



# The Water Level

NEWSLETTER OF THE LONG LAKE ASSOCIATION

**JULY, 2011**

Message from the President:

The beauty of Long Lake enriches all of our lives. The mission of the Long Lake Association (LLA) is to preserve the health of the lake through our Boat Launch Steward Program to combat invasive species and the water testing program to insure the quality of the water. It is also to promote the enjoyment of the lake for all, and to that end, we sponsor the annual "Cool, Crazy Regatta".

In 2008, after increasing awareness of the devastation that the invasive plant, Eurasian Water Milfoil, can cause in a lake – making it unfit for boating, swimming, fishing, and decreasing property values – the Board of the LLA decided to sign on with Paul Smiths College to provide Lake Stewards at the DEC boat launch to monitor boats entering the lake, inspect them and their trailers for invasive species, and educate the public about the dangers of these plants and how to combat their spread. To do this, we needed many more funds than was presently in the treasury. So, we applied for, and received, a grant from NYS through our State Senator, Betty Little. We also asked the Town Board for support and launched a fund raising campaign. Generous support came from all of these sources. "Lake Angels" gave \$2000 or more. "Lake Champions" gave \$500 - \$999. There were "Lake Guardians, Lake Sponsors and Lake Donors" for all other monetary categories including under \$100.

The Town of Long Lake has given us \$4000 each year toward the support of Lake Stewards to man the boat launch. They give an equal amount to Raquette Lake, because the Board recognizes that the health of the lakes is a very large factor in the economic health of the town. This year, because of a federal grant received by Paul Smiths College to fund a Lake Steward Program throughout the Adirondacks, we will not need to use the money from the Town, but we are assured it will be there for this purpose in the future.

Probably, at some point, we will need to do another campaign, but for the time being, the LLA is in good financial health, due to the generosity of all of our contributors and grants received. We are not going to be do a membership campaign, since we are assuming that all town residents, through tax contributions, are members of the LLA, and, of course, welcome at all events, and welcome to serve on the Board of Directors. So – do come to our Annual Meeting, bring your children and grandchildren to the "Cool, Crazy, Regatta", and let us know if you'd like to be involved in volunteering to promote the Long Lake Association mission.

You can also check out our new website at [www.longlakeassociation.weebly.com](http://www.longlakeassociation.weebly.com).

**"STORIES OF THE OLD DAYS ON LONG LAKE" AT  
THE ASSOCIATION ANNUAL MEETING  
SATURDAY, AUGUST 13, 10 am**

Bunny Austin grew up on Long Lake and was here when there was a boarding house on Plumley Point, the Island House Hotel occupied a northern island and Camp Riverdale, an extension of the Riverdale school from the Bronx, was on the northwest shore of Long Lake. And did you know that "Harney the Hermit" predated Noah John Rondeau? Bunny and Abbie Verner, town archivist, will be on hand at the annual meeting to tell some interesting stories from the "old" days.

The annual meeting of the Long Lake Association will be held on Saturday morning, August 13, at 10 am at the Long Lake Town Hall. Following a welcome, featuring coffee and pastries, there will be a short business meeting followed by a presentation by some of the boat launch stewards, and a short address and discussion with the Town Supervisor, Clark Seaman. This will be followed by the program speakers.

Everyone is welcome, so come and enjoy some of the history of the lake that is so important in all of our lives.



**Officers:**

Jackie Mallery, President  
Gordon Fisher, Vice president  
Fran Fisher, Secretary  
Phil Terrie, treasurer

**Board of Directors**

Prue Churchill  
Larry Plummer  
Bill and Sue Kunzmann  
Barbara Taylor  
Frank and Lorraine Pine  
John Mallery  
Amy Van Laak  
Ed Rockstroh

There will be classes for age groups, genders and types of boats, including canoes and kayaks. There will also be classes for children, adults, and adults and children together. Novelty races include hand paddling a canoe; bang and go back (reverse direction when a horn sounds); a dress up relay; a dipper race (an opposing team member is in each canoe, and tries to fill it with water and scuttle it); tug-of-war, and other imaginative and creative things to do in canoes.

Canoes, kayaks and life jackets will be provided, or bring your own. Prizes will be awarded. There will also be a guideboat display at the beach.

# The Long Lake Association Presents Cool Crazy Regatta

Fri July 15th

Long Lake Town Beach  
Registration 9:30am

Boats and Lifejackets Provided

Free Fun for All Ages

Prizes for All

BBQ sold by Lions Club



## LAKE STEWARD PROGRAM 2011 AT THE LONG LAKE DEC BOAT LAUNCH

This is the fourth summer that the Long Lake Association (LLA) will be sponsoring the Long Lake Boat Launch Steward Program at the NY State Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) Boat Launch in Long Lake, NY. The program will run from Memorial Day weekend through Labor Day, 7 AM to 4 PM daily. The primary goals of this program are to raise the awareness about invasive water species, as well as reduce the likelihood of these species being introduced into Long Lake.

For the 2011 program, LLA has accepted the generous offer from Eric Holmhund, Director of the Watershed Stewardship Program at Paul Smith's College, to receive funding provided by the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service's Great Lakes Restoration Initiative grant. The Watershed Stewardship Program was awarded a one-year grant to fund stewards in lakes that are inside the Lake Ontario and St. Lawrence Seaway watersheds. This grant of \$224,000 will support Paul Smith's efforts to protect three major recreational areas: Saratoga Lake; the Lake Placid, Saranac Lake, and Tupper Lake region; and the Fulton Chain of Lakes around Old Forge and Inlet. The Lake Steward Program, which is part of the Paul Smith's Adirondack Watershed Institute, is new to the Fulton Chain. Long Lake's participation in this grant, allows us to have Lake Steward coverage at no cost as part of the western Adirondacks portion of the grant. The funds previously earmarked by the LLA and the Town of Long Lake for 2011, will be used in future years when grants are not available. Paul Smith's College has approximately two dozen stewards throughout the park this summer through the support of this grant. Kathleen Wiley, Assistant Director of the Watershed Stewardship Program, is managing the western Adirondacks branch of the Watershed Stewardship Program which is also staffing Raquette Lake, 7<sup>th</sup> lake, and 4<sup>th</sup> Lake.

The Lake Stewards perform voluntary inspections of boats, canoes, kayaks and other craft entering and exiting the water to ensure that invasive species such as not clinging to the vessels. In addition, the Lake Stewards will be conducting special projects and community outreach to support the Paul Smith's Watershed Program. Aquatic invasive species are a growing threat in the Adirondacks and beyond, making such inspections increasingly important. When invasives take hold in a body of water, they can displace native species and rapidly multiply, making waterways impassible to motorboats and hurting tourism and other industries.



Stephanie Pena and Brian Hartle  
Lake Stewards

This year's Lake Stewards for Long Lake are Stephanie Pena and Brian Hartle. Stephanie Pena is a student at Temple University in PA and is spending the summer in Long Lake, as she has every summer of her life. Brian Hartle is spending the summer in Long Lake with his grandmother, Mary Hartle. He is a recent graduate of SUNY Geneseo and has just finished his first year as a teacher in the Teach for America Program in CT. The Lake Stewards will be at the DEC boat launch from 7 AM to 4 PM, daily through Labor Day. If they are not available, other Lake Stewards in the Paul Smith Program will be assigned to Long Lake. We will also continue to call on LLA volunteers occasionally.

The Boat Launch Steward Program continues to have a positive impact for the residents and visitors to the Town of Long Lake. It brings value to our community and the Adirondacks by educating tourists and local residents about the threat of invasive species and what can be done to prevent their spread. Most boaters have been receptive to the brief watercraft inspection and educational information provided by the Long Lake Boat Launch Stewards. In 2010, over 96% of the boaters were aware of the threat of invasive species, compared to 76% in 2009. For 2011, we expect to continue to have a positive impact. Your continued support of this important effort is greatly appreciated.

## BUGS AND BITS

The next bug on the calendar is the deer fly, which resembles a fighter bomber. It drives its potential victim nuts by circling the head at a raging speed. It will land and bite but seems to need to read a manual to do this as it is slow to bite and can be swatted easily. The usual things like bug spray help but there are much more entertaining methods of deflecting this nuisance. It is said deer flies do not like ferns so you pick ferns and stuff them around the hat ribbon and under the hat as you wear it so they hang down. To complete the deflection you stuff ferns along the neck of your shirt. It is entirely fetching and pictures must be taken. Regular house flies bite, which I didn't know until 40 years ago when we came here. They are really a pest on the dock or porch when lounging about in skimpy outfits. Anyway beyond bug spray I have a fool proof method. I issue fly swatters to each and every sun sitter and they compete on the number of kills. Just remember the bugs were here first. By Euni Hartmann

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## LONG LAKE NY BOATING RULES

**PLEASE HELP KEEP LONG LAKE BOATING SAFE AND FUN FOR EVERYONE. YOUR PARTICIPATION AND COMPLIANCE WITH CURRENT SAFETY RULES AND REGULATIONS ON THE LAKE WILL BE GREATLY APPRECIATED AND CONTRIBUTE TO AN ENJOYABLE EXPERIENCE FOR EVERYONE.**

1. There is a New York State 5 mph speed limit for Motorboats and Personal Watercraft (PWC) within 100 feet of any shore, dock, pier, raft, float or anchored boat.
  2. Reduce speed and increase distance when near swimmers, canoes, or kayaks. Remember your wake can be dangerous.
  3. Speed Limit under the Long Lake Bridge is 5 mph.
  4. Reckless operation of Motorboats and PWC is prohibited. This includes weaving through congested traffic, wake jumping or intentional last minute swerving.
  5. Constant circling and figure eights in one area should be avoided.
  6. Motorboats and PWC must yield right of way to canoes, kayaks and sailing vessels.
  7. It is illegal for any driver to operate a Motorboat or PWC while intoxicated or with ability impaired. It is illegal for anyone under 21 years of age to operate a Motorboat or PWC after consuming ANY alcohol, and may result in loss of operating privileges until age 21.
  8. Motorboat Operators between the ages of 10 years old and 18 years old MUST have completed a safety course and have a valid New York State Safety Certificate.
  9. PWC Operators must be at least 14 years old and MUST have a valid New York State Safety Certificate.
  10. There must be at least one wearable personal flotation device (PFD) per person on board all water vessels including canoes and kayaks. Children under 12 are required to wear a PFD when vessel is underway.
- Operation of PWC is prohibited between Sunset and Sunrise anywhere in New York State.
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