

Eagle Lake Properties Owners, Inc.

Officers '98 - '99

President - John DiPofi
Vice President - Lloyd Burroughs
Secretary -
Treasurer - Peter Beuchner

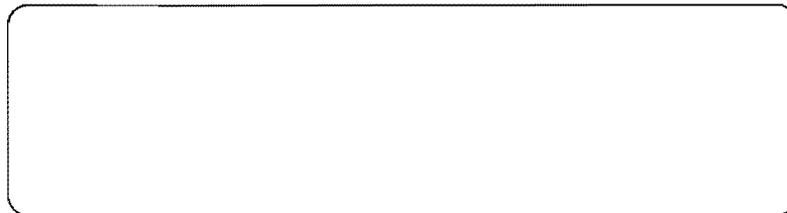
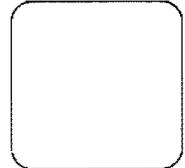
Board of Directors '98 - '99

Roger Wickes - Chairperson
Bill Allen
Jim Davis
Jim Deem
Bill Knauss
Rolf Tiedemann

Established in 1907 and incorporated in 1993, the ELPOI is a not-for-profit organization that serves to protect the mutual interests of its property owners and to maintain the environmental and recreational quality of Eagle Lake.

The ELPOI newsletter is published once every Spring to establish and maintain communications with the membership. It is authored by Caroline Baldwin and Rolf Tiedemann and edited by Wendy Davis, Dianne Tiedemann and the ELPOI Board of Directors. Address questions and comments to ELPOI Vice President Lloyd Burroughs, Eagle Lake, HC-01 Box 126, Ticonderoga, New York 12883-9410.

Lloyd Burroughs
ELPOI Vice President
Eagle Lake
HC-01 Box 126
Ticonderoga, NY 12883-9410



Eagle Lake Properties Owners, Inc.



Newsletter

March 1999

Officers;

President - John DiPofi
Vice President - Lloyd Burroughs
Secretary - Unfilled
Treasurer - Peter Buechner

Board of Directors;

Roger Wickes - Chairman
Bill Allen
Jim Davis

Jim Deem
Bill Knauss
Rolf Tiedemann

Greetings one and all! This letter summarizes the highlights of the July 1997 and 1998 ELPOI Annual Membership Meetings as well as the two Board of Directors Meetings that took place in August 1998. It also includes brief updates on the work that has been done since last summer.

As you know the goal of the ELPOI has been to treat the Milfoil in the lake this Spring with the herbicide Sonar as part of the Sonar Pilot Project. To get an idea of where we stand on the status of the Sonar Pilot Project, the ELPOI Board Members invited Dr. Jim Sutherland from the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (NYS DEC) to their August 15, 1998 meeting. Dr. Sutherland spent several hours updating the board members on where the DEC was in the Pilot Project process. He was very positive about the project and has assured us that it is still a go. Funding however just has not materialized from the State as originally promised. Dr. Sutherland recommends a letter-writing campaign from Eagle Lake members to those in state government who might be persuaded to go to bat for us. He recommends sending letters to:

Commissioner John Cahill
NYS DEC
50 Wolf Road
Albany, NY 12233-1010

Senator Ronald B. Stafford
Room 502
The Capital
Albany, NY 12247

Assemblywoman
Elizabeth O'C. Little
Room 324
Legislative Office Building
Albany, NY 12248

Please take a few minutes to send a letter to the above individuals. Thank them for their previous help and ask them to renew their efforts on behalf of Eagle Lake in seeing the Sonar Pilot Project go forward and come to a completion. Ask them for their help in obtaining the necessary funding to treat the lake with Sonar. Let them know that many of our members have pledged their own money to help this project go forward. Ask them to help eradicate our Milfoil problem! Please send copies of all written letter to ELPOI Vice President Lloyd Burroughs at Eagle Lake, HC-01 Box 126, Ticonderoga, NY 12883-9410. They will be useful during the Pilot Project permit process.

Over the next couple of weeks you will be receiving several mailings highlighting additional important information. Be sure to look for them.

Many thanks to those 29 people / families who responded by pledging monetary support for the Milfoil eradication project. We need others to join the effort. The dollar amount of your support is important in making the project a reality. Also, the actual number of individuals willing to pledge monetary support represents an important indication to New York State of our interest and support for this project. Enclosed with this newsletter is a special letter to you from your Board of Directors. Please consider this very important issue and respond by completing the tear-off form at the end of the letter. Return it with your Federal and NY State tax deductible pledge. The Officers and Board of Directors thank you for completing this task.

The 1999 Annual Meeting and picnic is Saturday, July 10 at the Chilson Community Center. Please plan on it! Several important votes will be taken by the membership on this day as well.

Highlights of the Annual Meeting

July 12, 1997 at the Chilson Community Center

COLAM Update

- Wendy Davis announced she will be leaving the office of president of COLAM in August, 1997 and provided an overview on the group's recent activities.
- Ms. Davis as a member of COLAM provided a summary of the proposed Sonar Pilot Project. All of Eagle Lake and part of Lake George were chosen as demonstration / pilot sites for Sonar. The treatment has been postponed because funding delays prevented timely contracting and timely application. Sonar must be applied after the ice goes out and when the Milfoil is actively growing. Ice-out occurred on April 17, 1997. Forrest Lisle urged that the Sonar treatment be applied as early as possible as many lake residents depend on the lake for water.

Education

- Ms. Davis reported: the recycling station in Ti now accepts colored glass; that she had obtained for us brochures on a range of subjects including jet skis, zebra mussels, etc.; the Town of Ticonderoga has imposed a 10:00 PM curfew for those age 18 and under and this applies to the Eagle Lake area.

Weed and Pollution Control Committee

- Lake water quality report from Jim Davis and Rolf Tiedemann indicated bacterial levels are well below the accepted limit. Jim Davis and Paul Burroughs have been taking water temperature and monitoring dissolved oxygen levels as well as sechi disk depth readings. Results show the lake can support fish colonies. Lake clarity is good. The Fresh Water Institute recommends continued monitoring of the lake.

Department of State Grant

- A Water Front Revitalization Grant of \$15,000 was awarded by the Department of State to support the Pilot Project. In order to receive the money ELPOI, the Town of TI and

International Paper have agreed to donate \$7,500 worth of services in time and labor. These services will be used to monitor the source of storm water run off (aka) non point pollution and on-site-waste water treatment. These 2 aspects are a required part of the Pilot Project.

Water level

- Water level is +2 as of July 11, 1997 with "all boards in." The boards were put in in early May.

Historical Records

The organization's historical records are almost completed and will soon be available for review. The \$100 allocated last year for preservation of the records has not been spent as of this date.

DEC Officer / Game Warden

- It was reported that Eagle Lake 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 regulations. (3/99 update: Mr. Stubbing has been transferred, we will miss him.)

Highlights of the Annual Meeting

July 11, 1998 at the Chilson Community Center

Officers Elected for the year '98-'99

President	John DiPofi
Vice President	Lloyd Burroughs
Secretary	unfilled
Treasurer	Peter Buechner

Board of Directors

Roger Wickes was reelected to another 3 year term and agreed to continue serving as Chairman. Rolf Tiedemann was elected to replace Bill Donnelly who completed a 2 year term. Thanks Bill. Continuing Board Members include Bill Allen, Jim Deem, Jim Davis and Bill Knauss.

Treasurer's Report 7/1/97-6/30/98

Total Expenses	\$1,514.78
Total Income	\$1,592.95
Balance 6/30/98	\$3,607.15

The report indicated ELPOI's usual charitable contributions were not made. Also, COLAM dues may be overdue. The meeting voted to direct the Treasurer to review and pay any outstanding dues, memberships, and regular annual contributions. (3/99 update: All outstanding dues etc. are paid.)

Secretary's Report

Sharon Zankel, reported that following the August 30, 1997 Board of Directors' meeting, she mailed 105 solicitations for pledges to support the riddance of Milfoil, and prepared an annual report on January 11, 1998 to assist a grant application. John DiPofi interjected that 29 positive responses to the solicitation for pledges had been received and amounted to approximately \$14,000 in pledges to support the eradication of Milfoil.

Weed and Pollution Control Committee

Jim Davis reported that buoys marking Milfoil concentrations were in by Memorial Day and signs about Milfoil, etc. were posted at the boat launch. Water testing shows Eagle Lake water has excellent quality. The \$7500 grant from the NY Department of State was lost because "time ran out." (3/99 update: The grant was not lost, an application for time extension has been filed and can be applied for again.) This grant requires an equal match from ELPOI, in either money or services, which are to be met by a septic system survey / evaluation and a survey of storm water run off into the lake. The septic survey received a response from about one-third of the property owners. (3/99 update: Work will continue in the Summer of '99, more information forthcoming shortly.)

Water Level Committee

Boards were put in the dam during the first week of May. The lake level has been unusually high: +21 inches on 6/27/98; +13 inches on 7/4/98; +7.5 inches on 7/11/98. This is due to the unusually wet Spring. Considerable discussion ensued about the dam and the water level of the lake. A check of the

ELPOI constitution and minutes from previous meetings did not reveal an adopted resolution stating a desired water level at the dam. (3/99 update: A check of the Annual Resolutions of the Board of Directors shows that they contain the previously voted upon lake level, it reads -2 to +1) John DiPofi indicated that the State recommends the water level be maintained at -4 to +4. Bill Donnelly said the target is "always zero" and indicated maintenance of a given water level is hampered by the design of the dam and the presence of beaver. A motion was carried that the water level be maintained between -1 and +2.

Fish Stocking Committee

DEC stocked Eagle Lake with 4,370 nine inch brown trout, 3,000 one-year-old trout and 400 two-year-old trout. Joe Muehleck said, "the fishing is good but catching them may be something else!"

Membership Committee

Lloyd Burroughs reported that there are about 110 properties associated with the lake, involving 70-80 families. All are eligible to join ELPOI but only 52 paid dues last year (47 paid dues prior to Labor Day, a follow-up reminder letter produced five additional memberships). Paid memberships numbered fewer last year than in previous years.

Adopt-a-Highway Program

This active program is carried out by the Donnelly and Burroughs families. Everyone along Route 74 is asked to periodically pickup roadside litter near their properties. Anyone completing the formal training (contact Paul Burroughs at 585-7277) qualifies for a state-issued yellow hat. The Burroughs family volunteered to dispose of any trash picked up in connection with this program.

Education Committee

At this time, there was no committee chair and no activity to report.

Old Business

- Route 74 Association, suffering from declining participation by both Eagle Lake and Paradox Lake residents, has been reorganized

as the Paradox Lake Association.

- Ruth Cummings reported a contact at NYS Dept. of Transportation indicated no major road work is planned on Rt. 74 until 2004 when the road may be resurfaced and shoulders widened.

New Business

- The membership voted to sponsor a replacement beach sign, highlighting boating regulations and a Milfoil warning. Rolf Tiedemann volunteered to build the sign.
- Due to some problems on the State beach the membership requested Barbara DiPofi send a letter to the State about these conditions: e.g. trash, unleashed dogs.
- Treatment of the lake with the herbicide Sonar to eradicate Milfoil was discussed at considerable length. The membership voted to "...continue to pursue the treatment of the lake for Milfoil..." and asked the ELPOI Board of Directors to handle the issue. Eagle Lake's selection as a pilot program for Sonar treatment of Milfoil provides significant cost savings. Eagle Lake requires 65 gallons of Sonar, which costs \$1700 per gallon; another \$15,000 is needed to hire a certified applicator. SePRO, the vendor for Sonar, offered to donate 25% (up to \$20,000) of the cost of the product to the pilot project. (3/99 update: The donation offer is currently in limbo, SePRO may however be in a position to renew the offer as we get closer to actual application.) Timing of the Sonar application (early Spring) is key to protection of lake vegetation.

• A "moment of silence" was offered in memory of Eagle Lake friends *Edward Archbald, Tammy Lazzaro, Gladys Lodge, Elizabeth Massett, Jack Riley.*

Highlights of the Board of Directors Meeting

August 15, 1998

At the July 1998 Annual Meeting the membership voted to turn responsibility for the Milfoil project over to the Board of Directors. The Board of Directors invited Dr. Jim

Sutherland of the Department of Environmental Conservation to this meeting so that the Board members could be brought up to speed on their new responsibilities. Jim outlined the history of the Sonar Pilot Project and the three phases that the project will be completed in. The first phase is the permit application process, the second phase includes the actual treatment of the lake with Sonar, and the third phase is the follow up monitoring.

- **PHASE I Application** Jim stated that this part of the project involved Eagle Lake, COLAM, the DEC and others getting the product Sonar registered for use in NYS (completed 2/9/93). Helping with the completion of the Generic Environmental Impact Study (GEIS) (completed 1/25/95) and the helping with the preparation of the site specific (Eagle Lake) Environmental Impact Study (completed 3/31/99). In addition this phase includes the permit applications to the DEC and the APA for the treatment of the lake with Sonar. (3/99 update: Jim will be starting the permit application as of the first of April) Money was given to Eagle Lake by Senator Stafford as well as the Department of State in the Water Front Revitalization Grant. This money was used to off set the cost of various parts of this process. Jim told us that all of our previous years of compiling data and studying Milfoil on Eagle Lake had established the documentation necessary to complete the application phase.

PHASE II Treatment Jim stated that this phase involves the actual treatment of the lake with Sonar. He continued that his office has been in contact with SePRO, the supplier of Sonar, and an applicator that will apply the Sonar. Jim updated us on the offer by SePRO to donate some of the product to us for use in the Pilot Project on Eagle Lake. (3/99 update: The status of the donation is currently in limbo but recent contact with SePRO indicates that they may renew the offer as we get closer to actual application.) Jim indicated that even with the donated product the cost of the lake treatment would be about \$108,000.00. This amount includes the costs of product, application, and monitoring. Jim feels that as the project gets going that the funding money will be available, most likely from the State. Jim told us that some Federal funding is available, but it's not as easy to access. Jim felt that the members of

our Association could have a major impact on the funding by completing the follow actions.

Action needed: Jim stated that members need to keep people focused on this project, you need to keep the momentum up, you need to tell your Board of Directors in writing and with pledges that you support their efforts to use Sonar to treat the Milfoil. You need to write to the DEC, your Senators, Assembly Person, the Governor and local legislators and tell them that you want them to join with the members of Eagle Lake in raising the required funds to fight Milfoil in Eagle Lake.

Jim asked us to tell the membership to send copies of all correspondence to the Board so that the information could be used as additional leverage in the permit and funding process. See Newsletter cover page for addresses.

PHASE III *Monitoring* Jim indicated to us that between his office at the DEC and with the efforts of SePRO monitoring after the treatment would be completed. Along with this monitoring Jim suggested that we continue our efforts to complete the septic dye testing. He also suggested that we join the DEC's Citizens State Wide Lake Assessment Program (CSLAP). CSLAP trains people from lake groups to monitor water quality by collecting samples and information from May-Sept.. Samples sent to NYS DEC are analyzed, creating long-term informational databases. After five years the DEC reports on the information. This is a free program for which volunteers are given training and equipment (bottles, manuals, etc.). (3/99 update: We are 2nd on the waiting list for this program)

Highlights of the Board of Directors Meeting

August 22, 1998

- Discussed the windstorm on August 24th which knocked down trees and caused power loss to all but a very few on the south side of the lake.
- Discussed whether 911 numbers were working on the north side of the lake due to party line nature of some of the phones there.

- Milfoil was discussed. NYS DEC was on the Lake on August 28th looking for Milfoil patches as they do annually. The Board of Directors will continue work on pushing along the Milfoil treatment project. Lloyd Burroughs and Wendy Davis, sub-committee members for the Eagle Lake Pilot Project, continue as contact persons with Dr. Sutherland of the DEC.

- Discussed sources for non potable water during the sonar treatment time. Jim Davis stated that the ELPOI could ask the Chilson Fire Dept. if they would be willing to bring around non potable water after treatment during the time of lake water use restrictions. Jim mentioned that storage containers would be the property owners responsibility.

- Discussed the need for water control at the dam for 30 or so days after treatment. The control of the water during this time will be the responsibility of those managing the pilot project, most likely the DEC.

- Discussed the testing of Eagle Lake property owners' on site-waste water treatment systems with dye. Dye testing is a required part of in-kind-services for receiving the Department of State Water Front Revitalization Grant. The Grant is covering some of the costs incurred with the permit and application process for Sonar. To date about 1/3 of the property owners have returned their surveys. Rolf Tiedemann and Jim Davis will be contacting the remaining members again about their survey's. Wayne Wagner, Town of Ticonderoga Code Officer, will assist with the testing and survey data collection. His assistance is also part of the Grant.

- Discussed the dollar value of the Milfoil fund pledges. The Board was pleased that the members pledges totaled \$14,400.00 from 29 responses. The Board decided to send out the pledge letter again this time stating specifically that pledges and contributions to ELPOI are NY State and Federal tax deductible. The hope is that we can increase the number of people pledging their support to the Milfoil project to over 75%. Dr. Sutherland, DEC, in his previous meeting with us stated that the more unanimous the membership support for the pilot project the more likely the State will try to find funding, Actual dollar value amount is not as important as you returning the pledge letter

with your support.

- Discussed the treasurers expenses and agreed to keep dues at \$25.00 for the next year. This covers operating expenses. Heard that all current obligations have been paid since the annual meeting. Reapproved the value for the contingency fund of \$500.00. Heard that the money given to the ELPOI for legal defense as it pursued the use of Sonar is still in tact in a Certificate of Deposit CD account.
- Completed Annual Resolution business to give the Officers and Committees the same responsibilities as in the past.
- Discussed the need for an Education committee. There is currently no one completing the duties for this. Anyone interested should contact Vice President, Lloyd Burroughs. The Education Committee in the past covered boating safety, visitors to the lake, general quality of life on the lake, Milfoil, new families etc..
- Heard that there are 107 properties on the lake, owned by 70 - 80 families, of whom 52 have paid dues in 1998 (65 paid dues in 1996). As far as the State is concerned, ELPOI Association represents the majority of Eagle Lake property owners.
- Discussed the lake level and again restated the need for constant monitoring and the patients of the membership in keeping it in the -/+ range during times of heavy rain or drought. Agreed that the level is decided by the majority of people and is measured on the gauge by the bridge. As of the vote on 7/11/98 at the Annual Meeting a level of between -1 and +2 was to be the target.
- Heard that this past years lake water testing for 4 or 5 Chemical tests cost \$150.00. Tests were conducted for fecal coliform, nitrate, phosphate, pH and chloride.
- Discussed traffic along Rt. 74 and the need for increased police patrols. Authorized Dianne Tiedemann to draft letters to: the NYS Troopers asking them to patrol more often, and to IP and Walmart asking them to remind their drivers that during the summer months they need to pay particular attention due to the increased seasonal traffic.

Reminders and General Interest

- Boat safety and swimming safety are very important. All boaters are reminded to check the safe boater guides and keep a good distance from swimmers and Milfoil beds. Remember NYS recently changed the law about personal flotation devices and now requires one for each person in the boat.
- A recent newcomer to Eagle Lake, Sharon Zankel, has expressed an interest in compiling a pictorial history of the lake and its residents. She has just authored a pictorial history about her hometown of Brunswick, New York - where she serves as Town Historian. Ms. Zankel has experience in recording and writing local history. She also has the ability and equipment to reproduce photographs and is willing to donate this service to ELPOI so that our organization may publish old photographs in a newsletter or, perhaps, down the road, a book! Please call her at (518) 279-9714 or e-mail at SZANKEL@aol.com, if you have information, photographs, or ideas to share.
- Ms. Zankel also suggests, if ELPOI does have to raise money to support the Milfoil problem, that WALMART be approached about matching funds. WALMART here in Brunswick has given several hundred thousand dollars to the Town and not-for-profits over the last three years. Is there anyone willing to approach them? Contact VP Lloyd Burroughs and she will pass the information to the Board.
- The Culley's have sold their place on Eagle Lake but expect to be back at Putts Pond next year. The association wishes them well and will miss them.
- Members may receive 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 contact Membership Chairperson Lloyd Burroughs.
- The ELPOI Members would like to thank DEC Director Dr. Jim Sutherland, Town Supervisors Dale French and Mike Connery, SePRO's Bo Burns and Ti Code Enforcement Officer Wayne Wagner, as well as many others for all the time and effort they have given for continuing to help edge the milfoil project closer to completion.

March 1999

Important Follow-up Pledge Request

Dear Eagle Lake Property Owner,

This letter is to update you on the project to eliminate Eurasian Water Milfoil from Eagle lake. A year ago we wrote to ask you to consider making a pledge of \$500, if needed, for this project. To all of you who made such a pledge we offer our deep appreciation. We will let you know if and when this money will be needed.

We understand that not everyone was in a position to make such a pledge. If any of you can now pledge any amount or increase your original one we thank you in advance. WE HAVE NOW DETERMINED THAT THESE PLEDGES, ONCE THEY BECOME CONTRIBUTIONS, QUALIFY FOR FEDERAL AND STATE INCOME TAX EXEMPTIONS. (Good news for all!)

Vast research has been done during the past ten years on how to deal with the intrusion of the exotic plant Eurasian Water Milfoil. The ecological balance of Eagle Lake is being rapidly upset by Milfoil which is steadily crowding out native water plants with the resultant loss of natural habitat for marine animals.

After long and thorough investigation the Board of Directors determined that treating Eagle Lake with the herbicide Sonar is the most effective way to deal with this menace in terms of cost effectiveness while best protecting and preserving the native plants and animals.

We are pleased to tell you that the Milfoil eradication project is now moving forward. Jim Sutherland of the DEC recently spent several hours meeting with our Board of Directors right here at Eagle Lake. He assured us that eradicating Milfoil in Eagle Lake has a high priority and that the State is targeting treating the Lake in the Spring of 1999. Some contracts have already been let!

While the Eagle Lake Properties Owners, Inc. welcomes all to membership, membership is not a requirement to participate in this project. All pledges are tax deductible when paid, as mentioned above, but no payment is necessary at this time but the Board of Directors would be appreciative of your support given by reaffirmation or a new pledge. All pledges are confidential and

names and amounts are known only to the President of the Association.

The State takes a good hard look at not only the total amount pledged but more importantly at the number of people pledging. The State is very aware that we property owners cannot possibly come up with the approximately \$100,000 needed to do this project.

If you are employed and your employer has a matching funds program, your pledge will go even further. Please fill in the appropriate blanks on the form below and detach it and mail it to Mr. John DePofi, 823 Fourth Avenue, Watervliet, NY 12189-3609.

Cordially,
Eagle Lake Properties Owners, Inc. Board of Directors

Roger Wickes, Chairman
William Allen
James Davis
James Dean
John DiPofi, President ELPOI
William Knauss
Rolf Tiedeman

EAGLE LAKE PROPERTIES OWNERS, INC.

John DiPofi, President
823 Fourth Avenue
Watervliet, NY 12189-3609

_____ I/We confirm my/our original pledge of \$ _____

_____ I/We pledge \$ _____

_____ I/We increase my/our pledge to \$ _____

My matching fund employer is _____
(Match is usually 1 to 1, 1 to 2, 1 to 3)

_____ No, I/we are sorry I/we cannot help