



Secretariat
300 State Street
Annapolis, Maryland 21403 USA
Telephone: +1 (410) 268-5155
Fax: +1 (410) 268-8788
www.worldlakes.org

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CONTACT:
Lisa Borre, (410) 268-5155
lborre@worldlakes.org

**GLOBAL LAKE PROTECTION GROUP
ELECTS NEW LEADERSHIP ON BOARD OF TRUSTEES
LakeNet Trustees Chart New Course for Organization**

ANNAPOLIS MD (March 4, 2004) – LakeNet President David Read Barker, Ph.D., has announced the election of Eric G. Madden of Harrisburg, Pennsylvania, as chairman of the board; John Gaudet of McLean, Virginia as vice-chairman; Buzz Hoerr of Colchester, Vermont as secretary; and Sunny De Vese of Annapolis, Maryland as treasurer. Other LakeNet board members are Professor Wayne H. Bell of Washington College in Chestertown, Maryland; Professor Walter Rast of Southwestern Texas University in San Marcos, Texas; and Annette Souder of Washington, D.C.

Anticipating an expanding need for its international efforts to safeguard valuable freshwater supplies, members of the board pledged to take a more active role in supporting the non-profit organization's outreach programs in more than 100 countries.

“We have a vision of LakeNet rising to even greater heights as the international leader in the preservation and protection of the world's lakes,” said Madden, who is policy director for the Pennsylvania Department of Transportation and has served as one of the organization's trustees since 2000. Madden called upon his fellow trustees to take an active role in assisting Dr. Barker and LakeNet Director Lisa Borre in “their Herculean efforts to carry our message and do good deeds throughout the world,” and to implement a strategic fundraising campaign to support the organization's mission.

LakeNet, based in Annapolis, Maryland, marked its 25th anniversary in 2003. Its work is funded by grants from the United States Agency for International Development and Environmental Protection Agency as well as foundations and corporate and individual contributions. Recent activities include missions to Armenia, Kyrgyzstan, Ethiopia, Kenya, the Philippines and India, where LakeNet leaders met with government, economic development officials and grassroots environmental groups to assist with their lake management programs. For more information on LakeNet, visit its website at www.worldlakes.org.

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