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# BLCOA NEWSLETTER WINTER 2025

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Lori Porte

### **Writer and Proofreader**

Lori Porte

### **Creator, Publisher, Mail**

### **Distribution**

Kay Bolivar

### **Email Distribution**

Rene Porte

### **NYS DEC Police Dispatcher**

### **Conservation Officer**

Call 315-785-2231 for:

Reporting Spills,

Sport License Info,

Wildlife Concerns,

Unsafe Boating Concerns



Northern Lights over the Town Dock and Bolivar's Dock at Butterfield Lake

Photo taken on October 10, 2024 by Janet Stamps

## **Butterfield Lake Cottage Owners Association (BLCOA)**

### **President's Report From Joe Pasquini**

With winter arriving soon, it is time to reflect upon our past summer. This has been a busy and exciting year for us.

Our new house arrived via truck to Theresa on April 8th, with delivery to Lakeview Road on the 9th. It was quite exciting because April 8th was a big day across the northeast with the eclipse occurring, and the governor closing roads to oversized vehicles to accommodate the influx of visitors! To our surprise the drivers were able to drive from New Holland, PA up Route 81, waving to the police as they proceeded, so our house arrived on schedule! After many hours of labor, the house was completed and ready for moving in on May 24th.

In addition to our house arriving in April, Edie and I also enjoyed a momentous anniversary on April 6th as we celebrated our 50th wedding anniversary. Our three boys came from Germany, Massachusetts, and Maryland to celebrate the occasion with us at the lake!

## BLCOA 2024 CALENDAR

**Board Meetings** IRLC Office  
Building 9 am May 17, June  
14, September 6.

### Annual Meeting

Catholic Church, Redwood  
Saturday, July 5  
Social Hour 8:30am  
Meeting 9:00am.

### Boat Parade

Saturday, July 5, 4pm Staging  
at the Town Dock. Come as  
you are or decorate yourselves  
and your boat.

### Bob Jennejohn Memorial Fishing Derby

Sunrise July 19 until Noon July  
20

### BLCOA Annual Picnic

Hosts: Hillbacks and Dengs  
Camp, Linda Vista #29  
August 9 1-4pm  
Rain date, August 10.  
Music by Lost Resort  
Cost: Free; Bring a large salad  
or other sides rather than  
desserts or main dishes.  
Hot dogs, beverages and  
desserts are provided by the  
BLCOA.

### Live Concert

Nate Lazarchuck's Band,  
Another Round, Peter's Point,  
cottage #49  
Saturday, July 12, 4:00pm  
Rain date, July 13

**Ladies Tea** Date to be  
announced in Spring  
Newsletter.



Pasquinis' House Arrival



Pasquinis' Completed  
House

## 2024 Breakdowns, Rescues, and Emergencies

Living at the lake full-time now, we have the opportunity to view more breakdowns and rescues for boating issues.

- The first was in early spring when, during some bad weather, we noticed a boat being rowed near Aloha cottage. I approached and helped the boaters get to shore.
- Another rescue was for two young kayakers who had been out fishing in high wind. One old kayak with no flotation had tipped over, and a boy was in the water, wet and cold, holding on to the kayak to keep it from sinking. I assisted them and their kayaks into the pontoon boat and delivered them to safety at the town dock.
- An additional rescue call came via a phone call as a boater had run out of fuel. Two gallons of fuel got them going again in a total of 17 minutes for the round trip.

### A Lake Fatality

On June 29th, there was an early morning fatality at the state boat launch when a car drove (or perhaps rolled) into the lake and sank with a young man inside. The police/fire call came in indicating a water rescue. Rescue personnel arrived after the car had sunk, and the occupant in the car was incapacitated and unable to exit and subsequently died. From on-site accounts it was a frantic scene.

<https://troopers.ny.gov/news/state-police-investigate-drowning-incident-redwood>

## BLCOA Conservation Project

- This year we purchased and distributed five wood duck boxes to interested BLCOA members; four were given out at the BLCOA Annual Meeting and one was purchased at the BLCOA Annual Picnic. We look forward to updates about the success of the boxes in attracting and protecting this beautiful and formerly endangered species. Indeed in the 19th century wood ducks were over hunted and threatened to become extinct.
- Next year, our ecology project will be to offer bat boxes to interested BLCOA members. If you aren't sure about this choice, you probably aren't alone. Bats are one of the most highly misunderstood groups of animals. In fact, the US Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS) considers Bats to Be "One of the Most Important Misunderstood Animals," stating, amongst other important qualities, "A single bat can eat up to 3,000 insects in a single night!" The FWS also indicates that "shelter by installing a bat box...is a great way to promote a healthy environment for bats to flourish." If you still aren't sure about the benefit and importance of bats, please be sure to read this article in its entirety: <https://www.fws.gov/story/bats-are-one-most-important-misunderstood-animals#:~:text=>

## Walleye Fishing

The topic of Walleye fishing was raised at the BLCOA Annual Meeting. Since then the BLCOA Board has discussed the quality of walleye fishing at the lake. A call to the NYSDEC biologist in Watertown identified the current stocking program, but it is unclear how effective the stocking program is or if sponsored stocking is a viable option. As a result, the board has commissioned a committee to review what actions, if any, should be taken to increase the walleye population.

## Boating Certificates

The time has come! In 2025 all boaters in NYS will be required to have a Boating Safety Certificate! Children must be 10 years or older to take the Boating Safety Certificate Course and operate a motorized boat. Individuals must be 14 years or older to operate

personnel watercraft (jet skis). See the following link for information about taking the course, receiving a replacement for lost certificates, and for answers to other questions you may have: <https://parks.ny.gov/boating/frequently-asked-questions.aspx>



## Weather Events & Effects

Hurricane Beryl struck our area on July 10th, then on July 30th high winds and very heavy rain occurred. This was followed by Hurricane Debbie striking on August 9th. The effects of these storms were noted around the state as well as around our lake as many branches fell, lake fronts were flooded, and a tree fell on one roof causing extensive damage.

## The Vital Need for Invasive Vigilance

The Saint Lawrence Eastern Lake Ontario Partnership for Regional Invasive Species Management (SLELO PRISM) offers a "Water Protectors" program with many free online courses to help individuals recognize and eradicate invasive species before they become a serious problem. SLELO PRISM'S mission emphasizes "prevention, early detection, rapid response, education, and outreach."

With uncontrolled boat access to the lake, we are subject to the introduction of a variety of aquatic invasive species that may adversely affect water quality. Volunteering as "Water Protectors" is an essential way to protect our lake from the sometimes serious and detrimental effects of invasive species. To access more information about the water protectors program, please visit: <https://www.sleloinvasives.org/learn/volunteer/pledge-to-protect/water-protectors/>

## The Passing of Cottage Owners

In 2024, we were sorry to hear the sad news about four lake residents passing away.

- Mark Spaziani passed away April 29th. You may read Mark's obituary at: <https://rpheintzfsi.com/tribute/details/224/Mark-Spaziani/obituary.html>

## The Passing of Cottage Owners (cont'd)

- David Brandt passed away May 9th. David's camp was on Butternut Point Road, and you may read David Brandt's obituary at: <https://www.costellofuneralservice.com/obituaries/david-brandt>
- David Spies of Spies Road passed away on July 28th. You may read David Spies' obituary at: <https://www.wnnytv.com/2024/07/31/david-g-spies-69-redwood/?outputType=amp>
- We were further sorrowed by the passing of Lynn Eggleston of Pat's Island on September 10.

## Join Us

The BLCOA Board sponsors and supports quality of life along the lake and offers many activities, such as our annual picnic and auction, July boat parade, concerts and cottage events. As a board member and president of the association, it has given me a lot of joy to meet many lake residents that I now consider good friends. I particularly enjoy the open-door policy of many where we are able to drop in by boat to say hello, often leading to a few laughs and good times.

If you aren't already members, please complete the attached membership form and join us in our many activities. If you are members but haven't joined in on the activities, we hope you will join us in 2025!

Finally, my family and I hope you enjoyed the holidays and have an enjoyable winter!



Winter Lake Picture from Pasquinis' Year Round Residence.  
Photo by Joe Pasquini

## BLCOA Annual Picnic 2024

The 2024 BLCOA Annual Picnic was a great time and wonderful success thanks to many hands to help and much generosity.

We want to be sure to thank area businesses who count on us to shop and dine with them, so please take a look at this list of great businesses who supported this year's efforts:

1,000 Island's Country Club: Wellesley Island  
1,000 Island's Winery: Alexandria Bay  
Bellas: Clayton  
Big M: Alexandria Bay  
Busler Construction & Sanitation: Theresa  
Crossroads Auction Center: Brewerton  
Cruet Oil & Vinegar: Clayton  
DeLukes: Clayton  
Eclipse Hair Design: Alexandria Bay  
Felders: Redwood  
Koffee Kove: Clayton  
Martin's Greenhouse: Philadelphia  
Michael Ringer: Alexandria Bay/Clayton  
Nav's Popcorn: Alexandria Bay  
North Country Store: Philadelphia  
Price Chopper: Alexandria Bay  
River Golf Adventures: Clayton  
River Rat Cheese: Clayton  
Route 37 Building Supply: Redwood  
The Channelside: Clayton  
The Hops Spot: Clayton  
The Mustard Seed: Watertown  
The Roadhouse: Redwood  
The Ship Gift Shop: Alexandria Bay  
Victoria Storey: Fine Art America  
White Caps Market: Redwood

In addition to area businesses, many cottage owners and lake friends lend a hand in many ways. So unmeasurable thanks also to: Bob & Alice Andrews; Christy, Andy, & Ivy Porte-Knox; Gary Dake; Janet, Jim, and Samantha Stamps; Joe & Edie Pasquini; Karen Palinkas; Kay & Steve Bolivar; Linda MacQueen; Lost Resort: Steve Smith & Tom Tills; Marge & Sandy Hillback; Michael Weekes; Nadine & Karen Gardner-Bald; Nancy Jurewicz and Angela Jennejohn; Paul & Bridgid Cook; Rene & Lori Porte; Shana Silva; Shanna, Tom, Tessa, Spencer, & Lydia Deng.



## Photos From the 2024 BLCOA Picnic



- Jim Stamps  
Displaying Items for  
the Auction



- Sandra Pasquini  
and Jim and Nancy  
Jurewicz



- Rene and Eric  
Porte with  
Their Balloon  
Toss Prize.



- Lost Resort Band -  
Steve Smith and Tom  
Tills

## Distribution of Funds Raised at the Picnic

- As always, the funds we raise are distributed to our local first responders and food cupboards, as well as being allocated for education, enjoyment, and responsible care of our water and its natural inhabitants.
- Butterfield Lake is one of 18 lakes in the Indian River Lakes Region of the Thousand Islands area. Per our annual meeting vote, the BLCOA supports the Indian River Lakes Conservancy (IRLC) in their mission to "Protect, Learn, and Enjoy the Land and Water Forever." Thus, in addition to our support of the IRLC's capital campaign, half of the funds we raise are given to the IRLC's scholarship program.

## IRLC 2024 Scholarships Recipients

- Elijah McIlrath of Alexandria Bay High School pursuing a career in Environmental Engineering at Clarkson University
- Cecilia Stewart of Carthage High School, pursuing a career in Wildlife Science at SUNY College of Environmental Science and Forestry
- Jordis Wojcikowski of Carthage High School, pursuing a career in Fish & Wildlife Technology at Finger Lakes Community College
- Jamie Loeffler of Jefferson Community College, studying Wildlife & Fisheries Science at Paul Smith's College
- Jack Natali of Jefferson Community College, studying Ecology and Environmental Science at SUNY Plattsburgh

Thanks to everyone who attended the picnic and brought dishes to pass and to those who purchased items! We could not have such a great time and do so much good without you!

## A Fishing Tale: Twin Fins?! By Nadine Gardner

On a beautiful August morning this past summer, Nadine Gardner with wife Karen, along with Nadine's sister Nancy and husband John, were fishing for big bluegills off the weeds near Fishful Thinking (formerly Abington Ledge). Action was brisk right from the start, and the live well was getting full when there was finally a lull. We talked about heading back to the dock, but when Nadine went to lift her line, it slowly moved left, then right, and an exciting battle to land a big one followed (4 lb.- test line isn't really meant for big fish). Thanks to a great assist from John with the net, the "beast" was finally brought on board and measured. It was a 22.5" bowfin, and as soon as we confirmed its size, we released it back into the lake, making sure we avoided its teeth. After that we all began fishing again, revved up from the excitement of the big catch. Ten minutes later something big hammered John's line and put up a terrific fight. When Nadine put the net into the water, she could see that it was another bowfin – once on the deck, it measured exactly 22.5". Which begs the question:

## A Fishing Tale: Twin Fins?! (cont'd)

Was it a twin of the first bowfin OR was it the same fish biting twice?

Either way, it was an incredibly memorable morning, one we will long remember!



A Bowfin; Photo Source Reddit

("Common names for bowfin include mudfish, mud pike, dogfish, grindle, grinnel, swamp trout, and choupique. It is regarded as a relic, being one of only two surviving species of the Halecomorphi, a group of fish that first appeared during the Early Triassic, around 250 million years ago.") Source: *In Fisherman*

## Strawflowers By Lori Porte

At an herb farm in Vermont last fall, I came across a strawflower garden where I was struck by the many vibrant colors, from deep purples to reds, to yellows and oranges! I determined to give them a go in 2024.

I started a few seeds in a little seed starter kit, and I also ventured out to DeLukes and Martins garden centers. At DeLukes I picked up vibrant plants with large blooms in yellow, peach, pink, white, and "cottage orange" (the actual name of that variety). I arrived at Martins a bit late in the season and got a deal on a mixture of somewhat sad looking plants. The sad plants came to life once planted in good soil, producing small flowers in several shades of pink, rose, and burgundy.

The plants I grew from seeds struggled but 4 seedlings eventually thrived; however, by the time summer was over, they still had not produced any flowers (eventually three pink blooms emerged). Since there isn't enough sun in the fall, I took the four plants to a local school with a greenhouse in hopes of the students succeeding with them producing flowers to use in their projects. Time will tell.

Strawflowers grow into dried flowers that last for years without fading. Harvesting them became somewhat of a summer obsession as the plants are

considered a "cut and come again" species that bloom and bloom and bloom if given enough sun, water, and clipping.

Watching You Tube, I learned how to put the flowers on wires to give them longer stems. I hung them from many windows to continue drying, some becoming permanent window decorations. I shared them with friends and family, and they kept blooming and blooming. Here are some pics of some of my 2024 strawflowers:



If you choose to give strawflowers a go, I suggest that you start with plants, not seeds. Keep this in mind, strawflower plants aren't really very attractive, looking a bit like small corn stalks, but the flowers look pretty from afar.

They also need to be harvested before they are completely open because they will continue opening until they are not the prettiest flower ever grown.

## A Fond Farewell From the BLCOA's Friend and Colleague at the IRLC By Wylie Huffman

It's been an incredible seven year ride as the Indian River Lakes Conservancy's first Executive Director.

I've made so many friends who are as passionate as I am about preserving and protecting land and shorelines in the Indian River Lakes region. I wish all the best to my friend and colleague Heidi Sourwine as

## A Fond Farewell (cont'd)

she takes the reins of the IRLC into the future. Special thank you to the Hillback family and the rest of our community for making conservation in the Indian River Lakes region possible.

After 29 years in the middle of the daily grind between the Army and the IRLC, I look forward to



spending time traveling, bird hunting, and fly fishing, - not to mention spending more time with my family.

We will miss you Wylie!

## Fishing Derby 2024 Results by John Baker

### Youth Category Winners

|                  |                  |
|------------------|------------------|
| Pike 23"         | Ike Alexander    |
| Bluegill 8 1/4"  | Ike Alexander    |
| Perch 10 1/2"    | Titus Deacons    |
| Sunny 7 9/16"    | Maverick Deacons |
| Bass 18"         | Lance Nelson     |
| Rock Bass 7 3/8" | Lance Nelson     |
| Rock Bass 7 3/8" | Logan Nelson     |
| Bullhead 12"     | Samual Deacons   |



The most youth entrees came from Jim and Joyce Deacons': Elisha, Lily, Maverik, River, Samuel, and Titus. Cottage #77; Photo by Angelia Jennejohn

## Adult Category Winners

Pike 24 15/16" Dave Morris.  
Bass 17 9/16" Jason Briere  
Perch 11" Jim Jurewicz.  
Walleye 21 9/16" Dave Marris.  
Crappie 10 1/4" Thomas Baker.  
Bullhead 12 1/4" John Baker  
Channel Catfish 19 1/8" John Baker

Thank you to all who participated. A special thanks to Mark Jennejohn for a generous \$180 pot donation and to Angelia Jennejohn for taking pictures. Look for the Fishing Derby entry form in the Spring Newsletter.



## Another Round Band Bio by Nate Lazarchuck

In March of 2021, three upstate NY musicians Nate Lazarchuck, Brian Felder and Dave Deremer joined forces to form the band Another Round. They have been touring upstate NY the past 3 ½ years performing their version of Rock, Country and Blues to stages large and small. One of their very first shows together was July 2021 where they performed a float-up boat party at Peter's Point on Butterfield Lake for the Cottage Owners Association to the delight of many summer fun seekers. This show has become an annual event, and they will be performing again on July 12, 2025 for their 4<sup>th</sup> show on the lake! After a fun 2024 tour, Another Round's final show and the highlight of the 2024 tour is the New Year's Eve show at Bonnie Castle in the "Home of the Stars" ballroom.

Each of the guys have been in several groups over the past 30+ years playing venues that span from Upstate NY down to Florida and the US Virgin Islands. The result of their individual experience and success over the years is a major factor in the success as the band Another Round. Here are a few highlights of each member:

### Nate Lazarchuck – Guitar, Vocals

Nate has been entertaining audiences around northern NY for 30 years. A few of the longer running



## Another Round Bio (cont'd)

bands in his history include Easy Street, a band out of the Potsdam area in the early to Mid-1990s that consisted of five members including his wife Peggy Lazarchuck as lead vocalist performing classic rock and hits of the day. In the Mid-1990's to the early 2000's he was with a group in the Potsdam area called "Strut," playing classic rock and new country hits. Then in the 2010's he moved to country music playing with the Nashville recording artist Rod Richmond across venues in upstate NY and co-writing original music. Finally before forming Another Round, Nate performed in the US Virgin Islands for about three years with the Tim West Band and the Johnny B Blues Band plus a few other groups entertaining vacationers at several beach bars and larger venues in the warm Caribbean sun. Nate brings his hot guitar licks and smooth vocals to the group driving the fun upbeat dance and party vibe. When he isn't playing music, you can find him cruising on Butterfield Lake soaking up the summer sun.

### Brian Felder – Drums, Vocals

Brian has been playing music for 20+ years across the North Country. He started playing drums a bit later at the age of 50 joining his first professional band entertaining audiences in the Redwood/Alex Bay area. He always jumps right in for any fundraisers or charity events playing music and giving back to the community. Some of the bands he has worked with over the years are the Smokehouse Davis Band, Chippewa Breeze, Backwater Blues Band, Cripple Creek, Sonic Buzz and Midnight Rider. Brian brings his light groovy touch to the rhythm section with his tasty grooves and his signature spot on backup vocals lighting up the musical arrangements. When Brian isn't playing music, you can find him floating around somewhere on Butterfield, Millsite or Crystal Lakes fishing, swimming, or soaking up the sun.

### Dave Deremer – Bass Guitar

Dave has a five-decade history of playing all types of music on bass, guitar and keyboards. For the past 20 years, he found a home primarily on the bass. Dave has played Country, Rock, Oldies with many bands, and he loves the Blues. He has worked with bands in Pennsylvania, New York and in New Jersey. In the 1970's he was a staple on the North Country music scene in a duo called Rufus playing hits at all of the top music spots from Alex Bay to Syracuse. Over the past 20 years, he has played bass mainly in the

Orlando, Florida area with bands like On Up the Road, The Cruisers, Brad Buck, Jason Wright and many others in addition to doing session and studio work. Recently, while visiting Jamaica he was asked to play with Luddy Sam of the Drifters! Dave is an in-the-pocket four-string bass player that thrives on bass driven songs and laying down a silky groove with the drummer for a solid rhythm section. When Dave isn't playing music, you can find him on his Harley or on a boat fishing on Lake Ontario or Butterfield Lake enjoying our north country summers.

Be sure to visit Another Round's website [www.AnotherRoundMusic.com](http://www.AnotherRoundMusic.com) for their 2025 schedule and don't forget to mark your calendar for their local shows and for the annual BLOCA concert at Peter's Point on July 12, (rain date July 13).

## Pet Column

This newsletter is featuring two dogs who love lake life!



Whinnie enjoying a restful day on the lake. Her owners are Eileen and Jed Hoban. Cottage #51

Buddy peeking out to say hello to passing boaters. His owners are Marie and Dave Edwards. Cottage #42.



As always, we encourage everyone to receive the newsletter in color by email. The picture taken of the Northern Lights by Janet Stamps on page one of this newsletter is spectacular!

Have a safe and healthy winter everyone!



**Butterfield Lake Cottage Owners Association (BLCOA) Membership Form**

January 1, 2025 - December 31, 2025

*Membership Cost: \$30 for 1 cottage, \$50 for multiple cottages*

*Please make checks payable to BLCOA.*

*Mail to BLCOA, PO Box 163, Redwood, NY 13679*

*Email Rene Porte, Treasurer, at [RLporte1018@gmail.com](mailto:RLporte1018@gmail.com) if preferred method of payment is Venmo.*

Date\_\_\_\_\_ BLCOA Cottage Number(s)\_\_\_\_\_

Cottage Name \_\_\_\_\_

Last Name\_\_\_\_\_

First Name\_\_\_\_\_

Winter Mailing Address\_\_\_\_\_

Summer Mailing Address\_\_\_\_\_

5 Digit Cottage 9-1-1 number/address\_\_\_\_\_

(Recommend this number is visible on your cottage for emergency use)

Winter Phone Number \_\_\_\_\_

**Include in the BLCOA directory:**

Summer Phone Number \_\_\_\_\_ Yes\_\_\_\_\_ No\_\_\_\_\_

Email Address \_\_\_\_\_ Yes\_\_\_\_\_ No\_\_\_\_\_

**I would like to receive the BLCOA Newsletter in color via email:** Yes\_\_\_\_\_ No\_\_\_\_\_