# Eagle Lake Properties Owners, Inc.

Officers '99 - '00
President - Rolf Tiedemann
Vice President - Lloyd Burroughs
Recording Secretary - Sharon Zankel
Corresponding Secretary - Sue Barwig
Treasurer - Peter Beuchner

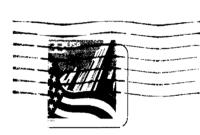
Board of Directors '99 - '00
Rolf Tiedemann - Chairperson
Bill Allen
Jim Davis
Rinaldo Fraiz
Cole Hickland
Bill Knauss
Roger Wickes

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 letter is a publication used to communicate with the ELPOI membership. It is co-authored by Caroline Baldwin and Rolf Tiedemann and edited by Dianne Tiedemann, Wendy Davis, 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

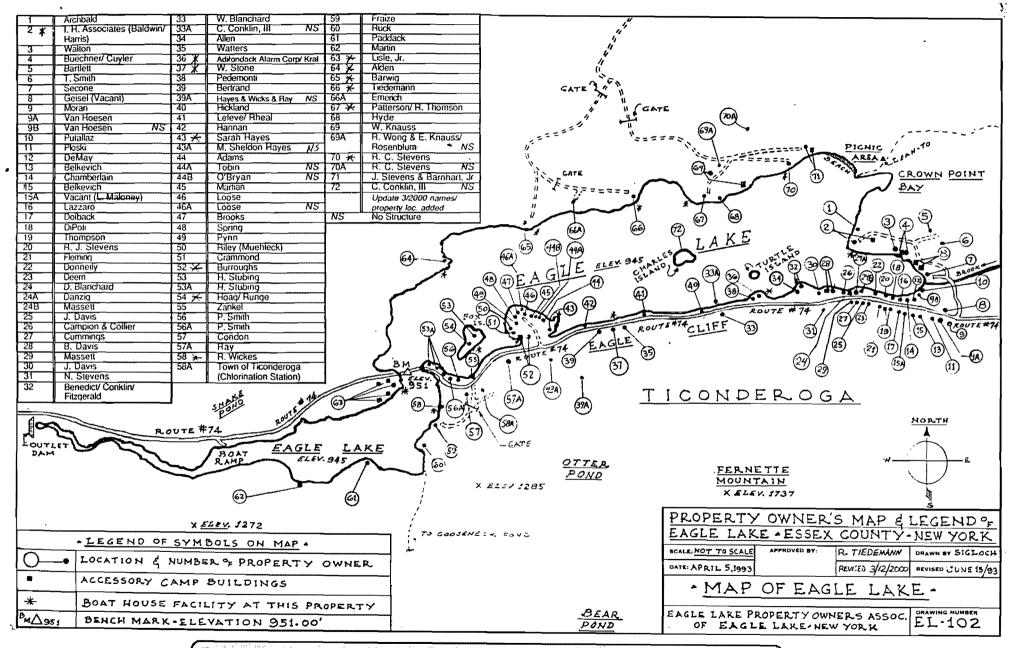




Mr. & Mrs. Robert W. Emerich P. O. Box 11335 Loudonville, New York 12211

## **Newsletter May 2000**

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Newsletter May 2000

Officers:

President - Rolf Tiedemann Vice President - Lloyd Burroughs Recording Secretary - Sharon Zankel Corresponding Secretary - Sue Barwig Treasurer - Peter Buechner Board of Directors: Rolf Tiedemann - Chairman Bill Allen Jim Davis Rinaldo Fraize

Cole Hickland Bill Knauss Roger Wickes

The Eagle Lake Property Owners Incorporated (ELPOI), was organized in September, 1907 for "the protection of the mutual interests and property of the members" including "For the prevention of the pollution of the water in Eagle Lake..." (from the Constitution & Bylaws.) Membership dues and contributions fund ELPOI, a not-for-profit organization with 501 (3) (c) status. Contributions are fully tax-deductible to the extent allowed by law. If your employer matches charitable contributions, please inform your employer of your contribution to ELPOI so a matching contribution can be made. Your lake will benefit.

Message from the President I am honored to have been elected President of the ELPOI. My thanks to those who elected me. I hope that I can help us all with projects that continue with the stewardship of our lake. I have found in talking to people around the state over the past nine months that our lake and its activities towards the control of milfoil are well known. As we begin this next century, I think that it is appropriate to pause for a moment and remember those other individuals that have guided us with our lake's preservation and laid down such a good foundation for its management.

As more and more pressures are placed upon the lake water by exotic plants, animals and multiple uses, preservation for future generations will require the help of all of us as stewards of the lake. Your membership in the ELPOI is appreciated as it shows those in government who represent you that you support the direction the ELPOI takes. Your membership also sends the message that <u>WE</u> care to those who are in a position to help us protect the Lake. Please contact Peter Buechner (973-226-2017 or plbuechner@aol.com) or Lloyd Burroughs (518-585-7277 or eaglake@aol.com) about joining or updating your membership.

ELPOI gladly accepts any form of assistance with regards to Lake Management. I ask you, the members, to share with me your concerns about our lake. As we (this means all of us) pursue the milfoil control project we need everyone's help. If you would remind your elected officials, by a letter or a phone call, that you support the demonstration project that would be great. The people in the state DEC office as well as the APA have made mention that everyone has to be in support of the project for it to be completed in the easiest manner. There has been lots of discussion over the years about what is the best control method. Jim Sutherland of the DEC and Ken Wagner of ENSR (who wrote our environmental impact study) both summarized all of the choices by saying, "Sonar is at this point the best and most economical choice...". All the other options that are presented either involve devastating environmental impacts or cost several times the Sonar costs.

In recent months the board and I have been checking with the many State and Federal agencies that can have a say in the milfoil control issue. We have logged well over 100 hours of communications and would like to share with you the findings of our efforts. Many of our efforts have produced positive results such as; having successfully finished the septic dye testing of the systems on our lake, re-establishing alliances with COLAM and FOLA to gain their support in our pursuit of funding, gaining acceptance into the CSLAP program to better our water testing program, forging a new alliance with the folks on Lincoln Pond to see how their fight against milfoil using moths will work out, contacting our good neighbors at Paradox Lake, Schroon Lake and Lake George to keep them informed and to ask for their support, and identifying the countless supportive people that have give us reason to continue with our efforts such as John Kelly (Special Assistant to the Commissioner for the Adirondacks), Peter Repas (Aid to Senator Stafford), Jeff Beach (Project Coordinator for the Department of State), Bo Burns (Aquatic Plant Specialist for SePro Corp.), Jim Sutherland (Research Scientist for the DEC) and Glen Sullivan (Applicator for Allied Biological) to name just a few. We have also identified where we as an organization need to focus our future efforts.

Please plan on joining us at our July 8th general Membership Meeting at 10:00 A.M. at the Chilson Community Center to hear all of the information and of course to share your IDEAS with us. We have again invited several quests. I hope that everyone will also be able to stay to join us for the annual picnic that follows.

Respectfully, Rolf Tiedemann

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This newsletter includes updates on the work that has been done since last summer. As you know one of the many goals of the ELPOI has been to treat the Milfoil in the lake with the herbicide Sonar as part of the Sonar Pilot Project. It is our intent through this newsletter to keep you informed of our progress. A "Part 2" of the newsletter, that highlights of the July 10, 1999 ELPOI Annual Membership Meeting and the two Board of Directors Meetings that took place during the summer, will be mailed with the membership renewal/picnic letter later.

#### Letter Writing Campaign

Our letter-writing campaign from Eagle Lake residents to those in state government who might be persuaded to go to bat for us continues. Your voice has to be loud and heard now! You must convey to them the impact of Milfoil on your use of the lake and its affect on your property value. Tell them you support the efforts of the Officers and members of the Board and Lake Residents with our 16 years of struggle to get an understanding of the situation and the fight to get state funding for a publicly accessible lake. Do not write letters that ask for a written response but write letters that ask for action on their part. Tell them that WE need funding before the Milfoil can be spread further then it already has, and that the DEC needs a specific Invasive Weed Management Plan for the State that is FUNDED. It is an absolute must that they, our officials, hear from you! If you've written in the past please write again, if you haven't what are you waiting for? Names and addresses for these officials are presented below. Please also send a copy of your correspondence to ELPOI president Rolf Tiedemann at 358 Electric Ave., Rochester, NY 14613-1004 for our ELPOI records.

Commissioner John Cahill

NYS DEC

Room 502

Elizabeth O'C. Little

Room 324

Albany, NY 12233-1010

Albany, NY 12247

Albany, NY 12248

Assemblywoman

Elizabeth O'C. Little

Room 324

Legislative Office Building

Albany, NY 12248

#### Supplemental Environmental Impact Study

The Board reviewed the revised Draft copy of the Site Specific, Supplemental Environmental Impact Study (SEIS) this Fall. The document is about 60 pages in length and covers all aspects of the Milfoil treatment project. It is a required document by both the DEC and the APA for treatment of the lake inside the Park. The next step of this document is submitting to the DEC and the APA for their review and acceptance. Copies will be at the general meeting for your review.

#### **APA Permit**

We have been in contact with the APA to see if we can start to fill out the required permits even though we currently have no funding. The person that we spoke with was encouraging in that fact that he would be willing to work with us in this task. Rin Fraize has volunteered to collect data for this very important process. Please help if asked.

#### Political Contacts and Money

We continue to remain in contact with those who have promised to help us. We are, at this point, truly stuck over the money issue. ELPOI has reapplied to Senator Stafford for the

\$108,000 member item. To secure support for the pilot project of treating Milfoil in Eagle Lake with Sonar, recent contact has been made with John Kelly - Special Assistant to the DEC, Sandy Treadwell - Secretary of State, Charles McCaffery - Director of Coastal Resources Management, Dan Fitz - Executive Director of the APA, Dick Jarvis of the APA, as well as many others. These are very important contacts. We were encouraged at a February meeting with Charles McCaffery to apply for another DOS Grant to help with the funding. This funding would again require matching funds. We will be pursuing this as the State completes their budget process.

Again you are all encouraged to contact the above officials and let them know what the

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continued uncontrolled growth of Milfoil is doing to our lake and property values. Ask these representatives 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!

#### Members Pledge their Support

A call for monetary pledges several years ago brought in great support on the part of our membership. Many thanks to those people / families who responded by pledging nearly \$20,000 for the Milfoil eradication project. We have not needed the money yet, as we are still many dollars short of our goal. It is also your President's position, since the lake has public access, not to have to use membership funds for the treatment but to offer our services to a post treatment-monitoring program to keep the lake clean for the future. We need others to join the effort, contact any one of the officers for further information. While the dollar amount of your pledge is important in making the project a reality, the actual number of individuals willing to pledge monetary support shows that we are all behind the control of the Milfoil. indication of our interest and support for this project has been noticed in our conversations with the State Officials.

#### **Donations Needed**

In recent years ELPOI has incurred extra expenses from its efforts to combat Milfoil. In addition to the cost of mailings to members, the organization has been faced with the telephone, mailing, and other expenses incurred while dealing with those in government and other agencies. Another major expense has been our Directors/ Officers Errors and Omissions insurance. We are working to see if we can get this reduced by joining with someone else but in the meantime the Board hopes to keep our dues low and still have adequate funds to do the

work of the association. Your donations, of any size, to the treasury will assist in that goal. Remember they are tax deductible.

#### **Sweat Shirts for Fund Raising**

An opportunity to reprint the "Eagle Lake Property Owners" sweatshirts came up and the Board approved the project. We have 100 sweatshirt available at a cost of \$12.00 each. Most are a blue purple short sleeve and some are a royal blue long sleeve. All have a tracing of the lakes outline and the word Eagle Lake Property Owners Inc. printed in white. Sizes will be Med., Large and 2X large. Availability will be first come first served (sorry no special orders). They will be on sale at the July meeting.

#### A Pat on the Back and a Plaque

Many people deserve a special round of thanks for all the efforts they've given to the association. Please give a special pat on the back to all past and present ELPOI officers, directors, and committee members for their concern and work as stewards of the lake and its surroundings. A special thanks is due for past President John DiPofi and to recent board member Jim Deem. The Board of Directors presented Mr. DiPofi with a plaque in recognition of his ELPOI service. Thanks John and helpers for placing the boards in the dam at just the right time to manage the limited rain / snow melt we had in 1999.

#### **Special Thanks**

Thanks to Mike Connery and Dale French for their support over the past few years and congratulations on their re-election as Town Supervisors. We'd also like to thank Mr. Connery for speaking to the July 11 Annual Meeting and then joining us afterwards at the picnic.

### Septic Dye Testing a Success

Thanks to Eagle Lake Property Owners for participating in the septic system dye testing. With 90 properties on the lake that were

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eligible for testing YOU the owners allowed us, Paul Burroughs, Wayne Wagner, Mark Bennett and Rolf Tiedemann, access to 62. Of the remaining 28 properties 14 required no testing as they had nothing to test, 3 structures were unoccupied with no one to contact, 8 people were unavailable, and 3 declined testing at this point. This means that over 80% of properties around our lake were tested and 100% of those tested were found to be adequate.

These results support decades of ELPOI test results of near zero levels of detectable total fecal coliform bacteria and should now confirm that septic system nutrients are not causing or adding to the prolific growth of the Milfoil. Everyone that was tested should have received a confirmation letter by this time from the Ti Code Enforcement Office.

All system owners are encouraged to continue self-monitoring of their systems and, if interested, dye test their system at least once every 4-5 years. Those not yet tested and anyone with any questions are encouraged to contact Rolf Tiedemann or Paul Burroughs this summer for assistance in the testing. A final report on the dye test project has been filed with the Department of State to satisfy our match to the DOS Grant.

#### Septic Care & Feeding

The publication Small Flows, Fall 1999 issue, has an article citing considerable research in support of the regular pumping of septic tanks and denying the effectiveness of additives.

In response to queries about alternatives to traditional septic systems, lake resident Rob Ruck suggests checking Lehman's Non Electric Catalog. To request a catalog call 330-857-5757 or checkout their website www.lehmans.com. Be sure to also checkout this Amish company's lanterns, stoves, and other non-electric goodies.

#### **Round Table Discussion**

Bo Burns, Jim Sutherland, and Scott Fire and Floor Plans Kishbaugh conducted a round table meeting

20 Residents Lake attended this informative meeting. Bo Burns, Aquatic Plant Specialist with SePro, stated again that Sonar is the best choice for Milfoil control on Eagle Lake. Many other controls were reviewed including grass carp. All panel members agreed this would be one of the worst choices since carp aren't selective and don't know when to stop eating. Bo also cautioned residents not to be hasty with expectations for He explained that after the Sonar application it will take several weeks for the Milfoil to start to die back - and the slower this process is, the less impact on water quality. During this discussion the topic of a Fall a recent treatment was mentioned. In conversations with Bo he indicated that Eagle Lake is not a good candidate for this type of treatment.

#### Road Speed Check

Letters were sent to the local Police departments during the spring of 1999 to ask for their assistance in increasing the motorist awareness of the speed along Rte. 74 by our lake. Many people have commented that they saw an increase in the number of patrols past the lake. Thanks to the state and local police for this increased and continuing enforcement of traffic regulations on Rte. 74 at Eagle Lake.

#### Nominations Needed

Nominations for two Board positions are needed for the July 8 meeting for the positions now held by Bill Knauss and Rin Fraize. Many thanks to Bill Knauss for his two terms of service. Rin Fraize, who has been filling Jim Deem's former spot, is willing to run for election to the Board. Please support him with your vote. Any more volunteers? Remember this is your association and YOUR input is welcomed and necessary.

Joe Muehlick wishes to pass the job of Fish Stocking Chairman onto another. Any takers?

The Chilson Fire Department requests August 5 on Milfoil control and Sonar. About residents provide a simple sketch of the floor plan of their house with rooms labeled and hazards noted, e.g. chemical / gasoline / propane storage etc. Please deliver the plan to Jim Davis.

#### Beavers at the Dam

The ELPOI hired Jim Hebert of Chilson to trap beavers at the outlet dam. Three beavers were removed. They were using Milfoil and sticks to build a dam on the spillway. It appeared that the beavers were moving Milfoil from a patch 100' away from the spillway.

#### **Hurricane Floyd**

Hurricane Floyd brought about 6" of rain to the area at a time when the lake level had dropped to -5. This quickly returned the lake level to nearly +2. In addition to the water level change, many properties suffered significant damage from downed trees due to hurricane winds, notably the downing of over 100 trees behind the Alden place at the west end of lake and a like number going up to Gooseneck Pond.

#### Lake Level and Ice Out

Just before the ice melted April 5 this spring, a beaver dam was observed on the spillway causing the lake to reach plus 15". The dam was removed and the lake is now working its way down. An inquiry to the DEC on another matter confirmed past comments that Eagle Lake is bound by agreement to maintain a lake level between -4 and +4 as shown on the causeway water level gauge. The Lake Level Committee will target the lower measure during the winter and the higher measure during the summer. Volunteers are always needed to monitor and clear the spillway of debris. Contact Rolf Tiedemann to let him know your willingness to help in this matter.

#### "Hostile Takeover"

In the August 1999 issue of <u>Adirondack</u> <u>Life</u>, the article "Hostile Takeover" by Leslie Aylsworth highlighted exotic, invasive plants, among them MILFOIL. The article states ways

to help prevent spreading Milfoil: clean boats and all equipment before transporting them from one body of water to another; clean boots and camping gear before going out to a different area. It's worth while reading.

#### Feed the Birds, PLEASE DON'T

Experts indicate that feeding the ducks and other waterfowl can lead to the following health concerns. 1) Swimmers Itch, a rash caused by a parasite present in waterfowl fecal material. 2) Possible fecal coliform contamination of lake water used by some for drinking. Those feeding the ducks will be the ones most likely to suffer since birds tend to stay in these areas.

#### **Get Connected**

Internet / Email service can be had through Crown Point Telephone, contact Trisha at CPT @ 1-800-828-9221 for details.

#### Safe Boating/Personal Watercraft

Effective January 1, 2000, no person born on or after Jan. 1, 1981 may operate a PWC on the water unless they complete a course in boating safety. Bob Claus, president of the Paradox Lake Assoc., and his associates in the past have offered the young boaters training program. This program has been attended by many youth from our lake as well as others. Bob is planning on offering the course again this Summer. He might also be able to help those that need PWC training. Contact him directly to make arrangements at 518-532-7240, email clausula@aol.com. Bob is also looking for additional assistants to help with training. One to two days of commitment, no experience necessary, for a great and rewarding time, as per Bob.

#### Call for Lake History

Sharon Zankel, a lake resident, is interested in compiling a pictorial history of the lake and its residents. She has 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 and also has

the ability and equipment to reproduce photographs. She 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 contact her at (518) 279-9714, email SZANKEL@aol.com, if you have information, photographs, or ideas to share.

#### Property Map

An updated copy of the property map was prepared as part of the septic dye test report. We have included a copy here FYI. Please report any errors to Rolf Tiedemann. Copies of the map will be shared with the Chilson Volunteer Fire Department and the Ticonderoga Emergency Dispatch.

#### Zebra Mussels - We Don't Want Them!

Zebra Mussels were found last fall in Lake George. Lake Champlain also has them. If your family, or someone renting your place, trailers a boat from other lakes to ours, be sure they drain and dry out the live bait well and use a mixture of Clorox and H2O to wash down the bait well, the bilge and the hull. Do this away from the lakeshore. Be sure they flush the boat motor as well. Zebra Mussels can live in a damp environment for up to a week or more.

Remember THERE IS NO WAY TO GET RID OF THEM once they enter the lake!

We regret to report the passing of George Conklin and Bill Kral. We send our condolences to their families. George was a long-time summer resident on Eagle Lake. The Conklin family, owners of Charles Island and Turtle Rock, has summered at Eagle Lake for about 100 years. Bill Kral had renovated the old hotel to include his private residence and some apartments. Bill Kral generously offered and provided his legal services to ELPOI. These fine gentlemen will be dearly missed.

#### **Membership Update**

Thanks to all the members who updated their memberships for 2000. Currently 60 of the 90 parcels have paid up memberships. Check your membership status with Peter Buechner at 973-226-2017 or plbuechner@aol.com.

The 2000 Annual Meeting and Picnic will be held Saturday, July 8, 2000 at the Chilson Community Center at 10:00 A.M. We look forward to seeing you there!