



NEWSLETTER SPRING/SUMMER 2026



Email: LPSA.ADK@gmail.com

Website: www.lpsa-ny.org

LAKE PLEASANT-SACANDAGA ASSOCIATION

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE by Craig Pedersen

May is just around the corner and the trees and early flowers are just starting to come out. It is amazing to think just a few short weeks ago, the ice still held its icy grip on the area lakes. The Lake Pleasant Sacandaga Association (LPSA) is starting to prepare for summer activities which include boating, hiking and enjoying the nature that surrounds us. It is our busy season and we will be ready to continue our efforts to protect this unique environment we all enjoy.

LPSA's mission is first and foremost in protecting our lakes in the Town of Lake Pleasant. Everyone who benefits from this natural beauty has a part to play.

Our message focuses on three key objectives. These include education, prevention, and monitoring which ALL contribute and have the greatest impact on avoiding an invasive species. The consequences of an invasion on one of our lakes would be high costs, restricted use of the lakes and would impact our local economy. **The stakes are HIGH!**

LPSA invests in education programs and materials. Whether a boat owner, home owner, visitor or student - all are critical partners to spreading the knowledge and awareness of the dangers that threaten our pristine waters. Just having the awareness of the potential dangers is an important start in addressing those dangers. **Be aware and**

LEARN!

Checking all boats going into our waterways (Ramp Stewards programs, Boat washing stations) is one of the first preventable actions we all can take. Avoiding the introduction of an invasive species is the fastest and least costly way of prevention. **Keep the boats CLEAN!**

Through the efforts of many volunteers, we have seen monitoring and testing our lakes gives us important feedback. Keeping on top of the health of our lakes can help address situations early and get the word out to everyone. Early detection reduces the impact and cost which are **CONSIDERABLE** if we got an uncontrolled invasive. **Early detection is VITAL!**

For all of this, we need your help and support. Your contributions are important for the work to keep our lakes as clean and pristine as possible. Volunteering, becoming

a member, contributing and actively supporting LPSA is important. Check out our website www.LPSA-NY.org for more information on how to become a member. Please renew your membership and encourage your friends and neighbors to **JOIN** also."

Lake Pleasant Sacandaga Association thanks you for all of your support and efforts. We cannot do this without each and every one of you.



Lake Pleasant photo by LPSA member Vince Teti



Volume 28-Issue 1



Editor: Tom Rippere

Design & Production by Belinda Germain

PETER TOBIESSEN TO RECEIVE RECOGNITION AWARD

By Tom Rippere

Peter Tobiessen has been an active member of the LPSA Board of Directors for over 25 years, as our designated Lake Ecologist. This May, Peter will be receiving the prestigious Lake Steward Award from New York State Federation of Lake Associations (NYSFOLA).

Peter is a retired college professor, who has applied his knowledge and skills to support lake ecology efforts to protect the health and beauty of our local lakes. He instituted LPSA participation in the Citizens' Statewide Lake Assessment Program (CSLAP), gathering valuable lake data from our two largest lakes, Lake Pleasant and Sacandaga Lake, dating back to 1987 – almost 40 years. This set of data allows us to monitor the health of our local lakes and compare the data to historic baselines. In the past ten years, Peter has been mentoring another LPSA member, Jim Olsen, who is now fully capable of performing all the CSLAP tasks, so the two of them can share the work of gathering the CSLAP data.

In 2002, Peter established our program to provide lake stewards at the Moffitt Beach boat ramp to monitor boats being launched there to ensure they were not introducing any invasive species into the lake. Today, New York State funds this activity at boat ramps throughout the Adirondacks, but in 2002, this was a new proactive approach to lake management. Peter also instituted our Lakeshore Monitor program, coordinating LPSA volunteers to survey lake shorelines to watch for any potential invasive species infestations. He also collaborated with the director of the Adirondack Park Invasive Plant Program (APIPP) to write the first local community law in

New York prohibiting invasive plant introduction to our local lakes (via launching a dirty boat).

In recent years, LPSA has performed mapping of weed growth on our lakes. Peter's expertise and advice have been very helpful in guiding the gathering and analysis of the data. His technical knowledge and long tenure on our Board have been very valuable to our organization in a variety of ways. At member gatherings, Peter often provides live samples of aquatic invasive species (AIS), so people can see exactly what these plants look like. He has also provided AIS samples for display at our information booth at the local Farmer's Market.

Peter has written a book about lake ecology (*"The Secret Life of a Lake: The Ecology of Northern Lakes and their Stewardship"*). Although much of the data in the book is based on our local Sacandaga Lake, the information in the book applies to all lakes in the Adirondacks and in other northern regions. Many of our association members have read this book and found it very educational and easy for a non-scientist to read and understand. Peter often writes articles for our association's newsletter, and he brings his great writing talents to these news articles as well, making our newsletter informative and interesting.

We are very fortunate to have Peter as a volunteer to support our organization and our objectives. His efforts have helped to promote lake conservation activities in the Town of Lake Pleasant, throughout the Adirondack Park, and across New York State. We send our "Thanks" to Peter for all his volunteer time and his accomplishments, and "Congratulations" upon receiving this award in recognition of all that he has done.



Library Hours:

Lake Pleasant Public Library: Open - Summer Hours - Wed, & Fri, 1-7 pm, Tue & 10 am to 7 pm Thur, Sat, 10-2 518-548-4411

Virginia Hosley Free Library in Wells: Open: Tues & Thur 1 to 3 pm Sat 10 am to 2 PM.
Craft Night, every Tuesday 1-3 pm 518-495-8918

Piseco Library: Piseco School, Rte 8, Open Mon-Fri 8 am-4pm, Mon 5-8 pm. Book Sale July 20-Aug 7
518-548-7555

NOW HIRING SUMMER LAKE STEWARDS

By Tom Rippere

Each summer, the Town of Lake Pleasant and LPSA work together to hire part-time Lake Stewards to inspect boats being launched at local boat ramps to ensure the boats are not bringing invasive plants or animals into our lakes. We are currently looking for candidates to fill open positions for two days per week (Tuesday and Wednesday) at Moffitt Beach and two days per week (Saturday and Sunday) at Lake Pleasant Marine. Interested candidates should contact Bob Hogan, at hogan@me.com or cell phone 607-857-3378. These two part-time positions could be filled by two people or by one person. Paid training is provided.



LPSA Lake Steward JennaLee Smith inspects a boat at Moffitt Beach Campground boat ramp

The Adirondack Watershed Institute (AWI), at Paul Smith's College, uses funding from New York State to hire Lake Stewards at boat ramps and boat wash decontamination stations throughout the Adirondacks. AWI is looking for candidates to fill seasonal full-time positions, some of which are in the Speculator-Lake Pleasant area.

Please help us find candidates to fill these important jobs. Candidates can contact Brett Wimsatt at bwimsatt@paulsmiths.edu

Additional information is available at this website: www.adkwatershed.org/employment



LAKESHORE MONITORS

Each summer, dozens of LPSA members volunteer their time to help patrol our shoreline in their canoes and kayaks, looking for invasive aquatic plant species. If any invasive species get into our lakes, we hope to discover them and remove them before they become well established. If you are willing to spend a few hours this summer to help with this important project, please send an email to Jim Olsen at jamesrolsen@msn.com. Jim conducts a training session at the start of each summer to train volunteers for this activity. You can help to keep our lakes healthy.



CLEAN—DRAIN—DRY

Reprinted from DEC Newsletter

As you kick off the boating season, don't forget to take steps to protect New York's waters! Aquatic invasive species (AIS) can spread between water bodies by attaching to boats and other water recreation equipment. Once introduced, AIS can harm New York's ecosystems, economies, and recreation. To keep AIS from spreading, New York State law requires boaters to Clean, Drain, and Dry their boat and equipment before using it in a new water body.

After you pull your boat out of the water:

Clean mud, plants, and animals off boats, trailers, fishing gear, and other equipment and discard the material in a trash can or disposal station.

Drain water-holding compartments, including ballast tanks, live wells, and bilge areas, before leaving an access site.

Dry everything completely for five to seven days in dry, warm conditions. If drying isn't possible, visit a decontamination station to disinfect boats and other equipment with hot water that is at least 140 degrees Fahrenheit.

Want to learn more about how to Clean, Drain, Dry? Look for boat stewards in blue vests at boat launches throughout the state. Boat stewards can answer your questions about AIS, provide a free boat inspection for invasive species, and show you how to Clean, Drain, Dry your watercraft and equipment. Please note that boaters operating motorized watercraft in the Adirondack Park or within ten miles of the Blue Line are also required to possess certification that their vessel has undergone Clean, Drain, Dry procedures to prevent the spread of AIS before launching.



Additional information is available on the DEC website: www.dec.ny.gov/nature/invasive-species/aquatic/prevent-spread-of-aquatic-invasive-species. *Boat stewards can provide information about invasive species and show you how to Clean, Drain, and Dry your boat.*



STATE AWARDS GRANT FUNDING FOR SPECULATOR WATER INFRASTRUCTURE IMPROVEMENT

Reprinted from website for New York State Environmental Facilities Corporation

Governor Kathy Hochul in December 2025, announced \$453 million in grants for 83 critical water infrastructure projects across New York State through the Water Infrastructure Improvement and Intermunicipal Grant programs. The grants ... reinforce the State's commitment to helping small, rural and disadvantaged communities with their water infrastructure needs.

The grants, awarded to projects across the State, included \$1,540,000 for a water system improvements project in the Village of Speculator.

More information is available on the website for NYS Environmental Facilities Corporation www.efc.ny.gov



Do you have original artwork or photos that you would be willing to share in the LPSA Newsletter? If so, please send your photos to Tom Ripper, Newsletter Editor, at TomLPSA@yahoo.com

SCALE-ing UP ON RESEARCH

Reprinted from Adirondack Council "State of the Park 2025-2026"

Both houses [of the New York state legislature] provided an additional \$2 million for the multi-year Survey of Climate and Adirondack Lake Ecosystem (SCALE) in the state budget. This program provides funding for cutting-edge research on Adirondack waters performed under the supervision of Cornell University and Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute. Tracking the changes in Adirondack aquatic ecosystems due to a warming climate will help the state develop an early warning system to identify and avoid, or cope with, threats to wildlife and public health. Lessons learned here, in some of the state's most sensitive and fragile ecosystems, will help protect public health across the state and the Northeast.



LEAVE NO TRACE By Tom Rippere

Whenever you enjoy recreational activities, on the water or in the woods, in the Adirondacks or anywhere else, please remember the seven principles of "Leave No Trace". You can help to protect the health and beauty of places you love by following these practices.

- 1 – Plan Ahead & Prepare
- 2 – Travel and Camp on Durable Surfaces
- 3 – Dispose of Waste Properly
- 4 – Leave What You Find
- 5 – Minimize Campfire Impacts
- 6 – Respect Wildlife
- 7 – Be Considerate of Others

More information is available at www.LNT.org
"Take only Memories; Leave only Footprints"



CONTACT US

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

Please send all membership payment checks 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 Craig Pedersen, LPSA President, you can send email to Pres@LPSA-NY.org if you have any questions, concerns, or suggestions.

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 MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of Lake Pleasant-Sacandaga Association is to conserve and protect the purity of all the lakes in the Town of Lake Pleasant, protect the environment, and conserve the scenic and natural beauty of the area.



EASY WAY TO PAY YOUR DUES & DONATIONS

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.

Board of Directors

Craig Pedersen - President
Rich Armstrong - 1st Vice President
Ron Uva—2nd Vice President
Bob Hogan -Vice President - Gifting
Scott Greenfield - Treasurer
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Betsy Bain - Lake Pleasant Supervisor
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Peter Tobiessen - Lake Ecologist
James Olsen - Vice Lake Ecologist

Laurie Allen
Todd Caliguire
Mike Camoin
Scott MacMillin
Jim Olsen
Dan Wilt

SAVE THE DATES—MARK YOUR CALENDAR

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

Sunday, June 28, "Meet and Greet" 4 to 6 pm, at The Lemon Tree Brewery
2849 St Rte 30, Speculator

No advanced reservation or payment is required, Food & Drink are available for purchase.
There will be a short presentation with information on current LPSA activities.

Sunday August 23rd, Annual Meeting—Meet & Greet format

MORE THAN ONE EMAIL ADDRESS?

Does your family have more than one email address?

Would you like to receive our Newsletter and other LPSA news at more than one email address?

We would love to send our messages to every member of your family.

Please send your information to LPSA.ADK@gmail.com,
and we will add any additional email addresses to our membership database.



CORRESPONDENCE TO BOARD MEMBERS

Lake Pleasant-Sacandaga Association
PO Box 164
Speculator NY 12164-0164
Craig Pedersen, LPSA President
pres@lpsa-ny.org

ALL MEMBERSHIP RENEWALS, CHECKS & LUNCHEON RESERVATIONS:

Lake Pleasant-Sacandaga Association
PO Box 383
WELLS NY 12190-0383
Email: LPSA.ADK@gmail.com
Face Book @LPSA2016

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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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 LPSA.ADK@gmail.com for more information

Bearhurst Lakeside Cottages

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bearhurstcottages@gmail.com

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Website: www.speculatorlawyers.com

Katie Smith, Esq

Email: katie@speculatorlawyers.com



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

Camp of the Woods

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Adirondacks.deerfoot.org

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Lake Pleasant NY 12108
mpoc211@yahoo.com

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Speculator NY 12164
518-548-7533
Email: admin@lemontreebrewery.com
Website: Lemontreebrewery.com

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Lake Pleasant NY 12108
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Speculator NY 12164
973-800-0233
Macchi.robert91221@gmail.com

Think Globally, Act Locally

"Although conservation requires a long-term commitment and a large-scale vision, the work itself is local." – Scott Russell Sanders

Alpine Meadows Chalets

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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: 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

Giftng Fund #1 The Foundation's general fund (for ongoing program expenses) \$ _____

Giftng Fund #2 Kathy Huber Fund (held in reserve for a quick response to invasive species) \$ _____



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



MAIL TO:

View of Lake Pleasant from Makomis Fire Tower - Photo by Vince Teti