
BLCOA NEWSLETTER FALL 2023

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Snowy Owl on Rock in Front of Main Stay Cottage

Photo by Kenny Bearup

Butterfield Lake Cottage Owners Association (BLCOA)

President's Report From Joe Pasquini

My Report this fall is based on a compilation of notes from the summer. Having been part of the association for many years, I field some good questions and suggestions on lake issues. Also, I observe and listen to nature, and I have an interest in local history, so I include those accounts as well.

I started the summer by backing my boat over a rock in Purgatory Cove (*On Golden Pond* movie reference), but actually it was in what was formerly Witch's Cove and is now called Wolf Rock (the original historic name of the cottage in the cove). A bit of time, welding, a new prop, and a hefty check got her up and running again!

Thanks to all who participated in the summer events. It was a challenge competing with the weather. First there was the Canadian smoke days in June and July. Then our July 4th parade was rained out shortly after it got started! The wind made anchoring a monumental feat at our first summer lake concert at Peter's Point. However, the event was a great success with many boats attending. Thank you Nate and the band members of Another Round for the great time! (Stay up to date with Another Round at www.anotherroundmusic.com and on Facebook.) On July 21, a tremendous lightning storm struck, forcing us to move our picnic to the Sunday rain date.

BLCOA 2024 CALENDAR

Board meetings

IRLC Office Building
9 am May 18, June 15,
September 7.

Annual Meeting

Catholic Church, Redwood
Saturday, July 6
Social Hour 8:30am
Meeting 9:00am.

Boat Parade

Saturday, July 6, 4pm Staging
at the Town Dock. Come as
you are or decorate yourselves
and your boat.

Bob Jennejohn Memorial Fishing Derby

July 20 at Sunrise to Noon July 21

BLCOA Annual Picnic

Hosts: Hillbacks and Dengs
Camp Linda Vista #29
August 10, 1-4pm/Rain Date
August 11
Music by Lost Resort
Cost: Free; Bring a dish to share.
Hot dogs, beverages and desserts
provided by the BLCOA board.

Two Live Concerts

Concert#1 Nate Lazarchuck's
Band, Another Round, Peter's
Point, cottage #49 Saturday, July
13, 4:00pm/Rain date, July 14.

Concert #2

Mark Palinkis' Band, Mother
Cover, The Treehouse, cottage #9
(by the town dock), Saturday,
August 24, 4:00 pm/no rain date.

Ladies Tea TBA

Then our second summer lake concert with MotherCover was canceled due to persistent storming, but fortunately, MotherCover was the star attraction at Redwood's Fireman's Field Days in September. The first hour went off with lots of energy and not a raindrop. Despite the rain making an appearance later in the evening, the band rocked on! (Be sure to follow MotherCover on Facebook at www.facebook.com/mothercoverrocks.)

Thanks to our board members and volunteers who worked on all our summer events. A special thanks to the picnic staff for the great get-together and auction, and to the Hillbacks for hosting. The BLCOA summer picnic is a great time to meet up with old friends and make new ones, while enjoying good food and participating in some really fun activities. This year, we added some great live background music with Lost Resort who generously allowed us to use their PA system. We also rented outdoor facilities to accommodate the wonderful turn-out of cottage owners and their families and friends.

Alice Andrews and Bridgid
Cook showing off their
auction items



Lost Resort Musicians
Tom Tills and Steve Smith

Congratulations to all the fishing derby winners. The adult pike winner donated the prize money to the youth awards. The youth awards are a source of great joy for the winners! See the details of the fishing derby later in this newsletter.

A Bit of History

- If you go down Rogers Road toward the lake, you'll see Dave and Marie Edwards' cottage, #42. Out in front of the cottage, you'll also see a bit of history: a split-rail fence. It was part of the original fence at Sackets Harbor garrison where ships were built to fight the British in the War of 1812. The fence was preserved and later auctioned off, which is how Dave and Marie attained it. The accounts of the war with Britain at Sackets Harbor and Sandy Creek are very interesting and can be read in an article by Michael Kleen: <https://michaelkleen.com/2017/08/08/battle-of-big-sandy-creek/>.

- Another interesting historic note is with regard to a 1930's vintage St Lawrence skiff. Fred Belcher, the previous owner of Elmhurst Island, cottage #33, owned the skiff when, in 1985, Hurricane Gloria blew it into the lake where it rested on some rocks and incurred some damage. The skiff was moved to a local barn where it has remained. Fred recently donated it to the BLCOA. It needs some restoration, and we are looking for an interested party to purchase and restore it.
- Paul Cook's dad attended Redwood High School, and he enjoyed sharing the Redwood High School cheer song with his family. This past summer, Paul shared it with us with vigor. It produced a sure laugh and some sentimental joy since the school was permanently closed in 1967. The cheer goes something like this:

**Eerie Ayrie Ikry Ann,
We're the fellows with the *sand*!
Sticklum, stacklum
Jolly go buck;
We're the fellows with the pluck!
Redwood, Redwood, ra ra ra!**

(The sand, of course, refers to the sand utilized at the Redwood Glass Factory. Paul and wife, Bridgid, reside at cottage #30.)

A Bit on Lake Nature

- Before dawn, almost every morning this summer, a barred owl could be heard on the south side of the lake near Pat's Island and Fisherman's Rest. If you don't happen to be up predawn to hear it, you can hear one at this link: https://www.allaboutbirds.org/guide/Barred_Owl/sounds#.



- We deployed the loon nesting platform in the spring. There was no interest in the platform by loons, but other birds, like ducks, took an interest in it. Nevertheless, three sets of loons produced chicks and raised them to adulthood over the summer in different areas of the lake. This is a really wonderful success for the loons who have to worry about predators, waves, and weather destroying their nests, eggs, and harming their chicks.
- Along with the osprey and bald eagles noted each season, this summer a golden eagle was spotted at the north end of the lake. To learn more about golden eagles, see: <https://www.audubon.org/field-guide/bird/golden-eagle>.
- The coveted walleye can be found in our lake. John Baker (cottage #61) caught his first one when Scott Connelly (cottage #93) took him out for an evening fishing adventure! After catching a great picture of the happy fisherman and his fish, the fish was released.



John Baker's Walleye Photo by Scott Connelly

Staying Safe and Secure

- All boat operators need to follow safety guidelines while operating motor boats and jet skis. Jet ski usage has increased significantly on most waterways, including our lake. Boaters are advised to be very cautious. Jet skis are fast and agile and may not see you as they turn. The United States Coast Guard keeps very close track of accidents and incidents that take place on US waters.

The sobering and extensive report published May 2023 can be accessed at this website: <https://www.uscgboating.org/library/accident-statistics/Recreational-Boating-Statistics-2022.pdf>.



Joe Pasquini Jr and his daughter Anna (son and granddaughter of Joe and Edie Pasquini)

Remember: ALL drivers of jet skis must have a boater safety certificate. In 2025, ALL motorboat operators will also need to have a boater safety certificate. Those born in or after 1978 will require one in 2024. A free online course can be found at: <https://www.boatus.org/free/>.

- We received several reports of break-ins and stolen property this summer. To discourage and prevent these activities, it is suggested that cottage owners place anything of interest to a thief out of sight and/or locked up. Security cameras and video-in-progress warning signs might also be considered. The town boat launch is owned by the New York State Department of Conservation (NYSDEC). The BLCOA board will consider making the NYSDEC aware that their guests may be involved in break-ins and robberies around the lake.

Of Interest

- Walt Dutcher, in cooperation with the NYSDEC, received an oxygen probe to assist with analysis of the waters in our lake. Please see Walt's report later in this newsletter (of interest especially for those who like to fish).
- Steve Stafford provides aquatic weed harvesting and was hired this past summer by a couple cottage owners who have had weed problems

around their docks. The results were good, and access to the docks was greatly improved. If you are interested in Steve's weed harvesting services, you can reach him at 315-486-3324. While the equipment shown is larger than Steve's, you can watch an interesting video about weed harvesting on Black Lake available on YouTube at: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EdMEiAMZtdQ>. Steve's smaller machine allows him to maneuver in smaller spaces.

- Three river fishing guides reside on our lake in the summer. John Evans, cottage #73, has been a river guide for nearly 35 years and is the president of the Alexandria Bay Fishing Guides Association. Zack Eggleston, cottage #95, has been making a splash in the bass fishing world and has joined in providing professional river fishing trips as well. A newcomer to the lake, Jeff Butcher, cottage #120A, is also providing professional guidance to make a big catch on the river. Contact information for our lake resident fishing guides can be found as follows:

John:
<https://www.stlawrenceriverfishingcharters.com>;

Zack: <https://zackegglestonfishing.com>;

Jeff:
<https://alexbaywelldeservedfishingcharters.com/about-us>.

- Each year, I receive a couple requests about marina docking space. We have two private marinas on the lake and one marina belonging to the Butterfield Lake Boat Owners Association (BLBOA). Contact for each is as follows:

Trevor Niles manages Wimmer's Marina on Stine Road, 315-286-8875.

John Bartlett owns Bartlett's Marina on Rogers Road, 315-408-4159 or 315-482-9047.

Don Eggleston (cottage #96) is the president of the BLBOA located on Stine Road, 315-751-5189.

Board News

- At the July 1 annual cottage owners meeting, John Baker (cottage #61) and Ryan Jock (cottage #63)

were nominated and elected to serve on the BLCOA board. Thanks to both of them.

- The BLCOA continues to support local agencies with donations from our membership dues and fundraising. Local first responders from several area departments receive donations from the BLCOA annually. We are grateful that these agencies respond to our emergency needs. We also support the Indian River Lakes Conservancy (IRLC) and local food cupboards.

2023 Passings

- We mentioned the loss of cottage owners at our annual meeting, but we failed to express our deepest condolences to Chip Wimmer (cottage #58A) whose son Jeff passed away in February. Please accept our apology and know how much we care.
- We would also like to extend deepest sympathy to Craig and Sally Waterstraat (former owners of cottage #63) whose daughter Beth passed away in September.

Henry H. Carse and the Formation of the IRLC by Lori Porte

Henry H. Carse (1918-2008) once owned about 900 acres around Butterfield Lake as well as the second cottage built on the lake. The cottage, #52 located on Round Island, was built in 1886, and has been in the Carse family since 1889. By 1891, the cottage was owned by two Carse brothers, Henry R. and John B. After the two brothers had passed away, the cottage and land were passed to Henry H. Carse. Today, Round Island is the property of Henry H. Carse's son, David, who still enjoys making monthly visits to Round Island every summer.

Henry H. Carse was a graduate of Harvard Business School and a prominent citizen of Hinesburg, Vermont. After serving in the Navy during World War II, he taught economics and raised Scottish Highland beef cattle. It is said that he had a keen wit as he served as the Hinesburg Town Moderator for 48 years. In addition, Henry was a Vermont Legislator for over 20 years. In 1999, when Henry was 81 years old, he considered what to do with his beautiful property on Butterfield



Carse Cottage on Round Island
circa 1930s

Lake. With a keen interest in conservation and preserving his land, Henry was eventually directed to Shirley Carpenter (cottage #40) who was involved with a conservation group called the Federation of Lakes. It was at that time that Shirley and a group of cottage owners decided to start a land trust, which they called the Indian River Lakes Conservancy (IRLC). Shirley Carpenter became the Executive Director, Elliott Hillback the President, Ed Robertson served as Secretary/Treasurer, Mike Chetwin became the Vice President, and Jack Douglas acted as a legal representative.

Henry entrusted the first parcel of 27 acres to the IRLC in 1999. It was near Peter's Point and named Osprey Marsh, due to the ospreys who were long-time



residents near the marsh. (The ospreys continue their residency on Peter's Point to this day!)

(Read the interesting article on Ospreys in the North Country in this web link: <https://www.northcountrypublicradio.org/news/story/29660/20150930/ospreys-make-a-big-comeback-in-the-north-country>.)

In time, Henry donated another 883 acres, most of which became the Grand Lake Reserve on Butterfield Lake. In subsequent years, the IRLC maintained and acquired conserved lands around the Indian River Region.

Today, the IRLC is the steward of over 2,700 acres of “wildlife habitat, crucial wetlands, and pristine shorelines,” and maintains more than 30 miles of woodland trails.

(A more complete history of early life on Butterfield Lake and the second cottage built on the lake can be found in the article attached to your emailed newsletter or inserted with your print version.)

The IRLC provides education and preservation opportunities across the Indian River Lakes Region. Butterfield Lake is the second largest lake of the 18 lakes in the region. Maintaining and preserving lakes and the surrounding land for the enjoyment of nature lovers and natural inhabitants requires constant effort and significant resources. *Please consider joining the IRLC, making donations, and signing up for their newsletter, which contains information about programs and the endeavors of the IRLC.* Visit <https://indianriverlakes.org>.

References:

Indian River Lakes Historical Report, 2023; https://www.hinesburg.org/sites/g/files/vyhlf6691/f/uploads/2008_annual_town_report_-_fy_7-01-07_-_6-30-08.pdf;

<https://indianriverlakes.org/irlc-properties/>

Article written by David Carse, 2023

Historic Cottages Tour

A Butterfield Lake Historic Cottage tour will be an auction item at next summer’s picnic. If you would like to have your cottage included in the tour, contact Lori Porte at LKP279@aol.com.

Bob Jennejohn Memorial Fishing Derby Results July 16-17, 2023 by Steve Wysocki

• First Place Winners Adult Category - 16 + years old

Scott Connelly (not pictured) caught a 28 3/4” pike.



Brittany Nichols, pictured with Jim Jurewicz, caught a 10 3/4” perch.



Sydney Omelia, pictured with Walt Dutcher, caught an 18 1/2” bass, a 14 1/2” bass, a 13 1/2” bass and a 7 5/8” sunfish!

- **First Place Winners Youth Category 0-15**



Elliot Eggleston, son of Asa and Jennifer Eggleston, caught a 7 1/8" crappie. Elliot also caught a 15 1/16" bass.



Ike Alexander, son of Craig and Amy Alexander, caught a 7 1/8" crappie. Ike also caught a 15 1/2" bass, a 14 3/8" bass and a 14" bass. (Pictured with Steve Wysocki.)

- **Other entrees included:**

John Baker - 15 1/2" bass; 15 5/16" bass;
8 1/2" crappie

Vicki Jennejohn - (2)16 1/2" bass

Jim Jurewicz - 12 3/4" bass

Elise Kopenhaver - 16 3/4" bass; 16 1/4" Walleye

David Morris - 24 7/8" pike

Liam Van Buren - 14 1/8" bass; 7 1/2" sunfish

Steve Wysocki - 16 1/16" bass

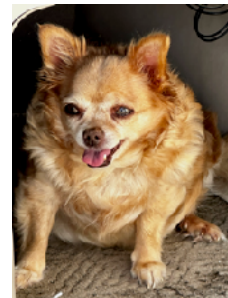
Thank you to all our participants and supporters! A special thanks to John Baker for assisting and to Angelia Jurewicz, Derby Photographer.

Please consider joining in the fun at next year's fishing derby, Saturday, July 20 - Sunday, July 21. Entree form will be included in the spring newsletter.

Pet Column by Edie Pasquini



- Captain Dexter planning his next lake excursion. Dexter is Scott Connelly's best buddy. When you see Scott out on the lake in his boat, you will always see Dexter.



- Princess knows she is just that, a real princess. Any time you visit Dave and Marie Edwards, their dog, Princess, will greet you and in her sweet "dog language" ask you to pick her up.

Butterfield Lake – Dissolved Oxygen by Walter Dutcher

In August 2023, Butterfield Lake received a dissolved oxygen probe and handheld datalogger as part of a four-lake pilot study of dissolved oxygen (DO) measurements by lake volunteers.



Figure 1 YSI Dissolved Oxygen probe and data logger

Joe Pasquini and I used the probe several times since August to profile the deepest part of the lake just south of Pat's Island near Sweet's Point. This has been our long-term sampling location for CSLAP (Citizens Statewide Lake Assessment Program). The water is about 14 meters deep or 46 feet at that location. So, what can we learn from measuring DO in the water?

The CSLAP program samples water near the surface at about 5 feet and at about 39 feet. But what is going on in between these two depths? The DO probe gives us temperature and DO at variable depths. As most know, Butterfield Lake is a freshwater lake that stratifies into a cold deep-water zone and a warmer shallow water zone separated by a thermocline. Water warmer than about 39°F is less dense and floats or rises toward the surface. Water is most dense at 39°F and sinks toward the bottom. This thermocline separates the well mixed water at the surface from the colder, deeper water and keeps them from mixing. The surface water stays exposed to the atmosphere and stays saturated with oxygen. The deeper water below the thermocline gradually loses dissolved oxygen over the summer as algae and plants decompose and consume the oxygen from the water. The

oxygen dissolved in the water is important for life to survive. If it gets depleted too much, then the fish don't thrive and minerals like phosphorus can dissolve into the water. You can find out more about lake stratification and its effects by searching the internet or referencing a book like the *Diet for a Small Lake*.

Here is a graph of some of the data we collected. Percentage of saturation of DO is on the left axis and temperature is on the right axis. The X axis is the depth in feet.

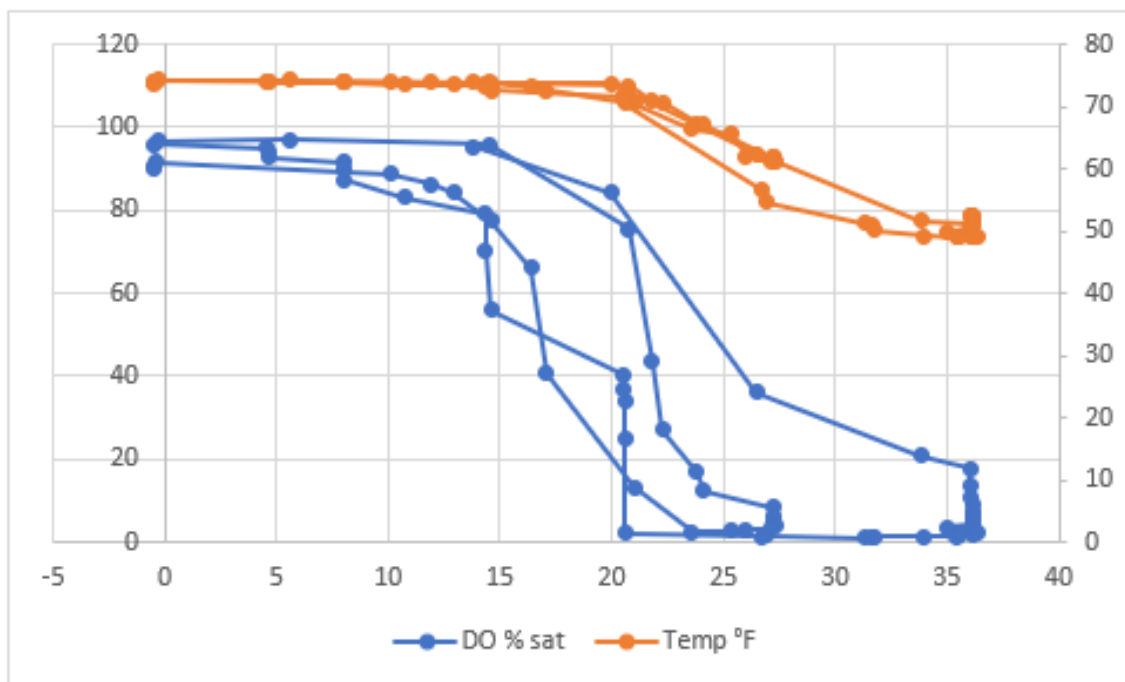


Figure 2 Butterfield Lake 8/13/2023

The data is scattered more than it should be because we were just learning how to handle the probe. You can clearly see the thermocline between about 20 feet and 25 feet deep. The DO drops off quickly below the thermocline because the oxygen rich top water doesn't mix with the deep water and transfer the oxygen. By this date, August 13, the bottom waters are anoxic and depleted from oxygen.

Fish and other aquatic organisms require a minimum of four to five milligrams-per-liter (mg/l) of oxygen to survive. Dissolved oxygen is affected by temperature, time of day, and pollution. As water temperature decreases, increasing amounts of oxygen can dissolve in it. During the day, photosynthetic plants create oxygen and then they use it at night. Aerobic bacteria and other organisms require oxygen for the consumption of waste. A reading of 100% DO at 75°F represents about 8.5 mg/l. The following table is from *Diet for a Small Lake*:

Dissolved oxygen	4 mg/l	All	To protect aquatic life
Dissolved oxygen	5 mg/l	Coldwater fish (Class T)	To protect fish survival (Trout waters)
Dissolved oxygen	6 mg/l	Coldwater fish (Class TS)	To protect fish spawning (Trout Spawning)

Bluegill, largemouth bass, white perch, and yellow perch are considered warmwater fish and depend on dissolved oxygen levels above 5 mg/l. They will avoid areas where dissolved oxygen levels are below 3 mg/l, but generally do not begin to suffer fatalities due to oxygen depletion until levels fall below 2 mg/l. The mean dissolved oxygen levels should remain near 5.5 mg/l for optimum growth and survival. Walleye also prefer levels over 5 mg/l, though they can survive at 2 mg/l levels for a short time. Muskie need levels over 3 mg/l for both adults and eggs. Carp are hardier, and while they can thrive in dissolved oxygen levels above 5 mg/l, they easily tolerate levels below 2 mg/l and can survive at levels below 1 mg/l. Generally, most fish will hold at about 3-6 feet above the thermocline. This "sweet spot" has the best dissolved oxygen and the coolest water available for fish.

The freshwater fish most tolerant to dissolved oxygen levels include fathead minnows and northern pike. Northern pike can survive at dissolved oxygen concentrations as low as 0.1 mg/l for several days, and at 1.5 mg/l for an infinite amount of time. Fathead minnows can survive at 1 mg/l for an extended period with only minimal effects on reproduction and growth.

Butterfield Lake Cottage Owners Association (BLCOA) Membership Form

January 1, 2024 - December 31, 2024

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 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 published directory:

Summer Phone Number _____ Yes_____No_____

Email Address _____ Yes_____No_____

I would like to receive the BLCOA Newsletter via email: Yes_____No_____

(Please consider receiving a color copy of your newsletter via email so you may easily access the web and email links.)