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# The KLC News



kinderhooklakecorp.org

Winter 2022

## Rising Operational Costs

Hardly a day goes by without news of rising inflation. We see rising prices of food, gas, building material, cars, almost everything. And of course, it's no different for the KLC. Basic operational costs have been rising for years while membership dues have essentially remained the same since 2008 (except a small \$15 raise to the basic membership in 2014). The cost of printing, postage, envelopes, gate lock and keys, copper sulfate, field equipment, equipment maintenance, winter storage, insurance, etc.



are all rising. In addition, the KLC continues to transfer \$850 per month from the General Fund to the Dam Reserve Fund in anticipation of future dam expenses. While last year members generously donated over \$75,000 towards the cost of ProcellaCor to successfully treat Eurasian milfoil, the KLC had to spend over \$12,000 from the General Fund to make up for the total treatment cost of almost \$88,000. And please remember that the KLC receives no additional funding from any private or public agencies or municipalities. Accordingly, we find it necessary to increase each level of membership dues by \$25: basic membership to \$150, sustaining membership to \$200, and benefactor membership to \$225. Launch gate keys will remain at \$15. We'll now offer a single business sponsorship level at \$200, which includes a basic membership.

We hope you will continue to support the KLC through membership dues and business sponsorships, and strongly urge you to consider donating to our Restricted Funds (see below). Thanks for your understanding and continued support.

## So, What Are All Those Restricted Funds About?

As stated above, membership dues are collected to cover the basic operational costs of the KLC. However, larger expenses often become necessary to maintain the dam and lake in optimal conditions, so Restricted Funds were created to help meet these funding obligations.

◆ The **Dam Reserve Fund** was created specifically to cover the cost of maintaining and upgrading the dam. You know the story well, "without the dam there would be no lake!" Over the past decade, close to \$300,000 has been spent on dam improvements such as new coffer steel and structural concrete support to the upstream side of the dam, relining of the sluice pipe, repairing the sluice gate, replacing the old pedestrian bridge, refacing spalling concrete on the downstream side of the dam, and replacing deteriorated concrete surfaces of the main spillway. To help bolster the Dam Reserve Fund for potential or unexpected repair and upgrade projects, \$850



per month (\$10,200 per year) is transferred from the General Fund to the Dam Reserve Fund. Through these transfers, along with the restricted donations from KLC members, we have been able to keep the dam in excellent operating condition. As with all dams, however, ours will continue to be subject to deterioration over the years, and we must be ready as additional repairs and upgrades are required in the future. (Continued on Pg 2)

## 2021 Harvesting Operations

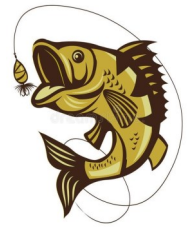
As required by our yearly DEC harvesting permit, a summary of harvesting operations, harvesting locations, copies of daily data collection forms, and harvesting photos must be submitted to DEC by the end of each year. The following is an excerpt from the 2021 Summary of Harvesting Operations.



“...Due to the (*ProcellaCor*) herbicide treatment in 2021, the Eco-Harvester was only used for one (1) day to harvest approximately 6,000 square feet of water chestnuts at the north end of the lake. One harvester-bed of water chestnuts was collected, equaling ~3.5 cubic yards. The water chestnuts were harvested on July 7, before any seed nutlets began to form. Water depths within harvesting areas were noted to be ~4-feet. Since the harvester and dump trailer were not used for the rest of the summer, the water chestnuts remained in the trailer under a tarp until late-October. By then, the weeds had dried and reduced in size to a volume filling less than a residential wheelbarrow...”

## Restricted Funds *(continued from Pg 1)*

- ◆ The **Weed Management Fund** is designated to controlling the spread of invasive and nuisance aquatic vegetation. In the correct balance, aquatic vegetation is critical to a healthy lake and creates a lake environment that is pleasing for recreational activities such as boating, fishing, and swimming. We've all seen the results of an overabundance of weeds in recent years and we've seen the positive results of the use of the Eco Harvester and more recently the powerful results of the use of the latest and greatest herbicide, ProcellaCor. The Weed Management Fund will help finance future herbicide treatments as needed, as well as to provide for fuel and maintenance of the Eco Harvester.
- ◆ The **Water Quality Fund** is all about controlling algae and potential harmful algal blooms. To control algae, the lake is treated with copper sulfate throughout the summer based on bi-weekly chemical analysis. The Water Quality Fund pays for testing equipment, training and license fees for our herbicide applicators, and fuel and maintenance of the herbicide application boat.
- ◆ The **Fish Fund** was created decades ago to bolster one of the KLC's original purposes, "...to help secure the planting of bass and other game fish." Dozens of people can be found fishing on the lake on a typical day during the summer and most report Kinderhook Lake as a great place to fish. As funds become available, the KLC will continue to stock the lake with bass and feeder fish, along with appropriate habitat as needed.



## Investigating Better Flood Control Measures at the Dam

Regardless of the reasons, weather and storm patterns have been changing rapidly in recent years and the KLC Board of Directors believes the next upgrade to the dam should include better flood control measures. While this upgrade has been discussed for several years, it was brought to the forefront this past summer following more than one flooding event at the lake. Even with the sluice gate wide open for days ahead of a forecasted storm, it cannot release enough water from a storm's sudden deluge of rain to prevent flooding events. The current flood control system, which is also used to raise the water to summer level, consists of wood flashboards held in place by breakaway posts. This system is outdated and unfortunately did not function properly during last summer's floods. The current system only allows for the sudden uncontrolled release of over two feet of water in a very short duration. This sudden release of water may reduce potential damage to the dam, but would likely lead to considerable damage to watercraft, docks, and shorelines, not to mention the possibility of downstream damage. It could then take several weeks to return the water to summer level by manually replacing the breakaway posts and wood flashboards. Therefore, we are currently exploring options for better flood control measures, with the ability to gradually release smaller amounts of water ahead of impending storms. Such a system will also make it easier to raise the lake back to summer level after releasing flood waters. We urge you to consider donations to the Dam Reserve Fund so we can be ready and able to install a new flood control device once an appropriate system is identified, designed, and approved.

## Annual Notice of Copper Sulfate Treatment

The KLC has applied to NYSDEC for a permit to treat Kinderhook Lake with copper sulfate in 2022 (EPA Registration No. 46923-4). Copper sulfate 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. That 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. 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, 1130 N. Wescott Road, Schenectady, NY 12306, (518) 357-2045; persons wishing to do so have twenty-one days from the date of this notice. No response from riparian owners will be considered consent for the applications.



### Ice Safety Reminder

Please remember that the KLC does not monitor or determine safe ice depth on the lake. If you venture out on the ice this winter, please use caution. It is your responsibility to determine if the ice is safe.

Here's the latest information about ice safety from NYSDEC: <https://www.dec.ny.gov/outdoor/7733.html>

### A Brief Look Back

Here's a look back at last year's accomplishments — it takes a village to keep the boat afloat!

- Numerous directors and member volunteers spent a Saturday in April and October cleaning, maintaining, and improving the Rt 28 launch site.
- Several directors took turns visiting the dam on a daily basis throughout the summer to perform inspections, maintenance, and water level control.
- Directors completed applications and received DEC permits for mechanical harvesting of water chestnuts and the use of copper sulfate to control algae growth.
- Requests for proposals were prepared, bids were received, and a local lake management firm and herbicide applicator was selected to treat over 200 acres of milfoil with a fairly new herbicide called ProcellaCor. Thanks to generous member donations, most of the milfoil in the lake was successfully treated and eradicated.
- Directors completed annual reports to DEC for copper sulfate treatments, harvesting operations, and the annual refilling and drawdown of the lake.
- The Eco Harvester and dump trailer were operated by directors to remove about an acre of water chestnuts at the north end of the lake, eliminating the need for a volunteer hand-pulling event this summer.
- Annual July 4<sup>th</sup> events were organized by directors and member volunteers. The kayak rally and boat parade were well attended and the ring of fire is always a joy.
- Directors and member volunteers organized and managed the annual KLC Lake Day in late August. The event was attended by many lake residents who came to enjoy the comradery and free food and drinks.
- The KLC Board welcomes new directors Jill Shaw and Linda Brady, and thanks outgoing directors Fran Sindlinger and Melonie Langdon for their years of service.

### Dates to Remember

#### Early Spring

Lake level starts rising to summer level. Date is weather dependent and will be posted on our website and Facebook page.

#### April 9 & 23, May 7 & 21

Membership & Merchandise Days:  
9am-noon, 9 Old West Shore Dr, Valatie

#### July 4

Annual Independence Day Events:  
Kayak Rally: 8:30-11:30am  
Boat Parade: 1:30pm start at One Tree Island  
Ring of Fire: 9:00pm

#### August 6

Annual KLC Community Lake Day:  
12:00-2:00pm at One Tree Island

#### August 27

KLC Annual Members' Meeting:  
10:00am at the KLIA Hall

### Lake Facts

There are 117 million lakes on Earth, covering 3.7 percent of the continental land surface (not including Antarctica, Greenland or the Caspian Sea). About 90 million of these lakes are less than two football fields in size, or 0.5 to 2.5 acres. The shorelines of all the world's lakes measure roughly 250 times the length of the equator.



**KINDERHOOK  
LAKE  
CORPORATION**

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**ProcellaCor Success**

We were all pleasantly impressed with ProcellaCor's effectiveness at controlling over 200 acres of Eurasian milfoil in the lake last summer. Little, if any, milfoil was spotted around the lake within a few weeks after the June 22<sup>nd</sup> treatment. Some people described it as a "new lake;" some people stated that the lake has "never been this clean." Boating, fishing, and swimming were a joy without the entanglement of milfoil.

As necessary for a healthy lake, by the end of the summer, other weeds started filling the gaps where the milfoil grew. Most are native weeds (bushy pondweed), but several invasive species still remain (curly-leaf pondweed, water chestnuts). Please keep in mind that even native weeds can become a nuisance if they grow too heavily. Bushy pondweed, although a beneficial native weed, propagates through leaf cuttings just like milfoil. So, as always, please try to avoid running your boat propellers through any weed beds.

ProcellaCor treatments for the control of Eurasian milfoil have been reported to last for about three years. We are excited to see what the next couple of years will be like on the lake and need to be ready for spot treatments should they become necessary.

*Don't forget...*

**KLC Logo Merchandise**

Contact Pete Walkes  
914-217-6770  
See photos of merchandise on our website.

New designs coming for 2022

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- ◆ Sweatshirts
- ◆ Polo shirts
- ◆ T-shirts
- ◆ Henleys
- ◆ Caps
- ◆ Mugs
- ◆ Cinch sacks
- ◆ Tea towels
- ◆ Flares
- ◆ Wine Glasses

Money raised through the sale of merchandise is used to benefit Kinderhook Lake programs.

**KLC News Editor:**  
Daniel Langer

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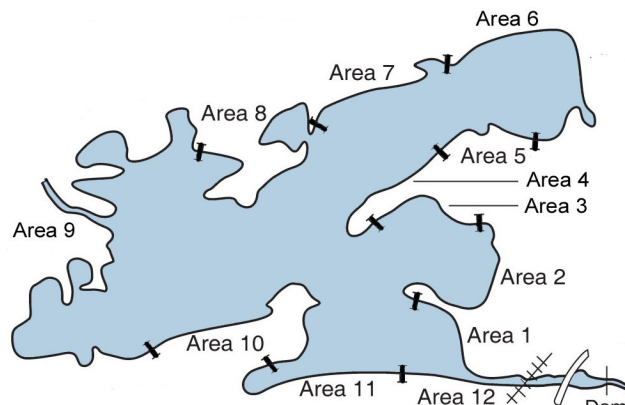
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**Area Directors**

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	Linda Brady	518-784-3023
Area 2	Steve Everett	518-610-8542
Area 3	Dan Langer	518-221-8689
Area 4	Pete Walkes	914-217-6770
Area 5	Jill Shaw	518-755-1583
Area 6	Rick Theriault	518-573-5088
Area 7	Ron Jensis	518-784-4355
Area 8	Drew Nelson	347-721-6930
Area 9	Briggette Roos	518-567-9468
Area 10	Bernie Kelleher	518-929-7232
Area 11	Bill Cleary	518-784-3914
Area 12	Mike Francoeur	518-784-2651