



Oneida Lake Association
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Another OLA Scholarship Winner

Our last e-news featured our first ever scholarship recipient from the College category. This month we are pleased to introduce a local high school student, Meghan Heffron, another scholarship winner. Meghan is a senior at Paul V. Moore High School, in Central Square. Our Scholarship Committee rated her application the highest of the several applicants. Meghan was chosen for her commitment to sustainability in business



practices. For example she stated that when advising a business, she would "track their environmental footprint and make sure the company is staying as green as possible. Another option I am interested in is creating sustainable replacements or more effective recycling processes for non-sustainable products like plastic packaging, tires, and even sidewalks or roads. I would also like to advocate for environmental policies by educating the public. I am excited to explore these and other options that I might pursue in the fields of Environmental Conservation and Sustainability."

Once again, we thank Meyer's RV of Syracuse and the Fenech Foundation for their generous gift which allows us to award these scholarships. The OLA Board understands that we need to support the next generation of citizens who share our goal of the stewardship of Oneida Lake.

Meghan writes:

"I would like to send the Oneida Lake Association a huge thank you for choosing me to be a recipient of your scholarship. I am planning to put it to good use to help fund my college career at the University of New Hampshire. I will be majoring in Environmental Conservation and Sustainability."

Hobie Cat Fleet 204 Volunteers their Time and Talent

Hobie Fleet 204, located at Therre's Marina here on Oneida Lake, recently hosted 11 Counselors from the NYS Sheriff's Summer Camp. The Sheriff's Camp, located on Keuka Lake, is for boys and girls between the ages of 9 and 12 who, because of economic reasons, would not have an opportunity to attend a summer camp. Each County Sheriff is given a predetermined number of camper slots. Sheriff's Offices use a variety of methods to identify deserving children to attend. This summer 110-120 kids/week from all over New York State attended over the six-week camp season. The Counselors led many activities, one of which is sailing on a Hobie Cat, one of the fastest and most fun sailboats on the water.



Fleet 204 has been helping set up the Camp's 15-20 Hobie Cats for the past several years each June. Their boats are an assortment of older donated Hobies. Parts are mixed and matched so the counselors can have a working group of boats for the summer. As in the past, we offered to have their Counselors join us again on Oneida for a training/sailing session on "race-ready" Hobies. A very enthusiastic group of Counselors were happy to attend. Although they have a wide range of sailing experience, they had no trouble acclimating to well-tuned boats and pushing them to their limits with a little guidance from Fleet 204's well-seasoned sailors. Once the weather cleared and solid steady wind filled in, all the boats left the beach and stayed out a solid 2+ hours. Burgers and dogs off the grill afterwards capped off the event. Fleet 204 will host this energetic group again next year!

~Bob Longo, Fleet 204

To learn more about the Sherrif's Camp, or to make a donation, check out this website:

<https://sheriffsinstitute.org/camp>



Blake's Baits

The very young Bait Shop owner in the Mohawk Valley has done it again! Along with loving support from his great parents, young Blake and his magical, small, old-school Bait Shop in Ilion has edged out the big sporting goods store such as BASS Pro Shops in Utica,

Dicks Sporting Goods in New Hartford, and All Seasons Sports in Pulaski, plus all the smaller bait shops, as well. The Utica *Observer Dispatch* recently announced their 140 Best of the Best Winners in their Sunday newspaper. In a time with so many negatives story lines in today's world, this is great positive news about a young boy running his own Bait Shop with help from his parents (and it's a lot work too), bringing everyone, especially the local anglers some sunshine and hope for the future.



The Oneida Lake Association congratulates Blake's Bait Shop!

~Good fishing & stay safe, OLA Director Bill Girvan



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

\$8 annually

Recruit your neighbors and friends TO JOIN US!

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Memorials and contributions to our program are most welcome.

OLA is a 501(c)4 organization serving and protecting the Oneida Lake environment.



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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/>.

Please remember to obey all laws, rules, regulations, and codes of ethics as they pertain to boating, fishing, hunting, and the management of Oneida Lake and its tributaries.

Report environmental violations.

1-844-DEC-ECOS (1-844-332-3267)

Edited by John Harmon and Matt Snyder

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

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