



# L.W.P.O.A.

LAKE WEDOWEE PROPERTY OWNERS' ASSOCIATION

P.O. Box 55 Wedowee, Alabama 36278

Working to ensure Lake Wedowee is a safe, clean and pleasant place to be.

[www.lakewedoweeboa.com](http://www.lakewedoweeboa.com)



## SPRING NEWSLETTER 2016



### FROM THE CHAIRPERSON

LWPOA property owner volunteers and directors have been very busy with activities and new projects benefitting the membership and contributing to the well-being of Lake Wedowee.

LWPOA participated with the Upper Tallapoosa Clean Water Partnership in promoting the Electronics Recycling Event in January, the Septic Tank Seminar in April, and the Prescription Drug Take Back in April (See accompanying Article). These programs provide information about the harmful effects of potentially harmful waste materials and promote proper disposal or recycling, preventing their entry into the waters of the lake.

**FISH HABITAT** During February, Member Volunteers and Alabama Power Company personnel placed discarded Christmas Trees in the lake to serve as Fish Habitat. Through the efforts of Bob Martin, over 125 trees were collected and donated by our neighbors at Carroll County. The trees were transported to the lake by Cliff and Rufus Hearn, bundled for placement by member volunteers and delivered to placement locations on Alabama Power Company barges. This year, the trees were placed in areas of the lake below the Highway 48 Bridge. This marks the fifth year that trees have been put in the lake to enhance fish habitat and promote successful and enjoyable fishing. GPS coordinates of placement locations can be found on Alabama Power Company Shorelines Website. Many thanks to Bill Boozer who managed the project as Chairperson of the Fish Habitat Committee.

**RANDOLPH COUNTY COMMUNITY HOSPITAL** LWPOA members and officers attended the Groundbreaking Ceremony for the new Randolph Community Hospital in Wedowee. Members were instrumental in promoting the Referendum which resulted in voter approval of a sales tax to build and support the Hospital. The new facility is a sort of Joint Venture between Randolph County and Tanner Medical System. Tanner will construct the facility using bond funds and furnish and equip the hospital at its expense. Tanner will then operate the facility including management services and staffing. The facility will be a 15 bed facility comprising 55,000 square feet on three floors and offering 24 hour emergency room, critical care support, advanced diagnostic equipment and a state-of-the-art surgical suite.

The Ground Breaking Ceremony was held at the site on Thursday, May 5 bringing together residents, local officials and representatives of Tanner Medical System. The facility is being constructed by Ra-Lin Associates and is scheduled to be complete in 15 months. For additional information, see the recent article in the Randolph Leader.

## **L.W.P.O.A. BOARD**

### **TOM GARLAND**

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### **NICK FRENCH**

*Vice-Chairperson*  
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### **NAN FEREBEE**

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## **COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSONS**

### **NAN FEREBEE**

*Hospitality*

### **BARRY MORRIS**

*Water Testing*

### **MARY ANN ENGSTROM**

*Membership*

### **TOM GARLAND**

*Kids Fishing Day*

### **MARLON & BETTY GLOVER**

*Lake Clean-up*

### **LANCE WARD**

*Fox Creek Birding Trail*

### **BILL BOOZER**

*Fish Habitat*

### **CHERRY WARD and**

**SYLVIA FRENCH**

*Publicity*

### **GENE CROUCH**

*Lake Beautification*

### **SHELIA SMITH**

*Lake Clean-up*  
256-396-5093

**LOCAL TELEVISION CHANNELS** The Lake Community is one step closer to having the availability of local television channels through services provided by cable and satellite. The County Commission authorized the process required to secure the service and requested petition signatures supporting an application to FCC for the change in the service. Over four thousand signatures have been collected on petition forms available at local government offices and businesses.

LWPOA member, Ken Conaway, has worked for many years to accomplish the change in the service in order that local residents can have the availability of local news and weather. His efforts, working with Representative Bob Fincher and local officials have been instrumental in the success of the drive to secure local service.

**FOX CREEK BIRDING TRAIL** LWPOA Member volunteers, at the direction of Fox Creek Birding Trail Chairperson Lance Ward are working to upgrade the Fox Creek Birding Trail. Presentation materials on the information kiosk at the site suffered severe damage from the sun and have to be replaced. New media will include: a painting depicting the area and the hiking trail executed and donated by Carol Popham, and quality photos of birds that may be viewed at the site, including many spectacular species such as bald eagles, osprey, hawks, ducks, geese, owls, and herons as well as smaller varieties.

The Fox Creek site was developed and is maintained for the enjoyment of Members and the Public by LWPOA and Alabama Power Company under the auspices of The Piedmont Plateau Birding Trail. The site offers a three mile scenic trail and the opportunity to encounter birds, wildlife and natural habitat.

**LWPOA WEBSITE** Our newly updated website, [www.lakewedoweepoa.com](http://www.lakewedoweepoa.com) (also accessible via [www.lakewedoweepoa.net](http://www.lakewedoweepoa.net) and [www.lakewedoweepoa.org](http://www.lakewedoweepoa.org)) provides more complete and current information to the LWPOA members and the general public. The newly designed site was crafted by member, Mike Browning, who has donated his time and expertise in the design and continuing maintenance of the site.

The updated site describes the mission and current programs and projects of the Association, while also providing current news of the Lake Community and local issues and events affecting property owners. Members are urged to visit the site regularly for up to date information on issues affecting their stake in Lake Wedowee. Weekend and vacation residents can refer to the site's Calendar of Events to plan activities that include local events of interest.

The site is now mobile friendly, and allows members to offer comments and suggestions, to volunteer for Association projects and programs, and to submit photos for inclusion on the site. Members can also view current issues of the Association Newsletter.

**KIDS FISHING DAY** LWPOA will hold its annual Kids Fishing Day Event on Thursday May 19, 2016 at the Rice Family pavilion. Kids ages 3 through 15 are invited to attend the free event and take part in fishing and games and enjoy free hotdogs, chips, cookies and drinks, and win lots of prizes. Kids must be accompanied by an adult, bring their own rod and reel and bring a stringer for fish.

The project involves placement of Channel Catfish in the lake contained by nets placed by Alabama Department of Conservation and Natural Resources. Fish caught by the kids may be kept and taken home for meals.

Many businesses and organizations contribute to the success of the project. Platinum sponsors for this year's event include Wellborn Cabinet, Inc., First State Bank and Tanner Medical System. Use of the Pavilion is provided by the Rice Family. Gold sponsors include Rice Pest Control, Eagle 102.3 FM, Ken Seiffert State Farm Insurance and Bank of Wedowee. Silver sponsors are Randolph County Appliance, Wedowee Marine, RE/MAX Lakefront – the Stones, Small Town Bank, H&M Drugs, Speed-N-Sport Marine, Lakeview Auto Service, M&R Classic Cleaners, Dr. Michael Edwards, Thomas Tax Service, Norton Flooring, Wedowee Benefield Funeral Home, Lineville Benefield Funeral Home and Buster Miles Ford and Chevrolet.

The Sheriff's Office provides diving services for placement of the nets, and cooks the hotdogs together with Judge Diamond, Judge Tinney and Josh Burns. Emergency Standby Services are provided by Randolph County Rescue Squad and Southern Ambulance Transport.

This is a very exciting event for the kids of the community and staging is challenging with lots of work. You can help. Volunteer to help by contacting Tom Garland (678) 230-4886 or [lgarland68@aol.com](mailto:lgarland68@aol.com).

LWPOA is pleased that channel catfish for the event will be provided by the Handley High School Outdoor Education Project. The Project includes catfish ponds, beehives, gardening and production of garden and nursery plants, and gives students the opportunity to learn life skills and vocational skills. The Center offers its products produced at the facility for sale to the public with the proceeds returned to the program.

**BOARD OF DIRECTORS** The membership voted overwhelmingly to revise the method for selection of Board Members. The revised method provides for the Board of Directors to prepare a slate of three Directors to be presented to the Membership. In fulfilling its role, the Board of Directors recruited individuals, association members, who are able to commit their time and talents to the work of the Board. The Board presents a slate of three outstanding members.

- Nan Ferebee who is Secretary/Treasurer of the Board and has worked tirelessly as Chairperson of the Hospitality Committee, will continue on the board for one additional year, filling a gap created in the succession by resignation of a previous member. Nan plans and manages food and refreshments for the Fall Membership Meeting, the Lake Cleanup, Winter Dinner, Kids Fishing Day and the Summer Picnic in addition to her duties as Secretary Treasurer.
- Sylvia French joins the Board after many years of individual service to LWPOA. She has worked for several years with the Hospitality Committee planning and working all the events and always volunteers for special tasks. She brings significant talents and the ability to effectively represent the Association within the community.
- Mike Tranum has been a long time member of the Association. He has recently retired and is a full time resident of the lake with ample time to devote to the work of the Association. He is excited about his new role on the Board. Having been in business in his working life, he brings myriad skills complementary to the work of LWPOA to his new role with the Board.

Any member wishing to comment on the Board Member Slate may do so by responding to Nan Ferebee at LWPOA, P.O. Box 55, Wedowee, AL 36278

**SUMMER PICNIC** LWPOA will hold its annual Summer Picnic on Saturday, June 4, 2016 at the Rice Family pavilion on Lake Wedowee. Free events will begin at 5:00 pm. Registration for the meal will begin at 5:30 pm with the meal being served at 6:30 pm. There will be free activities for the entire family including face painting, music, volleyball, bean bag toss, hula hoop contest, horseshoes, and fireworks. There will be a catered meal with a choice of barbeque pork or chicken tenders and all the trimmings. The meal is \$5.00 per person for LWPOA members and their guests. Children 8 and under eat free. If you do not wish to eat you are still welcome to enjoy all the other activities freely. The reservation form will be mailed out on May 13<sup>th</sup> to be returned by May 25<sup>rd</sup>. Our theme this year is patriotism so show off your red, white and blue. Please mark your calendar and plan on attending this fun filled event.

Sincerely,  
*Tom Garland*, Chairperson

**WATER QUALITY UPDATE** Alabama Water Agencies Work Group (AWAWG) held an update at Auburn on April 5 on efforts to build a comprehensive state water policy. The group has been working behind the scenes to gather input and is due to give findings to the governor this December. Public release should happen early in 2017. As some of the findings and potential recommendations could be politically charged, especially inter-basin transfers and riparian rights, little of substance was discussed except for the process of gathering data. We will continue to watch for any impact on our membership. A complete rundown with presentations from the various chairmen is at:  
<http://adeca.alabama.gov/Divisions/owr/awawg/pages/default.aspx>

LWPOA works closely with the Upper Tallapoosa Clean Water Partnership on events that keep our water clean. Past events include a coordinated effort to cut down on cattle-originated bacteria in Wolf Creek and the Little Tallapoosa River, and most recently an electronics recycling event in Wedowee, a septic tank workshop, and drug take-back event in April. CWP also works with local schools on clean water education.

January's E-recycling event was a huge success, keeping almost 20,000 pounds of old electronics out of landfills. The septic tank workshop was attended by 30 people who learned how to maintain their system and avoid expensive repairs. Vouchers good for \$250 toward getting a tank pumped were distributed to winners of a drawing at the workshop. CWP coordinated publicity for the drug take back that was handled by Randolph Co. Sheriff's Office and the Roanoke Police Department. Scores of people brought in hundreds of outdated or unwanted medications, keeping these potentially dangerous substances out of our water system.

CWP will be holding another electronics recycling on June 4 in Roanoke as part of the Summer on Main event. It's free to drop off any electronic device, though picture-tube TVs cost \$10 and CRT monitors are \$5.

Carl and Mary Ann Engstrom are retiring as water testers during this quarter. Both have been monitoring the Little Tallapoosa arm of the lake for several years and have decided it's time to "retire," though Mary Ann will continue serving on the POA board. Thanks for your hard work.

We are in need of new water monitors both up the Big Tallapoosa and below the Highway 48 bridge. If you are interested please give me a call at ( 404) 449-3452 (cell). It's not hard to become an Alabama Water Watch certified chemical and bacteria tester, and your work pays great dividends to the LWPOA membership and to all lake users.

Until next time, have a safe and happy summer on the water.

*Barry Morris*

**MARK YOUR CALENDARS – LWPOA AND Local Events**

Thursday, May 19, 2016 **Kids Fishing Day** 3:00 pm to 6:00 pm CDT Rice Pavilion on Lake Wedowee

Saturday, June 4, 2016 **LWPOA Summer Picnic** 5:00 pm CDT Rice Pavilion on Lake Wedowee

Saturday, June 4, 2016 **Summer on Main** 8:00 am to 12:00 noon CDT Downtown Roanoke

Saturday, June 11, 2016 **Art On the Median** 9:00 am to Noon CDT Downtown Wedowee

July 1 and 2, 2016 **Randolph County Sheriff's Rodeo** 5:00 pm CDT

One Mile North of Wedowee on Highway 431