



LANIER OUTLOOK

The LLA Newsletter



LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

Here we go! It's officially Summertime, and the lake is lively and active again. I'm always excited about this time of year, as I know most of you are as well. With Summer comes the busy on-water season... locals are fleeing to the water on a hot day, lake residents begin their days with coffee on the dock and millions of visitors enjoy Lake Lanier and her shores each year too. It's truly the best time of year on Lake Lanier!

LLA has worked so hard this year to keep her Clean, Full and Safe. From Shore Sweep removing 90 tons of trash, our ADDV initiatives removing derelict vessels and docks, to our 289 solar lights, 8 life jacket loaner stations (and growing) helping ensure safe swimming, to our erosion and sedimentation efforts helping ensure environmental guidelines are adhered to in a compliant manner - Everything we do here at LLA comes back to keeping Lake Lanier Clean, Full and Safe.

Kickoff to Summer 2023

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And, we do it Together. If you've noticed, Together has been added to our new logo. Because without all of you - our members, donors, volunteers and other constituents - results on this scale would not be possible. So, thank you, once again, for all you do to support the LLA and our causes.

Let's all work together and continue to do our part, our fair share, in keeping the lake we all love clean and safe this summer.

What can you do to help? It's really simple... Lead by example where safety and trash are concerned. If you See Something, Say Something by reporting a problem (i.e., missing/damaged marker or light, derelict vessel, abandoned dock, etc.) to us in the Report a Problem section of lakelanier.org. Lastly, join us. If you're not already supporting the LLA as a member, I invite you to join or renew your LLA Membership as soon as you can. Every membership, every dollar, every bit of support helps make the impact of the LLA that much greater on Lake Lanier.

It's going to be a great Summer! Hope to see you on the water!



Todd Baxter, LLA President

A New Look for the LLA!

Out with the old & in with the new! At the 2023 Annual Member Celebration, the LLA revealed a new logo!

The new logo features nods to the original logo with a lake scene, as well as new visuals. It highlights our year of inception - 1966 - as well as features an addition to our tagline - Clean, Full, Safe, Together. It serves as a reminder that it takes the whole Lake Lanier community and beyond, working together, to protect and preserve this lake that we love. LLA is excited to showcase this new logo in the new LLA office space, set to open later this year.



Board of Directors

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Vice President Operations and Shore Sweep

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Vice President Legal Counsel, Erosion and Sedimentation

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Membership Coordinator

Julie King

Lake Lanier Association

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lakeinfo@lakelanier.org

We recently moved! The LLA Office is currently undergoing renovations. If you'd like to stop by the office, please be sure to make an appointment to ensure we don't miss you.

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



LAKE LANIER ASSOCIATION 2023 Annual Member Celebration



EVENT RECAP BY VICTORIA CLEVINGER

We had a blast getting to say hello to familiar faces and new friends at the 2023 Annual Member Celebration! Over 800 LLA members came out to enjoy the sunshine and kick off lake season with a party.

The LLA would like to give thanks to several people and organizations who make this event not only possible, but fun for all too! Thank You to the Lanier Islands staff who helped make this event a success, including the Event Coordinators - Sarah Carlough and Missy Burgess. The space at Peachtree Pointe created the perfect lakeside backdrop for the event. We have to give a round of applause to FUNction Events for setup/cleanup, rentals and delicious southern food. Thank you to Nothing Bundt Cakes for keeping the crowd's sweet tooth at bay with over 500 mini-bundt cakes donated to the event. Special thanks to Teen Dads, they kept us grooving into the evening with their music. A big round of applause to those that brought a life jacket to donate for use at the loaner stations around Lanier. Several of our Business Sponsors got to show of their gear and services too. Last but certainly not least, a very special thank you to Sheila Davis Group, Signature Sponsor of the 2023 Annual Member Celebration.

**New LLA Logo:
Full Design**



This year's event was extra special with the addition of the Charlie Spencer award. Keep reading to learn about this year's recipient, Lu Treadway, who received the inaugural Volunteer of the Year Award.

LLA also revealed an exciting new look for the organization - a new logo, seen left and soon to be seen across all LLA platforms. Additionally, design rendering of the new LLA Office were shared thanks to Lisa Graham with Laurel Alexander Interiors. Special thanks to Carroll Daniel for coming alongside LLA to assist with architectural design planning, blueprints and project management. It was a treat to have both of these organizations represented at the Annual Member Celebration!

**New LLA Logo:
Simplified Design**



More photos from the event can be found on the LLA Facebook and Instagram. If you have photos from the event you'd like to share, please email them to us at lakeinfo@lakelanier.org. **We were thrilled to see so many of you at the 2023 Annual Member Celebration and can't wait to see you at the next one!**

Lu Treadway

2023 Charlie Spencer Award Recipient

The LLA would like to congratulate Lu Treadway on receiving the inaugural Charlie Spencer Award! At the 2023 Annual Member Celebration, LLA presented a volunteer of the year accolade named in honor of the beloved Charlie Spencer, who passed away earlier this year. You can learn more about the life and impact of Charlie Spencer on the LLA website, lakelanier.org/news/



Lu Treadway was recognized for her dedication and service to LLA, but ultimately to Lake Lanier. Lu has been an outstanding volunteer for many years, helping with Shore Sweep and mini-cleanups, boat shows, stuffing envelopes, sorting t-shirts and everything in between. She has helped “Captain” Shore Sweep sites and train new Captains, as well as teach the process of wrangling dock floats for removal during the cleanups. To the LLA, Lu has always been just a phone call away. Often times, she’s already showed up and rolled up her sleeves to help however she can.

Many people talk about the work that needs to be done – Lu actually does it. Her efforts make a lasting impact on the Lanier community, much like the life of Charlie Spencer. The LLA believes Charlie would be so proud to see Lu honored in his memory. They both have facilitated and inspired change around the lake we love.



Introducing the Charlie Spencer Award

We’ve talked quite a bit about the changes coming to the Lake Lanier Association in 2023. One of those changes was to implement a ‘Volunteer of the Year’ award. But, considering Charlie’s passing and the void he leaves behind, we’ve decided to honor Charlie by renaming the accolade The Charlie Spencer Award. Our hope is that each year when we present this award, it will serve as a reminder to embrace adventure, lend a hand when possible and live each day to it’s fullest.

The inaugural award was presented at the 2023 Annual Member Celebration on April 22nd at Peachtree Pointe, at Lanier Islands. Charlie’s mom and dad, Chuck and Mary Alice, along with his Uncle Jim, attendated the event and helped the LLA present the award to Lu Treadway.

Cover Photo Details: Lu Treadway (far left), Amy McGuire, LLA Excutive Director, and family members of Charlie Spencer. Photo courtesy of Lexie Phaneuf.

Meet the New LLA Board Members



Jim Bailey, Treasurer

Jim Bailey is originally a native of Fannin County, Georgia. He retired as an executive in the aerospace industry after 40 years of service. Jim has a Bachelor's Degree in Mechanical Engineering from Southern Technical Institute and a Master's Degree of Business Administration in Finance from Georgia State University. Today, Jim resides on Lake Lanier and provides business consulting services. He is also actively engaged in community volunteer activities and is especially honored to be on the Lake Lanier Association Board of Directors. He has a firm commitment to the LLA mission of pursuing a Clean, Full, and Safe Lake. After all, from his perspective the lake is in his backyard.

Prior to joining the LLA as Treasurer, he had served as a Board Member and Treasurer for two other non-profit organizations in the local area. In his leisure time, Jim enjoys flying, boating, and golfing - probably in that order. He is an instrument rated pilot and has experience actively flying ten different models of light aircraft including Complex High-Performance, Technically Advanced Aircraft, and Tailwheel.

Kirby Cay Scheimann

Kirby Cay Scheimann joins the LLA Board of Directors with a background in Marina Management and Radio Entertainment. He first came to Lake Lanier in 2000, as General Manager of Aqualand Marina. While at Aqualand, he was a founding officer of the Marina Operators of Lake Lanier (MOAA); MOAA went on to win multiple National Marina Day awards and hosted the National Event of the Year in 2004. His marina experience is extensive, in addition to being a Certified Marina Manager, he also served as a Board Member and Officer of the Metro Atlanta Marine Trade Association, on the faculty of the International Marina Institute, presenter for the Association of Marina Industries, and as a Committee Member and Chairperson of the National Marina Day Committee.



Kirby has also been recognized for his work in the Radio and Entertainment Industry. While working in the Florida Keys, he received multiple broadcaster of the year awards, acoustic entertainer, MC'd multiple community events and earned multiple Hurricane Coverage awards.

The water is in his roots, as he was born into a boating family and raised in Northeast Indiana. His entire family was involved in all levels of competition and show waterskiing for decades, winning multiple state championships. Since settling in the Yellow Creek area of Lake Lanier, his family has participated in every Shore Sweep since 2014. Since 2019, Kirby has helped Co-Captain the Shore Sweep site, War Hill Park. He is the proud Papa of three amazing grandchildren who love the lake, the oldest of which has been on the Family Shore Sweep Team since turning four years old.



Dan Youngblood

Dan Youngblood joins the LLA Board of Directors with a background in Data and Technology Leadership in Fortune 500 companies. He is a graduate from Virginia Tech, where he studied Aerospace Engineering. He grew up boating on rivers and lakes in Virginia before moving to Atlanta in 1994. Throughout the 90's and early 2000's, Dan spent countless hours enjoying the lake by boat which was kept at Lan-Mar Marina (now Port Royale). In 2003, with his first son on the way, Dan and his family made the decision to buy a second home on the lake in Dawsonville. While he calls East Cobb home, Lake Lanier is a big part of his life and his family's. His children have grown up on the lake, and it has been a continuous source of peace, fun, and connection for Dan's family and friends.

Dan loves the outdoors, water sports and anything on 2 wheels. He and a group of like-minded friends have formed a group, coining the name "Wake and Sprockets Dudefest" (WSD). Collectively, they gather annually for a retreat full of boating, biking and lake fun. The men of WSD have volunteered with LLA since 2020 and supported LLA with donations, as well as company matched funds. As Dan and his wife, Laura, looks forward to becoming empty nesters, they are excited to spend more time on the lake and giving back.

Learn more about the LLA Board of Directors at www.lakelanier.org/our-story/our-board/

Lighting up Lake Lanier

PROGRAM UPDATE BY TODD BAXTER

Our partner, LS3, has completed their annual overnight inspection of every single solar light installed by LLA on Lake Lanier. Any damaged / missing markers have been reported for repair, and the Corps is working to replace those markers. LLA will continue working with the Corps to ensure timely repair.

LS3 has replaced any lights which were malfunctioning at time of inspection with replacement lights purchased by the LLA. This recent round of inspection and maintenance repairs completes LLA goal to replace non-working lights within the allotted manufacturers warranty period. Today, LLA can proudly say every light on Lake Lanier is now less than 3 years old and a system is in place for proper inspection and replacement each year moving forward.

All of this work is being completed now to ensure each solar light and marker it's attached to are functioning as they should, all before we enter the busy season on Lake Lanier.

Remember, if you see a light or marker is down, you can report it to us on lakelanier.org in our Report a Problem section. Thanks again for your help in keeping Lake Lanier safe!





Where has all the water gone?

ARTICLE BY CLYDE MORRIS

Lanier was above summer Full Pool level on May 1 at 1071.05, down 1.3 ft. from a month earlier. By May 31 it was down to 1068.95, a drop of 2.1 feet. Perhaps you've wondered why.

Most crucial to springtime Lanier levels are, of course, the reservoir's starting point, but also how much, where, and when rain falls in the ACF basin. On March 1, Lanier was at 1070.70, so essentially full. But, according to the U.S. Geological Survey, rainfall during May totaled only 1.61", compared with a historical average of about 4.5".

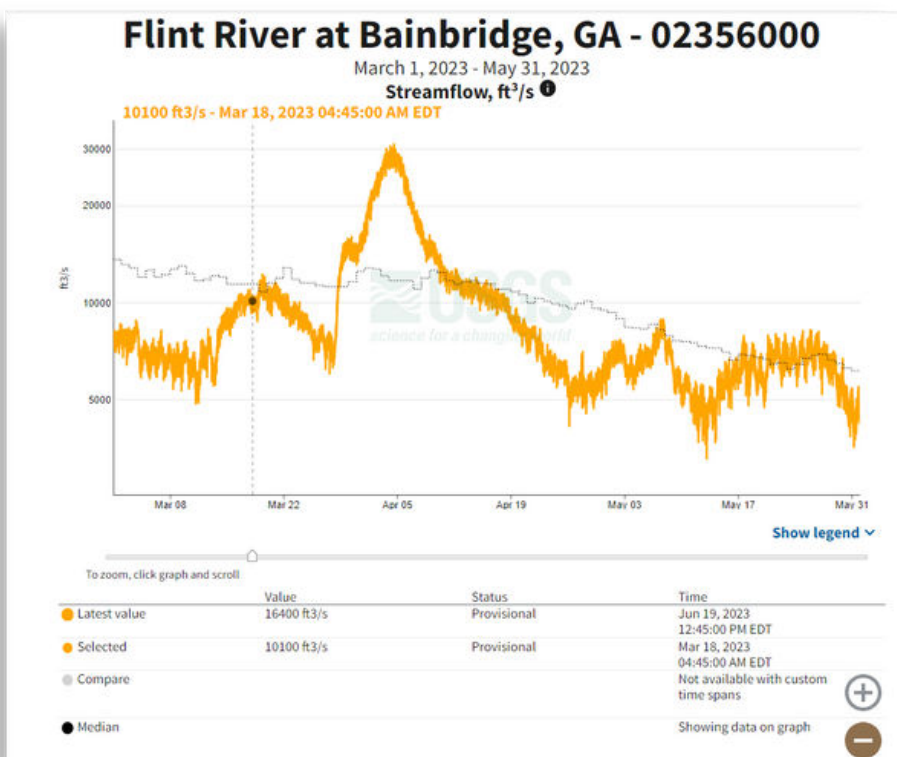
Compounding the shortfall in rain, during the Gulf sturgeon's spawning season (March to May), the Corps operates Jim Woodruff Dam, the furthest-downstream dam in the system, to support spawning. And while the Corps is trying to provide enough water for the Gulf sturgeon, it is also trying to keep all three conservation reservoirs at comparable levels, relative to their full pools. So, if rainfall is below normal in the middle of the system, then additional flow is taken from the reservoirs upstream to compensate.



*Photo taken from Honeysuckle Hills, North of Hwy 53, Chattahoochee River
Provided by Mackenzie Scott, LLA Member since 2020*

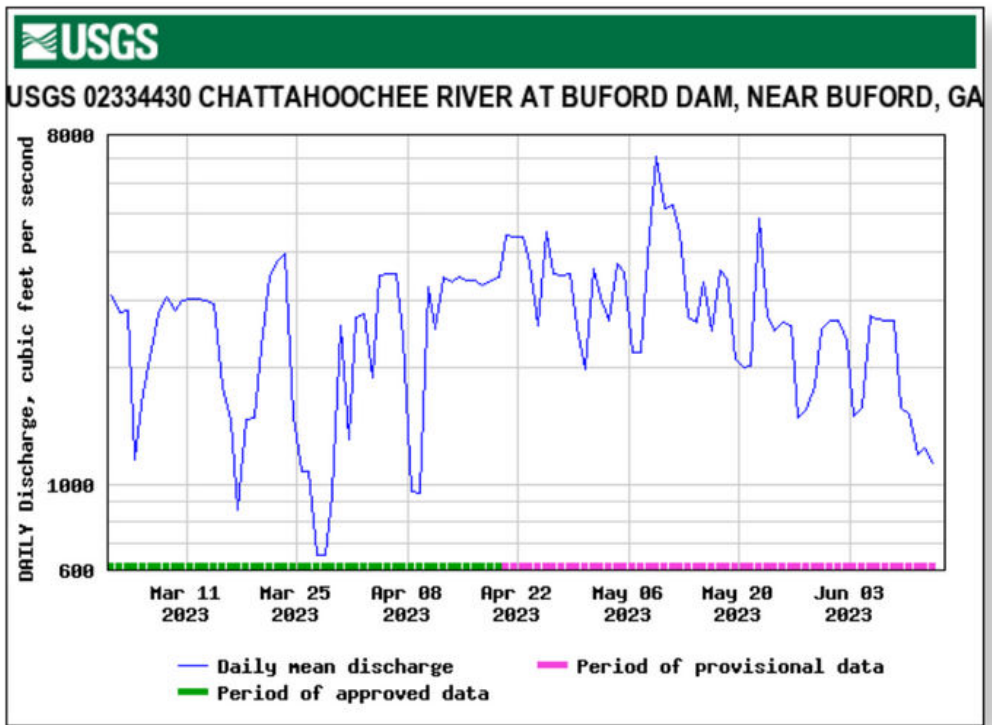
The wild card is the Flint River, which spans about 55% of the ACF's drainage basin above Lake Seminole, the farthest-downstream dam in the system. The Flint has no dams and therefore cannot be controlled to help manage levels in the conservation reservoirs, including Lanier.

When Flint River flows are low, then Chattahoochee flows have to make up for them – and Lanier, being the farthest-upstream reservoir in the system, is the last resort for stored water. As you can see from the graph (left), the Flint's flows from March through May were below the historical average for all but about two weeks.



The lower-than-normal flows in the Flint required additional water to be released from Buford Dam to maintain minimum required flows at the Florida state line. That, combined with lower-than-normal inflows to Lanier, caused Lanier's level to fall. The good news is that, as of June 1, the Gulf sturgeon spawning season was over and lower flows into the Apalachicola are now happening, as shown on the graph (right):

This should reduce the strain on Lanier, and signs are it is already stabilizing lake levels, as Lanier has dropped only three inches since June 1, as of the date of this writing. If higher-than-normal rains occur – which is possible, given the re-establishment of an El Nino condition in the Pacific – then we could possibly even see levels rise, although that is the opposite of what normally happens in the summer. One can only hope....



Where the Buoys Are... NOT!

Written by Clyde Morris

Have you been confused by the No Wake Buoys on the downstream side of Lanier Bridge (near Gainesville Marina)?

Several were there after the new bridge was completed, which caused confusion for many boaters because there were no buoys on the upstream side of the bridge. Why would there be a No Wake Zone on one side and not the other? Well, there wasn't – the bridge contractor had simply failed to remove the last three buoys.

The LLA requested that the remaining No Wake Buoys be removed, and they were! Just one more way that LLA is looking out for boaters.



Speaking of Lanier Bridge and low water levels...

Do you remember when the water level was THIS low?! This throwback picture captures a unique perspective on water levels and Lanier Bridge back in 2008!

Photo provided by LLA Board Member, Bonny Putney.

Know the Ropes!

Boating Safety & Hospitality

Blend the Two with Humor on Your Next Lake Day



ARTICLE BY AMY MCGUIRE, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Ahoy! As the temperatures rise and the sun shines on Lanier, we thought it was a great time to discuss how boating safety, and rules to keep family and friends safe around the water, don't have to spoil the fun or make an outing awkward. Rules, as you know, are set in place to protect everyone. Sometimes the rules are set forth by a governing agency, city, state, etc.— or, they may be your personal rules. However, one of the hardest parts of enforcing rules on your dock or vessel, is conveying them without making your guests uncomfortable. You can't exactly hand someone a sweet tea, or a cold beer, and say, "Before we have any fun, let me remind you of the rules". That doesn't exactly set the tone for a fun and relaxing day on the water. However, you can still get your point across with a dash of humor or in more subtle ways where they are not expressed verbally but still clearly communicated.

The first step in conveying the rules is knowing them yourself. Clear expectations and communication is vital for the captain, co-captain and deckhands—these are the ones who are going to be primary users of the boat and/or dock. These folks are the ones who must know the ropes and set the example for everyone else. This can include the youngest members of the family as well! It's never too early to be a leader!

Let's dive in! See what I did there? I made a pun. Puns are great and when used properly, a great way to convey an important message with a dash of humor. Remember, people will remember a corny joke over a somber rule.



Rule #1: Drinking and Boating

We're not saying, "Never drink", we're just saying the day is much more fun when you don't have to worry about anyone getting out of control, getting hurt, or getting sick. Allow plenty of time to stay anchored and enjoy a cold beverage with friends. There's no rush since you're on lake time - and our solar light program is running smoothly to aid in nighttime navigation if you want to stay and enjoy the sunset.

The Rule: Never stock your boat, or cooler, with enough alcohol to inebriate every adult on the boat.

It's in poor taste for a person to consume all the alcohol, especially when supply is limited. If one adult hogs all the alcohol (that's what we call greed if you don't happen to be from around here), they open themselves for criticism, ribbing or casual intervention. This is where a subtle, non-verbal rule can be applied.

Rule #2: Swim with a Float

This one is probably the easiest one ever and has the most potential to avoid disaster. Say it with me, "If you're gonna hang on our boat, you've gotta swim with a float".

The Rule: No one swims without floatation. Ever.

If you're swimming lakeside, simply ask, "Who, in their right mind, enjoys treading water?" then casually offer floatation of some sort. If you need further reinforcement to state the obvious, you have another option. Try saying, "Here. Use this so you don't get water in your [insert adult beverage here]".

Pro Tip for Your Newest Boaters: Allow your infants and toddlers to wear their life vest in the house or while playing or even napping. This ensures they get used to wearing it and don't associate it with boating or being on the dock - it just becomes a way of life. For kids, a cool life vest will always command attention. Involve your child in the shopping process!



Rule #3: Please Remain Seated During Docking Procedures

As the captain of our vessel, we have our routines. And let's face it—docking is a source of pride. Nothing sparks confidence like docking your boat without incident. How do you avoid incident (and maybe show off your mad skills) when you have a boat full of guests? Easy. Take command of your vessel, Captain!

The Rule: Leave docking to the captain, first mate and/or the deckhands.

When approaching the dock, take advantage of the No Wake Zone. While you've slowed to a nice cruising speed, you can converse without the roar of the engine creating opportunities for misinterpretation. Simply state 'the plan' and add something light like "Please remain seated until the ride comes to a complete stop", or, "This is your captain speaking. We hope you've enjoyed your cruise

aboard the [insert cool boat name here]. We ask that you remain seated to allow the captain and deckhands to show off their mad docking skills". IF you use that last one, be sure your docking skills are, in fact, MAD!

This will avoid injuries that could happen around the dock. When everyone knows their role, disembarking will go a lot smoother. Guaranteed. Clearly stating the plan also ensures you can hurry up and get your name on the list at any one of Lanier's great restaurants!

This concludes this installment of "Know the Ropes". Our intention was to insert some good-natured humor while reminding you **the best memories are made when everyone remains safe around the water!**

Find more boating safety and etiquette tips on our Facebook and Instagram. Search for the "Lake Lanier Association" and follow along to never miss an LLA update.

The Lake Lanier Association encourages you to stay informed of changing rules and laws on the lake, and we do our best to convey those when they change. We also encourage taking a boating safety course. To go a step further, pair a safe boating course with a course in First Aid & CPR—a triple threat in the fight against accidents and fatalities on and around the water. Safety courses are widely available through the U.S. Coast Guard and America's Boating Club. More information can be found on the LLA website at lakelanier.org/safety-courses.

Sheila Davis Group 2023 Lake Lanier Real Estate Report

LAKE LANIER'S #1 REALTOR - SELLING SINCE 2001

HOW'S THE MARKET?

All markets are LOCAL, including Lake Lanier. Good news for home owners! Our market is very good, although the dynamics are very different than in past years. A market slow-down from last year's interest rate hikes has not been nearly the factor on Lake Lanier, as it's been in other markets. This has been mostly balanced out by our low inventory levels and high buyer demand. Prices have increased year over year 12.7% this spring. Some of this due to the fact that 44% of the sales are now over a million dollars. This spring we have seen a decrease in home sales of 31%, due to new historical lows in inventory levels. It is clearly a SELLER'S MARKET on Lanier. Looking at South Lake vs North Lake, properties SOUTH of Browns Bridge Rd make up only 39% of the active listings, yet 45% of the sales. Months of supply for South Lake is only 2 months vs 3 months for the overall lake. A balanced market has six months supply of homes. There are only 9 Active listings under a million dollars on South Lake, and a total of 34 on the overall lake. If you know someone thinking of jumping into the summer market, it is a great time to sell a lake home. Enjoy your summer and see you on the lake!

Sheila

WHERE'S THE MARKET?

So where's the market? And, I don't mean buyers, I mean inventory. Although things have normalized since 2021, our region is seeing more buyer activity than other regions of the country and this will only continue. We have a 38% decrease in home inventory from just a year ago. Clearly, we are all a pretty happy group up here on the lake! Yet, we are still hearing some home owners who need to or want to sell, are sitting on the sidelines, thinking they missed the market of 2021-22. The numbers show differently. 56% of the total lake market is under 1 million dollars. Looking at the inventory, there are only 34 Active homes. The days on market is still under 10 days for these type homes and there is less than one month supply! If you are still wanting to list your home, the timing could not be better.

LUXURY LAKE

In 2022, homes over a million dollars made up 44% of Lake Lanier's sales. The average lake home today sells for \$1,179,361, with 3,759 square feet and four bedrooms and 3 and 1/2 bath. We've broken the \$3 million ceiling in 2023. With 48 million dollar plus homes closed or pending in 2023, 5 homes sold over \$2 million and 5 homes sold over \$3 million. Luxury buyers are buying full time residences to work from home and also luxury second homes. They are looking for newer construction or quality well maintained homes with some updates. Outdoor living spaces and lake views top the list, with a deep water dock for the boat(s). Large homes with 4-6 bedrooms can still appeal to many buyers, but the larger the home, the lower the dollars per square foot in sales price. The average luxury home sells for \$326 sf. Homes with exceptional lots and views and/or new construction homes are selling for as high as \$450 sf, and a few higher.



Sheila Davis Group

Lake Lanier Real Estate

770.235.6907 LakeLaniersFinest.com



Sheila Davis Group 2023 Lake Statistics

MAY 26th, 2023



The Sheila Davis Group is proud to be a Signature Sponsor of the LLA again in 2023!

2023 Jan - May Stats vs 2022 Jan - May Stats

Sales Price	\$1,179,361	↑	12.7%
Sales to List	93.89%	vs	103.73%
Days on Market	58	vs	39
Total Homes Sold	90	vs	130 ↓ 31%
Million\$ Plus Sold	46	vs	54 ↓ 15%

FUN FACTS

Swimming Pools- How many homes sold with pools? 9 Does a home with a pool sell for more money? On Lake Lanier the answer seems to be yes, as the top 5 highest priced homes sold this year had pools. This also may be due to higher priced homes often having larger estate sized lots, allowing for amenities that add value, as in detached garages/workshops, pools & tennis courts.

Is one county more popular to buy in than another? Hall County remains steady at @ 52% of lake home sales. Forsyth county has shifted slightly to 30% from 35%, and Dawson County has shifted up to @ 14% vs 10% in the past. Gwinnet and Lumpkin round out the last 4% of lake home sales.

Highest Priced Homes Sales on Lake Lanier in 2023



Forsyth
2350 Peachtree Rd
Cumming \$3,815,000
\$433 sf



Hall
6349 JF Jay Rd
Gainesville \$3,333,000
\$338 sf



Dawson
72 Oakview Lane
Dawsonville \$1,650,000
\$444 sf

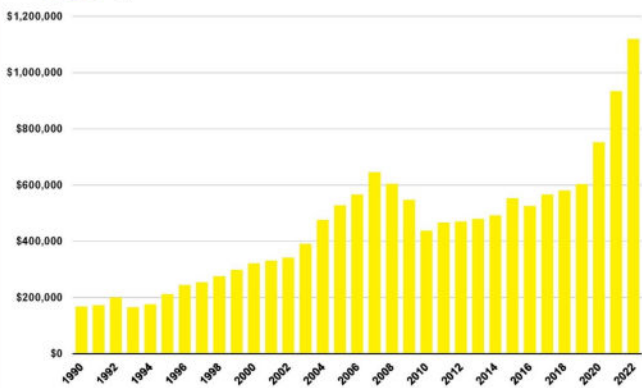


Gwinnett
6243 Woodlake Dr
Buford \$3,000,000
\$348 sf

Information is as of May 26 2023



LAKE LANIER AVERAGE SALES PRICE

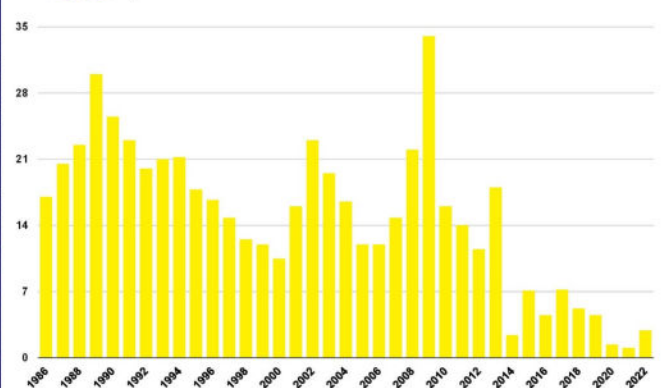


*Data shown includes only homes with private docks.

Data Source: FMLS, Copyright Norton Native Intelligence 2023.



LAKE LANIER INVENTORY MONTHS OF SUPPLY



*Data shown includes only homes with private docks.

Data Source: FMLS, Copyright Norton Native Intelligence 2023.



Sheila Davis Group

Lake Lanier Real Estate

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What's In A Name?

ARTICLE BY CLYDE MORRIS

Names begin, naturally, with whatever person or thing they're attached to. People are given names at birth, recorded dutifully on official Certificates, so we know what to call each other. Places are usually named by whatever person with enough clout to make a name stick first visits them.

And so it was with Lake Sidney Lanier. Back in the '50s, the United States Army elected to name the lake after Sidney Clopton Lanier, a 19th century poet, lawyer, academician, and musician who penned *The Song of the Chattahoochee*, a poem extolling the virtues of the Piedmont region in which his namesake lake later became located.

But names, being arbitrarily assigned to places, are similarly subject to being arbitrarily changed. As the result of a directive from Congress, both the lake and Buford Dam are designated to be renamed because their current names are associated with men who served voluntarily in the Confederate Army. If you've been following this development with LLA, you know that our online poll disclosed that about 97% of respondents oppose changing the name. The overwhelming majority of people believe that the lake and dam were not named to honor the military service of either man, and so should not be dealt with the same way as, say, statues honoring Robert E. Lee for his role as President of the Confederacy and leader of its army in the Civil War. In fact, until the Naming Commission's report came out, very few of us knew that Sidney Lanier or Algernon Buford had even served in that war. For most of us, the distant and tenuous connection between the men's names and their military service is a bridge too far.



What's in the name of our lake? August 1, 2023, will mark 65 years since the lake first reached full pool, so that's 65 years of history, during which the area around Georgia's largest reservoir has evolved from bucolic and agrarian to an urban forest more densely populated by the day, where the burgeoning cities of Gainesville, Cumming, and Dawsonville shine as the lake's beacons drawing people, businesses, and organizations of myriad kinds predominantly because of the presence of Lanier's 39,000 acres of water.

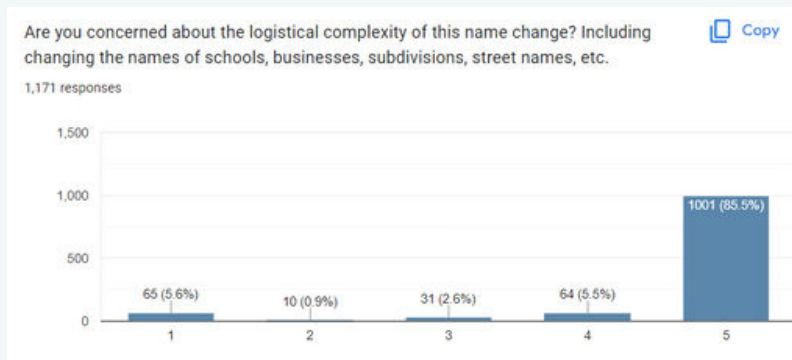
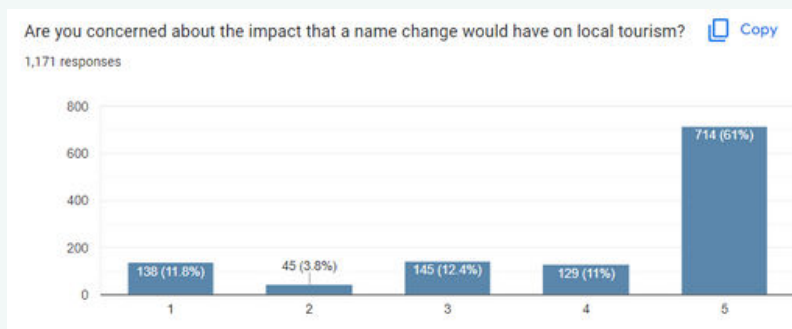
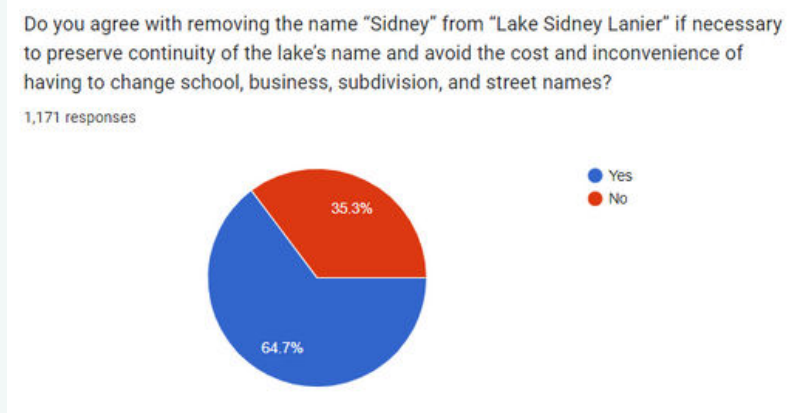
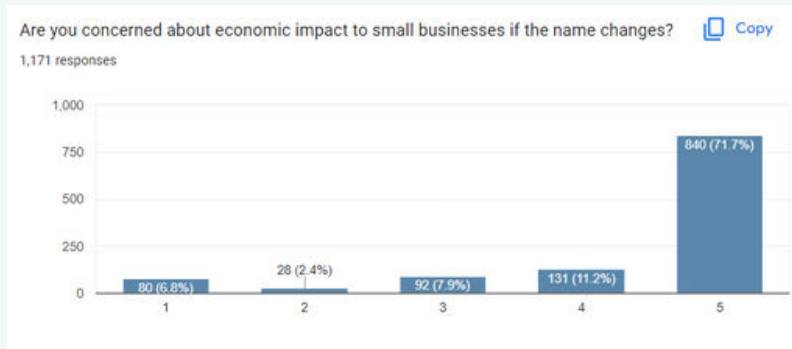
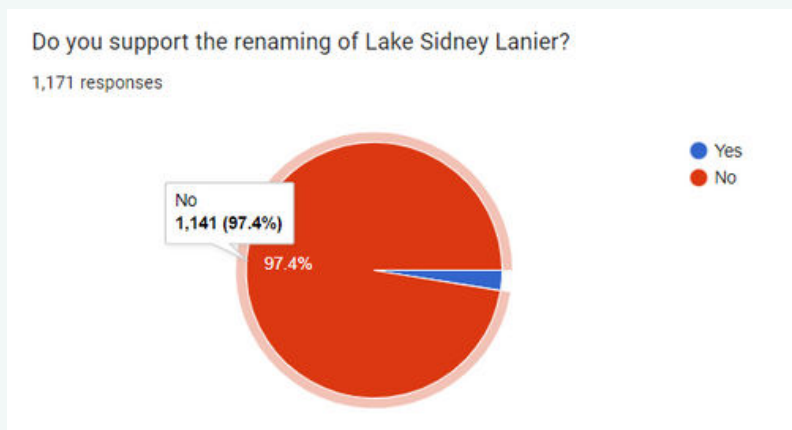
And therein lies the reason why LLA came out against renaming the lake: the name Lanier has become attached to so much over its lifetime that it has become synonymous with the entire area.

Nonetheless, the controversy about renaming continues, despite the “pause” instituted by the Corps of Engineers when opposition to changing the name arose quickly and vociferously. No response to our letters has come from the Secretary of Defense, the Secretary of the Army, or the District Commander of the Corps of Engineers, despite the fact that U.S. Representative Austin Scott – who served on the Naming Commission – has stated that the Commission made a decision not to rename Lake Lanier or Buford Dam. It would seem that there is some lack of communication on this issue between the right and left hands of our federal government.

For now, all LLA can do is to persevere in communicating with the various Defense agencies in the hope of forestalling a name change that has little public support. Those who responded to our poll know that we have suggested the alternative of removing the name Sidney from the lake, leaving in place the name Lanier that has become so inextricably intertwined with the area while eliminating the nexus between it and the Confederacy. Adopting the name Lanier Dam would accomplish the same thing for the edifice that created the lake, no matter how technically unnecessary that change may be.

We will continue to press the issue until it is resolved. For those who feel that a change is appropriate for removing from the lake the stain of rebellion against the principle of equality guaranteed by our Constitution, know that LLA’s position is not insensitive to that principle but rather is reflective of the opinion of the vast majority of our members. For we do not persist in order to honor the Confederacy, but to honor the legacy of the first 65 years of Lanier’s life, just as a parent honors a child by continuing to use its name given at birth.

The LLA conducted a survey to gather the opinions of the Lake Lanier community regarding the name change of Lake Lanier and Buford Dam. The survey ran for 7 days, from March 10th-16th and 1,171 total responses were collected. Below are some of the results collected. All results available at www.lakelanier.org/renaming-of-lake-lanier-and-buford-dam/





200FT RULE - NEW WAKESURFING & WAKEBOARDING LAW GOING INTO EFFECT JULY 1st 2023

THE BILL IS KNOWN AS ACT 241

HB 121, co-sponsored by Representatives Anderson, Powell, McDonald, Gunter, Yearta, and Hawkins passed both houses of the General Assembly this past session and was signed by Governor Kemp on May 2. The bill is now known as Act 241 and, according to Representative McDonald's office, will go into effect July 1.

The original purpose of the bill was to increase the "no wake zone" for wakesurfing and wakeboarding. The bill was enlarged to provide regulation of multipurpose off-highway vehicles as well, but the portion of interest to boaters on Lake Lanier provides essentially that wakesurfing and wakeboarding is no longer permitted between sunset and sunrise or within 200 feet of any moored vessel, dock, pier, bridge, or any shoreline adjacent to a residence, park public beach or swimming area, marina, restaurant, or other public use area, and that personal flotation devices must also be worn when surfing a wake or being towed on a board.

THE PERTINENT WORDING OF THE BILL IS AS FOLLOWS:

'Wakeboarding' means the activity of:

(A) Being towed on a board with or without foot bindings by a motorboat across the vessel's wake; or (B) Operating a motorboat in a manner that creates a wake while towing a person on a board with or without foot bindings.

'Wakesurfing' means the activity of:

(A) Surfing a motorboat's wake, regardless of whether the person is being pulled by a tow rope attached to the motorboat that is producing the wake; or (B) Operating a motorboat in a manner that creates a wake that is capable of being surfed by another person.

(a) Except as provided in subsection (b) of this Code section, no person shall engage in wakesurfing or wakeboarding upon waters of this state:

- (1) Between sunset and sunrise;
- (2) Within 200 feet of any moored vessel; any wharf, dock, pier, piling, or bridge structure or abutment; or any shoreline adjacent to a full-time or part-time residence, public park, public beach, public swimming area, marina, restaurant, or other public use area; or
- (3) When surfing a wake or being towed on a board, without wearing a personal flotation device.

(b) This Code section shall not apply to:

- (1) A regatta, boat race, marine parade, tournament, or exhibition for which the commissioner has granted a marine event permit pursuant to Code Section 52-7-19; or
- (2) Intracoastal waterways, rivers, or private lakes."

You can download a copy of the Act here: <https://www.legis.ga.gov/legislation/63750>

Shop and Support LLA with LLA OUTFITTERS!

Looking for Lake Lanier t-shirts with the *new* LLA logo? What about new boat shoes? We've got you covered with great products from LLA Outfitters - hats and shirts from Barefoot Bay Apparel and boat shoes from Tucket Footwear! LLA is pleased to partner with each of these companies for give-back opportunities. **With every purchase at an LLA partnering organization - LLA will receive a portion of the sale to support our mission towards a Clean, Full and Safe Lake Lanier!**

Both Barefoot Bay Apparel and Tucket Footwear produce gear that is perfect for activities on the water, to wear at a backyard bbq or around town! These items make the perfect gifts and are sure to be conversation starters too. Please use codes and links below to support LLA with your purchase!

TUCKET FOOTWEAR

Tucket Footwear is a leader in boating footwear with a hybrid deck shoe that sheds water and made with a slip resistant material to go from the dock to dinner in no-time. This stylish boating shoe is functional and sophisticated, as well as locally owned and made in Buford, Georgia.



Use code LLA2023 at checkout and Tucket Footwear will donate 10% of your purchase to the LLA and you'll receive 10% off AND Free Shipping on your order! **Shop at www.tucketfootwear.com.**



BAREFOOT BAY APPAREL

These super soft t-shirts and hats are made for bragging about Lake Lanier! With only the outline of the lake included, you're sure to be asked "What is that?" That's when the fun conversation begins! You can even tell them that the purchase of the shirt or hat supports your favorite non-profit on Lanier too! Barefoot Bay Apparel is the freshwater division of Kenny Chesney's No Shoes Reef. LLA is pleased to be their first freshwater partner in the Southeast!

Every purchase of a Lake Lanier product from Barefoot Bay Apparel casts 20% back to LLA! No code needed. Just choose your favorite items on the home page, once on the product choose "Georgia" in the state drop down and select Lake Lanier. **Shop at www.barefootbay.net.**

LLA is always looking for more partners and outfitters to support our mission. Know someone that we should partner with? Tell us at lakeinfo@lakelanier.org!

Learn more about LLA Outfitters at www.lakelanier.org/get-involved/lla-outfitters/

New Logo Revealed!

A Note from Amy McGuire, Executive Director



Out with the old and in with the new! At the 2023 Annual Member Celebration, LLA revealed a new logo that will be rolling out in the coming weeks and featured in our new office space, set to open later this year.

Since the reveal, LLA has received lots of feedback about the logo and we're thrilled that there has been so much support for the new look. Amy McGuire, Executive Director, took a moment to share more about the logo change and the process, decision making that helped the LLA Team, including Board of Directors and Staff, land on the new logo.

First, we did not enter into this change lightly. We opened the original design to a crowd sourcing resource to obtain over 400 iterations of our original design. **We knew the water, mountains and trees were elements we wanted to maintain** as a nod to the valley that was sacrificed for the greater good. After much market polling and research through community discussions at boat shows and other events, we learned that many people drew a few conclusions about who we are. First, the sailboat was creating the idea that we were a "nautical organization", "sailing club" or a "boating club". Second, the overall logo is nearly identical to the City of Cumming. If we weren't being confused for a boating club, we were being disregarded because people thought we were a "municipal organization" that operated as an extension of the City of Cumming (and their tax dollars!).

The work we do to protect Lake Lanier is extremely important to us. We also realize with its growing popularity and increasing demand for resources due to area development, the work we do is more important than ever before. In addition, we understand it is going to take the entire community-boaters, non-boaters, consumers, etc. to protect the 38,000 acres and almost 700 miles of shoreline. We wanted to send the message that we are a community-supported organization that is dedicated to protecting the water and all it entails. **The water is the primary focus of our new logo because it is where our focus lies.** We appreciated the "energy" the graphic provided. The water, to all who reviewed it and provided feedback, appeared to have an energy all its own. The movement that can be observed in the logo was symbolic of the energy we dedicate to keeping Lake Lanier clean, full and safe. All designs were subject to exhaustive review by our board of directors. Final contenders were voted on in our November '22 board meeting.

**New LLA Logo:
Full Design**



**New LLA Logo:
Simplified Design**



You may also notice that we added the word "Together" in our tag line. That word is commonly associated with community organizations. We wanted to underscore the message that we can't carry out our initiatives without the support of the community. Our new design is not contained within a shape. From a psychological standpoint, shapes create the perception of "boundaries" or "limitations". Our energy, and enthusiasm, is limitless. Our board of directors are extremely dedicated to this organization and the work we do. Our staff of 3 work well beyond the 40 hour work week to ensure we are doing the best job possible to protect the lake. In addition, we feel a social responsibility to bring the community together and do not want anyone to feel excluded, or confused, by the sailboat that was portrayed in our former design. Despite the lake's reported 12+ million visitors each year, many people do not use the lake for recreation. Instead, they support the ecosystems and resources the water provides. We want them to get involved with us too!

Last but not least, we added 1966, the date of our inception, to our design to celebrate the decades of dedication to the lake. We also added the date as a nod to our founder, Jackie Joseph. Mrs. Joseph was a forward-thinking woman who stepped outside the boundaries that were set for women and created a voice for the lake community. She taught people how to live on the lake since their backyards were unique. Eventually, she established the 501c3 that has become The Lake Lanier Association, an organization designed to protect our area's most valuable resource. To us, the date is one to celebrate! We also want to send the message that we've been around for a bit—that we understand the lake's history, growing economic impact and the resources it provides.

I hope this explanation will help the community understand the need to reconsider our brand image and how it allows us to connect with more lovers of the lake than ever before. Most of all, I hope the community will continue to support the work of the LLA, continue providing feedback on the work we do, and join us in this next chapter.

We have so many exciting changes coming up—each of them designed to help us increase our presence in the community and scale the work we do to keep pace with Lanier's ever increasing popularity.

With Gratitude,

LLA Executive Director

LLA IS MOVING!

As a friendly reminder - We have moved & the new LLA Office is currently undergoing renovations. *If you'd like to stop by the office, please be sure to make an appointment to ensure we don't miss you. Please see our contact information below to reach the LLA staff!*

The new LLA Office is located at:

Village Shoppes of Gainesville
821 Dawsonville Hwy, Suite 110
Gainesville, Georgia 30501

CONTACT DETAILS

Phone: 770-503-7757

Email: lakeinfo@lakelanier.org

Amy McGuire, Executive Director - amy@lakelanier.org / (678) 935-8446

Victoria Clevenger, Communications Coordinator - victoria@lakelanier.org / (937) 524-3373

Julie King, Membership Coordinator - julie@lakelanier.org / (404) 956-2906



Miller's Cove

Sedimentation to be Dredged

Written by Clyde Morris

After working for five years with Forsyth County, LLA is expecting McKinley Homes, developer of High Pointe View subdivision near the south end of the lake, to dredge 33.6 cubic yards of sedimentation from the lake by the end of June.



Forsyth County early on documented the illegal sedimentation and notified McKinley that it would be required to perform remediation before a Certificate of Occupancy would be issued for the last 14 homes in the subdivision. But authority for issuing a dredging permit lies with the Corps of Engineers, and LLA has worked hard to raise the Corps' awareness of the importance of requiring removal of the actual sediment at issue - including whatever pollutants may be part of it - rather than just an equal volume from somewhere else on the lake. Removing the sediment and all pollutants at issue restores the lake's cleanliness and rectifies the impact to landowners affected by the illegal deposition - often dock permit holders whose lake access has been negatively impacted. By imposing this requirement uniformly on all developers, Local Issuing Authorities (LIAs) can maximize their leverage with developers to avoid illegal sedimentation in the first place, thereby keeping the lake clean while preserving water storage capacity. This is a vital core practice that LLA is asking the Corps and all lake-bordering LIAs to enforce going forward.

LLA will monitor the dredging and hopefully be able to report soon of this long-awaited win for the lake.

Join us for the 35th Annual Shore Sweep on Saturday, September 23rd 2023!



The 2022 event set new records with over 90 tons of trash collected at the hands of over 1,400 volunteers. We can't wait to see what we'll accomplish together this year on Saturday, September 23rd!

Lake Lanier's shorelines and coves can become littered with trash from those using it as well as being washed in during rain. Every time it rains, stormwater brings trash off roadsides into rivers and streams that make their way into Lake Lanier. LLA coordinates cleanups of Lake Lanier's shoreline throughout the year with the largest event occurring annually on the last week in September.

Over 34 years of Shore Sweep cleanups have removed 2.16 million pounds of trash and debris from Lake Lanier's shorelines.

As the event approaches, LLA will share details via email, social media and update our website at lakelanier.org/shore-sweep

Lately with LLA

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



LIFE JACKET LOANER STATIONS STATIONS ARE STOCKED & OPEN FOR SEASON

During National Safe Boating Week, LLA stopped by each of our Life Jacket Loaner Station locations and prepped the stations for season. This including making sure each station was stocked with a variety of sizes, as well as checking for any maintenance or repairs needed to the stations. Heading to the lake, but forgot your life jacket? No worries! Stop by one of our Life Jacket Loaner Stations and grab one to use. Life jackets are available at the stations in sizes infant, child, youth and adult. Special thanks to our volunteers who help LLA monitor these stations on a weekly basis during peak-Lake season (Memorial Day - Labor Day).

NEW LLA OFFICE RENOVATIONS HAVE BEGUN!

LLA is excited to share that permits are in place and renovations on the new office have begun! On May 31st, LLA had a pre-construction meeting to review final plans. The energy was contagious and it's all hands on deck from here to get this new space over the finish line! We'd like to give special thanks to the many individuals and businesses that have helped us thus far in the project: Carroll Daniel Construction, Hollandsworth Construction, Laurel Alexander Interiors and C3 Communications. Stay tuned for more updates on the new office space and the renovation process!

** The LLA Office is currently undergoing renovations. If you'd like to stop by the office, please be sure to make an appointment to ensure we don't miss you.*



WATERSPORTS CENTRAL'S LADIES ON THE LAKE RETURNS

On May 10th, the ladies of LLA attended the season opener event of Ladies On The Lake, hosted by WaterSports Central at their Buford store.

We enjoyed Q&A conversation around boating safety and education. The WSC crew & pro, Cathy Williams, answered questions about knotting ropes, inboard vs outboard, picking up a surfer and more. If you missed the event, be sure to join the "Ladies on the Lake - Lake Lanier / Buford" Facebook group to stay up to date on upcoming events!

