# CCS News

The Copake Lake Conservation Society endeavors to protect the quality of the Copake Lake watershed, preserve the ecological balance, and promote safe recreational use of the lake.

Box 37 ≈ Craryville, NY 12521 ≈ info@copakelakecs.org ≈ www.copakelakecs.org

### President's Message

he summer of 2019 came and went bringing many days of sunshine, warm temperatures, and beautiful days to Copake Lake. I do trust that whether you shared your time at the lake with family and friends, or by yourself, you were able to relish all of life's simple pleasures of "lake life". Whether continuing old traditions or starting new traditions, they always seem to enrich our fabulous memories at the lake! We are truly blessed by the majestic beauty that surrounds us at and around the lake. Whether you are a homeowner, a fisherman, a boater, or an avid user of the lake and its watershed, we all need to focus on our individual responsibilities to ensure the safety, preservation, and respect of our lake and our lake community. I can't stress enough the important role each of you play in being a driving force of preserving the natural beauty of Copake Lake that many of us take for granted. By becoming a member of the Copake Lake Conservation Society, participating, volunteering, and providing your yearly contributions you are helping to protect the beauty of our lake. Each year CLCS strives towards increasing our membership. Our hope is that one day all our families will be members. We currently have most of the same families who give year after year knowing that the lake would not be what it is today if there were no maintenance to the lake and to the watershed. I truly appreciate each of those families who know that our lake water would be undesirable if CLCS did not monitor and care for the lake yearly. A few action items include: CLCS monitoring the water for bacteria throughout the summer season; working with our limnologist and herbicide company to treat the lake for algae and weeds; providing educated information to the lake community by raising awareness of harmful invasive species; NYS boaters safety practices; and, organizing a shoreline clean up event to help decrease floating debris at the start of summer. Copake Lake Conservation Society needs to continue with the best demonstrated practices and processes while endeavoring to enhance our lake for the future of what mother nature may bring our way each year. CLCS relies solely on yearly membership donations and fundraising events to help provide all of us lake enthusiasts with the glistening waters to which we have grown accustomed.

Our membership is vital to the sustainability of our majestic waters. Please help the Copake Lake Conservation Society become a household name throughout our lake community with everyone getting on board as members! Being stewards of the lake provides positive energy for all to grow and learn from for years to come. Why not volunteer or join the board, bring your creative and innovative ideas for our entire lake community to benefit from. We have over 500 families at Copake Lake and only half contribute

to maintaining our waters and watershed by being members of the Copake Lake Conservation Society. Let's make it a 2020 goal to increase our membership collaboratively! Our watershed needs each of us to safeguard the enchantment that Copake Lake brings to our community.

Some of us are lucky enough to live at the lake all year long, while others spend entire summers. Some of us spend only weekends, while others are only here for short visits, but we all have come to expect pristine waters, safe waters, and great fishing along with nature's beauty that surrounds us. This all comes with each of us taking ownership. We cannot always expect and not give back. Do your part, step up as individuals, as a lake community, by coming together for the future of our lake. We want to keep Copake Lake and all her beauty for future generations to appreciate and love as we all do today. Engage in our lake!

Wishing each of you fall and winter months filled with peace and happiness, and an abundance of good health.

#### Debra Ruggieri



Photo by Jeremy Schokman

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### **CLCS 2019-2020 Board Of Trustees**

#### **OFFICERS/TRUSTEES** (TERM EXPIRES)

Debra Ruggieri President (2020)

**Edward Werfelman** Vice-President (2020)

Jim Murphy Treasurer (2021) Jackie Bernstein

Recording Secretary (2021)

Lynn Gelman

Corresponding Secretary

(2021)

#### **ADVISORS TO THE TRUSTEES**

Mark Anderson **Brad Bowers** 

Susan Daum (Toxicologist) Jeffrey Judd

George Knoecklein, Ph.D.

(Limnologist) Kathleen Noreau Keith Schaefer

Jon Urban

#### **TRUSTEES** (TERM EXPIRES)

Cherie Berk (2020) Muriel Muldorf (2021) Fred Bunger (2020) Liz Nealon (2021) Jennifer Oliveira (2020) Colleen Closson (2021) David Craw (2020) Maria Powers (2020) Barbara Rindler (2021) Joyce Craw (2021) Julie Hochheiser (2021) Lindsay LeBrecht (2020) Jed Luchow (2021)

Deborah Sprague (2020) Russ Stein (2021) Stu Troyetsky (2020)

Jana Meyerowitz Turner (2021) Ilise Zimmerman-Posen (2020)

### CLCS 2019-2020 Committees

#### **Communications**

The Communications Committee serves to design, publish, and monitor various media communications, such as the newsletter, website, email correspondence, and road signs.

#### **NEWSLETTER**

Joyce Craw Barbara Rindler Jed Luchow (editor) Debra Ruggieri Sharon Luchow\*\* Marcia Untracht\*\*

#### **ELECTRONIC**

Lindsay LeBrecht Jim Murphy\*

Liz Nealon Barbara Rindler Deborah Sprague

#### **PUBLICITY**

Cherie Berk Jim Murphy\* **Edward Werfelman** 

#### **Education**

The Education Committee is responsible for the design, writing, and dissemination of educational materials, and the presentation of educational programs for the membership.

Cherie Berk Liz Nealon

Maria Powers\* Debra Ruggieri

#### **Finance**

The Finance Committee supports the functions of the treasurer, including the creation of an annual budget, the purchase and review of insurance policies, year end audit, bookkeeping, and filing of tax returns.

Jim Murphy Jennifer Oliveira

Barbara Rindler Debra Ruggieri Edward Werfelman\*

#### **Fundraising**

The Fundraising Committee serves to design, propose and organize activities for the purpose of raising funds for the organization.

Jackie Bernstein Colleen Closson Lynn Gelman Debra Gold\*\* Lindsay LeBrecht Muriel Muldorf

Jim Murphy Jennifer Oliveira Debra Ruggieri Deborah Sprague Edward Werfelman\* Ilise Zimmerman-Posen

#### \*Chairperson \*\*Volunteer

Join any of the committees listed above or consider applying to join the Board of Trustees. It's a great way to meet new people and help your lake community. Go to info@copakelakecs.org to let us know of your interest.

#### Lake Management

The Lake Management Committee is responsible for the collection, analysis, and dissemination of information regarding the vitality and maintenance of the waters, shoreline, and watershed of Copake Lake. Grants Committee (GC) is a sub-committee of Lake Management Committee.

Rick Aluisio\*\* Barbara Bunger\*\* Fred Bunger\* David Craw GC Brad Dubler\* Russ Funk\*\* Lindsay LeBrecht Jed Luchow Debra Ruggieri

Keith Schaefer\*\* **Buddy Sinisi\*\*** Russ Stein\* GC Stu Troyetsky Jon Urban\*\* Ed Werfelman Mike Whitcomb\*\* Ilise Zimmerman-Posen

#### **Membership**

The Membership Committee maintains a list of membership, addresses, and contribution history; and generates materials that assist in maintaining membership roles.

Debra Ruggieri\* **All Board Members** 

**Nominating** 

The Nominating Committee is responsible for producing a slate of candidates for the election of trustees, and a slate of candidates for the Officers of the Corporation.

Joyce Craw\* Jed Luchow

Barbara Rindler

# **CLCS Contributors 2019 (as of September 30)**

The fall/winter listing of contributors is by alphabetical order, not by categories (as of September 30, 2019). The spring/summer issue 2020 will include all contributors from January I- December 31, 2019, including Members (by donation level), General Donors including In Honor Of and In Memory Of donors, and Business Supporters. If you have contributed to CLCS between Jan I-Sep 30, 2019 and you do not see your name, please contact us at info@copakelakecs.org.

**ILANA REICH & BOB AGNES** LINDA SENK/DR. SCOTT ALTMAN **KEVIN & GLORIA ANDERSON** MARK & MICHELLE ANDERSON ANONYMOUS (2) PHILIP & JOSEPHINE ANTICO CAROLYN AND PAUL AVERSANO **RON & KRISTEN AXELRAD** FRANK & NANCY BADER RYAN WALSH/JOHN BARBATO SHELLY & LEONARD BARHAM MARION BATY **ROBERT & MARCIA BECKER CARL & KATHY BERGQUIST** RALPH & CHERIE BERK **JACKIE & STANLEY BERNSTEIN** NATHAN & HELEN BERNSTEIN MICHAEL & SOPHIE BIENSTOCK **CHARLES & TRACY BIRD** JANET MOY & PAT BISHOW **CURT & KATHLEEN BOURIL** BARBARA BRAUNSTEIN PAM & RICK BROWN BARBARA & FRED BUNGER MARY & JOHN CANEVARI JAMES & RUTH ANN CARMODY RICHARD & ARLEEN CARROLL MELISSA RICHARD CARROLL PAUL CASEY AND MARIKA PRITCHETT-JASON & SUSAN CHADKIN STEVEN & DENISE CHICKERY LAURA & MARY CHRISTIANSON-COYLE **COLLEEN CLOSSON ELLYN & DANIEL COHEN** MONICA/ROGER KAPLAN/ISABELLE KAPLAN COHEN RANDY & SUSAN COHEN-BYRNE **IRENE & JAMES CONNORS** THOMAS & JANET COOK ARTHUR & JOANIE COOPER COPAKE LAKE REALTY CORP. CAROLINE & PATRICK CORCORAN JOYCE & DAVID CRAW JERRY DABROWSKI BLAISE & RENEE D'AMBROSIO SUSAN & WALTER DAUM CHASE BOOTH / GRAY DAVIS PETER DELL'AERA **ROBERT & MARILYN DERECTOR** JAN & STEVEN DEWEY MARIA DISALVO JODI/GEORGE DISCH **BRAD & MARLA DUBLER** 

ADRIAN POLLACK/MATT EASTWOOD HARRY FHRI ICH **DOROTHY & JOHN EVANGELISTA** ALBERT & NOEL FAIR BARBARA & TONY FALANGA JESSE & VERONICA FARBER **CAROL & STEPHEN FASS** JOHN & GRACE FEIGHERY THOMAS & MELISSA FEIGHERY KAREN & TONY FERRARI **ROBERT & DEBRA FISCHGRUND ROBERT & MICHELINA FLICK** ANNELISE FORTIER ATAMIAN AMY & MARK FRANK BELLE AND JIM FRANK ERIC / DORIS VARLESE FREED JONATHAN FREIMAN MICHAEL & JANET FRIED **GELFO FAMILY** LYNN & MITCHELL GELMAN JONAH PESNER/DANA GERSHON BETH FEENEY/KATHY GLEESON MARILYN GOLDMAN CARL RITCHIE/CHRISTOPHER GRANT **TERENCE & TAMELA GREENE** JAY & EVELYN GUTKIN JOHN & PEGGY GUTTILLA SUZANNE & JOHN HALLENBECK WALLY HILL **KEVIN & KELLY HILL EDWARD & KIM HILTON** DALE & WENDY HUBER **DANIEL & JULIE IIKOVICH** MICHELLE & MATTHEW INGBER **ISLAND HOMEOWNERS** MARK & SUZANNE JOHNSON RICHARD KABATA MARK & DEIDRE KARN NICK & RUTH KARUSH **GERALDINE & JOHN KEELYN** LINDA KETAY ANDREA FRESHMAN & DAVID KIEFER NANCY, GREGG & KILEY KILLAWEE PATRICK & JANET KIRWAN **DOUG & ANNE KLEESCHULTE** KIM BARTON/MITCHELL KONSKER WENDY KOREVA PATRICIA & ROLAND LAFFERT JAMES LALIME/JANE LANDERS STEPHEN & PATRICIA LATZMAN

**DONNA & BOB LAWRENCE** 

ERIC MULLEN/NICOLE LEFTON

PAUL & JOAN LAYER

LINDSAY LEBRECHT

SHELLY HUTTNER/MARK LESHNER **BARBARA & ROBERT LEVINE BARBARA & BRETT LEWIS RONI NEUER & HERB LIBERTSON** THE LIGHTHOUSE DIANA LOGOZIO JED & SHARON LUCHOW JOHN & LAUREN MAGGIACOMO SPIRO & MARLENA MALAS **BARI & LEX MALAS** JOANN & BILL MANY PAUL & GAIL MARANO PENNY & JOHN MASTROPOLO **DAVE & ALLISON MATEER** BARBARA & ROSS MAURI CYD & TIM McDOWELL MICHAEL & JOYCE McGOVERN JAMES & JENNIFER McHALE **GERALD & LINDA MELODY** MARK / TONI McGINLEY MERCHANT **BRETT & KIM MERKER** STEVE & LIZ MESZAROS SEFKET METJAJIC VICTOR MEVO, JR JOHN JOE MINELLA JOEL & SARI KAPLAN MITTLER CHERYL MOCH FRED & JULIE MORAN FD FILIEN & GAYLE MORGAN MURIEL & RAYMOND MULDORF CHARLES & SUE MURKOFSKY SHARON & DOMINICK NOVIELLI JENNIFER & WILLIAM OLIVEIRA MATTHEW & MARYANN PALIWODA DANIEL & CYNTHIA PANARELLA **JACK & ANN PELUSO** MARIE & JERRY PINDIS SAM & MAURA PITTELLI CHARLES & KATHLEEN PLUNGIS MARIA & DONALD POWERS c/o Peter Chudy PRESIDENT ESTATES Russ Funk RHF MARINE ENTERPRISES, BARBARA KAESE RINDLER LISA & JOHN ROBERTS GERALYN CARL/RON ROCK ALEXANDRA & SCOTT ROSENBERG DAVID & DEBRA ROSENFELD **ELI & JUDY ROSMAN BUZ / VAN MACKEY ROSMILSO** ADAM PECK BUFF-IT LLC

**DEBRA & MARK RUGGIERI** 

SUSAN & PHIL SALINE

JAMES RYAN

AMY/CAROL LIPPMAN SALTZ RICHARD & MARIA SCARDINO **KEITH & PELIDA SCHAEFER EDWARD & KAREN SCHARF** JEREMY & KIM SCHOKMAN NANCY & JACK SCHULTZ **DOUGLAS & BARBARA SHERMAN** LOIS SHERMAN FRED & ELOISE SILVERMAN LIZ NEALON/SEYMOUR SIMON **ELAYNE & PHILIP SMITH** MICHAEL & GRACE SOLE SOUTHWEST OUTING JOHN & MICHELLE SPIEZIA WAYNE & DEBORAH SPRAGUE **BARBARA & RICHARD SQUIRES RUSSELL & RACHEL STEIN** FLLIF STFINER **ELISSA & JEFFREY STEINER** STOLLE FAMILY BARBARA & RICHARD STRAUSS ROBERT STROHMFIER ANDREW & DEBORAH STROMBERG **BILL & RANDEE STYPULKOWSKI** WILLIAM G. SWEENEY DAVIS TAMBURRO THOMAS & LYNN TAYLOR **EDWARD & Katie TEMME BARRY POLAYES & CAROL TIGER** SLB AND DEAN TOW STUART & MARCIA TROYETSKY ETHAN & JANNA MEYROWITZ TURNER MARCIA & ROBERT UNTRACHT MITCHELL & LISA USAVICH JAMES & MARGARET VAETH MARK C VAETH ARNOLD & ANN VAN DEUSEN MARIA PFEIFFER & JASON VOGEL JAMES WAGNER **CHRIS & MELISSA WALLERSTEIN** THOMAS & CINDY WALSH STEVEN & ANNE WEISHOLTZ PAIGE WENTWORTH JAMES MURPHY & EDWARD WERFELMAN **ROBERT & AMY WILKINSON** MICHAEL & DIANE YANNIELLO CHARLES & VIRGINIA ZABATTA MARIA & JAC ZADRIMA **DOUGLAS ZIEGLER** DENNIS POSEN/ILISE ZIMMERMAN

### 2020 Schedule of Meetings and Events

**Note:** This calendar reflects the traditional meetings and events at or around the Copake Lake community area. Please consult the CLCS website for up-to-date information (www.copakelakecs.org)

May 2020 \*Treatment for invasive weeds will be scheduled as needed but likely to be

in mid-May. There will be a 7 day advance notice of any treatment restrictions

on lake use.

Saturday, May XX, 2020 CLCS Board of Trustees Meeting

a.m. The Greens Restaurant

Saturday, May XX, 2020 Town of Copake Clean-up Day

9 a.m. - 12 noon Town Garage, 47 School Road. No construction or demolition waste.

Call Town Hall 518 329-1234 Ext 2 for more info

Saturday, May 23, 2020 Memorial Day Weekend

9 a.m. - 12 noon CLCS Information Booth opens 2020 CLCS merchandise for sale

Corner County Route 7 and Lakeview Road

Saturday, May 30, 2020 Copake Lake Annual Shoreline Clean-Up Day

9 a.m. - 12 noon Corner County Route 7 and Lakeview Road. No construction debris. 4 tire limit.

Rain date Sunday, May 31

Saturday, June 13, 2020 Roeliff Jansen Community Library Annual Gala

5 p.m. - 7:30 p.m. Roeliff Jansen Community Park, Harvest Barn, 9140 Route 22, across from the library

Check website for further details at www.roejanlibrary.org

Saturday, June XX, 2020 CLCS Board of Trustees Meeting

9 a.m. The Greens Restaurant

July 2020 Algae treatments will be scheduled only as needed. There will be a 7 day

advance notice of treatment restrictions or lake use.

Saturday, July 4, 2020 Annual 4th of July Boat Parade

p.m. Begins at Southwest Colony

Saturday, July 11, 2020 CLCS Annual Meeting

10 a.m. Copake Town Hall

Saturday, July 18, 2020 I4th Annual Summer Bash

The Greens Restaurant.; Cocktails 6:30 p.m., Dinner 7:30 p.m.

Theme to be determined

Saturday, August XX, 2020 CLCS Board of Trustees Meeting

9 a.m. The Greens Restaurant

Saturday, August XX, 2020 Copake Falls Day
Check website for details. www.copakefallsday.org or call 518-329-3251

August 15, 2020 Annual Fireworks at Copake Country Club

9 p.m. Organized by Denise and Steven Chickery and supported by community donations.

Sunday, September 6, 2020 CLCS Labor Day Weekend Raffle

I a.m. The Lighthouse Boat Club

Saturday, September XX, 2020 CLCS Board of Trustees Meeting

a.m. The Greens Restaurant

Saturday, September 12, 2020 7th Annual Roe-Jan Ramble Bike Tour

8 a.m. Copake Memorial Park

This ride will go through Copake, Hillsdale and Ancram.

For more information go to: roejanramble.org or call Tom Goldsworthy 347-952-5764.

Registration is free online

<sup>\*</sup>Lake treatments will be scheduled as needed. Treatment dates will be made firm based on lake testing results. Notices will be posted around lake 7 days prior to treatments. Check our website for dates and more information. www.copakelakecs.org

<sup>\*\*</sup> Columbia County Hazardous Household Waste Collection. Check website for date: www.colombiacountyny.com



Sunset over Copake Lake from County Rte. 7, photo by Michael Bienstock



### Kevin M. Hill

carpenter

14 Four Wheel Drive Craryville, NY 12521 518-325-3662 Phone & Fax 518-821-4747 Cell kkhill9264@gmail.com



Sunset on a relaxing evening Photo by Sharon Luchow

# Treasurer's Report PROFIT & LOSS

**JANUARY TO DECEMBER 2018** 

#### Income:

Ads	1,820.00
Contributions Income	65,109.00
Fundraising	12,651.84
Interest Income	1,289.00
<b>Total Income</b>	80,869.84
Gross Profit	80,869.84

#### **Expenses:**

Administration	2,943.99
Communications	6,768.24
Education	344.47
Lake Management	95,609.00
<b>Total Expenses</b>	105,665.70
<b>Net Operating Income</b>	-24,795.86
Net Income /Loss	-24,795.86

### **Annual July 4th Copake Lake Boat Parade**

#### **Happy Birthday America**

ith the sky filled with pure sunshine and temperatures soaring into the 90's, our traditional boat parade proceeded from Southwest Colony promptly at 1:00 p.m. on July 4th. The parade was led by Cort Wright and his lovely wife, Maria. This year's boat parade consisted of 62 watercrafts! There were many spectators along the shoreline standing on their decks and docks, floating on rafts, or just wading in our beautiful water trying to stay cool. Whether you set sail with one flag on your vessel, created a themed vessel, or you were a shoreline spectator, the Copake Lake 4th of July boat parade was the place to be!

The parade has been a long-standing tradition on Copake

Lake since the early 1950's and what better way to join in the fun in celebrating our country's birthday! This year's winner was a double boat themed "The Incredible Copake Lake". Captain Jed Luchow and his crew Jessie Rosen Luchow, Rob Luchow, Sharon Luchow, Ali Luchow Rosenberg, Brett Rosenberg, Sam Rosenberg, Scott Rosenberg, Ben Sachs, Marty Sachs, Steve Sachs, and Tami Luchow Sachs did an incredible job! Congratulations to the 2019 trophy winners of the Copake Lake Annual 4th of July Boat Parade!

See you on Copake Lake next summer. July 4, 2020 (Saturday) at 1:00 p.m. in front of Southwest Colony.

#### Steven Chickery/Debra Ruggieri





2019 July 4th Boat Parade winners Captain Jed Luchow & Crew Photo by Peter Marano & Crew



Judges station July 4th Boat Parade 2018 winners Captain Peter Marano & Crew Photo by Debra Ruggieri

# MARK YOUR CALENDARS

#### **SUMMER BASH 2020**

at The Greens

Saturday, JULY 18, 2020

Theme: To Be Determined

Cocktails at 6:30 p.m. Dinner at 7:30 p.m.

Sunset on Earth Day 2019 Photo by Carol Creitin-Sokol

# MARK YOUR CALENDAR!

PLAN TO ATTEND OUR ANNUAL MEETING/OPEN HOUSE TO LEARN WHAT IS GOING ON WITH COPAKE LAKE!

Come meet your neighbors and hear about the CLCS!

Saturday, July 11, 2020 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 noon

COPAKE TOWN HALL 230 Mountain View Road, Copake 518-325-1234

9:30 a.m. Light Refreshments Served

2020 CLCS merchandise for sale

SPONSORED BY THE COPAKE LAKE CONSERVATION SOCIETY

# MEYER DAVIS

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### Membership 2019 - Updated Guidelines/Categories

Membership 2019 has been met by most of our members with a positive acceptance of knowing that over time prices increase for cost of services. Since 1974, our Copake Lake community's voluntary membership of \$100 per year to become a voting member has been in place. After 45 years, the overall increased costs necessary for the care and maintenance of our lake caused CLCS to increase their membership from \$100 to \$150 as of January 1, 2019.

There will be four revised Household categories or Membership donations:

- Lake Angels \$1000 +
- Lake Fanatics \$500-999
- Lake Lovers \$300-499
- Lake Friends \$150-\$299 (includes I individual household membership)

- o Non-membership donations to CLCS will be listed in the newsletter and on our website as: General Donations, In Honor of Donations, and In Memory of Donations. These donations may not be used as membership donations.
- o Homeowners' Associations do not have voting memberships. All donations from Homeowners' Associations will be listed under General Donations
- o Our Business Supporters, with a donation of \$100 or more for the fiscal year January I- December 31, will have a separate listing in our spring/summer newsletter and on our website for that year.

CLCS thanks all their members in good standing and asks each of you to continue to support us and encourage your non-member neighbors to support us too. Allowing all of us to enjoy the beauty of Copake Lake not only today, but for generations to come.

#### **Debra Ruggieri**

Membership Chairperson

#### Donating to the Copake Lake Conservation Society



The Southwest Colony Golf Outing at the Copake Country Club passed a hat around in appreciation for all that CLCS does for the lake. Collecting \$375 this year!

### **Annual CLCS Shoreline Clean-Up Day**

opake Lake Conservation Society's (CLCS) annual shoreline clean-up day was held on Saturday, May 25, 2019 from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon. This event helps us clean up unwanted debris from the lake and along the shoreline. This year we again did a one-time sweep of the shoreline along the roads starting at 10:00 a.m., from Golf Course Road, along Lakeview Road, to County Route 7 ending at Juliana/Jefferson Drive. The debris was then transported to the dumpster at the triangle at the intersection of Lakeview Road and County Route 7 where CLCS sets up an information table. With special thanks to Jim Murphy and Ed Werfelman for taking on the task of developing CLCS merchandise.

CLCS volunteers helped at the information table and also monitored the dumpster so that only debris from the lake could be deposited. This year's "Guardians of the Dumpster" included: Jed Luchow, Jim Murphy, Ed Werfelman. Volunteers included: Cherie Berk, Ralph Berk, Debra Ruggieri, Deborah Sprague, Ed Werfelman, Ilise Zimmerman-Posen.

Once again this year Carmen Barbato, Inc. donated a dumpster, including delivery and pick up, that allowed us to remove nearly two tons of lake debris. We especially thank the Town of Copake for paying the tipping fee. We would also like to thank Jon Urban of the Copake Country Club/ The Greens Restaurant for providing us with a pick-up truck and two workers, Corey Brousseau and Donald Matteson, to go along the roads and gather lake debris for transport to the dumpster.

# SPECIAL ALERT FOR SHORELINE CLEAN UP 2020 and beyond

# NEW DATE: May 30, 2020 (Saturday following Memorial Day Weekend)\*

#### \*Explanation:

Next year and going forward, CLCS Shoreline Clean Up Day will no longer take place on the Saturday of Memorial Day Weekend. The waste management companies in our area will no longer deliver and pick up their dumpster on the Saturday morning of Memorial Day Weekend. At best, we could have a delivery on Friday afternoon and a pick up on Tuesday morning after the long weekend. This would mean that CLCS would be unable to monitor the dumpster for most of the holiday weekend. Instead CLCS decided to move Shoreline Clean Up Day to the Saturday immediately following Memorial Day Weekend, still from 9:00 AM to 12:00 Noon, with a rain date of Sunday. This year the dates would be May 30 (rain date May 31). However, CLCS will open its Information Booth including

its merchandise sales on both weekends at the Triangle Community Board at the intersection of Lakeview Road and County Route 7. The CLCS News for spring/summer 2020 will include more specific suggestions about how to leave lake debris for pick up on May 30. Thank you all for your understanding and cooperation.

#### Jed Luchow

**Event Coordinator** 

#### **Lake Management Committee**



Carmen Barbato, Sr. donating dumpster on Shoreline Clean Up Day Photo by SLB and Dean Tow



CLCS Information Booth Memorial Day Weekend Photo by Cherie Berk



Baby Beau Darcy with Josh Darcy and Patira Pattharuksa buying CLCS goodies Photo by Cherie Berk







# WINTER HAPPENINGS

Trivia Sunday • Mexican Monday
Thursday Pasta Night • Prix Fixe Fridays
Comedy Night November 30th - buy tickets online!



thegreens

COPAKE

### Summer Bash 2019

n Saturday July 20th, the annual CLCS Bash was held at The Greens in perfect weather. The theme was Beach and Boardwalk. Chef Glen Strickland put together a great boardwalk menu. Guests feasted on appetizers of corn dogs, calzones, watermelon and feta skewers, tomato basil and mozzarella skewers, and yummy crab fritters. Dinner included assorted kebabs, salads, and sausage and peppers that everyone enjoyed. We even had adult beverage snow cones! The tables were decorated with a child's shovel and sand bucket filled with salt water taffy. The concept was also carried through by the professional wait staff in their lifeguard shirts (see accompanying photo).

Music was once again provided by D J Daddy (Dave Hawley) and this year for the first time, after 9:00 PM, The Juke Box Junkies. The Bash went so well that we extended the music time of both as everyone partied into the wee hours. A pause in the festivities was provided by our auctioneer Steven Chickery, and we must acknowledge that the gift items donated this year were outstanding. The sole reason the auction is so successful for us is the generosity of our partiers when it comes to bidding. Thank you all!

During the auction the 50/50 was drawn. The jackpot was won by Mark Anderson who promptly donated half of it back to the CLCS. That's classy, Mark! Thank you.

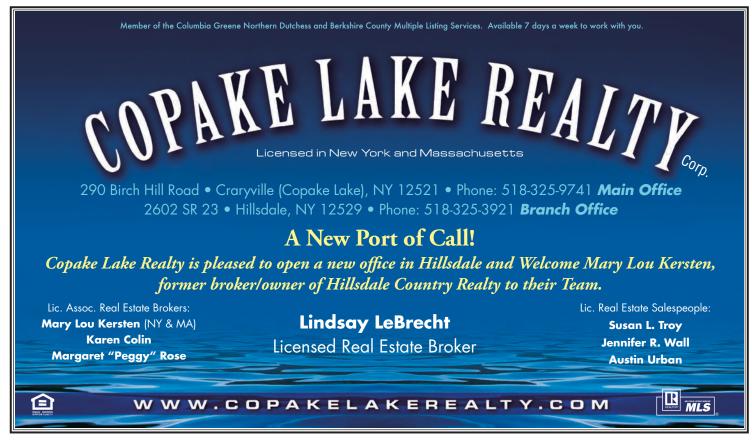
We are grateful to Kyleigh Zengen and to Jon and Kim Urban for their assistance in creating such an outstanding event. And finally, save the date! Next year's Bash will be held on Saturday, July 18, 2020 at The Greens. We hope to see you there!

#### **Colleen Closson and Ed Werfelman**

**CLCS Fundraising Co-Chairs** 



CLCS Bash at The Greens---Wait staff as Lifeguards
Photo by Kyleigh Zengen



# 2019 Lake Management Committee Meeting Report Summary of 2019 & Action Plans for 2020

Attendees: Barb and Fred Bunger, Lindsay LeBrecht, Buddy Sinisi, Russ Stein, Keith Schaefer, Debra Ruggieri, AJ Reyes of NEAR. and Kara Sliwoski and Ben Casseles of Solitude.

Regrets: Ed Werfelman, Stu Troyetsky, Jed Luchow, Brad Dubler, and Mike Whitcomb

#### I. Health Monitoring

2019: All samples well under the level of concern. Swimmer's ltch reported in May and June, but there were no reports after early July.

2020: Kara suggested contacting Alpha Analytical in Albany to bid on the CLCS water testing. Stu will continue to sample the lake for coliform bacteria in late June, mid-July, and mid-August for potential sources of coliform contamination.

2020 Budget \$1,500

#### 2. Shoreline erosion:

2019: Barb reported that coir logs installed in 2017 deteriorated quickly due to wave action. Stone added in February 2019 under NYS permit seem to provide good protection.

2020: NEAR to monitor shoreline erosion and report on problem areas.

2020 Budget: \$1000 for education and studies.

#### 3. Grant Program:

2019: One grant request approved by the Grant Committee, but turned-down by the LMC Trustees when it was determined that the work did not materially improve lake quality.

2020: Grant program suspended for 2020.

#### 4. Invasive Species Control:

2019: One visit by Captain Bob got several large carp.

2020: AJ to contact NYS Fisheries to determine if carp in Copake Lake are a serious concern. Lindsay to continue contact with Captain Bob.

2020 Budget: \$500 (until carp issue defined).

#### 5. Lake Level and Dam:

2019: Lake level was satisfactory for all lake users. Dam re-classified as minimum risk A class. Engineering to meet NYSDEC requirements for repair is in progress with Hans Hasnay or WSP Engineering. Changes to spillway to increase

overflow rate and simplify lake drawdown and refill will be included in the design.

2020: Drawdown in November, refill to start as danger of ice on shoreline is past.

2020 Budget: \$10,000 if needed to complete dam repair and modification engineering. (We have not spent any of the 2019 budget yet. This should probably be \$10,000 just to cover the 2019 work. Plus at least \$10,000 for the actual work.)

#### 6. Invasive Weed Control:

2019: (See report from AJ Reyes of NEAR). We will be in the second year of our three-year contract with Solitude. Mid-May spot diquat controlled curly-leaf pondweed, but saw new growth in other areas of the lake. Native weeds abundant in August. A few spots of milfoil and brittle naiad seen in September.

2020: Third year of 3-year contract with Solitude. Four options for spot curly leaf control:

#I. Diquat, (if NYSDEC removes I4 day restriction).

#2. Flumoxycin, which has only a 5-day irrigation restriction, maybe added cost.

#3. Aquathol, used before, with reasonable results.

May consider diver hand-pulling of the small milfoil areas.

#4. For future milfoil control, ProcellaCOR® EC was recently approved by NYSDEC. Procella® requires only a one-day permit and is approved for drinking water. Third year of Solitude contract is \$31,592 plus allocate \$10,000, if needed, for diver harvesting of late season nuisance weed control.

2020 Budget: \$41,492

#### 7. Algae and Clarity:

2019: Lake clarity ranged from 24 feet in June to 8 feet in early September. Schedule issues resulted in heavy filamentous algae late June to early July. July 10th treatment with SeClearG (copper sulfate pentahydrate) controlled the algae for the season. Blue-green algae was not seen in high concentration in 2019.

2020: Secure permits for SeClear and/or copper sulfate as needed to control.

2020 Budget: included in Solitude contract.

# 2019 Lake Management Committee Meeting Report Summary of 2019 & Action Plans for 2020

#### 8. Stormwater and Sediment Control:

2019: Town worked on adding stone and gabions to some Bird Roads ditches.

2020: CLCS will set aside \$10,000 to provide material for the Town of Copake, if needed to work on drainage.

2020 Budget: \$10,000

#### 9. Shoreline Cleanup

Cleanup will be moved to Saturday immediately following Memorial Day Weekend. Waste management companies will not deliver and/or pick up dumpster during the holiday weekend.

2020 Budget: \$600

10. NEAR monthly (May-Sept.) lake monitoring/ testing and reporting

2020 Budget: to be determined

#### **Fred Bunger**

Chairperson

**CLCS Lake Management Committee** 



# CLCS NEWS Wins NYSFOLA Newsletter Contest

1st PLACE AWARD for 2018

Category: Medium-sized Lakes

From: New York State Federation of Lake

Associations (NYSFOLA)

# MARK YOUR CALENDAR

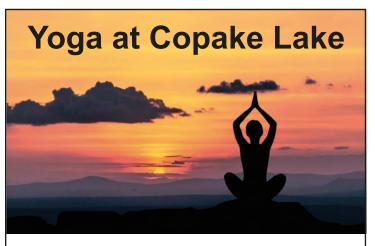
**Shoreline Clean Up Day** 

May 30, 2020 (Saturday)

from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 pm at the

Triangle intersection of Lakeview Road and County Route 7





Private and Small Group Classes
It's never too late to start!
Debra Fischgrund
debragold3@gmail.com

### 2019 Labor Day Weekend Raffle

opake Lake Conservation Society's 2019 Labor Day Weekend Raffle was held at the Lighthouse Marina on Sunday, September I. Thank you to Buddy Sinisi for your continued support of this CLCS event. The morning brought sunshine, comfortable temperatures, a nice gathering of CLCS Board members, and many lake members and guests who anxiously awaited the drawing for the \$1000 Grand Prize as well as the many other prizes that were generously donated.

CLCS would like to thank all the businesses who donated the prizes, along with everyone who purchased raffle tickets to help to make this fundraiser a success. Please take a moment to look through all the businesses whose ads support our lake with their contributions; please continue to patronize their establishments. I would, once again, like to thank Rick Aluisio for being the raffle's #I seller of tickets! Rick was selling tickets up to 10:30pm the night before the raffle! Thank you Rick for all your support of CLCS and of me. I would also like to give a shout out to all the Board members for their help in selling tickets and to those who help in getting us raffle prizes. Without everyone's collaboration this event would not be as successful as it has been year after year.



2019 Labor Day Raffle winner Amy Demeri Photo by Maria Powers

This year's \$1000 Grand Prize winner was Amy Demeri. Her

tickets were purchased as a guest of the Maria Powers Family. Congratulations Amy and thank you for supporting Copake Lake!

**Debra Ruggieri** Fundraising Committee

CONTRIBUTOR	GIFT	WINNER
CLCS	\$1000 in Cash	Amy Demeri
Catamount Ski	Two Ski Lift Tickets	The Sussmans
Copake Lake Boat & Ski	Waterskis	Meredith Schiller
Sunset/Sunview B&B with a View	One night stay	Jodi Disch
Catamount Arial	Two Admissions	Jamie Hirsch
Thrifty Beverage	Callaway Amstel Light golf bag	Peter Marano
Herringtons	\$100 Gift Card	Chase Booth
The Lighthouse Boat Club	\$100 Cash	Jodi Disch
Thrifty Beverage	Heineken cooler w/built in stereo	Adam Troyetski
Poochini's Pet Salon	Gift Basket	Sam Fortier
Passiflora	Handsome Man Grooming Can	Dennis Posen
Harney and Sons	Gift Basket	Larry Brown
Copake Lake Country Club	18 holes of Golf with Cart	Maureen Kane
Copake Lake Country Club	18 holes of Golf with Cart	Amy Demeri
Copake Lake Country Club	18 holes of Golf with Cart	Muriel & Ray Muldorf
Copake Lake Country Club	18 holes of Golf with Cart	Miles Braffett
Ameristop	\$50 Gift Certificate	The Powers Family
Sky Farm Riding Stables	One Hour Riding Lesson	Dean Ruggieri
The Greens	\$50 Gift Certificate	Frank Zacarolli
Sauces 'n Love, Inc.	Case of Sauce	Arlene & Tom Remi
Thrifty Beverage	Tecante' BBQ Grill	Dan & Maura Percesepe
Denise & Steven Chickery	Harney & Sons Gift Bag	Lynn Gelman
CLCS	2019 Sweatshirt	Jules Kelly
CLCS	2 Hats	Bonnie Brown
Stewarts Shoppe	\$30 Gift Card	Rick Aluisio
Sauces 'n Love, Inc.	Variety of Sauces	Vera Sinisi
Taconic Valley	Non -Phosphorus ferterlizer	Carol Sokol
CLCS	2019 T Shirt & Copake Lake Book The Karn Family	
Sauces 'n Love, Inc.	Variety of Sauces Steve Weisholtz	
CLCS	CLCS Tote Bag, Koosies,Lanyards,Wine Bag James Shoaf	
Lia's Mountain View Restaurant	\$25 Gift Certificate	Dan Miracola
Dad's Diner	\$25 Gift Card	Tammy Meyer
IGA	\$20 Gift Card	Darren Cook

### Winter Safety on Copake Lake

ow that boats are stored, docks have been removed, and days are growing shorter, the winter season is upon Copake Lake. It is time to consider enjoying the activities on Copake Lake such as ice fishing, ice skating, cross country skiing, and snowmobiling.

Snowmobiling is a fun sport. However, as with boating and the use of personal watercraft, safety is of utmost importance. New York State Office of Parks, Recreation, and Historic Preservation (OPRHP) has enacted rules and regulations for snowmobiles which are enforceable by the OPRHP Forest Rangers, the county Sheriff's office, and State Troopers.

For additional information about snowmobiling laws and regulations, including operator requirements, vehicle registration, insurance, safety helmets, etc., consult the following website for the New York State Snowmobiler's Guide (2014), a sample of which is included below.

www.nysparks.com/recreation/snowmobiles/documents/ SnowmobilersGuide.pdf

#### From, New York State Snowmobiler's Guide (2014)

#### **Operator Requirements**

Anyone who is at least 18 years old may operate a snowmobile in New York State without any other qualification except as defined by state and local laws regulating that operation. However, it is recommended that all operators complete a recognized snowmobile safety course. See the section on Rider Training for more information on the New York State Snowmobile Safety Education Program.

Youth ages 14 through 17 years old may operate a snow-mobile without adult or other supervision if they have completed a snowmobile safety training course recognized by the State of New York.

Youth ages 10 through 13 may operate a snowmobile, on lands upon which snowmobiling is allowed, if they have completed a snowmobile safety training course recognized by the State of New York and are accompanied by (within 500 feet of) a person who is at least 18 years of age.

The Commissioner of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation will issue a snowmobile safety certificate to those who successfully complete this course.

Youths who do not hold this certificate are subject to the same restrictions as children under the age of 14 years. See the section on Rider Training for more information on the New York State Snowmobile Safety Education Program.



Children under 10 years old or under age 14 without a safety certificate may operate a snowmobile only on lands owned or leased by their parent or guardian.

A non-resident operator who is a resident of another state or country and is the holder of a valid snowmobile safety certificate issued by that state or country shall be considered the same as the holder of a New York State Safety Certificate."

#### **Jed Luchow**

# COPAKE LAKE CONSERVATION SOCIETY PAST PRESIDENTS

TERM IN OFFICE	NAME
2014-present	Debra Ruggieri
2010-2014	Denise Chickery
2006-2010	Dominick "Buddy" Sinisi
2003-2006	Dave Craw
1999-2003	Barbara Bunger
1995-1999	Lindsay LeBrecht
1994-1995	Barbara Bunger/Lindsay LeBrecht
1990-1994	Barbara Bunger
1989-1990	Joseph Gladstone
1987-1989	Tom Williams
1985-1987	Joseph Gladstone
1980-1985	Lucille Landers
1979-1980	Dr. Henry "Hy" Lowenheim (founding president of CLCS, Inc. as a 501(c)(3) charitable organization)

### NYS Boating Safety Requirements Becoming Stricter in 2020

s of this coming January, anyone 27-years-old or younger will be required to have completed a boating safety course in order to operate a motorboat in New York water. This is a change from the current law, which only requires a boating safety certificate for anyone 23 and under.

This new legislation, known as Brianna's Law, is set to go into effect January I, 2020, and it will continue to get stricter under a five-year phase-in plan.

# By 2025, <u>all</u> New York State motorboat operators—regardless of age—will be required to have completed the NYS boater safety course.

The five-year roll out looks like this:

- All motorboat operators born on or after January I, 1993 must complete a safety course to operate a motorboat beginning in 2020.
- All motorboat operators born on or after January I, 1988 must complete a safety course to operate a motorboat beginning in 2022.
- All motorboat operators born on or after January I, 1983 must complete a safety course to operate a motorboat beginning in 2023.
- All motorboat operators born on or after January I, 1978 must complete a safety course to operate a motorboat beginning in 2024.
- All motorboat operators must complete a safety course to operate a motorboat beginning in 2025, regardless of age.

Safety courses through which boaters obtain the required certificate can be taken online or in person. If you have previously taken the course but cannot locate your certificate, a new copy can be obtained through the New York State Parks website for a \$10.00 fee. Course information and applications for replacement certificates can be found on the following website:

https://parks.ny.gov/recreation/boating/education.aspx

Note that the safety requirements for operating a Personal Watercraft (JetSki<sup>™</sup>, Wave Runner<sup>™</sup>, etc.) have not changed.

# Anyone operating a personal watercraft must have a boating safety certificate and be at least 14 years of age or older.

Since you always need to have your certificate when you are on the water, consider adding your New York State Boating Safety Certificate next time you renew your New York State Department of Motor Vehicle Document (Driver's License, or Non-Driver Photo ID Card). The endorsement will appear as an anchor icon on the face of the document. Learn more at this link:

https://parks.ny.gov/recreation/boating/documents/ NYStateBoatingSafetyCertificateOptionalCredentialing DMVDocument.pdf

Brianna Lieneck was an II-year-old girl killed in a boating accident in Long Island's Great South Bay in 2005. Gina Lieneck, Brianna's mother lobbied lawmakers to pass this boating safety bill in her daughter's memory.

#### Maria Powers, Chairperson

**Education Committee** 







Photo by Liz Nealon

### Fireworks Over Copake Lake Summer 2019\*

\*Note: Fireworks over Copake Lake is not a CLCS event. Fireworks are supported by Steven and Denise Chickery with donations from residents, guests, homeowner's associations, and private businesses.

he I7th annual "Fireworks over Copake Lake" took place on August 24th from the grounds of the Copake Country Club golf course and The Greens Restaurant. It was a beautiful day and an even lovelier evening.

As dusk set in, a flotilla of pleasure boats lay at anchor on Copake Lake awaiting the show. Durlng that time, a musical Interlude was provided for the boaters by bagpiper Gordon Brown who was visiting our lake from Scotland. Nicely played Gordon.

At 9:00 PM the show began. Produced by pyrotechnics Frank Collucio and the staff at Legion Fireworks, the nearly one-half hour show included rockets, barrages, brocades, comets, fountains, and Roman candles. The finale of rockets, fountains, and salutes was a spectacular crescendo of light and sound. The finale was followed by the roar of cheers and blaring boat horns from around the lake.

Save the date! Next year's show will be Saturday, August 15th. We hope you will all join in supporting this great event



Fireworks over Copake Lake in August Photo by Fritz Stolle



August fireworks - Bagpiper Gordon Brown at shoreline Photo by Shebna Olsen

#### **Denise Chickery**

**Event Coordinator** 





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Location: Lower Level of Roeliff Jansen Community Library 9091 Route 22

Copake, NY 12516

friends-roejanlibrary.org

### 2019 Shoreline Boat & Dock Census

n informal boat census is taken occasionally in August. It is <u>not</u> a scientific survey. We only count the boats that can be seen from the lake so numbers may be slightly different from day to day. The trends, however, are interesting.

#### 2019 Comments:

- PWC are up 30% from 2018 to a number not seen since 2006.
- Watercraft are up less than 1% from last year. A 42% increase in paddleboards was offset some by decreasses in kayaks and other craft.

# **Data by Fred & Barbara Bunger** 8/11/19 with no guarantee of accuracy.



Miles Braffett sailing Copake Lake, photo by Denise Chickery

Type of Watercraft	2001	2006	2007	2009	2010	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
Inboard	71	119	111	119	125	116	129	130	133	129	138	127
Large outboard	73	64	64	55	58	36	33	39	38	40	36	38
Small outboard (<15 hp)	34	20	20	20	18	15	14	13	15	17	16	17
Pontoon boats	35	70	78	71	73	89	102	108	126	127	138	128
Personal Water Craft	40	71	55	54	59	47	43	52	60	55	54	70
Total power craft		344	328	319	333	289	321	342	376	368	382	380
Row boats	48	51	65	58	56	40	37	35	37	31	38	34
Sailboats	30	36	32	18	19	15	20	19	19	22	19	15
Canoes	51	48	49	43	49	40	44	40	31	35	37	36
Kayaks	19	98	109	112	122	159	186	206	220	218	223	209
Paddleboats	20	16	18	19	18	11	10	13	20	16	18	20
Paddleboards					0	20	23	17	31	50	55	78
Total watercraft	421	593	601	569	597	571	640	672	734	740	765	772
Number of Dock Spaces								308	428		375	NA

### **CLCS Grants Suspended**

ue to current budgetary constraints the Copake Lake Conservation Society will be suspending its grants program until further notice. Please see the CLCS website and/or the CLCS Information Board at the Triangle of Lakeview Road and County Road 7 for updated information.

#### **Russ Stein**

Chairperson

Grants Sub-Committee
Lake Management Committe

### For our Copake Lake Community

### **IN MEMORIAM**

Susan Breitman Catherine C. Culleton Michael Fried Spiro Malas Jane W. Miller Herb Reitmann Peliada Schaefer

Sunset in July over Copake Lake Photo by Susan Cohen-Byrne

# MARK YOUR CALENDARS FIREWORKS

at The Greens\*
Saturday, August 15, 2020
at 9 p.m.

\*Not a CLCS event; privately sponsored

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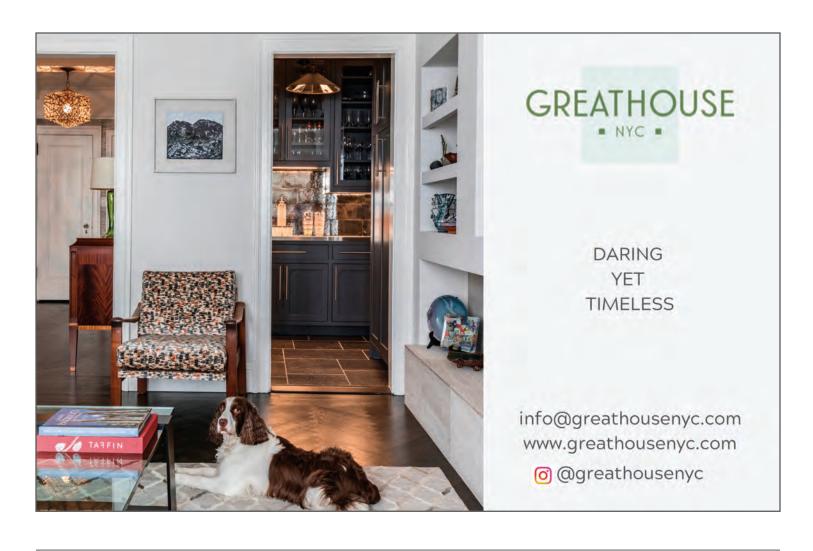
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Thank you to all who supported the New Mosquito this summer – we had a successful first season! Looking forward to burgers, fries and milkshakes next season!!

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Have a wonderful fall and winter!



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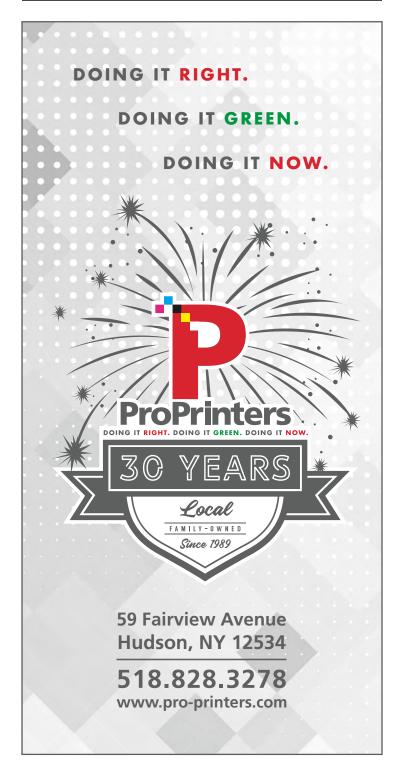
Bill Jennings, President



#### **COLUMBIA COUNTY SNO-DRIFTERS**

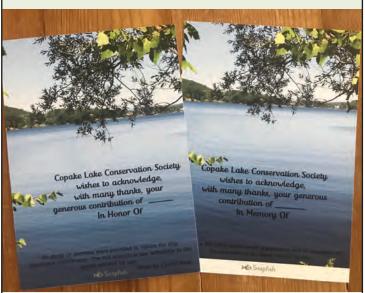
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N.Y.S. Snowmobile Club #302 www.columbiacountysno-drifters.net



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Contributions can be made to CLCS In Memory of In Honor of Those You Choose to Celebrate!



Beautiful acknowledgements will be sent to the honoree as well as the contributor.

Send your contribution to:

Copake Lake Conservation Society PO Box 37 Craryville, NY 12521.

Please include the name of the honoree and their address.

(Minimum contributions are \$25.)

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Sunset over Copake Lake from County Rte. 7, photo by Sophie Bienstock

Copake Lake Conservation Society, Inc.

# Become a CLCS Business Supporter

Send your \$100 donation check for 2019 to CLCS, P.O.Box 37, Craryville, NY 12521 or use PayPal at our website, www.copakelakecs.org

#### SPECIAL THANKS

to Russ Funk of RHF Enterprises
(dba Copake Lake Boat & Ski)
for donating the use of a boat during the spring, summer, and fall to Dr. George Knoecklein, a limnologist who is our lake management consultant. Dr. Knoecklein uses the boat for the better part of a full day sampling, measuring, and observing the ecology of Copake Lake.



An unexpected visitor in the Lakeview Road neighborhood Photo by Donna Lawrence

### MARK YOUR CALENDAR

for
Labor Day Weekend
Raffle drawing

September 6, 2020 (Sunday)

at 11:00 a.m. at the

Lighthouse Boat & Beach Club, Copake Lake



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**CLCS Board of Trustees** 

### GET SOCIAL WITH @CopakeLakeCS #CLCS

e want to thank those of you who have shared your pictures, video and comments with us on our social platforms, and invite new followers to join in and participate with our online community. It's just one of the great ways you can get involved with Copake Lake Conservation Society!

### Follow, Like, Share & Comment.



Tag @copakelakecs in your posts and pictures

Use Hashtags #copakelakecs, #clcs,

#preservecopakelake, #ilovecopakelake, #copakelake

#### Share "WHY I LOVE COPAKE LAKE"

We'll be sharing stories and spotlighting volunteers, local businesses and community members who are working hard to preserve Copake Lake in hopes it will inspire you too.

More to come...

"Without a sense of caring, there can be no sense of community." A. DeAngelo

**Deborah Sprague** 

Communications Committee

# Copake Lake Conservation Society Annual Recognition Award

Year	Recipient	Award
2019	Colleen Closson	Engraved glass sculpture
2018	Jackie Bernstein	Engraved glass trophy
2017	Barbara Rindler	Wind chimes
2016	Buddy Sinisi	Engraved clock
2015	Rick Aluisio	Engraved plaque
2014	Denise Chickery	Engraved plaque
2013	Karen Schutzer	Engraved plaque
2012	Jed Luchow	Engraved plaque
2011	Fred Bunger	A tree
2011	Keith Schaefer	Engraved plaque
2009	Sarah Leshner	Engraved plaque
2009	Barbara Rindler	Engraved planter
2008	Lindsay LeBrecht	Engraved planter
2008	Marissa Shedd	Engraved planter
2006	Dave Craw	Certificate of Appreciation
2005	Barbara Bunger	Framed kayaking picture with friends
2005	Elayne Dix	Framed kayaking picture with friends
2004	Jim Carmody	Certificate of Appreciation



Annual Recognition Award presented to Colleen Closson by CLCS Trustee Cherie Berk Photo by Ralph Berk

# 2019 YEAR-END BIRDING REPORT at the COPAKE COUNTRY CLUB on Copake Lake

he birds that everybody asks about the most, by far: Bald Eagles. For the fifth consecutive year, starting amid deep snow in February, we saw definite nesting activity by adult Bald Eagles in the same massive nest just east of the 15th tee on the golf course. (The exact location is kept under wraps; it was built more than 100 feet off the ground, so all observations are based on watching with binoculars from a distance.) Up to mid-April, adults were seen sitting on the nest (Balds build the biggest nests of any North American bird) and flying to and from it; sometimes I saw them carrying fish (their favorite) and occasionally tearing at the food and then passing it into the nest bed below, just out of sight of binocular views. Tantalizing but exciting. By late April, with activity stopped, we had to estimate and hope that the babies had fledged (Balds have I-3 eggs per year). By the time leaves arrived in May to curtain the treetops, the nest was done for the year.

From January into May, many locals at Copake Lake regularly saw "immature" and adult Bald Eagles on the ice, and all around the lake area. We can't know if any of them are our own "neighborhood" Eagles, from this year or any other year. One reason we don't know is that in winter, the nomadic Bald Eagles — from Canada, New England, upstate — search for open water to feed in, and Copake Lake has become a popular fishing hole for them while on the fly from the frozen far north. As the temperatures drop and Eagles soar in, keep your eyes and ears open. (Binoculars are gamechangers to watch Eagles, and any other birding action.)

#### **Bald Eagles:**

https://www.allaboutbirds.org/guide/Bald\_Eagle/overview

On the golf course: Our housing development remained at a total of 39 nest boxes this year. Of those, 32 are designed and posted to attract our most common and prettiest tenants, Tree Swallows and Eastern Bluebirds.

- -In 2019: 17 successful Tree Swallow nestings in boxes (down from 24 in 2018; 23 in '17; 20 in '16); 0 failures.
- -15 successful Bluebird nestings (also 15 in 2018; 11 in '17; 14 in '16); 2 failures.
- -2 successful House Wren nestings (3 in '18; 5 in '17); 0 failures.

The other seven boxes are built and strategically placed around the golf course for cavity-nesting birds like Woodpeckers (six species), Screech Owls, Nuthatches, American Kestrels, and more. No luck. If they keep trying, so will we. . .

A new show we watched this year: In a tall pine by the golf practice green, a pair of Red-tailed Hawks built a beautiful and very visible nest in late winter. By early April, the female adult was seen in egg-sitting poses, and both adults were flying to and from the nest. In mid-May, fuzzy little heads, probably two, were poking above the big stick nest; Mom and Dad were flying in with, among other local foods, a snake or two. Around June 8th, one nestling was standing on the nest edge and flapping; on the I2th, a fledged juvenile was perched on the deck railing at the Greens restaurant, soon to be photographed and featured on Facebook. A star is born.

Red-tailed Hawks: https://www.allaboutbirds.org/guide/ Red-tailed\_Hawk/

All of our nesting data is registered on NestWatch, a site run by the Cornell Lab of Ornithology, one of the top U.S. birding resources:

https://nestwatch.org/nw/data#!/

As always, big thanks to all the supporters of the Copake CC birdhouse project, including the indispensable Urban family, Mark Anderson, Kyle Bell, Kyleigh Zengen, and plenty more.

#### **Thomas Walsh**

**CLCS** Member

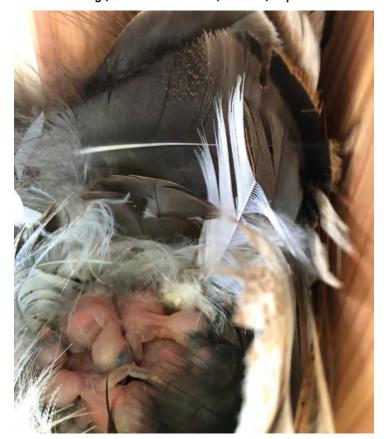


Tree Swallow, female and male, 16th fairway, CCC. photo by Jack Walsh

# 2019 YEAR-END BIRDING REPORT at the COPAKE COUNTRY CLUB on Copake Lake



Bluebird nestlings, less than a week old, 3rd hole, Copake CC



Tree Swallow hatchlings, brand new; 7th hole, Copake CC



Eastern Bluebird nest and eggs, 11th hole, Copake CC



Bluebird babes and eggs, I Ith hole, Copake CC

Copake Lake Conservation Society P.O. Box 37 Craryville, NY 12521

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