



Echoes from Our Lake

THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE
WALKER LAKESHORES LANDOWNERS ASSOCIATION
SEPTEMBER 2022
VOLUME 157

A note from your treasurer...



WLLA's 2023 Budget is currently being developed. Committees put in spending requests for next year's operations. These become the building blocks for the budget. The finance committee is working with them now and will be bringing discussion and recommendations to the next several board meetings. The budget must be adopted by the board by year's end so that assessments can be billed out on January 1.

2022 Election Results

Congratulations to everyone elected on Saturday, July 16, 2022:

Treasurer: Carol Gillen

Secretary: Carolyn Kalinich

Director at Large positions filled by:

Carol Gillen

Carolyn Kalinich

Daniel Murphy

Al Shauger

Fewer than thirty (30) people voted in our July election, including both in-person and absentee ballots. Hopefully we can all strive to do better in exercising our right to vote in next year's election.

Meet Your Neighbors!

As part of the ongoing “spotlight” that features a different WLLA neighbor each month, please meet Kalina Ivanov & Charles Noyes. In their own words:

We’ve been a part of the WLLA community since 1999. We fell in love with our house the minute the real estate agent’s photos started coming through our fax machine. At the time our son was 4 years old, and he was crazy about playing in Walker Lake and on its sandy beach. Needless to say, we became regulars on the beach, meeting many of our neighbors there.

We most enjoy the peace and quiet of the community, plus being able to re-connect with nature. We love hiking down to the ‘secret’ waterfall, particularly when the wild rhododendrons are in bloom. We enjoy walking our dog on some of the off-the-beaten-path roads, and spotting goldfinches, woodpeckers, red foxes, turkeys, bears and many deer families.

We love hiking and nature walks – especially Mongaup River Trail in Pond Eddy, McDade Trail that begins at Milford Beach, and the Tusten Mountain Trail in Narrowsburg. In addition, we used to take our son to PEEC to hike the fossil trail.

Our favorite local restaurants are El Patron and Fogwood & Fig, both in Port Jervis, and The Blue Fox in Narrowsburg.

Kalina is an Emmy-winning production designer in film and television; Charles retired in 2016 after 27 years in publishing and has been a professional musician since 1976.



WLLA UPCOMING EVENTS



Tuesday, September 20th 5pm to 8pm **Spaghetti Dinner Night** at the clubhouse, eat in or take out. Members \$10, Non-Members \$12. Please RSVP to the office by September 14th BYOB



Saturday, October 8th 7pm to 9pm MEMBERS ONLY **Wine and Cheese Event**. Bring a bottle of wine or your cocktail of choice to share. Please RSVP to office by Saturday, October 1st.



Saturday, October 29th

4pm - 5pm **Trunk or Treat** in clubhouse parking lot

5pm - 7pm **Potluck Supper**, no charge

Please RSVP with office for potluck by October 22nd with your potluck dish. BYOB

PLEASE SIGN UP IN THE WLLA OFFICE BY: EMAIL- WLLASSOCIATION@GMAIL.COM

PHONE- 570-296-7788 OR IN PERSON DURING OFFICE HOURS WED. & SAT. 9:00AM TO 2:00 PM

You must pay in advance to ensure your seat is held. You cannot attend if you have a past due balance on your account.

Spongy Moth (formerly known as gypsy moth) Mitigation

As you all are undoubtedly aware, our community was rudely reminded of the presence of spongy moth and its capacity to defoliate our trees this past spring.

The Pike County Conservation Office has recently announced that they will be working on a spongy moth spray program for spring 2023. The program is not fully developed at this time. The goal of such a spray program is mitigation of the outbreak, not eradication, to control defoliation and the cascade of negative effects that result. Left unchecked, there are potential negative effects to our lake in increased nitrogen levels, changes to the pH and dissolved oxygen, increased temperature due to lack of foliage cover, and opportunities for invasive plants to fill in.

What we know so far is that the county intends to function as coordinator for the various HOAs in the county. The program will be about pooling our resources. They have requested from us the total acreage and maps so that they can gather information and put out to bid a collective, large-scale project including other communities in the county. The county would benefit from broader mitigation coverage, and we would benefit from cost savings associated with the larger scale that would be produced by working cooperatively with other local communities.

The county is not taking on the fiscal burden of the spray program. We would need to cover the cost as a community (as we have in the past) with a special assessment geared specifically to covering the cost of the spray program.

At this time, the board has agreed to continue to gather information. Dr. Don Eggen, Forest Health Manager at the PA Department of Conservation & Natural Resources, provided a zoom presentation on August 30. A link to that presentation is available on our walkerlake.com homepage [here](#), and all are encouraged to take advantage of his expert opinion of the current outbreak and of mitigation methods by viewing the recording of that session. We thank the Twin and Walker Creeks Watershed Conservancy (TWCWC) for creating this opportunity with Dr. Eggen and for their efforts to generate discussion between the Twin Lakes and Walker Lake communities.

The most prevalently used sprays for spongy moth are biological insecticides based on *Bacillus thuringiensis kurstaki*, a bacteria that is naturally present in soil, also known as "BT" or "BTK". The spray is disbursed by plane or helicopter, aerosolized into tiny droplets, with a target of late April to May when the caterpillars are young, and is effective for 3-10 days. It must be ingested by the young caterpillars as they emerge to feed on the spring foliage. The lake itself would not be sprayed. This targeted biological approach makes for a much safer program than broad spectrum chemical insecticides.

As the details of the county's program come into focus, the WLLA's Board of Directors will be monitoring that progress and seeking to understand the community's appetite for spraying.

Please help us to keep you informed. It will be particularly important in coming months for you to watch for additional information. If you've opted out of emails from the association, please reconsider, and request to be added to the list. Emails to the community are an important tool for us to send information to property owners. If you are not receiving emails from us, please send a request to be added to our email list to wlassociation@gmail.com

The Lake House in Autumn

A silence in the house at summer's wake:

the last leaves fall in one night's wind,
the mice are eaten, and the cats begin
a rumbling sleep. There's nothing much at stake.

It's not quite cold enough to stoke
the furnace, and the neighbors never seem to mind
if leaves are raked. I'm staring through a blind
at less and less beside a cooling lake.

I keep forgetting that this absence, too,
must be imagined. I cannot just frown
or fill the vacancy with stately rue.
The mind is darker, deeper than a windblown
lake that tries to mirror every hue
of feeling as the dusky season takes me down.



— Jay Parini, graduate of Lafayette College in Easton, now
Professor of English and Creative Writing, Middlebury College

Local Farmers Markets



It is wonderful to know the local farmer that grows your food and to have a chance to talk to them each week. We are fortunate to have so many local markets. A lot of the farmers at these markets are certified organic. These markets have many buying options: fruits, vegetables, wine, hard cider, locally distilled spirits, pottery, ready-made food and much more. Shop local and help support our farms.

Milford Farmers Market at the Columns Museum (608 Broad Street)

Open Sunday 10am – 1pm from May 15 – Oct. 9th

Barryville Farmers Market at the United Methodist Church, 3405 NY-97, Barryville, NY

Open Saturday 10am – 1pm from May 21 – Oct. 29th

Hawley Farmers Market, Summer Market at Hawley's Bingham Park (133-179 Main Ave,)

Open Fridays, 2pm - 5pm from May – October

Hawley Farmers Market, Winter Market at the Hawley Hub (318 Main Ave)

Open Friday 1pm – 4pm from October – May

Callicoon Farmers Market 23 Dorrer Dr, Callicoon, NY 12723 Open Sundays 11am – 2pm year round



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Openings on WLLA Board of Directors

We have several vacancies on our Board of Directors. Interim positions would run until September of 2023 when a new board would be seated after our elections in July. This is a wonderful opportunity to put your foot in the water and volunteer for a yearlong Board position. Step up and make a difference in our community.

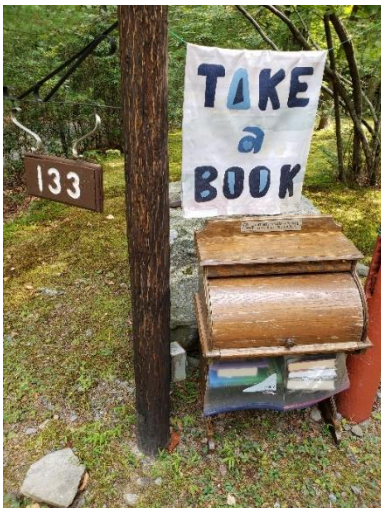
You might be worried about the amount of time you need to commit to the role or about the (mis)perception of the job as “meddling” with your neighbors’ violations. This response is common and reasonable, but we urge you to understand that the Board’s role is an integral one in ensuring the success of the community.

In all transparency, serving on the Board of Directors will take up some of your time — perhaps more if there is a major project coming up. We hold board meetings every month, which we encourage you to attend, though we conduct a lot of our work through emails as well. If you decide to join the Board, you should also be prepared to make tough decisions that may not be popular among homeowners but are objectively the best for the association.

If you possess the right qualities that can help Walker Lakeshores Landowners Association become the best it can be please apply for an interim position. You must be a member in good standing to apply.

The board meetings are held the third Saturday of each month at 9am. We have streamlined the meeting process and they are currently lasting from 1 to 2 hours. Board members must attend 9 of the 12 scheduled board meetings each year either by zoom or in person. They must also be on a committee. Most importantly, all Directors and Officers have a fiduciary responsibility to act in the best interests of the WLLA community.

Please call or email the office for more information. If you don’t step up, who will?



LITTLE FREE LIBRARY, Lakeshore Drive. Books have the potential to bring people together, spark conversations and encourage the exchange of ideas. We hope this outpost will do just that. Come take a book, share a book.

The Browning of Walker Lake

by Chet Dawson –WLLA Lake Committee -from the **September 2018** Newsletter

If you talk to old-timers, they will tell you that Walker Lake used to be much clearer than it is today. Volunteers for Twin and Walker Creeks Watershed Conservancy (TWCWC) have been testing our waters since 2002. What has changed?

The most obvious change is that many more people live in our watershed now and our watershed extends east to Twin Lakes, northwest about a mile up Twin Lakes Road and out Little Walker Road to the assisted living facility. Watershed storm water, not absorbed into the ground, ends up in the lake carrying a variety of materials many created or deposited by humans. Climate change is bringing us shorter winters, warmer summers and, it appears, more rain – promoting aquatic growth of algae and other plants. A third, less obvious, cause is the reduction of acid rain.

Walker Lake, like many lakes around the world, is considered a “brown lake.” When you fill a glass bottle with lake water, you notice a brownish tinge. That brown coloring comes from dissolved organic carbon that is absorbed in storm water mainly from soils but also from plants (think brown leaves). Prior to 1990, the amount of dissolved organic carbon was tempered by acid rain, but since then many lakes are experiencing increases in organic carbon.

The other two primary factors affecting water clarity are suspended solids and microscopic algae, both of which are increasing due to human activity. Suspended solids are mostly soils and road materials that wash into the lake (think the brown Delaware River after a storm). Microscopic algae flourish with nutrients – mainly nitrogen and phosphorous – that are found in the fertilizer we put on lawns. While algae are an important part of the aquatic food chain, we don’t want to overly promote its/their growth.



Residents can also help keep nutrients out of the lake by avoiding the use of fertilizers and maintaining septic systems. Some herbicides, such as *Roundup*, are considered carcinogens and should be avoided or used minimally.

And, with global warming bringing increasingly heavy downpours, it becomes even more urgent for residents to survey their properties to determine how they can most effectively promote the absorption and filtration of storm water. Storm water picks up sediment as it crosses bare soils that add to suspended solids in the lake. Trees are the best means to absorb the water...followed by anything that slows and filters the flow. Lawns, driveways, and impervious areas provide little-to-no water absorption or filtering.

Twin and Walker Creeks Watershed Conservancy



Annual Photo Contest "Nature of Pike County"
held Friday September 2, 2022 at the WLLA Clubhouse

\$\$\$ Prizes for first, second, third place

The first-place winners are below . . .



First Place Adult by Gwen Stefgoyy



First Place Youth by Alex Jaffe

Walker Lakeshores Landowners Association
100 Walker Lake Drive
Shohola, PA 18458

Address Service Requested

TO:

This WLLA newsletter may contain legal notification of information from the Board of Directors and the WLLA office.

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Walker Lakeshores Landowners Association Officers

President: John Weber

Vice President: Carol Reynolds

Treasurer: Carol Gillen

Secretary: Carolyn Kalinich

Office Hours: Wednesday & Saturday 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Office Administrator: Kathy Zimmermann

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