

Eagle Lake Properties Owners Inc.



Newsletter May 1996

There is something positive happening on the milfoil front from where it was in the Fall of 1995. New York State now recognizes the need that something has to be done to control the spread of Eurasian Watermilfoil in the lakes of the Adirondacks and throughout the rest of the state. In my opinion, this dramatic change, as it relates to the Adirondacks, came about through the efforts of one Ms. Sandra LeBarron. Sandy was appointed Special Assistant to D.E.C. Commissioner Zagata for the Adirondacks to coordinate the activities of the various state agencies in addressing the concerns and problems of this region. Through COLAM's persistence over the years, the problem of Eurasian Watermilfoil has now been brought to the forefront. The D.E.C. and the A.P.A. are cooperating to focus their attention on this problem. I have attended several meetings where these agencies, along with the Department of State and staff members from Senator Stafford's office, sat down together to develop plans, techniques, and to identify funding sources that address the milfoil problem. To me, it is remarkable how a change in the state administration has changed the attitude of these agencies, from one of "so what" to one of "how can we help."

Highlights of the Annual

Executive Committee Meeting

Held July 7, 1995 at the Chilson Community Center

President Allen reported that expenditures are exceeding revenues and it's time to generate a budget. The cost of the liability insurance and the water testing program is approximately \$1600. These two expenditures alone cannot be sustained by our current dues. Suggestions to address this problem consisted of: review all current expenditures for areas that can be reduced; increase dues; and consider fund raising events. A budget and fund raising committee will be appointed to consider these proposals.

Other business included:

- approval of the expenditure of up to \$500 by the Eurasian Milfoil Sub-committee for the purpose of obtaining professional help in seeking "Tax Exempt Status" from the Internal Revenue Service;
- and, reappointment of Anne Conklin to another one (1) year term as a member of the Executive Committee.

Highlights of the Annual Meeting

Held July 8, 1995 at the Chilson Community Center

Election of Officers for the year 1995-96

President	William Allen
Vice President	John DiPofi
Secretary	Dianne Tiedemann
Treasurer	Peter Buechner
Nominating Committee	Barbara DiPofi, Chr. Forest Lisle Bill Donnelly

Bill Knauss was also elected to fill a vacancy on the Executive Committee.

Treasurer's Report

Balance as of July 2, 1994	\$1875.15
Total Expenses	\$2,132.66*
*includes \$1250 for liability insurance	
Total Income	\$4077.56**
** includes \$3400 solicited for Milfoil Fund	
Balance as of July 8, 1995	\$3,820.05

Contributions

The membership approved contributions of \$50 to each of the following organizations:

- Moses Ludington Hospital Auxiliary
- Chilson Volunteer Fire Department
- Ticonderoga Emergency Squad

Update - The Chilson Volunteer fire Department would like to thank all those who donated to the annual fund raisers. Again they would like to announce the winners from Eagle Lake: Bar-B-Que winners were John Pynn (as you recall he won last year) and Diane Tiedemann; and our Dinner Dance grand prize winner was Ruth Cummings (thank you for your generous donation back to the Fire Dept.).

Committee Reports

WaterLevel - Robert J. Stevens, Chairperson
Bob reported the following:

- The water level for this time of year (July '95) is normal. Gauge at bridge is zero.
- D.E. C. agreed that retaining the water for a short period of time would be no problem in the event that Eagle Lake was treated with sonar. DEC would supervise the work.

Update - Beaver were active at the dam site in the Fall. Two beaver were caught.

Fish Stocking - John DiPofi, Chairperson

- 4320 Brown Trout 9 inches stocked by NYS in 1994
- 2600 Brown Trout stocked by Essex County in 1995
- 4070 Brown Trout 8 1/2 inches stocked by NYS in 1995

Membership - Lloyd Burroughs, Chairperson

Lloyd reported that her committee sent out 69 letters to various foundations requesting applications for funds to support our milfoil control project. Lloyd reported that she received 49 negative or non-responses, 7 outright denials, 5 that haven't been heard from including the one to International Paper.

Update - Lloyd and Wendy Davis have updated the riparian owners list from the tax maps and latest assessment rolls. This update was completed in December, 1995.

Update - Tax Exempt Status:

The application accompanied by other documents were filed with the I.R.S. on January 16, 1996. These

documents were returned on February 7, 1996 for lack of the New York State Department, Division of Corporation Seal on the Certificate of Incorporation document. Attorney Roger Wicks provided a copy of the File Receipt which contained the required seal. All documents were resubmitted to the I.R.S. on February 23, 1996. The I.R.S. stated that processing our application could take up to 100 days.

Received letter from the I.R.S. on 4/03/96 stating:

1. Our organization does not qualify under 1024 application, need to file 1023.
2. Certificate of incorporation needs to be amended to reference 501C-03 instead of 501C-06. Also an amended copy of the File Receipt will be required.
3. The name of the organization on the By-Laws must be identical to that recorded on the Certificate of Incorporation. Presently, the word "Incorporated" is abbreviated (Inc.) on the Certificate of Incorporation and is spelled out completely on the By-Laws. If the word "Incorporated" is abbreviated one document, then it must be abbreviated on all documents submitted. These changes must be made and documents resubmitted to the I.R.S. by May 1, 1996. In speaking to the agent handling our application, I have reason to believe our request will be granted.

Weed and Pollution Control - R. Tiedemann and J. Davis, Co-chairpersons

Jim and Rolf reported the following:

- The water quality of Eagle Lake continues to be very good.
- "Dye tablets" are now available from Jim Davis to those who wish to check their individual septic systems. All property owners are encouraged to do so.
- The R.P.I. Freshwater Institute recommends testing to monitor road run-off from Route 74.
- Our association is still waiting to receive the requested "Chevron and Hamlet" signs.

Update - The Weed and Pollution Control Committee would like to thank Paul Burroughs for taking the Fall water test samples. We plan to take another set of samples as soon as possible after the ice goes out. Our testing so far has shown no appreciable change in water quality from prior years.

- We are looking for more volunteers to expand our testing and monitoring program. With the Sonar project mentioned in this newsletter, we will need a lot of help to monitor the lake before, during and after the Sonar treatment. We will also have to have a "milfoil watch" team to detect any reoccurrence.

- NYS Sea Grant held a conference on zebra mussels in three locations last winter. We found out that Eagle Lake will support zebra mussels. There is no way to keep

them out except to educate all lake users to the precautions necessary. If they colonize the lake, there is no way to control them. However, there are simple ways to deal with water intake and boat motor problems caused by them. Contact the education committee for more information.

Education - Wendy Davis, Chairperson

Wendy reported the following:

- Members need to be alert for the presence of zebra mussel. She urged members to check their water intakes and outboard motors for evidence of zebra mussels and report their presence to her.
- A new July 1, 1995 regulation requires life jackets be worn by all individuals in all sizes of water crafts. Boat cushions are no longer considered life saving devices and cannot be claimed as such in lieu of a life jacket.
- Eagle Lake now has a resident NYS DEC officer / game warden. His name is Steven Stubbing and he can be reached at 518-585-3280. Mr. Stubbing has been observed on the lake enforcing the fishing and boating laws of New York State. When you are out on the lake, be sure you are in compliance with the fishing and boating regulations.

COLAM

COLAM / NYS DEC Work Together to Do Sonar Demonstration - Update by Wendy Davis, President

The Coalition of Lakes Against Milfoil (COLAM) and New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (NYS DEC) have joined forces to combat Eurasian Watermilfoil in two New York State lakes. Eagle Lake (Yes, our lake) has been chosen to do a whole lake treatment and Lake George has been chosen to do spot treatments on five sites. The treatments will help to demonstrate the various uses of the product Sonar and its effectiveness against milfoil, while leaving native vegetation with little, if any, effect.

The project was first initiated by COLAM after unsuccessful tries at doing a legislative bill proposing a statewide aquatic plant management program. The idea to work with the government agencies was a monumental proposition by Senator Ron Stafford's office. With the changing of government attitudes since the new governorship, progress has been extremely fast. Having all types of agencies sitting around the table actually working with each other has been unbelievable. The Adirondack Park Agency, various DEC agencies, the Department of State, Senator Stafford's office, local governments, lake association and homeowners all working together. (Amazing, isn't it.)

COLAM and DEC continue to push for funding of this project. Two sources of funds have the best chance of being there, from the Department of State and Senator Ron Stafford. The grant applications are at present being drafted and proposed to the respective parties.

So what does this mean for Eagle Lake homeowners? Well, in the Spring of 1997, provided everything falls into place, a whole lake treatment of Sonar will happen. Much has to be done between now and then but things really look promising for this lake.

As time goes on, letters will be sent out asking for your permission to do such a treatment. At that time, if you have questions or concerns please respond in a timely manner.

A lot of work by many people has enabled the Lake to be considered for this project. Because of the work already done and the initiative of the lake association, we were high on the list of proposed sites.

I would like to take this moment to thank Bill and Ruby Allen for all the time they have put into this project. Bill has always been there, either in person or with the information that was needed. He will be sadly missed and I would like to propose that he consider staying on as "Project Sonar" chairperson. I can't imagine not having him part of the final stretch. Bill, will you please consider this?

Old Business

By-Laws - Attorney Roger Wicks offered to provide the Executive Committee with a draft copy of the by-laws that would serve as a starting point for revising the current by-laws to make them more compatible with our status as a corporation. Mr. Wicks' offer was accepted and a three person committee was appointed to assist Mr. Wicks. Those appointed were Bill Allen, Dianne Tiedemann, and Bill Knauss. This committee was later expanded to include John DiPofi and Jim Davis. Once these by-laws are drafted they will be presented to the Executive Committee for their approval. Following the Executive Committee, they will then be presented to the membership for their approval.

- To move this process along, the membership voted to hold a special meeting on August 26, 1995 to be held at 10:00 AM in the Chilson Community Center. The purpose of this special meeting is to adopt new by-laws and consider any other business that may be submitted to the secretary in writing by August 12, 1995.

New Business

- Attorney Roger Wicks was appointed Attorney to the Eagle Lake Properties Owners Inc.
- The membership voted to participate in the "Adopt-A-Highway" program. This program is promoted by the Department of Transportation of the State of New York to encourage citizens to maintain sections of state highways free of trash. Our association will maintain that section of Route 74 running along Eagle Lake. Paul Burroughs volunteered to chair this project. Our members are urged to support this worthwhile project.
- The membership approved the renewal of the directors / officers, errors and omissions liability insurance. Note: The premium for this policy is the same as in 1995 - \$1250.00.
- The membership approved the purchase of a video tape on Eurasian Watermilfoil at a cost of \$10.00. The tape was produced by COLAM and features Eagle Lake and Wendy Davis. The tape is well done and should be seen by our members.

Highlights of the Executive Committee Meeting

Held August 12, 1995 at 10:00 AM at Lloyd Burrough's residence

- The main purpose of this meeting was to consider the revised by-laws drafted by the five member committee headed by Bill Knauss and to consider other matters that may be brought before the Committee.
- Bill Knauss presented the by-laws section by section. Numerous questions were asked and considerable discussion centered on membership, eligibility to hold office, and voting rights. Several amendments were approved and the by-laws were adopted. The only other business considered at this meeting was selection of option #1 on IRS form 8718 that had to do with projected revenues over the next four years.

Highlights of the Membership Meeting

of August 26, 1995

The purpose of this meeting was to:

- Review, amend if needed and formally adopt the ELPOI By-Laws;
- Consider raising the annual dues.

The major changes in the proposed new By-Laws consist of the following:

- The current thirteen (13) member Executive Committee would become a seven (7) member Board of Directors. The day to day operations of our corporation will be controlled by the Board of Directors.
- Each parcel of property fronting, having a right of way to or abutting land fronting on Eagle Lake shall be entitled to one membership in the corporation.
- Any record owner of more than one parcel of property shall have only one membership in the corporation.
- Any person not a voting member may become an associate member by paying the required dues. Associate members may hold any office or position except being a member of the Board of Directors. However, if an associate member is elected President, they automatically become a member of the Board of Directors by virtue of that office.
- One amendment to the proposed By-Laws was adopted. This amendment allows a special meeting to be called upon a petition of five (5) members. Prior to this amendment, only the Board of Directors could call a special meeting of the membership.

The members present at this meeting approved raising the dues to \$25.00 for both a voting member and associate member.

Closing Thoughts from Your President

I would like to take this opportunity to express my sincere thanks to all the committee chairpersons and their committee members who have served with me over these last seven (7) years. Their time, efforts and dedication have been an inspiration to me.

Special thanks are in order to Wendy and Jim Davis, Lloyd Burroughs, and Dianne and Rolf Tiedemann. These people have been the driving force that has kept our focus on seeking a solution to the milfoil problem. They have endured years of state bureaucratic maze, resulting in continual frustration but their persistence and dedication is at last showing signs of being rewarded.

I wouldn't want to have to pay Wendy back pay for all the hours she has put forth on the milfoil project. If we did we would have to apply for a bank loan. Our entire membership owes those mentioned above our sincere appreciation.

Bill Allen

Members Who Have Passed Since the 1995 Annual Meeting

Marion Wicks - a long time resident of Eagle Lake.

The husband of social member Cindy Morrison, on February 23rd, 1996

We extend our condolences to their families.

Acknowledgements Are in Order to the Following:

- To Attorney Roger Wicks for his work and efforts on behalf of the ELPOI and for his gracious declining of compensation for his time.
- To Ruth Cummings for acting as Interim Secretary at the August 25, 1995 Special Membership Meeting.
- To Caroline Harris for her many years of service as Chairperson of the Nominating Committee, who stepped down from her position this past year.
- To Bill Donnelly and Joan Miller at Century 21 for their photocopying services.
- To Joan Miller at Century 21 for providing the ELPOI the opportunity to use the Century 21 Real Estate site for its yard sale.
- To Bill Donnelly and his Yard Sale Committee for their successful yard sale, and to all those individuals who donated items to it. \$600.00 was realized from this sale.
- To Scott and Julianne Davis for their successful Bake Sale fund raiser and to all the individuals who donated their baked goods. \$100.00 was realized from the sale.
- To Marilyn Emerich for her donation of 500 mailing envelopes.
- To Caroline Baldwin for composing this edition of the ELPOI Newsletter.
- To Jamie Stevens for her preliminary work that got the grant application process started.
- To Lloyd Burroughs and Wendy Davis for all their work on grant application request and submissions.
- To James Sutherland of DEC Lake Services section, for his friendship and interest in helping Eagle Lake solve the milfoil problem. Jim is Co-chairperson of the Sonar Demonstration Project and a member of the Eagle Lake Workgroup, same project. Jim has developed the plans and budgets for this project. He is also assisting our lake in filing the grant and treatment applications to the State and A.P.A.

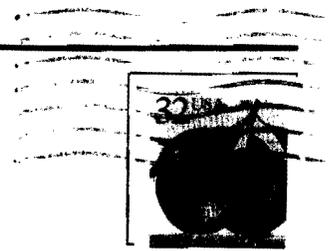
Announcements

- After seven years of service to the ELPOI, President Bill Allen and Secretary Dianne Tiedemann will be stepping down from their respective positions at the next Annual Membership Meeting (7/13/96). The current Vice-President, John DiPofi, will be stepping up to the position of President at that time. Anyone who is interested in filling the position of either Vice President or Secretary is encouraged to contact Nominating Committee Chairperson Barbara DiPofi at 518-273-4105.
- The next Annual Executive Committee Meeting will be held Friday, July 12th, 1996 at the Chilson Community Center at 7:30 PM.
- The next Annual Membership Meeting and Picnic will be held Saturday, July 13th, 1996 at the Chilson Community Center. The Business Meeting is scheduled to start at 10:00 AM with the picnic following at 12:00 noon.
- Anyone who is interested in participating / enrolling in the NYS Safe Boaters Course, offered by the Route 74 Association, can contact Robert W. Claus at 518-532-7240. Participants must be 10 years or older. The course is tentatively scheduled for July 1996.
- Congratulations to Roger Wicks on being appointed Washington County Attorney.
- Some members have been receiving delayed mailings during the summer due to "inactive" summer postal addresses that are currently listed in our membership roster. If you will not be activating your Eagle Lake postal address please let either Membership Chairperson Lloyd Burroughs or Secretary Dianne Tiedemann know prior to June 1st so that we can make the necessary changes to our listing.

Respectfully submitted,

Dianne Tiedemann
ELPOI Secretary

Dianne Tiedemann
E.L.P.O.I. Secretary
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RE: *Eagle Lake Properties Owners Incorporated*

