



Geneva Lake Conservancy



Protecting the environmental character of the Geneva lakes area

Spring 2013

Letter from the Chairman

It's a new year for the Geneva Lake Conservancy, and things are going well. We achieved our fund-raising goals, and our financials were positive for 2012. Our staff members are developing well in their new roles, and our committee structure is working, allowing us to do more for our lakes area than ever.

With respect to our land trust activities, we achieved two new easements on the shore of Geneva Lake just prior to the end of last year. We are on track to receive three large tracts of farmland, which will add nearly 800 acres to our total land under permanent protection. This is important, as the learning from these new farm parcels will help us protect more natural areas around our beautiful lakes area. There are many areas connected to farms to the south of Geneva and Delavan that are pristine and merit protection. Some of the lands in the designated Hackmatack areas are good examples.

Our advocacy efforts will continue to focus on protecting against too many properties gaining access to our lakes inconsistent with the zoning in place (pyramiding). Our efforts to attend all important community meetings is keeping us up to date with what is going on with respect to parklands, pier and boat regulations, and, of course, development. Our goal is to stay ahead of issues that arise and support positive activities where we can.

Fun and learning are also important! We have entertaining events planned for you this year. Specifically, we are trying to get young people more involved in our activities. From an education perspective, we are planning to focus on helping people landscape their shore properties properly for the protection of lake waters, the maintenance of habitat, and the health of our trees. You can look forward to more on this in our upcoming communications.

As always, we continue to need your support. Our newsletters, letter campaigns, events, and grants fund our entire operation. We thank you for your support and work hard every day in support of our cause.

Respectfully,

Charles L. Colman

Chairman

Inside This Issue

Changes at GLC	2
Conservation Stewardship Award	4
Holly Ball Photos	5

Upcoming Dates:

Monday, April 22nd

Earth Day

Friday, April 26th

GLC Benefit Luncheon &
Guest Performance by
The Surly Surveyor
Pier 290

Kishwaukee
Annual Arbor Day
Tree Planting

Saturday, April 27th

Spring Greening
At the Mill House

Saturday, June 29th

GLC Benefit
Pirates of the Conservancy
Grand Belle of Geneva

December 7th

31st Holly Ball

Thank you to Keepin' It Green Principal Sponsor:



bmoprivatebank.com/us

Calendar of Events 2013

Friday, April 26 – Rob Nurre as the “Surly Surveyor”



A luncheon celebrating the spirit of Earth Day with Rob Nurre portraying Sylvester Sibley, 1836 surveyor of the Geneva Lake area. Nurre will discuss the changes of the landscape over the past nearly two centuries and how we can use the early survey records in understanding and restoring the landscape to a natural condition. Invitations to be mailed soon and information available on the GLC Web site.

Location: Pier 290, Williams Bay

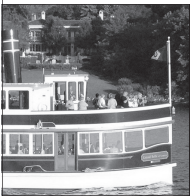
Saturday, April 27 – Spring Greening at the Mill House.



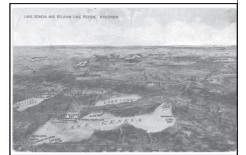
Speakers and volunteer opportunities! Dr. Richard Boniak, assistant professor of general and environmental science, George Williams College, and Roy Diblik, co-owner of Northwind Perennial Farms, are scheduled to speak. Topics to include, but not limited to, shoreline landscaping and renewal of the boxwood garden on the property. Our volunteer core work will focus on the landscaping around the Mill House and the boxwood garden.

Cocoa Bean Shell Mulch Sale – Two-cubic-foot bags of cocoa bean shell mulch will be available for pickup on Saturday, April 27. This aromatic mulch may be purchased pre-sale only for \$5.00 per bag. Check out www.GenevaLakeConservancy.org for more information.

Saturday, June 29 – “Pirates of the Conservancy”



The Conservancy’s summer fundraiser offers a fun, festive boat ride on the Grand Belle of Geneva on Geneva Lake with guests participating in a conservation treasure hunt. Plans include grog, hardtack and a live band. The seas may be rough but join us as we set sail to distant shores!



Moelter Farm Event (date to be determined)

Join us at our largest protected property, the Moelter Preserve. Walk the trails and enjoy the beautiful vistas.

Saturday, December 7 – The 31st annual Holly Ball at Big Foot Country Club.

The Conservancy’s annual holiday celebration and fundraiser includes a live band, dinner, auction, and presentation of the Conservation Stewardship Award.

Conservancy Welcomes New Chair, Bids Farewell to Two Board Members

At its February 2 meeting the Geneva Lake Conservancy Board of Directors officially made the transition of chairman of the board.

The Conservancy welcomes, again, as chairman Charles Colman. This is not a new role for him, as he was chairman in 2007-10.

We also thank departing chairman Robert Klockars for his dedication to the Conservancy’s mission the past three years and for his efforts through a few evolving years for the organization. Although his term as chairman is over, Bob will continue with the Conservancy’s Executive Committee as the immediate past chairman as well as spearheading the Conservancy’s Board Development Committee.

The Conservancy also bids farewell to two long-time board members, Dennis Jordan and Sharon O’Brien. Dennis and Sharon served on the board for eight and nine years, respectively. Both of them have provided valuable insights and perspective during their time at GLC. Their devotion and knowledge will be missed.

We are excited about our new leadership and the ever-changing energy that give this organization life. Charles’ focus and dedication to the lake and to the vitality of the communities that surround it promise to make his time as chairman stimulating and challenging.



John Powers

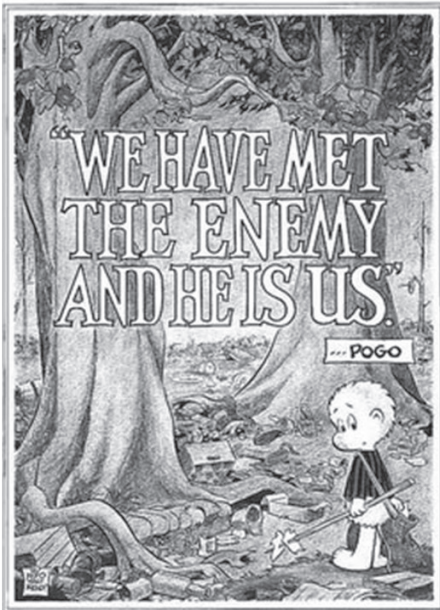
It was with a heavy heart that we learned John Powers passed away on January 16. He was a member, a volunteer, and a great friend of the Geneva Lake Conservancy.

John and his wife JaNelle were instrumental in the success of our "Love Letters to the Lake" program last summer. You can see John reading a story he wrote about walking the shore path with his daughter when she was 11 at this YouTube link:
<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9vdPKiLz19M>

Earth Day

The principal founder of Earth Day was Gaylord Nelson, former Wisconsin governor and U.S. senator.

Outraged by the massive oil spills in 1969 off Santa Barbara, California, Nelson was inspired by the activists of the anti-war movement and was determined to force environmental awareness on the national political agenda.



The First Earth Day was on April 22, 1970, and led to the creation of the Environmental Protection Agency and the passage of the Clean Air, Clean Water, and Endangered Species acts. Nelson's movement had broad support, and his idea for a "national teach-in on the environment" was embraced by people from all walks of life and beliefs.

One of Nelson's legacies is a treasured day that is celebrated globally, from primary grade school students in the Geneva lakes area, to the Bishnoi Tribe in India, who consider it a serious wrong to cut a healthy tree. When faced with cutting down a healthy tree, consider alternatives. Trees are a treasured resource for their beauty as well as their contribution to our air quality.

Consider the message from the first Earth Day Poster: "We have met the enemy, and he is us" and note the drawing of the child cleaning up the trash that covers a beautiful forest floor.

Celebrate Earth Day on April 22 by doing something that will protect our environment, for your benefit and the benefit of future generations.

Thank You to our recent volunteers

The great success of the 2012 Keepin' It Green Holly Ball event was due to the support of principal sponsor BMO Private Bank and a wonderful committee as well as our volunteers.

Many thanks to committee members Kelly Clow, Dianna Colman, Rebecca Fideler, Janet Happ, Lynn Ketterhagen, Margaret O'Regan, Kelly Otzen, Jamie Sanders, Leslie Scherrer, Sarah Schuster, Bridget Six, Karin Slayton, and Jessica Sylfest.

Thank you to Holly Ball volunteers Heidi Koch, Hannah Ripkey, and Katie Woelky. A special thank you to Renee Cerny from Frontier Flowers of Fontana for her attention to detail and to Patie Geldermann and Joe Geldermann from Ideal Impressions Photography for photographing the event.

We are grateful to others who have done volunteer work:

Jeff Allis – distributing newsletters and obtaining GPS information on the trails at Linn Nature Park.

JaNelle Powers – assisting with a mailing.

Fred Noer – copyediting the articles in each of our newsletters.

2012 Keepin' It Green Holly Ball

Last December 1 marked the 35th anniversary of the Conservancy and the 30th anniversary of the Holly Ball. The evening, made possible in part by principal sponsor BMO Private Bank, was held at Big Foot Country Club and included a 10-piece band, dinner, raffle, "buy it now" mini-mall, and the presentation of the Conservation Stewardship Award to Mary King.

Mary's involvement in area conservation and horticulture as well as other areas of the community is widespread. Among the awards Mary has received are the Lakeland Audubon Conservation Award, Daughters of the American Revolution Conservation Award, 4-H Key Leader Award, and the Wisconsin Lakes Association Award, all indicating the overwhelming successful impact of her contributions.

In 2007 Mary received the Garden Club of America Zone Civic Improvement Award for "Outstanding efforts . . . which enhance, protect, or restore to the local environment or improve the community through sharing the knowledge of plants and/or gardening."

A few of Mary's many accomplishments include:

- Working with the Army Corps of Engineers on the restoration of the Fontana Fen. She is credited in establishing one of the rarest wetlands in the world.
- Served on the Technical Advisory Committee for the Walworth County Land Management Committee/Walworth County Land Use Plan 2020.
- Instrumental in obtaining and dedicating Linn Nature Park.
- Worked with the Geneva Lake Environmental Agency to study the Geneva Lake watershed and wetlands.
- Created an outdoor education docent program for sixth-grade students where they learned about the wetland habitats of the Fontana Fen and then led second-grade students on a tour of the fen.
- Fontana Park Commission president and current president of the Environmental Education Foundation.
- Supporter and active volunteer at Kishwaukee Nature Conservancy since its inception in 1979.
- Co-author of the Kishwaukee Curriculum Project.
- Currently on the board of Friends of Big Foot Beach State Park and an active volunteer since its founding in 2005.
- Environmental instructor for George Williams College's Elderhostel program.
- A master gardener who enjoys giving hands-on workshops on worm composting to all age groups.



Robert Klockars and Mary King, recipient of GLC's Conservation Stewardship Award

After receiving her degree from the University of Missouri — Columbia in parks, recreation, and tourism, Mary and her husband Peter moved to the Geneva Lake area to raise their children. In the summer of 1989, Mary was hired by the Conservancy as executive director and land specialist. Working out of her basement, Mary methodically put together the building blocks that are in existence today, thus helping to establish the core framework of the GLC. The Conservancy owes her a debt of gratitude for the standards and practices she put in place.

When Mary volunteers her time with organizations, it is always in an active manner. Not content to attend meetings, Mary is known for her help with weeding and planting and is often seen in her gardening clothes, carrying a shovel and ready to dig in.

There is not a more deserving recipient of this award. Mary King, thank you and congratulations.

GLC's Groundwater Education Program Enhanced

Janet Happ, GLC staff, and Jane Klockars, GLC volunteer, recently attended a DNR training workshop on sand tank groundwater models.

The groundwater models can be used to teach many groundwater concepts such as groundwater movement, aquifer types, and recharge and discharge areas. Funded by a DNR grant, GLC received the training and a sand tank groundwater model, which will complement the groundwater education program the Conservancy already has in place.

If you are interested in a groundwater model demonstration, call the Conservancy.



A Few of the 2013 Keepin' It Green Holly Ball Attendees



Share the Vision and Donate Now. Become a Member in 2013!

Enclosed is my tax-deductible Membership donation:

- ☐ \$30 Naturalist
 ☐ \$60 Steward
 ☐ \$100 Advocate
 ☐ \$150 Protector
 ☐ \$250 Guardian
 ☐ \$500 Benefactor
☐ \$1,000 Stewardship Society
☐ \$5,000 Preservation Society
☐ \$_____ Other

Donor(s) _____

Address _____

City, State, Zip _____

Summer or Winter Address _____

City, State, Zip _____

Credit (Visa, M/C or Discover) _____ Ex _____

Yes, I would like to be a volunteer:

- ☐ Call me when you need help
☐ Mill House restoration and maintenance
☐ Mill House Gardens
 ☐ Data Entry
☐ Educational programs
 ☐ Event volunteer

We need your email addresses so we can keep you up to date with the latest GLC news!

Email: _____

Please mail to: Geneva Lake Conservancy | P.O. Box 588 | Fontana, WI 53125 | Phone: (262) 275-5700 | Fax: (262) 275-0579

Email: GLC@genevaonline.com | visit our website at: www.genevalakeconservancy.org

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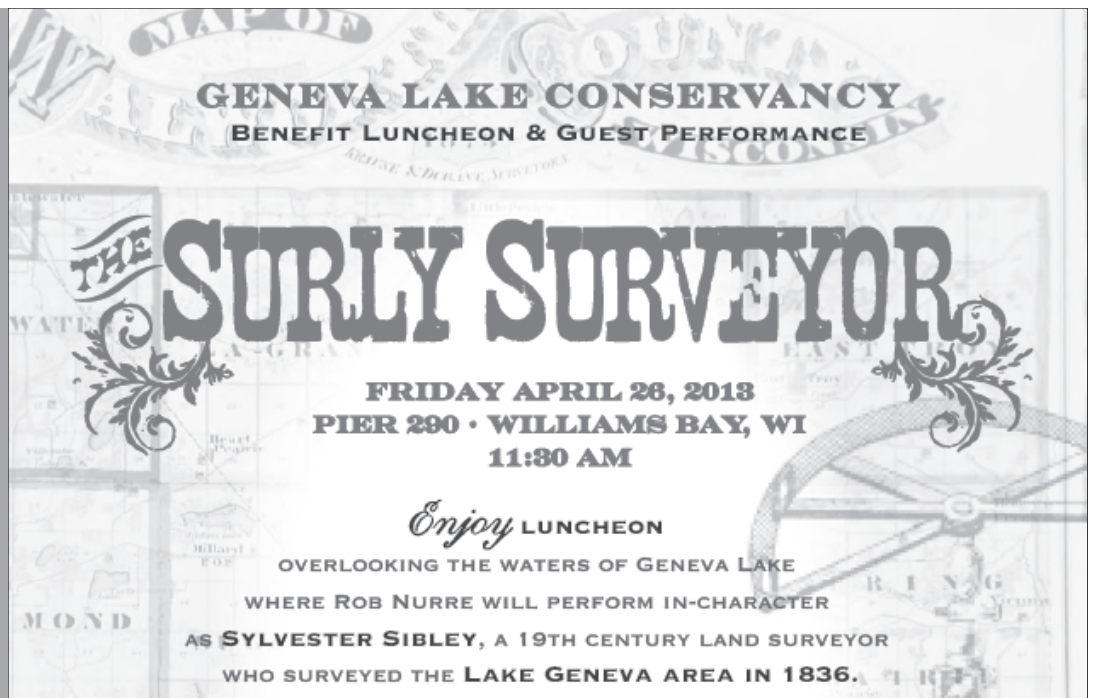
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GENEVA LAKE CONSERVANCY
BENEFIT LUNCHEON & GUEST PERFORMANCE

THE SURLY SURVEYOR

FRIDAY APRIL 26, 2013
PIER 290 • WILLIAMS BAY, WI
11:30 AM

Enjoy LUNCHEON
OVERLOOKING THE WATERS OF GENEVA LAKE
WHERE ROB NURRE WILL PERFORM IN-CHARACTER
AS **SYLVESTER SIBLEY**, A 19TH CENTURY LAND SURVEYOR
WHO SURVEYED THE LAKE GENEVA AREA IN 1836.

RESERVATIONS ARE LIMITED

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Celebrating 35 years


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