



Star Lake Protective Association

Star Lake, New York 13690

June 1, 2015

Hello Star Lake neighbors,

“Welcome back” to those returning to the lake from wherever and “congratulations” to those who toughed out one of the most severe winters in recent history. Spring is finally upon us. Dull greys have turned to lush greens; flowers are blooming, ducks and loons have returned and the ice is gone! Star Lake has awakened to the 2015 lake season. It’s also a great time for our annual letter to all Star Lake waterfront owners, asking that you join and support the Star Lake Protective Association.

Joining the SLPA provides a number of benefits. Meetings, held twice a year, provide you the opportunity to socialize with your lake neighbors. Membership gives newcomers to the lake a good way to meet their new neighbors in this unique lake community. Just \$20 in dues gives you a voice and vote in various lake matters. Membership also provides a password to the Members’ Area of our web site, access to a Star Lake web cam and a \$5 discount on registration for the poker run! We encourage you not only to join the SLPA; but also to attend our meetings and to participate in our various lake activities.

SLPA activities include organizing lake clean-ups twice a year for ten years now, helping to keep the roads around the lake looking clean for all to enjoy. We are also planning the 11th annual poker run, a well-attended social event with cash prizes and a party on the sandbar following. Our Social Committee is looking into additional activities for the summer and is always looking for new committee members—any suggestions or volunteers? You need not be a member to benefit from or participate in any of these lake activities—just come out, meet your neighbors and have a good time! Of course, we would really like you to become a member as well.

The SLPA continues to support projects that benefit the lake. Members’ dues have financed the purchase and placement of buoys on rock bars around the lake. We fund and maintain a web site devoted to the lake for all to enjoy ([slpa.info](http://www.slpa.info)); and we published and printed the *Star Lake Handbook*, soon to be in its fourth edition. We once financed a professional study of tent caterpillars that recently devastated our area. Our dues also finance worthy community projects such as F.U.N.D. to beautify the Star Lake environment. The SLPA made a sizeable contribution to the new Clifton-Fine Medical Clinic. We also support the SOS 5K walk/run. Recently, we asked the DEC to better-monitor the public carry-on boat launch more frequently to help avoid recent, on-going problems. We continue to periodically monitor our water quality with a sampling and testing program. We inspected, in partnership with the *NYS Adirondack Park Invasive Plant Program*, the lake’s shoreline for invasive plants such as European milfoil, which has devastated other lakes in the Adirondacks. No milfoil has been detected so far. However, we all need to be proactive about controlling invasive species in and around the lake.

Member or not, we would appreciate your help with some important items of common interest. If you rent out your property or provide lake access to others and if your tenants or guests are planning to launch any water craft of any size, *please* ask them to carefully inspect and clean their boat, motor, trailer and gear *before launching* to insure that no milfoil or other invasive species get anywhere near the lake. You might also ask boat and jet ski operators if they are appropriately licensed. Do they know the NYS boater safety rules and regulations? Do they have required safety equipment? Also, do they know the informal customs of the lake, such as general counterclockwise traffic flow? Do they know where the shallows on the lake are and the 5 mph zones? The *Star Lake Handbook* contains such information and might be made available to renters and guests. Also, our web site (http://www.slpa.info/Rules_of_lake.htm or <http://www.slpa.info/SLHandbook.htm>) has a map with this information and much more. Help us to keep the lake and its environment safe and clean for all to enjoy.





If you join the SLPA, please consider becoming an *active* member. Out of 170+ lake property owners, only 60-75 were represented as members over the past several years. Meeting attendance averages 30-40 and only a very few actually help with the planning, organizing, and execution of lake activities. We would appreciate your dues to help finance SLPA programs; *but, more important*, we would like more members to actively contribute their time and effort to help us to achieve our common goals. Please join *and* contribute your time and effort.

Our next meeting will be Saturday, June 27th at 10:00 am at the Adirondack Exhibit Center where the SLPA once traditionally held their meetings. Refreshments and socializing will precede the meeting. If you have anything you'd like to add to the agenda for discussion, please contact me at least a week before the meeting. Minutes of the 2014 Annual Dinner Meeting held last fall are available for review on the website; or you can contact me at (315) 848-2169 to obtain a copy. We have also tentatively scheduled our fall Annual Meeting for Saturday, August 29th at the Haven on Star Lake (formerly Houghton Campus). We'll begin at 5 pm with a social hour; then the meeting; then dinner to follow. Details for reservations are forthcoming. We hope to see you there! Also, receiving this letter means we don't have a valid e-mail address on file for you. Please contact me or use the feedback form at slpa.info to send me your e-mail address. Correspondence via e-mail helps to keep our mailing costs down. Also, we occasionally send notices during the year if we have your e-mail address.

The SLPA benefits *all* who enjoy the lake, members or not. Perhaps you have contemplated joining the SLPA in the past. Or, you are new to the community. Or, you were once a member; but quit for one reason or another. In any case, *now is the time to join* the only organization that represents your Star Lake waterfront interests. We hope that you will continue to support the Association with your membership and contributions of time, effort and dues. Please take a moment now to send your 2015 dues (\$20). Make the check payable to "Star Lake Protective Association" and send or give it to Tess Golden, our treasurer.

Thank you, in advance, for your support of the SLPA. With your help, the Star Lake Protective Association will continue to enhance, protect, preserve and serve this beautiful lake and its community environment.

See you on the lake!

Bo Ritchings, Secretary
Star Lake Protective Association

Please Send Dues to:
Theresa Golden, SLPA Treasurer
P. O. Box 63
Star Lake, NY 13690

2015 SLPA OFFICERS ARE:

President	Vito Testone	848-3476
Vice President	Daphne Henri-Foley	281-381-6119
Treasurer	Tess Golden	848-2745
Secretary	Bo Ritchings	848-2169

2015 SLPA Meetings and Events

Date	Event	Place	Time
Sat, June 27	Regular Meeting-socializing/refreshments; meeting to follow	Adirondack Exhibit Center (Old Schoolhouse--SOS)	10:00 am
Sun, July 12	First Lake Road Clean-up	Meet at CFCS (school) parking lot	9:00 am
Sat, July 18	Benson Mines Tour (rain date: July 20)	Meet at George's Gravel Pit, Rt. 3	10:00 am
Sat, Aug 1	11th Annual Poker-Run	Meet at the sandbar to register	12:00 noon
Sat, Aug 15	Lake Shoreline Clean-up (if there are enough volunteers)	Sandbar	1:00 pm
Sun, Aug 23	Cycle Adirondacks in Star Lake--SLPA raft rides	to be determined	?
Sat, Aug 29	Annual Dinner Meeting - 5:00 Cocktails 6:00 Meeting, Dinner to follow	The Haven at Star Lake (former Houghton Lodge)	5:00 pm
Sat, Sept 5	Second Lake Road Clean-up	Meet at CFCS (school) parking lot	9:00 am