



Star Lake Protective Association

Star Lake, New York 13690

June 1, 2022

Hello Fellow Star Lakers!

Spring finally arrived as winter slowly loosened its grip on Star Lake. "Welcome back" to those returning to the lake from points south. Those of us who stayed here made it through another fairly mild winter. We had a loon rescue in late December. Ice-out was April 8th this year, about two weeks early! Lush greens and colorful flowers have now replaced the dull greys of winter, marking the passing of our vice president, neighbor and friend Daphne Henri-Foley. We are still dealing with a terrible pandemic. Star Lake has awakened to begin another lake season. We will have to proceed with great care to strike a balance between enjoying the lake environment and protecting the health of those around us.

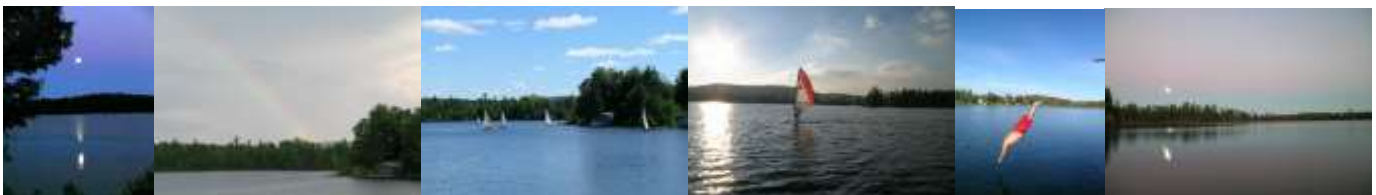
We would like you to consider joining the SLPA in our efforts to keep the lake clean, beautiful and fun for all. Membership in the SLPA provides many benefits. It gives newcomers to the lake a good way to meet their new neighbors in our unique lake community. Meetings, held twice a year, provide a forum to discuss lake issues and to renew friendships. Just \$20 in dues gives you a voice and a vote in various lake matters. We encourage you to join the SLPA, attend our meetings and help us to plan our various lake activities.

SLPA activities include organizing clean-ups three times a year to keep the roads and shorelines around the lake clean for all to enjoy. We (hopefully) will soon be planning the 16th annual poker run with cash prizes and a party on the sandbar afterwards. You don't need to be a member to participate in any of these lake activities. Just come out and join us for a good time. A schedule of our 2022 events is on page 2 and on our website.

The SLPA continues to support projects that benefit the lake. Members' dues have purchased buoys to mark rock bars around the lake. We fund and maintain a web site devoted to Star Lake and the SLPA for all to enjoy (<https://slpa.info>). We published the *Star Lake Handbook*, both in booklet form and on the web site. Our dues fund worthy projects that beautify the community with flowers, flags and banners. We support the SOS 5K walk/run. We periodically monitor the lake's water quality through ALAP (*Adirondack Lake Assessment Program*). In partnership with the APIPP (*NYS Adirondack Park Invasive Plant Program*), we inspect the lake's shoreline for invasive plants such as Eurasian Milfoil, which have invaded other neighboring lakes and waterways. Recent surveys of our shorelines found no invasive, non-native plants in our lake!

We all need to be proactive about keeping invasive species *OUT* of our lake. That's why we (and NYS) are increasing our focus on invasive species education for lake property owners. If you rent out your property or provide lake access to others 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 ensure that no milfoil or other invasive species get anywhere near the lake. It's the law. You could also make sure that boat and jet-ski operators have acquired proper registration and certification to ensure a safe lake environment. Everyone using the lake should review NYS boater safety rules and regulations (links can be found on our web site (<https://slpa.info>)). Informal customs of the lake, such as generally counterclockwise traffic flow, along with where the shallows and the 5 mph zones are can be found in the *Star Lake Handbook* which could be made available to renters and guests. Our web site has a map with this information at https://slpa.info/Rules_of_lake.htm. Help us keep our lake safe and clean.

Regarding the Covid-19 Pandemic, SLPA officers have discussed the coming year's projects, activities, and meetings and how we should deal with the virus. Unless things drastically change, we have decided to hold our meetings in person. We will be able to conduct our clean-ups as we have in the past. We are not yet certain about the Poker Run. Our dinner plans in August are yet to be determined. We will be utilizing the *Bargain Hunter*, our web site and our e-mail listings to try to keep you all informed. So, stay tuned, stay safe, get vaccinated, and follow CDC guidelines to protect yourself and those around you.





If you join the SLPA, consider becoming an active member. Out of 170+ lake property owners, only 60-75 join each year. Meeting attendance averages 20-40 and only a 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 members to contribute their time and efforts to help us to achieve our common goals.

Our next meeting will be Saturday, June 25th at 10:00 am at the Star Lake Community Center. If you have anything you would like to add to the agenda for discussion, please contact me at least a week before the meeting. Minutes of last fall's 2021 Annual Meeting are available for review on

our website. We have also tentatively scheduled our Annual Dinner Meeting for Saturday, August 27th. We hope you can join us for our final get-together of the year and a great meal. The location and time are yet to be determined. Our plans, of course, depend on the status of the pandemic and the CDC guidelines in place at the time. Hopefully, everyone will be vaccinated by then. Check our website for up-to-date information.

This letter is generally the only communication we send to all lake owners; but we occasionally send notices out during the year via e-mail. If you received a paper copy of this letter, that means we do not have a valid e-mail address for you on file. You can help us keep costs down and receive any SLPA updates by sending us your e-mail address using the feedback form at <https://slpa.info/feedback.htm>.

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 some reason. 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. *An organization is only as strong as its membership.* Please help us to define our lake association by taking a moment now to send in your 2022 dues (\$20). Associate members, who are not on the lake but have an interest in Star Lake, pay \$10. Make the check payable to "Star Lake Protective Association" and send or give it to Chris Cook, our treasurer.

Please Send Dues to:
Chris Cook, SLPA Treasurer
P. O. Box 88
Star Lake, NY 13690

Thank you, in advance, for your support of the SLPA. With your help, the Star Lake Protective Association will continue its 121-year tradition of enhancing, protecting, serving and preserving this beautiful lake environment.

'See you on the lake!

Bo Ritchings
SLPA Secretary
P. O. Box 279
Star Lake, NY 13690

2022 SLPA OFFICERS ARE:		
President	John Burns	315-848-3238
Vice President		
Treasurer	Chris Cook	315-848-2259
Secretary	Bo Ritchings	315-848-2169

2022 SLPA Meetings and Events

Date	Event	Place	Time
Sat, June 25	Regular Meeting, socializing/refreshments; meeting to follow	Star Lake Community Center	10:00 am
Weds. July 6	First Lake Road Clean-up	Meet at CFCS (school) parking lot	9:00 am
Weds. Aug 10	Lake Shoreline Clean-up	Meet at the Sandbar	1:00 pm
Sat, Aug 13	16th Annual Poker-Run	Meet at the sandbar to register	12:00 noon
Sat. Aug. 27	Annual Meeting (Dinner is being planned)	TBA	TBA
Weds, Sept 14	Second Lake Road Clean-up	Meet at CFCS (school) parking lot	9:00 am

We lost a good friend and important member of the SLPA. On May 2nd, Daphne-Henri Foley, our vice president of many years, succumbed to her third bout with cancer. Daphne, a native of Star Lake, loved flowers and was instrumental in gaining funding for and planting flower beds around the community for many years.

Daphne's son Shane has set up a memorial fund dedicated to continuing her efforts to beautify Star Lake, as her legacy. The SLPA will maintain this separate fund and will collect donations and disperse funds as needed in future years, thus preserving and continuing one of Daphne's favorite causes.

If you would like to contribute to the flower fund in her memory, you can do so by going to the Go Fund Me web page that Shane has set up. There, you will find much more information and you can donate any amount. Donations up to \$12,000 will be matched, making the flower project sustainable for many years to come. The Go Fund Me link is: <https://www.gofundme.com/f/daphne-henri-foley-star-lake-flower-fund>. If you don't want to make an on-line contribution, you can write a check to the Star Lake Protective Association. Write "flowers" in the memo area, to ensure that the donation goes to the flower fund. You can send it to:

Chris Cook, SLPA Treasurer
P. O. Box 88
Star Lake, New York 13690.



Daphne will be greatly missed by all; but our memories of her will live on. May she rest in peace.



SOME GOOD INVASIVE AQUATIC SPECIES RESOURCES

On the subject of invasive species and, in particular, invasive plants like milfoil, water chestnut and hydrilla, New York State has provided many resources to help to educate and inform lake property owners so that they might become more vigilant and more proactive in prohibiting the introduction of these invasive plants into our lake. Make no mistake: they are all around Star Lake, including Cranberry Lake, Lake Bonaparte, the Little River basin, the St. Lawrence River and Lake Ontario (*see map link below*). It's no coincidence that the public boat launch at Lake Bonaparte was infested with milfoil, making it difficult to get to open waters without fowling the prop. We have been lucky so far in that we have not found any here. But, it is just a matter of time before an infestation occurs. It only takes a small sprig of milfoil to root and spread rapidly. And, then, it becomes expensive to manage and impossible to get rid of. *There will be no going back to where we are now.*

Boats are beginning to be launched for the season and fishermen are already on the lake. If you let people launch boats on your shore, it is imperative that you ask them to carefully inspect their boat, motor, trailer and gear to make sure that no "hitchhikers" get introduced into the lake. The boat wash site will be operational soon. Ask people to use it before launching if their watercraft has been in any other body of water recently. If you see a watercraft being launched, don't hesitate to ask where it has been and if it's been cleaned. Please help to protect our lake from these invasive plants and animals.

PLEASE become better-informed, share this information with others and be proactive in helping to protect our very special lake from the devastation that might occur.

A wealth of information can be found by viewing the YouTube video (right) first; and then, by visiting the web sites that follow.

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v= P76NJire3A&feature=youtu.be](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=P76NJire3A&feature=youtu.be)
<http://bit.ly/2qjo2Hw>
<http://adkinvasives.com/>
<http://www.dec.ny.gov/animals/48221.html>
<http://www.dec.ny.gov/animals/50121.html>
https://adkinvasives.com/data/files/Documents/Star%20Lake_2019_A_PIPP%20EARLY%20DETECTION%20REPORT.pdf%20REPORT.pdf

NY State agencies encourage boaters to help prevent the spread of aquatic invasive species at the start of the boating season. The DEC and State Parks are working with local governments, lake associations, the Adirondack Park Invasive Plant Program (APIPP) and Paul Smith's College Adirondack Watershed Institute (AWI) in taking a frontline defense against invasive species.

CLEAN boats, trailers and equipment of any debris, and dispose of it in an upland area or receptacle provided for this purpose, far from the water's edge.

DRAIN the boat completely, including bilge areas, live wells and bait wells. Water ski and wake board boat operators should be sure to drain all ballast tanks. Many aquatic invasive species can survive in as little as a drop of water, so it is imperative that all water is removed.

DRY all equipment for at least five days before using it in another water body. If boating equipment cannot be completely and thoroughly dried, it must be decontaminated prior to use in another water body. Please utilize boat wash stations where available (ours is on Rt. 3, near old J & L site just past the Newton Falls turn).

