

ANNUAL MEETING MINUTES

July 12, 2014

Keuka College

I. Introduction of Officers and Directors and KLA – Bill Laffin

Bill Laffin introduced himself and stated that as the Keuka Lake Association's President and at this time, as mandated by our By-Laws, he called the 2014 Annual Meeting of the Keuka Lake Association to order. He also wanted to state for the record that we have the quorum to conduct the KLA's business.

Bill stated that since we last convened, the Association has been very active on many fronts and that he wanted to personally thank all of our members for their support.

He stressed that this organization is very fortunate to have a committed, engaged and active working Board of Directors, whose efforts make the KLA able to carry out its wide range of activities.

At this time, he recognized the KLA Board of Directors and Officers. He asked them to stand when their name was called:

The Board of Directors:

For Barrington – Mike Gow and Steve Hicks

For Jerusalem – Chuck Bastian and Jim Barre

For Milo – Mark Morris and Jeanne Wiltberger

For Pulteney – Doug DeFranco and Stan Martin

For Urbana – John Hagreen and Ellen Shaw Maceko

And For Wayne - Wayne Hand and Dennis Carlson

At-Large Directors are – Ira Goldman, Meg Cole, Mike O'Brien, Steve Tomlinson, Candy Dietrich and Don Wright.

The KLA's Officers are – Dennis Carlson - Vice President

John Webster – Treasurer

Bebette Yunis – Secretary

Rob Corcoran - Past President

Bill introduced the non-voting members of the Board of Directors, who are three very dedicated technical consultants:

Dr. Tim Sellers, Assistant Dean and Director of the Keuka College Center for Aquatic Research on water quality issues. He is not able to be with us today.

Emily Staychock, Invasive Species/Watershed Educator, Yates County Cornell Cooperative Extension on Aquatic Invasive Species issues.

Scott Demmin, from DSD Webworks on web design and hosting and other information technology

Margo McTaggart - Office Administrator

Bill thanked them all for their tremendous support and efforts.

Bill proceeded to highlight recent KLA activities and concerns:

- Over the past 12 months, the Board has endeavored to keep you informed of its activities via our printed quarterly newsletter, our new monthly e-newsletter, our web site and our Facebook Page.
- As you have read, the overall state of the KLA is strong and membership is growing. However, with more than 2900 dwellings around the lake and many more in the watershed, our goal of increased membership participation is a long way from being met. The watershed is our neighborhood and we need more members on our Neighborhood Watch.
- I am very pleased that during the past 12 months, the KLA has maintained its direction and commitment to its overall mission to Protect and Preserve Keuka Lake for Future Generations.
- Today, we will update you on some of our newer and more recent activities, report on the state of the lake and lake level, introduce you to the Esther N. Wahlig Keuka Watershed Endowed

Scholarship Recipient, the winners of the Annual Kaleidoscope Photo Winners as well as carry out mandated KLA business. Regarding this year's photo contest, I need to inform you that the winning photo for this year's calendar was not the property of the individual who submitted it. This error is unfortunate. So the prize money will be sent to a charity designated by the actual owner of the image – Mr. Bill Hecht of Union Springs.

- The KLA continues to communicate, both in person and in writing with numerous NYS Officials on a variety of topics.
 - The KLA Hydrofracking and Well Disposal Committee continues to wait for the Department of Environmental Conservation to issue a revised draft of the Environmental Impact Statement. We believe that this may happen late in 2014. It is also our belief that this delay in decision making favors the Keuka Lake Association's position.
 - The DEC has agreed to CONSIDER the prohibition of hydrofracking in the Keuka Lake Watershed plus a 4000 feet buffer at the time it issues a revised SGEIS. However, this does not mean that the DEC has agreed to such a prohibition merely that they are considering it. We remain optimistic.
 - The KLA is planning to meet with the DEC on this issue this later this year closer to the time that the revised Supplemental Generic Environmental Impact Statement (SGEIS) is to be issued.
 - We also continue to believe that the economics of Hydrofracking in the Keuka Lake Watershed are not attractive due to the thinness of the Marcellus Shale layer and its proximity to the surface.
 - Also of significance is that New York's top court ruled on June 30 that towns can ban high volume horizontal gas drilling using their zoning laws. In a precedent-setting ruling that could have wide implications on the future of shale-gas drilling in New York, the state Court of Appeals ruled 5-2 in favor of the towns of Dryden and Middlefield and affirmed a lower court decision.
 - Moving from underground to underwater – For those of you who fish, you are aware that there is a frequency of consumption warning for all fish caught in our lake. This relates to high DDT levels in fish tissue samples. The DDT got into the lake from off lake agriculture practices decades ago.
 - For the past few years, we've been asking the DEC to resample lake trout and other Keuka Lake fish – even offering to help them fish.
 - KLA has kept this issue on the DEC's radar throughout the last few years and we have also been active in coordinating with the DEC the issue of the classification use of "Impaired" that has been assigned to Keuka Lake for a couple of decades. In early June we learned that the DEC and Department of Health have lifted this consumption advisory and soon the EPA will be removing Keuka from its Impaired Listing.
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- Last year we reported that we had not been successful in convincing the local County Legislatures to enact an Aquatic Invasive Species Law. In December, the KLA spoke before the DEC at a public hearing in Syracuse on this issue. This year I am pleased to report that the New York State Assembly and Senate passed Aquatic Invasive Species legislation on June 20. Our local Senator Tom O'Mara was the senate sponsor of this bill and local assemblyman Phil Palmesano was a vocal advocate in the Assembly. This new legislation gives to the DEC the legal mandate to develop rules and regulations to prevent the spread of Aquatic Invasive Species. They have a year to do so, and we are hopeful that they include removing all visible plants and animals from a vessel, or cleaning, draining and drying both motorized and non-motorized watercraft and related gear when entering and leaving a launch site.

- Our program to erect watershed information signs saw the installation along some gateway NYS State Highways and Steuben County Roads in the Keuka Lake Watershed. We continue to work with Yates County to install 4 signs on Yates County Roads.
- Education continues to be a key element of the KLA's overall mission. Whether it's distributing the boating and fishing regulations, Hydrilla information sheets or installing fishing regulations, AIS information sheets or installing signs at points of impact, we continue to put resources in areas of greatest impact. The KLA has also funded a grant to Yates CCE for part of the cost for the addition of AIS educator. One of Emily's first projects has been the creation of an AIS brochure which is available in the alcove.
- Also remember the free Aquatic Invasive Species training that the KLA is co sponsoring with The Nature Conservancy and in partnership with Keuka College and Cornell Cooperative Extension of Yates County that is being held at Keuka College on August 7. All KLA Members should have received their invitation by now (7/7/2014). RSVP's are encouraged. If all of our eyes are on the lake, we have a better chance of identifying problems before they become significant issues.
- We continue to actively communicate with the 2 Sheriff's Departments whether it is on lake navigation hazards, safety, rules updates or their department's needs for patrol boat equipment.
- Our new directory has just been returned from the publisher and will be mailed to all paid up members this coming week.
- The Land Use Leadership Alliance group of which the KLA was a founding sponsor in 2008 continues to be active in evaluating opportunities for greatest impact throughout the watershed. Again this year, the KLA is assisting in the collection of data relating to land use preferences. If you are contacted, please understand that the end result for this survey will be a plan that benefits the lake and watershed. We have also sent the survey out (7/7/2014) electronically to those members for whom we have email addresses. The survey team is also located in the alcove. If you have not already responded to the survey, please pick one up complete it.
- It's been a busy year for your KLA with a lot to still accomplish. .Bill thanked everyone for their support.

II. Approval of the 2013 Annual Meeting Minutes

The minutes from the 2013 Annual Meeting were distributed in the September 2013 Newsletter as well as being posted on the KLA Website. Bill Laffin asked for a motion to approve the minutes from the 2013 Annual Meeting. There was a motion from Dennis Carlson and seconded by Mike O'Brien. Bill asked all in favor of approval – say "Aye", against – say "Nay. The motion passed following an agreement to dispense with reading of the minutes from the 2013 Annual Meeting.

III. Introduction of 2014 Scholarship Winner

Bill asked Rory Long to come forward for the presentation to this year's Esther N. Wahlig Keuka Lake Watershed Scholarship.

Rory is a recent graduate of Dundee Central High School where was a peer tutor, member of the Natural Helpers Club and he volunteered with 3 classes at the Dundee Elementary School. He participated in varsity football for 4 years as well as track and baseball. As an avid sportsman and hobby farmer, he appreciates the need for a sustainable and protected environment. One of Rory's faculty advisors characterized him "as a competent and bright young man with a well-established sense of accountability and respect. Rory's personality and ability have carried him into leadership roles among his classmates. He believes that Rory is capable of making a difference in the lives of those around him." Rory will be a freshman at Allegheny College this fall where he plans to major in Environmental Science with the desire

to pursue a career in renewable energy and green living. He received a certificate of scholarship award from the KLA at his recent high school graduation.

Bill asked for a round of applause for this year's Esther N. Wahlig Keuka Lake Watershed Scholarship winner. Bill thanked the Wahlig Family, the Scholarship Committee and wished to Rory the best in his college career.

IV. Treasurer's Report – John Webster

John reported that the KLA remains in a strong financial position. He shared the following financial figures for the 12-month period ending December 31st:

	12/31/12	12/31/13
Revenue	\$107,075	\$107,736
Operating Expenses	\$84,550	\$80,108
Special Items	\$6048	\$33,763
Year End Assets	\$150,693	\$144,585
Wahlig Scholarship Balance	As of 6/27/14 We paid \$2000 in scholarships in 2014	\$18,373

How are we doing so far this year?

	Revenue	Expenses
6/27/14	\$101,945	\$34,734
6/27/13	\$82,562	\$33,839

John added that in 2013 "special items" included the new probe for water testing. In 2014, the Directory added revenue and expenses.

V. Audit Report – Don Wright

Don explained the members of the committee all have financial backgrounds. They meet twice a year to review the KLA's financials. Don also meets annually with our CPA from EFP Rotenberg. The committee met with Margo & John on July 1st and all was in order.

VI. Recognition of Retiring Board Members – Bill Laffin

Bill stated that it is sad to say farewell to these Board members who have been great volunteers and who have given tirelessly to the KLA over the past several years. He asked the following retiring Members of the Board of Directors to come forward:

Chuck Bastian
Dennis Carlson
Stan Martin and
Jeanne Wiltberger

Bill thanked Chuck, Dennis, Stan & Jeanne for their service to the lake and the KLA. They each received a pottery wine cooler with the KLA logo on it.

VII. Special Awards

At this year's meeting Bill stated that we have two special awards to present. He asked Nicole Landers and Paul Bauter to come forward.

Nicole Landers has been the Executive Director of the Yates County Cornell Cooperative Extension for the past 2 years. Nicole has made a career decision that will take her away from CCE Yates and the KLA. With a background in Invasive Species, Nicole has done an excellent job in working on behalf of the KLA and the entire watershed to coordinate education programs and disseminate information on AIS. She has been an integral part of the KLA's Water Quality Committee and has represented our interests with the DEC, the Finger Lakes Regional Watershed Alliance and other groups. On behalf of the KLA, Bill thanked her for her service and added that she will be missed.

Paul Bauter came to the watershed following 25 years with the USDA in the areas of farm design and planning, conservation practices, and soils analysis. He retired this past spring as the Watershed Manager after more than 15 years of service to the Keuka Lake Watershed. His tenure has left the waters of Keuka Lake more protected than at any other time in its history. The mere nature of Paul's job put him in the middle of a myriad of situations that none of us would enjoy. In addition to the 7 different KWIC bosses, he also served with 25 different KWIC directors – a classic case of matrix management – with all of the headaches. Paul is an expert in soil science and the NYS laws regarding individual septic systems and their technology. He was instrumental in developing the waste water management reporting system that the KLA assisted in funding. He was determined that the project be done correctly and he succeeded. He has been a guest speaker at many conferences and assisted (ought see go) Otsego County in patterning their waste water management plan after that of Keuka Lake. While Paul reported to the Keuka Watershed Improvement Cooperative, he in fact, reported to all of us. Not all were always pleased with Paul's presence at their home or building lot, but his work was vital to improving the overall health of Keuka Lake. Paul – on behalf of the Keuka Lake Association, Bill offered Paul our thanks for his perseverance and service and best wishes for his well-earned retirement. Paul thanked the KLA and said to the group, "Listen to the lake and follow your hearts".

VIII. Nominating Committee Report

The Nominating Committee would like to thank the KLA Members who responded to our call for volunteers to serve on the Board of Directors. The biographies of the proposed new Board Members were in the letter announcing this annual meeting. All have strong professional backgrounds and bring many years of interest and support for Keuka Lake and the Watershed. Proxy cards have been distributed and received from members who are eligible to vote and will be voted by President Bill Laffin and treasurer John Webster. Dennis made a motion to elect the following first term members of the Keuka Lake Association Board of Directors:

At Large	Diane Walker Edwards
At Large	Woody Stenz
Pulteney	Al Wahlig
Town of Milo	Dick Osgood

And to re-elect the following current Board of Directors members:

At-Large	Mike O'Brien
Town of Jerusalem	Don Wright
Town of Barrington	Steve Hicks

Town of Wayne	Wayne Hand
Town of Barrington	Mike Gow
Town of Pulteney	Doug DeFranco

The motion was seconded by Bill Laffin and approved by the membership. The Nominating Committee thanks you.

IX. Vote on Revised By Laws of the Keuka Lake Association

For the past 18 month a committee has been working on revisions to the KLA By-Laws. Our By-Laws were last updated 12 years ago and they required updating especially in light of the New York State Non Profit Revitalization Act of 2013. The revised By-Laws were sent to all members for review. Despite several reviews by the committee and our outside counsel, one KLA member found a grammatical error and one error of lack of consistency. Therefore, in Article III Section 7, the words “the Board of Directors” will be added to the second sentence so that the sentence has a correct subject. Also in Article VI Section 1, it will be added that non- director appointees to standing committees will not have voting rights on the committee, similar to what is in Section 3 for Special Committees.

Proxies will be voted by KLA Treasurer John Webster and President Bill Laffin. With these changes noted and recorded, Bill asked for a motion to approve the revised By Laws for the Keuka Lake Association. There was a motion from Dennis Carlson, seconded by Steve Tomlinson. Bill asked for discussion and there was none. The motion passed.

X. Special Reports

A. Lake level – Bill Laffin for Wayne Hand’s Power Point presentation

- Lake Level Topics:
- Lake level control & performance vs. objectives
- Abnormal conditions
- Web site issues
- Fall lake level draw down delay
- Potential future web site additions

Keuka Lake Level Control

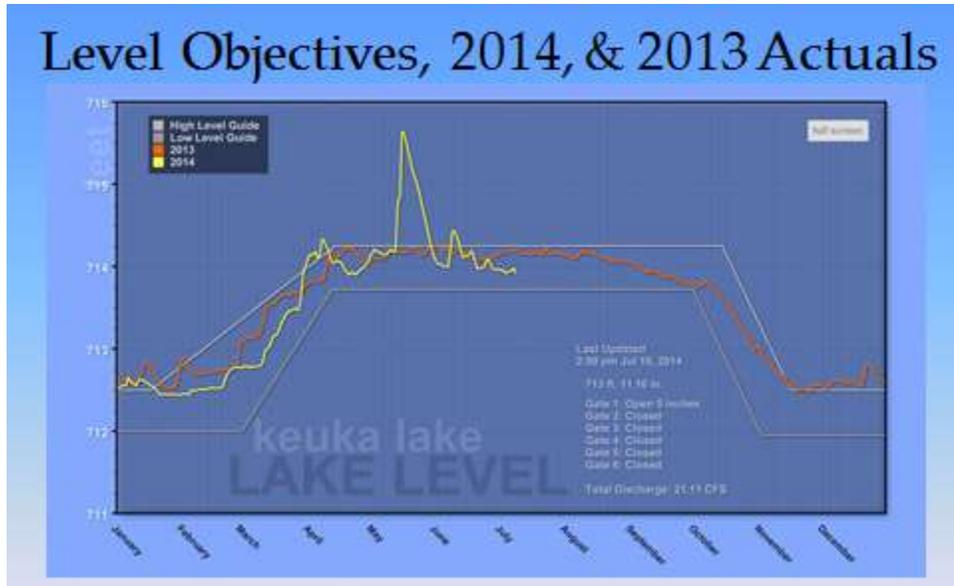
- The lake level is controlled by 6 gates at outlet in Penn Yan, owned and managed by Keuka Lake Outlet Compact (KLOC), along with guidance from NY Dept. of Environmental Conservation (DEC)
 - KLOC – board consists of 6 town supervisors & 2 village mayors from the lake shore municipalities
- Gates are operated by village of Penn Yan, per instructions from KLOC and the Reservoir Regulation Manual (developed by US Army Corp of Engineers)
 - Min. outflow is 20 cfs (15 CFS required for PY village waste treatment)
 - Max. normal outflow is 1,000 cfs (min. any downstream flooding)

KLOC’s Primary Objectives:

- Maintain the lake level within the defined objectives
- Minimize potential flooding resulting from extreme precipitation events!

“Abnormal” Conditions

- Winter ice, end of March melting & precipitation, leading to March – April shoreline damage from ice movement
- Heavy May 13th precipitation impact on lake level (primarily Yates County)
- Heavy June 8th precipitation impact on lake level (primarily Steuben County)



Level Control Performance

- Given the challenging “abnormal conditions” thus far this year, KLOC and the Penn Yan village gate operations team have done an excellent job in maintaining lake level within the objectives

KLA Level Monitoring Process

- Lake level monitored continuously at the Penn Yan Water Plant
- KLA web site retrieves level data every 2 hours
- System also automatically calculates the resulting water outflow amount, posts the level & flow information, and updates the chart
- Need Flash app to view all functions, or can view mobile version

Web Site Issues

- Experienced periodic missing lake level information, now resolved
- Lake level chart only updates **daily**, created some confusion during rapid changes within a 24 hour period
- Lake water temperature periodically shows significant swings within a short period of time. Investigation revealed this is due Mother Nature, so beginning late last month, we started plotting 5 day running averages, not the actual readings.

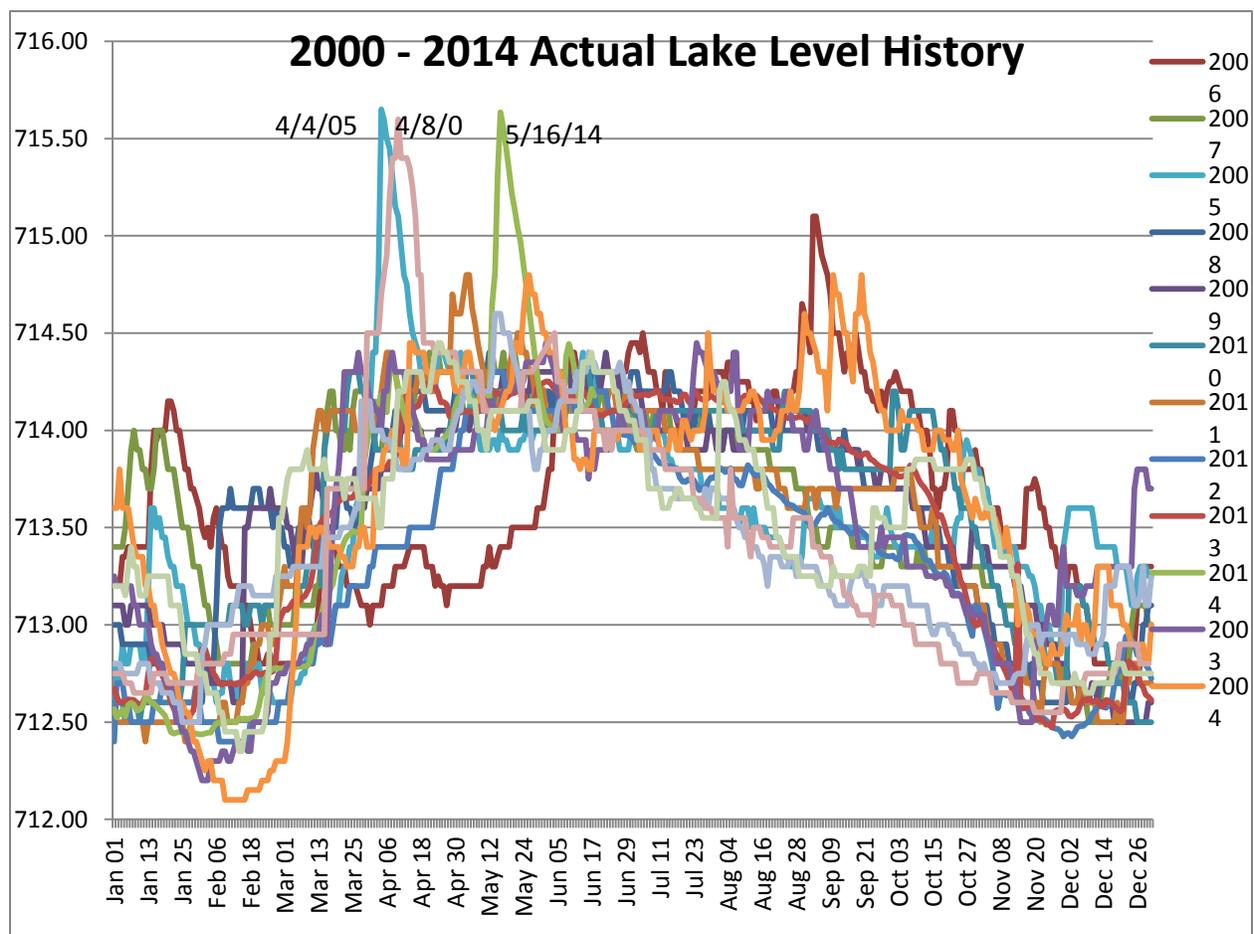
Fall Level Draw Down Delay

- In the fall of last year, KLOC requested the KLA to conduct an electronic membership survey regarding their desire to delay the fall level draw down
 - 438 members responded, **thank you!**
 - 77% were in favor implementing a delay
- KLOC has approved implementing a 30 day delay, which will be implemented this year and changed on our website.

Fall Draw Down Delay Survey Results

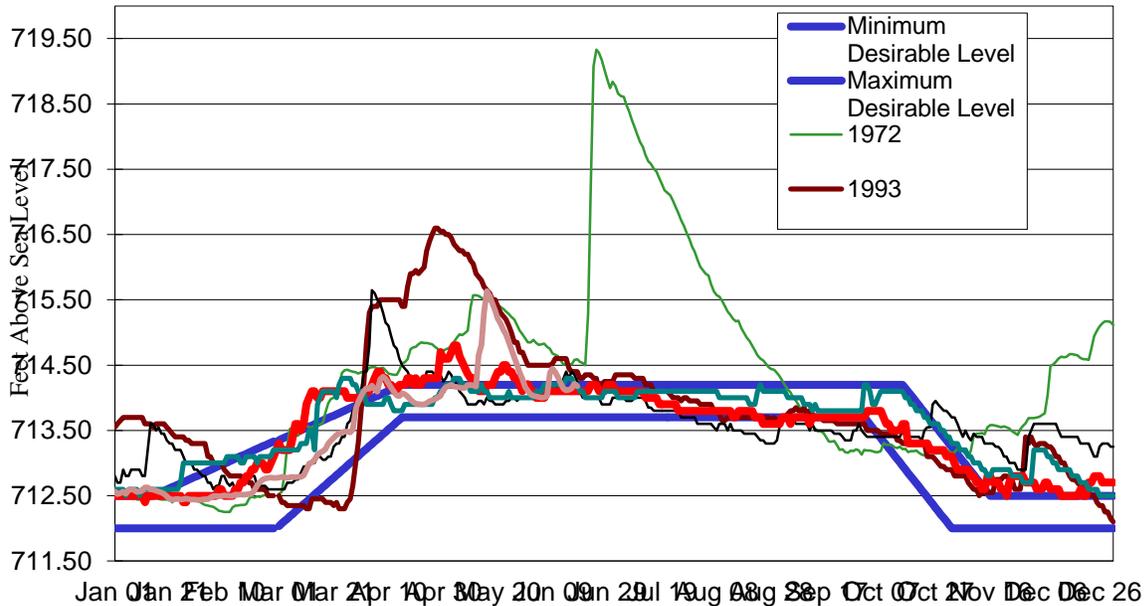
KLA - Drawdown Survey Results									
October 14, 2014									
	Total Responses	Leave as is	Extend 15 days	Extend 30 Days	Will Take Advantage to Extend Boating				
Barrington	67	15 (22%)	27 (40%)	25 (37%)	40 (60%)				
Hammondsport	19	3 (16%)	11 (58%)	5 (26%)	12 (63%)				

Jerusalem	143	35	24%	56	39%	52	36%	86	60%
Milo	58	16	28%	19	33%	23	40%	30	52%
Penn Yan	12	3	25%	3	25%	6	50%	8	67%
Pulteney	48	16	33%	16	33%	16	33%	27	56%
Urbana	40	6	15%	19	48%	15	38%	26	65%
Wayne	51	8	16%	20	39%	23	45%	40	78%
Totals	438	102	23%	171	39%	165	38%	269	61%
	Yes	No							
Own lakefront	428	13							
	97%	3%							



Keuka Lake Level - Peak Years

Mean High 715.30, Top of Gate 716.04



(I could not fix the above dates)

B. Lake Patrol Report

Chuck Bastian began by thanking the Sheriffs' Marine patrol for all they do to help keep our lake safe. He then highlighted the following topics:

- History of navigation patrol statistics in our June newsletter
- PWC license
- Boater's license
- More lake traffic
- Navigational Safety & Fishing Regulations flyer distribution
- Help in funding various items for the patrol boats: life jackets, AEDs
- \$5000 for Hammondsport Fire Boat
- He thanked his committee: Al Wahlig, Mike Gow, Steve Tomlinson, Mark Morris & John Hageen

Chuck then introduced the sheriffs present: Ron Spike - Yates County and Dave Cole – Steuben County

Sheriff Ron Spike spoke first. He thanked the KLA for its support. Sheriff Spike then touched upon the following topics:

- The department gets a 50% reimbursement for boater registration in Yates County.
- They gave out 44 citations in 2013.
- He explained the new laws regarding boater licenses.
- There have been 3 bass tournaments this year so far.
- The month of May was very challenging – Counseled several people; closed the lake to motor boats; new 'little islands' were created; trees stuck on the lake bottom – some towed off the lake; Cannot get the DEC or NYS Parks & Rec. to help remove anything in the lake. He suggested that lake residents contact their senators to get NYS Parks & Rec. to mark hazards.
- PY Village does have a permit to dredge Kimball's Creek.
- The Department has lots o dock parts – call them.
- A lot of their time is spent applying for grants to supplement county funding

- In conclusion, Sheriff Spike stated the Yates County Marine Patrol will continue to work hard for everyone and he introduced Marine Patrol Deputies Patrick McKnight and Pam Housel. He told the KLA audience to check out the boat they brought to the meeting.

Steuben Sheriff David Cole spoke next. His main points were:

- He said he had agreed with Sheriff Spike in the decision to close the lake in May.
- He offered cards with his email address on them so he can be easily contacted.
- He works with BWI issues on the lake.
- He thanked the KLA for their help. He added that the Steuben County Sheriff's Department does get help from the county legislature. They also apply for grants.
- They have started a major program to attack narcotic sales & use in Steuben County.

Bill thanked them all and complimented the two departments about their on-going communication & cooperation.

C. State of the Lake – Bill informed the KLA audience that Dr. Tim Sellers from Keuka College could not be with us due to conflict in scheduling but has sent us a recorded presentation.

- **Keuka Lake Looking Back and Looking Ahead**
- **State of the Lake 2013 –**
Nutrient levels (Phosphorus) - Averaged 6.5 ppb, up 1.1 ppb from 2012, Below long-term average of 7.28 ppb
Water clarity - Averaged 7.9 m, similar to 2012 levels, 1.8 m above the long-term average of 6.1 meters
Algae levels - averaged 0.67 ppb, down from 2012, well below the long-term average of 2.6 ppb
 His presentation contained charts to further explain the data. TP, algae, and secchi disk or clarity levels indicate the overall status of Keuka is oligotrophic or low nutrient status. Overall decline in nutrient and algae levels are most likely due to zebra mussels and watershed management efforts (improved septic systems and better nutrient management practices by agriculture). Lower production overall in the lake creates “clearer” and perhaps more aesthetically pleasing water quality, but may end up reducing overall trout populations due to a smaller forage base.
- Submersible Probe provides a variation under the waves. It measures for: Depth, Temperature, Chlorophyll *a* (= algae), Cyanobacteria (= blue green algae), pH Conductivity (= salts). He showed several charts to illustrate the uses of the probe.
- Tim concluded with: 2013 data show the lake is in generally **good health**
 - **Improving trends** in many important parameters (*algae, phosphorus*)
 - Cyanobacteria levels continue to be **low** (but present!)
 - Submersible probe yielding great results so far
 - May 2014 storm dumped a lot of phosphorus in lake → could be a major issue later this summer, following years.
 - More macrophytes (seaweed)
 - More cyanobacteria
- Thank you for your dedication to protecting Keuka Lake! Continue to the “Listen to the Lake” “If not now, when? If not us, who?”
**** Tim's complete slide presentation is available on the KLA website.****

D. Communications – Doug DeFranco

Doug shared a Power Point presentation covering the following topics:

1. How we reach our members
 Website, Quarterly Newsletter, Facebook Page, Direct Email, Member Surveys, E-Newsletter
2. 2014 Activities
 Launch of Re-designed website, Offering of paperless quarterly newsletter, Enabled a second email address per membership, Launched online membership renewal/joining

- functionality, Surveys to assist KLOC and “Sustainable Keuka”, Emergency notifications, Continued monthly E-Newsletters
3. Direct email Results - “Our goal is to keep the emails active while always bringing value to our members”
 - 25 mails sent last 12 months vs. 16 last year
 - 7 emails sent within 30 days during May
 - Increase open rate of emails from 55% to 65%
 - Bounce rate of emails decreased from 12.9% to 11%
 - Requests from non-members (opportunity)
 4. Direct email challenges –
 - If you are not getting our emails**
 - Check your “Spam or Junk Mail” Folder
 - Validate your email address with us
 - Active Email Addresses**
 - info@keukalakeassociation.org (KLA Office)
 - keukalakeassociation@gmail.com
 - communications@keukalakeassoc.org
 - klacommunications@gmail.com
 4. Doug shared slides with charts to illustrate KLA website visits, Page visits and to show Membership Log-in on our website.

IX. KLAeidoscope of Keuka – 2015 Calendar Photo Contest – Jeanne Wiltberger & Candy Dietrich announced this year’s winners: 1st & cover – Bill Hecht, 2nd - Judy Erwin, 3rd - Mike Carney

X. Questions/Comments concerned the following:

1. Dock & Moorings Law
2. The only way to remove larges pieces of logs, etc. that washed up on your beach is to hire someone to do it.
3. The very bad condition of Pepper Rd leading in to the State park – who is responsible to repair it?
4. A question about delaying the “ramp up” of the lake level in spring. This will be brought to the attention of KLOC who controls the gates.
5. Where to find missing dock parts? Call the Yates Sheriff at 315-536-5536.
6. Legal mean high water mark? It is located in municipal code and the D&M law.
7. Peter Gamba announced a meeting of the Committee of Towns on Aug. 14th.
8. Life jacket for those on paddle boards are required if over 200’ from shore.
9. Green, fuzzy algae? With the amount of this year’s run off, it has increased.
10. There are 6 gates – none owned by Birkett Mills
11. Another question on smelly algae in Crystal Beach area. It is due to increased phosphorus levels and a decomposing situation.
12. Any plans to “man’ boat launches? None this year - no funding.
13. Emily Staychock, our Cornell Invasive Species consultant explained “on—line mapping” (imap) in order to tack invasive species – she will offer traing on how to use it. Contact her if interested.
14. If anyone is interested in a “refresher” boater safety class to contact Sheriff Spike.

XI. Adjournment - The meeting was adjourned at 11:25 AM after a motion by Dennis Carlson, seconded by Marian Loudon and approved by all.