The Otsego Lake Association 2013 Annual Meeting was called to order by President, Wayne Bunn. Wayne welcomed all in attendance and introduced the Board of Directors. Board members present were Scottie Baker, Wayne Bunn, Mary Crumenthal, Pati Grady, Paul Lord, Carolyn Mook, Mickie Richtsmeier, David Sanford, Carl Good, and Joseph Zarzynski.

Treasurer’s Report – David Sanford reported that our current balance was approximately $16,000 including the buffer strip fund.

Election of President & 4 Directors
Wayne presented the following nominations for the slate of officers:
Nominated:     President – no nominee
                 Director (Otsego) – Scottie Baker
                 Director (Springfield) – Pati Grady
                 Director (Middlefield) – David Sanford
                 Director (Cooperstown) – Martin Tillapaugh
Since there were no nominations from the floor, it was moved and seconded that the secretary cast one vote for acceptance of the slate.

Special Announcements, Photo Contest Winners, & Lake Citizen Award
Wayne gave Special Thanks to the Clark Foundation, NYSHA, CGP, OCCA, Cynthia Falk, Suzan Friedlander, Richard Duncan, Paul Lord, Will Walker, Chobani, Stagecoach, Price Chopper, & Otesaga for their contributions to the program. He also recognized Pati Grady who chaired the event and her team of board members (among others Carolyn Mook who organized the food, and Mickie Richtsmeier who organized the silent auction).

Wayne reminded the group about our OLA Website: www.otsegolakeassociation.org and that our E-Mail addresses are used only for newsletters and announcements. Attendees were encouraged to purchase OLA merchandise and to take advantage of membership applications that were available from the Treasurer. Wayne also encouraged the membership to support the silent auction.

Mickie took the opportunity to recognize the individuals and businesses who donated to the silent auction: Natura Productions/Scottie Baker, Doubleday Cafe, Cooperstown Wine & Spirits/Andrew Oberriter, Ann Kiehm, David Kiehm, Mt. Wellington
Market/Will Gibson, Joseph Zarzynski, Lake Classic Outfitters/Blue Mingo Grill, Firehouse Market Gourmet and Gift, Otsego Golf Club, Otesaga Resort Hotel, Cooperstown Gift Bags, Paul Lord and the Biological Field Station, the Gradys and Richtsmeiers.

The Otsego Land Trust/Otsego Lake Association Photo Contest Winners were recognized by Wayne. The youth winner was Lizzy Falk who won 4 tickets on the Glimmerglass Queen and a one year membership in OLA. Donna Greene was the winner in the amateur category and was given a guided tour of Otsego Lake on the BFS Barge. Sam Ross won in the professional category and was given a gift certificate to the Blue Mingo and a copy of Richard Duncan’s book “Otsego Lake: Past and Present”.

The OLA Lake Citizen Award was presented to Doug and Donna Greene for the design and construction of wetlands for storm water run-off at their home in Pierstown.

Carol Seaver requested an opportunity to speak about the NYSDOT Project on West Lake Road. She told the group that her property was one of three camps above 5 Mile Point that the State plans to demolish for repair of Rte 80. She reported that there will be legal issues about this, but that her purpose in speaking to OLA was to bring the State’s design plan to the attention of the public. Carol raised concerns about the stripping and filling of the shoreline with no long-term sustainable plan for landscaping/erosion. She raised concerns that choices were being made for financial rather than ecological reasons.

A motion was made by Springfield Director, Mickie Richtsmeier, seconded, and unanimously passed that the Town of Springfield repass a No Wake Zone Law with no Sunset Clause. This would be to replace a previous no wake zone law that had expired and would be in keeping with the other municipalities around the lake.

Proposed Otsego County Invasive Species Transport Law – Paul Lord made a motion that it would be illegal to move any living aquatic invasive species material by boat and trailer in Otsego County. The motion was seconded and unanimously passed after a discussion about the lack of local legislation to address concerns regarding the spread of such invasive species as water chestnuts.

Award to President Wayne Bunn - Paul Lord called for a point of order, at which time he surprised Wayne with a framed certificate thanking him for his longest served presidency of the Otsego Lake Association (2008-2013). The certificate also recognized Wayne’s development of programs with relevancy to lake residents. Wayne was then presented with a special OLA T-shirt by Scottie and a framed vintage lake postcard by Mickie. The membership expressed their appreciation for Wayne’s service with a warm round of applause!
Program – “Otsego Lake Nostalgia and Reminiscing”

The program began with a great slide presentation of Historic Camps which had been compiled by Cynthia Falk of the Cooperstown Graduate Program with Contemporary Views by photographer, Richard Duncan. This was followed by a presentation on Overnight Children’s Camps by Sue Friedlander, Museum Consultant. After Sue’s presentation, Wayne opened the floor to membership who shared many wonderful personal reminiscences and old photographs.

Wayne reminded the group there were stations to sign up for Otsego Lake Oral Histories with Will Walker from the CGP as well as examples of equipment and films of Underwater Archaeological Finds by Paul Lord, BFS Volunteer Dive Team, and a photo scanning station with Sue Friedlander. Everyone was encouraged to stay to explore these.

The meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,
Mickie Richtsmeier
Secretary