

THE LAKE EFFECT SOCIETY
Frequently Asked
Questions



Gwendolyn L. Kirtley

What is The Lake Effect Society?

Answer: The Lake Effect Society (LES), established in 2023, is a members-only society of Great Lakes Region sorors who are committed to the enrichment and sustainability of the region by going above and beyond in their support.

Why are we establishing The Lake Effect Society?

Answer: To raise unrestricted funds for Great Lakes Region operations, such as leadership development programs, undergraduate activities, technology, grants and partnerships.

Is The Lake Effect Society membership renewable?

Answer: Yes. Sorors in The Lake Effect Society become members of either the Great Lakes Club, 1924 Club or Second Century Leaders Club, depending on their financial contribution. Memberships are effective for one year and may be renewed annually. Memberships start on January 1, 2025 and are effective through December 31, 2025. All financial Great Lakes Region sorors are welcome and invited to join.

When will the gifts for my Lake Effect Society membership be available?

Answer: An acknowledgment letter, membership certificate and card will be sent electronically upon receipt of your payment. The signature brooch, a one-time gift when joining, will be distributed at Regional Conference and/or Clusters.

Can I switch from Second Century Leaders Club to 1924 Club or Great Lakes Club?

Answer: Yes. During the enrollment period only, prior to December 1, 2024. Just submit your new enrollment form and contact us at grlakeeffectsociety@gmail.com. We will discuss how to process the difference in fees.

When will the current membership sign-up window close?

Answer: December 1st (of the current year)

How will the funds be used?

Answer: To sustain and enrich Great Lakes Region over the tenure of the "Greater Together" administration, and hopefully beyond. Our ability to thrive and excel in the next 100 years could be impacted by our philanthropy today. Program enhancements, regional operations, undergraduate activities, grants, leadership programs, technology and partnerships will be targeted. Specific projects were presented during our 2025 rollout.

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Am I guaranteed a room at the host hotel?

Answer: Only Great Lakes Club Members are guaranteed rooms in the host hotel. 1924 Club members will receive advance notification of hotel availability. It will be up to the member to act accordingly.

Is this tax deductible?

Answer: No.

Is this refundable?

Answer: No.

Is there preferential status within The Lake Effect Society, i.e.. Jewels?

Answer: No. All society members are equal.

Are there complimentary or discounted memberships in The Lake Effect Society?

Answer: No.

What does "and above" mean? Are there additional benefits for contributing more?

Answer: Some sorors may elect to give more than the required membership fee; however, it will not entitle them to additional benefits.

What can I expect from the Concierge Committee?

Answer: The Lake Effect Society Concierge Team is committed to assuring all society benefits are delivered with sisterliness and professionalism.

How long will Great Lakes Region have the Lake Effect Society?

Answer: The "Greater Together" administration is focused on the enrichment and sustainability of Great Lakes Region. We are committed to the Lake Effect Society through our tenure.

Who will manage the funds?

Answer: The Great Lakes Regional Director will be responsible for the administration of the Lake Effect Society funds. All funds must be collected, vouchered, reported and accounted according to Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc.® Fiscal Fitness Guide.