



The Newsletter of the Yahara Lakes Association

## FEBRUARY 2015

### NEW YLA BOARD MEMBERS

By YLA Board of Directors

YLA is pleased to welcome three new board members – Jerry Rekowski, Don Schulz and Debbie Waite.



**Jerry Rekowski** is an executive at American Family Insurance and has been employed there for the past 39 years. He and his wife live on Colladay Point on Lake Kegonsa. They have enjoyed living on the lake for the past 17 years. Jerry has been a member of FOLKS (Friends of Lake Kegonsa Society) for the past several years. He has served on a number of other Boards such as Wisconsin FFA and Olbrich Gardens. He is concerned with water quality issues and feels an obligation to leave the lakes in better shape for our children and grandchildren. As for relaxation, Jerry feels there is nothing better than floating around on a pontoon boat in our area lakes.

**Dan Schultz** retired as President of American Family Insurance Group in 2014. He has lived on Lake Monona since 1986. Dan and his wife, Patty, and their son all enjoy living near the water. Dan previously served as a YLA Board member in 2004 – 2011 but needed to step down as work travel and responsibilities increased. He's happy to once again join the YLA board now that he's retired and hopes to make improvements to our area lakes. Dan is a member of the Lake Monona Sailing Club. He enjoys many lake-related activities such as sailing, kayaking, paddle boarding and ice boating.



#### Mark Your Calendars

**JUNE 23, 2015**

YLA ANNUAL DINNER MTG AT  
BLACKHAWK COUNTRY CLUB

FOR MORE LAKE EVENTS  
VISIT [WWW.YAHARALAKES.ORG](http://WWW.YAHARALAKES.ORG)

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**THANK YOU TO OUR  
CORPORATE MEMBERS  
FOR THEIR SUPPORT :**

- AMERICAN FAMILY INSURANCE
- BISHOPS BAY COUNTRY CLUB
- BLACKHAWK COUNTRY CLUB
- CAPITOL TRAVEL SERVICE
- CAPTAIN BILL'S
- CHRISTY'S LANDING
- D.L. ANDERSON
- DRAKE & CO. STAFFING
- THE EDGEWATER
- ENDRES MANUFACTURING CO.
- FOUR LAKES YACHT CLUB
- HOMBURG CONTRACTORS, INC.
- JOE DANIELS CONSTRUCTION CO.
- MANKE ENTERPRISES
- MARINER'S INN
- MIDDLETON BOAT HOUSE CO.
- NATIONAL GUARDIAN LIFE INS. CO.
- NAU-TI-GAL
- PADDLEBOARD SPECIALISTS
- PHARO MARINE, INC.
- PINCKNEY PLACE CONDOMINIUM ASSOC
- RUTABAGA PADDLESPORTS
- SPECTRUM BRANDS
- SPRINGERS OF LAKE KEGONSA
- STARK COMPANY - LOUISA ENZ
- WACONIA PARK OWNERS ASSOC.
- WATER EDGE OWNERS ASSOC.
- WESTPORT MARINE/BETTY LOU CRUISES
- WICKCRAFT MANUFG CO. INC.

**PLEASE SUPPORT THE  
BUSINESSES THAT  
SUPPORT YLA!**

**YLA NEW BOARD MEMBERS con't.**

By YLA Board Member

*(continued from page 1)*

**Debbie Waite** is a career executive bureau director with the Wisconsin Department of Health Services, working mainly on issues related to Wisconsin's Medicaid program and interaction with the federal health marketplace. She has also been a consultant for a number of large health care systems including Aurora Health Care in Milwaukee and SSM Health Care corporate, the parent of St. Mary's Hospital. For the majority of her career, she served as the Executive Vice President of the Wisconsin Hospital Association here in Madison. She is an attorney by education and has worked extensively on public policy issues in a number of her professional roles.

Debbie and her husband Wes have lived on Lake Kegonsa for 18 years but have enjoyed the lake with their children (now grown) for all of their married life. Wes actually grew up on the north side of Lake Kegonsa, just a few blocks from Springers restaurant, where his Dad ran Waite's Marine as a side business for many years.

Debbie is interested in water quality issues, lake levels, and rights of property owners.

Welcome Jerry, Dan and Debbie! To learn more about the YLA board members that serve you, go to <http://yaharalakes.org/yla-board/>

**ANNUAL DINNER MEETING JUNE 23rd**

By Dick Adler and Joe Tisserand, YLA Board Members

Save the Date! **Tuesday, June 23rd** is YLA's Annual Dinner Meeting. It will be held at Blackhawk Country Club. Come and meet your YLA Board Members, your lakeside neighbors and our "mystery" guest speaker (you won't want to miss it)!

Also, if you attend, you will likely take home a very nice door prize! For the past several years, 1 out of every 2 people in attendance has taken home a great gift. We'll also have a raffle for high value corporate donations such as pier benches from Endres Manufacturing and Wickcraft Manufacturing.

So mark your calendars to attend the YLA Annual Dinner on **Tuesday, June 23rd**. More details will follow as the date draws near. We look forward to seeing you there!



## RAIN GARDENS 101

By Caroline Fribance, YLA Board Member

Want a beautiful garden and at the same time improve lake water quality?

As a homeowner or business on the shores of our beautiful lakes, we want to keep the water quality as high as possible. As we now know, the quality of lake water is greatly affected by the water that runs into them. Rain gardens gather the water that accumulates on your property, on your roof and gutters, driveway, and compacted soils such as many lawns. Rain gardens ensure that runoff does not carry the nutrients that feed lake weeds and algae into the lakes.

In addition to being good for our local environment, rain gardens can be beautiful and low maintenance.



*Rain garden flowers*

### General design guidelines

- \* Grass/groundcover filter strip
- \* **FLAT** shallow ponding depth, 6 to 12 inches max
- \* Planting area/bioretention zone
- \* Planting soil zone
- \* Underdrain system ^
- \* Overflow outlet structure ^

^ large systems only



Credit: Heather Crawford

one quite easily. In general rain gardens are depressed about 6-8 inches and have loose soil in order to absorb the water and filter it. However, they can be shallower or much deeper, depending upon your needs and aesthetics. The filtered water recharges groundwater, which in turn makes its way into our lakes.

There are many websites that will give you information about how to build your rain garden. Some you may find useful are:

<http://www.danewaters.com/private/raingarden.aspx>

<http://www.cityofmadison.com/engineering/stormwater/raingardens/>

<http://dnr.wi.gov/topic/shorelandzoning/documents/rqmanual.pdf>



## 2nd YEAR OF CLEAN LAKES ALLIANCE'S CITIZEN WATER QUALITY PROGRAM

By Clean Lakes Alliance

Clean Lakes Alliance's (CLA) 2014 citizen water quality monitoring program concluded on September 29<sup>th</sup>, when volunteer Jacob Stampen recorded the last data point of the season.

Forty-four volunteer teams worked throughout the summer to record near-shore water quality conditions. Volunteers performed almost 1,000 sampling events, providing an unprecedented level of detail about our lakes' near-shore environments. This data will help researchers at UW-Madison track the formation and movement of blue-green algal blooms. CLA launched a [mobile-ready website](#), allowing volunteers to record observations that the public can readily see. This mobile-ready website provides the public with beach closure and near-shore water quality information, which can help lake users choose when to use the beach on any given day.

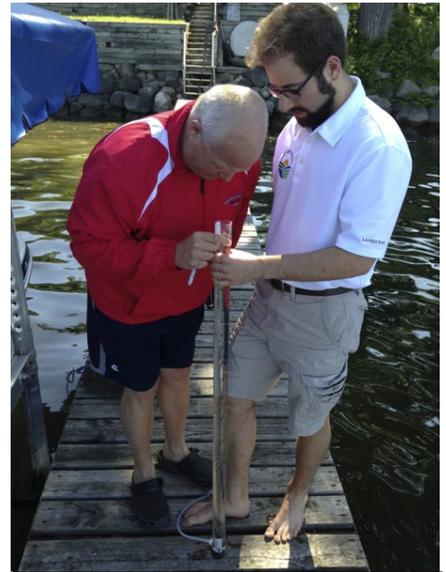
Volunteers collected data for water clarity, air and water temperature, total phosphorus, and visual observations, such as presence of algae or waterfowl. The data revealed the dynamic and complex nature of our lakes, which can change rapidly in both time and space. One volunteer might record an algal bloom presence in one location while another volunteer just a few hundred yards away might record excellent water quality conditions. Conditions at a single site sometimes changed quickly too. Despite the unpredictable nature of the lakes, volunteers were able to track the growth and movement of a number of potentially harmful algal blooms and other conditions that interfere with recreational use of our waters.

Sampling for *E. coli* at James Madison Park, CLA found that the frequency of monitoring matters. CLA observed conditions warranting beach closures that otherwise would have gone unnoticed. Performing more rigorous sampling can help minimize the risk and increase the confidence of beach users. CLA will continue to investigate better monitoring strategies that are financially feasible to anticipate high bacterial levels and keep beach users informed and safe.

CLA would like to specially thank Jon Standridge and Dr. Richard Lathrop for their contributions as advisors to the program.

Thank you to all CLA volunteers and contributors. CLA would like to acknowledge our partners: The City of Madison, The City of Monona, Dane County, MIOsoft, Public Health Madison & Dane County, Thermo Fisher Scientific, Wisconsin State Laboratory of Hygiene, UW-Madison Center for Limnology, Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources, and 100state.

In 2015, CLA hopes to add more volunteers to cover the largest lengths of shoreline that are currently unmonitored. Please [click here](#) for more details, including more 2014 results and a map of 2015 targeting locations.



*Checking water clarity  
Photo provided by  
Clean Lakes Alliance*

## YLA or CLA - WHAT'S THE DIFFERENCE?

By YLA Board of Directors

Some people are wondering ...

“What’s the difference between **YLA** (Yahara Lakes Association) and **CLA** (Clean Lakes Alliance)?”

Simply stated, YLA represents and advocates for the specific interests of **waterfront property owners**, while CLA solely advocates to improve water quality in our waterways.

YLA serves the unique interests and needs of waterfront property owners by reporting, monitoring and actively engaging in issues such as water level management, shoreland zoning and waterfront rules and regulations.

Because YLA also has an interest in the vitality of the water quality in our area lakes and rivers, we’re excited to support and partner with CLA in improving water quality in the Yahara chain of lakes. In fact, three YLA board members serve on various CLA Boards and Committees to help work toward those goals. Also, CLA’s James Tye serves as an advisor to the YLA Board.

As a waterfront property owner, both YLA and CLA are working to enhance your lake living experience! Thank you for supporting both organizations!

## CURRENTS



► Clean Lakes Alliance and area municipalities partnered in a survey on how residents deal with fall leaves and stormwater. Many YLA and CLA members took part in the survey, so thank you! The results can be found at: <http://www.cleanlakesalliance.com/resident-lawn-care-survey/>

► Lake Mendota and all the other area lakes are already frozen, but here is some interesting information on lake ice trends from John Magnuson, Director Emeritus of the UW Center for Limnology.

<http://limnology.wisc.edu/blog/when-will-lake-mendota-freeze/>

► Find out how new technology is improving water quality at the Yahara Pride Farms 2015 Watershed Wide Conference “Nutrient Management and Precision Ag”. The conference will be held on Thursday, March 5, from 10:30 am to 2:30 pm at the Comfort Inns and Suites in DeForest. The agenda, speakers and RSVP to attend can be found at: <http://www.yaharapridefarms.org/2015-watershed-wide-conference/>

To let us know about your lake events or ideas for future newsletters, please contact us at [info@yaharalakes.org](mailto:info@yaharalakes.org)

# YLA SHORELINE SERVICES INFORMATION SHEET

By YLA Board of Directors

## YLA SHORELINE SERVICES INFORMATION SHEET

### Listed Alphabetically

Here is a handy list of services offered by our YLA Corporate Sponsors for your shoreline needs. Please call the corporate sponsors directly for any additional information.



D.L. Anderson Co. Marine Contractors 608-249-3100 <a href="http://www.piers-lifts.com">www.piers-lifts.com</a>	Sales and service of piers, boat lifts, canopies, lift motors and rail systems; New and pre-owned inventories; Shoreline restoration services; Marine salvage; Seasonal installations and removal of piers, lifts, canopies, and more....
Endres Manufacturing Company 608-849-4143 <a href="http://www.endresmfq.com">www.endresmfq.com</a>	Sales and services for Endres piers; Repairs for Endres and other piers; Sales and service for boat tracks; Fabrication of steel beams, metal railings and decorative metal work
Homburg Construction 608-244-3554 <a href="http://www.homburginc.com">www.homburginc.com</a>	Direct access shoreline restoration work; Permeable pavement design and installation
Joe Daniels Construction Company 608-271-4800 <a href="http://www.danielsco.com">www.danielsco.com</a>	Shoreline restoration; specializing in barge work
Manke Enterprises 608-592-4022 <a href="http://www.manke.com">www.manke.com</a>	Sales and service for piers, boat hoists, lift motors and rail systems; New and used inventory; Seasonal installation and removal of piers, hoists, and rails systems; Boathouse design and installation; Marine recovery and salvage work
Wickcraft Company 608-244-9177 <a href="http://www.wickcraft.com">www.wickcraft.com</a>	Manufacturer of docks, piers and rail systems. Please call for more information

## 2015 YLA MEMBERSHIP

By YLA Membership Committee

If you've already renewed your YLA membership for 2015, **THANK YOU** for your continued support! If not, please renew your membership now.

To renew safely and securely online, go to [www.yaharalakes.org](http://www.yaharalakes.org). To renew via standard mail, please complete this form and mail to the address listed at the bottom of the page.

### MAILING ADDRESS:

LAKE ADDRESS (if different from mailing):

Name \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ ST \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

I prefer YLA Newsletters via  Standard mail or  Email address \_\_\_\_\_

My lake property is on  Kegonsa  Mendota  Monona  Waubesa  Yahara/Other

**2015 YLA MEMBERSHIP ANNUAL DUES:**  \$35 Individual  \$100 Corporate Sponsor

*To further support YLA's efforts in advocating for lake property owners, I wish to make a donation of:*

\$15  \$50  \$65  \$100  \$ \_\_\_\_\_

*(Please note: Donations to YLA are not tax deductible; please consult your tax advisor)*

Mail this completed form with a check to:

Yahara Lakes Association Ltd.  
P.O. Box 22  
Waunakee, WI 53597

*Questions? Call 608.239.1664 or email: [info@yaharalakes.org](mailto:info@yaharalakes.org)*



PO BOX 22  
WAUNAKEE, WI 53597

*Yahara Lakes Association, Ltd. is a non-profit organization dedicated to representing lake property owners and advocating for the vitality of the Yahara chain of lakes so that all citizens may enjoy them.*

## Yahara Lakes Association, Ltd. Board of Directors

### **2015 Officers:**

President - Joe Tisserand  
President Elect - Roy Carter  
Secretary - Allan Levin  
Treasurer - Sal Troia  
Past President - Dick Pearson

Lake Views Editor: Carol Gillen

### **2015 Board Members:**

Dick Adler	Carol Gillen
Doug Bach	Luke Hutchins
David Bohl	Bob Miller
Bill Fitzpatrick	Jerry Rekowski
Caroline Fribance	Dan Schultz
Chuck Gates	Debbie Waite
Mike Gerner	

### **2015 Advisors:**

James Tye



VISIT OUR WEBSITE  
[www.yaharalakes.org](http://www.yaharalakes.org)

**To contact any Board Member or Advisor:** phone: 239-1664 or email: [info@yaharalakes.org](mailto:info@yaharalakes.org)