

Greetings Lake Groton Association Friends and Members,

At the 2019 annual meeting, the Lake Groton Association voted to allow the Trustees to survey the Lake Groton community to gather information about various preferences pertaining to meetings, association activities, and interest in volunteering for various upcoming activities. In addition to contacting current and recent past members, we wanted to reach out to all landowners around the lake to inform them about who we are and what we do, with the goal of generating interest in the Association.

Susan Pelkey Smith took on this task and enlisted the help of Terri Eastman. They spent many hours researching the land owners from town tax maps, as well as drafting and administering a thoughtful set of survey questions. Susan compiled the data and presented it to the Trustees for review prior to distributing the results.

Conclusions supported by the survey:

- Location and timing of the annual meeting will remain the same.
- Interest in meeting more frequently at an informal gathering was neutral and there are no plans to pursue at this point.
- 75th Anniversary celebration in 2021 garnered a lot of interest for both attending and volunteering.
- Several people offered to volunteer for various roles. Rusty has the list and may reach out to you.
- Several new and updated email addresses were received for Association emails. Those were shared with Jon Desilets to update his database. Jon maintains this database and sends email via blind copy to protect members' email addresses.
- Several of you paid your dues, as well as made contributions to the fireworks and bladderwort boat. Thank you!

Currently we have a membership level of 91, or 68%.

Fireworks donations to date are \$2,142. **We still need to raise \$2,858 by April 30, 2020** before Rusty will sign the contract for 2020 fireworks, which are currently planned for Saturday July 11, 2020 with rain date of Sunday, July 12, 2020.

A 3-page summary of the survey procedures and survey results follows.

Lake Groton Association
Summary of Surveys Sent 11/2019
Page 1

Summary of procedures: Used tax maps to complete internal list of camp owners, to include both members and nonmembers. Obtained billing addresses from tax maps. Mailed surveys to all owners, eliminating duplicate surveys to those who own more than one property.

Mailed 133 surveys; 1 returned undeliverable; received 79 responses for response rate of 60%

Summary of responses:

Membership status:

- 61 identified as current members
- 14 identified as past members but paid membership with response; most were lapsed memberships
- 3 identified as past members
- 1 identified as never a member but purchased property 11/2019 and paid dues

Comment: No responses received from those mailed a survey who have not been or are not currently members, other than one who is new owner 11/2019.

Currently receiving emails:

- 56 responded Yes
- 16 responded that they would like to be added
- 5 responded No by choice (do not use email or do not want to be added)
- 2 responses were blank

Comment: Names and email addresses given to Jon Desilets to add

Annual meeting attendance:

- 48 typically attend
- 16 rarely attend
- 11 never attended
- 1 attended until rate increase
- 1 new owner since meeting
- 2 responses were blank

Comments provided with responses:

- 1 stated not interested in membership; goals/attitudes of many members to not align with theirs. (Anonymous response)
- 7 responded that not usually in-residence Labor Day weekend.
- 2 responded that work on Saturdays so Sunday would be better
- 1 responded that they arrive late Friday night so 10 am Saturday is too early

LGA Summary of Surveys Sent 11/2019
Page 2

Date options – would you likely attend if date was moved:

29 yes if near but not on July 4th
37 yes if late July
37 yes if mid-August

Comments provided with responses:

10 wrote-in that prefer Labor Day weekend
1 suggested early spring or late fall
1 suggested mid-July
1 suggested any time but September
1 suggested Memorial Day weekend

Observation: 48 responded that they typically attend, which is higher than any of the other date options.

Meet more frequently at an informal gathering:

36 responded likely to attend
37 responded not likely to attend
2 replied possibly if at they are at the lake
4 blanks

75th Anniversary celebration:

64 responded likely to attend
12 responded not likely to attend
3 blanks

Comments provided with responses:

- 1 suggested combining celebration with annual meeting

Volunteer:

25 self-identified as current or past volunteers
28 identified as interested in volunteering (some more than one area)
4 for bladderwort removal
1 for fireboat
15 for 75th anniversary celebration
4 for Trustee
1 offered to teach basic first aid and CPR; need location
1 offered if small children could help
2 “other”
5 blanks

LGA Summary of Surveys Sent 11/2019
Page 3

Other Feedback:

- New camp owner is a former environmental education teacher and current school principal and would be willing to help with environmental initiatives and Nature Center input
- Comment about some camp owners having apparent disregard of Shoreland Protection Act
- A thank you for amazing fireworks
- Suspend fireworks with adoption of proposed mission and with the Randall's fireworks show
- 1 suggested dues too high for some and 1 commented that was a member until dues were increased to \$40