

# Galway Lake Campers Association, Inc.

25 Washington Road, Scotia, New York 12302

A Privately Owned Membership Lake Located in Galway, New York

June 15, 2008

Dear Member,

Welcome to another beautiful summer at Galway Lake. Thanks to Kurt Ladu, who volunteers his time and effort to control lake level and adjust the tower gates, we have a full lake this year. Since taking over the job last fall Kurt has shown the same diligence as Neil Cayey previously did in recording lake level and adjusting the dam controls as needed. Regaining a "full-lake" in the spring is the principle responsibility of the lake level committee and I would like to personally thank Kurt for a job well done. The ice left the lake on April 12<sup>th</sup> and a full lake was achieved on May 22<sup>nd</sup>. I would like to personally thank Neil Cayey for his service that ensured for the safe operation of the Galway Lake Dam while maintaining a full lake for us all to enjoy. I am sure that he did not miss walking the dam face in snow during this winter. Neil continues to serve the GLCA, but has transitioned control of the lake level to Kurt.

In September 2007 Ruback's Grove informed the GLCA that they would no longer allow for the launching/retrieval of boats through the Ruback's Beach by members of the Association who are not members of Ruback's Grove and asked for the GLCA's aid in addressing this matter. Over the past several years the number of boats crossing the Ruback's Grove Beach by marinas delivering boats and GLCA members from outside the Grove has increased significantly and Ruback's Grove has taken this action to protect the rights of their members and their facilities. The GLCA was unaware of this situation and we ask all members to respect the rights of other Groves and landowners and not trespass in order to launch boats into the lake. This situation appears to coincide with the increased number of pontoon boats on the lake and those owners not having the proper facilities to launch through their own property or a facility contained within their grove.

During the winter a Committee was formed by the GLCA Board to look for a solution to aid those campers who do not have proper facilities to launch and retrieve their boats. The Committee report was discussed at the Board meeting held on June 14 and the Board has moved to improve the emergency access ramp at the Dam to provide for the supervised launching and retrieval of boats for members in good standing.

The Committee is working to attain final costs for insurance to cover the increased liability the Association will incur as well as finalize procedures by which launching and retrieval will be accomplished. Upon receiving this information I will call for a special meeting of the Board to vote on the final operating policy and then inform GLCA members as to the particulars. This facility will be for members in good standing only, will be provided by appointment and the gate will remain locked at all other times.

The Board and I would like to remind you that the Town of Galway has adopted new onsite waste water treatment system provisions as part of their overall updated zoning ordinance. This update brings the Town into compliance with State of New York guidance. You can read the updated code by visiting the Town of Galway website at <http://www.townofgalway.org>. We would also like to remind you all grey water leaving your residence is required to go through your septic system for treatment. Untreated grey water is a significant source of nutrients and must be treated. It is incumbent upon us all to protect this lake that we all love so dearly.

Controlling and reducing the nutrients we all allow to enter the lake is critical to the future of Galway Lake as a recreational body of water. Each of us can directly help the lake by maintaining an effective septic system, not using fertilizer on lake front property, and not encouraging waterfowl to make Galway Lake their home. For further suggestions on how you can help in protecting the quality of Galway Lake please be sure to read the included 2007 Lake Survey Report provided by the Lake Preservation Committee. If you have any questions or concerns Bruce Kniskern, Chairman of the Lake Preservation Committee, will be more than willing to address them during the Annual Meeting of the Association July 12<sup>th</sup>.

While you and your family enjoy the lake this season please remember to abide by all laws when operating a boat on the lake. Remember that a life preserver must be in the boat for each person on board. For your own safety a life preserver should be worn at all times you are in a boat. Boats with electric motors must be licensed with the State of New York. Identify your boat(s) and raft with your camp number in the event that they are found adrift they will be easily identified as belonging to you. Please use the "catch and release" policy if you are fishing for sport on the lake. In addition we all value the peace and quiet of Galway Lake, so please be considerate of your neighbors while preserving this special place. The Association does not support the use of fireworks on or around the lake, as it is illegal "to possess, use, explode, or cause to explode fireworks in the State of New York," unless you have a license to do so. -- New York State Penal Law, Section #270.

It is especially important that you have your camp numbered with letters that are at least 3 inches high and clearly visible so that emergency services can find your camp in the event of an emergency. Any Grove where year-round residency exists has the responsibility for maintaining its roads to allow year-round access of emergency vehicles and personnel. The Galway Lake Fire Department needs a minimum clearance of 14 feet to navigate its equipment to your home. If your road is not maintained with the proper minimum clearance you are greatly increasing the likelihood of disaster.

This year the Board has approved a tentative assessment per camp of \$185. This assessment level will provide for a prudent budget that includes funding for the capital reserve fund to meet future expenditures for capital improvements.

Following is the tentative budget for 2008 – 2009. If this budget is approved at the Annual Lake Association Meeting that will be held at the Ruback's Grove Pavilion on Saturday July 12, 2008 at 7:00PM, the assessment per camp will be: \$185.

### **2008 – 2009 Budget**

Taxes	\$27,500.00
Legal	\$5,000.00
Conservation	\$2,000.00
Audit & Tax Preparation	\$1,500.00
Donations	\$1,000.00
Insurance	\$33,000.00
Maintenance	\$2,500.00
Clerk Office Expenses	\$4,200.00
Federation of Lakes Dues	\$400.00
Capital Reserve Fund	\$10,000.00
Water Testing	\$2,800.00
Contingency	<u>\$10,000.00</u>
	\$99,900.00

I would like to encourage you to attend the annual meeting on July 12<sup>th</sup> to understand more about the lake and present any questions or concerns that you may have about the budget or other points of interest that you may have with regard to Galway Lake. If you are unable to attend please use the proxy designated below to designate someone else to represent your interests. Please send your proxy to Ms. Lois Seyse, Clerk, 25 Washington Road, Scotia, New York, 12302.

Sincerely,



J. Glen Rundell,  
President

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**--PROXY--**

TO: Ms. Lois B. Seyse, Clerk  
Galway Lake Campers Association, Inc.  
25 Washington Road  
Scotia, New York 12302

I hereby appoint \_\_\_\_\_ to act for me in matters to be enacted at the July 12, 2008 Annual Meeting of the GLCA.

My Grove is \_\_\_\_\_ Signed: \_\_\_\_\_  
My camp number is \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

***Please sign and return this proxy if you do not plan to attend the meeting***