

The Greensboro Association 2012 President's Report

August 9, 2013

This year has been a very active for the Association. We faced a number of issues that concerned our members – including Public Beach ownership and control, Circus Smirkus plans, Village Green improvement and of course, lake protection. We also launched important initiatives for our future – including the proposed 501c3 status and the potential Fund for Greensboro. Our committees have been enhanced to better support our mission and you can find the reports on our website.

As you know, we are a Village Improvement Society with a mission to protect Caspian Lake and support Greensboro as a vibrant community and place to live. Committees support this mission and I would like to thank each member for their efforts. In particular, I would to recognize:

- **Andy Dales** continues to lead across all aspects of our Association – and especially in lake protection. We continue to owe him our gratitude.
- **Clay Simpson** took over the Chair of the Grants and Gifts as well as the Ad Hoc Committee on the Fund for Greensboro from **Tara Reynolds**, who left from the board over the winter. Clay has worked intensely with the Board and the Ad Hoc committee to evaluate options and structures for a potential Fund. In evaluating options, it became clear that the Association also needed to modernize its articles and bylaws and work to become a 501c3. Clay persuaded **Day Patterson** and **Bob Fairbanks** to craft the new proposed structures. Please also thank other members of the ad hoc committee including **Andy Dales, Rick Lovett, Clive Gray, Mike Cassidy** as well as advisors including **Tom Kehler, Linda Ely, Marcia and John Stone, Trish Ally, Clive Gray and Nancy Hill, and Mary White** (who initially promoted the idea for GA consideration).
- **Linda Ely** has helped to transform our communication and engagement and is a central figure in essentially every aspect of our work as an Association. Her Communications Committee is building a more robust member database and, with **Anne Cassidy**, publishes the Member Directory. **Cilla Smith** developed the Green Sheet, **Betsy Hunt** maintains our website content and Facebook communications and **Niall Kirkwood** put together the Winter Newsletter – a significant effort!
- **Victoria von Hessert** leads our new Events Committee successfully ran the 2nd Annual Caspian Lake Challenge run, the 4th of July Parade and, with **Naomi Ranz-Schleifer**, hosted two 20s -40s events. We also launched two “Sailing Days” and a concert with The Sky Blue Boys!
- **Naomi Ranz-Schleifer** leads our Village Improvement Committee and with **Chris King** and **Niall Kirkwood** worked with the community to develop an improvement plan for the Village Green that was accepted by the Select Board. Naomi also was knee deep in mud in June planting new trees and landscaping with **Laura Hill**. **Anne Harbison** continues to lead the beautiful Memorial

Garden and has helped shape the plan for the Village Green. Thank you also to **Jim Sowles** for contributing the new evergreen tree!

- I want to thank **Larry Hewes** who works tirelessly, with great detail, to represent the GA and support the Greensboro Town Plan and zoning regulations process.
- Finally, thanks to **John and Lisa Hewitt** for hosting the Sunday Lake concerts each week and **Lorelei Wheeler** who leads our swim program with distinction.

How are we doing against our goals?

- **Lake Protection** – We continue to protect our lake and avoid invasive species. We have not yet, however, succeeded in attracting new members to work with Andy in the Lake Protection mission. We need to continue this effort.
- **Visible Village Improvement** – We succeeded, with leadership from Naomi and in collaboration with town officials to make improvements at the Village Green and formalize the “Village Improvement Committee”.
- **Community Awareness** – We have had a multi-year goal to increase visibility and awareness in our community – especially with younger generations who may not fully appreciate the scope of our work and the opportunities to serve. We have made a significant progress with visible activities and events.
- **Communications** – The Committee’s goals for this last year were to continue enhancements to the web presence and to enable easier online communications, electronic dues payment, and an online member database. We have made strong progress and continue these efforts.
- **Member Expansion** – We are attracting more new members to the association and will continue these efforts. Goals for the next year include partnering with local businesses, reaching out to and including the "Next Gen" demographic and encouraging our regular renters to join the association.

I want to thank past leaders and members who have contributed so much for Greensboro over so many years and also welcome our two new board members, **Sarah Dillon** and **Alison Stegner**.

Respectfully submitted,

John C. Stone III