



# LLHA COMMUNICATOR

Volume 4 Issue 2

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## Broad Band Internet Alternative

### *Annual LLHA Meeting Guest Speaker Remarks*

At the LLHA annual general membership meeting on Sunday July 8, LLHA President Vince Pagano introduced guest speaker Mark Dzwonczyk, ("Mark"), President and CEO of Nicholville Telephone Company, Inc., Nicholville, NY. Mr. Dzwonczyk addressed the meeting on the subject of "Expanding Broadband in the Adirondacks".

Mark referred to 2010 "Forever Wild Conference" Potsdam, NY, the close cooperation of Sen. Betty Little and described the installation of broadband around Upper St. Regis (took 4 years to build), and expects to complete the network at Long Lake in 2013. He added that he was "hopeful" they'd reach Loon Lake in 2 years.

In addition, he stressed the importance of building fiber-optic networks in the North Country, stating that "villages in rural China have greater access than so many places in the North Country;" and expressed the opinion that "North Country villages will die without access." After a question/answer period, Mark was warmly thanked by Pagano.

### *Post Meeting Follow-up*

In e-mails to Vince subsequent to his talk at the annual meeting, Mark Dzwonczyk expressed his interest in bringing broad band internet service to Loon Lake. He said he alerted his technical planner to the possibility of implementing internet service in Loon Lake, and will be sending two engineers to Loon Lake to assess the initial requirements to add broadband to our community.

### *Grant Subsidies to be Sought*

The Empire State Development Corporation (ESDC) has allocated ~\$25M for broadband in the next 18 months or so.

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## New York State Passes Invasive Species Bill

A bill designed to stop the spread of invasive species was passed by the state Assembly and Senate Tuesday, June 19, 2012.

The legislation restricts the sale, purchase, possession, introduction, importation and transport of invasive species. This bill adds an additional layer of protection to local laws enacted by New York State Townships, including that of the Town of Franklin.

As reported in a previous issue of *The Communicator*, the Town of Franklin passed the "Town of Franklin Aquatic Invasive Species Prevention Law" The law, which prohibits the introduction of aquatic and/or animal invasive species into or around any body of water (publically or privately-owned) in the Town. Moreover, it prohibits the removal of aquatic plants and/or animals from Town bodies of water. Exceptions are those persons with a permit to do such activities, those persons who legally purchased bait or harvested fish, and those who have taken waterfowl.

### *Violation Penalties*

**Violators are guilty of "a criminal violation," punishable with a maximum fine of two hundred fifty dollars (\$250.00.)**

### *Enforcement*

Complaints of violations may be filed with any State, County, or local law enforcement officer having jurisdiction. The law is enforceable by the NYS DEC, State Police, the Franklin County Sheriff's Office, or any law enforcement office having jurisdiction. A copy of the law may be obtained at the Town of Franklin's website: [www.townoffranklin.com](http://www.townoffranklin.com), or at the LLHA website: [www.loonlakehoa.org](http://www.loonlakehoa.org).

***"This bill adds an additional layer of protection to local laws."***

Phil Wagschal, President of Slic Networks, acts as Dzwonczyk's chief technical planner. Phil works closely with that ESDC office and is putting Loon Lake high (highest?) on his next list for their sponsorship.

### **Another Option**

Mountain Wisp is a local provider of "wireless broadband" for those who have line of sight access to their towers throughout the North Country. If you are interested, contact Tammy Facticeau at (518)314-0500 x203 or [www.mtnwisp.com](http://www.mtnwisp.com).

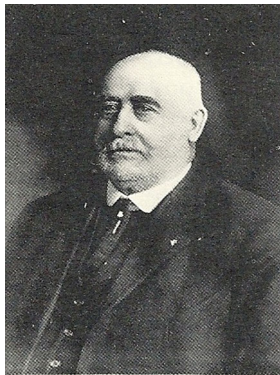
## **Recapturing the Past**

By Charles and Jane Carroll

Joe LeMay, Loon Lake Homeowners Association's history Committee Chair, led a discussion on Loon Lake history at the Jewish Center on Sunday evening, August 12th. He passed out a number of materials on his recent research.

### **Ferd Chase Revisited**

Joe has been working for several years collecting and analyzing the history of Loon Lake. His focus recently has been on Ferd Chase and his role in the development and building of Loon Lake. While everyone recognizes Mrs. Chase as the driving force behind the success of Loon Lake House, Joe made the case that Mr. Chase deserves credit as the number two person. He was responsible for the plant and the building of just about everything that was built in Loon Lake. For example, the main hotel was built in three years, under his leadership.



Ferd Chase

#### **Railroad Service**

Joe also spoke about the railroad service to Loon Lake and had a picture of the railroad station of Loon Lake. There were two stations and sets of tracks - hard to believe today. In those days, the New York Central and the Delaware and Hudson both had service to Loon Lake. There was even a small hotel for travelers who had to lay over between trips on the two rail lines.

## **Information Wanted**

Joe also said he is collecting the history of a dozen and a half Loon Lake camps.

Joe is looking for help in collecting the history. He is especially interested in talking to people who worked here. He also asked if there was interest in him researching furniture and other furnishings. This led to a lively discussion, and many in the audience had information to share. The consensus was that once the hotel was established, the Chases decorated the rooms with "five star" amenities.

Anyone with info, stories, etc., please contact Joe at [lemayjm@aol.com](mailto:lemayjm@aol.com). Let's be sure we capture this history before it is lost in the mist of time!

## **Notable Guest Speaker**

As you know, the LLHA Board invites a speaker to the LLHA annual general membership meeting to speak on a topic of particular interest to the Loon Lake community. One such speaker stands out as a man of considerable repute in the annals of local authors and historians. His name is Maitland DeSormo.

### **Maitland DeSormo 1906 – 1993**

DeSormo had an avid interest in the Adirondack Mountain region of New York State. He and his wife operated Adirondack Yesteryears Inc. a shop that specialized in Adirondack memorabilia, maps, books, and photographs, including the works of photographer and artist Seneca Ray Stoddard. DeSormo also wrote extensively on the Adirondacks and Stoddard, including The "Heydays of the Adirondacks," which has a chapter on Loon Lake. He also served as historian for Harrietstown, N.Y. and as president of the Lake Placid-North Elba Historical Society. He was a member of the Adirondack Mountain Club, the Wilderness Society and the Adirondack Forty-Sixers.

### **DeSormo on the History of Loon Lake**

Many years ago, Mr. DeSormo addressed the LLHA membership at its annual general membership meeting. The topic was the "History of Loon Lake." His informal talk, which characterized the Chases' personalities and the management style of Mary Chase, was peppered with personal interesting and amusing anecdotes. A copy of the transcript can be seen in the history section of our website.

[www.loonlakehoa.org](http://www.loonlakehoa.org).



Maitland DeSormo

## Again No Aquatic Plant Invasive Species Detected in Loon Lake

On August 7, 2012 Corey Laxson and Elizabeth Yerger of the Adirondack Watershed Institute of Paul Smith's College conducted the fourth consecutive aquatic plant survey of Loon Lake. . This year the survey included both surface and underwater observations. The objectives of the 4th annual survey were to (1) determine the location of any aquatic nuisance species, and (2) map the native aquatic plant beds and quantify their species richness.

Once again, no non-native or invasive plants were detected in the lake. Aquatic plant coverage in Loon Lake is relatively low compared to other lakes in the region, comprising less than 19 acres (5%) of the lake surface area.

A digital copy of the report is available for members. Contact [vincepagano@hughes.net](mailto:vincepagano@hughes.net).



## Fourth Annual Fundraiser Underway

Last year's Invasive Species Monitoring Fund was very successful in that we raised \$2,431, an amount exceeding our annual goal of \$1,500. As has been indicated in a previous newsletter, the excess will be applied to a "Harvesting Fund," which would be available in the likely event of Lake invasive species infestation.

### ***Self-Insurance***

There is no insurance policy to cover the potential infestation of these invasive species; therefore, our fund raising is akin to self-insurance. So, your yearly "premium" contribution of \$25.00 - \$60.00 or more or less will pay for building a reserve "Harvesting/Eradication Fund" to pay for harvesting or any other eradication method.

Checks payable to Loon Lake Homeowners' Association; PO Box 219, Vermontville, NY 12989

## Prayers Answered

The weather was iffy, with forecasts calling for strong thunderstorms.- this was what kept LLHA annual picnic-goers fingers crossed and praying for good weather for this once a year anticipated event. As it turned out, the day brought only a couple of brief sprinkles and otherwise was favorable with cool temperatures and refreshing breezes.

As usual, Don's hot dogs were the perfect complement to the delicious and appetizing dishes provided by hospitable Loon Lakers. There was a large turnout of LLHA members and invited guests, who were "catching up," getting to know new comers; and children were involved at the sandy beach – while the beautiful sounds of Loon Lake Live added the cultural dimension that made the affair complete. Prayers were answered!

*Editor's note:* Preparation for the annual picnic requires a significant amount of time and effort. Thank yous are in order to those who volunteer to procure the hot dogs and beverages and equipment, deliver them to the site; set up and dismantle and store the canopies; cook the hot dogs; and cleanup. Special thanks to those who have volunteered for several years. Please consider taking a turn at this effort. We need your help!



## New LLHA Board Members Elected

Annual association elections for 3 new members to the Board of Directors: Nominated were Zev Hershtal, Murray Vasilevsky, George Johnson, and Milton Wechsler. A ballot being necessary, same was held, and Hershtal, Vasilevsky, and Johnson were declared elected.

### **DUES DUE**

Although most members have renewed their membership for 2012-2013, there are still a few who have not yet done so. Continued support via membership dues is vital for the continuation of our mission; i.e., protecting the lake and its environs, as well as providing cultural and social functions.

## LLHA Offering

LLHA hats and t-shirts are available for donations as follows:

\$15 ea. or any combination for 2/\$25 plus \$4.00 packaging and shipping.

Hats are one size fits all. Colors: Tan or Green  
T-shirt sizes: SM, M, L, XL, XXL. Colors: White, or Green

Check or Money order only.

Send requests to: LLHA Order Dept., PO Box 219, Vermontville, NY 12989. Or at Vince Pagano 3466 County Route 26, Loon Lake, NY 12989



They make great gifts

LOON LAKE HOMEOWNERS' ASSOCIATION  
PO Box 219, Vermontville, NY 12989, Phone/Fax: 518-891-4095, E-mail:

[president@loonlakehoa.org](mailto:president@loonlakehoa.org),

Website: [www.loonlakehoa.org](http://www.loonlakehoa.org)



### BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Vince Pagano, [president@loonlakehoa.org](mailto:president@loonlakehoa.org)

Tom Bartiss, [vicepresident@loonlakehoa.org](mailto:vicepresident@loonlakehoa.org)

Jane Carroll, [treasurer@loonlakehoa.org](mailto:treasurer@loonlakehoa.org)

Brenda Gewurz, [secretary@loonlakehoa.org](mailto:secretary@loonlakehoa.org)

Zev Hershtal, [zevh@sympatico.ca](mailto:zevh@sympatico.ca)

George Johnson, [keyofc@rcn.com](mailto:keyofc@rcn.com)

Stuart Lucks, [goodlux2@gmail.com](mailto:goodlux2@gmail.com)

Murray Vasilevsky, [murrayvasilevsky@mcgill.ca](mailto:murrayvasilevsky@mcgill.ca)

George Waddy, [geowaddy@yahoo.com](mailto:geowaddy@yahoo.com)

Leonard Wisse, [lhwise@gmail.com](mailto:lhwise@gmail.com)

## Presidents Message

By Vince Pagano

In the last issue of the *Communicator*, I asked for a few members to come forth to fill three Board seats. The call was answered. As you may know, we had an election at our annual general meeting on July 8, which resulted in the election of three new Board members: Zev Hershtal, George Johnson, and Murray Vasilevsky. We now have a full Board of ten members.

The LLHA Board members' commitment to serve, as well as your continued membership and volunteering, is vital for the viability of the organization and the maintenance of care of the lake and the community.



She was one of four that day,  
Basking and making her way  
In water clean and pure,  
The others were there for sure,  
But nary a chick was seen  
To partake in the daily routine  
Of diving for food below,  
Which pristine water does bestow.

### Loon Census Conducted at Loon Lake

An annual Loon Lake loon count was conducted by Vince Pagano, Steve Blendowski, and Phil Marazzito between 8 and 9 a.m. on Saturday, July 21, 2012 for the Wildlife Conservation Society. Four adult loons were sighted during that period.

The Wildlife Conservation Society's Adirondack Program conducts the Annual Loon Census in collaboration with Biodiversity Research Institute's Adirondack Center for Loon Conservation ([www.briloon.org/adkloon](http://www.briloon.org/adkloon)). For more information about other conservation projects of WCS Adirondack Program, please visit [www.wcsadirondacks.org](http://www.wcsadirondacks.org).

**First**





