

2023 President's Report

I am honored to serve and work with the membership and Board of Directors of the Greensboro Association. With nearly 9 decades of history and service to Greensboro, our mission is to enhance our community, and to protect Caspian Lake and its surrounding environment.

We are a 100% volunteer-run organization, and the tremendous amount of work done is thanks to our 18 Board members, especially the Committee Chairs.

The GA's Lakes and Environmental Stewardship Committee, headed by Stew Arnold and JoAnn Hanowski, is preventing milfoil and other invasive aquatic species with the greeter program. They monitor the clarity of the lake, along with the phosphorus and chlorophyll levels. This information allows us to proactively protect the health of the lake, through educational work such as Lake Wise and septic socials. In addition, the growing popularity of wake boating has led to major concern over the impact large wakes can have on Caspian. We have gathered over 1200 signatures on a petition to ban wake boats on our lake. This petition adds strength to a more detailed legal and scientific one which we have just presented to the DEC.

With your support, the Fund for Greensboro, which includes the Lake fund, the Endowment, and an unrestricted fund, now stands at \$630,000. This has allowed us to recognize and help a growing number of worthwhile non-profits in and around Greensboro. Grants to these groups totaled \$27,500 this year. This work wouldn't be possible without you and the hard work of our Fund for Greensboro Committee, along with the Grants Committee, both of which you'll be hearing from shortly. The Grants Committee quickly mobilized our Community Relief Fund after the July floods. This fund will distribute every dollar raised right back out to the community. They have already distributed \$20,000 to groups working directly with impacted community members, coordinating volunteer efforts, and providing essential food, supplies, and shelter.

Our Board members have also found time to encourage and support multiple independent events, including the Funky 4th, the Caspian Challenge Run, the Community Garden, the rec trails, Sunday evening music, and Greensboro's newest event, the Tour de Greensboro—a cross-country ski event. These events and other Greensboro news can be found on our website and Facebook pages, thanks to the great work of our Communications and Membership Committees.

Finally, we've built on the governance foundation of our predecessors, adding several additional policy documents to run the business of the GA, with expert help from the Finance Committee to keep track of it all.

Special thanks this year to our retiring Board members (please stand), Rob Hurst, Rick Lovett, John Schweizer, and Havilah Stewart-Mann. These four Board members have volunteered their time and talent for a total of over 40 years, and we will miss them. We also owe thanks to former Board members Linda Ely and Betsy Hunt, who continue to volunteer many hours working on GA dues renewal, the directory, and keeping our website up to date. Additional thanks this year to Ritchie Berger, David Kelley and Bob Fairbanks, who spent a tremendous amount of legal time drafting and filing our wakeboat ban petition.

The volunteers you see here today, both the Board, and fellow GA members, work incredibly hard to make this community, this environment, one which we are proud to pass on to our grandchildren, leaving it in even better shape than we found it.

Now, I will turn things over to Rick Lovett, who will share this year's financial results, along with the 2024 budget.

Cathy Irwin

Greensboro Association President