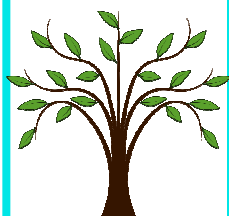


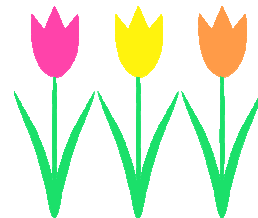


# LAKE PLEASANT-SACANDAGA ASSOCIATION



Volume 21-Issue 1

## NEWSLETTER SPRING 2019



Email: [lpsa@frontiernet.net](mailto:lpsa@frontiernet.net)

Website: [www.lpsa-nv.org](http://www.lpsa-nv.org)

### PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE by Lyn Van Druff

Dear LPSA member,

It's hard to believe that winter has come and gone and we are looking forward to a new summer with exciting times of friends, projects, and fabulous outdoor experiences. This past winter delivered a good amount of snow but with some crazy swings in temperatures that kept us all guessing. Winter sports and local businesses were kept busy!

Over the winter several issues were being explored by your LPSA Board.

One issue involved the seemingly ever-spreading plant growth near Cherry Brook beach, and the Algae blobs that appear more toward the north side of the lake. Peter Tobiesen and I spent a great deal of time with a fresh water expert from the APA. He was very informative and has agreed to come and examine our lake this summer and then present his findings and best suggestions to our board. It was set up for July, but we are trying to change the date due to this year's snow fall and the lake depth in early July. More on that as it is firmed up.

The second item was, we discovered, that the DEC was only giving us one lake steward position this year (2019) for Moffitt Beach. That would have meant no one for the boat wash DECON unit and no one for the pavilion boat launch. Dan Wilt and Charlie Ascher went into "full charge" mode. Phone calls, letters, documents, meetings, etc. In the end we were able to get DEC to add one additional lake steward to cover the DECON station. That still leaves us short 1.5 persons, but certainly in much better shape than we would have been. Kudos to Dan and Charlie! If you know of anyone who would be interested in assisting with that job this summer, please contact me. ([LynLPSA@gmail.com](mailto:LynLPSA@gmail.com))

Third, our web site host decided to retire. Although we are continuing with the new owner for this year, we are looking for another web designer and host. If this is your business or know someone who specializes in designing and hosting, we would appreciate hearing from you. ([LynLPSA@gmail.com](mailto:LynLPSA@gmail.com)).

Our LPSA/Lake Pleasant School program is again up and running. We are taking all 7-9 graders from LPCS to Lake George Floating Classroom in early June. The students are also preparing presentations in conjunction with their Science, Language Arts, and Computer Technology classes. This is such a fabulous educational initiative by LPSA and we are delighted that the faculty of LPCS shows such support. The next generation is learning so much about protecting our lakes and environment.

We are looking for someone who would like to organize one or two trips this summer for interested members. While LPSA's primary purpose is lake ecology, a few events with friends are always fun. Let me know if you are interested in planning one for this summer.

Lastly, we would encourage any member who would like to be involved on any of our committees to please make your desires known. As a Board, we may not be aware of any interests or skills that you might be willing to share. Remember, if we all pick up one stick, we'll have enough for a bonfire.

Sincerely,

Lyn Van Druff, LPSA President.  
[Lynlpsa@gmail.com](mailto:Lynlpsa@gmail.com)  
Txt: 610-299-1391



Editor: Tom Rippere

Design & Production by Belinda Germain

## **LAKE ECOLOGY COMMITTEE REPORT**

### **by Peter Tobriessen & Jim Olsen**

During the summer of 2018, we completed the second year of our 3-year sample period of the water quality of Sacandaga Lake in the Citizen State-wide Lake Assessment Program (CSLAP) sponsored by New York State Dept. of Environmental Conservation (DEC). Every 2 weeks over the summer, we recorded water temperatures and water clarity depths as well as collected water samples that were sent to state labs for analysis. We have not yet received the results from these samples, but we'll give an overview of these, plus historical data, at the LPSA annual meeting in August.

As reported in the fall newsletter, our lake monitors and our Certified Lake Manager survey of Lake Pleasant found no invasive aquatic plants in our lakes. The state-sponsored Lake Stewards at Moffitt Beach boat ramp did clear some invasive plant fragments from a few boats before they entered the lake.

However, the expansion

of the native grass-leaved-pondweed (GLP) in Lake Pleasant has caused concerns among many LPSA members, some of whom pushed for action by the LPSA. As a result, Peter contacted Leigh Walrath, the person in Adirondack Park Agency (APA) responsible for issuing permits for lake interventions, to get his thoughts. Since GLP is a native plant, APA has strict guidelines for any type of control. In October, Peter and LPSA President Lyn Van Druff had a fruitful hour-long phone discussion with Walrath. He offered to come to Lake Pleasant on July 16<sup>th</sup> this summer to tour the lake and explain APA's guidelines on native plant control to any interested LPSA members. In the meantime, the Lake Ecology Committee plans to further define the location and extent of the current populations next summer to give us some understanding of whether GLP is expanding, or perhaps even declining, in some places.

A few members have

asked about the man we hire to survey our lakes for invasive plants. His name is Steve LaMere and he's a Certified Lake Manager, one of the first in the state to have that title. Every year he surveys one of our lakes on a 3-year rotation—Lake Pleasant, Sacandaga, and Oxbow/Echo—and he has done so for almost 10 years. He is the final tier of our 3-tier program for preventing invasives from getting established in our lakes. The first two tiers are our boat ramp Lake Stewards and our Lake Shore Monitor members. (Note: Please read our plea for more Lake Shore Monitors in this issue of the newsletter.) He has a lot of experience with many lakes in the Adirondacks as a surveyor, consultant and a manager. He can give us a more comprehensive opinion of what's happening in our lakes. We value his broad perspective.



## **SOCIAL OUTINGS**

In recent years, LPSA has organized a variety of "social outings" to visit local scenic spots, museums, and historic sites. If you would be willing to plan and organize any event this summer, please contact LPSA President Lyn Van Druff, at [LynLPSA@gmail.com](mailto:LynLPSA@gmail.com)

## **SAVE THE DATE**

**Sunday, June 23 - Spring Brunch - Oak Mountain - Noon**  
**Sunday, August 18 - Annual Meeting & Summer Picnic - Oak Mountain - Noon**

## FREE BOAT WASH STATION FOR 2019 SEASON

By Charlie Ascher

Members of the Lake Pleasant Sacandaga Association (LPSA) set up the Speculator Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS) Decontamination Boat Wash Station and the security enclosure to insure that it would be operational by Memorial Day Weekend. The station was purchased through a DEC grant issued to the Town of Lake Pleasant and is operated by trained boat stewards under the supervision of the Adirondack Watershed Institute of Paul Smith College. The wash station is free to everyone who stops to



have their boat and/or watercraft inspected by the trained personnel. It is located in the parking lot on the northbound side of Route 30 just south of Speculator. The operation of this unit is part of a comprehensive statewide program to protect our lakes and waterways from the introduction of aquatic invasive plants and organisms as well as to prevent the transfer of AIS from infected lakes to other waterways that are clear of AIS.

It only takes a few minutes to have your boat inspected and decontaminated if necessary. Last summer this program precluded the launching of several infected boats into our precious lakes.



### Library Hours:

Lake Pleasant Public Library: Open - Mon, Wed, & Fri, 1-7 pm, Tue, Thur, Sat, 10-2 518-548-4411  
During July and August also open Tue & Thur 10-7 pm 518-548-4411

Virginia Hosley Free Library in Wells: Open: Tues & Thur 6 to 8 pm Sat 10 am to Noon  
Mah Jongg Game Night, every Tues 6 to 8 pm. Craft Night, every Thur 6-8 pm 518-924-2220

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

**We value your input! Please contact any member of the Board of Directors with suggestions to help make our organization and this newsletter a better one!**

## **FUNDING FOR AQUATIC INVASIVE SPECIES PREVENTION PROGRAM**

*by Charlie Ascher*

As previously reported, we have been operating under a three-year grant program through New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) to prevent the spread of aquatic invasive species. This grant provided 75% of the funding required to purchase the decontamination (DECON) station which was located in the northbound Route 30 rest area just south of Speculator along with the manpower to operate it. The grants also provided 75% of the funding for the ramp stewards who monitored the launching ramps at Moffitt beach, the Speculator Pavilion and the Indian Lake southern campsite. Unfortunately, this grant program which provided approximately \$250,000 in funding expired at the end of 2018.

Going forward in 2019, DEC changed the funding methods of the aquatic invasive species (AIS) prevention program from strictly grant funded, to an actual DEC budgeted operation through the Adirondack Watershed Institute (AWI) program of Paul Smith's College. Under this program, ramp and DECON stewards were assigned to various locations throughout the state, with funding as part of the DEC budget. Boat ramp and DECON locations were included in the allocation of manpower. These locations included the three launching ramps in Piseco, one at Moffitt Beach and one at the Indian Lake campsite ramps. However, there was no allocation of manpower to operate the Speculator DECON station that the Town of Lake Pleasant purchased under the previous grant program, nor was manpower assigned to monitor

the Speculator Pavilion ramp. This would leave a tremendous hole in the lake protection network in Speculator.

By the time we learned that there would not be any stewards assigned to the Speculator DECON station, the window to apply for any additional state grant funding had passed. A targeted and spirited response was initiated by the Town of Lake Pleasant and LPSA to convince the Adirondack Watershed Institute (AWI) of Paul Smith's College and DEC to reconsider the allocation of manpower. Letters were written, phone calls were made, face to face meetings were held as well as the submittal of additional data on boat launchings and decontaminations for 2018.

To make a very long story short, we were successful because we were recently informed by DEC that they did in fact reconsider the staffing pattern as a result of our efforts and additional data. The result was that we will have a trained steward assigned to the Speculator DECON station under the DEC staffing budget for 2019. However, the staffing protocol is re-evaluated on a year to year basis. This means that all launching and boat decontamination operations within the Town of Lake Pleasant will have to work with LPSA to ensure that accurate data is recorded for 2019. It will go a long way to provide justification for appropriate staffing for 2020.



## **INVASIVE SPECIES INFORMATION AT FARMER'S MARKET**

*by Tom Rippere*

LPSA is indebted to Elaine Brophy for the excellent work she did for many years, serving as a volunteer at the Farmer's Market each week at the Speculator Pavilion. She helped raise awareness of the threats of invasive species in the Adirondacks, including terrestrial and aquatic plants and animals. LPSA wants to continue this work, and we are looking for volunteers for this summer. If you are willing to volunteer a few hours each week, or a few hours at two or three Farmer's Market

days this summer, we can teach you all you need to know to help with this activity. Or, if you are willing to help by coordinating the scheduling of other volunteers, that would be welcome assistance also. Please contact Tom Rippere at [Tom-LPSA@yahoo.com](mailto:Tom-LPSA@yahoo.com) if you would like to volunteer or get more information.





## **FOND MEMORIES OF ELAINE BROPHY**

*by Tom Rippere*

Our friend and LPSA Board member, Elaine Brophy passed away last summer. We will miss her friendship and her contributions to LPSA.

Elaine and her late husband, Jere, met when they were both in the Symphony Band at the University of Michigan where Elaine was a Masters Degree student in music. Elaine and Jere spent their honeymoon at their camp on Lake Sacandaga in 1956. He introduced her, a "flatlander from Michigan" (her words), to the mountains where he had vacationed since birth. She soon came to love nature and hiking, camping, and boating in the Adirondacks. They raised three children there, all of whom, along with Jere, became 46-ers. Elaine was a 20+ -er. Elaine loved to have her five grandchildren come to Camp, where they enjoyed climbing the High Peaks, sailing, listening to the loons, and going down the Sacandaga outlet to see the wild-life.

Elaine taught in the public schools and had a private studio for saxophone and clarinet students for many years and enjoy playing with the Pretty Good Band in Speculator. She maintained musical proficiency throughout her life, performing

with major symphonies in the Cleveland area. She was also a talented vocalist.

When their three children were growing up she served as a Girl Scout leader. She was also active in the Ramapo Garden Club in Suffern, NY and enjoyed participating in the Speculator/Lake Pleasant Garden Club and TWIGS.

LPSA is thankful to Elaine for representing our organization at a booth at the Farmer's Market in Speculator each week for a number of years. She was a local expert on terrestrial invasive species. She spoke with area residents and visitors, and passed out literature to raise awareness of the threats of invasive species in our area. She was a lake shore monitor on Sacandaga, and also took part in the loon census.

Elaine was a gracious, smart and curious person who could light up a room with her smile. Her warm smile and the twinkle in her eye revealed that she loved life and loved being around other people.



## **LAKE SHORE MONITORING**

*by Tom Rippere*

What can you do to help protect the health of lakes in the Adirondacks? You can volunteer to spend a few hours of your time this summer in your canoe or kayak patrolling the shoreline of your lake to look for aquatic invasive species. Last summer, 36 LPSA volunteers logged over 100 hours on this activity. We could use more volunteers this summer! If you are willing to help with this important project, please send an email to Jim Olsen at [jamesrolsen@msn.com](mailto:jamesrolsen@msn.com)



## **DID YOU KNOW WE HAVE TWO ADDRESSES?**

### **CORRESPONDENCE TO BOARD MEMBERS**

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

### **ALL MEMBERSHIP RENEWALS, CHECKS & LUNCHEON RESERVATIONS:**

**Lake Pleasant-Sacandaga Association  
PO Box 383  
WELLS NY 12190-0383**

## *LPSA SPONSORS LPCS FIELD TRIP—2018*

### *By Charlie Ascher*

LPSA sponsored a 2018 field trip to the Wild Center in Tupper Lake for the Lake Pleasant School grades 7-9 on Thursday, last May. The planning of the trip was an integral part of the 2018 LPSA sponsored program, which focused on Terrestrial Invasive Species. The program required detailed independent research and subsequent presentation of the results to faculty as well as an LPSA review panel. Twenty-two students and five teachers went to the Wild Center on a bus provided by the school along with a representative of LPSA.

While at the Wild Center, all students participated in the Center's "Keep It Clean in The Trout Stream" program. This was chosen as it represented a direct augmentation of the school's science project in which the students grew actual trout from eggs and eventually released them into the wild. The students also had the opportunity to explore the new Wild Walk where they could see examples of an enormous spider web and an eagle's nest. Inside the Big Wolf Great Hall, they viewed various examples of wild life, fish, water flow, erosion and many other examples of nature in action throughout our mountains and forests.

This represents the completion of the second of LPSA's three-year revolving contest & trip program with the Lake Pleasant School. LPSA thanks the Lake Pleasant School for their continued support and inclusion of this program in the regular curriculum for grades 7-9. In 2019 the program will continue with its third cycle of topics and trips.





## WINNERS OF 2018 LPSA CONTEST AT LPCS by Charlie Ascher

The winners of the 2018 LPSA contest were announced at the annual awards ceremony last June at the Lake Pleasant School. Last year's project undertaken by all seventh, eighth and ninth grade students at the school was terrestrial invasive species. All students had their projects analyzed by their teachers. The best presentations were then reviewed and judged by a panel of representatives from the Lake Pleasant Sacandaga Association to ascertain the winners. This year the students excelled not only in the content of their projects, but also in the application of the various technical capabilities that they learned in school. Examples of these capabilities include imbedded multimedia components, interactive tests for the people observing the presentations, and even a digital presentation of an interview with a local expert on the topic.

First Place was awarded to Mason Kruggel. Second place was won by Sarah Smith, and third place was won by the team of Robin Kruggel and Shannon Vogel. Chase Smith and the team of Carter Orr and Josh Hughes were selected for Honorable Mention. Each winner received a framed certificate commemorating their accomplishment, as well as a \$250 gift card for the first-place winner, \$150 card for second place, \$50 for each of the third place team members and \$25 each for the honorable mention winners.

Congratulations again to all the winners and we hope to see new contenders for this year's program.



## **2019 LPSA SCHOOL PROGRAM & TRIP ANNOUNCED**

*by Charlie Ascher*

We are now entering the third cycle of the LPSA sponsored annual research program and field trip at the Lake Pleasant School. This year, all students in grades 7-9 will be required to conduct independent research projects in the field of aquatic invasive species. Upon completion of the research, all students will prepare a multimedia presentation which will be initially judged by their teachers. The best 5-6 presentations will be chosen as finalists and will be required to present their projects to a panel of judges from LPSA. Winners will then be chosen and awarded certificates of accomplishment as well as debit cards delineated to each winner's position in the final standings.

In addition to the projects, LPSA will be sponsoring a trip for all students from grades 7-9 to Lake George on Monday, June 17<sup>th</sup>. Upon arri-

val at Lake George, the students along with their teachers and LPSA representatives will board the Lake George Association's Floating Classroom for a day on the water. During the excursion, the students (and adults) will learn about the history of Lake George, and the problems that the lake is facing - especially concerning invasive species, available methods to combat invasive species and how to analyze lake water through the use of various types of equipment like collection nets, microscopes and Secchi disks. A trained LGA educator will be conducting the program on board the floating classroom. We are all hoping for a great day.



## **CONTACT US**

Additional information about LPSA is available on our website [LPSA-ny.org](http://LPSA-ny.org)

Please send all membership payment checks, luncheon reservations and other similar correspondence to LPSA, P.O. Box 383, Wells, NY 12190-0383.

To contact Lyn Van Druff, LPSA President, you can send mail to LPSA, P.O. Box 164, Speculator, NY 12164-0164, or send email to [LynLPSA@gmail.com](mailto:LynLPSA@gmail.com) if you have any questions or concerns.

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.

## **LPSA NOW ACCEPTS PAYMENTS ON-LINE**

If you would prefer the convenience of making payments to LPSA on-line, instead of mailing a check, you can now use the "PayPal buttons" on our website to pay for luncheons, annual membership renewals, and donations to the LPSF general fund or the LPSF Kathy Huber Memorial Fund. With the PayPal buttons, you can make payments to LPSA and LPSF using a credit card or your PayPal account. You do not need to have a PayPal account to use the credit card payment option.

## **LPSA MEMBERSHIP DIRECTORY**

Last year, LPSA printed an updated membership directory. If you did not yet receive your copy, and you want one, please plan to pick it up at a luncheon this summer, at the LPSA table at the weekly Farmer's Market, or by contacting Lyn Van Druff, at [LynLPSA@gmail.com](mailto:LynLPSA@gmail.com)



## **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](mailto:lpas@frontiernet.net)*

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**Or 888-548-7455**

**Fax 518-548-6392**

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**Housewares, Camping, Bakery, Outdoors,  
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518-548-4820**

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518-924-4492**

### **Tanner's Outdoor Sports, Inc.**

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appear in our newsletter. Member  
businesses are included here for  
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### **Alpine Meadows Chalets**

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Website: [www.speculatorlawyers.com](http://www.speculatorlawyers.com)  
Katie Smith, Esq  
Email: [katie@speculatorlawyers.com](mailto:katie@speculatorlawyers.com)**

### **Cedarhurst Motor Lodge**

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**Contact us at [lpas@frontiernet.net](mailto:lpas@frontiernet.net) for  
more information**



## 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 \_\_\_\_\_

\*\*\*\*\*

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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

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\_\_\_\_\_ SPONSOR \$30.00      \_\_\_\_\_ PATRON \$50.00      \_\_\_\_\_ BENEFactor \$100.00

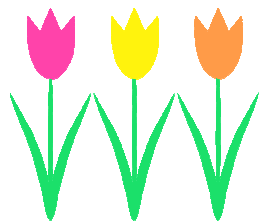
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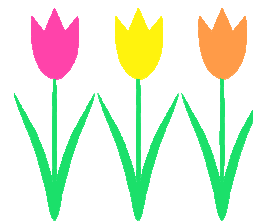
\_\_\_\_\_ INDIVIDUAL \$15.00      \_\_\_\_\_ FAMILY \$20.00      \_\_\_\_\_ BUSINESS \$30.00



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