

# PLPA Newsletter

PECK'S LAKE

PROTECTIVE

ASSOCIATION

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The deadline  
for the Summer  
edition of the  
PLPA  
Newsletter is  
Thursday, July 20



## President's Message: Jim McCulley

Spring has sprung! It's already noticeably busier around the lake. After a long winter I'm sure we are all looking forward to another great year at Peck's Lake. We have some exciting things being planned for 2023!

Some of you may have already noticed that we have undertaken a complete update of the PLPA.org website. Many thanks to Dick DiDomizio for his many years as webmaster, and for creating the very first PLPA webpage. But the time had come to modernize the site and to add new features. I'm pleased to report that the new website PLPA.org is up and running. If you haven't already, I hope you will check it out. (If you're reading this online...we'll I guess you already know that!)

Perhaps the most useful new feature is the ability to easily pay your dues and make donations through the website. If you haven't paid your dues yet, or would like to make a donation, please visit [plpa.org](http://plpa.org) and click the "Join / Renew" link. You can also fill out the membership application online. Having the option to pay online is more convenient for many of our members, and hopefully will cut down on the manual paperwork to process dues and donations.

We hope to use the website as a resource for PLPA members and the lake community. We will be keeping an updated "Events" page so it's easier to find out about events at the lake. We've also posted the container drive and buoy maintenance schedules online. We can always use help with these important lake improvement projects. So please check out the schedules and volunteer if you can, we'd love to see you! I can promise you'll have some laughs, and maybe make some new friends. The Lake Rules and other important information to keep the lake a safe place for boaters, kayak/canoers, and swimmers are also posted on the website.

The website will also have the latest lake news (including the Newsletter articles). To keep up to date on what's happening (or what's happened) make sure you check out the "News" links on the webpage. There are also links to the Glove Theatre and Caroga Arts Collective, and a very interesting history of Peck's Lake written by our own John Peck. In the "Members Section," there's information on the trails and trail maps, how to grieve your property taxes with links to the necessary forms, the PLPA directory, and other (hopefully) helpful information.

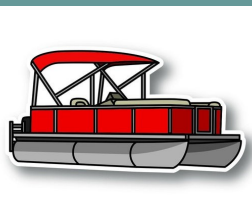
Besides the new website, I'd also like to announce that the PLPA Board has created an Invasive Species Subcommittee. The proliferation of non-native plants (and animals) plagues many Adirondack lakes. Compared to lakes like the Caroga Lakes -- and even Canada Lake -- we've been lucky not to have suffered the same degree of invasive species infestation. The subcommittee is tasked with identifying which invasive species may already be in the lake, and with researching mitigation and/or extermination strategies that might be appropriate for Peck's Lake. To find out more about invasive species and the work of the subcommittee, click the "Invasive Species" link on the [plpa.org](http://plpa.org) homepage.

I've been asked frequently about the status of the lawsuit. Attorneys for both sides made their oral arguments and submitted their final written motions in early March. It's now before the judge. There's no timetable -- it could take several months (or more) for the judge to issue a ruling. We'll make sure to keep you informed when there's news.

continued...

## President's Message.... continued

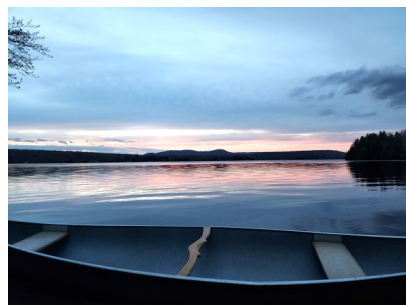
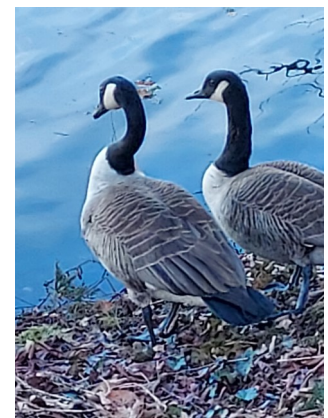
Considering a  
new boat this  
year?  
To see limits  
and regulations  
on boat and  
motor size  
go to:  
[https://plpa.org/  
lake-rules/](https://plpa.org/lake-rules/)



.On a brighter note, there's a lot the PLPA has planned for the lake community this year! We're pleased to announce that the Caroga Lake Music Festival is coming back to the lake in 2023 (see Kathleen Perrott's article in this newsletter and on the website). The PLPA will also be hosting a tent for members at the CLMF Jazz Festival!

The Summerfest Committee has planned several "Summerfest" activities, including a "Back to the Lake" cocktail party, boat parties, a cornhole tournament, facepainting, and kayak and canoe races this summer! There will also be the annual fireworks, the Fishing Derby, the annual chicken barbeque, craft fairs, hikes, and the PLPA Christmas Party. Make sure to check the "PLPA Events" section of the website for the latest dates and times.

I'd also like to remind those who haven't yet joined the PLPA for 2023 that we are in the midst of our 2023 membership drive. The PLPA is funded solely from member dues and donations. If you're not sure if, or why, you should join the PLPA, please visit the "About" page at PLPA.org



## Ice Out 2023: April 15

Continuing the tradition started by Wellington Peck, and continued by Larry Doubleday, I'm pleased to announce that the official 2023 "Ice Out" date for Peck's Lake was Saturday, April 15. The final decision was made from information from the crowd sources, several observers, emails, road trips around the lake, and a photo of the last lone ice floe – a stubborn swath of ice over on the South Shore (pictured below). Many thanks to all those who helped with "crowd sourcing" the date, and congratulations to Kathleen and Bob Wilson, who forecast the date from way back in December!

~ Sue Phillips



## Strategic Committee (SC) Long Term Planning Committee (LTPC) Update

The SC focus has been on supporting topics covered elsewhere in this issue such as efforts of other committees within the PLPA related to invasive species, or the ongoing lawsuit. The LTPC has been working on our continuing pursuit of what we believe the lake and surrounding area might look like in the next 5-10 years, physically, as well as ownership and management. We have put together some ideas, and are meeting with representatives of the Peck family businesses to further discuss and explore these ideas. This will be taking place during our spring Liaison Meeting, currently scheduled to be held May 15th

~John Dackow



Ice Out Week Photos: Bob Wilson

## Spring has Sprung and Clean-up has Begun!

Spring HAS finally arrived and it is once again time to scour the roadsides for trash (not treasures)! As in past years, once again please take a bag with you on your walks on the Peck Lake Road right around the Marina to the spur to North Shore, the South Shore Road, North Shore, Maplewood, Little Gem, Hemlock, and Evergreen to pick up trash that has accumulated over the winter. If you find something unmanageable, I can arrange to have it removed. Once you have covered an area, please let me know it has been done so I can cross it off the list!

Krempa Landscaping will be covering the biggest part of our clean up on 29A this year. You may have seen their signs. They will be picking up the piece we have been doing from the schoolhouse to just past the entry to North Shore Road. That is really good news so no need for us to risk life and limb picking up that serious debris!

Thank you to all who have probably already gotten much of the clean up done around the lake. It is certainly appreciated by all of us!

~ Beth Flynn

## Summer on the Lake ~ Summerfest ~ Summer Fun!!

It's going to be a glorious summer after this crazy Spring. In the short span of a week or two, we've had winter, spring AND summer... now back to Spring. The PLPA's Summerfest Committee has been meeting over the winter to organize several events spread out over the summer rather than just a single Summerfest weekend. We'll start the season with a Welcome Back to the Lake Party on Sunday, May 28 under the Marina tent. Please come and greet your old friends and make some new ones at 5:00 pm - byob and bring an appetizer to share if you can. There will be three Boat Parties on the lake - boats tying up together down by the earthen dam on July 1, August 4 and September 2, weather permitting. We have boat coordinators for the August 4 party but need some help on July 1 and September 2. Let me know if you can! There will be a bonfire again on West Bay after the Boat Party on August 4 and the following morning the kayak and canoe races will begin at 8:30 am, followed by our annual cornhole tournament at 11:00 am. New this year will be a PLPA hospitality tent at the Caroga Arts Collective Jazz Fest starting at 5:00 pm on August 5.

All of these events (and much more) are on the PLPA website in the events section. Keep checking back - some dates are a work in progress... and there is so much information on the new website. We are looking forward to Peck's Lake fun in the months ahead!

~ Beth Flynn



Welcome to the Derrick Alley family who recently purchased the former home of Carol Persse at 21 I South Shore Rd. We wish them many happy days in their new home on Peck Lake and wonderful memories for years to come.

## PLPA Board Meeting: April 24, 2023

This was the first meeting since the beginning of the membership drive and the good news is that we are up to 86 members. That's slightly ahead of where we were at this time last year. While that's encouraging, we're still down from the 2023 final total of 158 Owner/Camper members. With the enhanced ability to pay your dues and make donations on the website, we're planning a second membership drive in the coming weeks. So, if you haven't joined or renewed your membership yet for 2023, please make time. The PLPA relies totally on donations to fund the many projects and events we sponsor.

As you may have heard, the PLPA recently created an invasive species subcommittee to gather more information on invasive species and the threat they pose to Adirondack Lakes. The Board received an update on the latest efforts of the subcommittee. You can read more about what they have been working on in Donna Coffey's article elsewhere in this newsletter.

For those of you who haven't visited it yet, we hope you'll visit the new PLPA website (PLPA.org). The website has been overhauled and modernized. During the Board meeting we began discussing ways to make the website a resource for the lake community – so if you have any ideas, we'd love to hear from you.

We also discussed the Lake Events calendar. Beth Flynn, among others, has been busy working on social events at the Lake, including numerous opportunities to get together with boat parties, a bonfire, canoe/kayak races and a summer and winter craft fair. You can see the full calendar of events posted on the website.

The PLPA will also be meeting with the Peck's later this month to talk about many of the issues and concerns you have brought to our attention, including making it easier to put and take your own boats out of the lake, and making sure that the dock storage doesn't block access to the lake for those who canoe and kayak in the early spring and late fall. We'll also be talking to the Pecks about how to improve communication with campers and guests of the cottages on the various lake rules, including wake reduction near the shoreline.

The trail system is a wonderful resource for those of us here at the lake, and it wouldn't be possible without the joint efforts and cooperation of the Peck Family and the PLPA. The Board discussed whether the trails should be for the exclusive use of PLPA members and the Peck's and their guests. It was decided that the trails should be open to all lake residents and guests. We will likely be updating the signage at the trail entrances to reflect that.

As someone who walks their dog along the roadways of the North Shore, speeding cars can be dangerous. Last year the Town of Bleeker imposed a 30mph limit on all public lake roadways in the town – we'll be working with the Town to hopefully install new speed limit signs. The speed limit on the parts of the lake roadways in Johnstown are already 30mph. Especially during the summer months we have many more guests, deliveries and contractors on the lake roads – and they need to be made aware of driving at a safe speed.

Finally – we discussed the issue of property taxes. Now that the assessment rolls are out, most of the lake properties in the Town of Bleeker appear to have had their assessments increased by 15% or more. We'll be working on setting up a meeting with the assessor to discuss this.

That pretty much wraps up the April 2023 Board report. Please check the website from time to time for the latest news and the events schedule, looking forward to seeing you all back at the lake!

## Pecks Lake Aquatic Invasive Species Committee Update

The committee held its second meeting in April to tackle the issue of invasive species in Peck Lake. We have a daunting task ahead of us but are fortunate to have excellent guidance from Brian Greene of APIPP (Adirondack Park Invasive Plant Program).

Our first goal is to positively identify the invasive plants in the lake. Brian will be coming to the lake in July to help us with this task. We are fairly certain we have Eurasian Watermilfoil which is the most common invasive plant in the waters of the Adirondack Park. It can spread quickly forming dense mats that can degrade native habitat and impede recreational use.

We ask residents to remove any pieces of plants that are floating near the shoreline or on your boats. Eurasian Watermilfoil propagates primarily by fragmentation of pieces as small as one inch. It can also be removed from shallow areas by pulling up from the roots.

There is a program being offered by APIPP called Lake Protectors. Three training sessions are being planned for this summer. There will be a virtual one in late June. There will be in-person trainings in July and August. The July one will be in the southern Adirondack area. The exact dates and times will be announced in the next month. If you are interested in attending one of these programs, please email me for details or check on the APIPP website.

~ Donna Coffey, Chairperson

## Pecks Lake Craft Fair

Saturday, August 5  
10 am—3 pm  
at Pecks Marina

There is space for 15 crafters/artisans and 8 have already been filled. If you're interested, please call Cookie Fleischut (518)774-5191 or Sue Peck (518)725-6251.



# Caroga Arts Announces 2023 Caroga Lake Music Festival Summer Lineup!

Caroga Arts Collective (CAC) recently announced this summer’s Caroga Lake Music Festival (CLMF) Lineup. **The CAC will be here at Peck’s Lake on Sunday, July 30 at 2pm at the Peck Lake Marina as part of the CLMF on Tour program.** The performance is free – but, donations are greatly appreciated and help fund CAC programs and operations.

This year’s lineup will welcome more than 125 artists for over 35 concerts including notable guest artists Judy Collins, Baha Men, and The War and Treaty. For the second time in its 12-year history, this year’s festival will include a full symphony performed conductor-less by the Caroga Arts Ensemble – Beethoven’s Pastoral Symphony. “We’re excited to bring a robust lineup of artists to Caroga Lake for our 12th summer season,” said Kyle Barrett Price, Founder and Artistic Director of the Caroga Arts Collective. “Our concerts will feature a diverse array of genres – classical, jazz, rock, and everything in between –presented lakeside at Sherman’s Park and at other beloved venues across the region.”

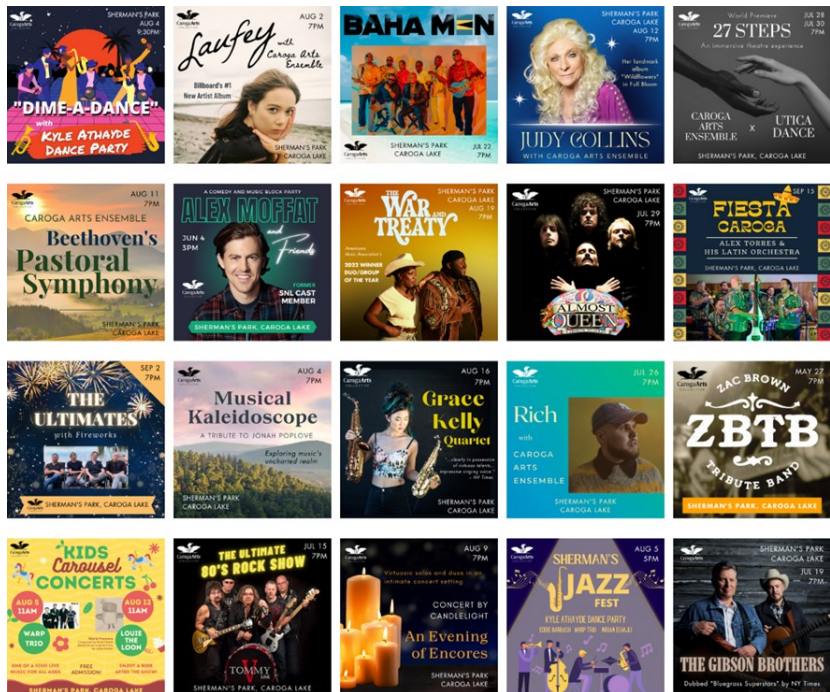
Caroga Arts will also invite music lovers of all ages to Sherman’s Park for the CLMF Lesson & Ensembles Program. Back for its second year, the Lessons & Ensembles Program provides music workshops and individual or small group lessons, led by Caroga Arts Ensemble artists, to community members looking to learn a new instrument or hone their talent.

Over the course of its five-week season, CLMF will feature more than 20 touring guest artists and ensembles. In addition to well-known names Judy Collins, Baha Men, and The War and Treaty, CLMF will feature up-and-coming artists such as Laufey, an Icelandic musician and songwriter who recently ranked #1 on Billboard’s Alternative New Artist Chart. Past CLMF attendees will also recognize familiar favorites Eddie Barbash, performing at Sherman’s Jazz Fest; The Ultimates, back for a Labor Day concert with fireworks; and Alex Torres & His Latin Orchestra at Fiesta Caroga, celebrating Hispanic Heritage Month.

The full schedule can be found, and tickets can be purchased here: [https://carogaarts.org/events/?mc\\_cid=49b6a7931d&mc\\_eid=ef442d52b4](https://carogaarts.org/events/?mc_cid=49b6a7931d&mc_eid=ef442d52b4)

The Caroga Arts Gala will take place on July 21 – tickets can be purchased here: <https://carogaartscollective-bloom.kindful.com/e/2023-caroga-arts-gala>. The Gala, the CAC’s largest fundraising event of the year, provides vital support for the daily operations of the organization. All Gala contributions help support CAC’s mission to reimagine the Caroga experience through the power of the arts. One of the ways you can dramatically impact CAC’s dynamic momentum is to sponsor a silent auction item. If you have a treasure you would be willing to part with and you think could be a hot item at the Silent Auction, please let me know (kep4123@gmail.com) – I am coordinating the silent auction this year.

~Kathleen Perrott

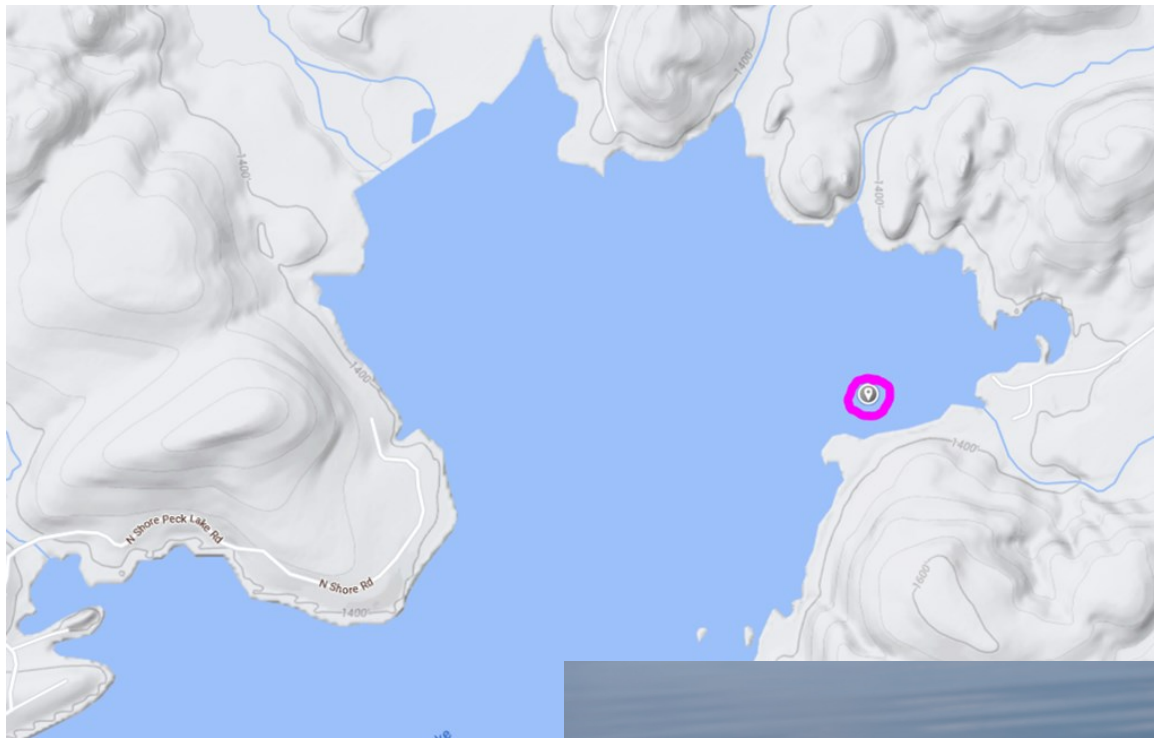


## Docks are in... Stay Clear of Life Preserver in the East End of the Lake

With the docks now in, and some having put their boats in the water already, we want to REMIND everyone that the hazard buoys won't be in the lake until May 17. Also, there is a life-jacket floating in the water at the East end of the lake. DO NOT REMOVE IT or disturb it and STAY CLEAR.

The life-jacket is a marker for the submerged snowmobile that sank in the lake over the winter, and where a young man tragically lost his life. It is tethered to approximately 50 feet of line. So, again, PLEASE USE CAUTION and give it a wide berth.

Arrangements are being made to remove the snowmobile(s) from the lake, though we don't have any information on when that might happen. We will update the lake community when we know more. Please check the "News" section of [plpa.org](http://plpa.org) for the latest updates.



Approximate location of submerged snowmobile and life preserver indicating location.  
*Please avoid the area.*





## What Can We Do to Prevent the Spread of Invasive Species?

If you like to boat or paddle, you've probably heard the phrase Clean, Drain, Dry. These are the three simple and effective steps you can take to prevent aquatic invasives from spreading from one body of water to another. Please don't bring anything new into our lake and don't bring anything from our lake to another lake!

Beginning last June, a new NY State law requires all operators of motorized watercraft to obtain certification that they have cleaned, drained and dried boats and equipment each time they launch into a new waterbody in the Adirondack Park and within 10 miles of the Blue Line. Watercraft operators can receive a watercraft inspection certificate from a boat steward by accepting a free boat inspection or decontamination. Alternately, boaters may follow Clean, Drain, Dry steps on their own and fill out a self-issued certificate available on DEC's website before launching.

Aquatic invasive species (AIS), from Eurasian watermilfoil to zebra mussels, can attach to and hitchhike on boats, motors, trailers and paddles. They can also be transported in bilge and ballast water, live wells fishing rods, and bait buckets.

### What can we do?

**Clean**— After each trip, inspect your boat, canoe, kayak, trailer and anything else that came in contact with water (buoys, anchors, ropes, etc.) for attached mud, plants and debris. Remove and dispose of anything found.

**Drain**— Identify any standing water in boat compartments, bilge tanks, motors or live wells and drain the water from them.

**Dry**— Let your gear and equipment dry completely for at least 48 hours, but ideally five days, before your next trip. For canoes and kayaks, you can also towel dry.

One of the quickest ways to ensure your boat and equipment are Clean, Drained, & Dry is to stop by one of the free boat wash stations in the Adirondacks. You can find the nearest wash station at [adkcleanboats.com](http://adkcleanboats.com). **The nearest station for Peck's Lake is right up the road in Caroga! It's FREE and they will wash your boat, trailer, kayak, canoes, etc.**

With **high pressure, hot water (120-140 degrees f)**, these boat wash systems reduce the chance of introducing AIS into pristine waterways and further harm partially infested waterways. Each wash station is run by individuals trained to identify invasive species and properly decontaminate any evident or suspected threat. A full wash/decontamination takes **less than 15 minutes** (faster than you could wash your boat at home)!

~ Kathleen Perrott

Visit us online:  
[plpa.org](http://plpa.org)



## Second Bottle Drive 2023: May 29

In 2022, the PLPA held five can/bottle drives that raised a total of \$2043!

Funds raised through the bottle drives go directly to stocking fish and maintaining the lake. The first drive, held on April 24 resulting in a total collection of \$356.90!



We will hold five more drives in 2023 with the second collection happening on May 29. Let's continue saving our plastic, glass and aluminum containers. Only items that can be redeemed in NYS for a five cent deposit should be donated.

If you're available to help collect or sort, please contact Clif Wassel.

Peck's Lake Protective  
Association, Inc.  
1 North Shore Road  
Gloversville, NY 12078

Deliver To:

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