



LAKE PLEASANT-SACANDAGA ASSOCIATION



Volume 20-Issue 1

NEWSLETTER SPRING 2018



Email: lpas@frontiernet.net

Website: www.lpsa-ny.org

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE by Mitzi Fox

After a cold and snowy late winter, it feels good that spring has finally arrived in the Adirondacks. Our Board of Directors have been busy preparing for the summer season. Our updated Member Directory will be ready by late spring. We are pleased to include the 45 new members who have joined after our successful membership drive in 2017.

Continuing our efforts to join with the Town of Lake Pleasant and the Village of Speculator on new projects, Larry Smith will be constructing an information kiosk that will be installed near the driveway to the Pavilion. The kiosk will be continually updated with local information to greet visitors as they arrive in Speculator.

This year LPSA will once again be sponsoring the Spring Essay Contest at the Lake Pleasant Central School. The program will feature a trip for the students to the Wild Center in Tupper Lake to study terrestrial invasive species in the Adirondacks as a basis for their essays. This will be our 7th year working with the seventh through ninth grade students, offering a three year rotating schedule of topics.

The results of our lake water testing and lake shore monitoring programs in 2017 revealed that our waters continue to be of excellent quality. However, there has been an increase in aquatic weed growth in some areas. We have been advised that these weeds are native to our area and not considered invasive. Some interest has been expressed in controlling this weed growth and that is currently be-

ing pursued.

Our annual Spring Luncheon is scheduled at the Lodge at Oak Mountain on June 24th. I encourage all of you to attend. This is always a good opportunity to catch up with old friends and neighbors, as well as welcome new members to the organization. An interesting program will be presented by Jim Stickles, Region 5 Big Game Biologist of the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation. He will talk about the moose and bear in our area. We expect he will present some photography and share some stories about these animals and their interaction with humans. Your invitation will be arriving in late May. Watch for dates and details for our social outings. They are always interesting and enjoyable day trips.

Many of you have generously included donations to the Lake Pleasant-Sacandaga Association and Foundation with your membership renewals. We appreciate your generosity. Those who specifically directed their donations to be included in the Huber Fund have been matched by John Huber and will continue to be so for the foreseeable future. Contributions were also received by the LPSF in memory of two of our members who passed away earlier this year. We thank their friends and families for these memorial gifts.

I'm looking forward to the summer season in Lake Pleasant and to greet you at the June 24th Luncheon.



Editor: Tom Rippere

Design & Production by Belinda Germain

YEAR THREE OF NYS DEC AIS GRANTS **by Charlie Ascher, Dan Wilt & Bill Thielking**

This year is the third and final year of the grants that LPSA and the Town of Lake Pleasant received from NYS Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC). These grants covered the original purchase of the boat decontamination station as well as the manpower to operate it. The grants also cover the manpower, administrative and documentation costs of lake stewards who staff the various boat launching ramps throughout the Towns of Lake Pleasant and Indian Lake.

The DEC funds received to date as well as projected for 2018 exceed \$250,000. Through the contributions of the Town of Lake Pleasant and LPSA, along with the concerted efforts of our LPSA volunteers and programs, as well as the extensive manpower contributions of Camp of the Woods, we have been able to cover the required local financial contributions with minimal actual expenditures. Arrangements with Paul Smith's College are being finalized for 2018 for their continued administration of the boat ramp steward program as well as the operation of the decontamination station.

Continued submittal of the required quarterly grant progress reports are accomplished by various personnel from LPSA, the Town of Lake Pleasant as well as Elizabeth Mangle of the Hamilton County Soil and Water Conservation District. We are investigating the availability of additional grants for 2019 and beyond.



JOB OPPORTUNITIES FOR LAKE STEWARDS

The Adirondack Watershed Institute (AWI) is now accepting applications for the 2018 summer season. The Watershed Stewardship Team has many full-time and some part-time positions available. Full-time employment is available from May 21st to Sep-

tember 3rd. Various locations throughout the Adirondack Park are available including the Lake Pleasant/Piseco region. Additional information is available on our website, LPSA-ny.org, under "News".



SOCIAL OUTINGS by Laura Hultmark

2018 proposed plans include a morning boat tour on the Fulton Chain of Lakes leaving out of Old Forge. Afterwards, there will be plenty of time in Old Forge to enjoy lunch, shop, and further explore the area. This is being planned for some day during the week of July 23-26. Details and a sign-up sheet will be available at the June 24 LPSA Brunch. If you are unable to attend the Brunch, but are interested in this event, please email Laura at ljhult41@gmail.com. Include your name, phone number, and email address, and she will get back to you with the latest information.

Also in the plans is a visit to John Van Alstine's Sculpture Studio in Wells. His works are exhibited all over the world and several of his sculptures were commissioned for the Beijing Olympics. Grace Camoin will be organizing this visit.

An historic tour in Speculator will be held on July 12, 2018. Peggy LaFontaine is organizing a tour that will begin at 10 AM at the Court House and include a luncheon. The tour is being run as a benefit on behalf of the Lake Pleasant-Sacandaga Foundation. Information on how to register for this event will be provided at a later date.



HARMFUL ALGAL BLOOMS by Peter Tobiessen

I recently attended one of four “summits” run by DEC on harmful algal blooms (HABs). These “blooms” of huge algal populations have become more frequent in our lakes in recent years. The algae involved are the evolutionarily primitive group (about 3.5



billion years old!) called “blue-green” algae (BG) or the more scientifically accurate “Cyanobacteria.”

Why should we care? Not only are HABs a nuisance, covering the surface of a lake, they are also toxic to animals including humans. Among the toxins produced by some of these BG algae is one with the common name of the “fast death factor.” You may be aware of the HABs in western Lake Erie the last few years that have caused the city of Toledo to close down its drinking water intake from the lake. These Erie blooms are visible from space.

NYS has taken HABs seriously. Recently the Governor announced a \$65 million program to investigate the causes of HABs and what can be done to prevent/ mitigate them (hence the four “summits” across the state to discuss this issue). Of the 4,400 NY lakes greater than 0.1 sq mile in area, 340 have HABs, and that number is increasing.

New York is ahead of the game nationally on HABs. For example, the samples we collect from our lakes in the CSLAP program are sent to state labs for chemical analyses including tests that quantify BG algae

populations as well as individual levels of BG algal toxins. Few other states do this. Although our lakes do contain BG algae—as do all lakes—we have never found any detectable levels of any of the BG toxins.

Even though we have not found full-fledged HABs in our lakes, we do have localized situations when BG algae show themselves on the surface. Some of these BG species have the ability to form gas vacuoles so they can float to the surface. In the late summer when the lake water is warm and the wind is calm, a green “scum” can appear in small patches along the downwind shore. (See photo) It looks like an oil sheen on the surface. A slight breeze will disperse these tiny cells so that the sheen can quickly disappear.

However it is possible that these small patches can become larger. I have seen a patch of floating BGs



cover most of the surface of a small bay on Sacandaga. As climate change warms our lakes further, this will become a more frequent phenomenon. If you are in the water with one of these blooms, for instance taking in your docks in the fall, wash the scum off your body as soon as you leave the water. If your dog decides to swim in one, rinse him off too. The HABs in western Lake Erie kill multiple dogs (10+) each year.



LAKE ECOLOGY by Peter Tobiesen

In the last few years Lake Pleasant has had a dramatic expansion of a native aquatic plant, the variable pondweed, or more descriptively, the grass-leaved pondweed (GLP). There is a large population in the bay near Cherry Creek that is expanding to the northwest, as well as smaller populations throughout the lake. It is found in lakes in most states of the US and most counties in NY, including Sacandaga Lake.

You can recognize GLP by its growth form. Growing from the lake bottom is a multi branched stem with many small, pointed grass-like leaves about 1 to 3 inches long and half an inch wide. Some reproductive stems have fewer and larger submerged leaves, but grow to the surface. There they have 1 or 2 floating elliptical (oval) leaves, less than an inch wide and about 2 inches long, and a spike with small bumps ("flowers") on a short stalk that rises about an inch above the water surface.

The expansion of GLP in Lake Pleasant concerns many of our members, and the inevitable question is, "What can we do about it?" If GLP were an invasive species, we would make every effort to control it and preferably eliminate it. However, it is a native species so our options are limited. If it is a nuisance to your shore front, the Adirondack Park Agency (APA) allows you to hand-harvest it without a permit in an area up to 1,000 sq. ft. However, you must also follow the other criteria listed on APA's web site: <https://apa.ny.gov/Documents/Flyers/HandHarvestingOfAquaticPlants.pdf> Any lake-wide control would require an APA permit, and Leigh Walrath, a Project Analyst at APA, told me that there must be a "significant impairment of use" of the lake by the weed for them to even consider issuing a per-

mit for control. The current level of weed growth does not come close to that threshold.

I don't see a definite "smoking gun" to explain the expansion of GLP in Lake Pleasant. However, there may be a few contributing factors. There is a natural cycle in lakes during which they gain sediment nutrients over time due to input from tributaries and decaying plant and animal material. This results in more weed growth. Dissolved nutrients like phosphorus, which stimulates algal growth, are not as important since aquatic plants get most of their nutrients from the sediment. Climate change is also a possible culprit, since our warmer winters have recently increased the ice-free period on the lake, and that gives aquatic plants a longer growing season. The place in Lake Pleasant with the densest stand of aquatic plants is near the inlet from Sacandaga, where water motion extends the local ice-free season to the longest in the lake.

We have been very fortunate to have such beautiful lakes with very low weed densities. In most lakes, all areas shallower than 6-8 ft. deep have weeds in them. The professional lake manager who surveys our lakes comments on our low lake-wide weed density every time he comes. Quite frankly, we've been spoiled, but now we have a weed expanding into this niche in parts of our lake. It is a native species, so natural controls should come into play eventually, unlike what happens with invasive species. In short, Lake Pleasant is just becoming more like other New York lakes.



SAVE THE DATE

June 24th Spring Brunch - Oak Mountain — Noon

August 19th - Annual Meeting & Picnic at Oak Mountain — Noon

NO NEW INVASIVE SPECIES FOUND IN ADIRONDACK LAKES IN 2017 ***by Tom Rippere***

The Adirondack Lakes Alliance reports that the Adirondack Park Invasive Plant Program (APIPP) found no new aquatic invasive species in Adirondack lakes in 2017. This is the first time that has happened in over ten years. Adirondack Lakes Alliance shares this good news with all of the lake and river associations in the Adirondacks to let everyone know that continuing efforts to protect our waters is indeed making a difference. The thousands of hours committed yearly by our lake and river volunteers in protecting Adirondack waters through stewardship, monitor-

ing efforts and successful lake management plans is helping to ensure that Adirondack lakes and rivers are clean and safe for all to enjoy. LPSA and the many local volunteers are an important contributor to this very successful collaborative effort. While this news is very welcome, we must all remember that continued vigilance is needed to ensure that no new invasives enter our waters in the future. The Adirondack Lake Alliance news release for this item can be found on the LPSA website, LPSA-ny.org, under "News".



Library Hours:

Lake Pleasant Public Library: Open - Mon, Wed, Fri, 1-4 & 7-9. Tue, Thu, Sat, 10-2 518-548-4411
During July and August also open Tue, 7-9 & Thurs. 7-9

Wells Library: Mah Jongg Game Night, every Tues 6 to 8 pm.
Open: Tues 6 to 8 pm Sat 10 am to Noon, April to October also Thursday 6 to 8 pm 518-924-2220

Piseco Library: Piseco School, Rte 8, Open Mon-Fri 8 am-4pm, whenever the school is open.
518-548-7555



BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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Chari Smith
Larry Smith

Bill Thielking
Lake Ecologist:
Peter Tobiessen

LPSA ANNUAL SCHOOL CONTEST FOR 2018 ***by Charlie Ascher***

LPSA is continuing our sponsorship of a contest for students at Lake Pleasant Central School (LPCS) for 2018. Every student in grades 7, 8 and 9 will be required to conduct independent research projects this year on Terrestrial Invasive Species as the third year of the three year revolving program. Research will be done individually or in pairs, culminating in multimedia presentations which will be conducted in front of their classmates and teachers. The students who do the best presentations will be identified by their teachers and will then present their results to a panel of representatives

from LPSA. Awards for the best projects will be \$250 for first place, \$150 for second place and \$50 for third place. The research projects will be reinforced with an LPSA sponsored trip to the Wild Center located in Tupper Lake some time in May or early June, for all the LPCS students in grades 7, 8, and 9.

This annual program, which is in its seventh year, has been a tremendous success with the students, faculty and the community in general. It has resulted in several students pursuing environmental sciences at higher educational lev-

els as well as more than ten becoming ramp stewards with Paul Smith's College, conducting boat inspections and public education. Conversations with teachers and administrators at LPCS confirm that the entire school population is extremely enthusiastic about the program and happy that LPSA is continuing to sponsor and coordinate it. In addition, the program has reinforced LPSA's commitment to public education and elevated the awareness for our various activities.



TERRESTRIAL INVASIVE SPECIES ***by Elaine Brophy***

LPSA members have devoted much energy to keeping our lakes free of aquatic invasive plants and animals, but we must also direct our efforts to terrestrial invasives. These plants and animals take over forest understories, kill forest trees, and some are toxic to humans and other plants. Examples of these invasives which are of concern in Hamilton County are Japanese knotweed, common reed grass, emerald ash borer, Asian longhorned beetle, hemlock wooly adelgid, garlic mustard, purple loosestrife, giant hogweed, and (recently added) spotted lanternfly. Pictures and descriptions of these invasives are found at the Hamilton County Soil and Water Department website: www.hamiltoncountyswcd.com. More information can be found by searching DEC (www.dec.ny.gov) and entering "terrestrial invasives" in the "search" box.

Members of the community are asked to be citizen scientists by surveying their properties and

roadsides to identify these invaders. If any are found, please contact Hamilton County Soil and Water Department at [518-548-3991](tel:518-548-3991) for information on disposal of them. If you choose to dig plants, do not leave any roots as the plants will multiply. Put the plants in a plastic bag and allow to dry out. Do not allow seeds to disperse.

To prevent the spread of the invasives, carefully clean shoes and pant legs after walking where invasives might be, and clean any tools used to remove the plants.

Our Adirondack woodlands and meadows are critical to our environment. May we each help to keep them free of damaging plants and animals.



CANADA GEESE NUISANCE by Tom Rippere

Is your property plagued by a gaggle of geese gathering on your grounds? Are their plentiful piles of poop placing a pungent pox on your pleasant property? Is your beach besmirched? If so, you are not alone. In the past, Canada geese simply passed through New York on their migration route. However, in recent years, many geese have taken up residence in New York. The New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) calculates that New York state could sustain a permanent resident population of 75,000 geese, but DEC estimates that we currently have 200,000 geese residing in New York. Each goose can create a pound of droppings per day. If you have a large number of geese gathering on your lawn or beach, that can create quite an unsanitary mess!



What can be done? The problem has become severe enough that DEC has an entire web page devoted to this subject. You can get more details about Nuisance Canada Geese at <http://www.dec.ny.gov/animals/7003.html>. This web page contains information on a variety of tactics that can be used to reduce the problem. The most effective technique may be

placing a string barricade along your shoreline, about 12 inches above the ground. Surprisingly, the geese will not go over or under this string, and this alone may be adequate to discourage the birds from perambulating on your property. Another successful approach is to place streamers of Mylar or metallic reflective tape near the shore. One product, "Duck Tape", does little to discourage ducks, but has been successful in keeping geese away.

For additional information on this topic, please read the eight-page pamphlet from DEC, titled "When Geese Become a Problem" <http://www.dec.ny.gov/docs/wildlife/pdf/geeseproblem.pdf>

If you do want to keep geese off your property in the summer, it is best to discourage them early in the season. Once they lay their eggs, they are not likely to leave the area. Also, they molt in the warmer months (June), and cannot fly for about six weeks. They will be less likely to leave their new chosen home area during the time when they are unable to fly.



CONTACT US

Additional information about LPSA is available on our website LPSA-ny.org

If you want to speak to someone, you can contact Mitzi Fox, LPSA President, at 980-879-7805, or 518-548-5725 (summer) or send an email to her at MitziLPSA@gmail.com if you have any concerns or questions.

Like and Follow us on Face Book @ LPSA2016. You can see pictures of various seasons, add your own pictures, or read about upcoming events and projects in the LAKE PLEASANT / SACANDAGA area.

LOCAL AMATEUR RADIO OPERATORS by Bill Thielking

You may have noticed the Hamilton County Radio Club with their portable stations set up at the Speculator pavilion or other locations around town. They often have a portable 35 foot tower supporting antennas. There is a club repeater atop Oak Mountain, which affords amateur radio communications on the 2 meter amateur radio band. Communication is possible as far south as Northville and into Indian Lake to the north. Also, the club has a high frequency station at the Lake Pleasant Fire Department for long distance communications.

The club's members and equipment are often

used to support various events in the community, including the Piseco Triathlon, the Lane 10K and the Black Fly bike race through the Moose River Plains. The portable radio setups, usually battery powered, are in fact, practice demonstrations enabling emergency communication within and from our community in the event of need. There are 25 amateur radio calls signs (operators) within the club. Community folks are encouraged to join.

For additional information, contact Bill Thielking, at 239-245-8965 or 518-369-9861 or chemisst@yahoo.com (Call Sign K2LML)



LOCAL CONSERVATION EDUCATOR HONORED WITH NATIONAL PHOTO AWARD by Tom Rippere

Hamilton County Soil and Water Conservation District's Conservation Educator Caitlin Stewart received first place for the National Association of Conservation Districts' annual photo contest. She placed first in the Conservation in Action category for her photo titled "Asian longhorn beetle masquerade". The photo shows students at Lake Pleasant Central School wearing masks they created while learning about invasive insects.

Caitlin Stewart said she was honored to receive the award, and added "The photo brings a smile to my face because it captured kids learning about invasive insects while showing off masks they cre-

ated. These young people are the future stewards of our environment, and that future is so bright!"



LPSA HAS A NEW P.O BOX NUMBER

LPSA has a new mailing address for all future membership renewals, dues payment checks, and luncheon and picnic reservations and payments. This will be noted on the forms and notices. LPSA, P.O. Box 383, Wells, NY 12190-0383. Our Speculator post office box number remains active and correspondence for board members can still be mailed to Box 164 Speculator NY 12164-0164.



GOVERNOR PROPOSES REDUCTION IN STATE TAX PAYMENTS TO ADIRONDACK COMMUNITIES by Tom Rippere

(compiled from articles in *Adirondack Almanack* and *Hamilton County Express*)

Since the creation of the Forest Preserve in 1885, New York State has paid property taxes to communities, in order to reflect the benefits afforded to all New Yorkers: clean air and water, and recreational opportunities. Currently, the state makes tax payments to local Adirondack communities based on the assessed value of the state-owned property (forest) within the community. Governor Cuomo proposed a budget this year which would shift from a typical 'ad valorem' taxation model, where communities can assess the property as though it is privately owned, to a Payment in Lieu of Taxes (PILOT). State officials have said the proposal would result in the loss of tax dollars by local municipalities and schools. For some communities in the Adirondacks, state lands within their boundaries comprise over 50 percent of their tax base, and even as high as over 90 percent for some communities in Hamilton County. In 2010, for example, the Town of Lake Pleasant received \$1.8 million in tax payments from the State of New York.

Thankfully, the Senate and Assembly soundly rejected this proposal in their budgets, sending a clear message of support for our public lands and for the communities who host these lands. The next step is a three-way negotiation between the Governor, the Senate, and the House, to finalize the state budget.



CUOMO APPROVES BOREAS PONDS COMPROMISE

Gov. Andrew M. Cuomo recently approved designating much of the Boreas Ponds tract as wilderness where no motor vehicles will be allowed, though vehicles will be able to use an existing road to drive within a mile of the ponds. The governor signed off on a compromise recommended by the Adirondack Park Agency (APA) in January and supported by a number of environmental groups, though not all. The decision comes after two years of debate that has been among the most intense in the recent history of the Adirondacks about the 20,000-acre property's future. The ponds, seven miles from the nearest paved road, have a spectacular view of the High Peaks from the south. The APA recommendation was considered a compromise between wilderness advocates and officials in the five towns around the ponds, who believe allowing public access directly to the ponds would have the most tourism development potential.

The Boreas Ponds were the last lands to be classified among the 65,000 acres the state has acquired from The Nature Conservancy as part of a historic deal under which the state has acquired forested lands that once belonged to Finch, Pruyn & Co. Cuomo's statement on the classification noted the potential economic benefits to local communities, which hope to develop a stronger tourism industry.

This article is an excerpt from The Daily Gazette. The full article is available from this hyperlink.

<https://dailygazette.com/article/2018/03/20/cuomo-approves-boreas-ponds-compromise>



The National Parks are celebrating their Centennial. However, the Adirondack Park was established in 1892 and is greater in size than Yellowstone, Everglades, Glacier and Grand Canyon combined. The boundary of the Park encompasses approximately 6 million acres, nearly half of which belongs to all the people of New York State and is constitutionally protected to remain a "forever wild" forest preserve. The LPSA is committed to preserve it's beauty and natural healthy environment.

MEET YOUR BOARD MEMBERS



Mitzi Fox

Mitzi is the current President of LPSA and LPSF. She also serves on the Lake Pleasant-Speculator Revitalization Committee, coordinating the bench and tree projects, and serves with the Garden Club. Mitzi has worked on all aspects of the LPSA programs during the past 8 years, recently emphasizing increasing our membership, involving LPSA as an integral part of the community, and developing and strengthening the financial assets of the Foundation. She feels a strong responsibility to protect the environmental assets of our area, particularly the purity of our waters, for future generations.



Lyn Van Druff

Lyn is the First Vice-President of LPSA, and also serves on the Board as Chair of Board Development and Membership committees. Lyn has been a member of the Board of Directors since 2012. She is now retired after teaching for 42 years. During Lyn's tenure on the Board of Directors, she has been involved writing articles for the newspaper, developing programs, working on membership directory, revising the By-Laws and being an advocate for LPSA in the community. Lyn's skills are in organization and management. Most recently, she is spearheading a new model that looks at organizational flow and how board members can fill those needs.



Tom Rippere

Tom is the Second Vice-President of LPSA, and also serves as the editor for the LPSA newsletter. He is recently retired, and thrilled to be able to spend three or four months each year in the beautiful Adirondacks, at his family's camp on the south shore of Lake Pleasant. He is active as one of many LPSA lake shore monitors, checking a section of the lake shoreline each year for aquatic invasive species. He has also worked with Peter Tobiessen and Jim Olsen on the CSLAP program, collecting lake water samples to monitor the health and chemistry of our lakes.



Mark Crary

Mark is the Treasurer of LPSA and LPSF, while also overseeing the financial activity of the Huber Fund. Spending summers in Speculator at the family camp since birth, Mark now lives here full time with his wife Gwen. Mark has been a lake monitor on Lake Pleasant for several years, and contributes to the Town of Lake Pleasant blackfly control program during spring. Most summer days will find Mark on the golf course, hiking, kayaking or fishing with the grand kids.



Dan Wilt

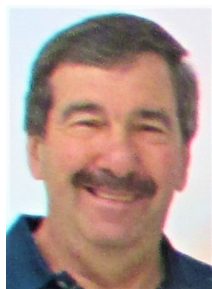
Dan is Secretary of LPSA and also serves on the Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS) Grant Committee. Dan lives on Sacandaga Lake in the Town of Lake Pleasant and is also the Supervisor of the Town of Lake Pleasant. Dan also serves as a Council member of the North Country Economic Development Council, and is a Commissioner of the Adirondack Park Agency.

MEET YOUR BOARD MEMBERS - Continued



Jim Hammond

Jim is a member of the LPSA Board of Directors. Jim and his family had a vacation home in Speculator all through his childhood. He left the area in 1980 to become a member of our armed services followed by a career in the defense industry. In August of 2005 he and his family moved back to NY and he took the position of President and CEO of Gospel Volunteers Inc., a Christian non-profit that owns and operates CAMP-of-the-WOODS in Speculator. The protection of our local lakes is important to Jim and he is actively involved to ensure initiatives are developed and followed to protect them. Jim is an active outdoorsman and enjoys mountain biking, hiking and hunting in the Adirondacks. Jim and his wife Debbi have four children and seven grandchildren.



Charlie Ascher

Charlie is beginning his tenth year on the board of directors. He previously served as President for three years, from 2011-2013. He is the coordinator for the LPSA School Research and Presentation program which is entering its seventh year of existence. Charlie also was involved with the successful submittal of the DEC Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS) grant which brought over \$250,000 to the Town of Lake Pleasant. Additional time is dedicated to record keeping for the grant and the preparation of quarterly progress reports to DEC which are required for continued funding of the program. Charlie has been a lake shore monitor for many years and has been involved with the committees on By-Laws, nominations and the directory. Charlie is retired and spends most of the year at the family home located on the north side of Lake Pleasant with his wife, Sharon, and the family.



Elaine Brophy

Elaine's late husband brought her to the Adirondacks for their honeymoon in 1956. He introduced her, a flatlander from Michigan, to the mountains where he had vacationed since birth and had become an Adirondack 46er. The family still has the family camp, built in 1931, on Sacandaga Lake at the outlet. Elaine taught music in the public schools for many years and enjoys playing with the Pretty Good Band in Speculator. She has also enjoyed participating in the Speculator/Lake Pleasant Garden Club. Her five grandchildren love to come to Camp and are climbing the High Peaks to become 46ers. When at camp, all enjoy sailing, going down the outlet to see the wildlife, and listening to the loons. Elaine invites you to come and chat with her, and check out the Invasive Species Display at the Farmer's Market.

Mark Donecker

Mark started coming to Speculator in 1977 with his family, and the family purchased the old Osborne Cottage on Lake Pleasant. His two children spent their entire summers on Lake Pleasant. He recently moved to Speculator full time as of September 2014. He was employed for 34 years by the New York City Department of Environmental Protection, Bureau of Water Supply as an Administrative Manager and Chief of Eastern Operations. Some of his responsibilities were operations and maintenance of NYC water supply reservoirs and lakes, dams, chlorination facilities, and over 50 miles of water supply tunnels. He is currently a Director of LPSA and he hopes his career working with water quality and the public's consumption of potable water will allow him to assist LPSA in meeting its objectives.

Karl Eckhoff

Larry Smith

MEET YOUR BOARD MEMBERS - Continued



Jim Olsen

Jim serves on the Ecology Committee of LPSA, and has been a member of the Board of Directors since 2013. He works with Lake Ecologist Peter Tobiessen on the CSLAP program, checking water clarity and collecting lake water samples for lab analysis. As coordinator for the Lake Shore Monitoring Program, he organizes the volunteers who survey their assigned shorelines for suspect invasive aquatic plants. A watersports enthusiast, Jim enjoys kayaking and sailing on Lake Pleasant. During the winter months he is an active member in 2 local snowmobile clubs.



Chari Smith

Charlotte (Chari) Smith moved to Speculator “temporarily” 52 years ago and stayed. She has been married to husband Chuck for 55 years. Chari has been a member of LPSA for about 25 years, and is a past Secretary. She is a full time resident and lives on Old Indian Lake Rd./ Page Hill, behind the Melody Lodge. As the elected Town Clerk/Tax Collector, she realized she knew 99% of the voting public, but not very many part-time residents. She initially joined LPSA to meet more part-time residents and hear their community concerns. Chari sits on the Social Committee and chairs the Spring Luncheon and Summer Picnic. She also assists with membership. She and a small group planted the LPSA-sponsored triangle flower bed at four corners and the Village flower barrels for 17 years. This Spring, she and her husband retired as Professional Ski Instructors, after 48 years at Gore Mountain and Oak Mountain.

Chari has observed, “This region is a beautiful places to live, and a difficult place to live. Businesses come and go. Jobs come and go. So do our young people. Economic development is discussed and discussed. Life moves slowly. Our star asset is our water - lakes, rivers and streams - and it is a great necessity to keep them pure. It is the main thing the Adirondacks and surrounding communities have going for them.”



Bill Thielking

Bill is a board member, chairs the Nominating Committee and is a past LPSA president. He lives at Oxbow Lake with his wife, Susan. They relocate to Fort Myers in winter months. Bill enjoys hiking in the northcountry and fly fishing in the West Canada Creek, the Ausable, Indian and Saranac Rivers. Anyone wishing to accompany or learn flyfishing is welcome to join. He fishes Oxbow Lake several times each week, returning his catch to the waters. Oxbow is a shallow weedy lake, particularly endangered by invasive weeds and animals. Bill and Susan have two children and two grandchildren.



Peter Tobiessen

Peter has retired from teaching biology and ecology at Union College for 40+ years. He taught a course and did research on aquatic ecology and after retirement wrote a book about lake ecology featuring Sacandaga Lake and Lake Pleasant—“The Secret Life of a Lake” (available at Charlie Johns and Amazon). Peter and his wife have a camp on Sacandaga Lake near the outlet. Peter has served on the LPSA Board, it seems, forever. He currently has the title of LPSA “Lake Ecologist”, and was instrumental in starting our Lake Steward program in 2002 and for at least 20 years has run our CSLAP program that monitors our lakes for water quality – with the help of financial subsidies and water analyses from DEC. Peter says it's fun to work with other LPSA volunteers who love our lakes as much as he does.

LPSA BOARD DEVELOPMENT by Lyn Van Druff

Lake Pleasant Sacandaga Association has been in existence for over 60 years. During that time there have been many changes in our societal, cultural, and environmental needs. Still, the preservation of the Adirondack beauty and the purity of our lakes has remained our primary mission.

As the Board has been looking to the vibrant future of our organization and its mission, we see the need to fill leadership positions with those who have the skills or interests that match the organizational needs, and will provide a seamless flow of leadership. Clearly we need those who have a biological, aquatic, or ecological background to address water quality, invasive species (both aquatic and terrestrial), and overall clean water issues.

However in today's world we need many more skills to successfully promote, communicate, and lead our Association, so that we can continue to be a vital organization protecting our Adirondack beauty and our lake purity. Our town's economic life depends on those issues.

Some of the skilled positions that are currently needed are:

- Ecologist / Biologist / Water quality manager
- Web Designer
- Web and Social Media coordinator
- Accountant / Financial Planner
- Writer / Communications Director
- Word Processor / Data Entry / Administrative Skill
- Educational Coordinator
- Grant Writer
- Community Liaison
- Activities Director
- Membership Drive Coordinator

If you have a background or interest in any of these areas and would consider volunteering in a specific limited role, or serving the community through the LPSA Board of Directors for a three year term, we would be interested in hearing from you. We would be happy to discuss your interests, skills and ideas. It is our desire to establish a seamless flow of Directors who can provide leadership for future years.

If you are interested in more information, please contact us at:

MitziLPSA@gmail.com OR LynLPSA@gmail.com



Belinda Germain

Belinda is not a member of the LPSA Board of Directors, but she has worked diligently as our administrator for 21 years, performing a number of important tasks for LPSA, including receiving and tracking member annual dues, payments for luncheons and other events, maintaining membership lists, formatting-printing-mailing our Newsletter, and helping to keep the LPSA website up to date. Belinda is a life-long resident of the area, graduated from Wells Central School and attended SUNY at Cortland. She worked in the insurance industry for 32 years as a licensed agent, earning the designation of a Certified Insurance Counselor. She was elected to the Wells Central School Board of Education, serving for ten years and as its president for five years. She owns Sew Bee It, a sewing, embroidery and screen printing business selling items and services mostly online. She lives in Wells with her husband Len Kilinski.

Support Area Businesses:

The businesses below are those business members who have chosen to display their logo or business card with info. If you are interested, please contact us - email: lpas@frontiernet.net

Red Pines B&B

South Shore Road, Lake Pleasant, NY 12108

Your Adirondack Retreat
Three comfortable guest rooms
on the lake.

Phone: 518-548-5382

Website: www.redpinesbb.com

Email: diane@redpinesbb.com

Charlie Johns Store

The Four Corners

Speculator NY 12164

Phone: 518-548-7451

Or 888-548-7455

Fax 518-548-6392

Email: info@charliejohns.com

Visit: www.charliejohns.com

Housewares, Camping, Bakery, Outdoors,
Groceries, Bookstore

Mountain Market

Route 30, PO Box 27

Speculator NY 12164

518-548-4820

Lake Pleasant Marine

PO Box 739 Route 8

Lake Pleasant NY 12108

Ph 518-548-7711 Fax 518-548-7712

Email: LPMarine@frontiernet.net

Website: www.lakepleasantboatrentals.com

Sales: Premier Pontoon Boats, Evinrude E-Tech

Full Marine Service: Winter storage

Rentals: Pontoon Boats, Ski Boats, Fishing Boats &
Motors, Kayaks, Canoes

And: Launching, Mooring, Gas at Dock and
Marine Supplies

Speculator Spirits

Elizabeth Gillespie 518-548-7361

Route 30 Speculator NY 12164

Tanner's Outdoor Sports, Inc.

Route 8, PO Box 186 Speculator, NY 12164

tannersoutdoorsports@yahoo.com

Phone: 518-548-7705

Fax: 518-548-7701

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Don Vogel, President

Route 8 PO Box 418

Speculator, NY 12164

Ph: 518-548-5995 Fax: 518-548-7819

Email: vogelexc@frontiernet.net

Home Building, Renovations, Septic Systems
Sand & Gravel, Back Hoe, Bulldozing,
Tree Service

Your business information could ap-
pear in our newsletter. Member busi-
nesses are included here for free. They
are also listed on our website at
www.lpsa-ny.org.
Business memberships are \$30.

Alpine Meadows Chalets

CHARI & CHUCK SMITH

Po Box 14
Speculator NY 12164
518-548-5615
chariks@frontiernet.net

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www.oakmountainski.com www.facebook.com/oakmtn

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PO Box 565
Wells NY 12190
518-924-4492

Lawrence & Smith, PLLC

Strawberry Lane, PO Box 156
Speculator NY 12164
Phone: 518-548-2771 Fax: 518-548-2447
Website: www.speculatorlawyers.com
Katie Smith, Esq
Email: katie@speculatorlawyers.com

Kendal's Beauty Salon

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Website: www.lakepleasnatlodge.com*

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Oxbow Lake Motel

2105 State Route 8
Lake Pleasant NY 12108
518-548-8603

The Inn at Speculator

PO Box 163, Speculator NY 12164
Ph 518-548-3811

Bearhurst

PO Box 526 Speculator, NY 12164
Ph: 518-548-3051
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An Adirondack experience
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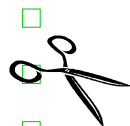
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Lake Pleasant, NY

Business memberships are \$30.



**IF YOU KNOW OF SOMEONE WHO WANTS TO JOIN, PLEASE
GIVE THEM THIS APPLICATION FOR NEW MEMBERS ONLY**

Name(s) _____

Mailing Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone # _____ Email _____

Hamilton County Location Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____ Phone # _____

CLASSES OF MEMBERSHIP: Make checks payable to: LPSA

Mail checks to: LPSA c/o Belinda Germain, Administrator, PO Box 383, Wells, NY 12190-0383

GIFTING MEMBERSHIPS

_____ SPONSOR \$30.00 _____ PATRON \$50.00 _____ BENEFACTOR \$100.00

_____ DONOR \$500.00 _____ FRIEND \$1,000

BASIC MEMBERSHIPS

_____ INDIVIDUAL \$15.00 _____ FAMILY \$20.00 _____ BUSINESS \$30.00



Lake Pleasant-Sacandaga Association
PO Box 164
Speculator NY 12164-0164

MAIL TO:

