

KINDERHOOK LAKE CORPORATION NEWS

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www.kinderhooklakecorp.org

SEPT. 27, 2012



Remember the Drawdown - October 15th!!

Every year on about October 15th, the gate on the dam is opened and the level of water in the lake is lowered by about 4 ft. The primary reason for the lowering is that the water can rise 3 to 4 ft. in one day following a heavy rain and snowmelt. If water is at summer level, ice on the lake can wipe out docks and shorelines. If the wind is blowing, ice can pile up and damage homes.

Exposing shorelines to freezing temperatures kills milfoil and curlyleaf pondweed and permits cleanup and repairs. When the gate was damaged in the 70's and the level could not be lowered, docks had to be removed in the winter and thick weeds grew up along many shorelines in the early spring and summer. Most residents were extremely thankful when the gate was repaired and the level could be drawn down.

Newsletters and Web Site in 2013

As a reminder of the article published in the July 2012 Newsletter, beginning in 2013, Newsletters will be published on the website only, except to those who expressly request hard copies through the mail. A notification e-mail will be sent to all members with e-mail service when each new newsletter is available. More information regarding the web site and online payment of membership is included on page 4.

New Director

At the Annual KLC Meeting on August 25th, Mike Francoeur, who lives at the south end of the lake, was elected to replace Dave Schecter on the KLC Board. Dave served on the Board for many years and as President for several years. Thank you, Dave, for assisting the Corporation in many ways!



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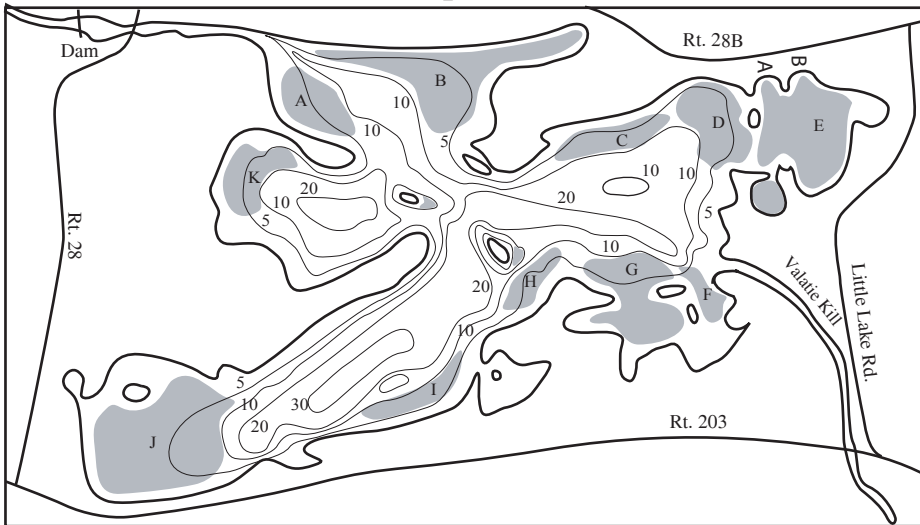


Musical Entertainment For All Occasions

Jack Bogarski
Valatie, NY 518-758-1392

KLC is a non-profit organization formed in 1953 to purchase, maintain and improve Kinderhook Lake. In order to keep everyone informed, all residents and outside Members are sent this Newsletter.

Once Upon a Time



Since we have many new residents who did not experience the lake in the past, it seems only appropriate to play a little game of "Once Upon a Time."

Once upon a time in the 70's, when the gate could not be opened, Dave Ernst risked his life to dive down on the lake side of the gate to see if it could be opened - siphons were constructed over the dam in an attempt to lower the level. During those years, when the level in the lake could not be lowered, curlyleaf pondweed filled the areas A-K in the spring, like it does in Nassau Lake today, and phone calls had to be made to have a cutter boat carve paths through the weed-beds to get boats out into the lake. Dying weeds filled the lake with brown sediment in early July and formed ugly floating masses of fermenting weeds in bay B.

Once upon a time in the 90's, eurasian milfoil moved into the lake and displaced most of the curlyleaf pondweed in areas A through K. As a perennial, it grew all summer making it difficult or impossible to drive boats through the thick weed beds. Cutting was impossible because growth was too rapid and cut sections rerooted. Stan Cruden researched sterile weed-eating carp and proposed to DEC in 1997 that carp be stocked to eat the weeds. The application was not approved but, in 1998, milfoil began dying back in July and the weevil, which feeds on the growing tips of the plants, was found on some plants. Cutting was stopped so the weevil could feed and move into weed beds all over the lake. We are fortunate that our lake has muddy bottoms at the north and south ends which are perfect for weevils to spend the winter in the soil.

Once upon a time, areas E, F and G were completely covered with water chestnuts and Stan Cruden and his wife spent almost every evening in the early summer cutting them so they could not seed. Once upon a time in the 90's, blue green algae covered the lake with such heavy scum that copper sulfate treatments did no good - boats carved paths through the scum and their wakes were green. The alum program in 2001-2009 reduced bottom phosphorus by about 90% and the new dam on Nassau Lake, with its 100-ft. wide spillway, permits only low-nutrient surface water into the stream. The past summer was hot, but was one of the best in terms of water, weeds and algae. By continuing efforts to reduce nutrient levels, Kinderhook Lake can continue to improve as an even more beautiful residential recreation area.

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2nd Annual KLC BBQ

The 2nd Annual Chicken BBQ & Fund Raiser was a huge success. Over 230 chicken dinners were served at the Elks Lodge on Rt. 9H. People enjoyed eating, drinking, talking with neighbors and friends, listening to live music by Joel Potts and winning some terrific prizes. The KLC cleared over \$2080 to help its continuing efforts to improve Kinderhook Lake.

Such a successful event would not have been possible without the tireless group of volunteers who donated their time and the businesses below who donated gifts for raffle prizes. A special thanks to Rick Theriault and Mike Weldon for organizing the event, Lisa Rich and Jill Weldon for tracking down business sponsors to donate raffle gifts and Chase Pugliese for advertising.

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Winding Brook Country Club	Mario's Home Center	Olde Kinderhook Country Club
RnD Deli & Market	Great Finds	

Future Dam Repairs

You've heard it said that, "Without the dam, there would be no lake." Maintaining our dam is one of the main purposes of the KLC and is a continuing effort that cannot be ignored. Last year's repairs to the dam helped insure greater structural integrity by lining the oldest portions with new coffer steel and reinforced concrete. The next project that needs attention, which was discussed at the June and August membership meetings, is the sluice gate and outlet pipe, both of which are necessary to control the level of the lake.

East of the main spillway, at the base of the dam, is a 60+ year-old 4-foot diameter, 17-foot long, steel outlet pipe which extends through the dam. At the lake end of the pipe, is a 48-inch square guillotine-type gate, called a sluice gate. The gate is manually raised or lowered to allow the passage of varying quantities of water to control the level in the lake.

Water has been leaking through the perimeter of the sluice gate, as well as around the outlet pipe, causing corrosion to the pipe and deterioration of the surrounding concrete. Last Spring, the KLC Board submitted an application to the NYS Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) to obtain a Permit to construct a coffer dam in front of the sluice gate, so the gate and outlet pipe can be inspected and repaired. Based on the inspection, an appropriate course of action will be determined, as well as an estimated cost of repair. The Board is hopeful that the current \$60,000 Dam Reserve Fund will be adequate to cover the cost of repair. Of course, the magnitude of the repairs cannot be fully assessed until the coffer dam is built to allow for the inspection. Preliminary expectations are that the sluice gate can be repaired by replacing the perimeter gasnet; however, it is likely that the outlet pipe will need to be replaced to stop deterioration of surrounding concrete. Although we have received no timeline from DEC, it is hopeful that a Permit will be received this Fall so the inspection and repairs can proceed as soon as possible.

Updates will be posted on the KLC website as they become available. If you have any questions, please post them to the COMMENTS page on the website or contact any KLC Board Member.

Fish Stocking

On August 14th, KLC stocked 200 6-in. largemouth bass and, on Sept. 11th, NYDEC put 1,900 tiger muskies in the lake. Bass stocking appears to be successful because many more small bass were caught this past summer. However, in spite of three years of heavy tiger stocking, it appears that most have been food for our fish.

Online Membership-Payment System

As always, a KLC membership application will be sent to all shore-line residents, off-lake members and business sponsors in January. However, beginning in 2013, you will have the option to pay for your memberships, make donations, become a business sponsor and purchase a gate key directly through the KLC web site. Payments will be accepted via most credit cards or Paypal. All online payments will be serviced through Paypal to assure security. More information about the Online Membership Payment System will be available this fall on our website and in your January membership package.

Website Updates

Over the summer, many new features have been added to the KLC website. The DOWNLOADS page now includes many links to the NYS Dept. of Environmental Conservation and NYS Office of Parks and Recreation articles about boating safety, boating education requirements, regulations for boat launch sites, fire safety on boats, other boating resources and the latest laws about the use of lawn fertilizers around the lake. On that same page, you'll also find a link to purchase a USGS map of the Kinderhook Lake vicinity.

The MAPS page now includes the FEMA flood map of the west side of the lake, as well as a 1900 USGS map showing the size of the lake over 100 years ago. The FAQ page has information about copper sulfate treatment for algae control and the GALLERY page has photos of our successful July Chicken BBQ and Fundraiser, as well as old postcards of Electric Park.

If you ever need assistance around the lake, the County Sheriff's phone number is now prominently posted on the upper right of every page on the website.

We hope everyone is enjoying our new website ; we hope to continue to make many more improvements. If you have ideas for additions, please send them to klcweb@archman8.com. Thank you!

KLC Area Directors

Fran Sindlinger Treasurer 784-2299	1	Ken Bosen Merchandise 456-1542	5	Sharon Grubin Secretary 917-750-8382	9
Mike Weldon 784-3651	2	Rick Tieriault 573-5088	6	Bernie Kelleher 784-4717	10
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KLC Christmas Gifts - Check out the web site.

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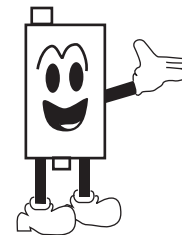
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