Public Water Around the Lake

Over the years many of us have had to spend thousands of dollars to provide and maintain our own water system that at best provides smelly, salty, and inconsistent water. The time has arrived to put our foot down and make our voices heard. We have suffered too much and with our lake becoming one of the most desirable places in the area, we need to work to ensure we obtain public water for our Saratoga Lake properties.

Many people have worked to help make this possible but something has always gotten in the way. Now, the time may finally be here and we all know timing is everything.

continued page 8

Tragedy in Connecticut

We have all been watching the developing story of the shooting in Newtown. There are no words anyone can express to ease the pain of such a loss. The best thing we can do is pray that the families of these beautiful children and teachers will find some sort of peace. Prayer is powerful, so take a moment of silence for the entire community of Newtown.

SLA WELCOME BOAT PROGRAM WELCOMES DONATIONS!!!!

Our last Welcome Basket set sail so the Welcome Boat committee is seeking donations for our next round of 12 baskets to be made. If you have a business and would like to help fill our baskets with a give-away or discount coupon, we would gladly accept it. You might also provide a service and might like to give away a business card with a little gift.

continued page 2

Have you sent in your membership?

Memberships are coming in at a great rate and if you haven’t gotten yours in, please do so before January 1. Please remember that the new membership fee is $20, and if you have a business, please indicate it. It is my hope to again break another record as we continue to grow as a community. Thanks and happy holidays. Sharon

Thanks to all of you who have submitted news, tidbits, great photos, and stories of interest throughout the year. We hope to continue to hear from you.

SEND SHORE LINES SUBMISSIONS TO JULIE AT: sinnidi@aol.com

All of us from the Saratoga Lake Association Wish you Happy Holidays And A Happy New Year “Year’s end is neither an end nor a beginning but a going on, with all the wisdom that experience can instill in us.”
— Hal Borland

“Year’s end is neither an end nor a beginning but a going on, with all the wisdom that experience can instill in us.”
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SLA has recently received several inquiries expressing concern that the level of Saratoga Lake seems very low. Large, shallow areas of the lake bottom are now exposed. Is the current lake level abnormally low? The short answer is no. The current level is not unusual during winter months. Indeed, water level is purposely drawn down at this time of year.

Drawing lake levels down over the winter achieves two primary goals. The first is to assist in achieving aquatic weed control in shallow areas of the lake by exposing the lake bottom to freezing temperatures which kills the weeds. The second goal is to reduce the risk of flooding and ice damage to shoreline properties.

As way of background, the levels of Saratoga Lake are significantly affected by a dam located on Fish Creek at Winnie’s Reef located 6.4 miles downstream of the Route 9P Bridge. An agreement between the Saratoga Lake Protection and Improvement District (SLPID) and the power company that operates this dam (ENEL, Inc.) defines the desired dam operating regime as it affects the lake.

Under the agreement, all of the gates at the dam are opened in late October after the Head of the Fish rowing regatta to lower lake levels. These gates remain open over the winter and remain open until ice-out on the lake or April 1, whichever occurs later. Thereafter, water levels are raised again to the summer target operating range of 203.3 to 203.7

The current lake level measured 201.2 on December 10 at the Stafford Bridge gauge. This level is relatively low but not unusually so. An analysis of historic lake water levels between 2002 and 2010 shows that comparable low water levels occurred regularly during this period. A low level occurred somewhat earlier than usual this year because precipitation during November was two inches below normal and reduced lake inflow.

It should be noted that the lowest possible lake level is about 200.0 or more than a foot lower than the current lake level. This level is governed by the highest elevation of the stream bed of Fish Creek. A level this low would be very rare, however, and would only occur during extreme drought conditions in the winter.

Hopefully this information provides useful background information on low water levels on Saratoga Lake.
(submitted by Bruce Goodale, president, SLA)

Web Cam Up and Running
Be sure to check out Steve Bleznyk’s lake cam. It’s a new look and one Steve says is a work in progress. It is especially nice for our snow birds who want to look at the lake while away for the winter.

Saratoga Lake Cam

Welcome Boat, continued

All the baskets are given to new neighbors moving in next door to our SLA members. They make a terrific house warming gift and give those new to SLA a very nice first impression of our group. Please support our effort and if you indeed have something you would like to give, contact Lisa Morahan at lmorahan@nycap.rr.com or call 584-3935. *If you have a new neighbor moving in please contact Dianne Fedoronko at fedosaratoga@aim.com.

Hal Rose shot this great picture of a Heron with a huge catfish in its mouth at Green Acres.

Giving Feels Good!
To everyone who has supported Saratoga PLAN this year, we...
...thank you!
To everyone else who wants to ensure there are always places to grow food, harbor wildlife, walk, bike, and swim in Saratoga County, please take a moment to give to PLAN’s... ...2012 Annual Fund.

We wish you a wonderful holiday season and the best of life in the coming new year. Thank you so much for caring about this special place and supporting Saratoga PLAN, your local land trust.

112 Spring Street
Saratoga Springs, NY 12866
518.587.5554
www.saratogaplan.org
Here is one reader’s perspective on the use of roundabouts - Malta - timesunion.com - Albany NY

http://blog.timesunion.com/malta/here-is-one-readers-perspective-on-the-use-of-roundabouts/2576/


Fresh Market planned for Saratoga Springs - Times Union

To visit the McMahon Farm on Fitch Road, go to their new web site:

Welcome to McMahon Thoroughbreds McMahon Thoroughbreds of Saratoga, NY

Feeling gratitude and not expressing it is like wrapping a present and not giving it.
William Arthur Ward.

Another happy group from the Annual Holiday Party. Left to right, Bob and Cathy McKenna, Nadine and Neal Kramer, Lisa Morahan, and June Morier.

Marge Perkins (right) was able to celebrate her 88th birthday with her Red Hat lady friends at Jonesville United Methodist Church. Her sister Joan was a surprise guest at the gathering. It was a special day in many ways, aside from being 12/12/12. The event was catered by Giffy’s BBQ in Clifton Park. Marge and husband Harold (90) have been married for 68 years and have been summer residents of Riley Cove for 57 years.

A quiet, crisp morning sunrise on December 13th in Riley Cove.  Photo by Kathy Fedorchak.
Bob Gulotty of Green Acres spied two of our resident eagles roosting in a nearby tree.

**Safety tips from the Arvin Hart Fire Company**

Decorating homes and businesses is a long-standing tradition around the holiday season. Unfortunately, these same decorations may increase your chances of fire.

The volunteers at Arvin Hart Fire Company suggest you follow a few simple fire safety tips to keep electric lights, candles and the ever popular Christmas tree from creating a tragedy.

- Don’t put your live Christmas tree up too early or leave it up for longer than two weeks.
- Place trees away from heat sources, including fireplaces or heat vents. The heat will dry out the tree, causing it to be more easily ignited by heat, flame or sparks.
- A dry tree can be fully involved in flame in less than 4 SECONDS!
- Keep the live tree stand filled with water at all times.
- Use only nonflammable decorations.
- Don’t link more than three light strands, unless the directions indicate it’s safe. Connect strings of lights to an extension cord before plugging the cord into the outlet. Avoid using lit candles; consider using battery-operated flameless candles, which can look, smell and feel like real candles. Ensure that Christmas trees and other holiday decorations don’t block an exit.

We wish you a safe and happy holiday season, from our families to yours. (submitted by Tom Rinaldi, Commissioner, Stillwater Fire District)

**Factoid**

Charles Dickens’s *A Christmas Carol* became an immediate sensation when it appeared in bookstores in 1843. The novel took six weeks to pen and remains so popular that it’s never gone out of print!

**Who remembers the lake directory?**

Many years ago, a yearly directory of all lake property owners was available to residents. Some of you may remember them. Recently, member Ernie Kunz asked about the possibility of creating a new directory.

If anyone would like to spearhead this project, or form a committee to do so, we would be happy to include any information in *Shore Lines*.

Charlie and Joan Siciliano have the Christmas spirit, as does their golf cart! The Riley Cove summer residents winter in Ft. Myers, Fla.

**Having Difficulty Opening E-Mails?**

We hear from members that they sometimes can not open the newsletters or mailings we send. Member Steve Bleznyk has created a tutorial to help members who do not or can not use the Adobe PDF reader. Please go to the web site indicated. If you are still having problems after viewing the tutorial, please let me (Sharon) know and I will inform Steve. Thanks Steve!

http://www.saratogalakecam.com/ShorelinesTroubleshooting.html
Saratoga Sailing School 2013

As everyone is busy getting ready for the holiday season and we are waiting for the lake to freeze over, it seems a little strange to be thinking about sailing. However, based on the number of calls and e-mails we have been getting this month, I'm not the only one thinking about it. To answer to all the questions we have been getting: YES.

Yes, the 2013 schedule is finalized. It is in the web site at www.saratogasailingschool.org

Yes, we have started taking registrations. The registration form is available on the web site and can be mailed in immediately to hold your spot. Please note that we probably won't cash the check until after January 1, as we like to keep the bookkeeping easy! You may also contact our registrar Mary Kate McCarty at info@saratogasailingschool.org

Yes, we are once again offering gift certificates for all of our classes as well as private lessons. This is becoming a popular gift idea.

Yes, we have made a few changes to the programs:

Based on many requests, we now offer several adult classes that are split over a number of weeks as opposed to all classes being in one week. Hopefully that helps with scheduling.

We have added a 1 day “Invitation to Sail” class to allow people to just get out on a sailboat for an evening and see if it is something they might like to pursue further.

We are expanding the fast growing junior race program to include more opportunities for kids to travel to some regional regattas (Lake George, Lake Champlain and Lake Sunapee).

We are going to be expanding our junior offerings to give kids more opportunities to come out and sail with us outside the normal class hours. These will most likely include some social sails, race nights and rides around the lake. We are still working out all the details and hope to have them worked out early next year.

Please just contact us at info@saratogasailingschool.org if you have any questions. We thank everyone again for all of their support of the sailing school over the years and look forward to seeing you out on the lake next year.

(submitted by Mark Welcome)
From the Malta News
Auditions “CAFÉ MALTA”-Irish Style

We are looking for talented musicians, vocalists, storytellers and dancers to showcase their craft in a casual setting on an intimate stage at the Malta Community Center. Small acoustic bands are also sought.

Our show is the day before St. Patrick’s Day, Saturday evening, March 16, so Irish tunes would be fun, but not mandatory. We are looking for family friendly entertainment suitable for a coffee house setting. Auditions will be by appointment during the months of January and February.

Contact Elyse Young, Artistic Director, at 899-4411 x 305 or theater@malta-town.org for more details or to schedule an audition. Those chosen to perform will be required to attend one rehearsal before the show.

Spotlighter’s Theatre Troupe
Announcing: Auditions for Spring Musical

Auditions are slated for Sunday, March 3 and Monday, March 4 from 6:00pm - 8:00pm for the spring musical production. The show will be presented June 8 and 9. Watch for an announcement for the title of the show! More details will be announced in the Spring brochure. Auditions are by appointment only. Call or email after January 1, 2013 to schedule yours.
(submitted by Elyse Young, Artistic Director 899-4411 ext. 305 or theater@malta-town.org.)

Resident Antoinette Mormile had a real shock when she went to Panza’s for dinner and found friends and family there for her surprise 90th birthday party. Pictured from left to right, Antoinette, sister Mary Staats, and sister Jenny Fiero.

Above: It’s like they all rise into the sky at the same time. Photo by Art “Doc” Salvatore.

Left: Many of us had the pleasure of enjoying the thousands of snow geese that visited the lake this year. We also know how geese fly in formation – but this perfectly even line of geese is a rare and beautiful sight. (photo by Tony Froehlich)
Funds to Benefit Stillwater Available

The Stillwater Town Board is proud to announce the availability of public grant money for some worthy recipients seeking to bring positive change to the health, safety, and welfare of our residents.

Under the direction of the Stillwater Town Board, and in partnership with Global Foundries as part of a development agreement associated with the progress of Fab 8, a foundation was formed. During the past year as the now known ‘Global Foundries-Town of Stillwater Foundation Inc.’ was forming as a not-for-profit corporation, substantial deposits from Global Foundries were accepted. A portion of these funds are now available. Organizations with programs and projects that provide tangible benefits of a public nature to diverse groups located within the Town of Stillwater including, not-for-profit corporations, charitable organizations, community arts and theater groups, community education projects, and sports and recreation activities are eligible to apply.

Grant applications are available in a variety of key locations in town. Printed copies may be obtained at the Stillwater Town Hall, Stillwater Area Community Center, Stillwater Free Library, or any of the three offices of the principals within the Stillwater Central School District. The application can be downloaded in PDF format from the Global Foundries website or the Town of Stillwater website: StillwaterNY.org.

The inaugural grant session begins now, with submissions accepted through the month of February 2013. The Stillwater Town Board will announce grant awards in the spring of 2013. For further information please contact the Town of Stillwater Supervisor Ed Kinowski at his office in Town Hall.

Stillwater Area Community Center would like to invite you to take a short survey. Please tell us what you would like to see at SACC!

https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/SACCGeneralSurvey

GLOBALFOUNDRIES will host the next Fab 8 Quarterly Neighborhood Meeting on Thursday, December 20th, 6 to 7 p.m. The meeting is open to anyone in the community. Media and cameras are welcome and we love live-tweeting. You can suggest questions prior to the meeting to @GFfab8 using the hash tag: #Fab8meeting.

Where: GLOBALFOUNDRIES Fab 8 GLOBALCAFÉ
400 Stonebreak Road Extension, Malta, NY 12020

Parking is available in Parking Lot B. To reach the lot from Route 9 in Malta, turn on to Stone Break Road and head east into the Luther Forest Technology Campus. Take the second right turn at the roundabout and head up the hill toward the Fab 8 campus. Follow the signs to the designated parking area. Enter the East Employee Entrance to access the GLOBALCAFÉ.

Why: Fab 8 Neighborhood Meetings are held quarterly as an opportunity for the company to meet with neighbors, provide updates on the company and the project and answer questions from community stakeholders. (submitted by Travis Bullard)

Saratoga Lake Aquatic Vegetation Management Program 2012 Annual Herbicide Treatment Report

Introduction
An integrated aquatic plant management program was performed at Saratoga Lake for the sixth consecutive year in 2012. The current program includes the use of aquatic herbicides to control invasive Eurasian watermilfoil (Myriophyllum spicatum) and curlyleaf pondweed (Potamogeton crispus), the use of mechanical harvesting equipment owned and operated by the Saratoga Lake Protection and Improvement District (SLPID) to manage nuisance plant growth along developed shoreline areas, and limited winter drawdowns. This IMP approach is detailed in the following documents:
• Watershed Management Plan prepared by The LA Group in 2002,
• the Long-Term Aquatic Vegetation Management Plan prepared by Aquatic Control Technology in 2005
• the EIS prepared by The LA Group in 2007.

The balance of this report details the herbicide treatment program that was performed at Saratoga Lake during the 2012 season. (submitted by Joe Finn, Commissioner, Town of Saratoga)

To read the complete report, go to SLPID.org.
BACKGROUND
From those who have worked on this project over the years, I have obtained a list of those property owners who are interested in obtaining public water. I have started to send out updates to keep everyone informed, and if you know of others who would like to be added to my email list please let me know. To date, I have spoken to Tom Wood, supervisor of Town of Saratoga and Bob Iovinella, President of Saratoga Glen Water Supply Corp. Both of these gentleman have been very helpful and informative. Over the years I have heard a lot of rumors as to why we cannot have water. I also thought we could piggy back on the new sewer installation that is going to start on Route 9P in March.

FACTS
- We cannot piggyback on the installation of the sewers. The water lines have to be significantly separated from the sewer installation so that will not be a large savings.
- The Town of Saratoga welcomes enthusiastically the installation of public water along Route 9P and that Saratoga Glen Water Supply Corp. has their blessing.
- For Saratoga Glen Water Supply Corp to build the water line, it costs them $200 per foot for horizontal boring or $60 per foot for open trench excavation.
- The connection charge for each home owner would be $2290 (roughly) to connect to the water main. Please keep in mind that there is no profit in this figure. It covers construction costs.
- In addition to the construction of the water main each homeowner would have to put in a lateral or in other words connect to the water main from their property and it could cost anywhere from $850 to $1750 depending on length, etc. This of course is over and above the $2290.
- Saratoga Glen Water Supply Corp is currently about 5000 feet (one mile) from the Town of Saratoga line and are still in Stillwater.
- There is a proposed development that is under consideration where the water main on Route 9P would be extended from South to North another 2500 feet along Rout 9P. That would mean it would be 2500 feet more to get to the line of Town of Saratoga.
- For the Saratoga Glen Water Supply Corp to build the water main in the Town of Saratoga they will/do need a permit that must be obtained from the Public Service Commission. (We know how they work and how much time it takes.)
- The Town of Saratoga does not need a permit from the Public Service Commission. Towns are exempt.
- Saratoga Glen Water Supply Corp built the southern section of the water main based upon a survey of residents who said they wanted and would pay to hook up. But when the time came to hook up ½ to 2/3 of the people did not follow through. That was costly for the Saratoga Glen Water Corp and they did not proceed further with the line.

WHAT IS NEEDED
- All residents who want public water must be willing to make a commitment in the form of a contract that they will hook up to public water. Obviously a lot of actions have to happen before this but contracts would have to be signed and a deposit made in advance prior to any beginning construction. Open Trench construction would be the best and least expensive way to proceed.
- We need to push the Public Service Commission to provide a permit for the Saratoga Glen Water Supply Corp. this should be done in the form of a letter to them.
- We need to have a meeting with Tom Wood, Bob Iovinella, myself and other interested parties sometime in January 2013, to advance the issue of water and see how to proceed. I tried to have a meeting sooner but all parties are not free until after the first of the year.
- An alternative to having Saratoga Glen Water Supply Corp build the water main would be to have the Town of Saratoga build the water main. That would require a bond issue, an engineering design, award of contracts. But this avenue does avoid a lot of red tape from private businesses.

Please advise how you feel, what comments you have, and if you find the cost acceptable. The Saratoga Lake Association is willing to disseminate information for us in our newsletter, Shore Lines. They always do an excellent job with the newsletter keeping all of us up to date and aware of what is going on.

The lake community is a wonderful place to live work and play. We need to work together to make certain new developments are in accordance with what we need and want. Our elected representatives are here to serve us. We need to work with them to make this happen.

I look forward to your comments, input and interest. Please let me know if there are additional residents or owners that should be added to the list. In the interest of privacy I will not release the email addresses I have unless you specifically ask me too.

Pete Morse
215-688-6286 or pmorse@cabletechnologies.com.