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[kinderhooklakecorp.org](http://kinderhooklakecorp.org)

Winter 2016

## The Same Sad Story — Another Year

Although we ran this article last winter, it's worth repeating. And with the KLC's new membership software program we have an updated and hopefully more accurate count of memberships. So what's the big deal?

Based on county property tax maps, there are 294 riparian property owners around the lake. In 2015, the KLC had 154 riparian members (out of a total 229 memberships), leaving 140 riparian property owners - that's 48% of the riparian properties - who benefit from the KLC's care and improvements to the lake and dam without becoming a member. That's quite sad.

On top of the lack of riparian property owner support, we have a surrounding community of families who love to use Kinderhook Lake, yet many refuse to become members and support the KLC's efforts to maintain the lake and dam. That's also very sad and very frustrating.

Please also keep in mind that the KLC receives NO funding from the State, County, Towns or DEC, and relies only on funds derived from memberships, donations and business sponsorships. That being said, we cannot forget and certainly do want to thank those riparian owners and off-lake families and businesses who do provide generous contributions year after year. Your support is greatly appreciated.

Once again it's important to remind everyone that maintaining the lake and dam takes a great

effort by a volunteer Board and a small handful of member volunteers, along with a cost of more than \$30,000 per year, not including the cost of construction repairs to the dam. Also, not too surprising, these costs are rising every year. Here's a brief review of where that money goes.

- ◆ Maintain, upgrade and operate the dam. Remember - *without the dam, there is no lake!*
- ◆ Maintain the Rt. 28 launch site, boat access ramp and gate
- ◆ Monitor water quality, prepare yearly permit applications, and administer water treatment for control of algae growth in accordance with DEC guidelines
- ◆ Maintain and operate the weed-cutter boat and organize weed pulls to regulate growth of invasive water chestnuts
- ◆ Maintain and monitor the fish population; stock fish as needed
- ◆ Publish quarterly newsletters and maintain a website and Facebook page to keep KLC members, riparian owners and the community informed of important and interesting news about the lake
- ◆ Organize and host the annual July 4th events, such as the kayak rally, fishing derby, boat parade and circle of lights for all lake users

We encourage you, as our members, to share this message with your non-member neighbors.

This letter was received from KLC member Christopher Heid and is reprinted with his permission.

"July 22, 2015

Dear KLC,

Enclosed is my check for annual membership. I apologize for its lateness.

I was dismayed to read in your winter 2015 newsletter that so few riparian owners support the KLC.

My family and I spent many fond years on the Lake from the 1950s through the 1970s. We would leave our house in Watervliet as soon as school was out for the summer, and did not return until classes began again in the fall, while my father commuted to his office in Troy. In fact, I was born in 1958 and was brought directly from Samaritan Hospital in Troy to our camp on the lake.

As we kids got older, we preferred being with our friends in the city, and rarely came to the camp after that. Unfortunately, our camp burnt down, I believe in the 1970s.

However, as lake front property owners, I continue to feel an obligation to support the KLC and its many important tasks, particularly including repairs to the dam. I wish more lake front property owners understood this obligation, and acted accordingly.

I extend my sincere thanks to the KLC Board members, and all those who participate in maintaining and enhancing our beautiful Kinderhook Lake.

Sincerely, Christopher Heid."



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## Annual Notice of Treatment of Kinderhook Lake with Copper Sulfate

KLC has applied to NYSDEC for a permit to treat Kinderhook Lake with copper sulfate in 2016 (EPA Registration No. 46923-4). It is an herbicide which is used broadly to control algae. The levels used will be within the limits permitted by NYSDEC to kill blue-green algae without affecting other forms of algae.

In early spring, when water temperatures are low, white algae, called diatoms, multiply rapidly. Those algae, as well as several other forms of brown and green, are produced as the water warms; they are excellent food for crustaceans, mollusks, and fish fry. However, when water temperatures reach 68 degrees F, blue-green algae begins to multiply rapidly. Since blue-greens are not consumed by other organisms, they grow at the expense of the edible forms. If left untreated, levels will rise, water clarity will decrease and an unsightly, odor-producing scum of blue-green algae will form on the surface. Blue-green algae are not toxic to humans but may be to some dogs and other domestic animals. Swimming, eating fish, and watering domestic animals will be restricted for 24 hours following treatment.

*Don't forget ...*

### KLC Logo Merchandise

Contact Ken Bosen at 518-456-1542. Photos of available merchandise can be found on our website.

- ◆ KL History Books
- ◆ Sweatshirts
- ◆ Polo shirts
- ◆ Henleys
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- ◆ Caps
- ◆ "One Tree Island" logo wine glasses are back in stock
- ◆ Mugs
- ◆ Flares
- ◆ Koozies
- ◆ Key Floats
- ◆ First Aid Kits

Persons wishing to register their disapproval with regard to the proposed treatment may do so by writing or calling Mr. Mark Solan, NYSDEC Region #4, 1150 N. Wescott Road, Schenectady, NY 12306, (518) 357-2045; persons wishing to do so have twenty-one days from the date of this mailing. No response from riparian owners will be considered consent for the applications.

## Ask Not What Your Lake Can Do for You ...

### ... Ask What You Can Do for Your Lake!

This seems to be the new mantra for the recently convened Weed Committee. Board Members Ken Bosen, Dan Langer, Steve Sigler and Paul Winslow have been meeting to discuss various options for helping to reduce the spread of invasive weed species in Kinderhook Lake. Along side our Treasurer, Fran Sindlinger, who is exploring future grant opportunities related to aquatic invasive species education, the Weed Committee is seeking solutions to our current invasive weed problem.

It's important to understand that invasive weeds already in the lake will be difficult if not impossible to totally eradicate. The best we can hope for is to control their spread and perhaps reduce the size of the beds. Maintaining control of the weed beds will be an on-going maintenance issue for the KLC every summer.

It's also important to understand the growth patterns of different weeds. Milfoil is mostly spread through fragmentation of leaves, meaning every time a boat propeller races through a milfoil bed it shreds the plants, and each fragment travels elsewhere in the lake to start a new plant. Water chestnuts are mostly propagated from their nutlets floating or being transported around the lake. Pondweed spreads mostly through its travelling root system and, unfortunately, can even propagate during the winter under the ice.

There are numerous alternatives to stopping the spread or at least reducing the size of the weed beds, each with its own set of advantages, disadvantages, cost, regulatory requirements and environmental issues. They include, but are not limited to, hand pulling, rotovating, suction harvesting, drawdown, dredging, benthic barriers, shading, herbicides and biological control. Currently, the KLC uses a drawdown and hand pulling (of water chestnuts) as the only means of invasive weed control, involving little or no cost to our membership.

*(continued on Page 3)*

## 2015 — The Year in Review

Each year the KLC is proud of its many accomplishments fulfilled by a volunteer Board of Directors and a few other member volunteers. 2015 was no different.

- ◆ In early June, volunteers spent a Saturday morning pulling water chestnuts from the north end of the lake, making a huge impact in reducing the area of this invasive weed.
- ◆ The Weed Committee (Ken Bosen, Steve Sigler, Dan Langer, Paul Winslow) has been meeting to explore various alternatives to curb the spread of invasive weed beds in the lake. Dan Langer was successful in getting NY iMapInvasives and DEC to set up a special project to allow 'citizen volunteers' to map invasive species in Kinderhook Lake starting next summer.
- ◆ Despite the weather, the 4th of July Kayak Rally, organized by Russ Camadine, was attended by many kayakers willing to brave the downpour.
- ◆ Rick Theriault and his committee of many member volunteers organized another successful summer BBQ that raised over \$3000 to help fund the KLC's efforts to maintain the lake and dam.
- ◆ Certified herbicide applicator Drew Nelson applied copper sulfate around the lake every other week in June, July and August to control the growth of blue-green algae.

- ◆ Again, under the watchful eyes and guidance of the Dam Committee (Bernie Kelleher, Bill Cleary, Russ Camadine), replacement of the deteriorated concrete on the downstream face of the dam was successfully completed, well within budget.
- ◆ Despite a few startup glitches, Fran Sindlinger and Mike Francoeur made excellent use of a new membership software package to help get membership packets and gate keys out to KLC members.
- ◆ Fran Sindlinger is exploring opportunities for grant applications to fund a future aquatic invasive species education.

2016 looks to be another year of challenges and hopefully successes as the KLC Board and member volunteers make an effort to meet the goal of being good stewards of Kinderhook Lake.



**Dreaming of Summer**

## Ask Not What Your Lake Can Do for You ... *(continued from page 2)*

Over the winter the Committee has been looking at alternatives to increase volunteer weed pulls. The committee learned last summer that a dozen volunteers working for 90 minutes can pull an amazing amount of water chestnuts. Imagine the impact that 2 or 3 dozen volunteers would have. The Committee will also be meeting with a capital district diving club to discuss the potential of volunteer scuba divers working with lake volunteers to pull weeds by their root system.

The Committee is also studying some costly options for weed control, including, but not limited to, the use of benthic barriers (a fabric-type blanket weighted on the lake bed to smother the weeds) and/or the use of herbicides. Some of these options may be more appropriate for riparian owners to clear weeds in front of their property, and other options are more appropriate for larger areas or lake-wide use. Of course, ongoing funding for these options is a major concern and will likely need to come from additional memberships and donations. This year, the Board has decided to add a "Weed Management Fund Donation" category to our membership application. It is the Committee's and Board's hope that this will spur additional donations from members who specifically wish to assist in the effort of curbing invasive weed growth in our lake.

Volunteers are needed to either serve on the committee, help raise funds, write grant applications and/or assist with summer activities such as weed-pulls. If you are interested, please send a message to [klcnews@archman8.com](mailto:klcnews@archman8.com).

This will not be an easy or short term issue to resolve. Our mantra means that it will take time and effort by many volunteers willing to work hard as stewards of Kinderhook Lake. Suffice it to say that the KLC Board and Weed Committee have started the march in the right direction; but the problem will not go away on its own.

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**Its never too early to think about Spring. The lake will start rising to summer level around April 15th or within two weeks of ice-out (whichever is later)**

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**2016 Budget (Draft)**

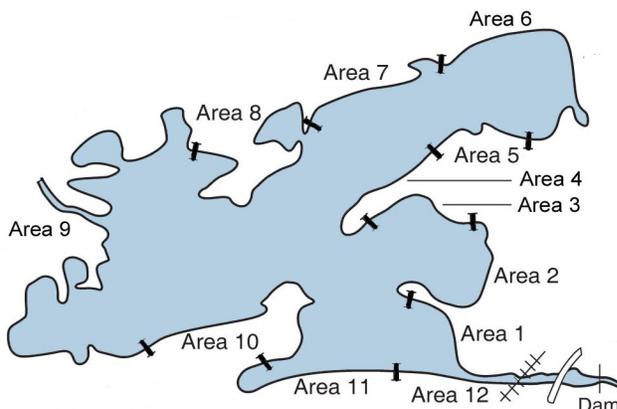
	2015 Actuals	2016 Estimate
<b>Operating Income</b>		
Contributions & Net Fundraising Events	40,823	52,082
Board Designated Funds to Dam Reserve *	(10,200)	(10,200)
<b>Total Operating Income</b>	<b>\$ 30,623</b>	<b>\$ 41,882</b>
<b>Operating Expense</b>		
Dam & Rt 28 Property Maintenance (non-capital exp)	2,374	2,900
Insurance: Dam and Other Liability	4,942	5,367
Cutter Boat / Equipment Maintenance	74	350
Outreach, Supplies & Communications	2,055	2,705
Professional Services & Misc Programs	8,190	13,560
Water Quality Management	13,950	13,500
Weed Control Management	0	2,000
Fish Stocking Management	3,000	1,500
<b>Total Operating Expenses</b>	<b>\$ 34,585</b>	<b>\$ 41,882</b>
<b>Surplus (Deficit) Before Dam Improvements - Operating</b>	<b>\$ (3,962)</b>	<b>\$ 0</b>
<b>Dam Reserve Income</b>		
Contributions to Dam Reserve	1,335	1,300
Board Designated Funds From General Fund *	10,200	10,200
<b>Total Dam Reserve Income</b>	<b>\$ 11,535</b>	<b>\$ 11,500</b>
<b>Dam Reserve Expense</b>		
Dam: Capital Improvements	37,750	10,000
<b>Total Dam Reserve Expense</b>	<b>\$ 37,750</b>	<b>\$ 10,000</b>
<b>Surplus (Deficit) Dam Reserves</b>	<b>\$ (26,215)</b>	<b>\$ 1,500</b>
<b>Organizational Surplus (Deficit) December 31</b>	<b>\$ (30,178)</b>	<b>\$ 1,500</b>

\* Note: Each month, the Board transfers \$850 from the General Fund to the Dam Reserve Fund.

Liquid Assets	General Fund	Dam Fund	Total
December 31, 2014	\$ 32,414	\$ 52,857	\$ 85,271
December 31, 2015	\$ 28,453	\$ 26,642	\$ 55,095

**Area Directors**

KLC Directors are responsible for certain programs and for representing residents in shoreline areas indicated on the map. If you have concerns, please contact your Area Director.



Area 1	Fran Sindlinger	518-784-2299
Area 2	Steve Sigler	518-758-2526
Area 3	Dan Langer	518-221-8689
Area 4	Bill Cleary	518-784-3914
Area 5	Ken Bosen	518-456-1542
Area 6	Rick Thieriault	518-573-5088
Area 7	Paul Winslow	518-784-3361
Area 8	Drew Nelson	347-721-6930
Area 9	Sharon Grubin	518-392-3427
Area 10	Bernie Kelleher	518-784-4717
Area 11	Russ Camadine	518-784-2087
Area 12	Mike Francoeur	518-784-2651

**KLC News Editor:**  
Daniel Langer