

## Pleasure Craft and Pleasure

By John Miller

During the last 50 years the number of motorized watercraft registered in New York State has grown from 100,000 to approximately 500,000. However, during this same time period the size of our waterbodies has remained the same. As a result, many of our lakes and rivers have reached or exceeded their carrying capacity for power driven watercraft. The end result of this phenomena is that in too many cases, public safety is compromised and the environmental integrity of our lakes and rivers have been degraded. In my opinion, the introduction of some 35,000 personal watercraft into New York State waters has only served to exasperate the problem.

The fundamental appeal of PWC's (jet skis) is their speed and maneuverability. Jet skis are currently built with motors up to 100 HP and can reach speeds up to 70 MPH. Operators can change direction quickly and can navigate in less than one foot of water. Wake jumping is a common practice, however while airborne, all steering control is lost. Finally, another ominous safety concern is that in NYS, the legal starting age for jet ski operators is age 10.

Accident statistics regarding PWC's support the concerns for public safety. Although jet skis comprise 7.5% of state registered watercraft, they accounted for 36% of the recreational boating accidents in 1996. National statistics are just as frightening. In 1997 PWC's accounted for 1831 bodily injury accidents including 83 fatalities (6 in NYS).

Sixteen states have begun to address the safety issue by marketing safety courses for PWC operators. Last year our NYS legislators also passed PWC legislation which was signed into law by Gov. Pataki in July '98. The new law requires that all PWC operators complete a safety training course by the year 2000. The NYS Federation of Lakes and several other state organizations considers mandatory training an excellent "starting point". However, much more can and should be done to ensure water safety for the general public.

Less obvious to our public officials and indeed the general public, are the environmental consequences sponsored by increased power boating activities including PWC's. While many of our lakes can easily assimilate an increased amount of power boat activity, a large and growing number of lakes are experiencing negative environmental impacts. The following is a brief overview of environmental concerns:

**HYDROCARBON EMISSIONS:** EPA studies indicate that two stroke outboard motors exhaust unburned one quarter of the fuel and oil they consume directly into the waterbody. Two stroke PWC engines however emit a minimum of 23% more ambient hydrocarbons than other two-stroke engine watercraft. Although the EPA is currently phasing in regulations to reduce hydrocarbons by 75%, it is estimated that the full benefit of these regulations will not be achieved until the year 2025! Unfortunately, the new emission control technology expected to be implemented would in turn triple nitrogen oxide emissions. (Lake Tahoe Study)

**BOTTOM CHURNING AND SHORELINE EROSION:** Studies conducted in Florida indicate that prop wash from a 30 HP motor can disturb bottom sediments in depths up to 14 ft of water. Bottom churning increases turbidity and can re-release toxic metals such as mercury and aluminum directly into the water column. High concentrations of motorized boat traffic also generate organized wakes which contribute to shoreline erosion.

**WILDLIFE HABITAT:** Increased water turbulence and noise pollution force native wildlife to retreat or abandon their habitat which in most cases, is close to the shoreline. This is especially true in smaller waterbodies and other environmentally sensitive areas.

Finally, consideration should be given to the question of aesthetics and the impact increased power boating has had on other water-sport activities. Noise pollution is a common complaint levied against PWC's by lake shore property owners and other lake users. Actually, noise dissemination by PWC's falls well within the commonly accepted decibel limit of 82.

(Continued on page 3)

*NYSFOLA's mission is to protect the water resources of New York State by assisting local organizations and individuals through public dialogue, education, information exchange and collaborative efforts.*



## NYSFOLA's 1999 Annual Conference

The annual conference will again be held at White Eagle Conference Center at Hamilton, NY on April 30 - May 2, 1999. The conference center is near the center of the state and is convenient for our attendees. Last year we did have a problem with room reservations so this year we plan to alleviate this condition if possible. Presently NYSFOLA has all the accommodations of the **lodge reserved until April 10**. At that time White Eagle can fill all vacancies that are not reserved. This should alert our members to please register early so as to have a room at the lodge. If by chance our reservations more than fill their accommodations we will attempt to locate other accommodations nearby. The costs of those rooms are unknown and NYSFOLA will refund the normal lodging fee that you possibly will pay. Please register early so that we can be of assistance in any lodging problems if needed.

As of this date the program is still under construction and as soon as available a mailing will be sent to all members. Enclosed in this issue of WATERWORKS you will find a registration sheet for the conference. Plans are for this conference to be very similar to previous conferences in that Friday evening will be the kick-off with dinner and a session of questions and answers. Plan to attend and bring your problems before the body for answers or at least an understanding of possible solutions. Saturday will be a full day of sessions culminating with the silent auction and the banquet dinner. A speaker, awards and entertainment usually follow the feast.

The Saturday program will include sessions on CSLAP so that all volunteers can be trained or refreshed on the volunteer monitoring of the lakes. On your registration sheet please mark your intent to attend these sessions if you so desire. An accurate count is necessary for the boat requirements and training personnel.

Sunday morning will be continued sessions to 11:30 or 12:00 o'clock and at that time everybody will depart for the drive home.

If you have any questions about reservations, conference fees or lodging please contact the office and we will gladly assist you to the best of our ability. As stated earlier, **please make reservations early** so as to guarantee lodging at White Eagle.

The article on page one and three is from a presentation by John Miller, President of NYSFOLA, at a meeting of the Otsego County Conservation Association. All views are not necessarily the views of NYSFOLA or the Board of Directors.

*Points of view expressed and products advertised herein do not necessarily reflect the views and policies of NYSFOLA or its members. Mention of trade names and commercial products shall not constitute an endorsement of their use.*

### NYSFOLA Officers-Board of Directors

John Miller- **President**  
315-895-7502

Lewis Stone- **President-elect**  
518-656-9078

Willard Harman- **Vice President**  
607-547-8778

Jack Baldwin- **Secretary**  
716-346-5882

Donald Keppel- **Treasurer**  
716-769-7231

#### Regional Directors-

Don Cook - Dec.-March 716-293-2482  
April- November 716-237-2172

Don Keppel- 716-769-7231

George Kelley- 315-852-6431

John Miller- 315-895-7502

Kathleen McLaughlin-

Chris Rant- 518-674-8653

Bob Roessle- summer- 516-283-4327

winter- 813-923-4258

Jack Douglas- 315-656-3806

#### Other Directors-

Lettie Chilson- 716-293-2482

Craig Doran- 716-396-0400

Doug Gniewek- 518-371-1676

Jay Ledden- 315-638-8283

Steve LaMere- 518-597-3130

Polly Renckens- 607-547-8880

Rebecca Schnieder- 607-255-2110

David Wright- 914-962-1039

#### Scientific Advisory Board -

##### Chairman

Dean Long- 518-885-0913

#### WATERWORKS-

Please send articles, comments or editorials to-

Don Keppel- Editor

2701 Shadyside Rd.,

Findley Lake, NY 14736

Fax/phone- 800-796-FOLA

E-mail- fola@cecomet.net

Internet- [www.nysfola.org](http://www.nysfola.org)



## Pleasure Craft and Pleasure

by John Miller

continued from page one

However, sound decibels jump radically every time a PWC jumps wakes or boat wakes. Another explanation is that jet skis have a tendency to operate for long periods of time in a defined area.

As we all recognize, water recreation takes many forms other than high-speed boating activity. In fact, most of our lakes today are multi-use lakes. Millions of people enjoy swimming, canoeing, fishing, kayaking, sailing, etc. The quality of these water sports diminishes quickly when high-speed watercraft intermingle with these types of recreation.

This is not to suggest that people who use power driven watercraft do not have a legitimate right to enjoy their activities. In fact, I believe that most operate in a courteous and safe manner, and are environmentally conscious people. Most understand that their individual rights do not supercede the rights and well-being of the general public. Rather than criticize any particular water sport, it seems more prudent that common sense regulations be established to protect the health and welfare of all stakeholders, while at the same time, we protect the environmental integrity of our waterways.

In 1944 NYS legislated a 100 ft. slow speed or "no wake zone" as part of our navigation law. The regulation mandates that no motorized craft can travel at a speed in excess of 5 mph within a distance of 100 ft. from any dock, shoreline, or moored vessels. Fifty five years ago we had less than 100,000 motorized watercraft and 25 HP motors were considered "high speed". Today, 100-150 HP motors are common and we have at least five times the number of registered watercraft-including PWC's. It seems obvious that the slow speed zone in NYS should be extended to 200 ft.

This is not a radical proposal as it goes a long way in addressing the safety and environmental concerns previously mentioned. Neighboring states including Vermont, New Jersey, Maine and New Hampshire have already extended their slow speed zones. In New York, individual lakes have undertaken the legal and political process to do the same. A partial list includes the Fulton Chain of Lakes, Conesus Lake, Blue Mountain Lake, Chautauqua Lake, Canandaigua Lake, and Indian Lake. All have extended their slow speed zones to 200 ft and have established speed and/or decibel limits. For several years the NYS Dept. of Parks, Recreation and Historical Preservation has also advocated changing the buffer zone to 200 ft. Currently they have resubmitted their proposal to the Governor's office for consideration in 1999. The Federation and other state-wide groups will be working hard to secure this legislation if a bill is produced.

In 1998 there were a million PWC's in use on a national basis with 35,000 registered in New York State. As the PWC census continues, so also do the regulations regarding their use. Most laws were prompted by concerns such as public safety, the degradation of aesthetics or environmental concerns.

Currently the National Parks Service is conducting a PWC study which according to some news reports, will culminate with regulations banning jet skis from most of our national parks. In Vermont, jet ski operations are banned on all lakes less than 300 acres and in Maine, jet skis are banned on the "great ponds" located in the northern part of the state. Other states have passed legislation which prohibits "wake jumping" within 100 ft of another water-craft and some limit the use of jet skis on state-owned lakes to 2 or 3 hours per day.

Local PWC regulations have also begun to emerge. Notable among them is San Juan County in the state of Washington. When county officials passed a law banning jet skis, the ordinance was overturned by an appellate court. Subsequently, this ruling was overturned by the state supreme court which stated "...the County local authority has the right..." This case was followed by legislation in Monroe County, Florida, where a 1200' slow-speed zone was established for jet skis. Finally the Lake Tahoe Planning Commission has prohibited all watercraft with 2 cycle motors on Lake Tahoe. This includes 2 cycle jet skis. Furthermore, all other power driven craft must conform to a 600 ft slow speed zone.

In NY State, some officials feel it would be discriminating to enact state legislation restricting the use of jet skis-even on our small lakes or rivers. Others are in favor of some form of state regulation. There are, however, some local regulations in force under the state's home-rule provision. The town of Webb bans jets skis from Old Forge Pond and the Lake George Park Commission has enacted a 300 ft slow speed zone for PWC's.

As the numbers of motorized watercraft continues its upward spiral, I am sure more legal precedents will be set. Hopefully common sense will prevail.

**Travel the Internet with us!!!**

**For all the computer buffs it is now possible to contact the NYSFOLA Office by E-Mail.**

**We can be reached at ;-** [fola@cecomet.net](mailto:fola@cecomet.net)

**or check the homepage at:-** <http://www.nysfola.org>

**NALMS can be reached at;-** <http://www.nalms.org>



# THE FEDERATION OF NEW YORK LAKE ASSOCIATIONS

## by Lyle Raymond

Mark Randall provided a concise history of the founding of the New York State Federation of Lake Associations and the principal individuals involved in the October issue of Waterworks. However, this was not the first attempt to organize such a federation of lake associations in New York. Lest the record of the earlier federation be lost to history, I have compiled the following account of its existence and some of the individuals involved.

The earlier federation was incorporated as the "Federation of New York Lake Associations" in Onondaga County on August 5th, 1970, according to the records of the NYS Department of State. Its first annual meeting was held in September 1971 at Shackleton Point on Oneida Lake.

The purposes of the Federation, as stated in the incorporation document, were as follows: "**To provide** an effective and continuing coordinating structure for the promotion of effective environmental management, preservation, wise use, and appreciation of lakes and rivers of New York State. . . . **To lend** support to and seek cooperation from appropriate local, state, and federal government agencies; **To promote** leadership from among participating associations and individuals to create and implement necessary action programs; **To engage** in fact-finding and research in all areas of Federation concerns; **To promote** public understanding and enlist public support through dynamic programs of information and education in lake and river environmental management matters; to maintain effective communications between Federation participants and with appropriate governmental agencies and the general public; and **To serve** as an information clearinghouse in all matters pertaining to environmental management of New York lakes and rivers."

Thirty-five lake associations belonged to the Federation, out of an estimated 80 lake associations in New York. Annual dues were set at \$25. If this estimate on the number of lake associations in the State in 1970 is correct, there has been a tremendous growth in the number of lake associations in the last 30 years; there is indeed evidence that the formation of lake associations really "took off" in the 1980's.

The officers of the Federation of New York Lake Associations were:

**President**, Mrs. Cornelia (Connie) Hill, Ithaca; **Secretary/Treasurer**, Howard Ford, Skaneateles; **Program Chair**, Mrs. Hugh Knapp, Pittsford; **Environmental Quality Chair**, Livingston M. Parmele, Skaneateles; **Newsletter Committee Chair**, Harold Smith; and **Newsletter editor**, Dr. Harold Palmer, Hammondsport. Mrs. Hill represented Cayuga Lake; Howard Ford and Livingston Parmele, Skaneateles Lake Association; Mrs. Knapp, the Canandaigua Lake Association; Dr. Palmer, the Keuka Lake Association. Prof. Robert (Bob) Hennigan, SUNY Environmental Science & Forestry, was a principal catalyst and organizer for the Federation (Bob Hennigan- now Professor Emeritus— was subsequently Executive Director of the New York Water Pollution Control Federation, which became the Water Environment Association, where he still serves in this position)

According to the records I have been able to obtain, the Federation was active from 1970 to about 1972, after which the Federation became inactive for reasons that are not entirely clear. Other individuals whose names appear in conjunction with the Federation: Harold Meese, Director of the Findley Lake Association and vice-president of the Chautauqua Lake Association; Anton (Tony) Kreuzer, Oneida Lake Association; Henry Spang, Bay Betterment Association of Fair Haven; and Forest Golden, Owasco Lake Association. Bob Hennigan also recalls that individuals representing the Lake George Association were also involved, but has lost the names.

continued on page 5



continued from page 4

**The Federation of New York Lake Associations**

by Lyle Raymond

Many of the topics raised and discussed at meetings of the Directors and members of the Federation will not be unfamiliar to lake associations today: alternatives to septic systems (a top priority), use of copper sulfate in lakes, phosphorus, DDT, fertilizer runoff, fisheries, aquatic weed and algae control, weed harvesters, and problems with motorized watercraft (excessive noise, fuel leaks). A featured speaker at one meeting was David F. Jackson, who had written an article in the New York Times on "Our Dwindling Lakes."

What happened that this earlier Federation became inactive? Was it simply a matter of timing, i.e., it was "before its time"? That before the expansion in number of lake associations beginning in the 1980's, they were too few to sustain a Federation? And why was a completely new Federation organized ten years later, including incorporation, when one already existed? Mark Randall's history of origins of the current Federation mentions a completely new cast of individuals. My informant at the NYS Department of State, who found the file containing the incorporation documents of the earlier Federation, by the way, mentioned that this document was still valid and could be acted upon anytime if someone was moved to do so.

I am especially indebted to Tracey Clothier, the first executive director of the current Federation; and Bob Hennigan, Connie Hill, and Jack Colgan for information concerning the earlier Federation. I also drew upon notes I had preserved from meetings I attended involving the earlier Federation early in my professional career in Cornell Cooperative Extension. Jack Colgan believes it is possible that monies remaining in the Treasury of the earlier Federation may have been transferred to the new Federation sometime after its creation. However, this has not been as yet confirmed from the early existing records of FOLA. And for the record, Connie Hill, Ithaca, who remains active in community affairs, is still the President of the earlier Federation and could conceivably call meetings in this capacity!

Additional insights or recollections by readers of this article on this earlier Federation would be welcomed.

*editors note: If you have information you would like to contribute please forward to the office or to Lyle. His address is ;  
Lyle Raymond, 590 Old Stage Rd., Groton, NY 13073-9411*



## '99 Conference Activities!!!

**Nominate a Lake Steward!!** Each year we honor a chosen lake member as the Lake Steward of the Year. You defietly have that person in your organization. Send a short write-up about this person to the office or bring to the conference.

**Newsletter Contest!!!** Send a copy to the office of a recent published newsletter or bring it to the conference, your association can win the Newsletter of the Year award!

**Silent Auction!!!** Please join in the fun of our Silent Auction by bringing a worthwhile contribution to be sold to the highest bidder on Saturday evening. Ask your local merchants for a contribution to a non-profit organization. Bring these to the conference or send to the office before April 28.

"WATERWORKS" would appreciate information on your Lake Association. I plan to have a page set aside each issue for a different Association. Let's make your's next! Forward your write-up to the office by mail, fax, E-mail or pony express, but start now. Pictures can be included.

Thank you, Editor





## Ask Dr. Lake

*Hey Doc-*

*I'd like to sample my lake, but I don't have much money and I hated my high school chemistry class. Do you have any suggestions?*

*Randy Van Dorn, Bellie Lake, NY*

Dear Randy,

Why did you want to sample your lake? The answer to this question will probably provide the answer to your question.

If you want to see if Bellie Lake is safe for swimming, the kind of monitoring required will be different than if you want to see if stocked trout will survive, which will be different than if you want to see if the lake may be susceptible to algae blooms, and so on. Much of the monitoring conducted to assess the "safety" of the water is done by local or regional health departments (for swimming beaches) and municipalities (for potable water supplies); these monitoring "programs" or other existing water quality studies on your lake may provide the answer to your questions before you get on your raincoat (a little secret- it always rains when you want to sample...). If not, most of the lay monitoring conducted in this state is for the purposes of checking the overall condition of and potential pollution sources to the lake. If that is the kind of monitoring that you'd like to do, then you can consider buying the following, recognizing that you'll need to do some homework (including talking to some of my colleagues) to start interpreting the results from the sampling:

*For \$1 or less....*

- a. One free call to the NYS Federation of Lake Associations (1-800-796-3652) to see if you're the Bellie Lakers are a member of FOLA and (if a member) to apply for enrollment in the Citizens Statewide Lake Assessment Program, a five-year volunteer lake monitoring program that provides equipment and training for biweekly summer sampling for overall lake assessment.
- b. Four local phone calls to (1) the county or regional health department to see if Bellie Lake is regularly monitored for bacteria levels; (2) the town public works/water department, if Bellie Lake serves as a water supply, to get interpreted monitoring data for turbidity, metals, pathogens, and other potable water indicators; (3) the local community college, to see if any water quality studies have been or could be conducted on your lake; and (4) the regional DEC fisheries or water offices to see if the water quality studies have been conducted on Bellie Lake
- c. Go to the Bellie Lakers association meeting and make sure your monitoring "plans" will be useful and consistent with the community and lake needs.

continued next page

*There is nothing wrong with having nothing to say-  
unless you insist on saying it*



*For \$100 or less... ..*

- a. Purchase a Secchi disk (or the materials to make one even cheaper) and a rain gage, a yardstick or two, a rake, a metal pocket thermometer, a garden hose, a coffee filter, and a cheap bottle of wine.

The Secchi disk, an 8" alternating black-and-white quartered usually metal plate, can be used to measure water clarity, a simple but informative water quality indicator, and can be purchased for under \$30. A disk can also be made with a metal disc, eye bolt, two nuts, some waterproof paint, and a measured (1 meter intervals) pre-stretched nylon or rope line. A simple rain gage can measure rainfall amounts and be compared to changes in water level and clarity. Water level is measured by a staff gage (yard/meter stick(s) used to measure relative water level over the variation found within the period of measurement). A metal rake fitted with a lasoo line can be thrown/lowered to any depth to pull aquatic vegetation -weeds- for identification and semi-quantitative assessments (say number of plants per tine). A garden hose can be fitted with a weighted collar and line, and lowered to grab an integrated (blended) sample from the surface to the end of the hose. The integrated water sample can be passed through coffee filters to estimate algae densities (say by measuring volume required to attain a certain "greenness"). After recovering from the headache, you can use the cleaned cheap wine bottle to make a water sampling device for grabbing samples at any depth (for more information, contact Eleanor Ely from *The Volunteer Monitor* at 415-255-8049). Water sample temperatures can be measured with the thermometer.

If any money is left, purchase a modified Winkler dissolved oxygen test kit to measure oxygen concentrations (and temperature) from bottom samples. With no money for analyses, however, other water sample "testing" is limited to color and odor assessments.

- b. Purchase a modified water sampling device specifically developed for use in volunteer monitoring programs, via Lawrence Enterprises or others (207-276-5746)
- c. Grab samples by hand using a clean jar, and submit to a laboratory for analyses of total phosphorus, total nitrogen, and chlorophyll *a* (a measure of algal density). Be cautioned, however, that most commercial labs cannot measure chlorophyll *a* at all or phosphorus as low as 10-20 parts per billion, the range found in most NYS lakes and indicative of potential for seasonally high algae growth.
- d. Host a Bellie Lake-side potluck party for all of the local politicians on a sunny day downwind of a particularly nasty algae or weed bloom

*For \$1000 or less... ..*

- a. Purchase all of the above, plus contract with a laboratory to analyze lake and inlet(s) samples for the above parameters (as well as others such as chloride, solids, and coliform bacteria) periodically
- b. Purchase all of the above, contract with a laboratory for analyses of total phosphorus and nitrogen, and chlorophyll *a*, and purchase some water quality test kits (available through many laboratory vendors, such as Fisher, Cole Parmer, etc.). Most of these kits are reasonably accurate for general screening purposes, such as the nitrate, ammonia, oxygen, pH, and chloride test kits. And these follow up on the most interesting parts of your high school chemistry class.
- c. Purchase an electronic temperature and dissolved oxygen meter

(continued on page 8)



## Lessons Taught by Geese

Fact No. 1: As each bird flaps its wings, it creates an uplift draft for the bird following. By flying in a "V" formation, the whole flock adds a greater flying range than if one bird flew alone.

Lesson No. 1: People who share a common direction and sense of community can get where they're going quicker and more easily because they are traveling on the strength of one another.

Fact No. 2: Whenever a goose falls out of formation, it suddenly feels the drag and resistance of trying to fly alone and quickly gets back into formation to take advantage of the lifting power of the bird immediately in front.

Lesson No. 2: If we have as much sense as geese, we will stay in formation and be willing to accept help when we need it and give help when it is needed.

Fact No. 3: When the lead goose gets tired, it rotates back into the formation, and another goose flies in the point position.

Lesson No. 3: Geese instinctively share the task of leadership and do not resent the leader.

Fact No. 4: The geese in formation honk from behind to encourage those up front to keep up their speed.

Lesson No. 4: We need to make sure our honking from behind is encouraging and not something else.

Fact No. 5: When a goose gets sick, is wounded or is shot down, two geese drop out of formation and follow it down to earth to help and protect it. They stay with their disabled companion until it is able to fly again or dies. They then launch out on their own or with another formation or catch up with the flock.

Lesson No. 5: If we have as much sense as geese, we, too, will stand by one another in difficult times and help the one who has dropped out regain his place in the formation.

---

### Dr. Lake

continued from page 7

d. Host a barbeque for a local scuba club in return for an extensive underwater plant survey of the lake, with the balance of the money used to pay for professional identification of the collected plants.

*For \$10,000 or more....*

- a. Please call me
- b. You probably have sufficient money to do a formal study of the lake, particularly if Bellie Lake is small and preferably for multiple years. A number of consulting firms and universities would be very interested in hearing from you.
- c. Purchase a good computer to get on-line and access to a world of resources

*If a window of opportunity appears,  
don't pull down the shade*



## CSLAPpenings

Without the joyful cheers of children sledding and building snowmen (that is, if we could hear them on the snowless Wolf Road...), it is quiet here at CSLAP Central. We have received all of the data from the 1998 sampling season, and are in the very slow process of checking all data points to verify their accuracy and representativeness, more so because of a temporary shift in laboratories in mid-flight 1998. As in previous years, all CSLAP participants needing a preliminary summary of their results for winter newsletters should contact us as soon as possible, allowing a reasonable grace period before their winter deadlines.

We also ask all CSLAP participants to send us the following, if not already forwarded:

- Reports and/or data from any previous water quality studies on their lake
- Any contemporary data collected by the lake association, particularly those data related to water quality issues (coliform counts, verified aquatic plant “surveys” or species identifications, fish stocking data, etc.) not necessarily measured through CSLAP
- Summaries of any present or historical lake management activities conducted by the lake association, town, or other local entities, including septic management activities, in-lake plant controls strategies (herbicides or algicides, harvesting, bottom barriers), establishment or removal of public swimming beaches, etc.
- Any change in address, volunteer contacts, phone numbers, and Email addresses
- Suggestions for changing and improving the program

As we approach the coming of the next fiscal year, any changes to the 1999 CSLAP, including the list of new lakes, should become clearer- an update will be provided in the next Waterworks, but can also be provided via the usual phone and email addresses. I should also report that, due to (yet another) reorganization, the Lake Services Section no longer exists under that name. The Lakes section is now part of the Northern Watershed Section, still within the Bureau of Watershed Management. It is not anticipated that any of the functions of the old Lakes section will change. The phone numbers and electronic and physical location of the Lakers has not changed.

We hope your holidays have been joyous and serene, and please don't hesitate to contact us at 518-457-0734 (Scott Kishbaugh), 518-457-3345 (Betsy Hohenstein), or 800-796-3652 (Don Keppel) with your questions, comments, and profundities.

*Confidence is what you have,  
before you understand the problem*



## Boat Operator Information

98

NAVIGATION LAW

§49

### §49. Operator.

1. No person under the age of eighteen years shall operate a mechanically propelled vessel on the navigable waters of the state or any tidewaters bordering on or lying within the boundaries of Nassau and Suffolk counties, unless:

- a. the operator is accompanied therein by a person who is eighteen years of age or older, or,
- b. the operator is ten years of age or older and is the holder of a boating safety certificate issued to him by the commissioner, the United States Power Squadrons or the United States coast guard auxiliary.

1-a. a. No person shall operate a personal watercraft or specialty prop-craft upon the navigable waters of the state or any tidewaters bordering on or lying within the boundaries of Nassau and Suffolk counties unless the operator is the holder of, or is accompanied by a person over eighteen years of age who is the holder of a boating safety certificate issued by the commissioner, the United States power squadrons, the United States coast guard auxiliary, or other state or government, as a result of completing a course approved by the commissioner.

b. No person who is the owner of a personal watercraft or specialty propcraft shall knowingly authorize or permit the operation thereof on the navigable waters of the state or any tidewaters bordering on or living within the boundaries of Nassau or Suffolk counties unless the operator is the holder of, or is accompanied by a person over eighteen years of age who is the holder of a boating safety certificate issued by the commissioner, the United States power squadrons, United States coast guard auxiliary, or other state or government, as a result of completing a course approved by the commissioner.

c. For the purposes of this subdivision "accompanied" shall mean upon the vessel.

d. The provisions of this subdivision shall not apply to persons: certified by the commissioner as boating safety instructors; instructors of the United States power squadrons; members of the United States coast guard auxiliary; holders of public vessel licenses pursuant to section sixty-four of this article; police officers acting pursuant to assigned duties; peace officers acting pursuant to assigned duties; lifeguards acting pursuant to assigned duties; fire and rescue personnel acting pursuant to assigned duties; and persons licensed to operate vessels by the United States coast guard or the Canadian coast guard. The commissioner by rule and regulation may provide for the exemption of additional persons not listed in this paragraph from the requirements of this section.

*(eff. 1/1/00, Ch. 138, L. 1998)*

2. The failure of a person specified in subdivision one or one-a of this section, to exhibit a boating safety certificate upon demand to any magistrate, peace officer, acting pursuant to his or her special duties, police officer, inspector of the state office of parks, recreation and historic preservation, traveling navigation inspector or other officer having authority to enforce the provisions of this chapter, shall be presumptive evidence that such person is not the holder of such certificate.

*(eff. 6/30/98, Ch. 138, L. 1998)*

3. No person who is the owner of a mechanically propelled vessel shall knowingly authorize or permit the operation thereof on the navigable waters of the state or any tidewaters bordering on or lying within the boundaries of Nassau and Suffolk counties, unless:

- a. the operator is eighteen years of age or older or,
- b. the operator is accompanied therein by a person eighteen years of age or older or,
- c. the operator is ten years of age or older and is the holder of a boating safety certificate issue to him by the commissioner, the United States Power Squadrons or the United States Coast Guard Auxiliary.

Please note that the above is from the Navigation Law of the State of New York. This is from The Looseleaf Law Publications. If you have any questions relative to this partial Section 49, please contact your local enforcement authority. Section 1-a. a. is very important!!! It will be in force January 1, 2000.



## Available at the office of NYSFOLA!!!

**“DIET for a Small Lake”;** Joint Publication of NYSFOLA and NYSDEC relative to watershed and lake.

Detailed instructions for preparing a Lake Management Plan; complete descriptions of Lake Restoration and Watershed Management Techniques; Comprehensive discussion of Lake Ecology.

Cost:- \$10.00, plus \$2.00 s&h

**“Managing Lakes Through Community Participation”;** 25 minute video, Why Associations are formed, how they get started, tackling priority issues, case study, ties with local government and lake community.

Cost:- \$15.00, plus \$2.00 s&h

**“Water Quality Monitoring in Lakes and Tributaries”;** video; demonstrates the techniques used for water quality monitoring, based on procedures used for CSLAP. Useful for starting a monitoring program.

Cost:- \$15.00, plus \$2.00 s&h

**“NYSFOLA 1995 Conference Proceedings”:** attend the 95 Conference at Cooperstown from your armchair.

Cost:- \$3.00 includes s&h

***Are your dues paid? Services can only be continued with your help.  
Please stay current!***

### 1999 Membership Dues-

(computed on calendar year)

#### Lake, Watershed and other Associations;

Small Association, 10-74 members	_____	\$35.00
Medium Association, 75-149 members	_____	\$75.00
Large Association, 150 or more members	_____	\$150.00
Park Districts (Town, County etc.)	_____	\$200.00
Individual Membership	_____	\$20.00
Member of Lake Assn. in-good standing	_____	\$10.00
Corporate Membership	_____	\$200.00
Student	_____	\$10.00

#### Member Information:-

Lake Association \_\_\_\_\_

Contact Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone \_\_\_\_\_

Fee\$ \_\_\_\_\_

Donation\$ \_\_\_\_\_

Enclosed\$ \_\_\_\_\_

Lake location (county) \_\_\_\_\_

Send payment to NYSFOLA office ;

Phone/fax- 1-800-796-foia

E-mail— foia@cecomet.net

NYSFOLA

2701 Shadyside Rd. PO Box 342

Findley Lake, NY 14736



## Calendar of Events

### **NYSFOLA ANNUAL CONFERENCE-**

April 30 - May 2, 1999 White Eagle Conference Center, Hamilton, NY.

### **GREAT LAKES STUDENT SUMMIT-**

May 12-14, 1999 Buffalo Convention Center, for students and teachers grades 5-9, contact John Hood 716-858-6370

**Zebra Mussel & Aquatic Nuisance Species Conference- 9th International-** April 26-30, 1999, Duluth Entertainment Convention Center, Duluth, MN. Contact- Conference Administrator, 1-800-868-8776

**www.nysfola.org** check out our new internet address and change your bookmarks. If your association has a homepage please let us know.

## Nalms Conference

The North American Lake Management Society (NALMS) held their 18th Annual Symposium November 10-13, 1998 at the Banff Springs Hotel, Banff, Alberta Canada. Representation from New York State Federation of Lake Associations included President-elect Lewis Stone, Vice President Willard Harman, and Nalms Chapter Representative Don Keppel.

The beauty of the Canadian Rockies and good weather made this one of the best symposiums. A well attended (750 + persons), with a large number of Poster Sessions and Exhibitors made for a very busy time. Sessions were based on Cooperative Lake and Watershed Management- Linking Communities, Industry and Government. GIS, Volunteer Monitoring, Aquatic plant management, Nutrient loading and many other subjects were on the agenda.

The State Chapters hold their meeting during this conference and information is exchanged on the activities of each Chapter.

Nalms also holds a mid-season conference in Chicago, usually late April and next years Symposium is planned for Reno, Nevada in early December.

## WATERWORKS

NYS Federation of Lake Associations, Inc.  
2701 Shadyside Rd. P.O. Box 342  
Findley Lake, NY 14736  
Tel/Fax 1-800-796-FOLA  
E-mail- fola@cecomet.net

Bulk Rate  
U.S. Postage  
PAID  
Findley Lake NY 14736  
Permit No. 1