

Eagle Lake Newsletter – November 2010

1907- 2010 Celebrating 100 plus years of responsible lake stewardship



Dear Friends and Residents of Eagle Lake,

It truly was a great summer at Eagle Lake! This was one of the nicest summers, weather wise, in recent memory. Water temperatures were in the mid to upper 70's and there were long stretches of beautiful sunshine. The picture above is a panoramic view from the top of Eagle Cliff, taken by the Tiedemann Family.

Summer Meeting & Picnic



For those of you who could not attend the annual picnic, we had a good turn out and beautiful weather. Good food and good company were enjoyed by all. Two new Board Members were elected, Stephen Phelps and David Williams. The minutes from the Annual Meeting will be posted on our website at www.Eaglelake1.org Look for them on the archives page.

Please join us next year on July 9th, 2011. The meeting will be held at the Chilson Community Center, Putts Pond Road. Business meeting to start at 10:00 am, with social picnic to start at noon.

Below is a picture of the current Board Members. From left to right: Chris Hyde, Andy Belkevich, Lloyd Burroughs, Stephen Phelps, Rin Fraize and David Williams. Not pictured are Mary Loose, Steve Stubing and Ann Patterson.



Membership

We remind you to send in your dues for the 2010-11 membership year. A renewal form can be found on the web or a check can be made out to ELPOI and sent to Treasurer Rin Fraize with a note "membership" attached. We have also added a business membership to the ELPOI. This new type of membership will allow surrounding business owners to support the ELPOI. In return for their support the business will get an ad in each of the newsletters. There are at least four newsletters sent out each year to over 120 families. The cost for the business membership is \$ 65.00 per year. This will include the advertising and an associate membership. For existing members who also want to become business members the cost is only \$ 50.00 additional per year. If you wish to sign up for a business membership please contact, Chris Hyde at Cdhyde@nycap.rr.com. We will also be adding a sign at the beach and the boat launch asking for those who enjoy the lake to become members of the ELPOI.

Your membership dues as well as any other donations made to the ELPOI are tax deductible. We are looking to raise additional funds for the milfoil project. There was a fund raising letter sent out a few weeks ago and an additional copy has been attached with this month's newsletter. (email version only) Thank you to those who have already sent in contributions! The officers of the ELPOI serve in a voluntary capacity and all dues collected are used for lake management issues. Thanks to everyone who has pledged support in the past.

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Milfoil Project Update

Milfoil is not growing as heartily as it has in years past. This seems to be a common theme throughout many lakes in the area. The higher than usual lake temperatures and other environmental conditions seemed to affect its growth this year. We have seen this type of pattern in the past and next year it could be twice as bad.

Rolf & Dianne Tiedemann attended the free Adirondack Forum on Invasive Species at Paul Smiths College on August 11th. Speakers from the APA, DEC and various other groups provided the latest information on milfoil and other lake and terrestrial issues. See Emerald Ash Borer and other heading later in this letter.

To date in excess of \$112,600.00 has been spent on the milfoil project, most impressive however is that \$45,000 of it was in donated labor /products and or services. Thanks to those who have provided this. The Invasive Species Grant has a value of \$110,000, \$55,000 from the State and an equal match provided by the applicant (Town of Crown Point). The applicants share has been fully funded by cash donations from ELPOI members and or other grants obtained by the applicant. The States portion of the funding is paid as a reimbursement, since a total project expenditure of greater than the applicants request has been spent , paper work will be completed this Fall to seek a full reimbursement from the State for its portion of the funding. When the reimbursement is made, Crown Point, the applicant for the ISG, will be able to continue with additional milfoil control until this funding is exhausted. While it may sound terrific that funding will be in place to continue work, this funding will not cover the necessary costs to finish the work. Please consider the request for additional funds from the letter sent to you recently. Any funding in the Crown Point account for milfoil control will be used to not only fight the milfoil but be used as leverage funding to match and or secure any additional funding that may be made available.

So far this season no matting or hand harvesting has taken place. The idea was to save as much money as possible as we move towards a potential treatment in 2011.

Please refer to this and past newsletters for factual information about the milfoil project that is approved by the ELPOI. Rolf Tiedemann,

the milfoil project coordinator, provides an accurate and detailed report in each newsletter.

Permitting Progress

As was reported in past newsletters, Lake Luzerne was successful in securing the first in the Adirondack Park permit to use the herbicide Renovate for milfoil control. Their permit contained the APA additional requirement for a curtain to contain the herbicide. This additional requirement is not necessary per the DEC product registration in any other part of NYS. For Eagle Lake's significant numbers of milfoil patches, depth of growth and patch sizes, the APA's requirement of a curtain to contain each patch places an undue burden on the project. With Luzerne's successful 2010 spring treatment and no impact to natives in the treatment area, it is hoped that the permit for Eagle Lake can use the "do good science" and "no harm done to natives" and be a test case to prove that Renovate can also be used without the undue burden of a curtain. Documents to support this position have been drafted and will be submitted this fall.

Aquatic invasives are knocking on our door- help keep them out!

In recent months several new aquatic invasives have been detected in close proximity to our lake. Lake George recently reported that the Asian Clam was found in its waters, Sacandaga Lake reported having the Spiny Water Flee. Both of these water bodies are just a few short miles from Eagle Lake, The most common vector for invasive transport is humans, by transporting boat and other gear from one lake to another. Please wash and dry your boats if you transport them to and from other lakes. Please also try to educate any transient lake users that you meet on the lake of same.

2009 Photo Contest Winner: Rin Fraize



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Terrestrial Invaders around the Lake

The Emerald Ash Borer (EAB) and the Asian Longhorn Beetle (ALB) are making their way to the Adirondacks. It has been seen in the southern part of the state, the Catskills and Western NY, and it is only a matter of time before it makes it way to Eagle Lake. The destruction to ash trees by the EAB is similar to the devastation by the Chestnut blight that wiped out all of the chestnut trees in North America. Several purple traps were hung in ash trees on both sides of the lake this spring to try to attract any EAB in the area. They were recently removed, but no reports have yet been received as to what if anything was found. The DEC has imposed a ban on moving fire wood more than 50 miles to try to slow the spread of this beetle. The only way currently available to kill the borer once they have moved into an ash tree is to either cut and burn it immediately, or cut and immediately chip the whole log/tree section. A few pesticides have been tried on some trees to this point their success has been limited and expensive. Approximately 7% of the trees in NYS are ash trees and there are a great number of them around Eagle Lake

ALB is another major threat to trees. They are currently moving west from Massachusetts, east from the Chicago/ Detroit area and south from Canada. It is being reported that since the ALB is a much bigger bug than the, its spread will be slower. Unlike the EAB which prefers ash trees the ALB eats a variety of trees (the ones we have here at Eagle Lake that the EAB might not get). Once infested with the ALB trees die. There is a native long horned beetle that looks much like the Asian one; the difference is that the native one does not have the white spotting on its back.

In either case several thousand trees have been removed from areas with infestations, leaving the remaining landscape a very different looking place. At the moment education and observation is the best prevention. Please spread the word and keep a vigil watch out to help catch the earliest signs of the bugs and also so that you don't unwittingly transport them yourself.

If you should see a bug matching the pictures below, try to capture and kill a sample to share with DEC staff. Some additional information on these and other terrestrial invasives can be found on the Eaglelake1.org website. For more specific information you can contact Rolf Tiedemann at camptouchstone@yahoo.com

Become informed; see this website for more information on what you can do.

<http://beetledetectives.com/>

Emerald Ash Borer



Asian Longhorn Beetle



Beavers and Lake Level

The lake level has been higher than normal for most of the summer. Short periods of heavy rain have caused lake levels to be at plus 4 to 6 inches. The lake received 4.5 inches of rain during the first week of October. After the heavy rains the lake was at plus 13 inches. Several docks were approaching the underwater mark, but none appeared to be in danger of floating away as there was very little wind or wave action during that time. Paul Burroughs, with the help of Rolf Tiedemann, pulled the boards at the dam. Prior to pulling the boards 6+ inches of water was going over the dam, with the boards removed more than 14 inches was going over. As of this writing 10/15/2010 the lake was at plus 7, three quarters of an inch of rain has fallen in the past 12 hours, and predictions were for a storm total of up to 2". The lake should return to the normal "winter level" within a few weeks." Again thanks to Paul Burroughs for his monitoring/ adjusting the boards to hold this level.

Andy Belkevich reports that he has relocated a rather large beaver this fall. He also indicated that there has been no beaver dams built that needed addressing this season. He continues to monitor the area around

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the spill way and the channel leading up to it for beaver activity.

Around the lake



NYS Rt. 74 got resurfaced this fall. Paving was completed from just west of the Corduroy Road almost to the Boat Launch. Tire noise is reduced but speeds appear to be up as people enjoy the new smooth surface.

History Corner



Few people have traveled the back road from Stoney Lonesome to Ben Hunter road to what is now known as Wemette Way. The road is a private road with a gate at the "Farm" The picture above was painted from an old photograph of the farm, by Marion Hunter, Grandmother of Chris Hyde (No relation that we know of to the Hunter's that owned the farm). The current gate is located in the middle of the painting where the stream runs across from left to right. Knob Mountain is the background. The farm was started in the mid 1800's and served the surrounding areas with dairy products on a daily basis. At that time the Hammondville mines were bustling with miners in search of iron ore. During the electric age the mines were very productive up until the

late 1880's. The mines ceased operations by 1896. Alexander Hunter's farm was not as busy as it once was and he consequently started to sell off parcels along the north shore of Eagle Lake. Most of the camps on the north shore of the lake were built between the 1890's and 1910. See the link below for a more in depth history of the Hammondville mines.

<http://www.knobpond.com/HammondvilleHistory/Essex%20County%20Ghost%20Town.pdf>

Email List/ Communications

This newsletter was sent out by email to members that we have email addresses for. It was also snail mailed to the members that we only have postal addresses for. If you know someone who did not receive it, please forward it to them and have them send an email to Chris Hyde at Cdhyde@nycap.rr.com Do you have friends or relatives that would like to get a copy? Let us know and we'll add them to the email list.

Would you rather receive all future newsletters and communications by email? Please email Chris Hyde to get on the list. Please put "EMAIL ONLY" in the subject line.

Look what's coming in the Next Issue

Adirondack Lake Alliance – Meeting report.
Milfoil Project- In depth report
2010 Photo contest - Starts

Thank you for taking the time to read this information and keeping up to date on the news around the lake.

Written on behalf of the ELPOI Board by Chris Hyde; supporting information and milfoil project information written by Rolf Tiedemann. Additional editing by Stephen Phelps.

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Address correspondence to;

**Eagle Lake Property Owners Incorporated
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A 501 (c) (3) not for profit, all contributions are tax deductible; your consideration of a donation is most appreciated.

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“...I really had no idea what ‘milfoil control’ might achieve. Seeing is believing.”

- Lake Luzerne Milfoil Project Team Member

There’s good news and bad news about the milfoil problem in our beloved Eagle Lake. The good news is that Lake Luzerne was allowed to use Renovate OTF against their milfoil infestation (if only in a limited and highly controlled way) – and it worked beautifully, without causing a single problem for man or beast or other plant. Rolf Tiedemann and his team are hopeful that the success of this trial means that we are that much closer to being allowed to use Renovate here in Eagle Lake.

The bad news is that our Eagle Lake milfoil problem is growing and growing despite all the valiant efforts that have been made to slow it down – and we’re running out of money to keep up the fight.

Rolf and the milfoil project team members are holding up their end – you’ve seen their reports in the newsletter – and our attorney has been doing the legwork and research needed to put together a permit application based on solid and previously accepted statewide science. We think we have a good chance at getting the APA okay to use Renovate in 2011.

But all of this costs money. You may have seen that we haven’t done paid hand harvesting or matting this summer; although these methods work to some degree in the limited areas in which they’re applied, they have not stopped the spread of the weeds, and so we’ve held off on them to conserve our remaining funds for the use of Renovate. We have about \$40,000 on hand – but we’ll need at least \$75,000.

Our attorney has provided thousands of dollars worth of comp time on the project, but we have still had to pay thousands of dollars for his (and others’) expertise. Expenses so far have been covered under the Invasive Species Grant obtained by the Town of Crown Point with our help – but that grant is running out. New York State is broke; not much hope of help there (although an application letter has been submitted to Senator Little).

We recognize that many of you have already contributed amounts well above and beyond your membership dues, and we’re profoundly grateful. But because the situation

is what it is, we’re asking you – we’re asking everyone! – to please make a special contribution to help fund the association’s continuing fight against the milfoil that is despoiling our lake. Please be as generous as you can. A hundred dollars from each of us will go a long way toward allowing reason and science and hard work to clear Eagle Lake in 2011, but \$50 or even \$25 – or whatever you can afford – will surely help.

Many thanks,



Andy Belkevich, President
(For the board)

P.S. Send your contribution to:

ELPOI
11 Deepwood Drive
Ticonderoga, NY 12833

P. P.S. Please write your check, address and stamp an envelope and PLEASE MAIL IT TODAY, before you get busy again and forget. It’s tax deductible; you’ll get a letter from the association that will serve as your receipt. You’ve seen the milfoil, so you know – this is urgent!