

The President's Letter

by Pat Smith



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Greetings,

We hope that everyone is having a great summer season at Cossayuna Lake despite the zigzag of rainy weather and extreme heat. The Friday Night Dinners got off to a strong start over the July 4th holiday and will continue until Labor Day weekend. We are looking forward to our Clambake on August 10th, and tickets are on sale. Thanks go out to Board Member Bob Montanye for organizing all the food events and overseeing the volunteer cooking crews. We also appreciate the entertaining musical appearances of Board member, Joe Romano. If you have not already done so, consider volunteering for one or more of the events still to come this season.

The prize winners at the Annual Boat Parade were a sight to behold with some very creative themes. Congrats to the Ebinger family on the "Boat of Flags", the

Harwood family for "Happy Birthday", and the Roach family for "Batman's Cave". The annual LaBoom Night attracted more than 80 participants for a great night of dancing and fun. Jim Albers, who claimed, "I never win anything", as he bought his 50-50 ticket became a very surprised winner of \$65. Never say never!

Please mark your calendars for the **Annual Election Meeting on Saturday, August 24th at 10:00 AM**. You will have the opportunity to hear updates on some very important lake issues and cast your vote for the 2013/2014 C.L.I.A. Officers and Board of Directors.

Lastly, and of upmost importance, is the work accomplished over the past year by the Lake Management Task Force chaired by Board Member Lynn Wilbur. We hope that you have experienced the lake differently this season given the chemical treatment program implemented in May as a result of the research and work of the Task Force. Maybe you have noted improvement in water clarity, or perhaps you have been able to travel farther by boat or

jet ski, or, just go swimming in areas you could not before. In coordination with our ongoing harvesting program and last year's hydro raking, we are continuing to move forward in managing our lake to the best of our ability.

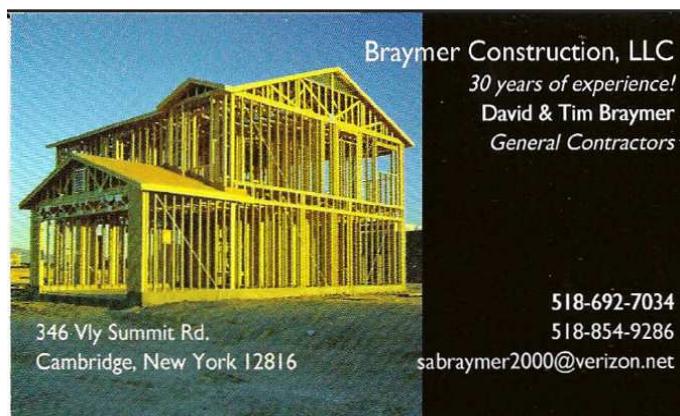
Our work is really never done— "management" is the key word. As part of our mission to investigate evolving technology and bring it to the community, we would like to invite you to a **public education program for all lake residents on Saturday, September 14th at 10:00AM, on Aeration Systems**.

The Task Force is researching this approach first-hand to see if and how it might be integrated into the total lake management initiative. As a member of the current generation of caretakers of Cossayuna Lake, we hope you will attend and contribute to this important discussion.

Please check the Association's complete schedule of events, plus all information pertaining to the Association, at cossayunalake.com.

Hope to see you at our meetings and social events.

Pat Smith



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Aeration Presentation by Frank Smith

Mr. John Tucci, President/Owner of Lake Savers, will discuss an aeration system that addresses many of the issues that Eutrophic lakes, such as ours have. The presentation, a public event, will be on **Saturday, September 14, 2013 at the Cossayuna Lake Improvement Association building, at 10:00 AM.**

The aeration technology involves installing piping at the bottom of the lake with diffusers at the ends.

These components inject large amounts of oxygen as well as bacteria into the lake. Generators placed at specified places around the lake power the system. Potential benefits are: Reduction of phosphorus, silt/muck, nutrients, algae blooms, aquatic weeds and oxygen depletion.

Prior to the meeting, a number of Board members will be visiting Lake St Catherine, Vermont, to see the system in action and talk with lake residents

where it is located. For more information on this technology please visit the following websites: clean-flow.com and lake-savers.com.

This program is part of

the CLIA's continued commitment to inform the lake community as to available options in addressing issues facing Cossayuna Lake.

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Membership Report

by Nancy Hieber

I would like to thank all of this year's members for taking responsibility of our lake by joining the CLIA. We currently have 248 members which represents 216 households.

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 harvesting services
- Access to the CLIA dock and beach area
- Opportunity to rent the Pavilion

- Satisfaction of being a Cossayuna Lake caretaker

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 Friday Night Socials, Special Dinners, Dances, Ice Cream Socials, and the Boaters' Safety Course.

We need your continued membership support to help maintain this beautiful lake. 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 wiebersr@aol.com in regards to your membership.

I would also like to remind folks 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.



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**Cossayuna Lake Improvement Association
SLATE OF CANDIDATES**

Officers: **1 year term**

President: Pat Smith
Vice President: Kelly Pauley
Secretary: Elisa Mussi
Treasurer: Richard Hutchinson

Directors: **(4) three year terms, (2) two year terms, (1) one year term.**

Frank Gabianelli	Mike Mound
Sheila Rappazzo	Joe Romano
Jerry Simon	

Additional nominees will be accepted at the Election Meeting

Positions will be filled according to the amount of votes they receive.
The candidate with the most votes will get the longest available term.

Absentee Ballot requests can be submitted to Nancy Hieber at 692-9206



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Cossayuna Lake Management Plan 2014 Season

To maintain the water level 6 inches above the bottom of the spillway

- Begin winter draw down the day after Columbus Day by removing the board from the spillway and slowly drawing down the lake through October and completely opening the gates on the spillway by November 30th.
- Begin monitoring the water level in the spring as soon as the ice goes out.
- Establish the summer level at 6 inches above the bottom of the spillway as soon as possible.
- Maintain the summer level at 6 inches above the bottom of the spillway, weather permitting.

To maintain / improve the water quality in Cossayuna Lake at a level which supports such activities as fishing, swimming, and boating.

Chemicals:

- The board of directors will seek to implement an effective chemical program.
- The board of directors will evaluate the use of chemicals on an annual basis.

Harvesting:

- The harvesting program will run from mid May until the beginning of September with a paid work crew, depending upon funds available.
- Seek funding from the towns, county and state and other sources to support the harvesting program.
- Offer harvesting as an every time option to all members who donate to the program.
- The specific plan to meet the harvesting objectives will be approved by the Board and submitted to DEC for approval.

New Lake Management Methods:

- Research aeration as a possible method of management.

To minimize the introduction of nutrients and sediment into the lake by careful monitoring of the tributaries and the shorelines.

- Continue to work with various highway departments and the county soil and water commission and DEC to encourage the best practices in culvert replacement and road repairs.
- Continue to monitor the environment to ensure that building codes and sewer discharge regulations are observed

To monitor the water quality through research activities designed to assess such factors as lake usage, water clarity, oxygen saturation bacterial contamination.

- Test areas of concern for nitrates, phosphates, and bacterial contamination
- Offer a voluntary septic testing program
- Continue the CSLAP membership and water sampling

To educate individuals within the lake's watershed in effective management techniques.

- Provide homeowners with education on bank erosion
- Provide information on permits needed for bank stabilization
- Provide education on lake management to the Town Boards
- Provide homeowners education on septic systems

Boaters Safety

by Bob Montanye

The boater's safety course was very well attended. We had 27 people enjoyed the course. It's a great program with loads of useful info. I would recommend that anyone who will operate a boat or pwc take the course. We have all watched people make safety errors on our lake. Our lake residents tend to spend more time on the water than weekenders who use the boat launch, but I've witnessed mistakes made by people in both groups. One of the most common mistakes is use (or non use) of lights.

When boating at night it takes average eyes about 20 minutes to adjust to the darkness. That's why those high beams are only permitted to be used for docking. When you're out at night with the bright lights on you are affecting other boaters' night vision. The lights that are required are your bow lights, green starboard and red port and your white stern light; or stern light only if anchored.

If you're not out much at night, a good way to learn is to go straight out from your dock just before dark and anchor

in the middle of the lake and simply observe how things change and look as it gets darker. After a while you will be able to pick up way points, shoreline features that you will recognize and be able to find after dark. You'll soon be able to navigate around the lake without those high beams.

Another problem that most of us see is wake. I'll bet most people who operate water craft of any type don't even know that they and they alone are responsible for their wake. What that means is that if you

create a wake that causes damage to property or causes an injury you can and will be held responsible. The most common cause for a large wake is improper trim or boat balance, too many people in the stern for instance

If any of this info is new to you or you have questions about boater safety, next years boater safety course is a great place to get answers. Happy and SAFE boating.

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Walleye in Cossayuna Lake, or not?

The CLIA has been discussing the possibility of re-introducing walleye in the lake. This initially was the result of a long time lake resident's request.

Here are the findings to date:

New York State Department Of Conservation stocks Cossayuna Lake annually with Tiger-Musky. In 2012 that amounted to 3,900 fish, 10.5 inches in length. There is no cost to lake residents. The purpose behind this is to provide a means for controlling the pan fish population. (Too many pan fish leads to significantly smaller sizes, as they are competing for the same food chain.) Secondly, they are stocked as a sport fish.

If determined by lake residents to be preferable, we would request that the Tiger-Musky stocking be replaced by the stocking of walleyes. (Walleyes are also predatory and would therefore serve the same purpose of pan fish control.) The advantages are walleye are considered one of the best fresh water fish in terms of edibility. Also, they are much more eager to bite than the wary Tiger-Musky.

A similar request was made to the State in 2008, and was denied. Eight issues were referred to as the reason why DEC would not grant our request:

- (1) Not enough open water for walleye to feed.
- (2) No gravel spawning beds in either the lake or its tributaries.
- (3) Too many predator fish.
- (4) Warm water during summer months.
- (5) Oxygen depletion at the bottom of the lake.
- (6) Minimal depth of the lake.
- (7) Too many fish competing for the same food chain.
- (8) The unlikelihood that any of the above would ever change.

Several members of the CLIA Lake Management Task Force recently met with a DEC Biologist. The current response is if enough local organizations support this request, they will consider it. If it were approved, they would revisit the lake to do testing on all the above components.

If the testing is satisfactory: We would be part of a five year annual or ten year biannual stocking program that would involve approximately 12,000 walleye "50 day Frye", being stocked. They would average 1 ½ inches in length. The earliest this would happen would be 2016.

NOTE: During the CLIA Board discussions of this topic, a concern of weather having walleye re-introduced would add more lake traffic, from non-lake resident fisherman. It is a legitimate concern. Secondly, some of the listed eight reasons for denying the 2008 request would need to be addressed, and would cost money.

Please consider this issue, and attend the Saturday, August 24, 2013 membership meeting so that your voice may be heard and your vote counted. If you are a concerned lake resident who is not a CLIA member please respond by emailing or calling Frank Smith @ fsmith106@yahoo.com or 531-4140.

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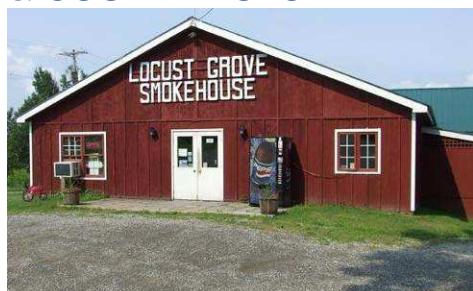


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