FALL 2022

CHAUTAUQUA LAKE ASSOCIATION, INC.
429 East Terrace Ave.
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716.763.8602
ChautauquaLakeAssociation.org

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UPCOMING EVENTS

WINTER 2022 - TBD
CHQ LAKE ICE PICK

SPRING 2023
CLA OPEN HOUSE (70-YEAR CELEBRATION)

JUNE 2023
ANNUAL MEETING

SUMMER 2023
DENIM & DIAMONDS

President's Message

With Thanksgiving behind us and New Year's approaching, I would like to extend warm wishes to you and your families for a wonderful holiday season. As I reflect on this year as CLA President I think of our many blessings and I ask that you, our generous members, please keep CLA in mind for a year-end contribution. It is donors like you that make the difference and help the CLA accomplish great things each and every year.

Though in-lake activities are what we are most known for there are many other components that go into our annual activities. Each year debris from spring storms is removed, navigational paths are harvested, shorelines are cleaned, water samples are taken, and plant surveys are performed. Boat stewards are at the public launches informing boaters, appearances are made at educational events, and conferences are attended by staff. This and much more goes into each season.

As we have shared many times in the past, annual funding for the CLA is our biggest challenge. We are a not-for-profit organization and our budget cannot be finalized until Spring, after most of the major grants are awarded. Even then many uncertainties can still arise during the year. **The CLA would love to do more, to have additional equipment, and to be active working in the Lake wherever and whenever needed. With proper funding the CLA can do more.** CONTINUED ON PAGE 4 >>

SOUTHWESTERN STUDENTS JOINED PRESIDENT MUELLER FOR RAKE THE LAKE

2022 IN-LAKE ACTIVITY SUMMARY

Each spring I look forward to my time with crews on the lake. This year did not disappoint. Though we had expected challenges, we also had a wonderful summer. I am so privileged to work with these great people and young adults.

As noted on our work reports, we had activity restrictions this year. This resulted in a game of "catch-up" in late July. Additionally, we had an unexpected harvesting need in the south basin. This caused some workers to be relocated to assist with the demand.

CLA crews busted their butts and removed more vegetation in the south basin than the center and north combined!

125	83	**232**	440
NORTH	CENTER	**SOUTH**	TOTAL

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2 >>

CLA Regular Season Activity By Township

Six harvesters, five barges, four skimmers, three transports, three large dump trucks and two small trucks were used this summer to accomplish the lake wide service provided by the CLA. The numbers below reflect how many days crews visited each township and how many truckloads were removed from the lake during those visits.

TOWN OF CHAUTAUQUA

39
DAYS

50
TRUCKLOADS HARVESTED

PLUS! 77 barge loads and 158 harvester loads removed by shore and mobi crews.

TOWN OF NORTH HARMONY

16 DAYS
19 TRUCKLOADS

PLUS! 18 barge, 9 harvester loads

TOWN OF BUSTI

16 DAYS
46 TRUCKLOADS

PLUS! 52 barge, 121 harvester loads

TOWN OF ELLICOTT

23
DAYS

89.5
TRUCKLOADS HARVESTED

PLUS! 39 barge loads, and 217 harvester loads removed by shore and mobi crews.

TOWN OF ELLERY

28
DAYS

35.5
TRUCKLOADS HARVESTED

PLUS! 60 barge loads, and 35 harvester loads removed by shore and mobi crews.

CLA BARGE CREW HELPING LAKEFRONT PROPERTY OWNERS CLEAR SHORELINE

IN-LAKE ACTIVITY SUMMARY FROM PAGE 1

Amazing is an understatement of their accomplishments. While our overall truckload count is average for the season, the number of loads removed from the south is extraordinary!

Though we are uncertain for the reason of less vegetation above the bridge and more below the bridge we were able to adapt and overcome. To some of you this may seem like a good thing however, it is not. Vegetation is necessary for the diverse aquatic life. Fishermen reported their concern for little or no weed beds found. Weeds are not only habitat for the fish they also help keep the HABS in check.

Heather Caskey

2022 BY THE TRUCKLOAD

8
TRUCKLOADS PRE-SEASON DEBRIS

71
TRUCKLOADS HARVESTED IN 3 WEEK PRESEASON

A Clean Lake Starts with Prevention

In it's seventh year, the CLA's Watercraft Steward program has been an important component in our mission to preserve, maintain and protect Chautauqua Lake. This season, the CLA employed fifteen stewards who monitored seven launches on Chautauqua Lake, Cassadaga Lake and two on Lake Erie. Our stewards surveyed just under 12,000 boats this summer, educating over 23,000 lake users. Stewards were on duty Thursday, Friday, Saturday, Sunday and Monday throughout the season. The data they collected was shared to a state-wide database as we work together to protect NYS waters from invasives.

SCAN CODE TO MEET THE STEWARDS WHO HELP PROTECT OUR WATER FROM HARMFUL AQUATIC INVASIVES

Please consider making a tax-deductable donation today. Your support directly benefits our lake maintenance program.

SEND CHECKS BY MAIL TO:
Chautauqua Lake Association, Inc.,
429 East Terrace Ave., Lakewood, NY 14750

SECURE ONLINE DONATIONS CAN BE MADE USING ANY CREDIT CARD.

TO VISIT OUR WEBSITE, SCAN THIS CODE or type ChautauquaLakeAssociation.org/memberships.

CLA is a 501(c)3 organization

Annual Meeting Held at CHQ

In June the CLA hosted our in-person, annual meeting at the Atheneaum Hotel in Chautauqua Institution. We welcomed more than 75 guests for cocktails, conversation and a delicous dinner.

Toby Shepherd, the new Lake Manager for Chautauqua Institution spoke about how climate change affects the lake. He advocates to continue to improve sustainable resources; joining other organizations that are similar minded about climate change.

In closing, Mr. Shepherd stated that Chautauqua Lake is a dynamic ecosystem and though under stress, a gem of this community. With proper science and research, we can advocate to protect Chautauqua Lake for futures to come.

SCAN THIS CODE TO ACCESS THE PHOTO GALLERY FROM THIS ANNUAL EVENT!

440
TRUCKLOADS REGULAR SEASON

23
TRUCKLOADS REMOVED/SKIMMED 3 WEEK POST SEASON

Identifying Algae

Monitoring Chautauqua Lake's scientific standing and staying current on scientific lake management methods remains a priority with CLA staff.

With the help of SUNY Oneonta Lake Management Program, the on-going inventory of aquatic plant presence and density continued in 2022.

The annual herbivore monitoring program implemented by Racine-Johnson Aquatic Ecologists, continued as well.

Water quality monitoring volunteers also continued their participation in the joint NYSDEC / NYSFOLA Citizens Statewide Lake Assessment Program (CSLAP).

This year, CLA staff also participated in webinars and attended state / national lake management conferences.

Weekly water samples collected by CLA staff, were analyzed by the SUNY ESF Lab for algae content, especially Bluegreen algae, harmful algae and toxic algae. Staff then reported Harmful Algal Bloom (HAB) situations to the NYSDEC NYHABS website where HAB locations could be viewed by the public.

The ability to quickly confirm the presence of a HAB has become increasingly important to lake users.

In that regard, CLA volunteers have partnered with Cornell University and SUNY ESF who are working to develop Artificial Intelligence (AI) apps that can be used to identify whether an algal bloom is harmful. With use of a **compact handheld microscope** and a smart phone or iPad, the user will be able to quickly identify the presence of harmful algae.

BloomOptix, a subsidiary of Rambol Engineering, has been working with SUNY ESF and anticipates the app will be available to the public in 2023-24.

Microscopic images provided by the CLA have contributed to the app's ability to identify the presence of **Gloeotrichia algae**, a form of cyanobacteria that can be found in HABs.

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2022

CLA to Celebrate 70 Years of Dedicated Service to Chautauqua Lake

Join us this spring to celebrate the evolution and progress of the Chautauqua Lake Association

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE FROM PAGE 1

Thanks to you, as well as the community, the foundations, NY state and local governments and others, the overall 2022 financial support of the CLA was strong which allowed our staff/employees to meet and overcome several challenges. We believe our efforts helped deliver a safe and usable Lake for all to enjoy.

We look forward to 2023 and would appreciate your continued support of the CLA, for the betterment, health and beauty of Chautauqua Lake for the many years to come.

Dr Rudy Mueller
CLA PRESIDENT