

## SCHROON LAKE ASSOCIATION Lake Trout Telegram

## HAPPY NEW YEAR!

Now that the Holidays have passed we can look forward to 2015. There is a lot going on or "in the works".

In late Fall, the SLA Board voted to increase our financial support of the Lake Steward Program and to donate \$2,000 toward the cost of a program to pump out septic tanks near Schroon Lake this Spring. Working with the Town of Schroon, which also increased its funding, we will have coverage at the town boat launch 6 days a week for much of the day. This first line of defense against invasive species will help protect our watershed. Thank you Roger Friedman for your leadership.

The septic pump out program will encourage inspection and maintenance of waste systems on lakefront and near lake properties. This will greatly reduce the flow of contaminants into the lake.

We also joined with Warren County Soil and Water and the Town of Schroon in a major project to divert storm water runoff from entering the lake. Construction was started and will resume in the spring and be completed in fall 2015. This will stop the flow of contaminants from the streets directly into the lake. This is part of a large NY State Grant that was received last year and will continue.

The reconnaissance for and removal of milfoil and other invasives will continue this summer with AIM spending its third year on the lake. We are also committed to the CSLAP water quality monitoring



Milfoil

program and will be sampling the entire lake for bacteria, algae, chemicals and salt. Thank you Chuck Harste and Glen Repko for your leadership. We will add these results to our two decade data base and continue to watch the quality of the watershed we love.



On the educational front on Friday evening <u>July 10th</u> we will host a program featuring Carl Heilman and Dan Berggren whose photos and music will entertain and tell a story. We will also host our State of the Lake and

the Town on Friday <u>August 14</u>. More details to come.

The SLA and the Paradox Lake Association will continue to sponsor a session of the New York State Boating Safety Course in late July. Over time the Boating Safety Certificate is becoming mandatory on N.Y. waters. It is not just for kids anymore.

Our signature event, the Arts and Crafts Fair will be held for the 48<sup>th</sup> time in the park above the Town Beach on Saturday <u>July 18th</u> from 10 am to 3 pm. Don't miss that wonderful day!



We are going to expand our social events this year. We started with a very successful Holiday Party in December (Thank you Steve and Gary at Sticks and Stones) and we hope to do some other "off season" events. St. Patrick's Day anyone We are planning it for Sunday <u>March 22nd</u> from 2 pm to 5 pm at Sticks and Stones. Watch for more news.

We are excited to say that we are in the middle of upgrading our Website and publishing a great new Magazine/Newsletter. It will take time but they will be worth the wait. You are just receiving our "Fall" Newsletter as an email link. It is also on our website. Check it out! Thank you Mike Ryan and Bill Trombley. Shortly we will be releasing our Lake Manager Steve LaMere's multiyear comprehensive report on the state of Schroon Lake. Watch for it in our next newsletter and on our website.

All this takes time and money. We have made a concerted effort to catch up on dues collection and to reach out for volunteers. Thank you to all who have responded. We have several new folks on our Board and are always looking for new members and ideas. Why not join us? Our next Board Meeting is Monday <u>March 9th</u>, 2015 in Town Hall.

Finally I want to thank Debbie Philp for her help in creating and publishing this Telegram from its inception. She will now get a well-deserved rest as we expand and improve our website.

Here is to a great 2015 and thank you for your support.

## Mark

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