

Eagle Lake Properties Owners, Inc.

Officers '00 - '01

President - Rolf Tiedemann
Vice President - Lloyd Burroughs
Recording Secretary - Caroline Baldwin
Treasurer - Peter Beuchner

Board of Directors '00 - '01

Rolf Tiedemann - Chairperson
Bill Allen
Jim Davis
Rinaldo Fraiz
Cole Hickland
Patricia Hyde
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 was authored by Rolf Tiedemann and edited by Dianne Tiedemann. Address questions and comments to ELPOI Vice President Lloyd Burroughs, Eagle Lake, HC-01 Box 126, Ticonderoga, New York 12883-9410.

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Ticonderoga, NY 12883-9410

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Information Letter May 2001

Eagle Lake Properties Owners, Inc.



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May 1, 2001

Hello Folks,

I received the following article from Board Member Pat Hyde today. I thought that I would share it with you FYI as we are closely monitoring the outcomes from Lake George. It can be viewed at "<http://timesunion.com/ss.asp?s=56831&c=C>". I've also attached it as a PDF to the end of this letter. They are getting closer to having all of the paper work etc. in place. I'm sad to report that we are not as close as I would like, but we are moving forward and I believe that there is going to be success for us in the near future.

As I'm sitting here in Rochester typing this up the sun is shining, the temperature is in the mid 60's and many of the Spring flowers are in bloom. This is a very drastic change to what I found last week, Tuesday, 4/17 when I visited my place on the lake. There was still 2 plus feet of snow in most places and the lake still had several feet of ice on it. I'm sure that all of us are getting anxious for summer and looking forward to spending time at the Lake. As I was looking around this past week I notice that the winter snows had damaged several properties and brought down lots of tree limbs. Hopefully all of your places are OK and that we can spend the summer enjoying as opposed to working. I know that I have some work ahead

of me as our 60 plus year old wood shed could not

support the 5 feet of snow and collapsed. I just received an email today from the lake and the person report temps in the 80 most of the lake ice melted and only a few snow piles left around. The lake level was at about 12 - 15 plus but going down daily.

With the warm weather it's time to get together some information that should be informative to you. We are working on a Lake interest/management survey. Sue Barwig and the rest of us should be completing this towards the middle of May and will mail it to all members to assess their interests and desires as they apply to the future management of Eagle Lake. I encourage all of you to take a few minutes to answer the questions and return the survey. We will be providing return postage to make this easier.

We are also in the process of preparing a newsletter that should be out in June. The newsletter will provide you with the minutes of the last annual meeting as well as give you some brief highlights of some of the many things that your board and I have been involved in since last summer. These include; being able to attend a North East Aquatic Plant Management Conference where I got to meet face to face

with many of the folks that have provided us with the wealth of information and support to get us to the point we're at. We've also been asked to be members of the Adirondack Research Consortium (ARC) a group of ranking APA, DEC, DOS and other Local, State and Academic folks that have been brought together at the Governor's request. The request was to identify a method that would allow people from all of the parties to be able to come together and collectively find the methods and the funding to deal with exotic plants specifically Milfoil in the Adirondacks. Out of the work this group is doing I believe that we will find the success for control of our Milfoil problem. There's a lot more going on, like getting together with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, and identifying how the, newly identified, Acentria Moth in our lake is effecting our Milfoil growth. Be sure to look for the newsletter in June to get some more information, but most importantly plan to come to the Annual Meeting on July 7th to get all the details, and of course get those questions answered.

Speaking of the Annual Meeting, Sharon Zankel has offered this year to help coordinate the fund raiser picnic that follows the meeting. Bill Allen is offering to help with this also. Bob C. Stevens has worked with the folks at the Fort and has secured a donation of, what I've been told is, a spectacular video of the Fort's history. We are planning to raffle off the video as well as Fort admission tickets at the picnic. I'm in the process of inviting several of the people that have made contributions to our understanding of the Milfoil issue to the picnic so that you have an opportunity to ask them questions and get a broader understanding of what we are doing. Mark your calendar for July 7th so that you have the opportunity to participate. I know Sharon would welcome help with the coordination etc., let me know if

you're interested and I will pass the message on.

Information about the specifics of the picnic will be forth coming in the next month. Included with this will be information about membership renewal. We've experienced a 5% per year growth in paid members for each of the past 2 years. At the moment about 69% of you are paid members. THANKS to each and every one of you for your support. I have told this information to many people over the past year as I have worked the issues that face our lake. Everyone that I talk to is amazed and definitely takes notice of the fact that we have such a supportive and active association. Your showing of membership support has made my ability to represent you easier. On the topic of membership, several properties have sold in the past 12 months, if you see new neighbors welcome them to the lake on behalf of the ELPOI. Let them know about the Annual meeting and the picnic. Lloyd Burroughs, our membership chairperson, has done an excellent job of tracking down new folks in the past, but it is usually you the members that let her know who the new people are. If you can again help her identify all the new people she would be appreciative. Let me know if they have e-mail and I will add them to our mailing list.

On the topic of help we have a few openings on our governing committee. Peter Buechner our longggggg... time, trusted Treasurer has asked that he be able to step away from the voluntary task of maintaining the books for our multi-million dollar corporation. His service will be greatly missed, but I know that some one of you of equal ability is waiting to tackle the task of managing our more realistic \$1.98 monthly expenses. Roger Wicks having served as a trusted Board Member for the past 6 year will also be stepping down. When he and the others worked out the wording for the by-laws they provided themselves with an out. Board

Members are only able to serve 2 consecutive 3-year terms, and Roger is finishing his second. If this were not the case I would not let Roger off, his input has been helpful at every point along the way. Again he will be missed as a board member, but I've got his phone number just in case. Cole Hickland was kind enough to fill my position when you elected me to the position of President. My term and Roger's started at the same time and since Cole took my place his position is also open on the Board. Our past President and loyal leader Bill Allen, has also expressed a desire to have someone take over his position. I asked Bill to come onto the Board when I was elected to help get me going. Bill has done this and more over the past 2 years and he is interested in spending more time at the lake relaxing with Ruby and trying to catch the big fish. There's only one and he's promised to share it when he catches it. This leaves us with several open positions and a lot of you with an extreme amount of talent wanting to help out. Cole has offered to again fill a board position, and a couple of people have expressed interest in various positions in the past. Don't wait for someone to call you (we will). Send me an e-mail and let me know how you are willing to help out. The only experience/expertise necessary is a desire to keep Eagle Lake the best lake in the Adirondacks. Don't be concerned about not being at the lake, e-mail and phone calls work great for getting your input. After all I'm in Rochester doing this, Caroline Baldwin does stuff for us from New Mexico, and Carlos Alden our Web page expert is in Spokane, Washington. How far away did you say you are??

Many of you volunteered last year to help with removing the beaver dams (4 plus of them) in the swampy area. THANKS for all your efforts. I have some good news (for the Beaver) on this topic. The beaver has once again avoided being trapped and is still building in the swampy area. Jim Hebert, our trapper, is

frustrated but has not given up. As of last week the water was deeper than the dam in the swampy area and the spillway was clear. I'm sure that as the ice melts and the lake level starts to settle down that we will have to do some dam clearing. Lou Zankel and the water committee will again be calling for volunteers. If you see a problem at the dam or in the swampy area, etc. please let us know and offer to help if possible to correct the situation. Some people in the past have called Town Supervisor Mike Connery, he is not in the position to help on this one, and has to turn around and call one of us. The paper work for us being part of the Adopt-A-Natural Resource is complete. This provides several major benefits as we continue our efforts to maintain the lake level by regulating the spillway. One of these is that any authorized ELPOI member who has indicated to the State (notice sent to me) that they will be working on the level management task is covered by NYS Workers Compensation. Another is that the agreement that we have specifically states that the State will do all of the physical maintenance to the dam structure itself. This is important in light of what happened to some NJ lakes where flooding breached the dams that formed them and now the folks there don't have the means to rebuild them.

Todd Condron and his wife Tonya have offered their help to our association in several ways over the past months. With their efforts we have applied to IP for a grant to help offset some of the costs associated with communicating with everyone. We are waiting to hear the outcome of this, I've been promised good news, and will share it with you when I hear. Todd has also offered to gather information about the benefits of, and will work with us to put together, a neighborhood watch program. (If we are interested) He as a year round resident has seen some activities on our properties that have concerned him. According to what he has found out, he as well as the rest of us, have a better

chance of getting help from the police if we agree to work together in watching each others places and letting them know this. Todd is planning on giving us additional information at the annual meeting.

Paul Burroughs reminds us that the clean-up associated with the Adopt-A-Highway program along RL 74 is on going. He/ we thank all of you for participating in this. Remember be safe!!! If you see someone going by picking up trash invite them in for a coffee to say thanks. If you help out and don't know what to do with the stuff you pick up give him a call. Disposal is not a problem. (No I don't think we can consider picking up Bill Blanchard's "bait for sale" garage as part of the adopt-a-highway clean-up program) If you haven't heard it too did not survive the winter snows.

Jim Davis has reported that there were several accidents this winter along RL 74. One of them involved a paper truck running off the road just east of the lake itself and the other involved a car jumping the guardrail just east of the boat launch. No major damage was done fortunately to either drivers or the lake.

Todd, since he works at the plant, spoke to the dispatcher and asked them to remind their drivers of the conditions that exist along Rt. 74 as it passes Eagle Lake. All of you will notice the nice new road surface that Rt. 74 has when you return. The new surface will bring renewed concerns about speed etc. If you see a police officer along the road enforcing the traffic laws consider saying Thanks. It doesn't hurt to let them know that we notice and appreciate their services. If you want to call either the State or Ticonderoga Police substations and let them know I'm sure they'd appreciate hearing from you also.

A new 911 response address system is scheduled to be put into place this spring. This will be different for us and will take some getting used to but will provide us all with a much better level of emergency response.

The Board and I are looking forward to seeing all of you as you/we return to the lake. We send a great big THANKS to those of you who braved the elements and stay at the Lake year round and look after all of those places that have seasonal occupancy.

Rolf Tiedemann
President
Eagle Lake Property Owner Inc.

I JUST RECEIVED A CALL AND WE HAVE BEEN GIVEN THE GRANT THAT TODD + TOBY* APPLIED FOR. THANKS TO BOTH OF THEM Rolf

By DINA CAPPIELLO, Staff writer
First published: Wednesday, April 25, 2001

Lake George weed-killing plan defended

Lake George-- Risk to other plant species doesn't outweigh damage done by milfoil, officials say

Defending a plan that would make Lake George the first Adirondack lake to use a chemical to kill an invasive weed, representatives of the Lake George Park Commission said Tuesday that the proposal is worth doing even if it means sacrificing native plants.

"If we applied (less chemical) we would have a 50-50 chance of succeeding, and it probably wouldn't last a year. That's not good enough. If it's a choice between killing milfoil and saving native species, we'll choose killing milfoil," said Kenneth Wagner, of ENSR International, a private consultant for the group, during a public hearing Tuesday attended by about 50 people.

The plan, submitted to the state in January, is to add more than one ton of Sonar -- a synthetic weed killer -- to four separate bays within Lake George where Eurasian watermilfoil has grown so dense that it can tie up boat engines and tangle swimmers.

But these same areas, which together total 35 acres of the 22,000-acre lake, contain as many as 20 other aquatic plants that could also absorb Sonar, a chemical that eventually starves the plant by halting the production of carotene, a natural sunblock.

Five of those 20 plants are protected species within New York state and some actually filter out particles from the water, contributing to Lake George's clarity.

If approved by the state Department of Environmental Conservation and the Adirondack Park Agency in mid-June, the treatment could begin sometime this summer. Most of the \$215,000 project would be paid for using a state grant.

The consultant's strong words Tuesday met support from local officials at the hearing, who see the milfoil itself as a threat to the lake and its native species. But Wagner drew criticism from environmentalists, who said that the effects of Sonar on native plants have not been properly evaluated.

"It's pretty unacceptable that they have no intention of safeguarding native species," said John Sheehan, communications director for the Adirondack Council. "There is not much emphasis on what the death toll will be except for the milfoil."

The commission wants to add 20 parts of Sonar for every billion parts of water -- a concentration that is twice that recommended by the DEC.

"The agency isn't here to diminish natural species. But this is a larger issue," said Victoria Hristovski, a spokeswoman for the APA.

If it gets the go-ahead, Lake George would become the first lake to use Sonar within the Blue Line. Since 1995, when the herbicide was first registered in the state, it has been applied to hundreds of lakes outside the park.

Proponents of the Lake George proposal say that there is no other choice. Since 1986, when the idea of using Sonar on a one-acre stand of Eurasian watermilfoil within the lake was first proposed, the weed has spread to 136 locations. Nonchemical techniques, such as hand harvesting, suction harvesting and benthic mats have narrowed the number to 30.

"It's an admission of defeat. It's saying we have failed to manage this God-given resource," said Mark Johnson of the Lake George Park Commission.

Since it takes only a tiny snippet for the weed to grow into a new plant -- an adaptation that has helped Eurasian watermilfoil spread throughout the state since it was first discovered in 1900 -- managers and town officials want to kill off the densest stands.

They argue that leaving milfoil alone could do as much damage as the Sonar when it comes to water clarity, recreation and diversity of native plants.

"The milfoil will choke out the natives that exist," said Lynn LaMontagne, executive director of the Lake George Land Conservancy, a group that does not take formal positions on proposals.

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