



Volume 2023-Issue 1
Spring 2023

Our Glimmerglass

Journal of the Otsego Lake Association

We Love Our Lake

WE ARE ON A MISSION...

TO EDUCATE • TO CELEBRATE • TO ENGAGE • TO LEARN



TO VOLUNTEER • TO PARTICIPATE • TO APPRECIATE • TO PROTECT



**TO PRESERVE THE HEALTH, WELL-BEING
AND BEAUTY OF OTSEGO LAKE!**

Photos: Top Left: Canoe by Scottie Baker; Top Right: No wake zone buoy deployment by Tim Pokorny; Bottom Left: Boat parade by Tim Pokorny; Bottom Center: Annual Gathering by Meghan McCaffrey, Cooperstown Crier; Bottom Right: Volunteer Dive Team by tim Pokorny.

Co-President's Message

What is being done to address our Harmful Algal Bloom (HAB)?...A LOT!

We consider Otsego Lake to be unique – and in many ways it is. But one of the ways it is not unique is its susceptibility to HABs. Hundreds of bodies of water in the Northeast have experienced HABs recently. The causes of HABs are under study, but we do know there is no one driver or any party to affix blame to. The Otsego Lake Association and its members have taken the lead in studying and dealing with HABs.

Doug Willies, a member of OLA's Board of Directors, has been appointed by the Village of Cooperstown and its Mayor to lead an effort with the New York Department of Environmental Conservation. Acting through the authority of the Watershed Supervisory Committee and under the scientific direction of Dr. Kiyoko Yakota from the SUNY Biological Field Station, the group is progressing inclusion in a NYDEC 9 - Element Plan to study all aspects of HABs.

The Otsego Lake Association is a member of NYSFOLA – New York State Federation of Lake Associations. OLA's publication – The Glimmerglass Journal - won NYSFOLA's award for the best in its class last year and again this year. NYSFOLA has invited OLA to participate in CSLAP – Citizen's Statewide Lake Assessment Program. CSLAP is a volunteer lake monitoring and education program that is managed cooperatively with NYDEC. OLA volunteers will be trained and will take lake water sample as part of a structured program to learn about, and perhaps predict, HABs.

The SUNY Biological Field Station is key asset for Otsego Lake. Scientists, including OLA's scientific advisor Dr. Kiyoko Yokota, are studying all aspects of the HAB. OLA supports the BFS through volunteer labor and financial support.

Lastly OLA volunteers are involved in every aspect of our lake's health – from supporting the boat washes to sponsoring the Volunteer Dive Team. Paul Lord from SUNY's faculty and a member of OLA's Board has led these efforts.

I urge readers to go to <https://otsegolakeassociation.org/>. Learn about OLA, read past issues of The Glimmerglass Journal, and join OLA. Our mission is to educate, advocate, and actively participate in protecting the health, beauty and well-being of Otsego Lake. These actions are more important than ever now.

Jim Howarth

IT'S SUMMERTIME - SOAK IT UP!

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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

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Scottie Baker

WEBMASTER:

Timothy Pokorny

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[https://www.facebook.com/Otsego-](https://www.facebook.com/Otsego-Lake-Association-Cooperstown-)

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Remembering Bill Elsey

Bill was an avid angler of Otsego Lake and numerous other local waters, living near the lake and docking his boat on the lake he obviously spent the most time fishing Otsego.

His electric boat was called the "Gill Getter". He enjoyed catching big bluegills, yellow perch, smallmouth bass and walleye on Otsego Lake, all mainly in the spring and fall. Summers the lake was too busy/crowded and hot for Bill.

He had many stories about fishing. He was an Otsego Lake Association supporter and much much more.

Images at right - top to bottom:
Bill the Angler;
Bill at the 2016 Annual Gathering
Bill piloting the electric 'Gill Getter'
Photos by Tim Pokorny;

by Tim Pokorny



Congratulations, Kiyoko!

by Jim Howarth

OLA Technical Advisor, Dr. Kiyoko Yokota, was recently appointed president of the North American Lake Management Society, the mission of which is "to forge partnerships among citizens, scientists, and professionals to foster the management and protection of lakes and reservoirs... for today and tomorrow." The organization, established in 1980, currently has more than 1,100 members and is a member of the Consortium of Aquatic Science Societies."

Excerpt from All Otsego 12/15/23 - <https://www.allotsego.com/how-to-address-habs-nalms-new-president-offers-guidance/>

OLA is indeed fortunate to have Kiyoko's expertise and guidance. Our thanks and congratulations go to her for this well- earned and deserved honor.

On a related note, Kiyoko continues to assist and guide the Watershed Supervisory Committee's efforts to formulate a NYS DEC 9-E Plan.



Above: Passing the Torch... Kiyoko Yokota and NAMLS past President, Chris Mikolajczyk.
Below: Kiyoko addressing NAMLS Members as President. Photos by Todd Tietjen.

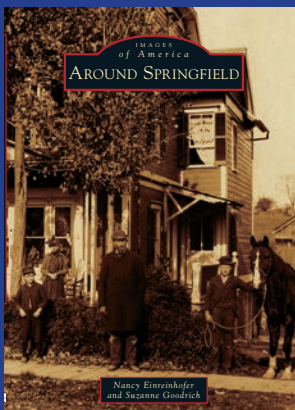


Memorial Donations, Dedications & Bequests

Please consider Otsego Lake Association with a bequest in your will, or a donation as a dedication in remembrance of a friend or family member. We cherish our lake, and your generosity preserves its health and beauty.

NEW BOOK!

Hot off the press! This book by Springfield locals, Nancy Einreinhofer and Suzanne Goodrich is now available for purchase.



View on Amazon at <https://amzn.to/43zTXpV>.

Your Membership is Important!

We rely on Memberships & Donations to fund our work. We have vital projects that need your support!

(See form in our Fix the Ditch insert.)

New Buoy Decals

by Paul H. Lord

OLA funded new decals for the no-wake zone buoys this Spring.

"They looked good going into the Lake today. We will have to see how they look after a season on the Lake."



No-wake zone buoys - new decals:
Photos by Paul H. Lord

LAKE CLEAN UP DAY

DATE: July 15, 2023

TIME: 9am to 2pm

LOCATION:

End of homeowner docks (so the barge can pick up items)

WHAT IS ACCEPTED:

Debris taken out of the lake (Bottles, pieces of old wooden docks, tires, etc.

WHAT IS NOT ACCEPTED: Household or construction materials, roofing materials, appliances, heavy metal objects, concrete and extensive boardwalk sections.

NOTE: For any last minute changes or additions, please visit the OLA website or facebook page.

HEAD FOR SHADE

SPORT VISOR

White/Black trim or Navy/White trim
OLA embroidered on headband
One size: \$18



CAP

Available in Khaki, Stone, Gray or Blue
OLA embroidered logo
One size: \$18

Annual "WE LOVE OUR LAKE" Decorated Boat Parade, MONDAY, JULY 3rd AT 3PM

by K. Wayne Bunn

OLA's Annual "We Love Our Lake" Decorated Boat Parade will be held at 3:00 PM on Monday, July 3rd, 2023 - forming off Three Mile Point (weather permitting). This year's parade, with the theme of "Our Glimmerglass Shines", will feature a "boat" that we have not seen before. A local pilot has graciously offered to enter his "flying boat" (see photo and think "Da Plane, Da Plane" as cried out by Tattoo in the Fantasy Island TV show from '77- '84) as our "grand finale" at the end of the parade. Wow - that should add some excitement!

Photo by Geoffrey Robert Nye



The SUNY Oneonta Biological Field Station's barge, the *Anondontoides*, will again be our lead boat where the judges on board will record the theme and owner of each boat for judging. *Anondontoides* will then lead the parade slowly along the westerly shore of the lake to a point off Lakefront Park in Cooperstown where an awards ceremony will be held. Please stay around for a few minutes at the end of the parade while the judges announce and give out the prizes. There will be five general prizes awarded - all as determined by the judges.

All boats, large and small, are welcome - including antique or classic, human powered, wind powered, electric powered, jet powered, outboard powered, inboard/outboard powered and, of course, flying boats. We encourage you to decorate your boat using the "Our Glimmerglass Shines" theme but you may 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 join the parade at any time, anywhere along the route. This is helpful especially for non-motorized boaters who might not want to travel the full route.

If you are unable to enter your boat in the parade, you can watch from shore at various points along the parade route including Three Mile Point, Brookwood Point, the Country Club (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 boat parades from past years at www.OtsegoLakeAssociation.org. We look forward to seeing you on July 3rd!

Remember... 3 (July 3rd) - 3 (3:00 PM) - 3 (Three Mile Point).

Shadow & 'CLR' on Glimmerglass...

Article and photos by Jeff Reynolds



Shadow is a 22 ft., 2,680 lb. displacement, "Keel Whaler Sloop" commissioned by Edgar Denton of Fair Haven, NY. She was designed by Phil Bolger of Gloucester, MA and Built by Hamilton Armstrong in Walcott, NY. It was love at first sight!

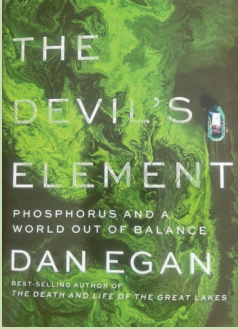
The previous owner was Thomas Sullivan, noted sailor, nautical artist and raconteur extraordinaire, Lewiston, NY. Shadow came with her own dinghy, CLR ("Chubby Little Rascal!") also from Sullivan.



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DID YOU KNOW? ...What people do on the land, when we alter natural landscapes, creates soil erosion which is one of the greatest threats to water quality. Sediments store toxic materials that can be released when sediments are stirred up in higher ground and then travel to the lowest point, the lake.

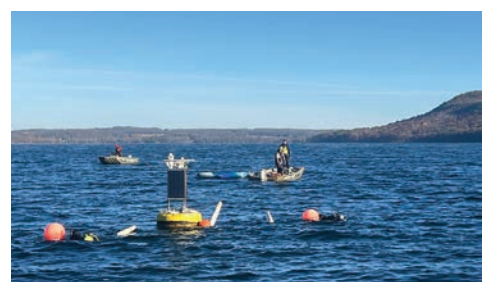
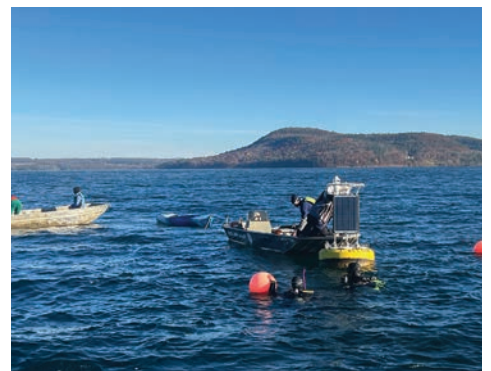
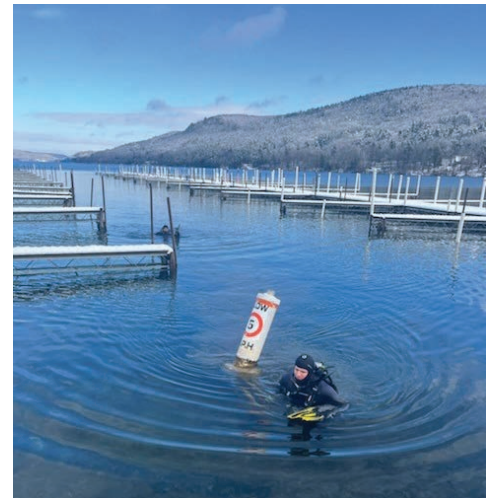


Autumn 2022 NWZB Buoyfest a Success

*Article & Photos by Paul H. Lord
(Includes CLMB Work images as well.)*

Saturday morning had me concerned about whether the Autumn no-wake zone buoy (NWZB) Buoyfest would be a success or would be only the first day of a multiple day effort to retrieve our NWZBs. Winds were strong enough to cause concern, and we had lost the services of four divers, who we had planned to work with us, in the 24 hours prior to the event. Health and other good reasons prevented those four divers from participating. The preparation work provided on Friday by Bill, Mickie, Doug, and Peter facilitated an early departure and the focus and experience of graduate students Sarah Coney and Brian Hefferon provided core successes which inspired our SUNY Oneonta undergraduate students and recent graduates, Liv Bartik, Alan Brault, Zach Lebid, and Katlin Mancusi to see the work through to completion. Our OLA Board was well represented providing essential tender services: Wayne Bunn, Peter Regan, and Kiyoko Yokota. Chuck Hascup masterfully employed his barge to support our work. I am grateful to all.

The last two NWZBs, at Springfield Landing and Lake Front, will be retrieved and swapped for spar buoys, as is our tradition, on the weekend prior to Christmas Eve. That typically involves breaking through shallow ice along the shoreline to reach those buoys, but the shallow depths involved encourages a lighthearted attitude about this December work.



OLA Wins 1st Place in NYSFOLA’s 2023 Newsletter Contest (Again!)

by K. Wayne Bunn

The Otsego Lake Association’s Journal (formerly called Newsletter), “Our Glimmerglass” (Fall 2022 edition), won 1st Place in the Medium Size Lake Associations category in the 2023 Newsletter Contest sponsored by the New York State Federation of Lake Associations (NYSFOLA) of which OLA is a member. OLA also won 1st Place in 2022 in the same category. There are three lake association categories for the newsletter contest - Small, Medium, and Large Size. A total of roughly 240 lake associations (some have more than one lake in their association) from across NYS are members of NYSFOLA.

OLA has entered the newsletter contest in past years with no winners so to win two years in a row is a great acknowledgement. This award is a great honor and recognition for the members of the OLA Board of Directors and other OLA members who contribute articles and photographs for each semi-annual edition. It is also a wonderful achievement for OLA Board member, Scottie Baker and editor, Susan O’Handley. Scottie provides the foundation for each issue with creativity and artistic vision, and solicits and coordinates content. Susan of Central NY Mobile Marketing, not only brings every issue to life with her expert layout, but oversees printing, mailing and all other details. Congratulations to everyone involved with “Our Glimmerglass”.



OLA Board member, Wayne Bunn, accepting the award from NYSFOLA Executive Director Nancy Mueller at the annual conference in Lake George on May 7th, 2023. Photo by Deb Creedon.

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Otsego Lake: Photo by Jim Howarth

Otsego County Sheriff’s Marine 1 Patrol Boat

The images show the abandoned sheriff patrol boat in conjunction with Jim’s plea for more presence on Otsego Lake. You can see lots of evidence of the boat belonging to the Otsego County Sheriff—from the trailer to the badge and Marine 1 displayed on the bow, as well as the emblem on the windshield. They’ve got the impressive equipment - but we don’t get to see it in action on the lake.



Marine 1 patrol boat in dry dock; Jim Howarth at Otsego County Board Meeting advocating for more sheriff patrol on Otsego Lake.

BE INFORMED LECTURE SERIES

PRESENTED BY: OCCA, OTSEGO LAKE ASSOCIATION AND MOHICAN FARM

WHAT IS A HEALTHY LAKE?

TALK GIVEN BY DR. KIYOKO YOKOTA

June 21 @ 7 pm

Clark Sports Center, Community Meeting Room



Join OLA, OCCA and Mohican Farm in the Community Room at the Clark Sports Center on June 21st at 7 pm to hear Dr. Kiyoko Yokota give a talk about Lake Health. Jim Howarth, Co-President of the Otsego Lake Association states that "Kiyoko is THE authority on Otsego Lake Scientific issues." This program is free and it promises to be excellent! Sign up at <https://bit.ly/3OxvKfZ> and reach out to Shelby Macleish, coordinator@occainfo.org with any questions.

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8:30am Coffee & Treats

9:00 to 11:00am Program

HOSTED BY THE OTSEGO SAILING CLUB

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(In the open-air pavilion)

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Presentation of the Lake Citizen Award

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your OLA membership.

Bring a friend,

Bring a chair.

Photo courtesy of Scottie Baker/Natura Productions, Fly Creek, New York

Annual gathering is open to the public.

Full program details: <http://www.otsegolakeassociation.org/>



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