



Loon Lake Homeowners' Association Newsletter

June 2016

Volume 8, Issue 1

Mark Your Calendars!

*HOA Meeting:
Sunday July 17th
10AM-11AM at the
Jewish Center*

*HOA Picnic:
Sunday July 31st
Noon at the beach*

*Reminder: 2016
HOA dues are due!
This year you can
pay online using
PayPal at*

<http://www.loonlakehoa.org/membership/>

**Invasive Species
Reminder:**

**Clean & dry your
boat before
returning to Loon
Lake.**

**Clean & dry your
gear before fishing
in Loon Lake**

**Remind your
renters to clean &
dry their boats &
gear!**

Loon Lake Homeowners' Association Annual Meeting: July 17 from 10-11AM

The Loon Lake Homeowners' Association welcomes you back to Loon Lake—those who are returning- and extends warm greetings to those who make Loon Lake their year-round home!

The Loon Lake Homeowners' Association annual meeting is scheduled for Sunday, July 17th, from 10AM until 11AM at the Jewish Center (dues will be collected beginning at 9:30AM.).

This year's meeting will cover the usual business including a review of topics discussed at the most recent LLHOA Board meetings (held on May 25—see meeting summary below—and on July 10). Also, we have two special agenda items involving Loon Lake historical preservation and Board elections.

Preserving the History and Character of Loon Lake

This year we are pleased to announce that Steven Engelhart of the Adirondack Architectural Heritage (AARCH) will be presenting at our annual meeting. Mr. Engelhart will speak on the considerations involved in establishing a National Historic District, a process that the AARCH is willing to lead for Loon Lake if homeowners are interested and willing. As many of you know, our community has a long and fascinating history that is worthy of acknowledging and preserving.

Adirondack Architectural Heritage is the nonprofit, historic preservation organization for the Adirondack Park with an educational mission to promote better public understanding, appreciation, and stewardship of the region's architecture and communities. For more information go to www.aarch.org.

Elections for Loon Lake HOA Board Positions

The terms for two LLHOA Board positions expire in 2016; one officer position (president) and one at-large position. We will take nominations from the floor and hold an election during the meeting. At least two individuals, Peter MacEwen and Patty Cogswell, have expressed interest

in serving on the Board and provided their bios. The specific positions they seek to fill were not announced as of the time of newsletter publication.

Peter and his wife Allison have been seasonal residents of Loon Lake since April 2014 when they purchased 43 Loon Lake Terrace. Peter's background is in the management of his family's fuel and convenience store businesses in Canada, including MX Fuels which delivers fuel and propane in New York from Lake Ontario to Lake Champlain. Peter's primary volunteer work is as a Director of the Glengarry Highland Games in Maxville, Ontario. Peter is a proud resident of Loon Lake, enjoys fly fishing and cycling in the area, and cares about the health and sustainability of the lake and the area.

Patty Cogswell has been coming to Loon Lake her entire life, so it has become a part of her. She believes in community and getting involved in the things that she loves, and she would welcome the opportunity to serve on the LLHOA Board. Patty has had various volunteer experiences including serving on her neighborhood HOA board and as PTA president. She currently works as a scientist for a cancer foundation which also allows her to spend a significant part of her time at Loon Lake. You may see Patty running, biking, hiking or paddling on the lake. If not, she is cooking or chatting with the lovely friends she has made in this magical place.

We thank both Peter and Patty for stepping up and offering to serve on the Board. We invite others who are interested in serving on the Loon Lake HOA Board to contact either Tom Bartiss, President, at president@loonlakehoa.org or Stuart Lucks, Vice President, at vicepresident@loonlakehoa.org to provide information about a prospective candidate. We would be happy to email the HOA membership a short (120 words or less) bio from prospective candidates if the bio is received by either Tom or Stuart by July 15.

Come to the Annual Loon Lake Homeowners' Association Picnic!

One of the many highlights of a Loon Lake summer is the annual LLHOA picnic scheduled this year for Sunday, July 31st, Noon, at the public beach. Definitely don't miss the chance to catch up with friends and to make new ones—with plenty of great food and drink on hand. Bring a favorite dish to share and sample what others have brought. Rain or shine, the annual picnic is a good time for all—plus the bugs are gone!

Loon Lake HOA Joins the 21st Century with PayPal

It is now easier than ever to renew your membership or to join the Loon Lake Homeowners' Association for the first time. This year the Board has initiated PayPal as an additional payment option for dues and for contributions to designated Loon Lake HOA funds. Visit our website at <http://www.loonlakehoa.org/membership/> and renew, join or contribute in either of two ways:

1. You can pay your dues (to renew or join) online using PayPal and you can even make a contribution to the special funds for aquatic invasive species and the new swim float at the beach. It is quick and easy! Plus you save a stamp!

-or-

2. If you prefer to go old school, you can download a membership form from the website and mail it in with a check.

Also, a mail-in membership renewal form is included in the mailing for this newsletter.

Your Continued Membership is Vital to Loon Lake

Why is joining LLHOA or renewing your membership so important? Because all of us working together, LLHOA members and elected leadership, get the job done.

The mission of the LLHOA is to maintain and preserve the excellent quality of life enjoyed by the Loon Lake community. Your membership dues make it possible to protect the lake and its surrounds, and to foster our cultural and social functions. Your dues directly support a number of critical, ongoing efforts, such as annual water quality testing and surveys for invasive aquatic species.

Renewing members will note that the annual dues have increased this year to \$45. The Loon Lake HOA Board recently voted to increase the dues by five dollars from \$40 to enable the HOA to keep pace with expenditures. (See article below regarding Loon Lake HOA Board Meeting on May 24, 2016.)

Please renew online with PayPal at our homeowners' association website at <http://www.loonlakehoa.org/membership/> or complete the membership form included with this mailing and send in your dues of \$45 to LLHOA PO Box 219, Vermontville, NY 12989.

Steps to Stop Aquatic Invasive Species

By Vince Pagano



Boats, trailers, waders and other fishing and boating equipment can spread aquatic invasive species from waterbody to waterbody unless properly cleaned, dried or disinfected after use. Although some invasive species such as water milfoil are readily visible to the human eye, many others are too small to be readily noticed. To avoid spreading invasive species please follow the guidelines in the following paragraphs.

CHECK, CLEAN, DRAIN, DRY, DISINFECT

Check your boating and fishing equipment for invasive species. Carefully examine these common invasive species attachment points: trailer bunks, lights. License plates axle rollers, motor props fishing lures. Also inspect all gear used during your fishing or boating trip.

Note: If your boat has been used in a waterbody containing zebra mussels, run your hand along the hull. If it feels like sandpaper, it likely has mussels attached.

Clean visible mud, plants, fish or animals before transporting equipment. Remove all invasive species from your boat and equipment such as anchors and other gear. Zebra mussels can be difficult to remove from a boat hull. They first need to be killed by exposure to water or steam at least 140 degrees F and then removed by brush or pressure washer.

Drain all water holding compartments including live wells, bait wells and bilge areas before you leave the access site. Be sure to drain boat ballast tanks if your waterski or wakeboard has them.

Dry boats, trailers and all equipment before use in another waterbody. Drying your boat takes at least 5-7 days in dry, warm weather.

Disinfect anything that came into contact with water, if it cannot be dried before reuse.

Disinfection Techniques for Fishing and Boating Equipment

If your boating and fishing equipment cannot be dried before its use in another body of water, it must be disinfected.

Effective disinfection techniques include:

Hot Water: Hot water is an effective disinfection agent for all aquatic invasive species and fish diseases. While many of the invasive clam and mussel species can detect other disinfection agents and avoid them by tightly closing their shells, they cannot protect themselves from the

effects of high temperature. Soak all equipment in water at least 140°F for 30 seconds. Most tap water is 120° - 130° F, so this will require some additional heating. An inexpensive candy thermometer can be used to determine when you have reached the correct temperature. Note that hot water can de-laminate Gore-Tex® fabric and damage other sensitive clothing items. Household steamers may also be used for disinfection by exposing equipment to steam for 30 seconds. Some commercial hot-water car washes can be effective for disinfecting boats and vehicles, but many do not heat water hot enough for proper disinfection.

Bleach: Bleach is also a very effective disinfectant agent, but it is a caustic substance that can be corrosive to aluminum and other sensitive fishing and boating equipment. Soak or spray equipment for at least one minute with a 2% bleach solution (3 ounces of household bleach mixed with 1 gallon of water). If whirling disease is suspected, a 10% solution should be used (13 ounces of household bleach mixed with 1 gallon of water).

Potassium Chloride: Commonly used as a substitute for calcium chloride in table salt and home water softeners, potassium chloride (KCL) is a very effective cleanser for boats and equipment used in waters containing zebra or quagga mussels. It also does not have the corrosive side effects of some other cleaning agents. A 200 ppm solution is recommended (one teaspoon of dry KCL salt crystals in 2 gallons of water). KCL salt substitutes can be found in most supermarkets and KCL salt crystals can be special ordered at home improvement or hardware store selling water conditioning products. Given the non-corrosive attributes of KCL, it is particularly useful in cleaning engine cooling systems and other corrosion prone areas.

Flushing: If it is impossible for you to disinfect your boat prior to use, thoroughly flush the bilge and all water holding compartments with water prior to launching. Be sure that this water does not drain into the water body you will be launching your boat into. While a pressurized source of water is preferred, buckets of water may be used if this is not available.

Special Note to Wading Anglers: Felt-soled waders and wading shoes, which have been identified as an important means by which [whirling disease spores](#) and other aquatic diseases can be transported, are difficult to disinfect. Rubber or studded soles are now readily available that provide similar traction and are much less likely to transport these invasives.

Loon Lake Live Celebrates its 20th Season this Summer

Help Loon Lake Live celebrate its 20th year of bringing classical chamber music concerts to Loon Lake and the northern Adirondacks. This mega-anniversary season promises to be the best yet. But don't take our

word for it, experience it for yourself.

Loon Lake Live concerts will be held at the Loon Lake Jewish Center on Sundays at 7:30 p.m. on July 24th, July 31st, and August 7th. The fourth concert will take place at the Historic Saranac Laboratory at Friday August 12th at 7:30.

Loon Lake Live concerts can be seen at other times and locations. For a complete list of scheduled dates and places for the 2016 Summer season, please see the website: www.loonlakelive.org

Loon Lake Live thanks you for your donations—please keep the concerts going with your continued support of Loon Lake Live.

Annual Jane Neale Hike

Loon Laker, Wendy Ungar, will lead the Annual Jane Neale Memorial Hike on Sunday, July 10, 2016. This year's hike is to the summit of Owl Head Lookout. Join members of the Adirondack Mountain Club (ADK) and friends of Jane Neale for this hike, which is a fundraiser in support of the Jane Neale Fund, established by the ADK to support participation by youth in the annual trails crew week. Contributions are always welcome and are tax deductible. See:

<http://www.adk.org/page.php?pid=445&pname=neale-scholarship-fund>

To register or for more information, contact Wendy Ungar wendy.ungar@utoronto.ca or 518-891-2750.

Other Activity in the ADKs

Pendragon Theatre 2016 Season

Visit our award winning regional [Pendragon Theatre](#) in Saranac Lake to see these amazing productions throughout the 2016 season.

Art

May 27-June 19

Around the World in 80 Days

June 26-July 9

Amadeus

July 15-July 30

Baskerville: A Sherlock Holmes Mystery

August 5-August 20

The Glass Menagerie

August 25-October 9

Encore: August 30-September 4

HoboFest--September 4

The annual Hobofest is an all-day free music festival celebrating American roots culture and the independent hobo spirit. Taking place on Sunday of Labor Day weekend (September 4, 2016) in Saranac Lake, the day showcases many of the area's finest musicians paired with imported traveling veterans. For more info: hobofest.com/

Visitor Interpretive Center at Paul Smiths College

The 3,000-acre Paul Smith's College VIC (Visitor Interpretive Center) in Paul Smiths, New York, offers a wide variety of free and fee-based arts, sports, and educational programs throughout the year, including bird walks and nature walks, trail runs, children's educational programs, art exhibits, concerts, lectures, workshops, and naturalist-led paddles. The VIC also hosts the annual Great Adirondack Birding Celebration on the first weekend in June. An adjacent Butterfly House features butterflies and moths in all stages of development. The VIC has also developed a maple sugaring operation and participates in the New York State Maple Producers Association's Maple Weekends during the spring sugaring season. The VIC's 25 miles of trails, including 6 miles of interpretive trails, showcase the natural beauty of the Adirondack Mountains and provide unparalleled opportunities to view, hear, photograph, and enjoy nature. The trails weave through woodland and marshland, by ponds, brooks, and bogs. Many of the trails are surfaced for easy walking. Many have trail-side signs explaining natural and man-made features of the landscape. Admission to the center and trails is free, but please consider making a donation. There are small fees for some special programs. For more information and a schedule of events, see: <http://www.adirondackvic.org/>

Wild Center

The Wild Center in Tupper Lake is a totally unique museum experience. The exhibits are designed to educate visitors about the natural and civilized realms of New York's Forever Wild Park. Artifacts and exhibits are often hands on experiences. Visitors of all ages with a curiosity about nature will love visiting the wild. Watch the otters swim and play. For more info: www.wildcenter.org/

Franklin County Fair August 5 – 14

Running this year from August 5-14, 2016, the Franklin County Fair is held in Malone NY and offers exhibits of animals and livestock, agriculture and gardening, crafts, and the usual county fair events and activities. For admission fees based on dates and other details see Franklin County Fair Website: www.frcofair.com

New York State Department of Environmental Conservation—the go-to site for NY outdoor enthusiasts

www.dec.ny.gov/

Adirondack Mountain Club—for all things hiking in the Adirondacks, including trail conditions and nature programs

www.adk.org/

Saranac Lake Art Works—Music, Film, Visual Arts & More, including the popular Third Thursday Art Walks in Saranac Lake & Last Saturday Artist-at-Work Studio Tours

www.saranaclakeartworks.com

Lake Placid Center for the Arts—Gallery, Stage, Concerts & more

www.lakeplacidarts.org

News of Old 99

A column recounting historical events in and around Loon Lake, by Wendy Ungar

With the building of the plank road, a.k.a. "The Turnpike", between Hopkinton and Port Kent in 1829, industry came to this part of the Adirondacks. First came the saw mills. The largest mill at the time was at Franklin Falls, followed by those of Thomas Goldsmith, who built mills at the Flood Dam (a mile above Thatcherville), at Goldsmith's, Alder Brook, and elsewhere. A mill was built at Thatcherville, three miles above Hunters' Home (intersection of Goldsmith Road and 99) about 1840 by Avery Thatcher. Monroe Hall of Plattsburgh operated a mill on the outlet of Loon Lake about the same time.

Active milling operations meant the taverns were soon to follow. Prentis "Print" Lovering ran a tavern at Loon Lake while William Squires ran another on 99 a few miles north, Harry B. Hatch ran one at Hatch's, Paul and Lewis L. Smith built a tavern at Hunters' Home in 1852, and John R. Merrill ran a tavern and a hotel at Merrillsville. (The Merrill Inn, still standing on 99 diagonally across from the cemetery, was sold to James W. Littlejohn in 1860 and eventually was purchased by Maxine Summers who ran an antique shop from the adjacent barn.) These taverns were in fact small inns, all along The Turnpike, and the guests

were generally people traveling with the teams of horses transporting lumber and other goods. These "teamsters" would stop only for a meal or for a single night, and the rates were next to nothing (see description of Hunters Home below). The closest one can come today to the experience of those travelers of 165 years ago is to drive the back 99, cross route 30, and continue for miles of wilderness following the east branch of the St. Regis River, when suddenly you come upon the Red Tavern, still in operation, and still off the grid.



John R. Merrill Inn
later was known as The James W. Littlejohn Tavern
Picture taken about 1928



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Next time: Loon Lake's first settlers

The New York Times
October 27, 1912

Paul Smith returned alone in October of that year and laid the foundations for the Hunters' Home, which he established and maintained near the lake for some years. The Hunters' Home was a simple wooden structure, which had one fair-sized room and about eight or ten compartments into which men could retire to sleep. There were no accommodations for women. The guests wore their rough clothes and paid \$1.25 a day for board and lodging and \$2 a day for a guide. In those days the bill of fare consisted of venison, lake trout, partridges, ham, bread, and vegetables, with tea or coffee. There was no law against the killing of deer or partridges or the catching of trout in any season, and Paul Smith himself killed as high as sixty deer in one year.

In those days the only beverage which guests were accustomed to was rye whisky and water. Whisky was then 19 cents a gallon, and Paul Smith kept a barrel of rye in the living room and a string attached to the barrel and a dipper upon the end of the string. When one of the guests wanted a drink all he had to do was to take from his pocket four coppers (nickels were hardly known at that time) and place them on the top of the barrel, put the dipper under the spigot, and help himself. The head of the barrel was usually well covered with coppers.

Summary of May 24th Loon Lake Homeowners' Association Board Meeting

The LLHOA Board members held a teleconference on May 24, 2016, with President Tom Bartiss presiding. A quorum was present. The Board discussed and voted on the following items:

Annual Meeting

In response to HOA members' comments regarding the time and length

of annual meetings, the Board decided to hold the meeting earlier in the morning and limit it to one hour. Therefore, the LLHOA 2016 Annual Meeting is scheduled for Sunday, July 17, at the Loon Lake Jewish Center from 10:00 AM to 11:00 AM.

Annual Picnic

The LLHOA Annual Picnic is scheduled for Sunday, July 31, at the public beach.

Financials

Treasurer Jane Carroll reported on year-end (April 30) financials which show reduced income in the dues and invasive species categories but well controlled expenses. The big expenditures relate to the purchase and installation of the swim float and picnic table at the beach area. Without those expenditures, the year ends on a cash-positive basis. The Board discussed and agreed to set a careful budget this year to replenish our reserve fund after several years of expenditures for the community.

The Board agreed unanimously to increase dues from \$40 to \$45. An appeal will be launched to raise funds to cover the cost of the swim float installed last summer. This will take place once the dues notices have been sent out.

The Board agreed to establish a PayPal account to allow members to pay their dues electronically.

Water Quality

The Board agreed to continue to test for E-Coli. Also, the ALAP water quality testing fees have increased to \$350 this year. The Board agreed that LLHOA would continue with the testing schedule we have been following in recent years.

As of the time of the Board meeting, Tom Bartiss had not heard if there would be a boat launch monitor available for Loon Lake this year. He will contact Paul Smiths to confirm if someone will be assigned to Loon Lake. Meanwhile, Tom has received signs to post at key spots at the lake that detail boat care procedures to help keep the lake free of invasive species. He plans to post the signs shortly.

Loon Gulf Property

Tom Bartiss reported that several back-woods properties have been sold but nothing on the lake. The Crusher Mountain piece is apparently still under contract but no resolution has been made concerning Loon Gulf's desire to keep the piece of that property that contains the lake bottom.

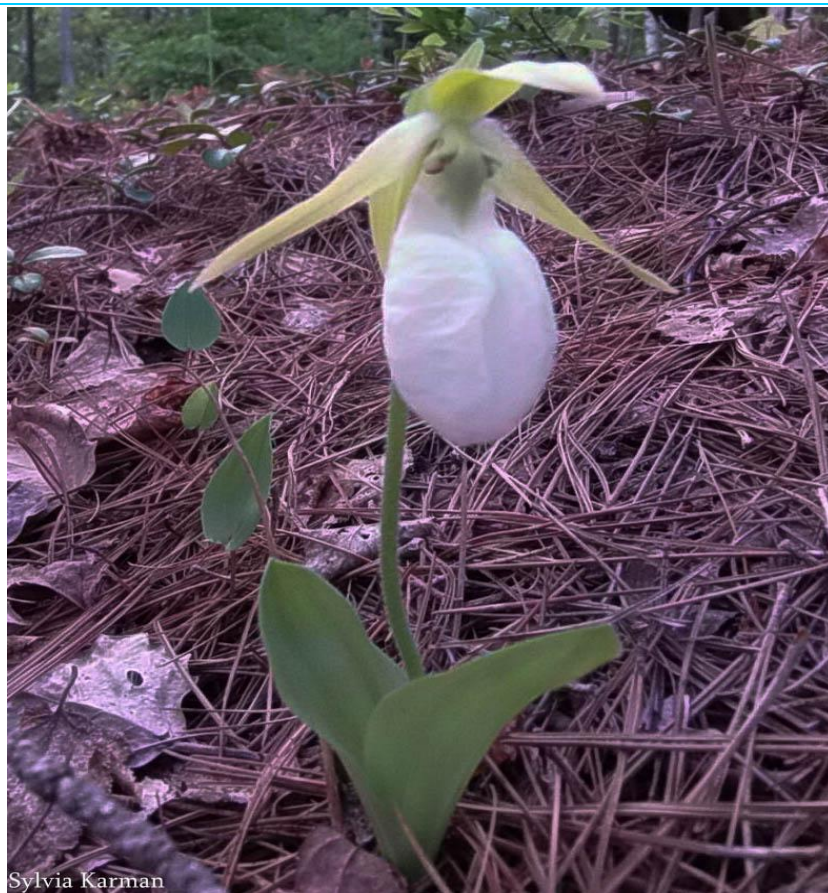
APA Request Regarding Boathouse

The Board had a lengthy discussion about the request before the APA to rescind previous restrictions on the permit to subdivide a large tract on Mensink Road. A property owner is applying to the APA to amend the permit to allow a boathouse to be built at the shoreline and into the bottom of the lake. The permit currently does not allow the construction of such a structure.

In general people are not against this boathouse specifically, rather they are concerned about the precedent that would be set by reversing the original restrictions entailed in the permit. The Board voted to send a general statement to the APA of the Loon Lake Homeowners Association's position opposing reversal of restrictions entailed in permits previously issued as a condition for granting a subdivision of property.

Next Board Meeting

The Board will meet again on July 10, 2016.



Sylvia Karman