



Oneida Lake Association
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Greetings!

WHAT'S UP?

Welcome to 2020! The decade of change started of with ice-out New Year's Day and, as of January 15, remains ice-free.

Remember that past issues of the OLA ENews are archived on our website, along with many recent Bulletins. Hard copy of all Bulletins are on the shelves of the Syracuse Onondaga County Public Library. We want to duplicate these archives.

We are looking for helpers to go to the library and to scan the older issues for posting on our website www.oneidalakeassociation.org and helping us prepare for our 75th anniversary meeting next spring.

OLA Directors will host a display and membership table at these two 2020 shows:

- January 24-26 NY Sportsman's Expo, NYS Fairgrounds Expo Center, Syracuse
- February 1, CNY Sportsman Show, Kallet Civic Center, Oneida

If you attend, stop by to chat, let us know what issues are of concern to you, and to renew your membership.

As part of OLA's 75th celebration at the **April 28 Annual Meeting**, we have this fillet knife emblazoned with the OLA anniversary logo. The Board authorized a price of \$20, or \$25 to also include an annual membership. These knives will be available for purchase at the shows.



SAVE THE DATE: The OLA the Spring Highway Cleanup on April 24, 2020.
Contact Director George Reck to help out.

ADVOCACY

CLEVELAND PIER

In a prompt response from Region 7 Director Matt Marko, speculation that the money allocated for the facility at Apps Landing had been lost to Lake Ontario flooding, we have learned that:

Funding for the Cleveland Dock rehabilitation has been secured. The project was designed by NYSDEC and advertised for bid. DEC will evaluate bids for anticipated construction in 2020.

Two years ago NYSDEC was prepared to amalgamate other funding with that dedicated to stabilizing the failed old log crib and pilings. The additional funding was intended not only to stabilize, but to repair and upgrade the safe harbor facility for future generations.

COVE ROAD BOAT LAUNCH

We are optimistic that we can soon announce the link to NYSDEC's RFP for the bids to start construction of the new eastern access facility. It will be located on the Barge Canal just east of the confluence of Fish Creek.

The old bridge is closed, so the parking lot, handicapped pier, and ramp will be accessible only from the north.

OLA, Region 7, and the Canal Corp have been involved with siting, permitting and design considerations for 30 years. It should be reality by the end of 2020.

Your BOD affirmed unanimously a resolution to both honor and nominate **Dr. John Forney** for induction into the **NYS Outdoorsmen's Hall of Fame** in 2020. Dr. Forney began in the 1950's a lifelong pursuit to understand walleye and the fisheries of Oneida Lake. As many of you know, he contributed to the international world of fisheries science, and his excellent work advanced the understanding and management of walleye populations not only in Oneida Lake and across New York State but also throughout North America.

{OLA President Bill Girvan, Director Tony Buffa, and the late and past President Bob Ripberger are Hall of Famers.}

BOD TRIVIA:

Twenty of the Directors attending January's meeting revealed that the following schools are part of the Board's collective expertise: American University, Albany State, Alfred, Case Western, Clarkson, Cornell, Empire State College, Green Mountain College, HCCC, Kings College, MA College of Liberal Arts, NOLS, OCC, Paul Smiths, SU, SU Law, SU Maxwell, SUNY (Poly, ES&F, Plattsburg, & Oswego), U of Arizona, U of Alaska, U of Detroit, U of New England, U of Rochester, USAF, and Walsh University.

If you are interested in sharing the experience, we have three vacancies.

MEMBER MEMORY

My family began going to Oneida for the summer season before I was born, when my mother was a teen. I swim each year, and spend quality time with my mother Chris in the old lakeside cabin which my grandfather remodeled and added on to which is now 100years old. (we finally

PLEASE SHARE YOUR THOUGHTS ABOUT OUR 75TH ANNIVERSARY!!!

The OLA would love to hear your thoughts about the Association and the lake. Send us your memories, your anecdotes, your photos, your

finished painting it together last year - took us 3 years LOL!).

My grandfather Ken Goodrich fished regularly from a boat he would launch from our harbor each morning. My mom used to tell me when I was young that "Grandpa was going out each morning to help the sun come up." He was president of the Kinloch Point Lake Association for many years, and my grandmother Olga was the secretary.

Tradition was and is very important to our family...all these years later my mom Chris Gardner is the president of the Association. We are already looking forward to summer 2020!

ideas. What does Oneida Lake mean to you?

Note a new email address for you or family members to contribute to the OLA's efforts to collect historical anecdotes, names, and events in advance of the Association's 75 Anniversary in April 2020.

Write to OLA75th@gmail.com

As you greet your neighbors and friends in the coming months, consider a membership to the Oneida Lake Association!

If you have an avocation and interest in serving OLA, please reach out to one of the Directors. Our contact info is at our website.

Directors serve 2-year terms, meet once a month, and may spend 3-6 hours a month on OLA business.

Each Director must serve on at least one standing committee, volunteer for special events, and anticipate advancement to an officer's position.

The BOD currently has three Director vacancies.

Write out your avocational resume and send it along with a brief note outlining your professional experience and personal interests to any OLA Director, or to President@OneidaLakeAssociation.org

9 Element Plan Status

OLA, with its concern related to the deleterious effects due to erosion and sedimentation entering the State's largest inland lake.

So we note with interest that the WideWaters Group is selling 6834 Kirkville Road in DeWitt, right off of the Route 481 northbound exit on the right-hand side. There is a proposal to build a 112,000-square foot warehouse and distribution center, also allowing for office space. A national logistics company is working through the developer to make their renderings come to life.

This site is near the proposed inland port, and like any other development north of Route 5, affects the wetlands and drainage of Butternut-Limestone-Chittenango Creeks. As we have noted in previous ENews articles, these creeks are notorious contributors of sediment to Oneida Lake. And, as the dying ash trees continue to fall, debris-induced flooding will be exacerbated, in turn causing more bed and bank erosion of the clay soils infilling the Chittenango outlet.

We will be relying on Town, State, and development officials to rigorously implement appropriate conservation and engineering measures in plans and permits.

Meanwhile, we anticipate more updates from Madison County as is and Onondaga County Soil and Water Districts start to draft the 9 Element Plan (NEP) and implement projects. OLA will be supporting, *via* our Government Relations Committee outreach, legislators as they seek remedial funding from the Governor's 2020 Environmental Bond Proposal.

We have no updates from Oswego, Oneida, Cortland, or Lewis for their activities in protecting or enhancing their portions of the Oneida Lake drainage basin. But, Steve Lorraine said that Madison County Planner Scott Ingmire confirmed that the County Board of Supervisors approved the plan and submitted everything back to the NYS Department of State for contract signature, so thinks "we might see something back maybe February or March time frame."

Mark Burger reported these some updates from Onondaga County:

- Dairy Farm, Oneida Lake Watershed. NYS Agricultural Environmental Management (AEM) Tier 5 assessment for farm to add additional 70 acres of production land that was acquired.
- Onondaga SWCD provided ~\$5,000 of their "Part C funds" to CNY RPDB / contractor to support collection of additional data on Chittenango Creek needed to enhance the validity of the developing in-lake and tributary models for the Oneida Lake system (part of the 9-E plan)

FISHERIES

There is no update on a proposed water chiller for the Oneida Lake Hatchery.

Member's **FISHING TIPS.**

Feel free to offer up some of *your* short hints, tips, and tricks.

Here are classic tips from H.G. Tapply writing in Field and Stream:

<https://www.fieldandstream.com/32-vintage-fishing-tips/>

MEMBER QUESTIONS?

Remember that many of the frequently asked questions about the lake are posted with responses on the website.

The BOD continued its discussion of items that members raised in last year's survey. Several comments were received on the perch issue. OLA's circa-1986 Position Paper on Commercial Fishing) lays out considerations of the day when the perch population was 7-8X today's 1M number. Members are divided on options (1) reducing the current 50-fish bag limit, (2) prohibiting sale of fish caught from Oneida Lake, or (3) creating a size limit or closed season for perch. Cornell says the population is healthy, although lake conditions have substantially changed since the resolution was passed. NYSDEC staff appear divided as well, although regional managers seem to support some change. { *Perhaps someone from Albany BOF could write a summary for ENews that commemorates contemporary thoughts on regulating – or not – the Oneida Lake panfish???* }

Sent your questions and opinion to President@OneidaLakeAssociation.org

Pay your dues, and HELP PROTECT ONEIDA LAKE!!!!

\$8 annually

Recruit your non-member neighbors and friends TO JOIN US!

The Board noted that Roy J. Ploski passed in November. Director Bob Cote recalls that

Roy was there when the OLA needed him: "He was the person out in the pouring rain directing people, coming to our annual meeting, where they could park. He is the individual that got the Boy Scouts to present the flag and help with the door prizes. Roy also made, over the years, thousands of Dixie spinners and jigs that he donated to all individuals attending the annual meeting. There was always room in his boat for a youth to learn how to fish or an adult that hinted he would like to go fishing with him."



Donate

Help OLA function. Memorials and contributions to our program are most welcome.

OLA is a 501(c)4 organization serving protection of the Oneida Lake environment.

Memorial remembrance\$ take the edge off some of our expenses.



If you or someone you know has a special avocation and interest in serving the Oneida Lake community, please contact us. We are in particular need of help creating and editing this ENews.

[Website](#) [Who We Are](#) [What We Do](#) [How to Help](#)

OLA is a 501(c)(4) not-for-profit organization.

The Oneida Lake Association is a member of the New York State Conservation Council <http://www.nyscc.com/> and the New York State Federation of Lake Associations <http://www.nysfola.org/>.

Report environmental violations. Please remember to obey all laws, rules, regulations, and codes of ethics as they pertain to boating, fishing, hunting, and management of Oneida Lake and its drainage basin. Be civil. **1-844-DEC-ECOS (1-844-332-3267) or 1-800-TIPP DEC (1-800-847-7332)**

Edited by Scott Shupe and John Harmon.

Send us your notes and articles for use in future ENews!