on the shoreline all look pretty much the same wherever you are on Lake Lanier.

2. A laundry basket tied to the front of a kayak is a really good way to collect trash floating in the back of a cove.

3. There is no Yellow Pages listing for “Sunken Vessel Removal”.

4. A fully submerged houseboat, with a lot of personal articles on it, has a very distinctive and not pleasant odor to it when it gets pulled out and exposed to air.

5. It is not a good idea to have a TV camera focused on you immediately after a submerged houseboat gets exposed to air in close proximity to you, certainly not after a big breakfast.

6. A 32 foot abandoned vessel will not fit on a 21 foot trailer behind a small pick-up truck – no matter how well intentioned the volunteer with the pick-up truck is.

7. Transpo-evaporation is a real term and a real issue on Lake Lanier. While I haven’t figured out how to incorporate that term into my regular jargon, if it happens to come up at a summer BBQ or a cocktail party, I am ready.

8. If you call 411 and ask for just “Lake Lanier”, the results are returned alphabetically and “Lake Lanier Association” will be the first listing provided.

9. There is someone that will place a call to Lake Lanier almost every day during the summer and ask if there will be fireworks that night.

10. People passionate about an issue will absolutely amaze you with the amount of time, energy and intellect they will put forth into being part of the solution to the issue – and they will do it with a smile on their face. Thank you, LLA volunteers, for teaching me that.

Joanna Cloud
Executive Director

Save the Date September 14, 2019

With all the high water so much trash has floated into the lake you can’t drive around without seeing a black float or other debris everywhere. Many of you have decided to cleanup your shoreline, parks and favorite boating areas without anyone telling you to “just do it”. All of us that love Lanier thank you and I hope everyone tries to clean up everywhere and as often as possible.

We at Lake Lanier Association have been asked many times “why not a Spring Sweep?”

Shore Sweep is a huge undertaking, with multiple sites all over Lanier many being at Marinas and heavily used areas. We also must have dumpsters, dedicated volunteers, heavy equipment and barges, boats, jet skis and even kayaks not to mention the walkers and the ground force to pull it off. Its not something we can expect from our Shore Sweep partners or pull off without months of planning and thousands of dollars.

(continued)
The other consideration is boat traffic, lots of people on the water is not conducive to clean up pulling trash around the lake which is why it’s done in the fall when most are done boating for the season. Other organizations and events like Chattahoochee Sweep the Hooch and Keep America Beautiful Great American Cleanup help close that gap so there are cleanups going on most of the year.

Until we get closer to Shore Sweep, we do have a few suggestions to try and keep our lake beautiful.

• **Clean up your shoreline.** You don’t want to look at trash all summer, do you? Get with your neighbors and fellow lake lovers and do your own neighborhood sweep. A few boats, some strong backs and garbage bags you will be shocked at how fast you can clean up an area. If you need LLA Shore Sweep blue bags to help your effort, please let me know. If you notify your garbage removal service, they should take just about anything.

• **Those black floats..... yeah, I feel your pain.** If they are riding high and not severely damaged, you might want to recycle and keep for your dock or check around if someone else needs one. They are very expensive, and floaters are fair game.

• **If the black float is waterlogged, you have a couple options.** If you cut the plastic (be careful) you can drain the water and let it dry out some before disposal. You can cut it up and once again take it to a garbage hauler. If you have a huge pile up in your neighborhood you all might want to invest in a dumpster. Shared cost, they are not that expensive and can take a lot of lake trash, and maybe get your garage cleaned out in the process.

• **Save your floats for Shore Sweep.** I have a black float trapped at my dock. I know my fellow Lake Diva Lu Treadway always has a couple tied to her dock. Its not pretty but it works, and I know it will be gone soon enough.

• **White Styrofoam, it’s hard to believe we are still dealing with this.** Most of that is old and light, cut it up (be careful...safety first) and throw it away.

• **If you see a “Stryfoam grave yard” with lots of trash on a shoreline or cove, please let me know.** That situation we may be able to organize something to get it cleaned up. We have no standby crew we can send out to do a cleanup, but we can get some volunteers and resources together and clean if we can figure out access.

I hope everyone has a clean, safe summer! Your association thanks you for your support on keeping Lake Lanier clean and I look forward to working with all of you 9/14 for Shore Sweep.

Bonny Putney
Thanks to everyone that made the 2019 Annual Member Meeting such a big success! The weather was fabulous, the venue was great, and the food/drink/music and people there were a lot of fun. With over 500 people in attendance, it was standing room only under the big tent for the presentations. Thank you for coming out and supporting the event! Representative Marc Morris gave us an update on lake related legislative concerns and Wilton Rooks gave us overview of LLA financials, projects and initiatives.
Everyone likes to save money - and your electric bill is no exception. **Jackson EMC** reminds homeowners that by making small adjustments to how you use energy in your home, you can begin to see lower electric bills.

Follow these money-saving tips to reduce your energy use, and in turn, your monthly bill.

1. Set your thermostat at 78 degrees in the summer and 68 degrees in the winter. Cooling and heating is typically the single largest expense in a home, so being smart about how you use your heat pump can make a significant difference in your bill.

2. Use a programmable thermostat, which can save as much as 10% a year in energy costs.

3. Check air filters each month and replace them if they are dirty. Clean filters can save 5-15% on your electric bill.

4. Check for water leaks around your house. A leaking faucet isn’t just wasting water, it’s also wasting electricity for your water heater to warm the water.

5. Set your water heater thermostat to 120-130 degrees. As a safety precaution, shut off the electricity to your water heater before adjusting the temperature.

6. Unplug devices not used frequently. When devices are plugged in, but not being used, the phantom power
can account for up to 10% of electronics total energy use in your home.

7. Add weather stripping to areas where air leaks occur in your home.

8. Keep the oven door closed while cooking. Each time you open the oven door while cooking, the oven temperature drops by as much as 25 degrees, which means the oven works harder to get the temperature back to the proper cooking temperature. Instead, check on food through the oven window.

9. Switch to LED light bulbs instead of using incandescent bulbs. LED bulbs use 25% less energy than incandescent bulbs and last 25 times longer.

10. Use a slow cooker or toaster oven more often, instead of the oven. Using these smaller appliances to cook food can mean energy savings.

11. Carefully pull your refrigerator out one inch, if it’s currently pressed against a wall. Your refrigerator’s condenser works harder when it’s pressed against a wall and can’t circulate air.

12. Run full loads in your washer, dryer and dishwasher to maximize its efficiency.

For more tips from Jackson EMC on lowering your energy bill, visit jacksonemc.com/waystosave, find energy-saving products at jacksonemcmarketplace.com.

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### Adopt-A-Lake Report

**Lake Lanier Index - February 2019**

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**Lake Lanier Index**

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4.8  

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Section “A” North of Brown’s Bridge, “B” center region South of the Bridge to a line from Six Mile Creek East to Aqualand Marina, “C” South of this line to Buford Dam

25 Stations Tested by Volunteers between the 8th and 18th every month

Secchi Readings are taken by lowering a weighted disk into the water & measuring the distance it can be seen thus giving a gauge of clarity

Chlorophyll is used to determine nutrients in the lake

Lake Lanier Index is a measure of nutrients and clarity, NOT water safety

Thanks to Gwinnett Water Lab for our chlorophyll analysis, our Adopt-A-Lake volunteers and Lake Lanier Assoc. Members
We hope you are enjoying our quarterly newsletters and regular email updates. We also have a very active Facebook Page with 4562 followers! Our goal is to reach 5000+ and we are almost there! Please LIKE and SHARE our posts.

Last summer we sent out a large mailing to all of the property owners with docks giving a half year trial membership for people to get to know the LLA and our programs. In the last few months we have been asking for membership renewals by email and mail. If you are one of our newest members....we welcome you! We encourage you to get involved with a committee if you have time. Being a member is the best way to be linked in to all of our communications, quarterly newsletters and calls to action. Our new members have grown 36% year to date compared to last year so the program is working! If you have received a renewal request we hope you will respond by joining! We have many membership levels from $50 and up. We also have Business Memberships.

Lastly, we have a complimentary first year memberships for new homeowners on the lake, and new boat slip owners at the Marinas.

Please share the word about the LLA with your neighbors and friends and encourage them to JOIN! It’s easy...just go to www.LakeLanier.org under JOIN.

Sheila Davis
VP Marketing
Safety Committee Update

Our 2019 Annual Meeting was just held, this time at Aqualand Marina, and we again set up our 100 Foot Challenge to see how many people can identify 100 foot distance. At the Atlanta Boat Show we set up this challenge and about only half the people who took the test could correctly identify 100’. At the Annual Meeting about 65% of people taking the test correctly identified the 100’ flag. It seems our Lake Lanier Association members have a better awareness of what 100’ is; but our goal is by next year every boater on Lake Lanier will correctly identify 100’.

For this boating season, Aqualand Marina and Gainesville Marina have agreed to display our large 100 Foot Rule signs at the approaches to their gas docks. There will be two signs displayed, each with an arrow pointing to the other; the distance between them will be 100 Feet. This will give boaters an “on the water visual” of what 100’ looks like from their boat. We are also working out some details with other marinas so there should be several other gas dock approaches displaying our 100 Foot Rule signs.

The goal of this program is to show boaters what 100’ looks like on the water, and what to do when 100’ from any stationary object. This effort is supported by the Army Corps, Georgia DNR, and County Sheriff Departments around the Lake. We believe if more people are aware of this rule and follow it, our lake will be a much safer place.

Boating Safety Postcard

Have you gotten your postcard yet? The Lake Lanier Association is in the process of mailing out a postcard to all registered boat owners around Lake Lanier with a safety message related to the 100 foot rule in our state. Above are the images of the front and back of the postcard. Be sure to look for it in your mailbox and please make sure all boat operators in your household are aware of it.
Dock Safety from the Annual Meeting

For our members who were unable to attend the Annual Meeting this year I would like to bring to your attention some of our Business Members who displayed some products the will enhance the safety of your docks.

Ottodock

For the first time a new company called Ottodock introduced a system that will automatically move your dock in and out as the lake level rises and falls throughout the year. As a dock owner myself I know moving a dock can be a very dangerous and time consuming process. The average dock gangway weighs in the neighborhood of 500 to 800 pounds. Moving this much weight by hand is dangerous and can cause back, hand and foot injuries. If it’s raining, the ground is slick presenting a slip and fall hazard. Thunder and lightning make the heavy move even more dangerous.

The system will make sure the dock is constantly maintained perpendicular to the shoreline providing minimal resistance to wind and protecting the dock and watercraft from wind damage.

The Ottodock patent pending Smart Winches™, always maintain the proper cable tension, cable angle, and cable length for perfect dock alignment. The owner’s dock is protected from a collision with neighboring docks and the shoreline.

If you’d like to keep your dock secure and your belongings safe, Ottodock is currently recruiting dock owners on Lake Lanier to join the Beta Test Partner program. Contact ott@ottodock.com or connect with us on Facebook to discuss partner opportunities and learn more.

Check Out: www.ottodock.com

Dock IQ

Dock IQ was back and displayed and explained their line of dock safety and security products this year.

We have to mention again how important it is to monitor and make sure your dock electrical system is up to code. With the Lake almost setting record high levels this spring putting many ramps underwater, the potential for stray electrical currents in the water is very high. There were no fatalities reported, but there were some injuries around the Lake from electrical problems.

The Shock IQ shock detection system monitors your dock electrical system 24/7 and will shut off the power and send a warning if something goes wrong.

Check Out: www.dockiq.com

The Lake is high, the economy is good, and gas while going up, is still affordable, so this is shaping up to be a busy boating season on Lake Lanier. Safe boating practices will be most important so we can all enjoy our Lake without any unpleasant incidents to spoil the fun.
Annual Report – Shoreline Erosion Control

The Lake Lanier Association began the third round of Island Shoreline Erosion Control projects in December 2018. Work began on three Islands located north of Old Federal Park. In addition to these three locations, we have identified four more islands located in the south Lake that are experiencing severe erosion on their shoreline. These islands are located at the southern tip of the Three Sisters Island chain. The cost of this installation is approximately $530,000.

Depending on lake water levels, we hope to complete these remaining locations in the first half of 2019.

LLA’s Island Shoreline Erosion Control efforts began in 2015. We have completed 5 island projects to date. The funding for the project is being provided by Gwinnett County Dept. of Water Resources, Hall County SPLOST, the Chantal and Tommy Bagwell Family Foundation, the City of Gainesville Water Dept. and the City of Cumming Water Dept.

Metropolitan North Georgia Water Planning

The Metropolitan North Georgia Water Planning District is seeking volunteers to participate the Lake Lanier Basin Advisory Council.

For more information, please contact Tom Vivelo at tvivelo@gmail.com.

Protect Our Water
Access to clean water is important for our safety and vitality. We educate our communities on pollution prevention and turn wastewater into clean water, returning 67% of what we use back to its source.

www.northgeorgiawater.org/AppyNow
MEMBERSHIP FORM

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 use email based communications for several of our membership services.

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◊ Your company name will appear in the LLA business listing.
◊ Your company logo will appear on our Home page.
◊ Your company name will appear on the Shore Sweep t-shirt and banners.
◊ Your company will be invited to table, at no extra charge, at our Vendor Expo at our Annual Member Meeting.

◊ Branding opportunities.
◊ Representation for key initiatives.
◊ Commercial Display.
◊ Performance depending on your commitment.

◊ All Business Sponsor benefits, plus.
◊ Web blast to membership.
◊ Custom marketing opportunity.

◊ All Business Sponsor and Partner benefits, plus.
◊ Exclusivity options.
◊ Marketing collateral trademark.

You may renew by with a check by mail, or you may renew with a credit card. If you renew with a credit card via our website, you can choose to set up an automatic billing for your annual membership dues.

---------------------------------- Credit Card Payment ----------------------------------

◊ Please charge my  ◊ VISA  ◊ MasterCard  ◊ American Express  ◊ Amount ______________________
Name as it appears on card ____________________________________________
Account Number _______________________________________________________
Expiration Date _______________________________________________________
Three digit security code from back of card ____________________________
Signature ___________________________________________________________

All dues and donations are tax-deductible under IRS 501(c)3 Not for Profit tax code, as permitted by law
1/18
Lake Lanier Association
615 F Oak Street, Suite 200
Gainesville, GA  30501

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

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. The Lake Lanier Association has received over $1000 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 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.

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!

http://smile.amazon.com/ch/58-1264797