



Eagle Lake Property Owners' Association Newsletter

January 1993

The year 1992 was a very busy year for your Association. Your Association held two business meetings this year, the annual meeting held on July 4, 1992, and a regular business meeting held on August 29, 1992. In addition, our Association observed its 85th anniversary this year. This occasion was celebrated at our annual meeting.

Highlights of the Annual Meeting

Officers Elected for the Year 1992-1993

President	William Allen
Vice President	Robert Delano
Secretary	Dianne Tiedemann
Treasurer	Peter Buechner

Treasurer's Report

Beginning Balance (as of 7/1/91)	\$2,738.77
Expenses	- 1,190.01
Income	+ 732.25
Ending Balance	\$ 2,281.01

Contributions

The membership approved the following contributions:

Moses Ludington Hospital Auxillary	\$50.00
Ticonderago Emergency Squad	\$50.00
Chilson Fire Department	\$50.00
Ticonderago Fish and Game Club (use of grounds)	\$25.00

Committee Reports

Water Level

Robert J. Stevens, Chr.

A beaver dam, located 150 to 175 yards upstream from the dam was the cause for the high water levels that existed most of the summer. At one point levels reached as high as +5 to +6 on the gauge.

Bob Delano obtained the necessary DEC permits to trap these beavers. The permit expired on 8/31/92.

The beaver dam was opened in June, but was soon rebuilt. Jim Herbert trapped 3 large beavers near the dam site during July and August. In late August, Bob J. Stevens, Scott Emerich and Rolf Tiedemann opened the dam again. From that point on there was a steady decline in the water level. On October 12 the gauge was at -2. At no time during the spring or summer was there any planks in the "spillway."

Fish Stocking

John Di Pofi, Chr.

1991 State stocking	
430 Browns 9.5 inches	
3360 Browns 8.0 inches	
1992 Essex County (spring)	
400 Rainbows	
300 Rainbows 2+ years	
1300 Browns	

There is a need for a few fishermen, (those who fish frequently) to record their fish take to determine the ratio of Rainbows caught in relation to Browns caught. The feedback that the Crown Point Fish Hatchery is receiving indicates few Rainbows are being taken. It is possible that the Rainbows are going over the spillway in early Spring. We need to get a reading on this.

Membership

Lloyd Burroughs, Chr.

Several new memberships were recorded.

The membership listing now has provision for winter and summer addresses and phone numbers.

There was discussion concerning the number of members who are delinquent in payment of their dues. No action was taken, but the Committee will meet to discuss this matter further.

Reports on By-Laws, Water Quality, Weed and Pollution Control, and Education are given under the August 29 meeting highlights.

Other Business

The membership voted to join the Coalition of Lakes Against Milfoil (COLAM). Dues for Eagle Lake will be \$50.00. The membership also voted to adopt the goals of COLAM. These goals are:

1. A statewide Aquatic Weed Program to include funding for locally and regionally managed Weed Control Projects.
2. Simplified permit application process for the initiation of Weed Control Projects.
3. Determination of the registration of the herbicide Fluridone (Sonar) for use in New York State.

Upon the recommendation of the Weed and Pollution Control Committee, the membership voted to approve funding up to \$250.00 to expand the water quality testing program to five (5) sites and collect samples from these sites three (3) times a year, starting in September 1992. Presently testing has been limited to two (2) sites, tested once a year.

Considerable discussion took place on the feasibility of performing "Dye Testing" on waste water systems on properties that could impact the water quality of our lake. By a vote of the members present, it was decided to implement a voluntary "Dye Testing" program as a first step.

The members present voted to hold a second business meeting of the Association on August 29 at 10:00 a.m. in the Chilson Community Center. The members felt there was a need for a second meeting in light of the many activities going on.

In observance of our Association's 85th Anniversary a champagne punch toast was offered. George Conklin proposed the toast "to all of us who own property on Eagle Lake and to all our friends and guests and to all those who have done such good service and help move this organization along. Heres to them! May we have another 85 years." Carolyn Harris and George Conklin were asked to talk on the history of Eagle Lake. George requested that their talk on the history of Eagle Lake be presented at the next meeting in August, since this meeting was running quite long.

President Bill Allen announced that his investigation into whether our Association is incorporated, revealed that we are not incorporated. He based his opinion on the fact that the Department of State for New York State, Division of Corporation, has no certificate of incorporation for the ELPOA on file. Members present felt it was very important that we become incorporated. Bill Allen will pursue this matter further.

Highlights of the August 29, 1992 Meeting

Treasurer's Report

Peter Buechner reported a balance of \$2,719.68 as of 8/28/92 with a good influx of dues over the past few weeks.

Dues Paying Members

Numerous questions as to who pay dues and who are eligible to be a member of the ELPOA were raised.

Peter Beuchner's interpretation based on his knowledge and experience on membership eligibility and voting rights are:

Members must be a property owner according to the deed.

Members can have a vote for each piece of property owned.

Each individual named on a deed has a vote.

Dues are one payment per family.

It was noted that the present by-laws are vague concerning these matters.

Special Presentation

In recognition of our Association's 85th Anniversary, Carolyn Harris talked on the histories of the various families and camps that inhabited Eagle Lake dating back to the 1800's. Much of her talk centered around notes she has compiled over the years and a booklet authored by George Conklin.

Committee Reports Weed and Pollution Control Clarence Watters, Chr.

Activities of this committee consisted of:

Implementation of an expanded water quality testing program on 10/20/92. Tests were performed for five (5) analytics and fecal coliform at five (5) locations. In addition, tests for fecal coliform were performed on five (5) additional locations (suspected hot spots). Results from these tests indicate that the water quality of Eagle Lake is excellent.

The Committee is working towards getting the town(s) to enact a Waste Water Testing Program, for Eagle Lake should such testing become necessary. Petitions to initiate this process are being circulated. All property owners are urged to sign.

A proposal from Steve La Mere to perform water and septic testing was under negotiation, but has been placed on hold until Jim Davis comes up with an alternative plan.

Three (3) milfoil warning buoys were acquired at no cost and were placed on the two large milfoil islands and near the beach. These buoys appear to be effective in helping keep boats clear of these exposed beds.

Tax maps, useful for lake management and weed control permits, have been acquired and aerial photos are being considered to aid in the permit process.

Committee members attended many meetings, seminars and hearings making contacts and presentations and learning what other states and lake associations are doing to combat the hazards of milfoil and Zebra Mussel. These meetings with local and state government officials, realtor associations, the State Executive Office, RPI Fresh Water Insititue, Vermont DEC, Middlebury College and COLAM have served to keep us informed and to promote progress toward control of these hazards at Eagle Lake.

Bill Allen and Clarence Watters prepared recommendations to COLAM for simplifying and improving the New York State Permit Approval Process for Aquatic Weed Control. Implementation will be pursued by COLAM.

A resolution authorizing the Executive Officers and the Weed and Pollution Control Committee to develop and implement an action plan to control Eurasian milfoil in Eagle Lake was passed at the August 29, 1992 meeting of ELPOA.

ELPOA comments, recommendations and individual letters were presented at the DEC August 13, 1992 "Sonar" Registration Hearing.

The Committee recommended not-for-profit incorporation, tax and liability considerations be analyzed by both ELPOA and COLAM.

The Committee requested all state publications relating to lake use, include ethics to follow for reducing the milfoil and Zebra Mussel hazards, as a least cost approach for management of lakes.

Letters were sent to various New York State representatives regarding concerns on the permit process and milfoil and Zebra Mussel control plans.

The placement of milfoil warning signs at the Route 74 bridge is still being pursued.

Based on this committee's evaluation of various tactics, materials and processes, Fluridone (Sonar) holds the most promise of success for milfoil control and eradication.

The DEC has been asked to have Eagle Lake considered as a possible test site for Fluridone should the state decide that actual field testing is desirable.

Many committee members and others were very helpful in making contacts, writing letters and other work to make our efforts on Weed and Pollution Control more effective. As chairperson I appreciate this effort and look forward to even better progress in 1993.

Education

Wendy Davis, Chr.

Well, it's that time of the year again, everyone's battened down their places and left us winterites to survive the Winter and look over things. The Fall colors were gorgeous and it's finally cooled off and taken on an air of Winter.

There are several things to report. The milfoil buoys were taken care of, thanks to Jim Davis and Bill Allen. Also thanks to Rolf Tiedemann and his group for taking down the sign board at the launch area this Fall.

Water testing was done in September by Dill Donnelly and Jim Davis. Results have been received and Clarence Watters will be giving a full report on it.

COLAM has been busy making plans for this winter's work. Bill Allen, presented on behalf of him and Clarence Watters, a proposed draft permit application for milfoil control to go with the statewide weed program proposed by COLAM. It is much simpler, but yet covers necessary information that the state agencies should be covering and collecting for their own files.

Thanks to everyone who wrote letters on the registration of Sonar. I believe that your interest in the quality of Eagle Lake will help not only in the decision on Sonar, but also in the need for a statewide program. As of yet we have not heard as to the decision on Sonar, but COLAM received a copy of a letter from the Health Department addressed to the Bureau of Pesticides supporting COLAM's position, urging DEC to register Sonar with very limited restrictions. COLAM feels this is a big step in the use of Sonar in the near future.

I would also like to thank David and Muriel Warren for their donation to COLAM, and to let you know that you can become a non-voting associate member by sending a \$25.00/year donation to:

COLAM
P.O. Box 143
Ticonderoga, NY 12883

This membership will allow you to receive any mailing done by COLAM including monthly meeting notices and minutes, and any other information put out by COLAM. It's a way of keeping in touch with what we are doing and to voice any suggestions you may have to our representatives Bill Allen, Clarence Watters, and Jim Davis.

A note of interest from Vermont on the weevil. It seems Middlebury College has done enough testing and experiments on the weevil, that they will be introduced to some or all the 36 lakes and ponds containing milfoil in Vermont, next Summer, to eat away at the milfoil. COLAM will be keeping a close eye on their progress and try to learn as much as we can about this weevil and it's prospects in New York waters.

Rolf Tiedemann repaired the ELPOA sign board located at the boat launch. This sign can now be removed for the Winter. Last Winter it was vandalized.

Dianne Tiedemann attended a conference on Zebra Mussel in Rochester, NY in the fall of 1991. Dianne reported the following:

Zebra Mussels are rapidly spreading throughout the State and have been identified as present in Lake Champlain. If introduced into Eagle Lake, Zebra Mussels would have a major impact on water quality, lake recreation, and household lake water usage. Our Association members should become knowledgeable on this potential problem. Literature and a Zebra Mussel "Watch Card" were made available to members at our Annual Meeting.

Attempts are being made to form a "Zebra Watch Committee" to monitor our lake for signs of its presence. Those interested in becoming a member of this committee should contact Dianne. Her address is:

Dianne Tiedemann
358 Electric Ave.
Rochester, NY 14613

Please become involved.

By-Laws

Bill Donnelly, Chr.

The newly updated ELPOA By-Laws, dated 7/29/92, were presented by chairperson, Bill Donnelly.

Following the presentation, there was considerable discussion and suggestions, regarding the need for an expanded definition of membership to possibly include: immediate family members, social members and their dues requirements, voting eligibility and rights, and the use of proxies.

A number of members present favored the formation of a new Executive Committee with expanded responsibilities rather than the present three (3) member Advisory Committee with its limited responsibilities.

Bill requested that members review the new proposed revisions and write him with their suggestions and recommendations so they can be considered for adoption. You can write Bill at the following address:

William Donnelly
Eagle Lake, HC-01 Box 103
Ticonderoga, NY 12883-9410

Membership

Lloyd Burroughs, Chr.

The Committee decided to send letters to those members who are delinquent in the payment of their dues. The Committee is appealing to these members to continue their membership. We need the support of each property owner along Eagle Lake as never before.

Your Association acts as the custodian of the lake. If we, as property owners, don't look after it, who will?

The Milfoil problem is real and it's in our lake now. We may soon be confronted with another problem, the zebra mussel, so we desperately need everyone's support, both financially and talent wise. So please keep your membership current. Pay those dues, it's our only source of funds.

Other Business

The members voted to authorize the President to proceed with incorporating our Association along with the necessary funding. William Kral has agreed to handle the legal aspects to bring about this incorporation.

Members voted to hold the 1993 Annual Meeting at the Chilson Community Center. Details will be provided in late Spring.

Items of Interest

Wendy Davis urges all summer residents, upon returning to Eagle Lake this Summer, to test the 911 emergency number. She reports that there have been problems with the system and your 911 call may not go into the Ticonderoga Emergency Control Center but rather to New York Telephone. If you experience this same problem, call the old emergency number, 585-3456, and inform them that you cannot contact them on the 911 number. The Emergency Control Center will then take your phone number and they will resolve the problem with the telephone company.

The Wiggins Airways helicopter that was observed landing on Eagle Lake on August 8th collected water samples from the lake as part of an ongoing federal water study. Further details of this study will be looked into in the Spring of 1993.

Members who passed on in 1992 were: Francis Lang and Edward Apple. We extend our condolences to their families.

Acknowledgments are in order to the following:

To all Committee Chairpersons and their members for their dedication and the hard work they displayed this past year.

To Lloyd Burroughs for the many letters, reports and other materials used at the Sonar hearing and in support of other activities associated with our Association.

To Wendy and Jim Davis for getting the Chilson Community Center Hall for this meeting.

To Jim Davis for retrieving and storing the 3 buoys for the Winter.

To Dianne Tiedemann for her excellent recordings of the minutes from our two busy meetings. Practically every word said has been compiled.

To Peter and Barbara Buechner and their guests for putting on the picnic (i.e. set-up, food and cooking).

To Clarence Watters for obtaining at no charge the 3 milfoil buoys.

To William Kral for offering to handle our application for incorporation.

Well, that pretty much highlights our Associations' activities for 1992. I hope you've enjoyed the newsletter. Have a safe Winter. See you in the Spring.

Your President,

Bill Allen

P.S. GREAT NEWS!! After the final preparation of this newsletter the NYS DEC officially announced on January 29th that the herbicide Fluridone (Sonar) is now registered for use in NYS!!! Thank you COLAM and the ELPOA membership for all your hardwork and efforts that made this registration possible.

COLAM Seeks Statewide Weed Program

Milfoil tops the list of most wanted felons being hunted by a newly formed coalition of lake associations

by: a joint effort by members of COLAM

Erasion watermilfoil (milfoil) is an aggressive, noxious aquatic weed that is alien to North America. It robs lake users of recreational and scenic enjoyment of lakes and rivers. It displaces wildlife by destroying natural habitats. It destroys entire lake ecosystems. And it pushes property values downward until lakeside homes are virtually unsellable. Because it has no natural predators powerful enough to keep it in check, milfoil raises havoc nearly everywhere it takes root - unless someone intervenes to stop it.

The Coalition of Lakes Against Milfoil (COLAM), a group of lake associations, lake property owners and lake users, is concerned with the spreading despoilment of New York's lakes and waterways by milfoil.

Milfoil is no small problem in New York State. More than 40 of the state's 62 counties are now infested by milfoil, according to information obtained by COLAM. An estimated \$20 million is spent annually on weed control projects paid for by local assistance grants approved by the state legislature. The cost of privately-sponsored control projects is not readily available.

COLAM members see an urgent need for a coordinated plan to deal with the milfoil problem. Specifically COLAM is calling for adoption of a statewide aquatic weed management program. To be drafted by lake representatives themselves, such a program would likely include:

--facilitated funding from state sources for weed control

projects to be designed and implemented locally or regionally;

--simplified permitting for projects to control milfoil and other nuisance weeds;

--expedited approval of new control methods, especially those already approved by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, and including new aquatic herbicides and biological control options.

Statewide Program Needed

"Milfoil is such a huge threat to lake ecosystems and lake economics that it is absolutely critical that New York face up to its responsibility to assist solutions", says COLAM president Wendy Davis. "Creating a coordinated, statewide aquatic weed control program similar to those in place in other states seems the best place to start."

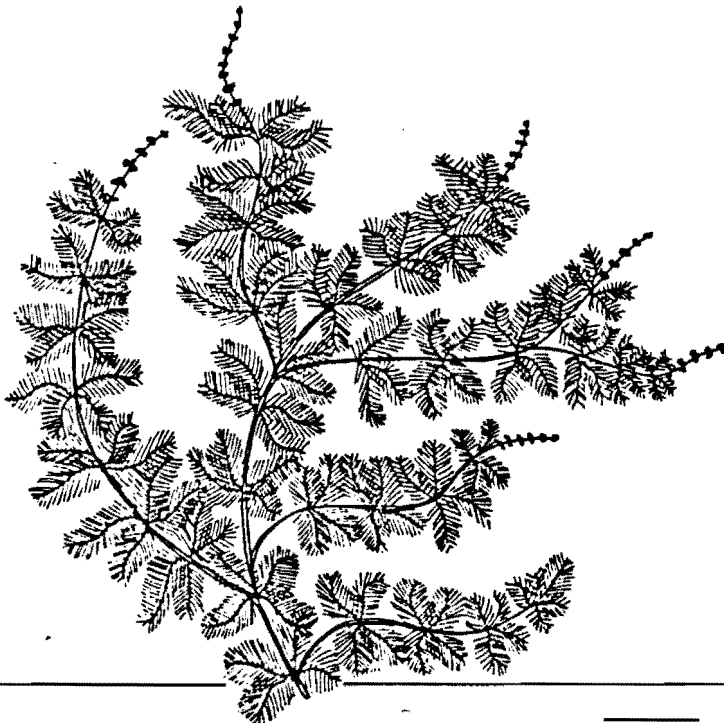
For instance, COLAM members think the state could begin by providing a top-notch clearinghouse for information about aquatic weeds and all possible control techniques. Available resources should include: funding; lists of weed control professionals; managers; scientists; a complete selection of educational materials and publications; and technical assistance should be available upon request.

Funding is Important

"The funding issue is very important but it should not be a stumbling block," Davis says. "We have learned that other states do a lot more with a lot less money than we do here in New York. And we have learned that New York could do a lot more with the money it is presently spending without a well-planned, well-coordinated program. For instance, the state of Florida sponsors a statewide program designed to assist effective action occurring at the local level. The state spends approximately \$10 million on weed control projects coordinated and implemented by the counties. Florida's program effectively managers many more lakes and waterways and much bigger weed problems than New York would ever expect to experience."

Permitting is a Problem

"Another big problem is permitting," Davis said. COLAM has collected information from each of DEC's nine regions and from the Adirondack Park Agency which indicates a total lack of consistency. Some regions require very little information while others require volumes, all for the same type of control. The APA requires so



much information that it is nearly impossible to get a permit before the information is outdated. COLAM recommends that the statewide program include a revised permitting process that is uniform throughout the state. This process must be efficient as well as user-friendly.

"We have also learned that it is good business to protect the value of our lakes from despoliation by milfoil," Davis says. A recent government study undertaken in the Okanagan Lake region in British Columbia, Canada, assessed the economic impact of Eurasian Watermilfoil on the areas \$200 million-a-year tourism economy. The study revealed that the decline of recreational use of lakes contaminated by milfoil is costing the area a staggering \$85 million a year in lost tourism revenues. This does not include the millions of dollars more in devalued property values which have resulted from the milfoil infestation. According to Canadian officials the study convincingly justifies its eight year program to control the weed.

"In New York, as in Canada, the question is not whether we can afford a coordinated, statewide control program," Davis said, "but whether we can afford not to have one."

To get the need for aquatic weed control program across to state officials, COLAM members have already hand-carried facts about milfoil and recommendations for a statewide program to the Governor's office, to legislators serving on the environmental conservation committees on both the Assembly and Senate, and to other appropriate agencies of the state. A similar effort is expected again this session.

COLAM was also successful in getting the NYS Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) to hold public hearings on the advisability of the registration of fluridone (SONAR) for use in New York State. COLAM members testified at the hearings and encouraged written comments from concerned governments, chambers of commerce, business & lake users.

COLAM is now encouraging letters to DEC requesting a decision before January, 1993. They should be addressed to Commissioner Thomas Jorling, Department of Environmental Conservation, 50 Wolf Road, Albany, NY, 12233.

Since passing the Environmental Protection Agency's tests for environmental and human safety in 1986, SONAR has been registered in all mainland states except New York and California. The state of California, however, uses SONAR to combat hydrilla, an invasive weed that threatens agriculture by clogging irrigation ditches, streams and rivers. SONAR has earned a reputation around many experienced aquatic plant managers and lake scientists for eradication or control of Eurasian Milfoil.

COLAM is also keeping an eye on the possibilities of

milfoil eating weevils, caterpillars and moths. At a conference and workshop in Vermont this Spring, COLAM learned that this control option for the future may be a long way off. While hopeful, the research is only in the very early stages and the outcome is still unpredictable.

COLAM is Growing Quickly

Since its formation a year ago, COLAM's membership has grown to include representatives from 24 lake associations located in the Adirondack Region, the Southern Tier/ Finger Lakes area and in the Capital District Region. Lake associations concerned about milfoil are welcome to join and association memberships are available for individual supporters. For additional information please contact: Wendy Davis, COLAM, ~~P.O. Box 70, Lake George, NY, 12845~~ **P.O. Box 143 Ticonderoga, NY 12883**

(Note: The Editorial Committee encourages individuals and groups to submit articles to *Waterworks* but printing these opinions does not necessarily reflect an endorsement by the Federation of Lake Associations)

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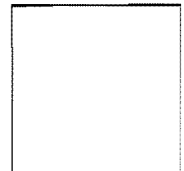
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RE: *Eagle Lake Property Owners' Association*
