Swank elected to lead FOLKS

FOR THE JOURNAL

Bob Swank, who has been serving as first vice president for the Friends of Lake Keowee Society, has been elected president of the lake preservation group.

The election took place at FOLKS' annual meeting.

Other officers are: first vice president Jack Lewis, second vice president Rob McGinley and secretary-treasurer Barb Burch.

Swank and his wife, Sandy, moved to Lake Keowee in 1994 from Athens, Ga. Swank retired as deputy director of the EPA Research Laboratory in Athens in July 1999. He holds a bachelor's of science degree and doctorate in chemical engineering from Georgia Tech and a master of science degree in nuclear engineering from MIT.

Swank joined FOLKS in 2001 and has served on its board for more than eight years. He also managed the successful 3-year FOLKS fecal coliform control grant for the Cane Creeks, restoring both to compliance status.

He said his focus as the new FOLKS president will be technical liaison to the 5-year Duke Keowee-Toxaway relicensing effort, development of a water quality management model for Lake Keowee, expanding FOLKS water quality data base for Lake Keowee and expanding the technical and educational outreach capabilities.

The Swanks are avid shag dancers and "cruise" whenever they can. They are also singers in their church and community choral groups.