



LBCA

August 2007

Newsletter

President's Comments

Here it is August and summer is quickly coming to an end. There have been a lot of events on and around the lake this summer and I hope you were able to enjoy some of them.

Our Tour of Homes was a great success, raising more money than ever for our fire departments. Linda Dixon, Marian Hansen, and Ranny Whitney outdid themselves this year. I can't thank them enough for the many hours of work they put in which in the end benefits our fire departments.

Our 16th Annual LBCA Golf Tournament was well attended and I believe that all participants thoroughly enjoyed the day. My thanks to Mike Walters and Bruce Merrill for all they did.

Even though there was a light

turnout at our August Annual Business Meeting and luncheon, I feel that those who attended left the meeting with more knowledge and a better understanding of issues . . . such as the importance of at least one person per household voting in Rabun County, the current status of our fire rating, information concerning ordering 911 signs and the importance of having a 911 sign posted on each LBCA member's boathouse.

In closing, I would like to mention that we are having a lot of complaints about the volume of some boat stereos. Please make sure your family is considerate of others.

Jim Higdon

LaPrades – A Phoenix Rising

A majestic two story log building with massive timbers is rising next to the water at LaPrades. This building will house a restaurant on its second floor and a counter service grill and store on its ground level. A spacious deck adjoins the building.

Features of the new LaPrades, besides the main lodge, include a

revamped repair center, a new showroom, 20 boat slips for visitors, and 60 temporary rental slips (to be replaced with covered permanent docks this winter).

The quality of the construction is evident from first glance and the site is worth a visit.





Tour Of Homes – A Great Success

Our 2007 LBCA Tour of Homes was a great success because of the many hours of work by LBCA board members Linda Dixon, Marian Hansen, and Ranny Whitney. This year the tour raised more than \$17,000 for our fire departments.

We especially want to thank Bob Cohen, Gail Lipman Cook and Lance Lipman, Carol and Stewart Swanson, and Cecile and Dwayne Thompson for so graciously donating their homes for the tour. We are already making plans for the 2009 Tour of Homes, so if you are interested in putting your home on the next tour, please contact Linda Dixon at lidixon0916@yahoo.com.

Listed below you will find all the volunteers that helped make this year's event so successful. Thanks to all of them!



Boat Drivers

Gaston Brawley	Charles Hardy	Bob Moore	Pat Thompson
Ken Burson	Claude Hartridge	Wait Nelson	Michael Walsh
Tom Callahan	Keith Hicks	Jim Newland	Rick Waterhouse
Sterrett Campbell	Bob Hunter	Lee Penland	Richard Weldon
Jim Demery	Jim Jackson	Jim Pope	Mason Whitney
Dick Diedrich	Henry Mann	Bob Sheehan	Gaston Brawley
Kent Gustafson	Bob McMahan	Harry Thompson	

Hosts And Hostesses

Coleman Allen	Janet Campbell	Fred Hatterick	Mary Malone
Ethel Allen	Virginia Crist	Cynthia Heidecker	Bee McNeil
Sally Anderson	Chris Daniel	Lynda Hester	Latrelle Miles
Debra Ashendorf	Woody Daniel	Carol Higdon	Judy Myers
Pat Baggett	Grace Dendy	Jim Holmes	Kay Nielsen
Melissa Barnes	Pam Downs	Manning Holmes	Raney Walt Nielsen
Julie Barnett	Judy Faletti	Margaret Howard	Rhonda Roberge
Teresa Barrett	Paul Faletti	Becky Hunter	Scot Roberge
Bill Bomar	Gwen Fink	Jane Jernigan	MaryLou Stone
Jan Bomar	Ann Fresmith	Shayne Johnson	Linda Thompson
Charlie Boyd	Nancy Greene	Ryland Koets	Brenda Waters
Betsy Brown	Elaine Gustafson	Bruce Lewis	Ron Waters
Lee Burson	Jean Hatfield	Jerry Malec	Paige Wheeler
Becky Callahan	Doris Hatterick	Patty Malec	

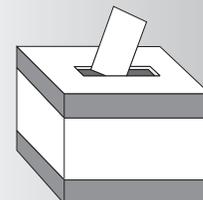
Thanks to the following for donating water and automobiles

Barrett Funeral Home of Cleveland	Kay Nielsen
Duvall Ford of Clayton	Regions Bank of Cleveland
Jean Hatfield	Springer Mountain Farms
Jackie Jones Ford of Cleveland	United Community Bank of Cleveland
Kitty Marlow	Allison Winter



Register To Vote NOW!

Many of us have received new assessments for our lake home. Taxes are going up! The lakes pay over 50% of the taxes in Rabun County. What do we get in return? More paved roads? Increased fire protection? Increased police protection? Protection of our ridge lines and streams? The LBCA pleads your case to the commissioners. Too often the response is "I hear what you are saying, but since you don't vote in Rabun County, talk to someone who cares." Remember, politicians are elected officials who generally cater to the voters – not the tax payers. For many of us our lake homes are our largest real estate investment. Voting in Rabun County is one sure way to try to protect our homes' values. Do you really think local officials are concerned about your investment or way of life on the lakes?



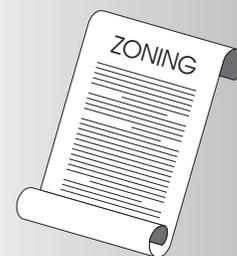
Registering Made Easy

There are a total of 8,686 active voters in Rabun County. Your vote does count. The last two elections for county commissioner were decided by 179 and 215 votes. In 2008, elections will be held for three county commissioners, sheriff, tax commissioner, probate judge, and clerk of court. The results of these elections will determine whether Rabun County moves ahead or continues to be the "Wild West" for developers and builders.

Enclosed are two voter registration forms. If you are already a Georgia voter, all you need to do is sign the form – no identification need be enclosed. Put a 41cent stamp on the outside and mail. Nothing could be easier! If you live outside of Georgia, identification is required. But it still only takes a 41 cent stamp. Everything can be done from home. If you want to register in person, stop by the Rabun County courthouse and see Tammy Whitmire on the 2nd floor. Tammy will be more than happy to help you in any way.

Voting Made Easy

There are three ways for you to vote in Rabun County. First, in person on election day. Second, you may use "advanced voting". This method allows you to vote forty-five days prior to election day (during leaf season for example). Third, you may vote absentee by mail. Tammy will mail you the ballot so you don't need to be in Rabun County.



Facts vs. Rumors

First: "If I vote, in Rabun County, I will get called for jury duty." According to Holly Hunter Perry, clerk of court, you may get called for jury duty if you are in the phone book, own a home, are in a membership directory, have a Rabun County driver's license, or are registered to vote.

Second: "I will lose my homestead exemption." If you vote in Rabun County, you should claim your homestead exemption in this county. You can also register your cars in Rabun County – and possibly save many tax dollars and avoid emission tests.

Third: The fact is, you will be paying a small price to protect a large and important investment and a way of life.

Conclusion

If everyone in your household cannot vote in Rabun County, at least one person must vote here. With elections so closely contested, the lakes voices must be heard. You will only be heard if you vote! If you have any questions, please call Jim Holmes at 706-947-3646 or send an e-mail to: jimholmes@alltel.net. This issue is very important – so don't delay. You are truly helping yourself.



Follow The “Golden Rule”

“Do unto others as you would have them do unto you...”

Do you want someone to stop in front of your home with their boat stereo blaring? Please be thoughtful of others!

Do you want someone else’s jet ski doing doughnuts in front of your home? Please be aware of other people’s desire for peace and quiet!

Do you want someone else’s boat or jet ski coming close to you while swimming? Please stay your distance and operate your watercraft safely!

Do you want someone else’s wake breaking over your dock and seawall? Remember, the “100 Foot Rule” says you must keep at least 100 feet from docks and boathouses. You are responsible for your wake and any damage it may cause!

Please highlight these “Golden Rules” to anyone operating your watercraft – children, visitors, and renters. You are ultimately responsible. Let us all safely enjoy beautiful Lake Burton and the quality and tranquility of life it provides.



Tragedy Strikes The Lake

Our community remains stunned over the accident that took the life of three-year-old Georgia Pierce who drowned in Timpson Cove on Tuesday, July 3rd. The LBCA membership extends its deepest sympathy and support to the Pierce family for their tragic loss.

Progress On Our Roads

Major paving projects are under way or will soon start on Murray Cove Road and Moccasin Creek Road. The LBCA continues to pressure the county to move forward on additional sites. Progress is slow . . . but it is progress nevertheless.

The Fight Against Pollution

A few years ago the LBCA launched a campaign against silt, litter, excessive noise, and overnight lights. The war on silt continues aggressively, but we seem to be slipping elsewhere. Increased levels of litter adorn our roads and lights are left on needlessly around the lake. Let us all accept responsibility for doing a better job and being considerate of others.

Burton Buzz – Let Us Hear From You

Please let us know the topics and issues that interest, concern, or bother you. What is on your mind may be on the minds of many of our members. We will do our best to find answers and solutions. Your concerns are the LBCA directors’ concerns. Please e-mail us at: jimholmes@alltel.net.

