PROTECTING THE QUALITY OF THE LAKE



www.keukalakeassoc.org

Newsletter

"Listen to the Lake"

June 2022



Meeting Information and Proxy Cards (one vote per 2022 membership) will be sent out prior to the meeting. However, after two years of ZOOM meetings, we hope you will attend in person to enjoy the breakfast buffet and the meeting.







The KLA's KLAeidoscope of Keuka Annual calendar is now available in local stores. A super "thank you" to our members who submit phots for consideration. It is always a difficult decision to make the monthly and cover selections!! See results on page 14.

LIMNOLOGY: AN OVERVIEW—MARIA HUDSON, CHAIR, WATER QUALITY

Limnology (lim-**nol**-*uh*-jee), *noun*. The study of the biological, chemical, and physical features of lakes and other bodies of fresh water; from Greek limne "lake" and logos "knowledge".

This year is marks the 30th anniversary of the KLA's lake water monitoring program. Over the years we have studied the biology, chemical make-up and physical aspects of Keuka Lake in other words the *limnology* of the lake. Limnology has become a rigorous and sophisticated field of science. The use and misuse by man of finite freshwater resources, such as Keuka Lake, demand not only concern but concentrated efforts to expand our knowledge and understanding of fresh water systems. Here is an overview of the KLA's limnology program:

Biological: The biology of the lake consists of a huge diversity of plants and animals. Everything from the tiniest algae to the lake trout and bald eagles, but phytoplankton are the basis of the food chain and indicators of water quality. Phytoplankton are algae and small unicellular "animals" that are photosynthetic, meaning they use the sun as an energy source. Every June, July and August, the KLA samples the phytoplankton using a conical plankton net which is lowered about 25 feet into the water and then pulled up capturing the phytoplankton in a filter. The sample is sent to Cornell University's Biological Field Station where all the "critters" are identified and counted. In addition to phytoplankton, the KLA's Shoreline Monitors will take samples of harmful algae blooms (HABs) These samples are taken to the Finger Lakes Institute where the amount of cyanobacteria (blue-green algae) and other algae are characterized by the levels of different pigments of chlorophyll. The samples are also examined microscopically to determine the types of cyanobacteria and algae present.

Chemical: Aside from water itself, the chemical composition of the lake water is essential to production of all aquatic organisms. Dissolved oxygen is obviously the most fundamental parameter necessary for aerobic respiration. Nutrients such as nitrogen and phosphorous are also major constituents of biological metabolism. Nitrogen is abundant in the atmosphere and can be "fixed" in the water by microbes and through photosynthesis by algae and large green plants. In comparison to other major components of the aquatic biota (hydrogen, oxygen and nitrogen) phosphorus is least abundant and most commonly limits biological productivity. The KLA samples lake water with a Kemmerer bottle. This sampler is an open cylinder lowered in to water and then triggered to close at a certain depth, thereby capturing a liter of water at that depth. The samples are sent to a certified lab for chemical analyses of different types of phosphorus and nitrogen and also chlorophyll (an indi-

cator of algal production). Dissolved oxygen is measured by a sensor on a water quality sonde (probe) lowered to the same depths as the Kemmerer.

Physical: Light and heat are of fundamental importance to the entire dynamics of freshwater ecosystems. Solar energy utilized in photosynthesis provides almost all the energy that drives and controls metabolism in the lake. The absorption of solar energy as heat is influenced by many physical, chemical and under certain conditions biotic properties (absorption is increased markedly by dissolved organic matter). The upper two meters of lake water absorb over one-half of the sun's radiation and function in heating the water. Heat is lost from lakes by thermal radiation from the surface and evaporation. Keuka Lake is thermally stratified in the summer. This means that there is an upper layer of water called the epilimnion, which is characterized by uniformly warm, circulating and sometimes turbulent water over a deep, cold and relatively undisturbed region called the hypolimnion. The thermocline is the depth at which the water temperature rapidly decreases. Since cold water is denser, therefore heavier, than warm water the lake will "turnover" or mix twice a year, during the spring (when the floating ice melts on the surface) and the fall when the surface cools. Most of the lake's healthy production occurs the warm, sunny, epilimnion. Over production, such as algal blooms also occur in this stratum. The hypolimnion on the other hand can be a haven for temperature sensitive fish, such as trout, during the summer heat. When the lake turns over the biological, chemical and physical characteristics are more or less uniformly distributed from top to bottom! (which is why you can catch lake trout off the shore in November) The clarity of the lake water is obviously important to know since it can indicate it's ability to absorb heat and provide sunlight. Clarity is measured with a secchi disc, a black and white plate-like disc lowered into the water until it disappears. Temperature of the water is measured by the probe at different depths to determine where the thermocline is (usually at about 30 feet).

The data: As you might imagine, over the last 30 years, all this sampling and analyses has produced *a lot* of data. Currently the KLA is developing an easy to access spread sheet for expert limnologists at the Dept. of Environmental Conservation, Soil and Water or other agencies and academia to examine. The data can indicate trends is water quality, threats from pollution and climate change and can be used to demonstrate issues for grant applications. Unique to Keuka in the Finger Lakes, and enviable to many others, this limnological program will continue to serve to protect and preserve our waters.



June 2022 KLA Newsletter

Interested in joining the fight against Aquatic Invasive Species? Join the Macrophyte Survey Volunteer Program! Lexie Davis, CCE Natural Resources/Watershed Educator

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Aquatic invasive species (AIS) are a growing risk across the lakes of the United States. AIS can be algae, floating plants, submerged plants, emerged plants, fish, crustaceans, and more. These invaders spread throughout water bodies by being trailered on boats, escaping hatcheries and fisheries, and through ballast water discharge. These invasions can lead to the extinction or extirpation of native plants and animals, destroy biodiversity, and alter habitats. Therefore, monitoring these species is extremely important! In the Finger Lakes region, three high-priority AIS are in focus for monitoring are Hydrilla, Water Chestnut, and Starry Stonewort.

One of the most pervasive AIS in the Finger Lakes region is Hydrilla (*Hydrilla verticcillata*). This species is native to Asia and was first introduced to the United States in the 1950s through the aquarium trade. The plant is rooted in the bed of the waterbody and has long stems that stay submerged in the water. The stems hold small, pointed, and often serrated leaves that are arranged around the stem in whorls of 3 to 10. These stems can grow up to an inch per day and block the native plants underneath from sunlight. Hydrilla crowds out native species and the thick tangles of its stems impede irrigation and boating. It spreads from lake to lake through the transportation of the stems and tubers on boats and other watercraft it encountered, so it is important to clean, drain, and dry your boats before entering a different waterbody! This species can be removed through mechanical removal by hand or with machines, but it is an extensive and time-consuming process. *Hydrilla Stem and Leaf Morphology Illustration: Cayuga Lake Watershed Network*

Another common AIS is Water Chestnut (*Trapa natans*). This plant is originally from Europe and was first introduced to the Northeast in the late 1870s as it was planted in ponds as ornamental vegetation. This is a rooted aquatic annual herb that spreads by the means of oddly shaped seeds. These seeds can produce up to 15 stems with submerged and floating rosettes (stems that revolve around a point in the center). Water Chestnut is known to form nearly impenetrable floating mads of vegetation, which is a hazard for water recreators. This dense mat of vegetation also impedes the growth of native aquatic plants and blocks sunlight. These plants spread through the transport of the stems to other water bodies, so practicing clean, drain, and dry is key reducing the spread! Although Water Chestnut is a nuisance, this species is fairly easy to control as it pulls from the bed of the water body very easily and usually does not return as long as you remove the seeds!

Water Chestnut Stem, Leaf, and Seed Morphology Illustration by USGS AIS Information Page

Starry Stonewort (*Nitellopsis* obtusa) is another high-priority species for surveying in the Finger Lakes region and is present in Keuka Lake. This AIS is native to Eurasia and was unintentionally introduced into the Great Lakes through the discharge of a contaminated cargo ship ballast water. Starry Stonewort is a bushy, bright green macro-algae that produces a characteristic star-shaped bulbil (asexual reproductive structures). The dense mats of stems that form at the water's surface inhibit water recreationists and it does not provide suitable shelter, food, or nesting habitats for native animals. Like Hydrilla and Water Chestnut, Starry Stonewort is spread through the movement of water-related equipment to other water bodies as the small bulbs can stick to the equipment, so practicing clean, drain, and dry is very important! Some control methods for this species include mechanical removal by hand-pulling or herbicide control using contact herbicides.



Starry Stonewort Stem and Leaf Morphology Illustration: Clearwater Lake Property Owners Association

To better understand the distribution of AIS across the Finger Lakes and keep an eye out for these high-priority aquatic invasive species, the Partnership for Regional Invasive Species Management (PRISM) has started a Macrophyte Survey Program. The Macrophyte Survey Program provides the opportunity for citizen scientists to gather information about what AIS are present in the water bodies being surveyed. The sampling process entails tossing the rake into the water and identifying what plants are attached when you pull it back! Participants are expected to attend an online or in-person training to learn how to use the provided equipment, identify aquatic plants, and report findings using a phone or tablet.

If this sounds like a program you would like to participate in, you're in luck! The 2022 season for the Macrophyte Survey Program is going to start soon as volunteers are asked to take samples once every two weeks from June to October. To sign up to participate in this program and receive all of the equipment, fill out this form https://forms.gle/6Qn64BVikDpn8Hkx9 or email your contact information to svanwinkle@hws.edu. If you would like more information about this program, feel free to contact me at abd97@cornell.edu or read more on the FL-PRISM website http://fingerlakesinvasives.org/invasive-survey/.







The Great Lakes Aquatic Invasive Species Landing Blitz is a collaborative outreach campaign to raise awareness about and prevent the spread of aquatic invasive species (AIS) through recreational boating and related activities across the Great Lakes Basin. This year, the Keuka Lake Association applied for and received a very competitive grant from the Great Lakes Commission! The almost \$9000 will allow the KLA to continue into the 9th season of our Watercraft Steward Program and expand the work of monitoring for and educating about the spread of AIS by water recreators. The 2022 Landing Blitz project will help to drive home to vessel operators the need for individual accountability and responsibility as it relates to the spread of AIS. Visit a Landing aka boat launch near you, Penn Yan or Keuka Lake State Park), July 1st-July 10th (no boat required) to learn more about AIS and the KLA's efforts to preserve and protect Keuka Lake.



From Finger Lakes PRISM Watercraft Steward Program website

MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE—JOHN HAGREEN, CHAIR

Hello Keuka Lake Association members. The membership renewals are coming in at a fantastic level. We greatly appreciate your continued support of the KLA mission. June is upon us and the lake is warming nicely. By this message, I am inviting players of all skill levels to come on out the

Lakeside Country Club on Monday, July 11th, for the **3rd Annual KLA/LCC Golf Tournament**. It is a fun day to renew friendships and enjoy some golf on a beautiful course. Continental breakfast is served at 9:00 AM, followed by a shotgun start at 10:00 AM. Prizes and light appetizers will follow the round. We hype to see you there. On page 4, you will find the registration form.

NEW/RETURNING KLA MEMBERS

AYESHA ALMEIDA & JASON EWELL—9209 EBD. PY
BRAD BASAL—9409 CRYSTAL BEACH RD., H'SPORT
KATHERINE & PAUL BRAGAN—16162 WLR. PULTENEY
SAM & LIZ CASTNER—BELLIS HILL RD
LAURIE & PAUL DELONG- 3485 BRANDY BAY DR, PY
ROBERT DINTRUFF- 7215 WBD, KP
KIM ECKHOFF- 8256 MAIN ST. EXT. H'SPORT
JOHN GRIFFIN- 11768 WLR, H'SPORT
HARBOR LIGHTS MARINA—13760 WLR. H'SPORT
SAMANTHA HICKS-DEVLIN & JAMES DEVLIN- OFF-LAKE
ANN & MIKE KELLY-14075 KVR. H'SPORT
STEVE & PAILA KIEFFER- 9969 EBD, PY
JEFFREY & KRISTEN LEENHOUTS~108 ELR. RTE 54. PY
JAMES & DIANE LEITGEB-6117 EBD, PY
DON & KATHLEEN MILLER—OFF-LAKE
MARY OCONNELL & CLARK ZIMMERMAN~9085 EBD. PY
JEFF & KELLY RUBENS~8453 EBD, PY
RAJ SHAH—OFF~LAKE
RICK WILLSON—2455 RTE 54A, PY

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9 AM Reg \$100/	gistration 10 AM Shotgu Person \$400/Tea	un Start m
Includes: tee prize, lur	nch, drinks on the course, a following golf	appetizers & prizes
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Checks can be made out to Keuka Lake Association (KLA) and mailed to KLA, PO Box 35, Penn Yan, NY 14527. Indicate "KLA-LCC" on your check. Corporate & personal hole sponsorship is available. Call 315-694-7324. All proceeds benefit the Keuka Lake Association and Lakeside Country Club.		

Goal-driven Ecosystem-based Approach for Resource Management

Dieter Busch—KLA Board Member, Fisheries Biologist

In the past decades, natural resource management, including fisheries, has moved from focusing on one species at a time, in a specific geographic area, using its abundance, size, and general health as the key metrics. Information concerning the environment now needs to be considered. This approach includes environmental quality that is often modified, degraded, or destroyed by human activities. Included are "health" factors such as water quantity and quality, physical habitat parameters, quantity and quality of desired vegetation, the availability of, and makeup, of the forage base, competition with other species, availability and condition of nursery areas. This inclusive management approach has been called "holistic" or more recently the Ecosystem-based Approach (EbA). The word "based" was added after it was realized that ecosystems could not be managed totally, since many limiting factors, such as weather and geological conditions that are beyond our control.

The main resource-management tools, however, have not significantly changed. The focus is still on regulating human behavior. This is done by the agencies in limiting, for example, harvest numbers, size of the species, locations and/or seasons for hunting/fishing and gear types.

At a more comprehensive level, other potential critical factors limit the health and abundance of the targeted resources through pollution and habitat destruction. The impacts from these stresses need to be included. These concerns address the chemical and physical conditions needed in support of the living resources' life cycles that are the responsibilities of other departments within State and the federal Environmental Protection Agency and Army Corps of Engineers. The success of using EbA has suffered at times due to inadequate scientific data and communication between the living resource and environmental managers. It has started to improve; however, more can be done.

For most major human activities, Goals (numerical are best) are key elements used to clearly understand and communicate the desired outcomes. Goals are also important by providing focus and metrics to evaluate progress. For example, the fisheries and wildlife agencies have the lead to develop specific, descriptive (numerical) Goals (average size, abundance, etc.) using key species, representing different trophic (feeding) levels. In developing these Goals, the use of current abundance of species should not be the only data source. Instead, a detailed review of relevant historic data on native species composition, size, and abundance in the specific area, for a number of time frames, could be the starting points for the future Goals. The various historic data could be compared and analyzed for trends using various historic time frames through the present. These data could also be used to identify the causes of the changes in the historic biological, chemical, and physical conditions time frames, to the present. Such information would be useful for the future natural resource Goals from the understanding of the major historic challenges, within the environmental components that could prevent or limit the reaching of the new Goals for the living natural resources. Therefore, the preparation of the future fish and wildlife Goals should anticipate the realistic restoration of the biological, chemical and physical environment. These numerical Goals could potentially be used in the preparation of supportive Goals from the agencies responsible for the chemical and physical "health" of the natural resources.

Ecosystem health and physical locations have changed greatly in recent history and this will continue. This negatively impacts the abundance and health of the living natural resources. The effort to change should be an interagency, inter-government process and be guided by the applicable historical events, with specific future Goals and Objectives.

Wolf "Dieter" Busch

For more information please see: Strategic Guidance for Implementing an Ecosystem-based Approach to Fisheries Management. <u>https://www.researchgate.net/publication/255908158</u>

NAVIGATION & RECREATION—STEVE HICKS

Annual Navigation and Recreation Committee Luncheon with the Marine Patrol



On April 28th the KLA Navigation & Recreation committee met over lunch with the Steuben and Yates County Sherriff's Marine Patrol, the Penn Yan Police Chief and the NYS Department of Environmental Conservation Lake Patrol Officers (ECO). Below are some of the highlights.

KLA Annual Meeting: As in prior years, the county sheriffs and the DEC officers are invited to the KLA annual meeting to address our members.

Coverage Area & Patrol Hours: No changes planned for 2021 as both Steuben and Yates County Sheriffs lake patrols can overlap and cover all areas of the lake. The Environmental Conservation Officers (ECO) have the same authority as state troopers but focus their attention on the lake, environmental issues and natural resources. Both Sheriff agencies coordinate their patrol schedules and increase patrols when there are "special events" on the lake.

The ECOs also patrol the lake with their boat. The patrol hours and amount of time spent on the lake by the sheriffs and ECO will remain about the same as last year.

5 MPH w/i 200' from shore/docks: One of the main projects of the Nav & Rec committee is promoting public awareness of the 5 mph speed limit within 200 feet from shore/moorings/docks. With help from the Yates County Sheriff's office, the KLA is updating its signs and decals moving away from the current 5.200 signs and decals law. The law enforcement officials at the meeting reviewed our drafts. We hope to finalize and distribute these new signs and decals this summer.

For those who want to place buoys in the water to remind boaters of the 5 MPH law, please note that buoys placed more than 100 feet from shore require an application and NYS approval as well as a no objection letter from the applicable sheriff. However, the sheriffs are reluctant to

approve applications for 200' marker buoys for residential properties except for special circumstances.

Starry StoneWort (SSW): Maria updated the law enforcement officials on the KLA's efforts to eradicate SSW particularly near Sugar Creek; and the continuation of the Boat Launch Steward program.

Wake Boats: Mike Gow updated the officers on the KLA's efforts to educate and inform the community on proper wake boating practices; and to encourage the boating safety courses to include material on proper wake boating. The committee stressed the KLA's concern about the noise and damage done to the shore by wake boats. Provided the operators of these boats are operating within the law (e.g. outside of 200' from shore), there is little law enforcement can do. We will provide the sheriffs with any handouts we receive from the wake boating trade association. The KLA reported that Ira is working with New York State Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation to include safe and proper wake boating information in the NYS safe boating course and certification process.

New Laws & Regulations: With assistance from the sheriff's office we updated the KLA's summary of the boating regulations; and with input from the DEC, our fishing regulations summary was also updated. Both are available on the KLA website, and will be published in the KLA newsletter. There is a new boating law with regard to fire extinguishers on board your boat- and a few changes to the fishing regulations. Both of these are noted in these updated summaries.

County/State Funding for Marine Patrols: New York State's budget maintains the 50% reimbursement to the counties for Marine Patrol operations. The Steuben sheriff's office noted that their budget for lake patrols has not increased in 10 years. With the significant increase in activity on the water over the past few years, requests by the Sheriff to increase the Steuben Sheriff's budget by \$18,000 (half of which would be reimbursed by NYS) to provide for lake patrolling 18 hours a day, 7 days each week from July 4 to Labor Day was rejected by the Steuben county board of legislators.

Marine Patrol Luncheon Highlights-cont.

AED: Yates sheriff office asked if the KLA would consider providing funds to replace the current AED used by Yates on its boat that patrols Keuka- which AED was purchased with KLA funds several years ago and is now outdated (after the meeting the KLA board approved this request).

Meeting Attendees:

KLA Committee Members:Steve Hicks- ChairScott IIra GoldmanDennyDieter BuschMargoMichael GowKL/Maria HudsonKL/

nbers: Scott Drake Denny Carlson Margo McTaggart KLA Admin. Asst.

<u>Steuben County</u> <u>Patrol</u> James Allard John McNelis Rich Lock <u>Yates County</u> <u>Patrol:</u> Ed Nemitz Pam Housel

DEC ECO Patrol: Matt Lochner Ron Gross <u>Penn Yan Village</u> <u>Police Chief</u> Thomas Dunham

SWIMMERS: BE SAFE & BOATERS: BE AWARE

For those who may have missed this, on September 17, 2021, Steuben County Sheriff Jim Allard reported that on September 14, 2021, deputies of the Steuben County Sheriff's Office responded to a report of a swimmer struck by a boat on Keuka Lake, in the Town of Wayne, New York.

"Deputies interviewed the victim who stated he was swimming on his back at about 6:45pm near the eastern shore in the area of Keuka Village when a dark colored pontoon boat operating northbound boated directly over him causing injury to him. The victim stated the boat never stopped nor slowed. A witness reported that the boat operator was standing and did not appear to have observed striking the swimmer, continuing north from the scene of the collision. The victim was treated and released at the scene."

Sheriff Allard and Yates County Sheriff Spike both remind boaters on Keuka Lake to observe the 5 MPH speed limit within 200 feet of shore and additionally remind swimmers to be alert of boating traffic and obstructions in the waterway- and swim along with someone who can watch for approaching boats.

Wake Boating Etiquette Tips

From the website of the Water Sports Industry Association (<u>www.WSIA.net</u>), here are some simple tips for wake boaters to observe.

Who is the WSIA: The WSIA website states they are 'the towed water sports industry's leading advocate, known for preserving the vitality of our activities long into the future. As a group, we develop best practices, maintain waterway access rights, educate participants, promote safety and facilitate sustainable industry growth.'

- Stay at least 200 feet away from structures or shore; ride the core, avoid the shore.
- Minimize repetitive passes.
- Drive a predicted path.
- Avoid close passes to other boats, and don't follow another boat too closely.
- Don't impede traffic. Wakesurfers usually travel at 10 to 12 mph. Avoid wakesurfing in fairways and busy areas.
- Look before you turn.
- Refrain from tricks when near other boats.
- Early morning times usually have less traffic.
- Keep in mind that local boating laws and navigation rules still apply. Follow them and everyone will enjoy their time on the water we share.

Keep music at a responsible level; sound travels much farther than you think on the water, and loud music can ruin other boaters' peace and quiet.

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<u>Wake Responsibly Compliance Exam</u>—Recently updated, the Water Sports Industry Association Wake Responsibly Compliance Exam offers a fun way to test your knowledge of water sports etiquette.



WAKE RESPONSIBLY COMPLIANCE EXAM

- 1. What is the recommended distance of your boat path from docks and shorelines while wakeboarding or wakesurfing?
 - 2 feet
 - 200 feet
 - 2,000,000 feet

2. If the music is loud enough to hear at 75 ft. back, it is likely loud enough...

- For homeowners to hear
- To perform a TikTok dance
- To make your ENT doctor rich
- 3. It's ok to "Platform Drag" or touch the swim platform while the engine is running.
 - True
 - False

When being towed behind a boat, you must always wear...

- Board pants
- Speed goggles
- Elbow pads
- A USCG type III Life Jacket

Never ride near swimmers, shallow water, other boats, or obstacles.

- True
- □ False

6. How can you prevent the spread of aquatic invasive species?

- Wear a mask and wash your hands
- Clean, drain and dry your boat
- Buy an aquarium and keep them as pets

7. Wake Responsibly is a campaign that educates homeowners and boaters about...

- Proper power turning maneuvers
- Safe and courteous behavior on waterways
- The history of kneeboarding

8. You are responsible for your own wake.

- □ True
- □ False

Repetitive driving back and forth in the same line can upset...

- People in the boat who are bored
- The adventurer in you
- Homeowners along the shore

10. WSIA's mission is to promote and protect all...

- Stand-up jet skiers
- Bass boaters
- Towed water sports

11. What are the core recommendations of Wake Responsibly?

- Minimize repetitive passes
- Keep music at reasonable levels
- Stay at least 200 ft. away from shorelines & docks
- All of the above

ANSWERS: 1. 200 ft., 2. For homeowners to hear, 3. False, 4. A USCC type III Life Jacket, 5. True, 6. Clean, drain and dry your boat, 7. Safe and courteous behavior on waterways. 8. True, 9. Homeowners along the store, 10. Towed water sports. 11. All of the above

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Boating Regulations for Keuka Lake 2022 (summary)

Revised & Updated April 2022

Published as a courtesy and as a guide by the Keuka Lake Association; DOES NOT supersede NYS Law –Refer to NYS boaters guide for specifics <u>https://www.nxtbook.com/nxtbooks/nysparks/ny_boatersguide_21/</u> <u>Powerboat Operation – New Requirements under Brianna's Law</u>: Persons born on or after January 1, 1988 must have successfully completed a New York State approved / NASBLA, Power Squadron, or Coast Guard Safe Boating Course in order to operate a mechanically propelled vessel. Please refer to the NYS Boaters Guide. Certificates or a NYS driver's license with the "anchor" symbol must be in the operator's possession (on the

boat). <u>Personal Watercraft:</u> Operators must be at least 14 years old. Operators of all ages are required to have passed one of the NYS approved boating safety courses. Certificates must be in the operator's possession. <u>Maximum Speed and Noise Limits:</u>

45 mph during daylight hours, 25 mph after sunset until sunrise and times of reduced visibility

Maximum 90 decibels stationary, 75 decibels underway (mufflers must remain in place)

5 mph w/i 200' of shore, docks, floats or anchored boats (except when pulling up or dropping off a water skier) In times of high or low water, be alert to additional restrictions announced by the Sheriffs

Organized events that desire exceptions to NYS laws must apply for a Marine Regatta permit, see <u>https://</u> parks.ny.gov/documents/recreation/boating/RegattaPermitApplication.pdf

Bow Riding is not permitted; passengers must be seated within the vessel, not on the gunwale, motor hatch or stern while underway.

<u>Children under 12</u> on board a vessel under 26 feet must wear an appropriately sized Type I, II or III USCG Approved life jacket while boat is underway. (Type III & V inflatable Life Jackets not approved under 16) Water Skiing:

Tow boat must have an observer at least ten years of age, in addition to the operator

Skier must wear an approved Life Jacket designed for water sports – not an inflatable life jacket

Water Skiing is prohibited between sunset and sunrise and times of reduced visibility.

Diver Down Regulation: All boats must stay 100 feet from "diver down" flags, these are the Alpha Flag (blue pennant with white stripe at base) and the Diver Flag (red rectangle with white diagonal stripe).

Boating Equipment	Motor Boat	PWC	Manually powered vessels and
Life Jackets	One per person	One per person	One per person (including paddle craft ¹)
Throw able Device	Type IV ²	Not Required	Type IV ²
Fire Extinguisher(s) – B1/5B/20B**	All	Federal Rules Require	Not Required
Visual Distress Signals	See Boaters Guide, p. 23		
Nighttime: 3 Red Flares*	16 ft & up	Not Required ³	Sailboats from Sunset to Sunrise
Anchor	All	Not Required	Not Required
Horn/Bell/Whistle –Mechanical	39 ft & over	Not Required	Not Required
Whistle or Horn – Mouth	Under 39 ft	All	Not Required (whistle req'd on paddle craft)
Navigation Lights	Bow & Stern	Not Required ³	White Lantern ⁴
Emergency Cutoff Switch use	Required	Required	Not Required

*The Sirius Signal SOS distress light is approved by the US Coast Guard and NYS in place of flares. **Beginning 4/20/22 new US Coast Guard regulations change extinguisher expiration dates and the minimum classification carried aboard newer boats. The regulation puts a 12-yr expiration on all disposable fire extinguishers. See <u>https://</u> uscgboating.org/recreational-boaters/fire-extinguisher-fag.php for details.

Notes regarding 'Not Required' items

1. Paddle Craft include canoes, kayaks, stand up paddle boards and pedal boats.

2. All boats 16 ft & longer (except canoes and kayaks) require a buoyancy cushion or other throwable device.

3. PWC operation is not permitted from sunset to sunrise and during times of reduced visibility.

Sailboats under power must exhibit navigation lights required of a motor boat.

THE COLD WATER LAW requires all occupants of a vessel 21' or less to wear a Life Jacket from Nov. 1 to May 1 while underway – *if the vessel is not tied to the dock, it is "underway".*

PLEASE BE AWARE OF EXPIRATION DATES ON FLARES AND MFG DATE ON FIRE EXTINGUISHERS

Keuka Lake Fishing Regulations (DEC Region 8) April 1, 2022 – March 31, 2023 (yellow highlighting indicates changes from last year)

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Persons 16 years old and older are required to have a fishing license, except on the "Free Fishing Days" 06/25-26/2022, 9/24/2022, 11/11/2022 & 2/18-19/2023 Fishing licenses are now available instantly on-line and on smart phones via <u>https://decals.licensing.east.kalkomey.com/</u> or by calling 1-866-933-2257

(For a complete listing of NYS Laws and Regulations, please refer to the "New York Freshwater Fishing 2022-23 Official Regulations Guide" – <u>http://www.eregulations.com/newyork/fishing/</u> or the Central NY Fishing Hotline (607) 753-1551 or (844) DEC-ECOS

Sign up for email updates from the DEC at <u>www.dec.ny.gov</u> & Get the Official NYS Fishing App at iTunes and Google Play

FINGER LAKES SPECIFIC REGULATIONS

SPECIES	SEASON	DAILY LIMIT	MIN LENGTH
Lake trout, Rainbow trout, Brown trout, Landlocked Salmor	All Year 1	5 Fish in combination (max of 1 Rainbow Trout or 3 Landlocked Salmon)	15"
Black Bass argemouth and Smallmouth) Special Season – March 16 through June	June 15 – March 1 e 14, catch and rele		12" icial lures only)
Northern Pike	May 1- March 1		22"
	STATEWIDE R	REGULATIONS	
Walleye/Pickerel	May 1 - March 1	5 5	15"
Crappie	All Year	25	10"
Yellow Perch	All Year	50	any size
Sunfish - Bluegill, Pumpkinseed, Redbreast	All Year	25	any size
Smelt Dipping (dip net 14" dia max)	All Year	8 Quarts	Hours - Anytime
e Fishing euka Lake fishing regulations apply to tak e used. <i>Ice Fishing Line</i> means any devic and line, historical cross style tip-ups, tip o	e <u>that uses a hook</u> a		
euka Lake tributaries - <i>From the Lake u</i> ake Trout, Rainbow Trout April 1 rown Trout, Landlocked Salmon	st – December 31 st	<i>barrier impassable to fish:</i> 3 in combination 1 Rainbow)	15"
rout (Brook, Brown, Rainbow)	oply in the Keuka Ou All Year	utlet downstream of railroad t 5	trestle bridge in Dresden Any Size e than 2 longer than 12")
LEASE NOTE: A specific list of baitfis		chased has been establishe selling certified disease-fr	

LAKE LEVEL COMMITTEE CHAIR—WAYNE HAND

The lake level has been kept within the objectives since late March. From late February through late March, the level was a few inches above the maximum objectives.



Starting at the top of the page the status of all 6 gates is shown along with the resulting water outflow in cubic feet per second. Toward the right side is the current lake level, which is updated every 2 hours. Below that is the chart which shows the actual daily level for the past two years. If you want to compare the actual daily level for the past four years, just click on the blue statement "View Last Four Years of Lake Level" on the right side above the chart.

Below the chart under "Notes" are various lake level facts which could be of interest to you.

Now, to be able to access many more items, make sure you looking at the chart which shows only two years of lake level. If you are looking at four years of lake level, click on the "View two years of Lake Level" shown in blue above the chart.

Below the chart you should now see a brief explanation how the lake level is determined and who is responsible for regulating the level. Below that are several "Related Pages" and "Associated Documents" which are shown in blue type. If you click on any one of the these, the complete web page or document is available for you to read. Give it a try.

The next few newsletters we will discuss several of these in greater detail. Today, we provide a few comments regarding the fifth from the bottom of the Related Pages, called "Oswego River Basin – Downstream from Keuka".

Most of you probably know that the water which flows from Keuka through the gates in Penn Yan into the outlet, then flows down 269 ft. in elevation and a few miles to Seneca Lake in Dresden. The water from Keuka amounts to only about 4% of the total amount of water entering Lake Ontario through the Oswego River. The Oswego River Basin drains water from several lakes, rivers, and streams covering 5,100 square miles of area. Just click on this item and learn more about this huge complex watershed system which Keuka is a part of.

If you want to learn even more about the Oswego River Basin, plus all of the periodic flooding problems which come to a head at Cayuga Lake and the Oswego River, spend an hour and click on the YouTube video where a USGS hydrologist explains the issues in detail (which is the second related page from the bottom). After the hydrologist's presentation, if interested, there is also a brief presentation from a Cornell professor regarding climate change and its potential impact on the Oswego River Basin.

KLAEIDOSCOPE OF KEUKA 2023—CALENDAR PHOTO CONTEST CONGRATULATIONS TO THE FOLLOWING WINNERS:

FRONT COVER: IVY AT CRESCENT BEACH—TED HALL JANUARY: MIST FROSTING—MICHELLE LEWIS FEBRUARY: COMING IN FOR A LANDING - ROBERT SCHARF MARCH: NATURE'S PERFECTION AT STONE POINT-KEN NYKIEL APRIL: FOGGY SPRING MORN-CANDY DIETRICH MAY: CHECKING OUT NATURE'S BEAUTY- BRENDA WILLIAMS JUNE: NO SAILING TODAY- LARRY BARNES JULY: READY TO SAIL FROM CAMP IROQUOIS- ROBERT SCHARF AUGUST: KEUKA BLOOMS—KEN NYKIEL- 1ST PLACE SEPTEMBER: RING OF FIRE LIGHTING UP THE SHORE- PAM HOWITT OCTOBER: FALL VIEW FROM DAY ROAD—NANCY FEINSTEIN-2ND PLACE NOVEMBER: STUDY IN GRAY- ROBERT DINTRUFF-3RD PLACE DECEMBER: "GRAPE"FUL—MICHELLE LEWIS BACK COVER: HAPPY NEW YEAR!!!-TANYA LOOMIS

2022 ALEXANDER & ESTHER WAHLIG KEUKA LAKE WATERSHED SCHOLARSHIP

Meet Sydney Burns!!!

The Keuka Lake Association is proud to announce that the winner of the 2022 Alexander F. and Esther N. Wahlig Scholarship is Sydney Burns, a graduating student from Haverling High School in Bath, NY. Sydney plans on attending the University of Connecticut where she will study to become an environmental engineer. "Being an environmental engineer, I can improve ways of how we dispose of trash. I

can invent better ways to recycle things like paper, plastics, and glass. I can treat water that is contaminated by bacteria and chemicals that are hazardous," wrote Sydney in her scholarship application essay.

The scholarship sponsored by the KLA is to aid a graduating student whose plan is to attend a four-year college with the intent of pursuing a career in general environmental sciences, limnology, or water quality/watershed management.

Directory/newsletter correction: Dave & Jeanne Phillips—4771 EBD—NOT WBD!! My apologies.

June 2022 KLA Newsletter

THE 9E PLAN—A SENECA-KEUKA WATERSHED PARTNERSHIP?

Steve Butchko-KWIC, Mark Morris-KLA and Colby Petersen-KL Watershed Mgr



9E plan helps focus water quality efforts in Seneca and Keuka Lakes



"No one person can address the issue; rain falls everywhere." Ian Smith, Seneca Watershed Steward

After nearly four years of study, analysis, and preparation, the Seneca-Keuka Lake Watershed 9 Element Plan is now in the hands of New York State officials at the Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) and Department of State. The plan should be fully approved and available for local use during the upcoming New York State grant application process as local organizations seek funds for projects to improve water quality in the lakes. 9E Plans are among the approaches endorsed by the New York State DEC for Clean Water Planning across the state.

The plan was presented to the public during the 10th Annual Land Use Leadership Alliance training in Penn Yan on April 25. Find the plan and a recording of the presentation at https:// senecawatershedio.wordpress.com/9e/

The objective of the 9E Plan is to identify specific actions to reduce phosphorus loading to the lakes and minimize the risk of cyanobacterial blooms, also known as harmful algal blooms (HABs), and other threats to the watershed. Phosphorus and other nutrients are essential for plant and animal growth and nourishment, but excessive amounts in water have been linked to problematic blooms. Phosphorus is commonly found in fertilizers, manure, and organic wastes in sewage and industrial effluent which can negatively impact water quality. Soil erosion is also a major contributor of phosphorus, according to the U.S. Geological Survey.

A Soil & Water Assessment Tool (SWAT) is used to simulate the quality and quantity of surface and ground water, and to predict the impact of land use, land management, and climate change. Baseline SWAT model projections indicate that the highest phosphorus load per acre appears to be generated in subwatersheds where cultivated crops are the primary land use.

The over-arching goal of the 9E Plan is to preserve and improve water quality while also fostering progress toward achieving the community's vision for the future of the Seneca-Keuka watershed, where more than half of the water in the 11 Finger Lakes is held. Efforts to achieve that goal will include consideration of the cultural, social, and economic factors of the region.

Ian Smith, Seneca Watershed Steward, distills the goal, saying the efforts will be focused on "making the landscape more of a sponge" by managing the flow of water within the watershed. He says the plan is not one that should just be put on a shelf and forgotten. "It's a living document" he stresses, adding that while it is not a regulatory document, there are actions within the plan that might incorporate compliance and/or enforcement measures, such as those associated with local zoning regulations.

While some of the highest priority projects will likely focus on hydrologic resilience and best management of cultivated cropland, there is a wide variety of potential projects applicable to various land use areas. Smith notes, "No one person can address the issue; rain falls everywhere." Strategies to reduce non-point source pollution are organized in six categories:

Hydrologic Resilience: with the highest priorities identified as increasing storm flow resilience of streams; using green infrastructure to intercept stormwater; and conservation of high value natural resources such as steep slope forests, floodplains, and wetlands.

9E Plan– cont.

Best Management Practices (BMPs) on Working Landscapes: with the highest priorities identified as acquisition, easements, and/or preservation of lands between agriculture or timberland and wetlands or waterbodies; increase participation in agricultural environmental management; and the use of BMP's such as planting cover crops on lands prone to erosion and nutrient runoff.

Wastewater Management: with the highest priority of increasing the capacity and efficiency of wastewater treatment plants.

Invasive Species Management: with the highest priorities identified as supporting/expanding the boat launch stewards program; installation of informational kiosks at boat launches; and invasive species outreach and educational initiatives.

Local Laws: with the highest priorities identified as adopting open space conservation rules to preserve forests, wetlands, and other high value resources; and development of universal minimum sanitary standards.

Education, Outreach, Economic Development: with the highest priorities identified as engaging watershed stakeholders in water quality protection activities; development of education and outreach programs; and distribution of educational material on water quality.

BACKGROUND:

The Seneca-Keuka Watershed spans 712 square miles and stretches from the Town of Italy in western Yates County to the Town of Hector in eastern Schuyler County; from the Town of Horseheads in Chemung County to the Town of Geneva in Ontario County; and from the Town of Fayette in Seneca County to the Town of Urbana in Steuben County. Seneca and Keuka Lakes contain more than 50 percent of the water of the 11 Finger Lakes and they are joined by a natural waterway, the Keuka Outlet, historically known as Minnesetah River.

The project is sponsored with funding provided by the New York State Department of State under Title 11 of the Environmental Protection Fund. Additional funding is provided by Seneca Watershed Intermunicipal Organization, Seneca Lake Pure Waters Association, Keuka Watershed Improvement Cooperative, Keuka Lake Association, The Finger Lakes Institute at Hobart and William Smith Colleges, Seneca County, Schuyler County, Ontario County, Yates County, Steuben County, and Corning Inc.

The Seneca-Keuka Watershed Partnership Executive Committee includes Mark Venuti (Seneca Watershed Intermunicipal Organization), Dan Corbett (Seneca Lake Pure Waters Association), Steve Butchko (Keuka Watershed Improvement Cooperative), and Mark Morris (Keuka Lake Association) with Advisors Lisa Cleckner (Finger Lakes Institute), Ian Smith (Seneca Lake Watershed Steward), Colby Petersen (Keuka Watershed Manager) and Administrator Betsy Landre (Ontario County Planning Dept.) For more information about the Seneca-Keuka Watershed Partnership contact Ian Smith at 315-781-4559 or ismith@hws.edu, or Colby Petersen at 315-536-5188 or Colby@ycsoilwater.com.

Free Fishing Days

The NYS Department of Environmental Conservation holds 'Free Fishing Days/Weekends' when anyone can fish the fresh waters of New York State and no fishing license is required! All other freshwater fishing regulations still apply. Upcoming Free Fishing Dates in 2022 are June 25-26, 2022 September 24, 2022 November 11, 2022

For area boater safety courses, consult the following: www.americasboatingclub.org (Americas Boating Club – ex USPS) www.cgaux.org (Coast Guard) Local Sheriffs' Depts. Yates: <u>https://www.yatescounty.org/faq.aspx?qid=71</u> - 315-536-4438 Steuben: <u>https://www.steubencony.org/pages.asp?PID=194</u> - 607-622-3901 or 1-800-724-7777

Got 'Ole? - Critter Corner-David decalesta

As in mole or vole, that is. A bit larger that shrews at about 5 inches long, these are two of the smallest mammals you may encounter around your yard. May, because you are more likely to see evidence of their presence rather than the animals themselves. These little creatures live in burrows they create as they search for food, and are rarely seen above ground. Their dense, velvet-like black fur allows them to tunnel underground with minimum resistance. Their tunneling and feeding activities may sometimes bring them into conflict with humans.

Consider the mole. There are two different species of this little miner in NY: the star-nosed mole and the hairy-tailed mole (Fig. 1). The star-nosed mole looks like something out of a freak show with its 12 or so fleshy attachments around its snout (for detecting vibrations underground by earthworms, their chief food.



Both moles have powerful shoulders and enormous claws that allow them to burrow underground at about 15 feet an hour at depth in their burrow system (Fig. 2) and 12 inches a minute in subsurface feeding tunnels where they are seeking their meals of earthworms and grubs.



Moles seek worms and grubs in their tunnels just under the surface: the tunnels usually push up the grass as they snake across yards. They push dirt out of their tunnels systems at intervals - these mounds look like little volcanoes with a hole on the middle. They rarely eat vegetable material, but have been known to eat tubers and other soft underground plant parts. They don't hibernate during winter when the ground is frozen but rather dig deeper below the frost line as they seek out their food year-round.

Figure 2. Mole tunnel system with feeding and permanent Tunnels and nesting area (From Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife).

Mole Control. Many "home remedies" do not work, such as placing broken glass in mole burrows, or chewing gum (the moles are supposed to eat it and plug up their digestive systems-NOT!). People sometimes light smoke cartridges, push them sown a mole burrow and cover with paper to keep in the smoke. The last time I recommended that to a friend the paper caught fire, set his mulch on fire and nearly caught the house on fire. Insecticides used to control grubs (mole preferred food) generally also do not work. The solution to stopping moles from burrowing just under the surface is to use traps. One is a harpoon type (Fig 3.) the other is a scissors type (Fig. 3).

Both traps are set by flattening a portion of a surface burrow, then placing the trap trigger right over the flattened burrow. An active mole will push up dirt to open the burrow, set off the trigger and get caught. Both traps can be hazardous to children if they mess with them so care must be taken with their use. I always placed a large bucket over such traps to make them less visible to children.



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Got 'Ole? - Critter Corner—David deCalesta Continued

Consider the vole. Voles are a little smaller than moles (Fig. 4). And build those little surface tunnels under the snow, flattening little pathways top of the grass. They burrow under mulch in flower beds and may shred the bark of ornamental shrubs, eating it for food. Rabbits always clip off small stems with a



sharp 45° cut, so it is easy to tell if it's rabbits or voles damaging shrubs.

Vole Control. A good way to control vole damage is to reduce the amount of mulch in flower

beds. Replacing mulch with river stone (first placing architectural cloth down to prevent weed from growing up through the stones) is a good solution which also negates the need for annual mulch replacement. You can also place a mouse trap in the entrance to burrows in mulch, but these should also be covered to prevent small birds from being caught. Bait the trap with a mixture of peanut butter and bacon grease.



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ing/Fall

Page 21 June 2022 KLA Newsletter Camp Arey Mini Storage Thinking of Selling your Home? 1040 East Lake Road, Dundee, New York Take Advantage of This Seller's Market! (State Route 54, Between Penn Yan & Hammondsport on the East side of Keuka Lake) **OPEN TO THE PUBLIC** IMMEDIATE OCCUPANCY **W GATEWAY** 5x10 \$35/mo. KELLERWILLIAMS. 10x10 \$50/mo. 10x15 \$70/mo. \$80/mo. 10x20 Brian Mosch \$10x30 \$120/mo. Lic. Real Estate Salesperson Month to month Mobile: 315-595-5550 Email: Brian@Keuka-Lake.com 1 Year Leases www.Keuka-Lake.com Rent to be paid Office: 315-756-5428 in advance 298 Lake Street, Penn Yan, NY Deposit required 315.595.5550 Fully lighted facility with 24/7 access **KEUKA-LAKE.COM** Contact Information: Camp Arey, Inc. 1020 Center Street, Suite 4, Horseheads, NY 14845 Each Office is Independently Owned and Operated 607-737-5233 campareyministorage@yunisinc.com Keuka Lake Offices oward Penn Yan Office 315-536-2700 anna 229 Lake Street, Penn Yan, NY 14527 Hammondsport Office 607-569-2020 52 Pulteney St., PO Box 542, Hammondsport, NY 14840 Lake Group Phone: (607)-739-8800 Fax: (607)-796-0374 Mark Moon **Dick Murphy** Jim Moon Broker/ Owne 315-270-2002 Broker/ Owner 315-694-1235 315-694-1229 Architectural Design Fitz Structural Engineering Realtor® 585,750,954 315-719-4332 532 172 Terri 315 516 6810 5 750 6 Mary 585-330-5064 315-945-8153 85-704-4872 Your <u>CHOICE</u> in the Finger Lakes! KV Engineering P.L.L.C 66 Philo Road West Elmira, NY 14903



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June 2022 KLA Newsletter

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The KLA office is located at 142 Main St, in Penn Yan, the corner of Main & Maiden Lane. Mail to PO 35, Penn Yan, NY 14527. The office is usually open on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 9:00 AM to 2:00 PM, but with the current situation, it is not always consistent. You can contact the office either by phone: 315-694-7324 (answering machine attached) or email: info@keukalakeassoc.org.

Margo G. McTaggart, KLA Administrative Assistant

ADVERTISING IN THE KLA NEWSLETTER

The advertising section of the KLA newsletter is provided as a service to KLA members only. The ads are restricted to 1/4 page, to fit into a 3 3/4 by 4 3/4 space. It is the responsibility of the advertiser to contact the KLA office with a request for ad space in an upcoming issue and send a print ready ad. The deadline for the September 2022 issue is August 1st and will be accepted in the order submitted. However, in an attempt to present an interesting diversity of ads, the KLA editorial staff reserves the right to limit the number of any specific type of ad in any given issue. KLA also reserves the right to decline acceptance of an ad deemed inappropriate for the publication. Ad ost for each issue is **\$50**. Thank you to all of the KLA members who have advertised with us.

KLA MEMBERSHIP PROCESS

March 1 - Dues renewal notices mailed.

December - Last newsletter for those who have not renewed. Check the expiration date on your address label.

December - Membership for **NEW** members & current members who join after Dec.1 will be extended through the next membership year: April-March

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<u>Steuben:</u> <u>https://www.steubencony.org/pages.asp?</u> <u>PID=194</u> - 607-622-3901 or 1-800-724-7777

Keuka Lake Association, Inc. PO Box 35 Penn Yan, NY 14527

The KLA's mission is to preserve and protect Keuka Lake and its natural beauty for future generations.



June 2022 KLA Newsletter

YOUR JUNE NEWSLETTER HAS ARRIVED!