

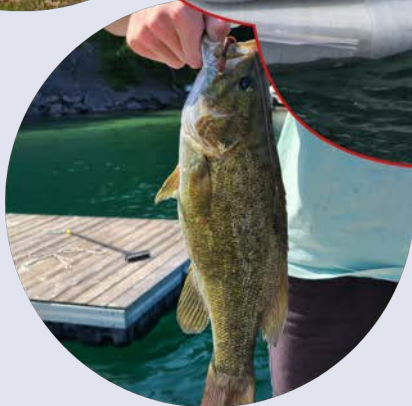


Our Glimmerglass

Journal of the Otsego Lake Association

We Love Our Lake

OTSEGO LAKE IS A GIFT...



*Floatable - Potable - Swimmable - Boatable
Bountiful - Beautiful - Inspirational - Historical*

GIFTS TO OUR LAKE'S HEALTH

The following article (featuring OLA Technical Advisor, Kiyoko Yokota) is shared with permission from Samantha Baxter, Fondriest Environmental, Inc.

Before and After Harmful Algal Blooms: Long-Term Monitoring and Modeling in Otsego Lake

By *Samantha Baxter* on August 28, 2023



Data buoy in seemingly clean water, but the white foamy scum on the water surface contained high concentrations of cyanobacteria (*Microcystis aeruginosa*). (Credit: Kiyoko Yokota)

Throughout the years, harmful algal blooms (HABs) in the Laurentian Great Lakes have been meticulously documented and closely studied due to their annual appearance across the basin. While these blooms have become a recurrent issue in the Great Lakes region, many lakes worldwide are now facing harmful algal blooms for the very first time, with some causes still unknown.

Otsego Lake is one example of a lake that experienced its first harmful algal bloom in 2022, leaving state agencies and researchers to wonder what triggered the event. Kiyoko Yokota, an associate professor of biology with the State University of New York (SUNY) at Oneonta, is the lead researcher of the project.

Read the full article at the Environmental Monitor: <https://www.fondriest.com/news/before-and-after-harmful-algal-blooms-long-term-monitoring-and-modeling-in-otsego-lake.htm>

Memberships & Donations are Important Gifts!

We have vital projects that need your support.
We operate 100% through the dedication of our volunteers and we rely on Memberships & Donations to help fund our work.

(See form on back page to join and donate.)

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.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Jim Howarth, Co-President
David Sanford, Co-President
Scottie Baker, Vice President
Wayne Bunn, Secretary
Betty VanHeusen, Treasurer
Brian Hefferon, Student Director
Tom Chase
Debbie Creedon
Gary Kuch
Paul H. Lord
Robert Nelson
Peter Regan
Mickie Richtsmeier
Martin Tillaupaugh
Doug Willies

POSITIONS

TECHNICAL ADVISOR:
Kiyoko Yokota, Ph.D., CLM
WINTER UPDATE EDITOR:
Currently Vacant
LEGAL ADVISOR:
Martin Tillaupaugh
MERCHANDISE MANAGER:
Scottie Baker
WEBMASTER:
Timothy Pokorny
OUR GLIMMERGLASS JOURNAL
COORDINATOR: Scottie Baker
EDITOR: Susan O'Handley
Central NY Mobile Marketing

ADDRESS CORRESPONDENCE TO:

Otsego Lake Association
P.O. Box 13
Springfield Center, NY 13468
info@otsegolakeassociation.org

ON THE WEB:

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

GIFTS TO OUR LAKE'S COMMUNITIES

Citizen Sampling for Water Quality *by Doug Willies*



This year OLA joined the Citizens Statewide Lake Assessment Program (CSLAP) by the NYS Dept. of Environmental Conservation (NYSDEC) and NYS Federation of Lake Associations to provide ELAP*-certified lake water quality data required for an NYSDEC Nine Element Plan for Otsego Lake, a comprehensive lake and watershed management plan. OLA members Rhonda and Doug Willies participated in the all-day CSLAP volunteer

training at Lake George in early May and successfully completed OLA's inaugural CSLAP sampling on June 5, 2023.

The data collected fulfills part of what UFI specified in the Monitoring QAPP as needed for the CE-QUAL-W2 in lake modeling scheduled to commence in 2024. An added bonus of the 8 sampling sessions was that Kiyoko was able to collect additional scientific data that will assist in the assessment of water quality in the lake.



Top: Who and who doing what - photo by Kiyoko Yakota. Above: Kiyoko Yakota with Doug and Rhonda Willies with testing equipment at a Summer 2023 CSLAP Citizen Sampling Session. Photo by Kiyoko Yakota.

No-Wake Zone Buoys

by Paul H. Lord



No-wake zone buoys, newly redressed thanks to the generosity of Peter Regan and the hard work of Emily Bulmer. Photo by Paul H. Lord.

2023 Library Book Project

by Ginny Hastings

Books and materials were donated this year to several of our local libraries. Materials are geared for ages 2-14, and include:

- Hello from Renn Lake (Hurwitz);
- Hey, Water! (Portis);
- One Well: The Story of Water on Earth (Strauss);
- Kid Scientist: Marine Biologists in a Dive (Fliess);
- Eagle in the Sky (Jacobson and Hemenway).

Librarians appreciate the materials. Each book notes that it was donated to the library by OLA.



Poster and display of books at Springfield Library. Photo by Ginny Hastings.

Annual “WE LOVE OUR LAKE” Decorated Boat Parade, JULY 3rd

by K. Wayne Bunn

Wow – another great boat parade on July 3rd! We estimated that about 30 boats actually participated in the parade with many more just observing. This year’s theme was “Our Glimmerglass Shines”. Despite the weather prediction of severe thunder storms just before the start of the parade, which kept many more boats from participating, we had the right combination of things again this year – no rain, warm temperatures, overcast skies, and no wind. Bagged candy, plus a decontamination kit with instructions on how to clean your boat, were given out to each boat in the parade. An OLA tote bag with OLA merchandise inside was given out to the top five winners as determined by the judges. The 2023 winners were Robert Nelsen and Van Ramsey, the Ed and Joan Badgley family, the Tom and Kathy Chase family, Barbara LaCourt, and Geoff Nye in his “flying boat”. The parade was led again this year by the SUNY Oneonta Biological Field Station’s barge, the “Anodontoides”, captained by OLA Board member Paul Lord. It was out of service last year for major repairs. A very special highlight this year was local resident Geoff Nye’s “flying boat” called the Buccaneer. It was our grand finale and created much excitement before, during, and after the parade.

The parade started at 3:00 PM off Three Mile Point and proceeded slowly down the westerly side of the lake and ended at Lakefront Park in Cooperstown at about 3:45 PM with many people observing from various locations along the shoreline. Go to OLA’s website (www.otsegoLakeAssociation.org) for photos of this year’s boat parade plus past boat parades.

We thank everyone who participated in the parade with special thanks to The Freeman’s Journal, allotsego.com, and The Daily Star for their wonderful coverage and photographs of the parade – both before and after the parade. We also thank the Otsego County Sheriff Department’s Marine Patrol for observing the parade for safety issues.

We look forward to another family oriented, fun-filled “We Love Our Lake” Decorated Boat Parade in 2024.



Boat Parade Grand Finale - the “Buccaneer”, owned by Geoff Nye;
Photo by K. Wayne Bunn

CARRY ON WITH OLA

OLA CANVAS BAG - \$18

OR TWO for \$30
(through Dec. 31)



EASY GIFT GIVING !

OLA ORIGINAL CARRY ALL

- 2 sizes
- 2 handle lengths
- durable and long lasting
- stylish with full color embroidered logo on the front
- lake map printed on the back

Large bag approx 17X18” heavy cotton canvas.
Small bag approx 17X13” lighter weight, easy to roll and stash.

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

MORE ITEMS AVAILABLE
VIEW AT THE OLA WEBSITE



2023 Annual Gathering

by Mickie Richtsmeier

The 2023 Otsego Lake Association’s Annual Gathering was hosted again this year by the Otsego Sailing Club. The weather cooperated, allowing for wide open spaces both outside and under the OSC Pavilion. This helped to facilitate an extensive silent auction, multiple student poster presentations, OLA merchandise sales, and display of Feather, a beautiful historic sail powered canoe owned by Scottie Baker.

As in the past, the morning started off with coffee, refreshments, and the opportunity to network with lake neighbors and friends. Meeting highlights were: brief presentations of research projects by SUNY Oneonta and Cobleskill students, reports on CRISP boat inspections, an update from Paul Lord about the ups and downs of Otsego’s no wake zone buoys, and a much anticipated talk on the state of HABs in Otsego Lake by Professor Kiyoko Yokota.

Presentations were also made of several awards. The Lake Citizen award, was given to The Watershed Supervisory Committee for their work on septic systems around the lake and monitoring the HAB situation. This was accepted by the Committee Chair, Bertine McKenna, who acknowledged the many years of service by Al Keck and thanked WSC members Jim Howarth and Bill Richtsmeier who also were in attendance. A special Presidential Award was also given to Doug and Rhonda Willies for their work gathering samples from the lake for testing for cyanobacteria and tirelessly supporting related research efforts.

Before adjourning for questions and viewing a presentation on Feather, Wayne Bunn displayed the



Rare Feather sailing canoe c.1898 on display and crowd listening to student scientific presentations. Photo by Scottie Baker.

award given for the second year in a row to our OLA Journal by the New York State Federation of Lake Associations. Kudos were given to all who participate with special thanks to Scottie Baker & Susan O’Handley.



Above: Pres. Howarth giving thanks to Drew Porter for use of sailing club pavilion. Photo by Scottie Baker.



Members of the Otsego Lake Watershed Supervisory Committee accepting the OLA Lake citizen award. Photo by Scottie Baker.



A Gathering Enjoyed. Photo by Scottie Baker.



Annual Gathering attendees browse silent auction and merchandise. Photo by Scottie Baker.

Embankment Failure (Again!) on State Highway 80

by K. Wayne Bunn

A new embankment failure occurred along NY State Highway 80 on the westerly side of Otsego Lake during July of 2023. The embankment site is about one-half mile south of Five Mile Point. It was probably caused in part by the heavy rains in July that washed away the rather shallow soil cover that sits on top of the shale bedrock at that location. In addition, there is a lot of high speed, heavy truck traffic along that highway and rather poor surface water drainage all along the roadway. Since the embankment failure, the NYS Department of Transportation (DOT) has been maintaining one-way, alternating traffic to keep vehicles away from the edge of the highway. Shortly after the embankment failure occurred, DOT started dumping heavy stone riprap between the asphalt pavement and the lake to stabilize the area. This riprap has created an “eye sore” along that section of the shore of Otsego Lake. This appears to be DOT’s long-term solution to the problem rather than constructing a retaining wall like what was done at some other locations along this highway. See the attached photos taken shortly after the riprap work was started this summer and then on October 9th.

Photos by K. Wayne Bunn



OTSEGO LAKE GIVES BACK!

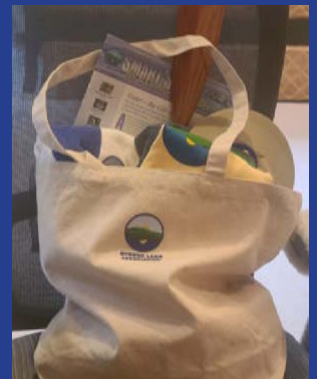
Lake Clean Up Day Success

by Debbie Creedon



A BIG thank you to all the wonderful volunteers who came out for our Lake Clean Up Day in July including Paul, Kiyoko, Doug, Brian, Peter, Tim, Tom, Jess (Brian's wife), Jack, Dominic, Betty (our lunch provider), and Emma (caretaker at 3 Mile Pt. who helped to rope off the area where the debris is waiting for pick up). It was a beautiful day on the lake with lots of debris collected.

CAN HOLD A GIFT, OR GIVE IT AS A GIFT



To order, contact: Scottie Baker: (607) 547-5356 or npscottieb@gmail.com. PRICE only \$18.00 each. Buy 2 and save! \$30.00 pair (until Dec. 31)
Multi purpose; land or boat gear; groceries; books; tools and everything else. Bottom expands for extra capacity.

MONETARY GIFTS ENABLING RESEARCH FOR OUR LAKE'S FUTURE

Co-President's Message

The Otsego Lake Association has led the effort to understand, and potentially deal with, Harmful Algal Blooms – HABs. Under the direction of our Technical Advisor Dr. Kiyoko Yokota, OLA has both participated in and supported scientific research on the causes of HABs. Dealing with HABs is part of a larger study needed to develop a lake management plan. As a reminder, OLA's mission statement includes, "protecting the health, beauty, and well being of Otsego Lake by facilitating the implementation of the Otsego Lake Watershed Management Plan". The Comprehensive Lake Management Plan is being developed by the Otsego Lake Watershed Supervisory Committee.

This year the OLA Board of Directors authorized several thousand dollars to pay for transportation for lake water samples taken by the SUNY Biological Field Station to a laboratory for analysis. OLA also sponsored CSLAP – Citizens Statewide Lake Assessment Program – the only New York Department of Health ELAP - Environmental Laboratory Approval Program – certified lake water testing now taking place. OLA volunteers conducted this work throughout the Summer. Lastly, the OLA Board recently approved its largest ever donation to support a wide range of scientific research projects and device purchases going forward.

This work is in support of a Comprehensive Lake Management Plan. A lake Plan – such as the New York Department of Environmental Conservation's "Nine Element Watershed Management Plan" (www.dec.ny.gov/docs/water_pdf/9efaq17.pdf) – provides a framework for studying and hopefully dealing with HABs and other threats to our lake. By identifying and quantifying the factors that threaten our lake a 9-E Plan opens the door to Federal and State funding.

OLA is committed to supporting lake research and the implementation of a plan that will ensure the future of our area's most valuable resource. In addition to the commitment and energy of our members this work is made possible by your donations. OLA is a 501(c)3 non-profit organization. **Please renew your membership (or join) and consider donating to OLA. You can use the form provided below.**

As always, many thanks to our members, volunteers, advisors, officers, and Board members for their sincere interest and dedicated work.

Jim Howarth – Co-President

NOW MORE THAN EVER...

www.otsegolakeassociation.org



ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP: _____ RENEWAL OR _____ NEW MEMBER

ANNUAL RATES: Individual (\$25) Family (\$35) Business (\$50)

MEMBERSHIP AMOUNT \$ _____

ADDITIONAL DONATION AMOUNT \$ _____

TOTAL ENCLOSED \$ _____

Name: _____

Email Address: _____

Mailing Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone Number: _____

Mail this form with payment to:

Otsego Lake Association, PO Box 13, Springfield Center, NY 13468.

Photo by Paul H. Lord

