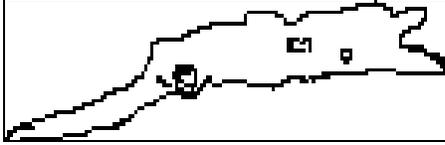


**Eagle Lake Property Owners, Inc.  
c/o 11 Deepwood Drive, Ticonderoga, NY 12883**

[www.eaglelake1.org](http://www.eaglelake1.org)



**Officers;**

President – Susan Barwig  
Vice President – Jere Paddock  
Secretary – Caroline Baldwin  
Treasurer – Rinaldo Fraize

**Board of Directors;**

Andy Belkevich  
Todd Condon  
John Pynn

Rolf Tiedemann  
Lewis Zankel

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**APRIL - NEWSLETTER - 2006**

Spring Greetings, Eagle Lake Residents!

It seems as though only a few days ago I was preparing the fall newsletter and noting how quickly the summer passed and now winter, too, has slipped by giving in to the wonders of spring. Eagle Lake has thawed, critters have emerged from their winter quiescence, and the cold, white cover has surrendered to a warm, green complexion! I hope that each of you had a healthy, productive interlude and once again will experience fun and relaxation on the lake during the summer.

The Lake Association Board had an incredibly busy few months overseeing the latest segment of its ongoing milfoil project. The meeting included the preparation and approval of the letter that was sent to all lake residents back in January describing the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation's Aquatic Invasive Species Eradication Grant Application, as well as the approval and submission of the Application. All of the work was accomplished through phone calls and e-mailing. This probably was the first-ever ELPOI "Electronic Board Meeting," and surely was the longest-ever Board Meeting – having lasted almost three months!

Our Annual Meeting and Picnic will be on July 15. The announcement and details are attached. Please plan to attend this important picnic-meeting to learn the lake news, meet new people, visit with friends, and enjoy gourmet food.

The news:

**MILFOIL on eagle lake**

In the fall of 2005, Eagle Lake Property Owners, Inc. was anticipating the posting of New York State's Aquatic Invasive Species Eradication Grant Application which would give us a chance to

seek funding from New York State to bolster our milfoil eradication project on Eagle Lake. In early December we received the Application and commenced a long journey to its being submitted on the due date in late February.

In January, with the Application now in hand and reviewed by the Board, all lake residents were informed of the potential Grant and the steps required to be eligible. Obtaining this Grant required matching funds; for every \$1.00 requested from New York State, \$2.00 in pledges of time and/or money was required. About 20 property owners responded to our letter.

The Board, with an enormous contribution of time from Rolf Tiedemann, the principal author, completed, reviewed, and submitted the Application.

As of this date, New York State has not informed us of the results, but this information should be forthcoming soon. Certainly, by the time our Annual Meeting takes place in July, we will have much more information to share. With or without the Grant, we have some funds with which to work in controlling milfoil on Eagle Lake. I encourage you to attend the meeting on July 15 to hear progress reports and future plans.

## **FISHING**

Eagle Lake is one the greatest spots in New York for fishing – all year, and the last full weekend in June is “free fishing” - no-license-needed! By the way, I wonder how many 65 year old NY State residents know that they can purchase a lifetime license for only \$50.00!

Hundreds of thousands of anglers fish the lakes, ponds, and rivers of New York annually. Some of those people are unaware, though, that many of the fish they catch were probably raised in one or more of the 12 Environmental Conservation fish hatcheries. Several million fish are stocked into more than 1200 public waters across the state to enhance recreational fishing, as well as to restore native species to waters they formerly occupied. Just around the corner from Eagle Lake is the Essex County Fish Hatchery in Crown Point - an interesting place to visit with children or out-of-town guests.

Stocking takes place in our lake, too, and makes Eagle Lake one of the top rated fishing waters for brown trout. The anticipated number to be stocked this spring – March through May – is 3830, so get your rods out and enjoy a particularly good season of fishing!

By the way, what did the fish that swam into a wall at the west end of Eagle Lake say? “Dam!”

## **Nature journal**

My first project when arriving at the lake in early summer (even before the car is unpacked!) is to mix up some hummingbird nectar. I boil and thoroughly mix 1 cup of sugar with 4 cups of water, cool it, and fill up the feeders. Within a matter of minutes I’m welcoming my summer guests – the Ruby-throated hummingbirds!

With their first meal of the season at our house I delight at their safe journey north from Central America and Panama. Their flying at 30 mph for hundreds of miles (across the Gulf is over 600!) and reaching their destination is miraculous! Perhaps they're extra hungry after a long flight, but many weeks later they still consume twice their body weight of food – insects and nectar – daily. I doubt that anyone has ever seen an obese hummer, though; with their wings beating 70 times per second during their acrobatic maneuvers (including figure 8's while hovering), it's no wonder they burn calories!

Hummers have many predators, including larger birds. Insects, too, are predators that might include hummers on their menu. Indeed, a praying mantis will capture this little bird and take an entire day to consume it! Yet, a Cooper or Sharp-shinned Hawk often will be chased away by the feisty little birds!

I never cease to wonder why these tiny creatures don't get caught in webs of "porch spiders" at our place! It can happen, especially since the birds use the sticky silk in their nest construction prior to their decorating the outside with lichen. I'm still hoping to see a nest, but its small size of about an inch – just big enough to keep two white, pea-sized eggs warm – makes it almost impossible. In addition, it is very well camouflaged with the twig to which it's adhered, and an umbrella of leaves above adds to the family's privacy. The "family" at this point is only Mom and her two offspring. Dad's sole (almost!) responsibility was scouting out a nesting sight; his work is done.

In early October, when the days are short, the Ruby-throated hummingbirds are preparing for their annual journey south. It's at this time that our feeders can be most important. The travelers need as much food as possible and, disregarding a waning myth to the contrary, must have extra nourishment. Dear readers, if you haven't had the pleasure of feeding Ruby-throated hummingbirds, consider doing it this year. You'll be in for a big treat!

Best wishes for a safe and peaceful time at the lake!

**Sue**

- P. S.      1) *Enjoy the ELPOI Website!*  
   [www.eaglelake1.org](http://www.eaglelake1.org)  
   2) *Save the date: July 15, 2006 - -*  
   *Annual Meeting*