



LANIER OUTLOOK

The LLA Newsletter



LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

As we approach the 34th annual Shore Sweep on Saturday, September 24th, I'm reminded of the power of the collective. One person can only do so much, but there's a multiplier effect to the good work which can be accomplished by large groups. It's not as simple as taking the work one person can do and multiplying that by the number of people doing it to predict what can be accomplished. *There is a multiplier effect.* The sum ends up being greater than that simple math. Groups working well together are comprised of individuals who feed off one another, who help each other out by lending a hand, or sharing an idea, or making a suggestion, or just cheering someone on. Groups celebrate their success together and each other in the process, and winning or accomplishing something together is always fun! I'm astounded and humbled by what 1,000+ volunteers can accomplish for our wonderful lake each and every year.

Summer Wrap-Up 2022

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Last year 1,200 volunteers removed 85.08 tons of trash and debris from the shores and waters of Lake Lanier. This year we are predicting recorded turnout, which will certainly lead to record results. It's one of the most meaningful days of the year for me, and I hope it is for many of you as well. This is one example where we can clearly see and feel the results, and the multiplier effect, of our collective work! I look forward to seeing you pitching in on the 24th, becoming a part of something bigger than any of us could do alone.

Another example which comes to mind regarding the power of a collective effort is the partnership LLA enjoys with the USACE. We recently spent an entire afternoon with Tim Rainey, Operations Project Manager, and several members of his leadership team. We discussed in detail ongoing operations and joint projects such as our Erosion and Sedimentation committee work, the Solar Lights program, our collective ADDV efforts and results this year, and other programs we have instituted to help continually ensure a Clean, Safe and Full Lake Sidney Lanier. I can't overstate how much I appreciate their partnership and support. We will continue to face collective challenges brought on by resource constraints, mother nature and the small subset of the millions of visitors who do not share our vision for keeping Lake Lanier Clean, Full and Safe. But I'm confident the collective power of our respective groups can continue to accomplish great things, and together we will help ensure a future in which Lake Lanier continues to thrive and be a wonderful resource for millions of people each year.

See you at Shore Sweep!



Todd Baxter, LLA President



Leadership Staff from the Lake Lanier Corps of Engineers Project Management Office and team members of the Lake Lanier Association met on August 19th to introduce new team members, discuss top concerns, and share current projects happening around the lake.

Board of Directors

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Todd Baxter

Vice President Administration, Finance

Billy Powell

Vice President Operations and Shore Sweep

Bonny Putney

Vice President Legal Counsel, Erosion and Sedimentation

Clyde Morris

Vice President Marketing

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Dan Ohman

Kelly Marlowe

Tom Child

Tom Vivello

Matt Williams

Skip Short

Tom Shillock

Staff

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Amy McGuire

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This edition of the LLA Newsletter, Lanier Outlook, is written, sourced and designed by Victoria Clevenger.

What to Know for Shore Sweep 2022

Saturday, Sept. 24th 8am - 1pm



TO REGISTER FOR SHORE SWEEP GO TO [LAKELANIER.ORG](https://www.lakelanier.org)

Be a part of cleaning up the lake for the benefit of Lake Lanier and all those who enjoy it. Please be sure to pre-register, whether attending by land or water, using Eventbrite (linked on the LLA website), so we can distribute t-shirts and supplies appropriately throughout the sites.

WHEN:

September 24th, trash drop off and supply pickup will be open from 8am-1pm at all sites. This is a drop in event. Pick up trash on your way to the site for drop off, pick up your supplies first then head out to clean, or do a combination of the two.

HOW:

Attend via boat, PWC, kayak, canoe, land or a combination. People walking the shoreline and boats of all sizes can help with this event. Kayak teams have gone into coves that no one else can access and collected trash in laundry baskets strapped to their boats. PWC have pulled trains of dock floats. Pontoons have put down tarps and filled up their boats with piles of bagged trash.

Can't make it on September 24th? You can still help.

Advance Sites are open now!

If you can't make it the day of Shore Sweep or you want to clean multiple areas, seven advance sites open on September 10th. You can take trash to these sites by boat for the two weeks before Shore Sweep. Advance Sites close sunset Friday, September 23rd.

If you bring trash to any of these locations, please look for the signs posted and leave the debris close to the signs. You can bring bagged trash or large items and leave them at one of these locations. We have volunteer boats scheduled to pick up at all these locations on Saturday morning for removal.

Trash can only be dropped while the Shore Sweep signs are in place. Do not bring trash to these locations other times of the year.

SPECIAL THANKS TO THE 2022 SHORE SWEEP SIGNATURE SPONSORS:



Shore Sweep 2022

Advance Site Locations:

Close at sunset on Friday, September 23rd

Shady Grove Park-Beach
Beaver Ruin
Gwinnett Park
Gaines Ferry Island
Beaver Island
Wahoo Island 2WC
Nix Bridge Island

Shore Sweep 2022 Day of Sites:

Saturday, September 24th

Forsyth County:

Bald Ridge Marina
Shady Grove-Boat Access Only
Port Royale Marina

Dawson County:

War Hill Park
Toto Creek Park

Hall County:

Don Carter State Park
Laurel Park
Holly Park
Gainesville Marina
Balus Creek Boat Ramp
Aqualand Marina
Lanier Islands Boat Ramp

Gwinnett County:

Gwinnett Park

**Shore Sweep registration,
additional details and location map
available at lakelanier.org.**



Meet the New LLA Board Members



Skip Short

Skip is a lifelong resident of Georgia who grew up on Lake Lanier in Gainesville, GA. Even after leaving for college and then working in Atlanta as a Civil Engineer, the lake pulled him and his family back to the shores full time. Skip has decades of Stormwater Management experience working for some of the top global stormwater companies. He is currently the owner of SRG (Short Resource Group), which provides consulting and solutions for municipalities, engineering and development companies ensuring they comply with the Clean Water Act.

Besides enjoying Lake Lanier with his wife Mendy, daughter, son and friends, he spends a lot of time on the water year-round fishing for the elusive Striper. This has also allowed him a unique perspective in getting to know every part of the lake. Skip wants to ensure that Lake Lanier remains the jewel that it is now and well into the future.

Tom Shillock

Tom Shillock comes to the LLA with over 31 years of experience working with the State of Georgia Environmental Protection Division (EPD), Department of Natural Resources (DNR), and environmental services with the metro-Atlanta District compliance office; Air Quality Forecaster and in the Watershed Protection Branch and Floodplain Management Unit. He also worked in partnership with FEMA Region IV as the State Cooperative Technical Partner; Georgia Floodplain Management Coordinator, GIS Specialist.



After retiring from the State of Georgia in 2016, he and his wife, Cathy, moved to the Gainesville area in the fall of 2019. In all his travels throughout North Georgia, he recalls viewing Lake Lanier with a special passion and dream to someday be better associated with the remarkable community and watershed that is Lake Lanier. Tom looks at Lanier with great reverence, respect and enthrallment. He knows, undoubtedly, that this is where he is meant to be and as long as he is here, he vows to do his best to sustain, and maintain the beauty of this North Georgia gem – our beloved, Lake Lanier.



Shop Barefoot Bay Apparel & support LLA with your purchase!

Dear Friends of Lake Lanier,

We have recently partnered with a company called Barefoot Bay to help raise funds for the Lake Lanier Association. Barefoot Bay's mission is to raise awareness, celebrate freshwater fun, and preserve fresh waterways for future generations. In order to help with these efforts, they create custom eco-friendly apparel that features their lake partners.

Additionally, Barefoot Bay has the support and partnership of Kenny Chesney's 'No Shoes Reefs' (noshoesreefs.org). No Shoes Reefs (NSRs) originally focused on saltwater initiatives and now joined forces with Barefoot Bay to help support organizations that work to preserve and raise awareness about sustaining freshwater lakes.

Barefoot Bay will donate 20% of any Lake Lanier apparel product sale to LLA!

This is a great way to add to your Lake Lanier gear or start your holiday shopping.

Use the site listed below to order your favorite shirt or hat that features our beloved Lake Lanier. In doing so, your purchase will help support our preservation efforts!

Amy McGuire
Executive Director, Lake Lanier Association



Learn More & Shop at www.barefootbay.net.

Lake Society

New Lakeside Development Breaks Ground

Written by Clyde Morris

LLA Vice President Legal Counsel, Erosion and Sedimentation



Lake Society will be a new, 211-acre subdivision located primarily on Ahaluna Drive off Dawsonville Highway in Gainesville. Originally proposed more than five years ago, the plans now call for 723 new residences, including 373 single-family detached homes and 350 assisted living, memory care, independent living, and duplex cottage units. Plans also call for a 40,000-square-foot self-storage facility for boats and recreational vehicles, and two community docks, one with 38 slips and the other with 92 slips. It will be developed in three phases, with the first single-family homes potentially being available in 2023.

Because of its size and location on what was previously a largely undeveloped peninsula in Lake Lanier, the Association's primary concern is the potential for runoff and sedimentation, especially during the land-clearing and construction phases. Once the development is complete, the additional hardscape (streets, roofs, sidewalks) could be expected to increase runoff compared to the natural forest environment that existed there previously. However, the engineering plans call for runoff capture and storage systems mitigating increased stormwater flows from the site. There are also systems to treat any stormwater runoff, which will help contain any trash or sediment during and after construction.

The addition of 130 boat slips – and possibly many more boats in self-storage – will likely mean an increase in boat traffic on the northern portion of the lake above Lanier Bridge (next to Gainesville Marina). One other concern that has been voiced is the increase in vehicle traffic on Dawsonville Highway, which was slated years ago for improvements in the area around its intersection with McEver Road but which has yet to materialize.



The Association has reviewed the latest plans for the development, has monitored the land clearing and erosion and sedimentation (“E&S”) control work to date, and has been in communication with the developer, the civil design firm, and the grading contractor already working on the project. We are collaborating with Chattahoochee Riverkeeper (CRK) in these activities, and while we have raised several E&S technical issues, we have not seen any erosion or sedimentation affecting the lake as of the time this article was written.

In the long term, we hope that the development will be a model of responsible design and execution for environmental protection. The design of the post-construction stormwater control system is ambitious and is intended to cause a large portion of stormwater to percolate down into the soil throughout the development rather than being channeled directly into the lake. Our hopes are high that the design will function well toward that goal, and we are hopeful that the developer will incorporate additional soft-scaping and pervious materials – as well as minimize lawn areas that typically encourage the proliferation of fertilizer and water usage – in a 21st-century model of responsible lakeside stewardship.



Photos taken from Ahaluna Dr. in Gainesville, GA and submitted by an LLA member.

Lighting Up Lanier with Solar Lights

End of Season Program Update



PROGRAM UPDATE BY TODD BAXTER, PRESIDENT

I'm pleased to report we had our best season in terms of light functionality since the lights were originally installed 10 years ago! Our partner, Lanier Services 3 (LS3), conducted their annual nighttime survey of every single solar light on the lake (all 289 of them!) in April of this year. They quickly worked to replace malfunctioning lights, ensuring we had all lights (except for ones with missing poles, which were identified for replacement by USACE) functioning in early May, prior to the busy on-water season.

During the summer LS3 quickly worked each week to address issues as they arose, and they were also instrumental in the "emergency marking" of down markers while putting them in queue for USACE to make the official repairs. In addition to these activities, you may recall that early in 2021 we decided to enact a maintenance program for the solar lights. The lights have a 3 year warranty and are generally holding up well for that period of time. Our goal with this new maintenance program is to replace each light every 3 years, to help ensure the highest possible percentage of lights are operating within their warranty period.

In 2021, LS3 replaced 100 lights, and just last month they finished replacing the next 100 lights which were scheduled for 2022. That means over two thirds of the lights on the lake are new!

Terry Borovitsky, owner of LS3, said ***“Thank you LLA and USACE for allowing LS3 to serve the lake. We are proud to make nighttime boating a safer and more enjoyable experience by keeping the lights on!”***

LLA looks forward to partnering with LS3 again in 2023. Together, we will continue to improve the solar light program to safely mark hazardous areas around Lanier and make nighttime boating safer throughout the year.



*From Left to Right:
Todd Baxter (LLA President) and Terry Borovitsky
(Owner of LS3) enjoying the photobooth during the
LLA Annual Member Celebration, April 2022*



Wow - that's some shallow water!

Did you know that the solar lights on Lake Lanier are used to help illuminate hazards for safer boating after dark?

This particular light and hazard marker is in very shallow water, making this a very dangerous spot on the lake regardless of the time of day.

Not only is it dangerous for boaters, but the efforts required to maintain these lights are also dangerous for LS3, our solar light marine contractor. This photo was snapped during a recent maintenance run where 25 solar lights were replaced and upgraded with the latest models.

Thank you LS3 for helping keep Lake Lanier safe!



Know the Ropes!

Buying or Selling a Used Boat

BY AMY MCGUIRE, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Photo provided by Amy McGuire

Ahoy! As we approach the end of the summer season, many boaters begin to reflect and evaluate their current vessel. Very often, boaters choose to sell their boat this time of year to avoid storage fees, winterization protocols and other associated expenses that continue through the off-season. **If you find yourself asking whether it's time to upgrade, downsize or embark on a new boating persuasion continue reading to learn how you can maximize the return on your current vessel.**

Hopefully you've maintained your boat all along and kept records and receipts to document repairs, replacements, and scheduled maintenance. If you haven't, it's never too late to start. Create a file to keep records, manuals, receipts, and other documents in one place. When it's time to sell, or trade, this documentation will help maximize the value of your boat. In turn, this can act as a springboard to your next boat.

When selling or trading a used boat, two key elements are going to be evaluated by the dealer or potential buyer - aesthetics and mechanics.

It's important to ensure your vessel is looking its very best when it's time to sell. Before listing your boat, or negotiating a trade, take the time to buff out any oxidation and add a fresh coat of wax. Once you've addressed the exterior of the boat, turn your attention to the interior. Clean seats, carpets, storage bays, and cupholders. Treat the seats, gunnels and any other vinyl-covered areas with a UV protectant and moisturizer. Next, focus on the engine compartment. Use a degreaser to clean the engine and a specialized cleaner to clean the bilge area which can develop buildup from lake water, mildew, engine exhaust, etc. When you rinse, it will also clear the pipe, or hose, that leads to your drain plug.

If your boat is on a trailer, ensure it's clean and roadworthy. Replace worn tires, check bearings, and brake pads and lines if your trailer has them. If you're selling your boat on your own, you want to make sure the buyer can take it with them!

Once you've ensured that your boat is looking and running it's best, it's time to sell or trade. Take your time here and decide which method works best for you. In some cases, trades make sense. In others, a private sale will yield the highest return. **If you're looking for a reputable dealer in the area, visit www.lakelanier.org/our-sponsors/ to find local options that support the mission of the LLA!**

If you're planning to sell the boat yourself, keep reading.

When listing a boat, a thoughtful, well-informed ad featuring lots of pictures will reduce phone calls with questions and increase phone calls from potential buyers. Pictures are important and can often communicate what words can't. **The adage, "a picture is worth a thousand words", is very true when selling a boat yourself.**

A thoughtful ad contains pictures, photographed in adequate lighting or an inspiring setting, that demonstrate the boat's layout and overall condition. This is your time to brag a little about all that work you did leading up to this point! In your ad, include information such as the year, make and model of the boat. In addition to the basics, you can expand to include as much information as possible. List the number of hours on the engine(s), engine specs, major repairs with dates, sound system details, after-market features and other details to help buyers gain trust in the boat—and you, the seller. Don't forget to list any equipment that will be included with the boat or negotiated separately.

Back to the pictures. Despite all the information you've listed, interested buyers are going to study the pictures. Go ahead and make it easy for them. Start with wide shots of the boat to give potential buyers an image of the boat's overall layout and condition. Once you've captured the audience's attention, zoom in a little closer on the gauge cluster, hour meter, stereo, seats, storage areas, unique features, insignias, and other equipment. If the boat has a bimini, or custom cover, be sure to include pictures with the cover; for the bimini, you'll want to include pictures with it up and stowed in its dedicated compartment (if applicable). You can also include pictures of any equipment that will be included with the boat. This can include fish or depth finders, skis, wakeboards, surf boards, tubes, life vests, etc.

If the boat has any areas of damage, photograph those with either a ruler or coin to demonstrate the size of the damaged area. Sometimes it's hard to get an idea of how significant damage is without something to demonstrate scale. Lastly, include pictures of the (clean!) engine compartment to reveal how well the boat has been maintained and attention to detail that's been given.

Additionally, understand your boat, it's current value and price it accordingly. Determine your bottom line on the boat and factor any incentives for buyers to purchase this time of year. Incentives could include storage, winterization after the sea trial, or any other expense associated with the purchase of a new or pre-owned boat.



Amy McGuire and her husband, Bill, are experienced used boat shoppers. They often develop "foot disease" and always keep their eyes open for the next best vessel for family fun on the water.

Photos included in this article are provided by Amy and Bill McGuire.

Finally, once you've added your pictures and included as many details as possible, decide on your contact method. If you can only answer inquires after a certain time of day, include that information to manage buyer expectations. **Make sure your contact information is correct — a single typo can be the difference between a quick sale and crickets. It's also a good idea to have a second set of eyes proofread your ad before you post it.**

By this point, you may have invested several hours or days into prepping your boat for sale and creating the ad. When you are ready to post, use sites you frequent yourself. Facebook Marketplace and Craigslist are popular choices for private sellers. You can expand your posts to include a larger geographic area as well.

If you stayed with me to this point, whether you sell your boat on your own, or trade it at one of our sponsor dealerships, I wish you the best!

I am confident that your boat will yield the highest return and you'll be ready to cruise into your next adventure with confidence. You may even fall in love with your next boat at the upcoming in-the-water boat show at Lake Lanier Islands that's happening October 14-16, so it's a good idea to just have your boat ready to sell or trade "just in case."

At the end of the day, boats are an investment in friends and family. At the very crux, it's important to maintain your vessel to protect the priceless cargo it's carrying, but also to yield top dollar when "foot disease" kicks in and you're ready for a new adventure on our beautiful lake!



Photo to the Right: Bill and Amy McGuire on a recent adventure to cure their "foot disease."

Unfortunately, this trip did not end with a vessel in tow, but they made memories along the way and their negotiating skills were put to the test. This is a reminder to be patient in the process and know what you're looking for - and what you're willing to spend your hard earned money on.

In the meantime, the McGuire family will continue to dream of the day they find a boat that will continue to bring family memories on Lanier!

The process to buy or sell a used boat takes time, but it will be worth it.

Lately with LLA

A sneak peak into the recent events of the Lake Lanier Association!



BONNY PUTNEY NAMED HERO OF LAKE LANIER

On Friday, July 15th at the Poker Run Captain's Dinner, LLA's very own Bonny Putney was awarded the Hero of Lake Lanier Award for her tireless dedication to the annual shoreline cleanup, Shore Sweep. For over 20 years, Bonny has grown this initiative to include cleanup sites all around the lake, rally over 1,500 volunteers, recruit sponsors and remove over 85 tons of trash and debris annually from our emerald green waters. Thanks to Bonny's dedication, the lake is cleaner and safer for all to enjoy! Special thanks to Lanier Partners of North Georgia for a wonderful evening at the Poker Run and Captain's Dinner event where the award was presented. ***Please join us in our congratulations. We love you, Bonny!***



LLA VISITS HALL CO. MARINE RESCUE TEAM

Decked out in their new uniforms by Huk Gear, these guys are ready to respond on the water! LLA recently visited with the Hall County Fire Rescue's Marine Rescue Team to see their new uniforms and chat with them about the work they are doing to help keep Lanier safe. The Marine Rescue Team works like an on-the-water ambulance with emergency medical services and dive capabilities for search and rescue missions. LLA was impressed with the passion of this team and invites you to join us in thanking the Hall County Fire Rescue's Marine Rescue Team for their efforts in helping keep Lake Lanier safe!

BEHIND THE SCENES OF SHORE SWEEP 2022

An event like Shore Sweep requires a lot of prep work including sorting supplies, designing t-shirts, attending county commissioners meetings and most recently - a Shore Sweep Kick Off Clean-Up with a helpful crew from Johnson Outdoors! The group was so helpful and made a big impact in just a few hours. Thank You, Johnson Outdoors and special thanks to Lanier Boat Charter too, for helping us all get to the islands and back safely!



Come see LLA at the Lake Lanier Boat Show!

Georgia's Premier In-Water Boat Show | October 14-16, 2022 | Margaritaville at Lanier Islands

LAKE LANIER
BOAT SHOW



MARINE TRADE ASSOCIATION
OF METRO ATLANTA