

Be a Part of Lake Katherine

Please accept our thanks for your past generosity and our invitation to visit and support Lake Katherine in the months ahead. With your support, Lake Katherine will provide environmental education, protect our natural resources and continue to be the premier environmental destination in the region. Here are a few ways to make a tax-deductible gift to Lake Katherine:

Gifts of cash can be made at any time. Please make your check payable to Lake Katherine Nature Center and Botanic Gardens and mail it to the address listed on this report. Please visit our website for additional details.

Stocks, Bonds and Mutual Funds can be used to provide a generous gift to Lake Katherine.

Memorials and Honorary Donations can be a very meaningful and lasting tribute to a friend, loved one or event. Contributions can be in any amount and honorees or their families will receive appropriate acknowledgement. Many trees and benches have been adopted over the years – we'll be happy to provide additional details.

Planned Giving includes wills, bequests and gifts of life insurance or retirement plan proceeds. These gifts can offer significant financial or tax benefits to you or your heirs, while providing for the future of Lake Katherine. Please contact Lake Katherine or your financial advisor for assistance.



2007 Lake Katherine Progress Report

NonProfit Org.
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
Permit No. 1052
Worth, IL 60482

Lake Katherine
Nature Center and Botanic Gardens
7402 W. Lake Katherine Drive, Palos Heights, IL 60463
www.lakekatherine.org





April 2007

Dear Neighbor:

As a resident of Palos Heights, you have the opportunity to experience the beauty of nature right in your own back yard.

One recent visitor put it this way – *“There’s really nothing like Lake Katherine, especially at this time of the year when you can see winter change to spring right before your eyes. I come here almost every day to walk and enjoy the peace and quiet. This is the greatest thing that ever happened to Palos Heights.”*

In the past year, nearly 50,000 visitors have come to Lake Katherine to learn, to grow and to enjoy all that nature has to offer. They are young students, dedicated volunteers and people of every age and background. And whether they have come to enjoy a special event, a class field trip or a quiet walk along the lake, I’m proud to say that like me, they are looking forward to returning!

On behalf of our professional staff, our board of directors and the many volunteers and supporters who have shared their time, talent and treasure here at Lake Katherine, I am pleased to bring you this brief report of our progress. We join in thanking you for your support and we invite you to enjoy Lake Katherine as soon and as often as your busy schedule will permit.

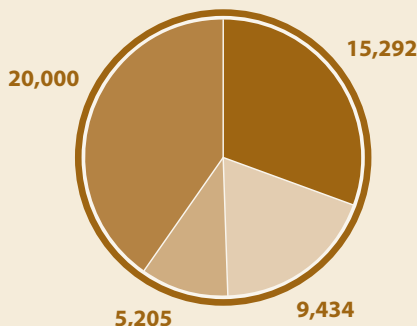
Sincerely,

Bill Sullivan, *Executive Director*

Nearly 50,000 Visitors in 2006

125 acres of water, wooded trails, gardens and open space are plenty of reasons to visit Lake Katherine. While festivals, special events and the Nature Center attracted more than 30,000 people last year, educational programs also experienced record participation. From pre-schoolers to scouts, more than 5,000 children came to learn at Lake Katherine.

Total Visitors During 2006



Educational Visitors

Preschool Programs.....	318
Field Trips	4,066
Family Programs.....	226
After-School.....	345
Scout Programs	250
Total	5,205

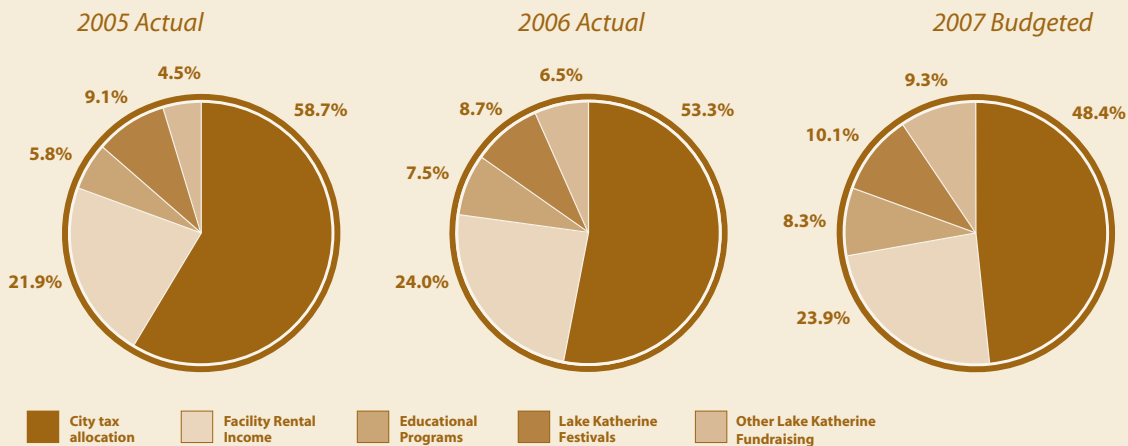
Special Events

Winter Fest	736
Arbor Day.....	1,200
Fishing Day	300
Butterfly Fest	2,198
July 4 Celebration	5,000
Total Festival Attendance	9,434

Nature Center
 Daily Visitors
 Students
 Events

Overview of Lake Katherine Funding

	Actual 2005	Actual 2006	Projected 2007
REVENUE:			
City tax allocation	\$197,521 (58.7%)	\$194,040 (53.3%)	\$175,000 (48.4%)
Rental Income	73,677 (21.9%)	87,342 (24.0%)	86,200 (23.9%)
LAKE KATHERINE FUNDRAISING:			
Educational Programs	19,613 (5.8%)	27,338 (7.5%)	30,000 (8.3%)
Festivals	30,746 (9.1%)	31,536 (8.7%)	36,500 (10.1%)
Contributions & Donations	11,997 (3.6%)	19,183 (5.3%)	28,500 (7.9%)
Gift Shop	2,428 (0.7%)	3,930 (1.1%)	4,000 (1.1%)
Other	692 (0.2%)	901 (0.2%)	1,000 (0.3%)
TOTAL REVENUE SOURCES:	\$336,674 (100.0%)	\$364,270 (100.0%)	\$361,200 (100.0%)



Moving in a Positive Direction

In order to provide for the continued growth and expansion of Lake Katherine without placing an additional burden on the City of Palos Heights and its taxpayers, a non-profit corporation was created in 2005. The corporation assumed responsibility for the operations of Lake Katherine and a long-term strategic plan was developed. Goals included becoming self-sufficient within ten, and perhaps as few as five years.

As the trends illustrate, Lake Katherine is making significant progress. The property tax allocation has been reduced from 59% in 2005 to 48% in 2007. A new focus has been placed on enhancing revenue from other sources.

Regular use of banquet and party facilities on weekends has enabled rental income to hold steady. Plans for the remainder of 2007 include an increased marketing emphasis on weekday availabilities – primarily for local businesses and community organizations with an eye toward increasing revenue.

An increased emphasis on festivals and educational programs and a more structured, professional approach to fundraising through contributions, donations and sponsorships has shown positive results. Our professional staff and board of directors are committed to making continued progress in these important areas and looking for additional revenue sources consistent with our strategic plan.

Thank You to Our Volunteers

Thanks to hundreds of volunteers who shared their time and talent during the past year, Lake Katherine continued to improve and expand many of its programs. From the nature center reception desk to 1,869 hours of planting, pruning and gardening work done by University of Illinois Extension Master Gardeners, the following individuals gave more than 20 hours to Lake Katherine plus a tremendous amount of energy and enthusiasm.

While every effort is made to ensure the accuracy of volunteer records, please accept our apologies if your name has been omitted in error.

Dirk Aardsma	Pat Campione	Pat Fessler	Mary Jane Kamper	Sue Palka	Jim Rusin
Richard Ach	Joan Carlson	JoAnn Gallagher	Barbara Killelea	Irene Panozza	Linda Rusin
Wilma Ach	Ginny Carpenter	Gerri Gates	Betty Kubinski	Beth Paschall	Ed Schmitt
Jim Agnos	Jeff Carpenter	Pat Gee	Lee LaSalle	Gene Paschall	Mary Schoenheider
Joan Agnos	Toni Chapman	Don Gee	Josephine Lombard	Sara Paulson	Jane Shimkus
Hugh Ahern	Julie Ciarrochi	Sherree Geyer	Barbara Marlin	James Pawley	Rosemary Skinner
Ed Beaulieu	Millie Cuculich	Jean Gnap	Joseph Mayer	Janet Pawley	George Spatuzza
Theresa Beaulieu	Paul Dacko	Donna Hirsch	Sue McCarthy	Jeri Pellegrino	Carmon Spatuzza
Walter Bernard	Richard Dahlquist	Theresa Horvath	Joan Meyers	Nancy Pollard	Jack Tolley
Wendy Bernard	Pat Donnick	JoEllen Hurst	Carol Miller	Bill Poore	Gloria Tolley
Ed Borkhuis	Lynn Doyle	Diana Husband	Corny Morgan	Karen Rascher	John Veldman
Linda Bosold	Lois Duran	Heidi Jachna	Liz Morgan	Donna Ripper	Peggy West
Nancy Brosseau	Gary Duran	Rich Janzow	Kris Nichols	Lois Roschke	Adele Wiegand
Heather Burton	Jill Duran	Marie Kaminski	Frank Oswald	Diana Roscich	Anne Zacek
Carla Burton	Ellie Elder	Jayne Kampenga	Jean Pacholski	Tony Roscich	

Private Support on the Rise

Lake Katherine benefits tremendously from the support it receives from the community. With their generosity and commitment to Lake Katherine, our donors will enable us to become the premier community supported environmental learning destination in the region.

Private contributions are critical to the long-term success of Lake Katherine and we are pleased to gratefully acknowledge the individuals and organizations who gave \$100 or more to Lake Katherine during 2006.

While every effort is made to ensure the accuracy of donor records, please accept our apologies if your name has been omitted.

\$1,000 or more

Anonymous
Donna Phillips
Russell Riberto

\$500 to \$999

Hugh Ahern
Lois Benda
Susan Blake
Chuck and Leanne Evans
Debbie Holmstrom
Mulcahy, Pauritsch, Salvador & Co., Ltd.
Nicor Gas
William and Linda O'Reilly
Palos Bank and Trust

\$200 to \$499

Jeff and Ginny Carpenter
Alan and Susan Fulkerson
High Tech Medical Center
Lake Katherine View Estates
John and Jean Gnap
Janet Ondroto
The Straz Family
Sid's Greenhouse and Nursery

\$100 to \$199

Connie and John Allness
Thomas and Linda Barcelona
Bill and Lorraine Bonk
Edward and Yvonne Borkhuis
Marilyn Breen

Rick and Monica Centeno
John and Teresa Conway
Alex and Sandra De Jong
Charles and Susan Emmerich
Robert and Margaret Fuesel
Glenn and Susan Harkabus
Theresa Horvath
Ibrahim Ibrahim
Kallemeyn Collision Center
Theresa Kern
The Lawler Family
Edward and Jeanette Meyer
Corny and Liz Morgan
Phillip and Margaret Murnane
William and Beverly Opelka
Robert Osterberg
Palos Ace Hardware
Eugene and Beth Paschall

Paul and Ann Petersen
Jeff and Pam Prestinario
Kevin and Beverly Richards
Louis and Kenlyn Rini
Anthony and Diana Roscich
Howell and Lois Risinger
Patricia Roach
St. Christina Parish Girl Scouts Troop 848
Jon and Peggy Schaefer
Steve and Carol Stefan
Edward and Mary Steinhauser
Dione Stolarkski
Bill and Kerry Sullivan
John and Cindy Sullivan
William and Noreen Sullivan
Diane Szakonyi
Frank and Nina Thorp