



# Lamoka-Waneta Lakes Association

## FALL PUBLIC MEETING

**August 24, 2024—WAYNE FIRE DEPARTMENT**

Meeting was called to order at 10:00 a.m. by President Jay White

President Jay White welcomed everyone for coming to the Fall LWLA Public Meeting on such a beautiful day! Jay introduced the Board members present and thanked them for their loyalty and commitment in serving.

Jay shared the problems with our lakes is **WE ARE:**

- **Small** – so seeking grants and funding is difficult as we compete with the larger lakes surrounding us.
- **Shallow**
- **Filling in from the bottom.** Our goal is to slow the erosion affecting our lakes and slow down the nutrients coming into them. We are working with Steuben and Schuyler Soil and Water Districts to help slow down what is flowing into our lakes. EX: Myers Road/Waneta Terrace Project, which is explained later in the minutes.
- **Stagnant** – Lamoka turns over in .8 years while Waneta turns over in 3.8 years.

**Vice President/Membership Report:** Bill Hassoldt, Vice President, we currently have 598 members out of a possible 900 lake residences.

If you RECEIVE your newsletter, you PAID your dues. If you know you are NOT going to be at your mailing address on DECEMBER 1, please fill out a form located at the table in the back or front to update your mailing address. The Newsletter is mailed out April 1<sup>st</sup>.

**Treasurer's Report:** Corinne Julian, Treasurer, sent out the Treasurer's Report and there were also extra copies at the table in the back.

Currently we have \$6,757.35 in the checking account and \$64,439.12 in Savings.

We contributed \$10,000 to the Myers Road/Waneta Terrace Project; and purchased a Dissolved Oxygen Meter at \$4,185 (will be discussed later in the meeting).

Corinne asked if anyone had any questions or concerns – none. She also encouraged members to reach out to her via email on the website if they do have questions or concerns.

**Sheriff Rumsey, Schuyler County and Sheriff Allard, Steuben County**

- 2025 Regardless of age, EVERYONE needs a NYS Boater Safety Certificate for both PWC (Personal Water Craft—Jet Ski) and Boats.
- To prove you have taken the NYS Boater Safety Course the anchor symbol can be placed on your enhanced license so you only need to carry one form of ID. Also, the anchor symbol can appear on your lifetime hunting/fishing license from NYS. You need to show the DMV or DEC certificate NYS Boater Safety Certificate.
- You may have seen an increased presence of the Sheriff's department on the lakes this year. The sheriff's departments are using PWCs.

**Questions from members: Do visitors from out of NYS need the Boater Safety Certificate to operate a boat or PWC?**

Answer: YES

**Do you recognize the Boater Safety USA certificate in NYS?**

Answer: Sheriff Rumsey is checking on the answer.

**If you have a Boater Safety Certificate from the 1990's can you get a laminated version?**

Answer: YES, contact NYS Boater Safety and they will replace it for a fee.

**Boat Parade:** Katherine Hammill recapped the 2024 Boat Parade. Katherine explained it was something “new” we tried this year and is open to any and all suggestions. The suggestions she has received thus far are: Larger Boat Numbers; Slow Down as they go past the cottages, Promote Registration. Next year Katherine hopes to have online registration as well as in person registration at Arrowhead Golf Course and Lost and Found.

Last year Katherine was a committee of one and she is looking for volunteers to increase the committee. Please contact Katherine if you are willing to serve on the committee at

[Katherine.hammill@gmail.com](mailto:Katherine.hammill@gmail.com) She is looking for volunteers to help with registration, approach businesses to promote and donate prizes, take photos, etc.

More information will be forthcoming in the 2025 LWLA Spring Newsletter!

**Update on the Adirondack Research Institute, 2025 Lake Treatment:**

Dennis Fagan shared that Adirondack Research Institute sent a “preliminary” report regarding the Rake Toss that took place earlier in the month. Dennis will receive the final report in October/November. We use the preliminary numbers to determine how much of the area on the lakes we will treat for 2025 and the Lake District Committee must submit their report to the Steuben and Schuyler County for their 2025 Budget.

There were 328 Rake Tosses on Lamoka and 35 had milfoil; 274 rake tosses on Waneta with 34 areas having milfoil. The channel between Lamoka Lake and Mill Pond showed no milfoil this year. Lamoka milfoil was found primarily on the West end with some in the central and eastern area of the lake. North end showed nothing and that was due to the fact we treated that area last year.

Waneta showed milfoil on west side of lake.

Rake Toss: Adirondack found 23 different species on Lamoka, compared to 16 last year;

Waneta found 15 different species compared to 8 last year.

Dennis assured members there is plenty of money in the Lake District budget to cover the cost of the treatment, approximately 40-50 acres on Lamoka and 60-70 acres on Waneta.

**Goose Control:** Kevin Morris explained that we have 2 programs to aid in the control of the goose population:

- **Addling**—takes place in the Spring. Locating the nests and spreading corn oil on the eggs. Usually done in March/April. This year they addled 93 eggs.
- **Hunting Permit**—Anyone interested in joining the hunting team and having your name placed on the permit, please let Kevin Morris know [morriskt3@icloud.com](mailto:morriskt3@icloud.com) Also if you have geese you would like taken care of during the hunting season, contact Kevin and one of the hunters on the permit will contact you.

**Environmental Impact Committee**—Calvin Barnstead reported that thank you to Ron the Weedman. It took 4 hours to remove the Beaver Cache at the south end of the boat launch to Lamoka Lake and the boat launch to Waneta Lake.

The Cache was moved to the bank. It would have taken 10 dump trucks to remove the cache and it was causing a tremendous number of problems underwater.

You are now able to travel through the channel smoothly!

Next year’s projects: Notify Calvin at [crb21008@yahoo.com](mailto:crb21008@yahoo.com) with suggestions.

Question was asked when we are going to dredge the canal? Calvin responded that we need a plan and money. It is feasible to get a permit, but we need a plan and money and also need to stay clear of the “prehistoric Lamoka tribe site” under the direction of Cornell University.

**CSLAP:** Patrick O’Shaughnessy presented a PowerPoint on CSLAP. (It will be available on the website [www.lamokawaneta.com](http://www.lamokawaneta.com))

- What is CSLAP: **Citizens Statewide Lake Assessment Program**
- Our team on Lamoka and Waneta test every other week June through September and gather water samples that are sent to Upstate Freshwater Institute in Syracuse
- Our Samples are tested for:

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Water temperature (°C)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Water temperature affects the growth of plants and animals, the amount of oxygen in the water, and the length of the recreation season.</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Water clarity (m)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Water clarity is determined with a Secchi disk to measure how far down into the water column you can see.</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Conductivity (µmho/cm)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Conductivity measures the amount of dissolved and suspended materials in the water, including salts and organic material. Conductivity may be related to geology or land use practices.</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• pH <b>Lamoka is in the ideal range, Waneta tends to be higher.</b></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• pH measures water acidity. A pH value between 6 and 9 supports most types of plant and animal life.</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Color (true) (platinum color units)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Water color is affected by organic matter (decaying plants). The color of water can affect water clarity and impact plant growth by limiting the amount of sunlight that can pass through the water.</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Phosphorus (total, mg/l)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Phosphorus is an important nutrient for the growth of aquatic plants and animals in lakes. Too much phosphorus can harm aquatic life, water supplies, and recreational uses.</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Nitrogen (nitrate, ammonia, and total dissolved, mg/l)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Nitrogen is also an important nutrient for the growth of aquatic plants and animals in lakes. Too much nitrogen can harm aquatic life, water supplies and recreational uses.</li> </ul>

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Chlorophyll a (µg/l)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Chlorophyll a is the primary pigment in green plants and estimates the amount of algae in a lake. The amount of chlorophyll a may be influenced by phosphorus and can affect the water clarity.</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Calcium (mg/l)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Calcium is an important nutrient for most aquatic organisms and is required for mussel shell growth. Calcium enters lakes through natural limestone deposits. Calcium concentration is related to lake conductivity and improves the lake's buffering capacity to acid rain.</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Use Impairment Surveys</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Four question survey on the Field Observation Form that captures the user's observations of the quality of the lake for recreational use.</li> </ul>

Our results have been fairly consistent. Since 2020 Waneta is high in phosphorous and there is a steady increase in nutrients flowing into our lakes

What are we as a Lake Management Team doing:

- Purchased a Dissolved Oxygen Meter and are setting up a pilot study on aeration. If you have an aeration system at your cottage, please contact Steve Tressler, [Bald Eagle Farm@comcast.net](mailto:Bald_Eagle_Farm@comcast.net) We are looking for volunteer cottages from both Lamoka and Waneta.
- Working with Steuben and Schuyler Soil and Water to aid in funding projects that will slow down the flow of nutrients into our lake.
- Currently working on a long-term plan/vision—Comprehensive Plan to apply for Grants. We need the support and partnership of the local townships and counties to apply for these grants to address our needs.

**Dissolved Oxygen:** Steve Tressler explained to the members that when he tested on Lamoka the 18’ depth showed no oxygen. This affects fish and plant life. The nutrients from our Septic Systems is the biggest cause of our nutrient loading. However, public water system must be installed before considering public sewer. This winter the Lake Management Team will begin researching what the process, cost, etc. would be to have public water available. **GET INVOLVED!** Volunteer for the DO study by contacting Steve, help to write grants, meet with town and county officials to start the process of applying for grants.

**HAB update:** Bill Hassoldt shared the statistics from this year’s HAB count. There have been 7 instances on Lamoka and 6 on Waneta. (Unfortunately, after the Public Meeting, Lamoka Lake is almost covered in a HAB and Waneta has had some more sightings!) All other lakes in NYS that participate in the DEC HAB reporting system are experiencing increased numbers of HABs this year, with many of those lakes in the 20 to 40 reports range. Public beaches on those lakes are being closed by the Dept of Health. It should be noted that very few of these other lakes do any herbicidal weed treatments. Our HABs are not a result of our EWMF treatment program.

**Myers Road/Waneta Terrace Project:** Last year a group of the Lake Management Team went around with Jerry Verrigni, Schuyler County Soil and Water, to look at streams to see what was adding to our nutrients/phosphorous load into our lakes. It was determined that Myers Road/Waneta Terrace stream was eroding and flowing directly into Waneta Lake. The LWLA contributed \$10,000 and Waneta Terrace contributed \$5,000 for a \$58,000 project to add large boulders and rocks for a riffle system that would slow down the erosion and filter some of the sediment that was directly flowing into the lake.

We have asked Jerry what projects he has for 2025 that will continue to deter the flow of nutrients coming into our lakes. Partnerships with Soil and Water helps everyone.



**Election of LWLA Board Members (2-year term):** The following Board Members have agreed to serve another two-year term as a LWLA Board Member. Terry Allison (W); Calvin Barnstead (W); Ron Dixon (L); Ward Votava (W)

The following individuals volunteered at the meeting to serve a 2-year LWLA Board Member:

- Katherine Hammill (Waneta)
- Jessie Kendall (Waneta)
- Gary Rose (Waneta)
- Cameron & Linda Spicknall (Lamoka)

The following officers agreed to serve another 1-year term:

**Jay White, President**

**Bill Hassoldt, Vice President**

**Corinne Julian, Treasurer**

**Mary Tucker, Secretary**

**MOTION TO ACCEPT THE RETURNING AND NEW BOARD MEMBERS AND OFFICERS –Unanimously accepted.**

Jay acknowledged and honored Gordon Shafer a valued out going LWLA Board Member with a plaque in honor of his 60+ years of service to the LWLA Board and having served as not only a member, but past president. Gordon and his wealth of knowledge of the history of the LWLA will be sorely missed.

**Questions/Comments from Members:** What can be done about the increasing rentals and VRBOs that are cropping up around the lake.

Jay responded that the Town of Wayne has an Ordinance addressing the issue, but the Town of Tyrone does not have one. Suggestion is to contact your Town Supervisor to see what can be done. Basic problem is the lack of man power to regulate the ordinance.

A property owner with multiple rental units highlighted the importance of responsible ownership in our lake area. They noted that many rental owners are actively enforcing occupancy rules to ensure compliance. Additionally, the individual raised a concern regarding non-rental properties, mentioning that some of these homes may have more occupants than their septic systems can accommodate, which warrants attention.

**Meeting adjourned at 11:49 a.m.** Mary Tucker, Secretary, LWLA