



Our Glimmerglass

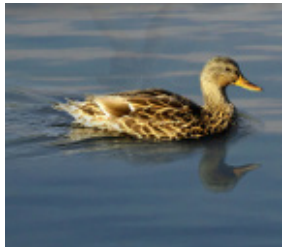
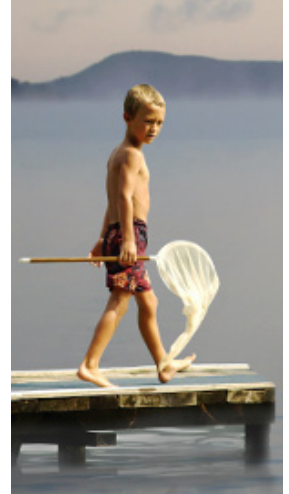
Newsletter of the Otsego Lake Association

REFLECTIONS ON QUIET WATER

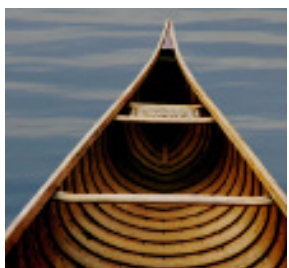
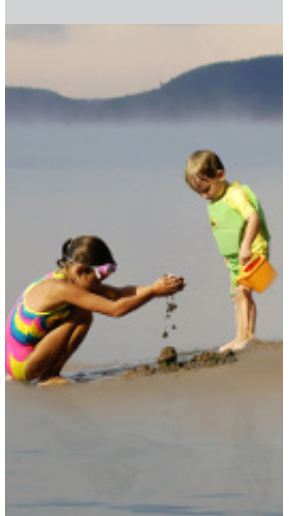
by David Ainsworth, Otsego Sailing Club

My mother taught me to row a Delaware River ducker that her great-grandfather built in 1888. Before I knew how to even ride a bike, we were afloat on a small lake so she could pass on to me a legacy of silence--teaching me how to feather the oars, how to slip them in and out of the water without splashing, without skimming the surface, allowing the quiet observation of shore-birds, the rising of fish on the still water, the nose of a turtle in the shadows under low-hanging tree branches. My father taught me how to fish from that boat as well as a succession of motorboats on the coastal bays and inlets. However, it was the silence of an engineless wooden boat that seized my imagination.

Though the sailing rig was long gone, my mother's boat was originally rigged to sail, which is probably why I have always dreamed of sailing. So eighteen years ago, when I was first invited for a sail by a member of the Otsego Sailing Club, I did not hesitate. Now, I am still a member of the sailing club, teaching my daughter to sail and hopefully race a wooden Thistle that is seventy years old this year, as well as the historically-rigged replica of her great, great, great-grandfather's boat. She also enjoys regular participation in the club's Sailing School. To see a line of small sailboats, crewed by children, leaving the harbor like ducks in a row, their faces bright with discovery and freedom, brings me back to the lake of my childhood, but would certainly put a smile on anyone's face. The kids learn the importance of working with nature to reach their destination, not against. They learn that a quiet boat is one that is sailed well. They learn to appreciate the ecology and the beauty of Otsego Lake. Take your children canoeing, sailing, swimming. Kids need to be outside. We need them outside, because we count on them to become the next generation protecting these quiet waters we call home.



*Photos courtesy of
Natura Productions*



Photos courtesy of David Ainsworth, Otsego Sailing Club

UPCOMING EVENTS
BOAT PARADE - JULY 2
ANNUAL MEETING - AUGUST 11

PRESIDENTS' MESSAGE

Dear Friends of Otsego Lake,

Quiet waters is a most appropriate title for this newsletter. It highlights OLA's goal of an untroubled, healthy Otsego Lake. *Quiet waters* are free from pollutants and invasive species. We have been at the forefront of efforts to prevent sediment loading into the lake through the demonstration buffer strip project and promoting good ditching practices. The construction and operation of the Carl B Good Boat Wash at the lakefront in Cooperstown is a huge step forward in the effort to keep invasive species out of the lake, as has the on-going support of wash inspectors there and at the Springfield Landing. OLA has also reached out to encourage other private launch sites on the lake to become educated and to participate in the "clean, dry, and treat" protocol and has promulgated information about the free of charge trainings conducted by CRISP. In addition to this, we are currently working to replace and update aging informational and directional signage about the boat wash and to provide instructional signage to all launch sites (for non-motorized as well as motorized boats).

Quiet Waters also refers to our goal of supporting a lake community that is mindful of potential man-made environmental impacts on the lake and the responsibilities that come with living near and enjoying its waters. One way that we are trying to impact this is by distributing a welcome letter that encourages new residents to become involved in OLA and provides information on town and village shoreline protections. The installation of the temperature monitoring buoy provides previously unavailable information on the changing lake environment, and our annual meeting in August is a great forum for exchanging information and networking with lake neighbors.

Quiet waters are safe waters. OLA has published and distributed several brochures to promote boat safety and courteous recreation on the lake. Our support for the Volunteer Dive Team and the no wake zone buoys, not only defend against shoreline erosion, but also provide a safer space for swimmers and non-motorized boats.

We thank you for your support and donations to the Otsego Lake Association and for your commitment to preserving the undisturbed, quiet waters and abundance of gifts that we receive from our Glimmerglass.

Warm regards,

Scottie and Mickie

PS: Hope to see you at our annual boat parade on July 2!

LAKE AND VALLEY GARDEN CLUB - ZONE 3 MEETING

by Mckie Richtsmeier

The Lake and Valley Garden Club hosted the Zone 3 meeting of the Garden Club of America Meeting in Cooperstown, May 15-17. The attendees at the meeting were hosted at many special venues. One of these was the Lake Front Park Buffer Strip, where they toured the garden after hearing a presentation by former board member Suzanne Kingsley and introductions by OLA President, Mickie Richtsmeier. We were delighted to share this with gardeners from the four corners of New York State.



OTSEGO LAKE ASSOCIATION

FOUNDED 2002

OUR MISSION is to educate, advocate and actively participate in protecting the health, beauty, and well-being of Otsego Lake by facilitating the implementation of the Otsego Lake Watershed Management Plan.

OUR MEMBERSHIP is open to any individual concerned with the health of Otsego Lake. Our membership consists of year-round residents, seasonal residents and local businesses.

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www.otsegolakeassociation.org
<https://www.facebook.com/Otsego-Lake-Association-Cooperstown-NY-1066851160050413/>



Otsego Lake Water Quality Constant Monitoring System (Otsego County, NY)

Supported by NYS Water Resource Institute Small Grants Program

<http://employees.oneonta.edu/yokotak/YokotaLimnoLab/> OR

<http://www.otsegolakeassociation.org/buoy-data.html>

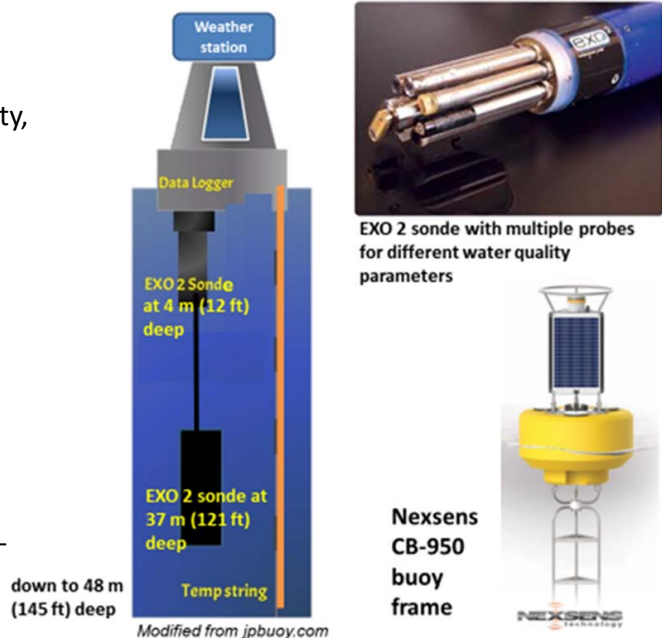
Otsego Lake Buoy	
Otsego Lake, NY, USA - X2-CB-C-VZ3G-20002	
at 02-20-2018 21:30:00	
Air Temperature	15.10 C
Relative Humidi...	77 %
Rel. Barometric...	1019.2 hPa
Wind Speed	2.3 m/s
Max Wind Sp	3.4 m/s
Rain Intensity	0.0 mm/h
PAR	2 umol/s/m2
Powered By WQData LIVE	

Why?

- High frequency & resolution data are needed to monitor & predict changes in lake water quality, including harmful algal blooms
- Data compatible for regional & global analyses through the Global Lake Ecological Observatory Network (gleon.org) & SUNY Lakes Observatory Network (Fredonia, Oneonta & New Paltz)

How?

- Collects & transmits 46 water quality & weather parameters every 15 min, 24/7, during ice-free seasons (weather data only during winter)
- Full data set archived at a data center & shared with other researchers upon request; select real-time data shared with the public through above web sites



Broader impacts (beyond scientific research mentioned above)?

- Real-time weather & water condition data for the public
 - paddlers, boaters, sailors, swimmers, & anglers
 - local businesses (e.g., marinas, resorts, tour boats)
- Locally relevant environmental data set for K-12 STEM
 - e.g., graph & compare air & water temperature at different depths
- Training opportunities for technical SCUBA diving
 - 7 SUNY Oneonta students to date



Co-principal investigators

Kiyoko Yokota, Ph.D., CLM, Associate Professor of Biology, SUNY Oneonta

Paul H. Lord, Lecturer & Researcher, Biology Dep't, SUNY Oneonta



ANNUAL "WE LOVE OUR LAKE" DECORATED BOAT PARADE – MONDAY, JULY 2nd at 2:00 PM

by Wayne Bunn



Photo courtesy of Michael Santulli

Keep a Cool Head!

OLA VISOR CAPS - \$18.00

Plan to float your boat – rain or shine - in OLA's Annual 2nd to None "We Love Our Lake" Decorated Boat Parade to be held at 2:00 PM on Monday, July 2nd, 2018 (easy to remember: "2 - 2 - 2"). The parade forms off Three Mile Point where the judges aboard the SUNY Oneonta Biological Field Station's barge, the Anondontoides, will record the theme and owner of each boat for judging. The Anondontoides will then lead the parade slowly along the westerly shore of the lake to a point near Lakefront Park in Cooperstown (wind conditions at the time may require a nearby alternate location). Please stay around for a few minutes at the end of the parade while the judges announce and give out the prizes. All boats, large and small, are welcome – including antique or classic, human powered, wind powered, electric powered, jet powered, outboard powered, or inboard/outboard powered. Decorate your boat anyway you wish – it can be unusually decorated, humorously decorated, patriotic theme decorated, joyful/party theme decorated, sports theme decorated, military theme decorated, etc. If you prefer, you do not even need to decorate your boat – just join in the parade and view the other boats up close. You can even join the parade at any time or anywhere along the route, especially for non-motorized boaters who might not want to travel the full route. A special prize will be awarded to each of the top five boats selected by the judges. If you are unable to float your boat, you can watch from shore at various points along the parade route including Three Mile Point, Brookwood Point, the Country Club (for members only), the Otesaga Hotel, and Lakefront Park. There are no fees, registration forms, rules, or regulations except travel slowly, stay in line, and be courteous to other boaters. In the past, we have had over 50 boats participate in the parade. The parade is meant to be a fun filled family event for all boaters to celebrate our love for Otsego Lake. If you have any questions or need additional information, please contact Wayne Bunn, Boat Parade Chairman, at bunnwayne@gmail.com or (518) 542-6630. You can also view photographs of last year's boat parade at www.OtsegoLakeAssociation.org. We look forward to seeing you on July 2nd!

*The Health
of Otsego
Lake
is on All
Our Backs!*

T-SHIRTS - \$18.00

T-shirts - \$15.00
Denim shirts - \$35.00
Caps - \$18.00
Tote bags - \$18.00

**Support the
Good Works
of OLA!**

To place an order,
contact:
Scottie Baker
(607) 547 5356
npscottieb@gmail.com

TOXIC ALGAE INVADING NY LAKES

March 3, Binghamton Press & Sun-Bulletin

Although a precise cause of toxic algae menacing the region's largest and most vital water bodies remains elusive, a wellspring of brainpower is working on the crisis. [Read the full article at otsegolakeassociation/news.html](http://otsegolakeassociation/news.html)



Photo courtesy of Paul Donnelly

STOP THE SPREAD OF AQUATIC INVASIVE SPECIES!

AFTER TRAVELING ON ANY WATERWAY:

CLEAN



ALWAYS

Remove mud, plants and animals from your boat and gear. Dispose of them in a trash container or on land away from waterbodies.

IF POSSIBLE

Rinse your boat inside and out, including rudder, paddles and other gear. Use hot water when available.



DRAIN



ALWAYS

Drain water from hatches, boat wells, bags and bailers while still at the waterbody you are leaving to avoid transporting plant fragments and animals.

HIDDEN HAZARD!

Floatation protects paddlers and hides invasive species. ***Solution*** treat hidden compartments. Best: concentrated potassium chloride. Other: dilute bleach, concentrated vinegar, concentrated sodium chloride.



Department of Environmental Conservation

TREAT



ALWAYS

Dry your boat and gear. Aquatic invasive plants and animals need moisture to survive. If you use a towel, stow it and clean it later.

IF POSSIBLE

Alternate between pairs of shoes when paddling on different waterways. Tread, straps and laces can harbor invasive organisms not visible to the naked eye. When you're done, thoroughly clean and dry footwear.



Imagery developed by the Northern Forest Canoe Trail, with support from the Lake Champlain Basin Program.

For information about invasive species regulations, visit:
www.dec.ny.gov/animals/99141.html

LAND TRUST OFFERS ACCESS TO PADDLING & ROWING AT BROOKWOOD POINT

by *Patricia Szarpa*

The Otsego Land Trust is taking the next steps into the future of Brookwood Point as a safe and accessible public resource and asset. The vision and purpose of these diverse 22 acres on Otsego Lake are evolving into the community gathering and environmental education space we've all been hoping for. It is also evolving into the place the community can come out and enjoy quiet water sports and enjoy the tranquility of Otsego Lake, the headwaters of the Susquehanna River.

2017 was the first summer Canoe and Kayak Rentals and Sales were on site at Brookwood. According to owner, Brent Baysinger, his company had over 400 rentals of kayaks/paddle boards in its very first 3 month season on the lake at Brookwood. Otsego Lake and its quiet nature is a natural draw and a beautiful place to paddle," stated Patricia Szarpa, OLT Executive Director, "we really look forward to having Brent and Canoe and Kayak Rentals back again this summer." 2017 was also the first time that Brookwood was the official starting location of the General Clinton Canoe Regatta. The race will begin at Brookwood again this year, on Monday, May 28th. New to the Regatta celebration will be a Stand Up Paddleboard (SUP) race on Sunday, May 27th.

Otsego Land Trust welcomes the Otsego Area Rowing Club (OAR) to Brookwood for 2018. OAR plans to hold rowing lessons for the community and approached OLT to launch and teach out of Brookwood Point. Rowing is a popular activity locally and Otsego Lake makes the perfect quiet water location. We look forward to having OAR be a part of Brookwood this year," said Szarpa, "We wish them a successful season!"

As a conservation organization, it is important for the Land Trust to pay attention to the impacts of additional activity on the property, and what, if any, are the effects of our activities on our neighbors. OLT is working closely with the Sailing Club to make sure we are not interfering with sailing lessons and other events they may be holding. It's about being good partners and having respect for those involved along with respect for the lake and staying safe. " stated Szarpa. Brookwood Point is one of five public access properties owned and managed by the Otsego Land Trust. For further information on how to enjoy the quiet waters of Otsego Lake from Brookwood Point, contact the Otsego Land Trust at 547-2366.

Lakefront Park, Cooperstown, New York; Photo by Paul Donnelly.

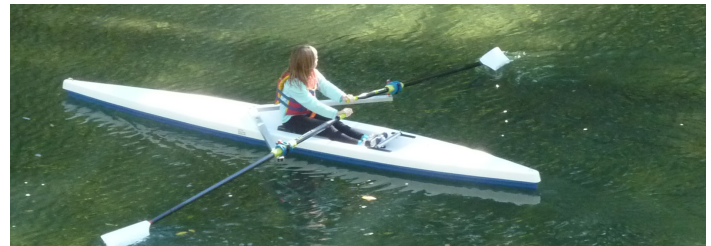


Photo courtesy of Chip Northrup

OTSEGO LAKE ASSOCIATION ANNUAL MEETING



Photo courtesy of David Sanford, Cooperstown, New York

This year's theme will be "Winter on the lake".

YOU ARE INVITED TO THE ANNUAL SUMMER MEETING OF THE OTSEGO LAKE ASSOCIATION, TO BE HELD THE MORNING OF SATURDAY, AUGUST 11, 2018 ON THE GORGEOUS GROUNDS OF THE GLIMMERGLASS (OPERA) FESTIVAL!

Saturday, August 11, 2018

8:30 AM Coffee & Donuts, 9:00 to 11:00 AM meeting

FREE AND OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

Lake History and Scientific Updates

Silent Auction, OLA Merchandise, Scientific Displays

Optional Behind the Scenes Tour of the Opera

by Joel Morain

Full program details:

<http://www.otsegolakeassociation.org/>





**“Helping to Protect a Local Treasure”
Hurry! Support OLA Now!**

Photo by Natúra Productions

www.otsegolakeassociation.org

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We Appreciate Your Support!

Please complete the form below and mail along with your contribution to:
Otsego Lake Association
PO Box 13
Springfield Center, NY 13468.

All donations are tax-deductible as allowed by law.

SUPPORT YOUR OTSEGO LAKE ASSOCIATION

We have vital projects that need your support:

UNDESIGNATED DONATION \$ _____ TOTAL ENCLOSED: \$ _____

I would be interested in volunteering by (check all that apply):

- Serving on a Committee
- Working on the Board of Directors
- Representing OLA at Community Events
- Working with the Volunteer Dive Team

MEMBERSHIP

Annual Membership Dues (Check One): Renewal New Member
 Individual (\$25) Family (\$35) Business (\$50)

Name: _____ Email Address: _____

Mailing Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____ Phone: _____

FISHING ON QUIET WATERS

by Brent Murdock

I have been chasing Lake Trout, Atlantic Salmon, Brown Trout and Walleye on Otsego Lake since I was 13 years old; roughly twenty-seven years. Out of those twenty-seven, the past twenty years has mostly been fishing on my various charter boats. During this time, I have watched the lake go through many changes, which has made for some interesting fishing over the years. Over the past five years, the fishing has slowly been improving again. The Lake Trout are looking stronger and more abundant every year. Unfortunately, there are very few Brown Trout or Salmon left in the lake to chase anymore. During a half day charter these days, we usually catch 12-15 fish per trip with some trips in the mid 20's. I had one of my best trips two years ago with a mixed bag of 14 Lake Trout and 11 Walleye. That was a great day on the water with a great family. It has always been a passion of mine to fish, and days like that make me look forward to the next guests and the next opportunity to fish.

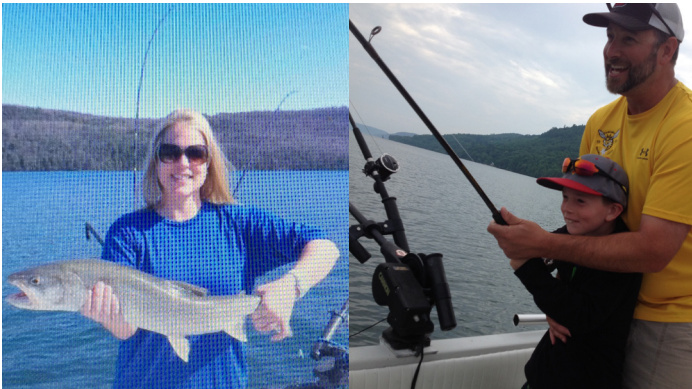


Photo courtesy of Wayne Bunn

ROWING ON QUIET WATERS



Nancy Northrup, Abby Rodd, Susan Huxtable, Andrea Thies rowing in a "Quad"; Photo courtesy Chip Northrup.



Photos: Above: Courtesy of Otsego Area Rowing; Below: Scottie in her solo canoe "Firefly", Brookwood Point, courtesy of Ed Rowley; Left: Courtesy of Brent Murdock;



OTSEGO LAKE ASSOCIATION
P.O. Box 13
SPRINGFIELD CENTER, NY 13468
www.otsegolakeassociation.org

DIVERS DEPLOY BUOYS ON EARTH DAY

by Paul Lord

Lee Ferrara, Sarah Coney, Thomas Franzem, & Paul H. Lord deployed summer season no-wake zone buoys in Otsego Lake at Lake Front Park, 3-Mile Point, Bayside Inn, & Springfield Landing in Otsego Lake on Sunday, the 22nd. They were ably assisted by Wayne Bunn. The air was warm. The water was crisp & clear. Otsego Lake is officially open for summer recreation.