



# Sylvia Lake Breeze

Fall, 2007

## ***Shooting the Breeze***

*Lea Dickson, Sylvia Lake Association President*

It is another beautiful fall day at the lake. Our trees have had a good year and the colors around the lake are spectacular. The beautiful August and September weather has resulted in very dry conditions. According to a few lake residents, the water level is the lowest they have seen in more than 20 years. It was quite a challenge to pull our floating dock out of the water when it was barely floating. Some lakers love the lower levels, others find it difficult. Who knows what Mother Nature will bring next year?

We have a few changes to report in the Sylvia Lake Association Board of Directors. We say goodbye to longtime board member and former president of the Association, Donna Besaw and to our secretary, Kelley Lacks. We thank them both for the many volunteer hours donated to our community.

We welcome Jodi Hatch as our new secretary and Al Lehigh as a new board member. A special thank you to Ann VanSlyke who has chaired the Nominating Committee for many years. Olive Horning has agreed to be the new chair and Linda Scott has also agreed to serve on this important committee.

A huge thank you to the Sylvia Lake Book Committee. We owe a tremendous debt of gratitude to this group for making this wonderful resource available to our community. And what a terrific party we had at the Gouverneur Country Club! After counting the numbers and adding in a few people that didn't sign in, it looks like over 150 lakers attended the Book Launch Party on June 15th.

Missed the party? You will get another opportunity to share good food and good times with your lake neighbors and help us celebrate the Fortieth Anniversary of the Sylvia Lake Association on Friday, June 13, 2008, at the Gouverneur Country Club. Save the date.

The Association will underwrite the entertainment, awards, favors, and raffle items. However, we will be charging for the cost of the meal. Community Recognition awards in remembrance of Slip Toomey, (Association founder and first president) will be presented to individuals who have made extraordinary contributions to the Sylvia Lake mission of Preserving, Protecting and Promoting the Welfare of the lake. Maria McGrath is making a special 40th anniversary quilt. Al Lehigh,



Olive Horning, Faye Lockwood, Linda Syrek and Shari Barnhart are coordinating the party details. If you have any ideas, be sure to let one of them know. More details about the party, ticket pricing and quilt will be included in the spring newsletter.

We had another successful fishing derby and boat parade. Once again we appreciate the donations made by the Ferguson and Force families for the derby sponsorship and trophies, and to Harland Brown, for donating Boat Parade awards. If anyone has ideas for the 2008 parade and derby, please don't hesitate to contact a board member.

We had some excellent suggestions from this year's boat parade judges and hope to implement a few. Linda Scott and Barb Maloy did a terrific job as boat wranglers. Maybe they will agree to another year?

(Continued on page 7)



## Taking Care of Sylvia

The Sylvia Lake Board continues to focus on the importance of water quality. We are in year two of the Adirondack Lake Assessment Program. The ALAP measures leading parameters that provide information about the health and aging process of a lake or pond. These parameters include transparency, pH, alkalinity, conductivity, concentrations of chlorophyll-a, calcium, phosphorus, nitrate, and dissolved oxygen, among others.

On June 21, 2007, Paul Smith's College professor Mike DeAngelo and Lisa DeAngelo, came to deliver the Sylvia Lake Association's water testing kit and to perform tests. We now have our own testing kit, so we can be much more flexible with the testing schedule.

The goals of the ALAP are first, to gather useful, scientifically valid information on a particular lake or pond to inform those associated with this water body about its overall condition and trends. Secondly, the ALAP seeks to establish a lake's profile of water quality conditions and trends. Last year's baseline testing can be summarized as follows:

**Positive:** Sylvia Lake is considered to be an oligotrophic lake. this is the highest of the three categories of lakes and indicative of lakes that have clean, clear water. In addition, the acidity levels are satisfactory and we do not have any sensitivity to acidification. The amount of algae is also in the acceptable range.

**Negative:** The chloride level and conductivity of the water were both on the negative side. Negative scores in both of these areas ore indicative of pollution and, if sustained, can alter the distribution and abundance of aquatic plant and animal life. High chloride levels and high conductivity values are usually indicative of pollution by road salt runoff or faulty septic systems.



*Lea Dickson, Mike DeAngelo, Lisa DeAngelo check equipment before heading to Parker Bay to pick up David McGrath*

## Sylvia Lake Book Launch Party

June 15, 2007 was a beautiful night for a party. We had great food, wonderful gifts and raffles and the book, *Sylvia Lake Legacy*. The Sylvia Lake Association and the Book Publication Committee were thrilled to present the new book to the community in such a great way. Thank you to the Book Committee, Shari Barnhart, Katie Pistolessi, Olive Horning, Mary Whalen, Linda Scott, Jeanette Perry, Crystal Leonard and Marilyn LaPierre.

A gift book was presented to the Town of Fowler in recognition of Fowler's 200th birthday. It was accepted by Connie Bishop, Fowler Town Historian and Nancy Cappellino, Chair of the Bicentennial Committee. Bill de Lorraine was presented a book for his invaluable contribution of the updated property map.

Shari Barnhart, the book's editor and publisher was presented a beautiful clock from the book committee members, engraved by Brown's Jewelry Store.



*Faye Lockwood and Linda Scott at the Book Launch.*



**Book Launch Party Raffle Winners:**

- Bounty basket ..... Joanne Orford
- Bumper sticker ..... Jon Jackson
- Aerial poster ..... Jim Kraker
- Bumper sticker ..... Sam Laverghetta
- Sylvia Lake clock .... Joanna deLorraine
- Sylvia Lake T-shirt... Jim Kraker
- Bumper sticker ..... Joanne Orford
- Trout Fun lights ..... Penny Netto
- Sylvia Lake pillow... Marisa Griebusch
- 50/50 - \$120.00..... Harland Brown



*Welcome to the Book Launch Party!*

**Sylvia Lake Legacy Corrections**

There were bound to be a few...  
 p. 76. In some books, the photo of the Sleeman camp is incorrect. A sticker with the correct photo is available from Shari Barnhart, Mona Allen, or Jodi Hatch. Our apologies to Tom and Anita.  
 p. 142. Instead of one cup of vanilla in the Apple Tart, use only 1 teaspoon. Sorry, Linda.

**Additional Sylvia Lake Legacy Books?**

The committee ordered 250 books and sold every one. Requests for additional books are being taken. Our printer requests a minimum order of 50 books. When we receive 35 orders, we will order the additional books. All orders must be prepaid. To put your name on the list, contact the Association Secretary, Jodi Hatch, 315-287-9942 / mhatch@twcny.rr.com.



*Cody Syrek*

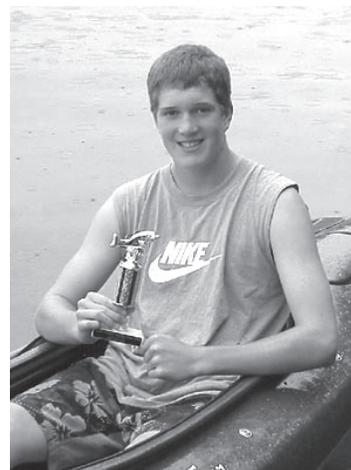


*Hunter Gillette*

**26th Charlie Ferguson Fishing Derby**

July 7-8, 2007 - The 26th Annual Charlie Ferguson Fishing Derby was held in the scattered rain and sun of the July 7-8 weekend. There were lots of avid, young fishers. Four of them took home more than fishy smelling hands.

Caitlyn McKelvey (no photo available) won the largest panfish division with a 9 1/4 inch Rock Bass. Cody Syrek won the Small-mouth Bass Category. Hunter Gillette won a trophy for the large mouth bass. Mike Reilly captured a trophy for an amazing 112 Rock Bass caught.



*Mike Reilly*

Thank you to the Force family for once again, providing the trophies for this event. And, of course, to the Ferguson camp for organizing and managing the derby. The LaPierres originated the event 26 years ago.





***Milfoil Weeding Harvest 2007***

On July 28, 150 cubic feet of weed was harvested, compared to 80 last year. Four boats acted as diving platforms. They were piloted by Harland Brown, Katie Pistolessi, Gale Ferguson and Mike LaPierre. Bill deLorraine piloted the runner pontoon. Carole and Tony Anderson once again supervised the divers. The Lockwoods, who co-chaired the event, had a dinner for all the divers and spouses and co-chair Sandy Kraker and his family had a party that evening for everyone involved. A special thank you to Bob's Market who donated sub sandwiches for Saturday's lunch.



*Carl Devito dives without equipment.*



*The Dodds skim the weed from the surface.*



*The divers pose for a group shot at the Lockwoods.*



*Divers and skimmers of Old Beach*

The Sylvia Lake Board wants to remind property owners of their personal responsibility to take care of their own weeds. Weeder winders have been made by Roy Smith and are available to anyone who wants them. The board has recommended laying mats with rebar in several locations.

Our areas of concern continue to be the West Shore ridge, in front of Gothams, the other side of Porters, the area in front of Old Beach. We can scan the milfoil map and make it available on the website.

The board will be receiving a report with recommendations from lake volunteers and pontoon drivers from Sandy Kraker. Thank you to all the host families, the deLorraines, the Lockwoods, the Syreks and the (Mike) LaPierre family and of course, thank you to all the volunteers.



*Hotel Bay skimmers Roxie Tyler and Barb Maloy*



**39th Annual Boat Parade - 2007**

Thank you to Harland Brown who again provided the beautiful plaques. Parade Wranglers were Linda Scott and Barb Maloy, who also received plaques of appreciation. Judge certificates were also awarded. Boat Parade Judges were Mary Jo Whalen, Katie Pistolessi, Dave and Linda Syrek, Dave and Dede Walters, Mike and Jodi Hatch and Dan Estey. Movies of the past three years are on website.



*deLorraine's - Margaritaville.*



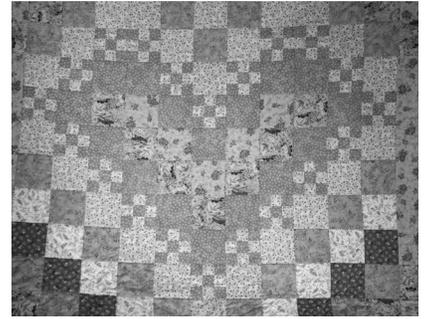
*Kirby Camp - Follow the Yellow Brick Road*



*Andy & Crystal Leonard and Friends - Salute to Hollywood*

**Sylvia's Heart**

Maria McGrath's "Sylvia's Heart" quilt was won by Linda Syrek, of Mansion Grounds Road at this year's Fall meeting.



This year's quilt was a tribute to Sylvia, herself and was the fourth quilt Maria has made to benefit the community. Next year, Maria plans to make a quilt commemorating the 40th Anniversary of the Sylvia Lake Association. Watch for it!

**911 Safety Update**

In August, 2007, copies of Bill deLorraine's updated Sylvia Lake map were delivered to First Responders in the towns of Gouverneur, Edwards, Antwerp and Harrisville. Again, thank you to Bill and to Joe Lacks, who delivered the maps.

A reminder to all property owners to verify directions to your camp with the 911 operator. Call from the phone at the location you are checking.

Be sure to tell the operator that your call is NOT an emergency and be sure they have time to check your information. Provide the operator with:

1. Your 911 address.
2. The main road that meets your turn off.
3. The exact number of turns prior to entering your driveway, etc.

In addition, be sure you have removed the old 4-digit house number and replace with your 911 property number. All residences should be clearly marked with three-inch, reflective numbers.



**Sylvia Lake Association 2007 Board of Directors**

**Lea Dickson, President**  
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**Gale Ferguson, Director,  
Past President**  
East Shore | 287-2116  
gferguso@twcny.rr.com

**2006 Board of Directors**



*Jeanette Perry, Sandy Kraker, David McGrath, Gale Ferguson, Kelley Lacks (retired) Donna Besaw (retired) Mona Allen, Lea Dickson (Not pictured: Faye Lockwood)*



The LaPierre family made \$65.50 from the ice cream social they organized on the night of the concert. They donated all the proceeds to the Sylvia Lake Association. Thank you!



**Newsletter Staff**

- Shari Barnhart.....writing & publishing
- Lea Dickson .....editing & production
- Faye Lockwood .....editing
- David Lockwood.....editing
- Mona Allen .....editing
- Gale Ferguson .....printing
- Jodi Hatch.....mailing



### *Summer Concerts on Sylvia Lake*

Thank you to Gale Ferguson, who has been a one-man-show for concert organization. Everyone enjoys the events so much, the Board decided to put concerts into the Association budget. Prior to this, concerts were funded by sales of road flares and raffles, notably the Maria McGrath quilts.

We had two concerts this summer, our favorite "house band," Northbound played on July 6. On August 31, we had a unique, floating bagpipe concert by Jeff Forsythe.



### *Shooting the Breeze* (continued from page 1)

The milfoil harvest in July was the biggest haul in our history. Faye and Dave Lockwood and Sandy Kraker managed the details of feeding, finding host families, securing scoopers and dive platforms and scheduling the divers. The lake community is extremely grateful for the time and efforts of Faye, Dave, Sandy and all of the host families and volunteers. We also appreciate Bob's Market's generous donation of sub sandwiches for lunch.

Thanks to the water testing committee, especially Dave McGrath who coordinated the program this summer. We should get the 2007 results in time for the 2008 spring newsletter. Thanks to Gale for another great concert series and Joanna for this year's excellent coverage in the Tribune Press.

Please don't forget to pay your 2007 membership dues. (\$10.00) A constitutional change at the August meeting has extended the date of payment until December 31, 2007. We will be printing the complete 2007 paid membership list in the spring newsletter.

One last reminder to anyone who wishes to order a Sylvia Lake Legacy book, please contact Secretary Jodi Hatch. We need a commitment of 35 books before submitting the required minimum order (50).

Have safe and healthy holidays.

See you in the spring,

*Lea*

***Thank you for supporting  
the Sylvia Lake Association  
with your \$10.00 dues.***

***Please send your  
membership dues to:***

***Mona Allen, SLA Treasurer  
130 Jones Road  
Gouverneur NY 13642***

***See the minutes from the last  
Association meeting on the website:  
[www.sylvialake.org/AssociationBus/minutes07.pdf](http://www.sylvialake.org/AssociationBus/minutes07.pdf)***



**Sylvia Lake Association**  
**C/O Jodi Hatch, Secretary**  
**6248 Main Street**  
**Hailesboro NY 13645**

## Sylvia Lake Crossword - Fall 2007

Answers on website: [www.sylvialake.org/fallcrossword.pdf](http://www.sylvialake.org/fallcrossword.pdf)

### Across

3. The name of Maria McGrath's '07 quilt.
4. \_\_\_ Brown provides Boat Parade awards.
9. The largest panfish caught in the Fishing Derby was caught by \_\_\_ McKelvey.
11. Abbreviation for our lake's water quality project.
13. The rock in front of VanSlyke's.
14. The coming anniversary for the Sylvia Lake Association is its \_\_\_.
17. The bay with the most jet skis.
18. A favorite type of SL watercraft.
19. A favorite North Country water bird.
20. A bay on Sylvia's North Shore, named for a former landmark.

### Down

1. This family held an ice cream social during the concert this summer.
2. The second concert of the summer was played on a \_\_\_\_.
3. The title of the recent Sylvia Lake book.
5. The very first Sylvia Lake Association president was named Slip \_\_.
6. The invasive weed we are battling.
7. Last name of the current Sylvia Lake Association president.
8. A gift book was presented to the Fowler Town Historian, Connie \_\_\_\_.
10. The last name of our Ice Out judge.
12. We have a pilot on our lake, his name is Don \_\_\_\_.
15. The name of a local diner.
16. Our lake is located in the Town of \_\_\_\_.

