

FVLA NEWS

Membership Drive

March 2017



Letter From the President

Like many other people from the "Lakes" I have deep ties and cherished memories... For me, Victory Lakes is the greatest community of friends and family. It is the place I loved growing up in as a child, the place I love raising my children and the place I call home. I feel honored getting involved to help further the direction of the community and our organization's mission. My hope for our newer residents is to help foster ways so that you too may grow your own roots, to get you involved in our community and to have you create memories and lifelong friends that you will also cherish.

After many years of effort and dedication from past and present members, the Dam Restoration project will finally be completed this year. With this great feat soon to be accomplished, we prepare for the next set of challenges for our organization... mainly the challenge of paying for the loans the FVLA has acquired.

Based on the principals set forth for our organization, we currently have a three-legged approach to raise revenue to pay for the dams, to improve the aesthetics of the lakes and to revitalize the community:

- Increase Fundraising Activities:** We plan to continue many community-based events cherished by our residents while adding new ones to the list to generate additional funds and step up our fundraising efforts.
- Generate Rental Income:** The FVLA has worked with Monroe Township to reacquire the George Ruch building on 14th & Highland Avenues in our community. We are now able to rent this 80-person, 4-acre facility to our community for private events and use for additional FVLA fundraising opportunities.
- Increase Membership:** Membership in the FVLA is voluntary but necessary to fulfill our organization's objectives. We plan to increase our presence and impact in the community by focusing on projects to beautify our beaches and to make the surrounding areas of the lakes more appealing to the community. We also hope to encourage our members to spread the word and encourage their neighbors to also become part of our organization.

I'd like to thank our FVLA Board and our volunteers as all of this could not be accomplished without their dedication and support. They have the desire to make our community a great place to live and dedicate their time and efforts to our organization. We all have the opportunity to help shape the direction of Victory Lakes and leave it better than we received. I urge you to get involved and to bring your energy, your ideas, and your hopes for a greater community... it's up to us to set our community's path forward.

Thank you all,
Herbert Wendt

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

2	2017 Events	3	Did You Know?	3	Security Reminders and Updates
2	Board Changes and Updates	3	How Do I Learn More?	4	Looking Ahead

2017 Events

We have a variety of events lined up this year and will be adding more. Please check our website, Facebook page or your email for additions.

Date / Time	Event
2/03/17 (Fri) 7-11p	Paint Party Event
3/05/17 (Sun) 1-4p	Wine Tasting
3/20/17 (Mon) 6:30p	Member Meeting
4/22/17 (Sat) 9 – 12p	Community Cleanup
4/29/17 (Sat)	Monroe Twp Art Festival
6/19/17 (Mon) 6:30p	Member Meeting
7/15/17 (Sat) 12-10p	Jam on the Dam
8/12/17 (Sat) 10-12p	Model Railroad Open House
9/18/17 (Mon) 6:30p	Member Meeting
10/14/17 (Sat)	Plain Air Artist's Event
11/20/17 (Mon) 6:30p	Member Meeting
12/02/17 (Sat) 9-12p	Santa Breakfast

Membership Meetings:

Voting members decided on four member meetings to receive updates in the 2017 year. These meetings are a chance to have group conversation, engage with others in the community and stay informed. All members are encouraged to take advantage of this face-to-face scheduled time. Board member meetings are scheduled to be held at the Ruch Building at 14th & Highland Avenues.

Community Clean-Up Day

Sponsored by Monroe Township, FVLA benefits \$500 for hosting this event and also benefits from the clean-up of our lake community. Adults and kids welcome. Free trash bags and gloves provided. Volunteers should meet at the Pavilion at Sunset Beach at 9am for sign-up. **30 volunteers needed to host this event.**

Jam on the Dam

A celebration is planned on Sunset Beach for completion of the long-awaited Dam Restoration project! This venue will feature live bands, games, food, boat rentals, craft vendors and more. *(Rain Date 7/22)*

Outdoor Movie Nights

No dates planned yet but please check our Facebook group for upcoming movie nights this summer.

Model Railroad Open House

2389 Sunnyhill Ave

A local resident opens his model railroad collection up for the Friends of Victory Lakes visitors. Donations accepted for FVLA. Please plan to attend this great display. *(Rain Date 8/13)*

Breakfast With Santa

Held at George Ruch Building

This event continues to draw families and help each year. If not for the chef pancake cookoff and great hosts, for the smile on kids' faces when they get to see and speak with Santa Claus and celebrate the Christmas spirit with their neighbors.

Volunteers needed.

Board Changes and Updates

There have been several position changes this past year*, new additions, and a retirement from our Board. We'd like to thank Michelle Gorczyca, former Recording Secretary, for many years of dedication and service to FVLA. Her commitment, kindness and generosity to our organization have been truly appreciated.

We'd also like to welcome our new Board members and ask that you come meet them at our next member meeting and/or at one of our events.

President*	Herbert A. Wendt, III
Vice President*	Kelly Heins
Treasurer	Theresa Schureman
Recording Secretary*	Sharon Boffo
Secretary (Acting, vote 3/20)*	<i>Carrie Reuther</i>
Trustee, Marketing Director*	Cindy Sullivan
Trustee, Grant Writer*	Patrick Ryan
Trustee, Conservation Director*	Jack Auxer
Trustee, Compliance & Audit Dir	Open Position
Maintenance Chairperson*	Jason Sullivan
Committee Positions	Open Positions

Board Positions Are Available:

If you are interested in applying for a board or committee position, please let us know by contacting fvlaonline@gmail.com or call (856) 818-FVLA for more information. It is a great opportunity to get involved, meet your neighbors and help plan some exciting fundraising events!

Did You Know?

In case you haven't been connected to us, here is some interesting information from past and present.

- We are a private, community-based non-profit 501(c)3 organization dedicated to preservation of our lakes and wildlife.
- We have been around since 2004 and were formed by our members to prevent the drainage of our lakes.
- The FVLA has been working to restore two dams in Victory Lakes which are nearing completion, come celebrate at our "Jam on the Dam" this year!
- We won the 2016 Monroe Township Neighborhood of the Year Award!
- We have reacquired the George Ruch building and are looking to restore the building as well as its surrounding grounds for fundraising events and community rentals. Check out our www.fvlaonline.com for rental information.
- Volunteers have been diligently cleaning up the lily pads, restored an old fishing dock and are planning future floating docks in our lakes.
- We are continuing to actively solicit donations – efforts so far have enabled us to receive picnic tables and electric installation at Magnolia Park.
- We are hoping to also solicit donations and volunteers for new future signs, sand for three beaches, and painting of the Sunset Beach pavilion.
- In addition to residential membership, we also offer seasonal and daily pass options so you and your friends can enjoy the lakes.
- FVLA is looking to get the community more involved, here are some considerations:
 - Fishing Tournament
 - Washer Festival
 - Cornhole Tournament
 - Designer Bag Bingo
 - Golf outing and Chinese auction
 - County Craft Fair
 - Holiday Themed Community Events
 - Chicken BBQ
 - Ladies night out
 - Beef and Beer-Comedy Night
 - Sale of FVLA T-shirts, yard signs and decals

Partnerships

With all of this great momentum, we are looking for a lot of support. Besides groups mentioned already, we have also received help from some other great organizations:

- Roger McCurdy III from Boy Scouts Troop 161 will be building a new pavilion at Magnolia Park as part of his Eagle Scout project.
- Josh Pollard from Boy Scouts Troop 234 will be creating several new community signs for FVLA as part of his Eagle Scout project.
- Daisy Troop 61470 also completed a special project with us by assisting with restoration of a community bench.
- We are also working with Williamstown Chamber of Commerce to look for additional opportunities.

How Do I Learn More?



[Facebook.com/fvlaonline](https://www.facebook.com/fvlaonline) - Like Us for upcoming events! Or join our group to be part of the conversation
[facebook.com/groups/fvlaonline](https://www.facebook.com/groups/fvlaonline)



[Linkedin.com/company/friends-of-victory-lakes-association](https://www.linkedin.com/company/friends-of-victory-lakes-association)



 www.fvlaonline.com



(856) 818-FVLA



fvlaevents@gmail.com
contactfvla@gmail.com



PO Box 1276 Williamstown, NJ 08094



Membership Meetings hosted at the George Ruch Building at 2201 Highland Ave. Voting members decided on four member meetings to receive updates in the 2017 year. These meetings are a chance to have group conversation, engage with others in the community and stay informed.



Membership Signs in the neighborhood will include major event information and may be supplemented with additional signs in our area.

Security Reminders

FVLA is a private lake community and members are expected to be up-to-date with dues based on their location within the community to continue to enjoy the recreational and wildlife facilities they offer. Resident and seasonal members are provided with identification badges, vehicle and boat stickers that identify them as members. Daily pass members also receive a receipt for purchase of the daily pass. Public areas (e.g. lake beach, boat ramp, park area) have several signs indicating private lake membership in order to utilize our facilities.

Daily passes can be obtained at the Shop Pizzeria & Market on Lakeside Drive and via PayPal on our website. Information for purchase of seasonal or residential membership passes is on our website at www.fvlaonline.com.

Looking Ahead

We hope the 2017 FVLA newsletter has provided some useful information to you and your family. We also hope that we have conveyed the benefits of your FVLA membership and its importance to our community and its future. Should you have any questions concerning this content, please attend our next member meeting for optimal discussion or contact a member of the Board.

Thank you,
**Board Members of the
Friends of Victory Lakes Association**

Friends of Victory Lakes Association
P.O. Box 1276
Williamstown, NJ 08094

PRSRT STD
ECRWSS
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
EDDM RETAIL

Local
Postal Customer