THE EAGLE LAKE NEWSLETTER

Spring 2018

1907 – Eagle Lake Property Owners, Inc. – 2018

Celebrating 111 years of responsible lake stewardship.

A Milestone for ELPOI Board Member Jack Mulcahy



Neighbor and friend and dedicated ELPOI board member Jack Mulcahy retired in January as Assistant Chief of the Glens Falls Fire Department, where he served for 41 years. We give Jack joy of this new chapter of his life, and thank him for his life of service to his community – and we hope that this means we'll see even more of him and Debra up here at the lake. They're neighbors who can be counted on to pitch in, and they're always good company when they do. Use this link to read about Jack's fascinating career as a firefighter (sample quote: "If your ears started burning, you were too deep inside the fire.")... https://bit.ly/2Hrr2yT.

Eagle Lake Neighbor Bill Zito in Performance



New York native **Bill Zito**, classical guitarist and Eagle Lake resident, performed last summer at the Strand Theater in Schroon Lake. Inspired in his youth by Andres Segovia, Bill studied music at Hofstra University on Long Island, then extensively in Spain with artists such as Rey de la Torre. He made his formal debut at Alice Tully Hall to critical acclaim, and

has gone on to perform extensively throughout the United States and Europe. In addition to performing, he is also a professor, currently on the music department faculties of Nassau Community College, Adelphi University, Hofstra University, and Queens College. Here's hoping that Bill Zito will be performing locally again this summer.

Annual Meeting & Picnic: July 7

This year's annual meeting and picnic are scheduled for Saturday, **July 7**, at the Chilson Community House at 60 Putts Pond Road. The annual meeting begins at 10:00 A.M., and the picnic follows at noon. **On the back page of this newsletter are the membership renewal, picnic sign-up and proxy forms for you to complete.**

Treasurer Rolf Tiedemann reports that income from dues, sales of themed souvenirs, website sponsorships and some generous direct-support donations has enabled ELPOI to cover the expenses of water testing (CSLAP and in-house fecal), member communications, donations to select service organizations, and website and webcam hosting. Full details will be available at the annual meeting, and a printed report is available at EagleLake1.org on the archives page.

Election of board members and officers is also a critical part of the meeting. Current officers **Chris Hyde, Rolf Tiedemann** and **Keith Park** have agreed to stand for re-election for another year; vice president **Steve Phelps** and board member **Peter Popinchalk** will not to stand for re-election. (Steve Phelps has offered to continue to produce the annual newsletter and to manage the ELPOI Facebook page.) ELPOI member **Zack Dorfman** has said he's willing to stand for election to the board, and board member **Jack Mulcahy** is willing to stand for election as vice president. The board wishes to express thanks to Peter Popinchalk and Steve Phelps for their years of service.

Nominations from the floor will be most welcome – new blood and new ideas have kept ELPOI vital for 111 years!

Fifty-one property owners have been dues-paying members (that's 65% of owners) this past year, and all paid-up members are eligible to vote as well as to stand for election. You can pay your \$25 annual dues at the meeting to join ELPOI or to renew your membership, and you'll be eligible to vote as soon as you do.



"Like" Eagle Lake Property Owners, Inc. on Facebook to keep up with the latest news and share photos & other items of interest.

In Memoriam

We are deeply saddened to report the passing of two longtime neighbors and friends, both of whom were widely liked and admired, and both of whom will be sorely missed here at Eagle Lake.

Lewis Carter Cuyler died on November 3, 2017. Lew was an accomplished journalist, newspaper editor and columnist, and – himself an avid sportsman – the author of books about sports and athletes. He had a lifelong passion for community involvement and was a student of and an ardent advocate for community development. Donations in Lew's name can be made to The Alzheimers Association, Massachusetts/New Hampshire Chapter, P.O. Box 96011, Washington, DC 20090-6011. Our deepest sympathies are with Harriet Buechner Cuyler and their family. We hope that their memories of Lew and the joys of their years with him sustain them in this difficult time.

Robert Croll Stevens died on April 3, 2018. After retiring from corporate life, Bob embarked on a second career as small-business consultant. He also volunteered for and donated to organizations focused on youth advocacy, women's empowerment, the arts, and cultural heritage. In private life, Bob was a gifted horticulturist and gardener. Our heartfelt condolences and good wishes go to his son and daughters and their extended families. Donations in Bob's memory may be made to the Endowment for the Fife and Drum Corps, Fort Ticonderoga Association, P.O. Box 390, Ticonderoga, NY 12883, or to the Robert C. and Jane K. Stevens Legacy Fund at the Rochester Area Community Foundation, 500 East Avenue, Rochester, NY 14607.

Get-Well Wishes

Sharon Zankel reports that she and Lew were involved in a serious auto accident on January 31 of this year, and that, while both of them were injured, Lew's injuries were more serious: he had several surgeries, spent a month in rehab, and has now moved on to an assisted living facility for additional physical therapy. Sharon herself is also still undergoing physical therapy, although she's back home. They're both recovering and looking forward to spending time at Eagle Lake. We wish them the speediest and best of recoveries. Send get-well wishes to Lew at...

Lewis Zankel

c/o Atria Shaker - Apartment 206 345 Northern Boulevard Albany, NY 12204

WWW.EAGLELAKE 1. ORG

The Eagle Lake Property Owners web site is a popular attraction, with about 900 pages viewed every month! Rolf Tiedemann manages the content, and Michael Tiedemann provides technical management for posting and formatting. Although the web cameras have had their ups and downs this winter – both weather- and technology-related – they are up and running now, and a third camera overlooking Ti Bay may be in place by the time you read this.

On the Beach



Last year **Rolf Tiedemann** worked with NYS DEC to remediate some hazard trees at the beach area, pictured, and that work will continue this spring. DEC noted at the time that there had been illegal tree cutting and garbage dumping at the site, which is Forest Preserve land, and asks that ELPOI members watch for and report this kind of activity to Forest Ranger Mark St. Clair at (518) 335-3681. As you know, cutting live or standing trees is prohibited within the preserve; only dead-and-down wood may be used for firewood. DEC also offered to support ELPOI if we want to conduct a "trash clean up" day in the spring or fall; this idea could be discussed at the annual meeting. For a fuller delineation of what is and is not allowed on Forest Preserve land, go to https://on.ny.gov/2qTxVxE, but some important rules to remember are:

- Groups of ten or more OR stays of more than three days require a permit from the local Forest Ranger.
- Organized hikes, camping trips or other events with more than 20 people on state lands is prohibited without a permit from DEC.
- Using soap to wash yourself, clothing or dishes within 150 feet of water is prohibited.
- Fires must be built in existing fire pits or fireplaces if provided. Use only dead-and-down wood for fires.
 Cutting standing trees is prohibited.
- Extinguish all fires with water and stir ashes until they are cold to the touch. Do not build fires in areas marked by a "No Fires" disk. Camp stoves are safer, more efficient and cleaner.
- Carry out what you carry in. Practice "leave no trace" camping and hiking.

Continuing Disagreements with the Dam Beavers



As you may know, ELPOI has an adopt-a-natural-resource agreement with NYS-DEC to maintain the spillway dam at the west end of the lake, remove beaver debris, and regulate the lake level. Accordingly, Zach Dorfman and Jack Mulcahy (pictured) along with Rolf Tiedemann dismantled the beaver dam in the channel area (between the boat launch and the spillway) last fall. They report that the dam was approximately 60 feet across – as seen above – and well built (as they usually are) and it took more than three hours of hard labor to remove it, They say that water is flowing freely now; the lake level as of last night was at -2". Thanks to Jack, Zack and Rolf for their generous efforts. ELPOI has also contracted with a local trapper to remove beavers from the spillway area. Note though that beaver lodges on private land remain the responsibility of the land owner; see https://on.ny.gov/2KgZ1be

Gooseneck Water Update

In April the Town of Ticonderoga signed a consent decree with the US Environmental Protection Agency and the NYS Department of Health to convert from surface water sources to a groundwater origin. The switch will cost \$13 million, much of it covered by various grants, as well as a \$50,000 fine for an alleged nine years of inaction on its water system. The town expects to start construction in May to bring its newly drilled Streetroad wells on line, and plans extensive improvements to its Baldwin Road filtration plant. The consent agreement with the U.S. Department of Justice also requires the town to use its new automated telephone and text alert system to notify its 5,000 water users of problems, especially the possibility of cryptosporidium bacteria contamination. Finally, the town is also reported to be "planning drinking water solutions for the water users in Chilson and Eagle Lake, who had been getting water from Gooseneck Pond and the Chilson Reservoir."

This last is, of course, of utmost interest to ELPOI members. Following up on last November's Chilson Community House forum with Ticonderoga Supervisor Joe Giordano, ELPOI board member **Steve Meier**, acting in his private capacity, met with Mr. Giordano for continued discussion. He reported that the supervisor said that use of Gooseneck is allowable through the year 2025, which gives property owners and the town several years before a final decision has to be made. As promised at the November meeting, the town is undertaking a study into alternatives for supplying water to Eagle Lake and Chilson, and the supervisor repeated his promise to involve affected residents and keep us informed as a solution is developed. We hope to have updated information available to share at the annual meeting.

Cool, Clear Water



ELPOI's mission statement includes "the prevention of pollution of Eagle Lake's waters" as a traditional role. ELPOI volunteers collect samples for use in The Citizens Statewide Lake Assessment Program (CSLAP), a volunteer

program that reports on water quality conditions, and for fecal coliform bacteria testing, among others. Last fall **Steve Meier** and **Rolf Tiedemann** completed water sampling around the lake for fecal coliform bacteria testing. The most recent test results are similar to last years and indicate that the lake continues to be well suited for recreational activities. Detailed test results are posted and updated on the web site at http://bit.ly/2tj8pld. Rolf's photo of Steve hard at work.

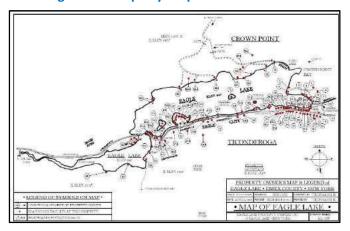
ELPOI Supports First Responders



Every year ELPOI supports our local first-responder organizations – Chilson Volunteer Fire Department, Ticonderoga Emergency Squad, and Crown Point's A.E. Phelps Volunteer Fire Department – with

modest donations as tokens of our members' gratitude for the lifesaving efforts of these selfless volunteers. Here's ELPOI Treasurer **Rolf Tiedemann** presenting last year's \$50 donation to Fire Police Officer Frank Murray in Crown Point. ELPOI also donated \$100 to the Ticonderoga Emergency Squad and \$200 to Chilson Volunteer Fire Department. All three of these volunteer departments have, on countless occasions, helped our members cope with fires, accidents and illnesses.

New: Eagle Lake Property Maps



Thanks to the efforts of **Rolf Tiedemann** and his daughter, **Katie Tiedemann**, a new Eagle Lake Property Owners map is available to members. The map shows the names of property owners, and 11"x17" printed copies will be on hand at the annual meeting. PDF versions can be downloaded from the web site, and will be updated as needed. The map represents many hours of work over several months, and we owe Rolf and Katie a hearty vote of thanks for their efforts.

Speeding on Route 74



ELPOI members have been concerned for years about through traffic speeding along Route 74. Just last summer a semi veered off the road, broke a utility pole, and destroyed Todd and Tonya Condon's fence and landscaping – and plenty of incidents and even tragic deaths before and since. ELPOI has contacted state and town authorities for help many times. And although state and Ticonderoga police have tried to be helpful within the limits of their available manpower and resources, none of those contacts has yielded a longterm solution. In the wake of the accident at the Condon home, both Tonya and ELPOI wrote to NYSP, Ticonderoga PD and Ticonderoga Supervisor Joe Giordano about radar speed signs along the road, and member Andy Belkevich has been an outspoken advocate. Now that Ticonderoga has its own new portable radar speed sign, we've renewed our campaign, asking that it be deployed along the Eagle Lake stretch of Route 74 this summer. https://bit.ly/2HsdFdJ

Severance Boat Decontamination Station - Use It!



The Severance Northern Boat Decontamination Station that opened last fall on Route 74 near Route 9 is now a permanent installation with full Adirondack Park Agency approval. The boat wash project is a joint effort of the Town of Schroon, the Schroon Lake Association and the Paradox Lake Association, and will be open Friday through Sunday in the spring, and then daily all summer. Please be sure to utilize this resource if your boat is coming from another body of water, to be certain that you are not importing unwelcome wildlife. And especially please be sure that your guests who bring boats use the cleaning station before they launch into Eagle Lake.

Donors Fund Chilson Community House Improvements



Chilson Community House on nearby Putts Pond Road now boasts a new outdoor picnic pavilion, a new well, and a new modern kitchen. ELPOI members know the community house as the site of our annual meetings and picnics, which we use free of charge courtesy of the fire department. It's also available for a nominal rental fee to host community and family events year-round (it's an especially great venue for family-reunion picnics). A new ADA-compliant entry ramp and bathrooms are next on the reconstruction schedule. No tax dollars are involved in this ongoing project; it is funded exclusively through the generosity of a small group of anonymous donors from the Chilson and Eagle Lake communities. Contact ChilsonVFD@gmail.com for more information.

Invasive Species Alert

The Adirondack Invasive Plant Project lists no fewer than 91 waterborne and land-based "Species of Concern" on its web site at https://bit.ly/2r0auCV. Making sure that incoming watercraft are thoroughly cleaned, drained and dried (for example at the new Severance Boat Decontamination Station on Route 74, described above) is one way to mitigate the dangers of waterborne interlopers, but only eyes-on vigilance by all of us can identify and eliminate land-based and liminal invaders. In addition to our old familiar enemy Eurasian milfoil, here are a few invasives to be on the lookout for this summer:



Curly-leaf Pondweed

Already in Eagle Lake. Submerged; rigid, reddish-green, oblong leaves with finely toothed, wavy edges. New plants form under ice cover in late winter – one of the first plants to emerge in early summer.



Emerald Ash Borer

Golden-green body with dark, metallic green wings and purplish-red abdomen; about 3/4" long. Don't bring firewood from out of area.



Giant Hogweed

Eight to 14 feet tall, grows in roadside ditches, stream banks, waste areas, and forest edges. CAUTION – Sap can cause severe skin irritation, blistering, and scarring.



Flowering Rush

Already in Eagle Lake. Found along lake shore, distinguished by its attractive pink flowers. Small patches can be carefully dug up; avoid spreading bulbils at the roots and at the base of the flower clusters.



Purple Loosestrife

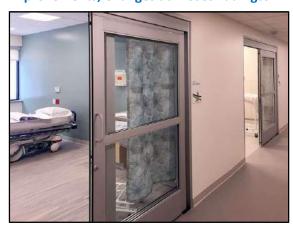
Already in Eagle Lake. Three to seven feet tall; grows at water's edge. Small infestations can be pulled by hand, though care must be taken to completely remove the root crown.



Spiny Waterflea

Already in Eagle Lake – avoid carrying out! Less than 1/2" long with sharp, barbed tails; collect in **globs** on fishing equipment and lines. Boats and fishing gear should be thoroughly checked, cleaned, and dried.

Improvements, Changes at Moses Ludington



Moses Ludington Hospital has become part of the University of Vermont Health Network, Elizabethtown Community Hospital. A \$9.1 million renovation project is underway at the Ticonderoga facility, with a new laboratory and specialty physician clinic space already completed, as well as a **new emergency department** with a private registration area, family waiting room and observation beds for patients who require additional care and monitoring. (Your Editor and Mrs. Editor, having made a few visits there in recent weeks, can attest that the new E.D. is spacious, modern and well appointed, and staffed by highly professional clinical and support personnel.) The radiology and physical therapy departments are also being renovated.

R.I.P. Frontier Town – But a New Day Is Coming

The transformation of the former Frontier Town theme park into a regional tourism hub is under way. Paradox Brewery, which is intended to anchor the new development, has broken ground on a brewing facility and tap room, an expansion that will allow the brewer to meet growing demand for its craft beer. Hotels, restaurants and even music festivals are expected to follow at the site, located off Northway Exit 29 in North Hudson. A state-run campground, a day use area, an equestrian facility, and slots for RVs and camping are also planned.



PLEASE PATRONIZE OUR SPONSORS!

There's a sponsor page on our web site at http://eaglelake1.org – just click on one of the ad thumbnails on the front page. Sponsorship includes a business-card ad in the newsletter (distributed to 150+ lake residents and friends and viewed by 10,000 plus yearly web-page loads), rotating business-card banner ads on web pages, and larger ads on the sponsor page itself, with links to sponsors' own web sites. Contact Chris Hyde (518) 210-9031 or Rolf Tiedemann (585) 647-2514 with any questions, or to become a sponsor.





All plants are freshly dug per your selection and request.

Open April thru September 10:00 AM to 5:00 PM, other times by appointment.

Please stop in to see the flowers and meet the owner's, Jim and Joyce. See a sample of the flowers at our website. http://www.jimsdaylilies.com/

Also offering summer vacation rentals





The Blue house- weekly rental, 4 bedroom, 2 full baths, sleeps 8, laundry, full eat-in kitchen, living dining room, family room, cable TV, heat, dock and swim area, BBQ grill and fire oit.

The Yellow houseweekend and weekly rentals-3 bedroom, 1 bath w/ shower, kitchenette, sitting room, cable TV and internet, sleeps 6, boat dock and ramp w/ swimming area, fire pit and BBQ grill

Vacation Rentals-April - September Call or email for a brochure 518-503-5065 Jshultz1@nycap.rr.com





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Special thanks to...

- ▼ The International Paper Ticonderoga Mill for printing this newsletter, and Todd
 Condon for arranging it.
- √ Our web-page sponsors.
- **√** Tonya Condon, who co-manages our Facebook page and does our Adopt-A-Highway cleanups every year (contact Tonya through Facebook if you would like to help!).
- ▼ The Shultz family for sharing their Internet bandwidth in summer, allowing us to upload web cam images.
- ▼ Michael Tiedemann for his technical management of our web site.
- **V** Paul and Lloyd Burroughs, Chris Hyde, Steve Meier, Keith Park, and Dianne and Rolf Tiedemann for their work on the various water-testing processes.
- √ Keith Park, Peter Popinchalk and Dianne and Rolf Tiedemann and all of our vigilant owners for their work in spotting and removing invasive flora and fauna from the lake.
- V Zach Dorfman, Deb and Jack Mulcahy, Peter Popinchalk, and Dianne and Rolf Tiedemann for their work in clearing obstructions at the dam to control the lake level.
- Carlos Alden for underwriting the ELPOI web page hosting and domain name.

The Eagle Lake Newsletter

Published annually by Eagle Lake Property Owners, Inc., c/o Chris Hyde, 64 Blue Barns Road, Rexford, NY 12148. ELPOI is a 501(c)(3) not-for-profit corporation, and contributions are tax deductible as allowed by law.

This issue was edited by Stephen E. Phelps, Jr.

Send information, changes of address, and especially new or changed e-mail addresses, to Chris at cdhyde1@gmail.com.

MEMBERSHIP 2018

Below are your membership renewal form, picnic sign-up form, and proxy form. We need, welcome and value your ideas, support and leadership. Please take a moment today to renew your membership. Full property owner membership remains at \$25.00 per year; associate membership (for those committed to but not owning property on Eagle Lake) is \$15.00. We have a business membership level, which will allow community businesses to support ELPOI. In return for their support, businesses receive a sponsor "badge" on the ELPOI web site, a sponsor "ad" in this newsletter, each issue of which is distributed to more than 150 Eagle Lake residents and friends. Business membership is \$120.00 per year. See ELPOI sponsor web page for details. To sign up for a business membership contact Chris Hyde at Cdhyde1@gmail.com.

Your membership dues and all other contributions to Eagle Lake Property Owners, Inc., are tax deductible under rules governing not-for-profit 501(c)3 status. Membership dues provide for the day to day operating expenses of ELPOI including minimal stationery, telephone and mailing costs (although most of these are donated by International Paper and our members, very occasional conference costs and travel, annual lake water testing by both CSLAP (analytical) and additional non-CSLAP (fecal), donations to local emergency services, and a limited amount to milfoil control. The officers of ELPOI serve in a voluntary capacity. Dues alone cannot pay for the expense of invasive control; if you can make an additional contribution towards the project, please indicate your intention on the membership form below.

Current ELPOI Board Members: Peter Popinchalk (thru 2018); Jack Mulcahy (thru 2019); Stephen Meier (through 2020) ELPOI Officers 2017-2018: Chris Hyde, President; Stephen Phelps, Vice President; Keith Park, Secretary; Rolf Tiedemann, Treasurer

2018/2019 Membership Application, Renewal, and Proxy Form

Please return dues by June 30, the date of record for the Annual Meeting, or as soon as possible. Membership dues may also be paid at the annual meeting, before the 10:00 a.m. start. (Our by-laws state that only paid-up members may vote at the meeting.)

Picnic prices are listed below – Sandwiches, soda, water and place settings provided; covered dishes, desserts, etc. are welcome!

Cut here: Return Lower Portion to: ELPOI, c/o Chris Hyde, 64 Blue Barns Road, Rexford, NY 12148

×-----_____ Lake Phone _____ Name Winter Address _____ Lake Address _____ Winter Phone _____ Cell phone ____ Email primary Secondary Picnic Reservations July 7 at Noon Additional Donation(s) **ENCLOSED:** (check # Adults x \$6.00 \$_____ Unrestricted Donation \$ appropriate choice) # Children x \$4.00 \$ \$25.00 ____ Member #Families x \$18.00\$ **Total Enclosed \$** Associate \$15.00 (Make checks payable to ELPOI) Business/Web Sponsor \$120.00 (Includes Member/Associate dues) **Member Proxy** I, as a member in good standing of ELPOI, do hereby designate _____ ____, who is also a member in good standing or who is another owner of record of the same membership parcel of said corporation, to vote and act on my behalf on all matters that come before the meeting to be held on July 7, 2018 at 10:00 a.m. Signed: ______ Date _____ Witnessed ______ Date _____

LATE-BREAKING NEWS, MAY 2, 2018

HAZARD WARNING FOR BOATERS ON EAGLE LAKE: Route 74 Causeway Underpass

Rolf Tiedemann reports that it appears that DOT has placed large cement-filled black bags, two feet in diameter and six to eight feet long, against the sides of the causeway wall, apparently as temporary reinforcement. This means that for boat traffic and water flow the width and depth of the causeway underpass are both significantly reduced. The concrete-filled bags cover the entire bottom on the north side and about half of its width on the south side.

These images were taken with the lake at +5" (lots of rain Sunday and Monday, along with snowmelt, mean that the lake is high). Rolf was able to get his small aluminum boat through, but said he would hesitate to try the passage in anything much bigger.

There is no signage indicating that access is restricted -- or, to be more accurate -- hazardous. ELPOI officers will follow up with DOT, but in the meantime you may have trouble passing under the causeway with anything larger than an aluminum rowboat.

And another alert for boaters on the lake comes from Tonya Condon, who reports that while DOT and/or its contractors were working under the causeway over the winter, they set up sections of those orange-mesh "snow fences" on the ice at both ends of the underpass — and never removed them. Now that the ice has melted, pieces of that mesh are floating free in the lake, and represent a hazard to boaters who could end up with them wrapped around their propellers. They would also appear to represent a hazard to waterfowl and other wildlife around the lake who could become entangled in them. As with the blocked causeway boat passage, ELPOI's officers will be following up with DOT (and, in this case, DEC).