

President's Letter

by Pat Smith

Greetings,

As we move into the prime of the summer season, we hope that you are enjoying the lake and every single day of warm weather that comes our way.

We have made some updates in our event schedule and hope that you will continue to show your support. Weekend dinners were moved from Friday to Saturday night. The first of our **Saturday Night Dinners** featured Moby Dick's Fish Fry. We sold a 100 dinners and benefited from the sales of our Cossayuna merchandise and 50-50 Raffle. We are scheduling a second **Fish Fry Dinner** on August 1st and hope that you will join us. On Saturday, July 18th we are hosting a **Lakeside BBQ** to be catered by Un Petit Conchon. Heading the menu is BBQ Pulled Pork and Smoked Turkey Breast plus sides, dessert, and lemonade. And, our **Annual Clambake** is set for August 15th. Closing out the season will be a **Spaghetti Dinner** on August 29th. Ticket information for the BBQ and Clambake is available on our website. July 11th is **LaBoom** featuring music for everyone from Baby Boomers to Millennials to Kids. **Open Mic Night** on August 8th features Joe Romano providing the music and inviting those with musical talent to sing or play their instruments. Both are great nights for our kids to see how friends and neighbors come together and have a good time, (no electronic devices needed!).

We are always seeking more volunteers to lend a hand this season! Whether you volunteer at one event or serve on a committee, every contribution helps. Please take a moment to check our calendar at cossayunalake.com and consider volunteering for an event, committee, or short-term project. We need volunteers at any of our dinners to help set up and oversee serving. There are various maintenance updates needed at the building—if you are handy at anything at all, please let us know!

For those with interests in the environmental aspects of our lake, the Lake Management Task Force always appreciates new members. Lake Management is the central initiative of the CLIA, and we continue to develop short and long-range strategies in response to the ever-evolving needs of our lake environment. We can be contacted by email at cossayuna_lake@yahoo.com.

As we move toward our **Annual Election Meeting on August 22nd at 10:00 AM**, there are currently two vacancies to fill on our Board of Directors. A Board member serves a 3-year term and attends six Board meetings between April and September. Members may serve on any sub-committee of their choosing. Please consider submitting your name as Board candidate to be determined at the election meeting. We know for sure that there is a lot of local talent out there. Please share it with us. Questions may be sent to cossayuna_lake@yahoo.com.

Lastly, we gratefully recognize Bob Baldwin as the recent recipient of the 2015 Lake Steward Award from the NYS Federation of Lake Associations (NYS FOLA) for his enduring and outstanding contributions to Cossayuna Lake. Bob was behind the purchase of the harvester, the CSLAP Program (water testing), and has served on numerous state and county committees working for the betterment of our lake and community over the years.


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Contact Pat Smith at 531-4140 cossayuna_lake@yahoo.com.

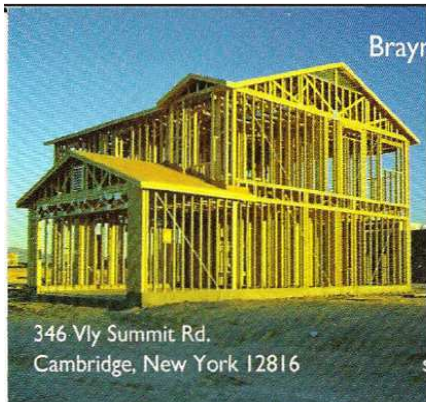
Harvesting Report

by Frank Gabianelli

The harvester was put into the lake at the beginning of June. We started cutting open waters at the north end of the lake where weed beds were observed. Most of the weeds cut were Elodea (about 95%) and very little milfoil and curly pond weed. Coontail was scarce at this time also, but we expect to see it later in the summer. Shorelines at this time are showing light weed growth where chemicals were applied. Turtle cove, Pratts point and areas around the little Island were harvested and Elodia was heavy in some of these areas. First round customer cutting will be completed by July 1st. For the month of June we will have harvested an estimated 375,000 lbs of weeds. If you have any questions feel free to call me @ 203-305-2309 or email me: fgabianelli@roadrunner.com. Thank you for your support of the harvesting program and enjoy your summer




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Thank You to Our “Friends of Cossayuna Lake”

We have been the fortunate recipients of donations and volunteer time from people who regularly enjoy Cossayuna Lake, but are not property owners eligible for CLIA membership. Our deep appreciation goes out to: Wallace & Ted Paprocki, Richard Abela, Charles Cleveland, and Jeremy Jeske.



Lake Steward Award

A community is defined as a social unit of any size that shares common values. Cossayuna Lake is a small lake that can be found in Washington County, NY. It is small lake community with big dreams. How do you take a lake suffocating on weeds; weeds so thick paddling a boat or swimming was a chore, and turn it into a beautiful recreation place for family, friends and all in the community to enjoy throughout each season.

It took a small group of people with a common goal, simply to make Cossayuna Lake a better lake. One of that core group is Bob Baldwin. Bob worked tirelessly to impress upon the locals the need to come together and fight to improve the lake. Starting with education, Bob became an expert in nuisance and native weeds. Endless hours of research to determine what actions would be effective on Cossayuna Lake.

Bob was the first person to lead a committee to purchase the first harvester to cut and remove weeds on the lake. He established good working relationships with town and county government official and procured funding from the county of \$10,000 to buy the first harvester. He established the harvesting program with volunteer workers and with property owner cooperation to offload weeds at various sites around the lake. He kept the harvesting program working effectively for many years. Twenty-five years later this program is still in place and is strongly supported by the community today.

Bob then started the CSLAP program on the lake beginning in 1992 and performed the testing twice monthly for many years. This program is also still active and important. Regular testing continues to occur on Cossayuna Lake and results have been tracked for more than two decades.

He was the first to begin the discussion about the need for septic testing and performed many septic tests around the lake. Each project that evolves into an annual program is a victory that brings more positive changes to the lake.

Tireless and eager to expand on improvements occurring on the lake, he served on a New York Statewide committee commissioned to produce a State of the Lake Report for Cossayuna and to develop a Lake Management Plan which was completed in 1999. And Bob also sat on the Washington County Soil and Water District Water Quality committee for many years.

No community is complete without a communication base. Bob established and maintained a database for land ownership around the lake to ensure that all property owners could be contacted via riparian letters or newsletters. That same database has evolved and currently contains thousands of pieces of information including town representatives, vendors that provide services in the area and contact information for each landowner within a mile of the lake. This database is now the core source of communication for all lake activities including the CLIA newsletter and the weekly email blasts that go out from spring through the fall advising folks of fun events and educational opportunities hosted by the Cossayuna Lake Improvement Association.

Bob Baldwin has been a strong promoter and active member of the Cossayuna Lake Improvement Association for more than 40 years. His devotion to the lake never wavered; he always remained a positive source of information and fostered a mentoring relationship to those that stepped in to carry on in his wake.

Thank you Bob for all you have done to improve Cossayuna Lake. You are a true leader of our community and a valued steward to our lake.



Membership Report

by Nancy Hieber

I would like to thank all 229 members for taking responsibility of our lake by joining the CLIA this year.

The benefits of CLIA membership are:

- Voting privileges at the June General and August Election meetings
- Opportunity to serve on the CLIA Board of Directors and committees
- Access to the CLIA dock and beach area
- Satisfaction of being a Cossayuna Lake caretaker
- Access to harvesting services
- Opportunity to rent the Pavilion

Your membership dues and donations provide financial support for maintenance of the CLIA pavilion and grounds. They also enable us to put on events like the Special Dinners, Dances, Open Mics, Ice Cream Socials, and Boaters Safety Course.

Eligibility for membership includes the area from the shore of the lake up to and including any point within one mile from the road that encircles the Lake. Your membership contribution and donations to the CLIA are tax deductible to the extent of the law. We will gladly accept your application at any time. Feel free to contact me at 692-9206 or whiebersr@aol.com in regards to your membership.

I would also like to include a reminder here that we need name and address changes as they become available for everyone living around the lake for the purpose of Lake Management mailings and newsletters. Even if you are not a member, you may contact me with any changes.

Herbicide Treatment Update

by Sheila Rappazzo

The chemical treatment was done on May 14th. This year, as last, we used two chemicals, targeting two specific non-native invasive weeds: Milfoil and Curlyleaf pondweed. The pre-treatment survey done the week before treatment identified significant areas along the east shore, and a few areas on the west side of the lake where treatment was not recommended. The applicator did not identify the presence, or if any, a minimal presence, of the targeted weeds in those areas, not justifying treatment. That doesn't mean there won't be "weeds", but the **targeted** weeds weren't found there. Native weeds, such as Coontail, Elodea, and Eel Grass will definitely be there, in treated and non treated areas.

A total of 94 acres were treated, which is less than the last two years, when we treated 120 acres. About 44 acres, slightly less than half the total treated, were "open waters", not shoreline areas. We were able to treat these areas thanks to the generosity of many who donated to open waters treatment to benefit the whole lake.

Water samples were taken the week following treatment for analysis of chemical concentration levels. Restrictions on usage for potable uses were lifted after receiving the results and getting DEC's ok. Additional samples were taken and analyzed to test levels for use of the water for irrigating greenhouse or nursery plants. At this time all water usage restrictions have been lifted.

So far, results look good. The Lake looks great. When looking around the lake for samples of various weeds, I could only find some Milfoil in a couple of areas that have not been treated in the past, the Northwest corner of the Lake and way down in the south end. I found no Curlyleaf Pondweed, even in areas that had not been treated. The Applicator will do a post treatment survey sometime over the summer.

In looking ahead to plan for next year, we have had some preliminary exchange with the applicator about future plans. He notes the challenge of working within NYDEC regulatory requirements, more challenging every year, more stringent requirements than most other states. He estimates approximately a \$35,000 annual budget to treat 100 acres with 2,4-D and/or Endothall. We asked about not treating for a year or more, since we've treated for three years now. He said that for Milfoil we could skip treatment at this point, but it is difficult to predict for Curlyleaf because there would be seed banks on the bottom that can remain viable for several years. He believes we would probably need a few more consecutive years of treatment. This is something we will continue to evaluate.

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What kind of weeds are in your area ?

Sheila Rappazzo

A number of people have had concerns about what kinds of weeds were in the waterfront area around their property. What I have seen, when I have looked at a number of locations was mostly Elodea, which is a native plant. There also was some Coontail, particularly the latter half of last summer. Coontail is also a native plant. The dominant weed throughout the whole lake at this point is Elodea. The native plants are considered "good" weeds and are generally beneficial to the lake. That doesn't mean that they can't also be a nuisance if there is an overgrowth of them. The Elodea has really taken over where we have treated and dramatically reduced the invasive, non-native Milfoil and Curlyleaf Pondweed. We are going to have to keep an eye on things and see what happens over the summer with these native weeds. I'm going to say it's not likely that DEC would authorize treatment of those plants, but we can use the harvester to remove overgrowth of them.

If you have questions about the weeds in your area please call or send me a text at 518-429-8312, or e-mail me at sarappazzo@yahoo.com, or e-mail Kelly from one of the e-mail blasts and she will contact me. I'm happy to come over and see what kind of weeds you have. We want to know. It's important for us to know what kind of weeds are where, to help us figure out where and with what to treat.



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Election Meeting

As members of the Cossayuna Lake Improvement Association, please gather at the

CLIA Building on August 22 at 10:00 AM

Submit a board member nomination

Meet candidates and vote at board member election

Learn about the Lake Management Plan

Learn about and provide input on lake related issues

Lake Management Task Force

by Lynn Wilbur

The Lake Management Task Force continues to move forward with our focus of reducing nutrient loading. We have meet with Corrina Aldrich of Washington County Soil and Water along with Sara Idleman, the Supervisor of Greenwich and Lorraine Ballard, a grant writer. It appears that we are in a good position to work with the towns and county collaboratively to address road runoff, stream runoff and terrain runoff via state and private grants.

The spillway has been fully assessed and minor repairs will be done soon. With the new stricter state regulations in regard to dams and spillways, we are still trying to clarify our responsibilities and liabilities.

The harvesting and herbicide programs continue to work hand in hand to reduce the non-native weeds and manage the native weeds.

Sharon Kruger graciously volunteered to be trained in the state WAVE program (Water Assessment via Volunteer Evaluators). She will be testing the streams around the lake. Thank you Sharon for stepping up. We still need another person to join her. Pat McAuliff and Bill Sowinski continue to do the bi-weekly CSLAP testing (Citizens Statewide Lake Assessment Program). The CLIA has purchased two new assessment tools, a Dissolved Oxygen Meter and a Conductivity Meter. We would like to get a local school or college' science dept. to step up and help us with some of this assessing. It would be a great hands-on learning project. If you would be interested in helping in this area please contact me at lynnwilbur222@gmail.com.

As always, if we have a lot of people that are each doing a little part, we can get a lot done. We really need some reinforcements. The people who have been carrying the load for a while would greatly appreciate the help.

We will have a 2016 Lake Management Plan available at the Election meeting for your approval.

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CLIA Events

July

- 11 – LaBoom: Hawaiian Theme, music and dancing
- 18 – Pig BBQ, hosted by Un petit Cochon
- 25 – Jerry Simon Jr. Memorial Bass Fishing Tournament

August

- 1 – Moby Dick's Fish Fry Dinner
- 8 – Open Mic Nite and Sing Along with Joe Romano
- 15 – Third Annual Clam Bake
- 22 – Election Meeting
- 29 – Spaghetti Dinner

Details for each event are available at www.CossayunaLake.com and via weekly email blasts



Boat Inspection Program

by Gene Henry

Volunteers are actively being accepted for boat inspection program.

If interested please contact Gene Henry

Phone 518-798-1422-E-mail:

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- 🕒 Prize money will be 50% of the proceeds from the tournament; 1st, 2nd, 3rd and 4th place prizes being awarded. Children’s category 100% payout
- 🕒 Weigh in @ 11:00 AM at the CLIA docks – CLIA Building East Lake Rd.
- 🕒 Contact **Jerry Simon (518) 431-9967**
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- 🕒 www.CossayunaLake.com for a registration form

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CLIA Election Meeting

August 22nd 10:00 AM at the CLIA Building

Proposed ballot:	President:	Pat Smith
	Vice President:	Kelly Pauley
	Secretary:	Elisa Mussi
	Treasurer:	Rayna Henry

Three Year Director Terms:

Lynn Wilbur
Gene Henry
Eileen Musso
Open position

The Election of Officers and Directors will be held at the CLIA Election Meeting on August 22nd at 10:00 AM. Voting members who wish to vote absentee in the August election must request a ballot from Pat Smith at 531-4140. Completed absentee ballots must be received on or before Thursday August 20, 2015. Positions will be filled according to the amount of votes they receive.

Meet a new candidate Eileen Musso: My name is Eileen Musso. I have been coming up to Cossayuna Lake for 35 years during the summer and now my husband and I have moved up here full time. We have been married for 34 years and have 2 sons. My younger son is in the army and he lives with his wife in Tacoma, Washington. My older son lives and works in New York City. I am a Registered Nurse and have worked on many boards during my career. I spent 9 years working as an Infection Control Nurse and served as President of the State Board of The Infection Control Nurses of Connecticut. I feel that I have a vested interest in the welfare of the lake and its residents.



Herbicide Treatment – May 2015



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