



NEWSLETTER FALL 2023



Website: www.lpsa-ny.org

Email: LPSA.ADK@gmail.com

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

By Dan Wilt

I write this as the 2023 summer season comes to an end, most people have already pulled their boats and docks out of the lake, or are in the process. There are a few that take advantage of some nice days during the fall which is my best time of the year. Please take some time to check your boats for any unusual weeds and if you find some, let us know so we can evaluate what it might be.

Articles: Please take the time to read the following articles in the publication. We are looking for candidates for Lake Stewards for the 2024 season. This is a great way to make some money and help protect our lakes. Call 518-369-4961 if you have an interest.

In The Works: Last year I proposed to the LPSA Board the need for a Lake Management Plan. During our 2023 summer board meetings some great minds of the board volunteered to tackle this. Thank you Rich Armstrong, Scott MacMillen, Tom Rippere, and Jim Olsen. This is a requirement in many cases when applying for Grants and a great way to

help monitor our lakes. As part of the process to develop this plan, we will conduct an online survey of concerns people have about the health of local lakes, so watch for that survey in your email in the next few months. I'd also like to thank Charlie Ascher, Kim Lewis, and Mark Donecker for spearheading the purchase of some special netting for removing the sediment and other items from shorelines in our lakes. These are available to members and the Village for use.

In addition to monitoring our lakes on a regular basis, this year some additional testing is being done by LPSA with assistance from the Adirondack Watershed Institute. Phosphorous levels are being sampled at key positions so more to come on this in the future, but so far things are looking pretty good.

Membership: In my Spring message I mentioned recognition of other members, so today I would like to recognize Mitzi Fox for her many years of service to LPSA. Mitzi's the lady who you could find in the triangle garden at the intersection of Rt 8 and 30 in town weeding, planting, and grooming. Mitzi is also a past President of LPSA and Board member with over ten years of service. Thank you for your service to LPSA Mitzi.

Funding: LPSA was notified from the Town of Lake Pleasant Supervisor of a cut to our budget line which will make it even more

challenging to protect our lakes. Though most of the cost of Lake Stewards is covered by your dues and donations, additional funds needed to fulfil this task. Please take the time to let your Town Board know how important it is to keep our lakes clean of invasives so we all can enjoy what we've been working hard to protect.



"Lake Pleasant", watercolor painting by LPSA member Kit Fairchild.

LPSA Luncheon Changes: This year, the traditional membership spring luncheon meeting was changed to a "Meet and Greet" get together at the Lemon Tree which was a great success, and the summer membership luncheon was changed to a Chicken Barbeque which was also a success with over fifty people attending. Plans are in the works for the 2024 season so more to come. This is a great way to meet and discuss current conditions and the future of our lakes.

That's all for now folks, Looking forward to a long cold winter (just kidding) and hope to see you soon!



Editor: Tom Rippere Design & Production: Belinda Germain

DONATIONS & THE KATHY HUBER FUND

By Tom Rippere, Vice President of Gifting

Our organization manages a variety of programs, projects, and activities that help to protect the health of our lakes. Those activities are regularly reported in our newsletter to keep our members informed about all the work that is accomplished by our association. You should be proud of what is accomplished by your organization!

These programs require funding for LPSA to achieve its objectives. Our membership fees cover about half of our expenses, and the balance is covered by generous donations from our members in addition to their annual membership fees. THANK YOU to all of you for supporting LPSA, both with your membership fees and your donations.

Money donated to our *General Fund* is used to cover our regular annual expenses. Twelve years ago, LPSA member John Huber established the *Kathy Huber Memorial Fund* in memory of his late wife, to create an emergency fund that could be used to fight any invasive species that are found in our lakes in the future. Each year, John has generously matched all contributions made by other

members, to help this fund grow. Fortunately, we have not yet needed to draw from this fund. However, if an invasive plant is discovered in any of our lakes, we want to have funds available to address the problem quickly before the invader gets firmly established in our lakes.

Our 2023 Spring Newsletter contained articles on the Kathy Huber Fund and the invasive plants that pose the greatest threat to our local lakes. We encouraged members to donate to this fund, to help us build up this *Disaster Fund*. If you have not yet made a donation to this fund this year, any donation of any size would be appreciated. Tax-deductible donations can be made at any time by mailing a check to LPSF [Lake Pleasant – Sacandaga Foundation], PO Box 383, Wells, NY 12190 or on-line on our website at LPSA-NY.org. Please include a memo note on your check if you want it to go to the Kathy Huber Fund. – Thank you.



SAVE THE DATE

LPSA has two events scheduled for next summer. We hope you will plan to join us:

Sunday June 23 --- "Meet and Greet" 4:30 to 6:30 pm, at The Lemon Tree Brewery Sunday, August 25th, Annual Meeting and member gathering

(Place and time to be determined.)

Please plan to bring a friend and prospective member with you to help us enroll new LPSA members.

CONTACT US

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

Please send all membership payment checks, event reservations and other similar correspondence to LPSA, P.O. Box 383, Wells, NY 12190-0383. You can contact us at LPSA.ADK@gmail.com

To contact Dan Wilt, LPSA President, you can send email to <u>dan@wiltindustries.com</u> 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.

NUISANCE ALGA PLAGUING LAKE PLEASANT BEACHES

By Peter Tobiessen, LPSA Lake Ecologist

Some of Lake Pleasant's shoreline residents have recently been bothered by the accumulation of masses of dead plant material littering their beaches. If you wade out into the shallow water, you can see zillions of spherical little puffy things floating in the water. They look like small pom-poms (about a half inch in diameter) made up of hundreds of tiny filaments. As far as I can tell, this plant is an alga named *Batrachospermum*, as shown in the illustration. When it is actively growing, it is actually green, and it grows in sandy areas at depths of about 6-8 ft.

Although you may despise this innocent little plant, let me fill you in on its interesting ancestry and maybe you can grow to appreciate it just a little. Algae as a group are incredibly diverse, divided into groups called green algae, blue-green algae, brown algae, red algae, and many others. A major difference among these groups is the type of photosynthetic and accessory pigments they contain. The latter give the algae their color. Most of the algae you are familiar with in our lakes are green algae.

The browns and reds are typically marine (salt water), but *Batrachos*



permum is an exception. It is a fresh water red alga. Virtually all its relatives are marine. In addition, it has lost its reddish pigments and appears green. It would be interesting to know how this rebellious little alga rejected its marine cousins to reside with us uplanders. Most *Batrachospermum* species live in cool nutrient poor waters like bogs and are very sensitive to pollution, so its presence in our lake may be the result of our good water quality (and maybe a bog on Cherry Creek?).

LAKE STEWARDS PROTECT OUR LAKES

By Tom Rippere

The mission of Lake Pleasant – Sacandaga Association is to preserve and protect the health and beauty of all lakes in the Town of Lake Pleasant. One of our top concerns is keeping invasive plants and animals out of our lakes. If an invasive species becomes established in a lake, it can be difficult or impossible to completely remove it. Hence, we work very hard to prevent the introduction of any new invasive species in our lakes. The best defense is inspection and cleaning of any boats and sports equipment that are moved from one lake to another to prevent "hitchhiking" pests from being introduced into our lakes.

New York Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) provides funding for Lake Stewards who provide inspections and free cleaning of boats, motors, and trailers at 98 locations throughout the Adirondacks. This program is administered by the Adirondack Watershed Institute (AWI) at Paul Smith's College. Last summer 110 full-time and part-time Lake Stewards performed these jobs to help protect Adirondack lakes from invasive species. These stewards inspected more than 33,000 watercraft this year.

Lake Stewards working this summer at Moffitt Beach, Speculator Pavilion, CAMP-of-the-WOODS, Lake Pleasant Marine, and the Speculator boat wash station surveyed 2,393

LAKE STEWARDS PROTECT OUR LAKES -Continued

By Tom Rippere

boats, and found organisms and/or debris attached to 634 of those boats. Ten of those boats had invasive aquatic species that we want to keep out of our lakes. The work of these Lake Stewards is vital to the protection of our lakes against invasive species.

In addition to the workers funded by DEC, the Town of Lake Pleasant hires part-time Lake Stewards to monitor local boat ramps on the days of the week when the AWI employees are off-duty. These workers are funded jointly by the Town of Lake Pleasant and LPSA. This provides coverage at local boat ramps seven days a week at the boat ramps at Moffit Beach Campground on Sacandaga Lake and at the Speculator Pavilion. We also hire a Lake Steward to monitor boats being launched at Lake Pleasant Marine on Saturdays and Sundays, when a high number of boats are launched at that location.

If you have guests who bring boats or sports equipment to our area, let them know they can get their equipment cleaned at the free boat wash station on Route 30, south of Speculator. If people are launching boats from your property (including PWCs, canoes, kayaks, and stand-up paddleboards), please encourage them to get the boats washed before they are launched in our lakes.

SUMMER JOB OPPORTU-NITY FOR LAKE STEWARDS Seasonal employment – Full Time or Part Time



Each summer, we need a large number of Lake Stewards at boat ramps in the area to educate boaters about the threats of aquatic invasive species and to inspect boats and trailers that might be contaminated with invasive species traveling from other lakes. We also need staff to operate boat wash stations. This year's workers included high school students, college students, retired individuals, year-round and seasonal residents. AWI will begin accepting applications for next year beginning in Janu-



ary 2024. Information will be available on their website, under "Employment": https://www.adkwatershed.org/

Interested applicants should contact the following:

Sue O'Reilly, Operations Manager, Adirondack Watershed Institute (AWI), Paul Smith's College, soreilly1@paulsmiths.edu

Dan Wilt, LPSA President, dan@wiltindustries.com



Photos provided by Adirondack Watershed Institute

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

By Lyn Van Druff

LPSA is a non-profit organization, powered by VOLUNTEERS. With more volunteers, we will be a stronger organization, and we can accomplish even more. Please review the activities listed below. If you have any interest, please contact Dan Wilt dan@WiltEnterprises.com), or any of our directors. — Thanks for your energy and enthusiasm!

LAKE SHORE MONITORING

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 in your canoe, kayak, or rowboat patrolling the shoreline of your lake to look for aquatic invasive species. Each summer, LPSA volunteers survey over 30 miles of shoreline on lakes in our area to watch for invasive plant species. At the beginning of each summer season, Jim Olsen provides training for the volunteers, to teach them how to identify various potential invasive species. The volunteers patrol the shorelines by boat to look for these invasive plants. If any suspicious plants are found, the plant's location is reported, and a specimen is collected for further analysis and confirmation. If the plant is an invasive that we do not want in our lakes, LPSA will work with county and state organizations to work on eradicating the invader before it becomes firmly established in our lakes.

Each year, our many lake shore monitors log over 100 hours on this activity. THANK YOU to all the volunteers who participate in this important program. If you would like to join this team, please send an email to Jim Olsen at JAMESTOLSEN@msn.com

NEW DIRECTORS FOR LPSA

Our organization needs new Directors each year to bring new ideas and energy to our Board. If you are interested in becoming a Board member, or you know someone who might be a good candidate, please contact any LPSA board member, to let us know.

SOCIAL OUTINGS

In the past, LPSA volunteers have planned and organized "social outings" which provided opportunities for LPSA members to spend time together, while visiting a local scenic spot, a local museum, an historic site, or other place of interest. While LPSA's primary purpose is lake ecology, a few events with friends are always fun. If you are willing to plan and organize such an event, we would love to have your help.

WEB SITE MANAGER

LPSA uses a variety of media channels to share information with our members. We are looking for a volunteer (or volunteers) to help manage our website, by posting news items and keeping our website information current. If you can help with this, please contact Tom Rippere (<u>TomLPSA@yahoo.com</u>).

COMMITTEES and OTHER IDEAS & QUESTIONS

Lastly, we encourage any member who would like to be involved on any of our committees to please make your desires known. We may not be aware of your interests or skills that you are willing to share. If you have any other ideas, questions, or suggestions, please do not hesitate to contact us. For your reference, here is a list of our committees:

Water Quality & Lake Ecology Environmental Affairs / Grants Membership & Activities Communication Education / Community and School Community Enhancement Nominating / Board Development



LAKE PLEASANT SCHOOL PROGRAM UPDATE

By Charlie Ascher

LPSA sponsored another very successful school program at the Lake Pleasant School for grades 4-8. The children in grades 7 and 8 each completed extensive research projects on aquatic invasive species and prepared multimedia presentations which

Mr. Cline (center) helps his students plant trees

were reviewed by a panel of LPSA representatives. The lower grades all participated in a program cosponsored by LPSA and the Hamilton County Soil and Water Conservation District (HCSWCD), which now is a member of our Board of Directors. The lower grade students are being exposed to the concepts of erosion and its prevention along with pollution of our lakes and streams through a hands-on experience. Students helped plant hundreds of trees to help hold soil in place in an area where flooding had

washed out a trout stream that flows into Piseco Lake. The program for the younger children will continue in the future as a joint venture with HCSWCD.

For 2024, LPSA will sponsor a research project for grades 7 and 8 on terres-

trial invasive species, their origins, negative effects and eradication. This will be coordinated with a class trip, the destination to be determined by the Education Committee. children in grades 4-6 will participate in another hands-on experience which will be co-sponsored by HCSWCD. Not only does this introduce the concepts involved with protecting our lakes and streams to the school children, but it also serves as a tremendous adult education program for their parents, who often participate in the research and discussions of the topics at home.



Students plant trees along Warner Brook (photos provided by Caitlin Stewart, Hamilton County Soil and Water Conservation District)

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!

WINNERS OF CONTEST AT LAKE PLEASANT SCHOOL

By Charlie Ascher

The winners of the eleventh annual contest sponsored by the Lake Pleasant Sacandaga Association (LPSA) at the Lake Pleasant School were announced at the school's awards ceremony held the morning of June 20th. Each of the students in 7th and 8th grade worked on research projects concerning aquatic invasive species and the problems caused by their introduction into our lakes as well as the trickle-down effects on the local economy. This year's projects were coordinated with a full-day field trip sponsored by LPSA to Lake George on the Lake George Association's Floating Classroom along with a trip to a feeder stream to the lake to determine the health of the stream through identification of benthic aquatic organisms.



Lake Pleasant students on Lake George Floating Classroom



LPSA President Dan Wilt, contest winners, LPSA school program coordinator Charlie Ascher

The students' projects were presented for review using advanced computer techniques and even a field trip to the parking lot to demonstrate how to inspect a boat for invasive species. Finalists were chosen by a panel of staff members. The finalists subsequently presented their projects to a review panel of LPSA representatives, who selected the rankings of the winners.

Each winner received a framed certificate from LPSA, along with a gift card as a reward for their accomplishments. Most importantly, all participants acquired a tremendous wealth of knowledge on a subject that affects all of us who love and utilize our lakes and waterways.

All finalists did an excellent job with their presentations, which made the job of the review panel very difficult. The results below confirm that in most cases it was almost impossible to rank the various presentations. The contest winners, as chosen from the finalists are as follows:

First Place – Zoey Martz Second Place – Jude Towers Third Place Tie – Cheyenne Stuart and Justin Stuart



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: LPSA.ADK@gmail.com

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bearhurstcottages@gmail.com
www.bearhurst.com

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C&K Landscaping

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Phone: 518-548-2771 Fax: 518-548-2447 Website: www.speculatorlawyers.com

Katie Smith, Esq

Email: katie@speculatorlawyers.com

Moonlight Bay RV Park

Susan Dodge Moffitt Beach Rd Lake Pleasant, NY

<u>Henrietta House</u>

Rob Macchi 2873 State Rte 8 Speculator NY 12164 973-800-0233 Macchi.robert91221@gmail.com

NBT Bank

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Speculator NY 12164
Adirondacks.deerfoot.org

Lake Pleasant Park

Michael Thuman 2726 State Route 8 Lake Pleasant NY 12108 thumann27@msn.com

Your business information could appear in our newsletter. Member businesses are included here for free. They are also listed on our website at www.lpsa-ny.org.

Business memberships are \$30.

Contact us at <u>LPSA.ADK@gmail.com</u> for more info

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396 Gilmantown Rd PO Box 565 Wells NY 12190 518-924-4492



Left—Beaver Pond, Right—Auger Falls,

Oak Mountain

A Lifetime of Memories

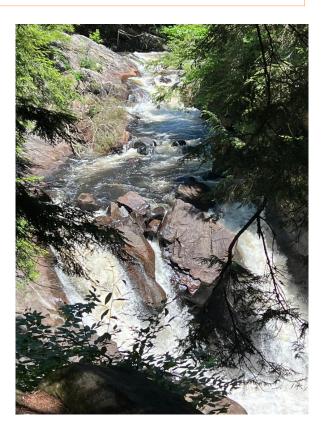
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Lake Pleasant-Sacandaga Association PO Box 383
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MAIL TO:

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY!!!!!!!!

Did you know that Lake Pleasant – Sacandaga Association was founded in 1953?

Our organization is 70 years old this year.

Happy Anniversary, LPSA!