



Friends of Lake Kegonsa Society, Inc.
P.O. Box 173
Stoughton, WI 53589-0173
March 2013

President’s Message ~ Peter Foy

First, I would like to introduce myself. I am Peter Foy and your new President of FOLKS. My wife, Karen and I live at 3130 Shadyside Dr, right across from the golf cart storage building by the country club. We owned the property as a cottage for 10 years and then tore it down and built our current home 16 years ago, so we have enjoyed Lake Kegonsa for 26 years. We have three children and each of them have three children, so we have nine grandkids that have been spending their summers in the lake for many years. This is what will drive me to do anything I can to insure that the lake is in as clean a condition as it can be.

Second, the Board would like to thank Bob Arndt for serving as President of FOLKS for the last five years. He put in a lot of time to keep us moving forward. Prior to Bob, Ray Potempa was president for probably 10 years. He spent a lot of energy understanding lake issues and how the various government organizations came into play. We plan to tap the knowledge that both of these past presidents have regarding lake issues.

Third, we are looking forward to a good summer on the lake. We have an excellent Board in place that will spend as much time as necessary to stay on top of any projects, or issues that come up. We already have a meeting set up with the County to discuss plans for monitoring and controlling aquatic plant growth. As you can understand, some of the issues are within our control and some are not. We will keep our members informed about anything that the Board has discussed and learned.

We are particularly interested in identifying any areas of run off into the lake. Two members of our Board have agreed to document and work with the various government agencies on the resolution of any problem areas. If you become aware of a runoff location, please report it to FOLKS.

Please feel free to contact me at peterf@kegonasa.org with any lake issue that you have. We will work together to try to resolve any issues that come up.

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By the way, in our contest I estimated that the ice would be off the lake on March 20th. As I write this it looks like it is going to be later than that. I still have hopes that we will be on the water pretty soon.

Protecting The Lake Kegonsa Waterfront

In seeking to be a good steward of our natural resources, the UW-Extension Center for Land Use Education has been a good resource for obtaining information. I found a publication named [Protecting Your Waterfront Investment](#).

The publication highlighted simple shore land stewardship practices that will be a good reminder for all of us as we head into the spring of 2013.

- Curb Pollutants at their source – fertilizers, household toxins, eroding soils, and malfunctioning septic systems. Choose a zero phosphorus fertilizer; phosphorus accelerates algae growth. Based on a study of 236 lawns sampled in Dane County, the average available soil phosphorus concentration was approximately four times higher than the amount needed to maintain a healthy lawn.
- Cut the amount of runoff that picks up pollutants and carries them to the waterway by minimizing the hard surfaces that create runoff. Beyond minimizing erosion during construction, soil exposure in established homes affords homeowners opportunities to re-establish native species suited to shore land. Shore land species can be found on the Wisconsin State Herbarium website: <http://www.botany.wisc.edu/wisflora/>
- Capture and cleanse pollutant carrying runoff before it reaches the waterway with shoreland buffers, rain barrels or rain gardens.

Directing downspouts onto the lawn or landscaping and not on to hard surfaces reduces run off into the lake. Installing a rain barrel that collects water from rooftops will provide water for the yard during dry periods.

Purchase a Rain Barrel at the 2011 City of Madison Compost Bin Sale. This year they will offer a rain barrel for \$55 at the City's popular compost bin sale. This one-day event is May 7 at the Alliant Energy Center. <http://www.cityofmadison.com/streets/compost/CompostBinSale.cfm>

Rain Gardens are just what they sound like; areas that soak up rain water during wet times and provide a beautiful garden all the time. The gardens fill with a few inches of water and allow the water to slowly filter into the ground helping to slow the runoff and allowing it to soak into the ground rather than flowing into the lake. Additional benefits include providing a wildlife habitat for birds, butterflies and dragonflies.

<http://dnr.wi.gov/topic/Stormwater/raingarden/>

MEMBERSHIP DRIVE UPDATE

Thank you to all members who have sent their renewals in on first notice, you are in the good company of 250 other new or renewed members. The goal is to reach a minimum of 400 members in 2013. This goal is completely plausible; we have new residents around the lake, snow birds who respond to our second notices and residents of the lake who are not yet members.

As a member, please consider speaking to your neighbors about the FOLKS organization and their potential membership. Let them know that we publish a Newsletter and direct them to the website Kegonsa.org for additional information about FOLKS.

If you know of anyone who is interested in membership please pass on my email address and I will be happy to contact them personally.

Finally, please know that as a member, we are always looking for Committee assistance and ideas on making the organizational improvements in order to meet our goals.

Gloria Kay

Treasurer and Membership Chairperson.

Clean Lakes Alliance



Last newsletter we ran an article regarding the Clean Lakes Alliance (CLA). Its mission is to continue to build a community of people, businesses, organizations and government agencies dedicated to continuously improving and protecting water quality in the Yahara watershed.

FOLKS was recently featured in a member profile in their latest Lake-O-Gram. The following is an excerpt of the profile:

Friends of Lake Kegonsa Society (FOLKS) is a local non-profit devoted to the preservation and enhancement of Lake Kegonsa, the southernmost of the four Yahara Lakes. FOLKS was established in 1987 as a non-profit organization and has been partnering with CLA since 2012. Bryon Thompson is currently representing FOLKS on the CLA Community Board. Right now there are 350 active members of FOLKS that have contributed in many different ways to help Lake Kegonsa.

FOLKS has financed projects working on critical run-off reduction by Highway B and a retention pond near Barber Drive, both of which border Lake Kegonsa. In 2009, FOLKS did a lake level study to find out whether lake lowering has a positive attribution to increasing the flow rate between Lake Waubesa and Kegonsa. The bottom line, as noted by President Bob Arndt, is that "FOLKS is about more than just lake protection and conservation. It also advocates for its members - the property owners on the lakeshore - and works on other types of issues as well, such as boater safety."

Visit www.cleanlakesalliance.com for more information.

FOLKS OFFICERS 2013

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**Send news of interest to FOLKS to:
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Please Support Your Lake Association - Renew Your FOLKS Membership.

This year's dues remain \$20.00 for households and \$30.00 for businesses.

If you have any questions regarding membership, please contact Gloria Kay at gloria@Kegonsa.org or Peter Foy at PeterF@kegonsa.org

FOLKS monthly board meetings are held on the second Wednesday of each month and the public are welcome to attend. Next Meeting is April 10, 2013, 5:30 - 7:00 PM.

Halverson's Supper Club, 1965 Barber Drive, Stoughton, WI 53589

FOLKS Lost and Found

Contact Cathie Taylor at CathieT@kegonsa.org to list lost and found items on the FOLKS website.

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P.O. Box 173
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Return Service Requested

FOLKS Business Members

Coldwell Banker Success Realtor	873-7731
Crown Point Resort	873-7833
Hammer It Construction	hammeritconstruction@gmail.com
Jim's Tree Service	838-8188
Kegonsa Cove	838-6494
Quam's Motor Sports	873-3366
Springer's	205-9300
The UPS Store	877-2679
Web-Net	alan@web-net.us
Brown's Boats and Bait	873-6770
The Utschig Group of Chiropractic Clinics	274-2266

For More About FOLKS, Visit Our
Website at WWW.Kegonsa.org