



# Flathead Lake MONITOR

SPRING 2021 // 2020 ANNUAL REPORT



Return service requested

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**FLATHEAD**  
LAKERS  
DEFENDERS OF THE WATERSHED



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Kallispell, MT



# Clean Water Connections: From Bad Rock Canyon Project to Flathead Lake

The crystal clear waters of Flathead Lake are legendary. Have you wondered why we are so lucky to have such clean water? And, how is our clean water connected to the Bad Rock Canyon Conservation Project?

In the spring, water flows from pristine headwaters in Glacier National Park, the Bob Marshall Wilderness, and Canada into large and small rivers in our valleys, including the Flathead, Whitefish, Stillwater, and Swan Rivers, all flowing into Flathead Lake. Along the way, the water seeps into wetlands dotting our landscape, our shallow aquifers, through our farm fields and homes, and back into our rivers.

As water passes our cities and farms, we have to work to keep it clean. This is true as the Flathead River reaches Columbia Falls. That is why the Flathead Lakers are working with the Flathead Land Trust; MT Fish, Wildlife and Parks; and others to conserve places like the Bad Rock Canyon Conservation Project, the largest block of privately-owned riparian habitat along the Flathead River, just east of Columbia Falls.

The Bad Rock Canyon Conservation Project's undeveloped wetlands and riparian forests are key to the healthy function and water quality in the Flathead River and Flathead Lake. When left in a natural state, riparian

areas provide a buffer that filters out nutrients and other pollutants before they reach the water.

Water flows from the river into these riparian lands through a network of channels and wetlands. Groundwater throughout the property is 8 feet or less below the ground. The proximity of the groundwater to the surface makes it vulnerable to pollution, but the aquifer can also play an important role in sustaining water quality. In this complex water network of channels, stoneflies emerge throughout the spring; fish, raptors, and migrating waterfowl feed; and large carnivores travel 'safely', largely undisturbed, between the Whitefish and Swan mountain ranges.

Yet, the property is also in a prime location for riverfront homes should the partners not raise the funds to purchase it. The Flathead Valley is rapidly growing. Development of this property could have significant impacts on the water quality of the Flathead River, the associated shallow groundwater, and downstream.

Twenty years have gone by quickly since I started working with the Flathead Lakers, and our Flathead River to Lake Initiative partners, and identified this property as vital to sustaining clean water in our watershed. Last year, Columbia Falls Aluminum Co., the

## EVERY DROP COUNTS!

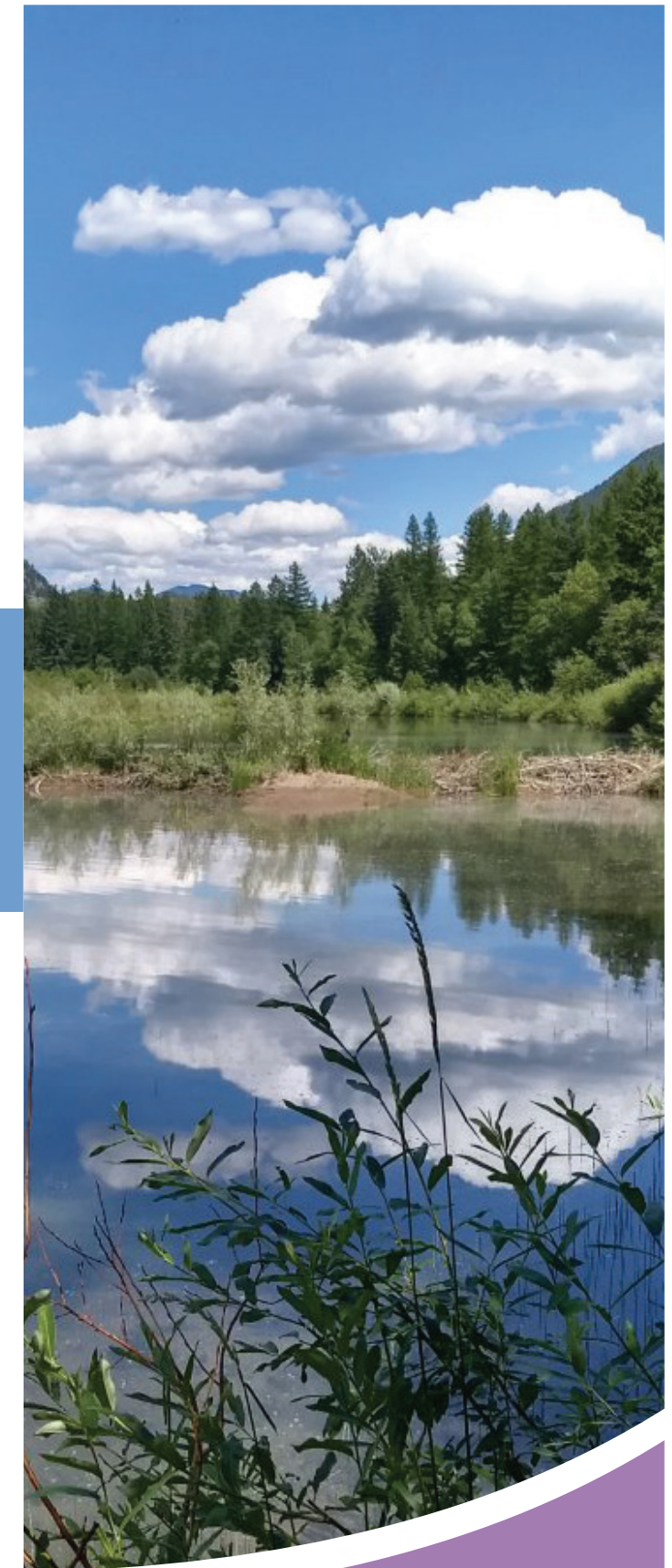


Over \$6.8 million has already been secured toward the purchase, leaving partners \$260,000 to raise by December.

current landowner, granted Flathead Land Trust and Montana Fish, Wildlife, and Parks an option to purchase the property by the end of 2021 to create a public recreation and wildlife management area.

Are you still wondering why the Lakers are working with partners to support the purchase of this large, undeveloped river property located 19 miles north (38 mi by water) of Flathead Lake? Protecting large functional wetlands, floodplains, and riparian forests helps protect our clean water today, and for years to come.

Working collaboratively with our Flathead River to Lake Partners for 20 years, we've been able to protect over 6,000 acres along the Flathead River, part of a 12,000 acre network of conserved riparian lands protecting the healthy function and excellent water quality along 43 miles of the Flathead River. The Bad Rock Canyon Project is an important part of this larger conservation effort. Thank you to everyone who has already donated to support this conservation goal! Learn more at [flatheadrivertolake.org](http://flatheadrivertolake.org).



To learn more about this project and how to support it, visit [flatheadlakers.org/bad-rock-canyon-conservation-project](http://flatheadlakers.org/bad-rock-canyon-conservation-project).

# Wastewater treatment in our watershed

Household tips to keep your septic system flowing in the right direction.

## CONSERVE WATER

Overusing water is the most common cause of septic failures. Reduce the amount of water you use daily for bathing, laundry, and flushing the toilet with these easy tips:

- Repair all leaky toilets, pipes, and fixtures.
- Install low-flow toilets and shower heads.
- Choose showers over baths. Build an outdoor shower where your wastewater can be filtered through the ground, and nourish native flowers growing around it.
- Replace old appliances with water efficient models.
- Don't overload your system—spread water usage throughout the day and week.
- Wash only full loads in the dishwasher and washing machine.
- Plumb your water softener rinse water to a dry well, not your septic system.

LEARN MORE AT [flatheadlakers.org/understanding-septic-system](https://flatheadlakers.org/understanding-septic-system)

## Upcoming events

**JUNE 4TH, 5-7:00 PM**  
**First Friday Polson**

Plaza outside the Lakers office below the Salish Building, featuring local art and watershed chats.

**JULY**  
**Lake Appreciation Month, and 4th Annual Flathead Lake Secchi Dip-in**

If you're interested in participating in this year's Secchi Dip-in, email [hilary@flatheadlakers.org](mailto:hilary@flatheadlakers.org). If you have participated in the past, dust off your Secchi disk, and look for an upcoming spring email for more details.

**JULY 31ST**  
**Run for the love of Flathead Lake**

6th Annual Flathead Lake Run at Volunteer Park in Lakeside. This year's run includes a kids 1-mile run and a 10k, in addition to the popular 5k. Run for the love of Flathead Lake on July 31st, 2021! Proceeds benefit the work and mission of the Flathead Lakers.

**AUGUST 17 AT 5:30 PM**  
**Flathead Lakers Annual Meeting**

Join us for the Flathead Lakers Annual Meeting, with keynote speaker, longtime Flathead Lakers member, and NBA Hall of Fame coach, Phil Jackson.

[FLATHEADLAKERS.ORG/UPCOMING-EVENTS](https://flatheadlakers.org/upcoming-events)

## BEWARE OF WHAT GOES DOWN THE DRAIN

- Do not use the toilet as a waste basket. Don't flush anything that you haven't chewed first, except toilet paper.
- Eliminate or limit use of garbage disposals. Never put coffee grounds, grease, or food bits down the kitchen drain.
- Minimize use of household chemicals and cleaners, bleach, antibacterial soaps, and detergents.
- Dispose of household hazardous waste, paints, solvents, and chemicals properly – not down the drain.
- Do not flush or pour unused, unwanted, or expired medications down the drain.
- Do not allow chlorine treated water, such as from hot tubs, to drain in the septic system.

Our next issue will help you know when there is a problem, and what to do about it.

Watch for our newsletters, website announcements, and facebook posts for updates on Science on Tap-Flathead events, and opportunities to sign-up for a tour of the Bad Rock Canyon Conservation Project this summer.

## Take Action

What YOU can do:

### Please fill out our survey.

In June, please look for an email inviting you to participate in our membership survey.

Flathead Lakers needs your help in evaluating our organization. We want your input on a couple of topics so that we may better serve you in our mutual desire to protect Flathead Lake.

This survey will be sent to all Flathead Lakers members, and asks how you currently get information about Flathead Lake, and how you might want to receive this information in the future, what issues affecting Flathead Lake concern you the most, and what motivates you to donate to our organization. Thank you in advance.

### DIY Flathead Lake Mussel Walk

Take a walk on a beautiful day this spring, and inspect your favorite stretch of Flathead Lake shoreline. Look for invasive mussels, or anything unusual, and report your results to us. Help continue our community effort to keep a watchful eye on the lake, and participate in the DIY Mussel Walk Challenge!

### ALL PARTICIPANTS WILL BE ENTERED INTO A RAFFLE FOR PRIZES!

Submit results to be entered. Thank you to the generosity of the Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes Natural Resources Department. We are excited to partner with CSKT NRD and the Flathead Lake Biological Station.

Early detection is key to preventing a mussel infestation that would have devastating effects on the ecology and economy of this beautiful area.

LEARN MORE AND PARTICIPATE AT [flatheadlakers.org](https://flatheadlakers.org)

### Boating Season Begins in Montana

The lure of Montana's crystal clear, cold water will bring record numbers boats and watercraft this year. You can help prevent the spread of aquatic invasive species.

#### BEFORE LEAVING ANY WATER BODY:

- Remove all plants, sediment, or animals from your boat and trailer.
- Drain all water from your boat, including from the motor, live well, and bilge.
- Do not transfer any water from one water body into another.
- Never release live bait into a water body or transport aquatic animals from one water body into another.
- Always discard unwanted bait with household trash in the landfill. Likewise, dispose of fish carcasses with trash.

#### BEFORE LAUNCHING YOUR BOAT:

- Wash your boat, trailer, and all fishing gear and water sports equipment. High pressure hot water is best.
- Air dry your boat and equipment for as long as possible between fishing trips.
- After leaving a lake or stream, inspect your boat, engine, trailer, anchor, waders, and other fishing and boating gear for mud, water, and vegetation that could carry aquatic invasive species.

#### STOP AT ALL MANDATORY INVASIVE SPECIES INSPECTION STATIONS.

Spread the message, not the mussel. Let your visitors know to get their motorized and non-motorized watercraft inspected before launching in the Flathead Watershed.

# 2020 Flathead Lakers Annual Report



## DONOR HIGHLIGHTS

### A Family Challenge Becomes More

Lakeshore residents and supporters of the Flathead Lakers, the Veazey family is our recognized donor for the 2020 Annual Report. I first met Kathy in 2019 when I began as the Executive Director. Earlier that year, the Lakers had been fundraising for a conservation area along the Flathead River, and had fallen short on the goal. Kathy and her son Tom generously made up the difference, and allowed us to ensure these prime agricultural and riparian lands were set aside in a conservation easement.

In working with the Veazeys, I appreciate their collaboration, as well as their innovation. Last year, they encouraged members of their extended family to give to the Lakers' Year-End-Appeal - we received gifts from thirteen relatives across the country.

*"Flathead Lake is important to us because it brings our family together from across the country. We donate because we want to ensure that our grandchildren can enjoy swimming and fishing in the lake for years to come."*

We're now working closely with Kathy on a multi-year gift that will significantly increase staff capacity, and our ability to continue to protect the watershed for generations to come. We cannot wait to reveal our next steps later this year!

Thank you to the Veazey Family.

### Thank you to Betty and Jeff for their years of service.

Betty Moore and Jeff Tuttle stepped down from the board of directors this year. The Flathead Lakers are indebted to both for their service and commitment to our work and mission over the years.

Betty Moore joined the board in 2015 after working with the Lakers to install a demonstration buffer garden and dynamic beach along their Flathead Lake shoreline. Betty is committed to helping protect Flathead Lake from pollution and invasive species. She helped produce two of our educational videos: Oil and Water Don't Mix and Be a Montana Superhero. She and her husband are supporters of our conservation and restoration program, and were also the gracious hosts of our Poker Paddle fundraisers. Her energy will be missed on the board.

Jeff Tuttle volunteered for the Lakers' school field trips to Yellow Bay before joining the board in 2016. Jeff's expertise, along with his passion for Flathead Lake and Montana, helped the Lakers envision our future, tackle important issues like nonpoint source pollution and climate change, initiate a citizen science volunteer program, and strengthen our education and outreach.

This September, Jeff worked tirelessly with the mural committee and donors, the artist and consultant, staff, and students to make the community mural "A Watershed Moment" happen, and come to life.

# State of the Lakers

## Rob Mitchell, Treasurer

What began as a normal year quickly turned into a mess of uncertainty and unknowns. However, by the sheer determination of the Lakers staff to safely adapt their work environment, while still focusing on critical tasks, combined with the committed support of the Lakers members, I am pleased to report that the State of the Laker's remains strong. With quick action and ingenuity, we ended the year not having to use any financial reserves.

During these tough times, we found consistent and unwavering financial support from our membership. As Treasurer for the Flathead Lakers, a heartfelt thank you to all of you, our members and donors, for your dedication to our mission and the Flathead Watershed.

If you are interested in more financial details from our organization, please contact us.

*\*Note about expenses: In the 2020 graphs, Expenses exceed Income by \$48,000, which reflects conservation-specific fundraising from 2019, which was paid out for the Flathead River Conservation easement in January 2020.*

## Statement of Financial Position

DECEMBER 31, 2020

### ASSETS

Current Assets - Unrestricted \$ 221,512.09

Current Assets - Restricted \$ 15,707.17

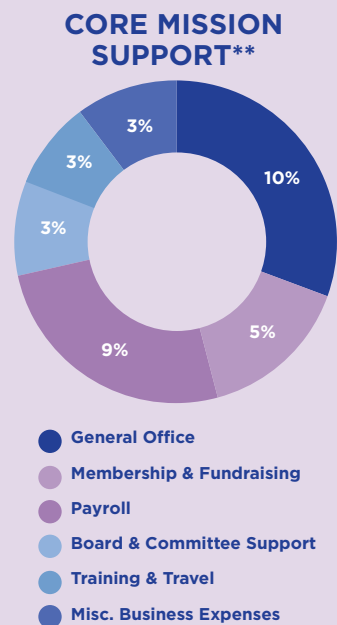
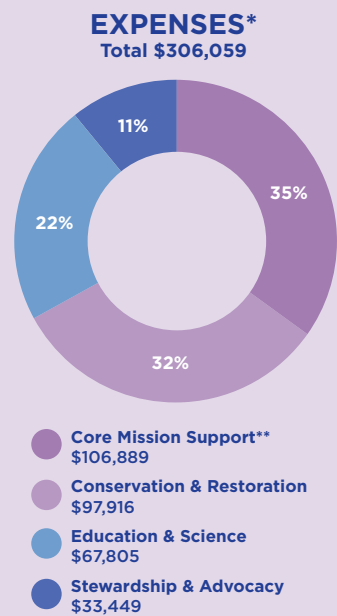
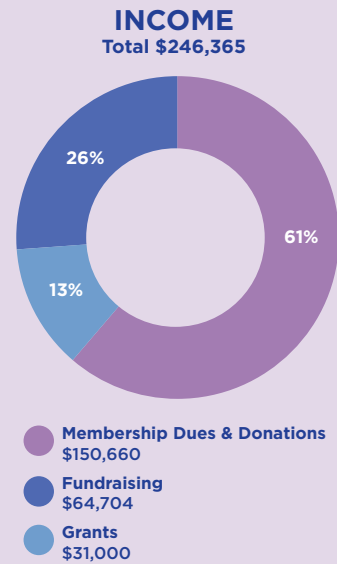
**TOTAL ASSETS \$ 237,219.26**

### LIABILITIES & EQUITY

Current Liabilities - Accounts Payable \$ 6,262.51

Equity \$230,956.75

**TOTAL LIABILITIES & EQUITY \$ 237,219.26**



## 2020 by the other numbers

**Over 1,100 members** donated \$199,851 to support our work to protect Flathead Lake and watershed.

**58 new members** joined the Flathead Lakers community, and began supporting our advocacy and programs.

**24 sustaining members** (11 new) made a big impact with an affordable, monthly donation.

**6 Lakers members & 3 local organizations** made a special donation to the installation of our beautiful and inspiring new outdoor community wall mural, 'A Watershed Moment'.

**20 students from the local Boys and Girls Club** met with and enthusiastically questioned the mural artist, and painted their own 'Watershed Moment'.

**21 citizen scientist volunteers** helped collect water clarity data, and rock periphyton samples around Flathead Lake.

**155 acre Flathead River Conservation Project** was completed, and over \$60,000 was donated by Flathead Lakers members!

**160 acre Somers Beach Project**, and plans for a new state park, moves forward along the North Shore of Flathead Lake.

**Over 271 acres of critical land along the Flathead River** protected by our Flathead River to Lake partners, and another 1600 acres protected in the Whitefish and Stillwater watersheds -protecting the Flathead's headwaters.

**772 acres in Bad Rock Canyon**, along the Flathead River, became available to purchase and protect. We joined with the Flathead Land Trust and Montana FWP to help make this decades-long dream a reality. This project protects clean water, vital habitat, and public access.

**Countless members took advantage of our virtual educational opportunities**, like Science on Tap on Zoom and a live-streamed annual meeting!

**25 past Science on Tap events** are now available on YouTube.

**1 fantastic college intern** helped us share our Lakers story through digital media.

**12 board of directors** transitioned to Zoom meetings and virtual events almost flawlessly.

**4 dedicated staff** balanced Lakers work with care-giving, teaching their own children, and tackling the uncertainties of this past year with determination and grace.

**We moved to 110 Main St., Polson in the Salish Building.** We look forward to inviting you to our new office space along the lake soon!

## 2020 Supporters

THANK YOU!

### 2020 CITIZEN SCIENCE VOLUNTEERS:

Wayne Anderson  
Dick Armstrong  
Jay Barlow and Barb Taylor  
Johanna Bangemann and Lisa Prugh  
Laura Bean  
Shawn Devlin  
Gayle and Dick Graf  
Bruce Hartman  
Lydia Kimball  
Spencer and Tara Lee  
Mike and Mary McDonough  
Rob and Nancy Mitchell  
Randy and Jim Mohn  
Marilyn and Ron Roberts  
Steve and Arla Rosso  
Roger and Libby Smith  
Craig Spencer  
Jeff and Susan Tuttle  
Beverly Warren-Leigh  
Jerry Woodahl  
John Working  
Pamela Young

### 2020 LAKERS SKC COLLEGE INTERN:

Eric Witts - Editor and creator of audio, video, and digital content for the Flathead Lakers.

Thanks to Eva Oruste, the Department of Career Services, and the Salish Kootenai College for making this internship possible.

### WALL ART MURAL COMMITTEE:

Jeff Tuttle  
Roger Smith  
Constanza van der Pahlen  
Kate Sheridan

### WALL ART MURAL DONORS:

Energy Keepers  
Flathead Lake Biological Station  
Greater Polson Community Foundation  
Nancy and Alan Nicholson  
Roger and Libby Smith  
Jeff and Susan Tuttle

### 2020 SCIENCE ON TAP-FLATHEAD SPEAKERS:

Tom Bansak  
Bryce Andrews  
Shawn Devlin  
Rob Rich  
Barbara Taylor  
Janene Lichtenberg

### MEMORIAL AND HONOR GIFTS:

**In Memory of Virginia Gail Vaughn Burghardt**  
Mac & Karen Swan

**In Memory of Ken Chemikoff**  
David and Terry Calahan

**In Memory of Ed Gilliland**  
James Hollensteiner

**In Memory of Newell Gough**  
Margaret Gough

**In Memory of Dr. Tom Helmer**  
Bob and Shari Dayton

**In Memory of Wanda Hollensteiner**  
Amanda Adams  
James Hollensteiner  
Mark and Denise VanArtsdale

**In Memory of Jazmin Howard (favorite hunting dog)**  
Stan Howard

**In Memory of Rev. Dr. Bruce K. McSpadden**  
Lucia Ann McSpadden

**In Memory of Lois and Duke Miller**  
Lois and Duke Miller Family Foundation

**In Memory of Bob and Frankie Mitchell**  
Ryan Mitchell

**In Memory of Bobby Parker**  
J. Roger and Catherine Gordon Allen  
Peggy Eddington

Pat and Gary Freebury  
John and Marguerite Gysler  
Shelly Gysler

Hazel Irey  
Lou Klenck  
Kathryn Mercoord  
Marlene Moriarity  
Earnie and Jeanie Roo  
Dan and Kelly Siblingrude  
Judy Warren  
Karen Savage

**In Memory of Ruth Rotondi**  
Tom & Caryl Cox

**In Memory of Olaf and Lucile Swanson**  
Charles Sutfin

**In Memory of Ted Smith**  
Myra Shults  
Gordon Noel

**In Memory of Dick Taylor**  
Viola Taylor

**In Memory of Ted Williams**  
Peggy Williams  
John and Mary Erkkila

**In Memory of Keith Wright**  
Blaine Wright

### IN HONOR:

**In Honor of James and Ashley Caras**  
Drum Caras  
James Caras

**In Honor of Michael Cassidy**  
Patricia Cassidy

**In Honor of Keir Graff**  
Thomas Graff

**In Honor of Jack Haines**  
Bill Haines

**In Honor of John and Pat Hansen**  
Paul Hansen

**In Honor of Mark Johnston**  
Christie Ciraulo  
Veronica Hibben  
Evia Nelson

**In Honor of Max Lovinger**  
Tanis & Mike Nelson

**In Honor of Ken Ramsey**  
Carrie Ramsey

**In Honor of Steve Rosso/Rosso Family**  
Paul Rosso  
Tom Rosso  
Jayne Seabrook

**In Honor of Roger and Libby Smith**  
Auden Schendler

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**IN HONOR (CONTINUED):****In Honor of Ted Smith and John Darrah**

The Newmann Darrah Family  
Charitable Fund

**In Honor of Bill Veazey**

Scott Veazey  
Thomas Veazey

**In Honor of Kathy Caras**

Veazey/Veazey Family  
Mary Ann Albee  
Lindsay Caras  
Nick Caras  
Sean and Yuko Caras

**In Honor of Ted Williams**

Peggy Williams  
John and Mary Erkkila

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**2020 BUSINESS MEMBERS**

Beacon Tire Center  
Best Value Port Polson Inn  
Bigfork Summer Playhouse  
Captain's Marine  
Classic Company Boat Works  
Dayton Yacht Harbor  
Delaney's Landscape Center, Inc.  
Don Aadsen Ford  
Eagle Bend Golf Club  
Far West Boat Tours  
Fidelity Title Agency  
First Interstate Bank, Polson  
Flathead Farm Mutual Insurance Co.  
Flathead Lake Brewing Co. and Pubhouse  
FLOW Swimmers  
Forestation, Inc.  
Friends of Lake Mary Ronan  
Gage Accounting  
Greg Bain and Company  
Gull Ski Shop  
Hodge's Marine Construction  
Hu Beaver Builder, Inc.  
Mann Mortgage  
McCrumb Construction & Marine  
Mission Mountain Art Gallery  
Mission Valley Power  
North Flathead Yacht Club  
Nunlist Enterprises, Inc.  
Quiet World Sailboats  
REcreate Designs  
Sea Me Paddle Kayaking Tours LLC  
Slainte LLC  
Snappy Sport Senter, Inc.  
Somers Bay Cafe  
Three Rivers Bank  
Total Screen Design  
Unity Bank

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**\$5,000 +**

Ian and Nancy Davidson  
James Hollensteiner  
Robert Howard  
Phil Jackson  
Greg and Sue McCormick  
Leif and Amy Peterson  
Sliters Corporation  
Roger and Libby Smith  
Kathy Caras Veazey

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**\$2,000 - \$4,999**

Lysbeth Anderson and Brent Anderson  
Summerfield and Julie Baldrige  
Ben and Anne Binger  
Jeff and Jennifer Camp  
Emily Newmann, Maxine and Sadie Darrah  
Flathead Lake Protection Association  
Craig and Judy Miller  
Bob and Betty Moore  
Jim and Christine Scott  
Eric and Blair Sprunk  
Viola Taylor  
Audrey Thorsrud  
Meg and Stew Weis  
Suzy Williams

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**\$1,000 - \$1,999**

Wayne J. Anderson  
J.M. and Pat Binger  
Tom and Ann Boone  
Mike and Jessica Bouchee  
Tom and Caryl Cox  
Bill and Mary Eisenlohr  
Nancy Gary  
Jill Davenport and Jim Goetz  
Nanette Nelson and Bob Hall  
Paul and Julie Hansen  
Ann Lansing and William Harper  
Tom and Kissy Holtz  
Blake and Diane Johnson  
Lil and Wally Loewenbaum  
Glenn and Penny Malloy  
Janelle Kuechle and Bill McLaughlin  
Kathryn Mercord  
Wayne and Kathleen Newton  
Nancy and Alan Nicholson  
John and Marilyn Olson  
Susan Westrom and Frank Rotondi  
Larry and Cara Simkins  
Everit and Nikki Sliter  
Katie Veazey and Kyle Smith  
Monica Laflin and Norman Smith

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**\$500 - \$999**

Jeff Ament  
Rob and Marcey Anderson  
Steven and Patricia Anderson  
Judy and Bill Brodsky  
Patrick Brundage  
James Caras  
Ken Carpenter and Theresa Vonada  
Carpenter  
Stephanie Christensen  
C. M. and Janet Clark  
Danskin Family  
Bob and Shari Dayton  
Bruce Ennis and Margaret Davis  
John Emerson  
Charles and Barbara Frey  
Donald and Mary Ann Garner  
Jim Rothe and Shellie Greto  
Sandi Hamm  
Rob and Johanna Hanson  
Ann Hesselink and Paul Naour  
Douglas and Catherine Hetrick  
Kelly Huether  
Rod and Cindy Johnson  
Joe and Rosemary Jordan  
Doug and Cindy Kelly  
Jennifer Caras Klapperich  
Bruce and Sharol McQuarrie  
Eric and Dawn Milliner  
Paul Mutascio and Jill Gotschalk  
Woody and Dani Nedom  
Stephen and Kim Powell  
Marilyn & Ron Roberts  
Mickey Rosa

Steve and Arla Rosso

Twyla Shear

Jeff and Susan Tuttle

Al Chee and Charlene van der Pyl-Chee

Tom and Terra Veazey

Peggy Williams

Raymond & Ann Wooldridge

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**\$250 - \$499**

Dave and Maren Amnotte  
Richard and Anna Armstrong  
Steve Armstrong and in memory of  
Linnea Ghilardi  
Bert and Kari Arnlund  
Rob and Patti Jo Barber  
Donald and Rebecca Bauder  
Monte and Catherine Beck  
Kathryn Berg  
Felicia Bianchi  
Gary and Mary Bolhuis  
Suzanne Booker  
Andrew Verhalen and Janet Brownstone  
Dennis and Andrea Burns  
Dennis and Susan Campbell  
Patricia Cassidy  
Christie Ciraulo  
Terry and Joan Cummings

Warren and Sandy Davis  
Charlie and Eve Dixon  
Bill Staack and Kathy Douglas  
Dean and Tarri Duncan  
Don and Janine Fraley  
Robert and Myrna Gauthier  
Charles and Helen Gerry  
Jennifer Graham  
Jens Gran  
Joan GreeneJack and Suzi Hanna  
Richard and Donna Hartman  
Richard and Pauline Hartman  
Klaus and Joaquenia Heinrich  
Gene and Jan Henneford  
Jennifer and James Coyle  
Gayle Crane  
Sue and Bill Crawford  
Jay and Patricia Cross  
David and Karen Dee  
Shadra Denson, Denson Ranch  
Richard and Eileen Dolezal  
David Duke  
Robbie Gauthier and Adessa Durgto  
Charles and Mary Lynn Eiseman  
Craig and Sharla Ekegren  
Helen Ellis  
Scott and Lois Ellis  
James and Monica Elser  
Royce Engstrom  
Heather McLarty and Troy Evans  
Eugene Falkenberg  
Chris and Catherine Filardi  
Rick and Nancy Fowler  
Teresa and David Francis  
Bob and Sharon Fulton  
Cheryl Galipeau  
Scott and Gail Galloway  
Robert Gilbreath  
Christine Gingerelli  
Linda and James Goodrich  
James Rubin and Margaret Gough  
Tom Graff  
Kathryn and Richard Grant  
Diana Gray  
Jack and Kori Green  
Anne Guest  
Kurtis and Kathy Hafferman  
James and Jean Hagan  
Lana Hamilton  
Laney Hanzel  
Jack and Binx Harrison  
Roe and Beverly Hatlen  
Wayne and Diane Hebert  
Michael and Karin Henion  
Dennis and Linda Hewitt  
Blaine Hibbard  
Veronica Hibben  
Joan and Jim Hinds  
Ann Hinnen  
Jeff and Sandy Hinz  
Randy and Deb Holm  
Christine Hopkins  
Susan How  
Stan Howard  
Daniel and Julia Howlett  
Thomas Irwin  
Glenn and Peg Jarrett  
Cameron and Gerrl Jewell  
Dan Johns  
Al Johnson  
Ann and Marise Johnson  
Corinne Johnson  
Marcia Johnson  
Greta Johnston  
Jean Jones  
Robert Hyslop and Melodee Jones  
Eileen Kane  
Greg and Carrol Karlsgodt  
John Kasson and Janice Smith Kasson  
Bob and JoAnne Kembel  
Jeff Kemp  
Kevin and Linda Kennedy  
Neal and Julie Ketcher  
Chuck King  
George and Wendy Kingston  
Gary and Marjory Knudson  
Ron and Barbara Kohler  
Jim and Lynn Kouf  
Suzanne Shaulis and Jim Krosky  
Thomas and Kathleen Kurdy

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**\$100 - \$249**

Mary Alice Acher

Jeff and Loretta Amacker

Pend and Jena Armistead

Stuart and Mary Beth Arnot

Larry and Dorothy Ashcraft

Carl and Cheryl Baldwin

Tammy and Bob Balkenbush

Phil and Sandy Barney

Roger and Beth Barth

Andy Baxter and Cas Still

Greg & Doreen Beach

Dr. and Mrs. William Beck

Don and Janan Beller

Roger and Sue Bergmeier

Carol Bibler and Jim Watson

Robert and Jeanne Blue

Bill Boettcher

Mark and Marty Bond

Lowell and Linda Bosshardt

William and Phyllis Bouchee

Steve Boyce

Glenn and Deb Burfeind

Cathy Caballero

Alan and Judy Cain

David Calahan

Terry and David Calahan

Whisper Camel-Means

Drum Caras

Nick Caras

Judy Fast Carte

Mr. and Mrs. John Casabara

Lane Coddington

John Cole

John and Bobbi Combs

Paul Conrad and Ellie Johnson

Kenneth Cook

William Cook - The Cook Family

Joyce and Gary Coombe

J.D. and Frances Covington

Jennifer and James Coyle

Gayle Crane

Sue and Bill Crawford

Jay and Patricia Cross

David and Karen Dee

Shadra Denson, Denson Ranch

Richard and Eileen Dolezal

David Duke

Robbie Gauthier and Adessa Durgto

Charles and Mary Lynn Eiseman

Craig and Sharla Ekegren

Helen Ellis

Scott and Lois Ellis

James and Monica Elser

Royce Engstrom

Heather McLarty and Troy Evans

Eugene Falkenberg

Chris and Catherine Filardi

Rick and Nancy Fowler

Teresa and David Francis

Bob and Sharon Fulton

Cheryl Galipeau

Scott and Gail Galloway

Robert Gilbreath

Christine Gingerelli

Linda and James Goodrich

James Rubin and Margaret Gough

Tom Graff

Kathryn and Richard Grant

Diana Gray

Jack and Kori Green

Anne Guest

Kurtis and Kathy Hafferman

James and Jean Hagan

Lana Hamilton

Laney Hanzel

Jack and Binx Harrison

Roe and Beverly Hatlen

Wayne and Diane Hebert

Michael and Karin Henion

Dennis and Linda Hewitt

Blaine Hibbard

Veronica Hibben

Joan and Jim Hinds

Ann Hinnen

Jeff and Sandy Hinz

Randy and Deb Holm

Christine Hopkins

Susan How

Stan Howard

Daniel and Julia Howlett

Thomas Irwin

Glenn and Peg Jarrett

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# A Note from the Lakers President



**TOM COX**

PRESIDENT

I have been coming to Flathead Lake almost as long as the Lakers have been in existence. We have lived full time on the lake for the past 16 years. Since we use lake water in our house, we consider ourselves “drinkers of the lake”. The main reason I joined the Lakers is they are dedicated to keeping water clean for drinking, swimming, and fishing.

Just before Covid hit, the Lakers moved into a wonderful new office space in Polson, just below the Mexican restaurant. Unfortunately, we have not yet been able to use our new space in the many ways we have imagined, but stay tuned for events and good things to come. In the meantime, please visit the outdoor watershed wall mural!

As I am sure many of you have, over the past year, the staff and board have gotten pretty good at using Zoom. This has enabled our staff to function remotely quite effectively, although it is not the same. Kate Sheridan has learned the ropes of being an excellent executive director, and is ready to lead us forward. Constanza von der Pahlen continues to make great strides protecting critical lands

north of the lake, Hilary Devlin is a master of education and outreach, and Rosalie Perelli provides core support to make it all happen.

Threats to Flathead Lake such as a zebra mussel invasion, oil train derailments, septic tank leakage into the lake, and others continue. Who knew that zebra mussels could come into the Flathead Basin in moss that is used in fish aquaria? Keeping the water clean in the Flathead Basin is what we are about. Long term increases in population along with the consequent housing developments are providing a challenge. People have discovered what a great place this is and are moving here. To minimize the impact, the Lakers continue to advocate doing development the right way.

Our efforts are only possible with the support of our membership. You provide the resources that allow us to maintain our vigilance as defenders of the watershed. Keeping the water clean in the Flathead Basin is what we are about. As so clearly stated by Walter Munk: “The amount of water on the planet does not change, only its quality”.

We hope to see you out on the Lake this summer.

## Flathead Lakers Staff and Current Board of Directors



## FLATHEAD LAKERS

### Mission statement

Working for clean water, healthy ecosystems, and lasting quality of life in the Flathead Watershed.

TO LEARN MORE ABOUT OUR BOARD MEMBERS, VISIT  
[flatheadlakers.org/who-we-are](https://flatheadlakers.org/who-we-are)