

New Web Offerings



for the GLBA Community

GREAT LAKES BEACH ASSOCIATION

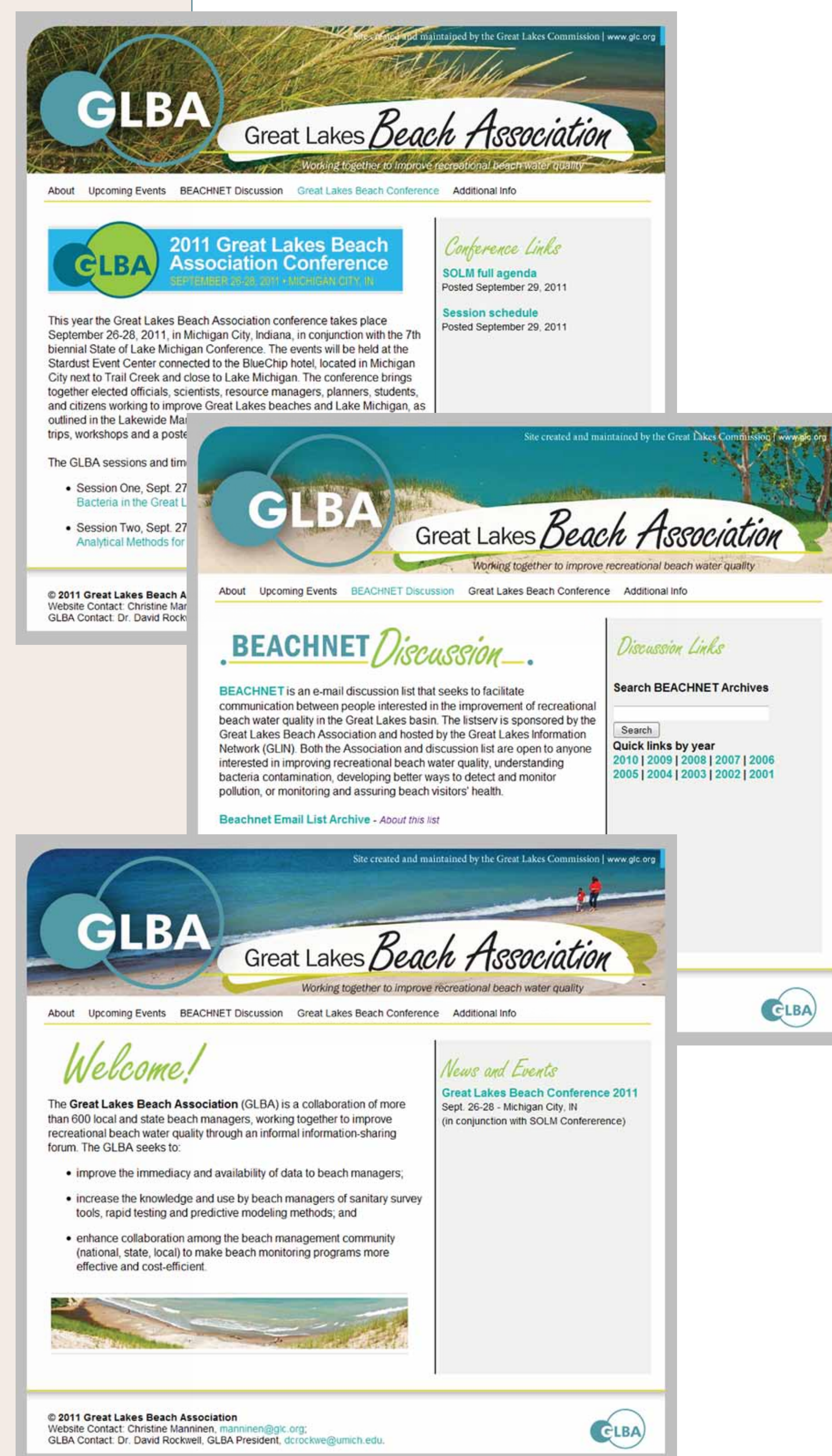
About the Great Lakes Beach Association

The Great Lakes Beach Association (GLBA) is a collaboration of more than 600 local and state beach managers, working together to improve recreational beach water quality through an informal information-sharing forum.

The 2011-12 GLBA President is Dr. David Rockwell, Beach Water Quality Forecasting Coordinator, Center of Excellence for Great Lakes and Human Health, CILER/Univ. of Michigan, dcrockwe@umich.edu.

The GLBA seeks to:

- improve the immediacy and availability of data to beach managers;
- increase the knowledge and use by beach managers of sanitary survey tools, rapid testing and predictive modeling methods; and
- enhance collaboration among the beach management community (national, state, local) to make beach monitoring programs more effective and cost-efficient.



GLBA Online

To maximize its effectiveness and usefulness for the beach management community, the GLBA website (www.glin.net/glba) is being enhanced to be "the source" for the latest news and information from the beach science and monitoring communities. With funding through the Great Lakes Restoration Initiative, the Great Lakes Commission is working with a GLBA subcommittee to identify the highest priority information and data needs of its members. The enhanced features of the GLBA website will include news feeds, data access and e-communication tools, mobile friendly applications, and related resources.

Beachnet: *Join the Conversation!*

BEACHNET is a highly popular e-mail discussion list that seeks to facilitate communication between people interested in the improvement of recreational beach water quality in the Great Lakes basin and nationally. The listserv is maintained by the Great Lakes Beach Association and hosted by the Great Lakes Information Network (GLIN).

Beachnet is open to anyone interested in improving recreational beach water quality, understanding bacterial contamination, developing better ways to detect and monitor pollution, or monitoring and assuring beach visitors' health.

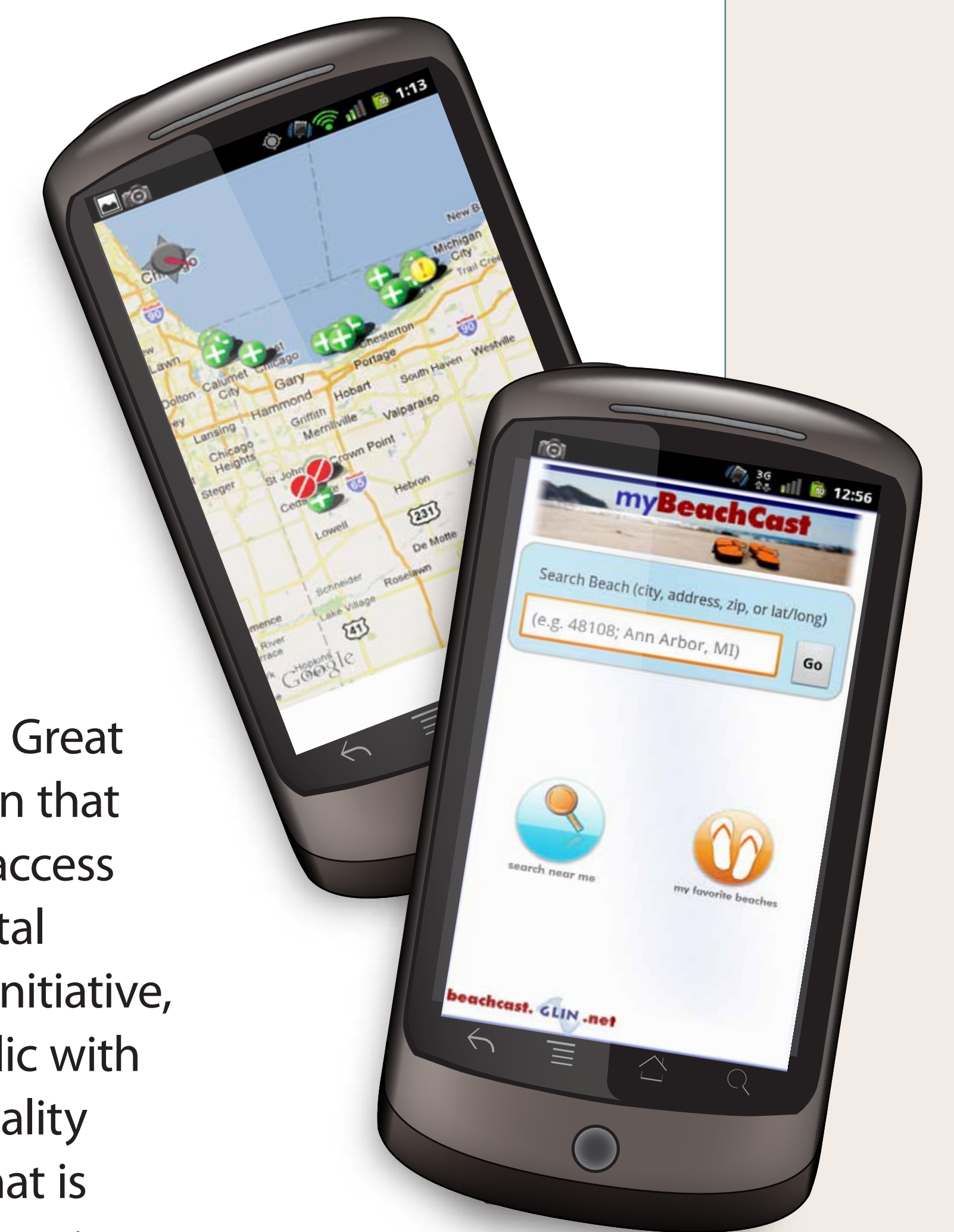
To subscribe, visit

<http://mailman.great-lakes.net/mailman/listinfo/beachnet>

myBeachCast:

Publishing Beach Data to Smartphones

Download the app now at <http://beachcast.glin.net/>



The Great Lakes Commission, in partnership with the Great Lakes states, has developed a smartphone application that provides more options and opportunities for public access to beach closure notifications and other environmental information. Funded by the Great Lakes Restoration Initiative, the myBeachCast application (app) provides the public with real-time information on Great Lakes beach water quality advisories, weather and water conditions in a form that is location-aware and easy to access. The app allows users to discover local beaches based on location, save favorite beaches, and view corresponding weather conditions and five-day weather forecasts. Currently being beta tested, the myBeachCast app retrieves data from the states of Michigan, Indiana and Ohio, all of which use the common BeachGuard data platform. Data from the other states will be incorporated in time for the app's public launch in May 2012. The app is initially being designed for the Android platform but a mobile friendly enhanced GLIN BeachCast website will offer complementary information for other mobile platforms.