

Lake Rabun Fire Protection Services Update & Capital Campaign Status

First, I would like to thank all of you for responding to our Capital Fund Campaign on Labor Day 2016. Since that time, we have made a great deal of progress and are now nearing the necessary amount to make a new fireboat a reality for Lake Rabun. We have learned a great deal since last Labor Day and have identified other expenses which will need to be covered. These include additional equipment to complete the outfitting of the new boat, expenses to enlarge our marina fire station to accommodate the new boat, etc. Bottom line, we are nearing the finish line and can get there with a little more help.

We are greatly appreciative of the financial support from the Georgia Power Foundation which provided a grant of \$25,000 and excellent advice on many related matters. They have also offered additional in kind support to make improved fire protection on our lake a reality. Please make an effort to thank our Georgia Power friends both here in Rabun County and their corporate officers. They continue to invest in the quality of our lake environment and help make it what it is today.



We also need to express our gratitude to John Murray, LWVFD Station 4 Captain, and his lieutenants for their tireless efforts in helping to move this initiative forward. Key among this effort has been the time dedicated to develop and refine the specifications for the new fireboat.

Our LRA Fire Committee has been in contact with both county officials and several of the county commissioners on numerous occasions since last Labor Day. As of now, we are awaiting several “final” quotes for the fireboat, outfitting equipment and marina station enlargement. The County has requested that we include in our overall discussion with Darrin Giles, our County Administrator. At this point, all appear to be supportive of our cause.

Our discussions with our county officials and commissioners have not all been focused strictly on the fireboat. We have included the need for an additional fire station to better serve the upper end of our lake from approximately Bear Gap Cove up to the Low Gap Road Bridge. A new station in this general area would provide much better service to upper Lake Rabun, as well as truck service to cover the Crow Creek Road area and the Flat Creek community. This would potentially set the stage for this service area to establish eligibility for an improved ISO/PPC rating, which could substantially impact property insurance premiums.

We are nearing the finish line -- the point where a purchase order can be placed to start the process of building our fireboat. If you have not yet had a chance to support the LRA Capital Campaign, now is the time. Your support can make the difference.

Contributions to the North Georgia Community Foundation which is a 501(c)(3) organization are deductible for federal and state income tax purposes as charitable contributions to the extent allowed by law. Checks should be made payable to: North Georgia Community Foundation with Lakemont-Wiley Volunteer Fire Department Capital Fund or LWVFD Capital Fund noted on the check.

Contributions should be mailed to:
North Georgia Community Foundation
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