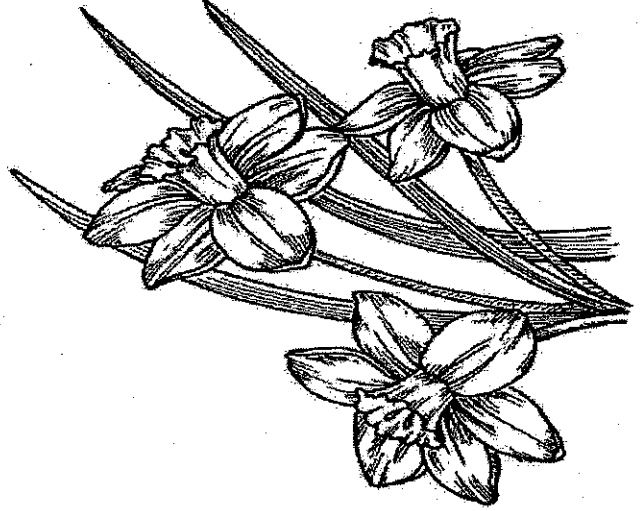


*Raring Brook Lake
Property Owners Association*

Community Newsletter

April 2009



Inside:

- Save These Dates*
- Election of Board Members*
- Membership Dues*
- Committee Updates*
- Announcements*
- PV Town News: MS4*
- Board Member List*

Save The Date

RBLPOA COMMUNITY MEETINGS (for all RBL residents)

9:30AM at Children's Beach

Saturday, June 6

Saturday, July 11

Saturday, August 1

Saturday, August 22

RBLPOA ANNUAL REGATTA

Saturday, July 25

Rain Date, Sunday, July 26

BEACHES CLEAN-UP DAY

Saturday, April 25

Pick your beach and be there with rakes starting at 10AM

Lunch provided for volunteers at 1PM at Children's Beach

RBL UNREGISTERED (UNTAGGED) BOAT AUCTION

Saturday, May 2

10AM at North Beach

Details on the above events are available in this newsletter. If you would like more information or have questions or suggestions, please call Cathy Hanson at 917-733-1608, email cathflag@aol.com or contact any of the RBLPOA Board members listed at the end of this newsletter.



RBLPOA BOARD ELECTION

The RBLPOA holds biennial elections for Officers and Directors of the Board. 2009 is an election year. The new term will begin October 1. The proposed slate of Board members will be presented by the nominating committee at the August 1 RBLPOA community meeting and voted on during the August 22 meeting. In order to be eligible to vote in the election on August 22, please pay your \$35 membership dues before July 1.

If anyone wishes to nominate a candidate for consideration for Board membership, please contact one of the nominating committee members: Bobby Coles (colesbob@aol.com), Sam Lee (samuel.m.lee@gmail.com), Kate Cunningham (kate@nicckids.org), or Peter Farkas (pfarkas@optonline.net). Per the RBLPOA Constitution, Article VI, No. 10, all officers and directors must be regular members in good standing.

RBLPOA ANNUAL DUES

The membership year runs from July 1 through June 30. Please write your dues payment check for \$35 per household to RBLPOA and mail it to RBLPOA treasurer, Arthur Sheridan, 21 Cove Road, Putnam Valley, New York 10579. If you prefer, you can give Arthur your check at the first community meeting on June 6. Your dues pay for the newsletters, other mailings and postage and help support the activities (like the ones listed in this newsletter) sponsored by the RBLPOA. Remember, you have to be current on your dues by July 1 in order to vote in the Board election on August 22.



SOCIAL COMMITTEE

Jeanette Rein, Chair

The social committee organizes and runs the Regatta every summer in RBL. It is a community event where families have fun together. Last summer's Regatta included an adult egg toss, a tug-of-war, a boat decorating contest, good food, entertainment and so much more. The social committee works hard every year, and they always do an outstanding job. They need volunteers to help with set-up in the morning about 9AM, food, running the scheduled events and clean-up around 4-5PM. Please contact Jeanette Rein, 845-528-7658, or email jrein@comcast.net to get specific information and to volunteer your assistance. Any amount of time you can give will be appreciated. And join the fun on July 25.

LAKE COMMITTEE

Ernst Demm, Chair

You may recall from RBLPOA mailings and meetings last year, the RBLPOA lake committee has been actively working to identify various lake weed control methods. Among viable options identified is stocking sterile carp in the lake. The status of carp stocking is that the Town Board at its meeting last November approved 2009 budget funding for carp fencing and sterile carp in RBL. Also in November the Town Board submitted an application to the DEC for a permit for carp and carp fence for RBL. The DEC responded with additional forms to be completed. Those forms have been completed and submitted to the DEC. The next step is for the DEC to approve a permit for carp and carp fence for RBL. Once the Town has received the permit, the Districts clerk will issue requests for proposals to vendors who can supply and install the fencing and to vendors who can supply and stock the fish. The DEC will provide guidance for this project. If you want additional information, please contact Judy Travis at Town Hall or Ernst Demm of the RBLPOA lake committee or Cathy Hanson (contact information for Ernst and Cathy is on the last page of this newsletter.) We will also provide status updates at the RBLPOA summer community meetings.

BOAT COMMITTEE

Gary Smith, Chair

The RBLPOA boat committee met several times last year and some of the members attended Town Board meetings to discuss ways to remove unregistered and abandoned boats from RBL District properties. On March 1, 2009 Bob Tandy, PV Town Supervisor, sent a letter to all residents of Roaring Brook Lake saying that all boats on RBL District properties without registration stickers after April 18 will be deemed abandoned and will be moved to North Beach to be sold at auction at 10:00 AM on Saturday, May 2.

This notification was also published in the Putnam County News and Recorder on March 11 and March 18 and is posted on the Putnam Valley website and in Putnam Valley Town Hall.

If any resident of Roaring Brook Lake district has a boat in usable condition and wishes to donate it to the boat auction, he/she should remove any registration tags and relocate the boat to North Beach before May 2. Any unregistered (untagged) boat on North Beach on May 2 will be auctioned. All auction sales are final. This is a District activity and ALL proceeds from the auction go toward paying the expenses of the auction. If any money remains after that, it will go into the District budget. Purchasers should take immediate possession of the boat(s) they purchase-- the goal is to reduce the population of boats on District properties including North Beach. Boats purchased at the auction can be registered at the auction (registration tags will be available.)

If you can volunteer an hour or two to help with the auction on May 2 at 10AM, that would be great! Any questions or to volunteer, please email Gary or Cathy (contact information at the end of this newsletter.) We will need helpers to move boats, issue registration tags and answer questions.

Many thanks to the Putnam Valley Town Board for supporting this effort to remove unregistered and abandoned boats from RBL District properties.

BEACH COMMITTEE

Joan Billows, Chair

Those of you who attended the exciting 2009 budget planning meetings for RBL District at Town Hall last year know that \$7,000 was allocated to Children's Beach for beach restoration and improvements. The beach committee under Joan's leadership has met several times to plan for a responsible and useful expenditure of this allocation. The committee has identified several important and necessary projects for Children's Beach including a new split rail fence along the walkway, resurfacing the fixed dock and identifying and implementing a beach erosion control method. As the Children's Beach restoration project proceeds, Joan and her committee will update all community members at the summer RBLPOA community meetings.

ANOTHER beach project, this one scheduled for April 25, is the Beaches Clean-up Day culminating in a thank you lunch for volunteers at Children's Beach at 1PM. Volunteers are needed to help restore the beaches after winter erosion. At 10AM on April 25 you should bring a sturdy rake to the beach of your choice and spend an hour or two or three raking and repairing. Jeanette Rein is coordinating the beaches clean-up and Peter Tarrant is organizing lunch for the volunteers. If you have questions, please contact Peter at petermtarrant@yahoo.com or Jeanette at jrein@comcast.net.

ROADS COMMITTEE

Sam Lee, Chair and RBLPOA VP

Sam learned from Earl Smith, Putnam Valley Highway Department Superintendent, that among road repair priorities this summer will be having blacktop companies patch roads that were damaged during the winter. Earl knows there are many roads in RBL in need of attention, and he is committed to patching as many as he can. However, again this year for budget reasons, no major paving is planned for our District. Please contact Earl directly with any requests or questions at 845-526-3333.

Sam also reports that the recently named PV Fire Chief is Adam Savino and Assistant Chief is Louie Luongo.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Dear Friends and Neighbors:

I have joined a nationwide Team Challenge group of volunteers. We will complete a half-marathon on behalf of patients and survivors of Crohn's disease and Ulcerative Colitis, two painful, isolating digestive diseases that affect 1.4 million Americans. I have lived with Crohn's disease for the last 20+ years and know colleagues, friends and/or family members who suffer with it as well. This year I am challenging myself to raise the funds to participate in this half-marathon which takes place on June 28th in Kona, Hawaii. My personal goal is to raise \$5,600 for the Crohn's and Colitis Foundations of America (CCFA) and my husband, who is supporting me, has the same goal for a total of \$11, 200. We hope that CCFA can find a cure for these illnesses sometime in our lifetime.

If you want more information about the CCFA or would like to donate to CCFA on our behalf, go to: <http://www.active.com/donate/kona09fairwest/kona09luzzol>. 75-80% of your donation goes to research and is tax deductible.

Thanks for your support,
Jan and Frank Iuzzolino
145 Lake Shore Road
Putnam Valley, NY 10579

Trading up? Doing Spring Clean-up?

We are looking for donations of new and nearly new lawn, garden, patio, outdoor and other items and services to sell at a live auction being held at the

Putnam County 4-H Fair

July 25, 2009 at 4 PM

Putnam County Veterans Memorial Park, Town of Kent

**TO DONATE AN ITEM OR SERVICE CALL OR EMAIL CORNELL
COOPERATIVE EXTENSION OF PUTNAM COUNTY
845-278-6738 ♦ PUTNAM@CORNELLEDU**

Your charitable donation of auction items is tax deductible to the extent allowed by IRS regulation



ENJOY HIKING?

On April 19, Friedel Muller-Landau, a resident of Roaring Brook Lake, is offering to lead a hike in neighboring Fahnestock State Park. Friedel is a maintainer of one of the Fahnestock hiking trails. The plan for this first trip of the season is for a short hike to get interested people together. Hikers meet at 10AM and will return by noon. All attendees receive a trail map of trails in the area. If you want to participate in this or future hikes, please send an email to friedelm@gmail.com or leave a message at 845-528-7658.

LIFEGUARD TRAINING

The upcoming Lifeguard Training Class on May 2 includes the Waterfront Certification that is required by NYS Law for lifeguards serving on a beach. For further information contact the Putnam Valley Parks and Recreation Department at 845-526-3292.



TOWN HALL NEWS

from Susan Manno, Stormwater Administrator, 845-526-9114,

Sue wants us all to know there will be a Public Informational Meeting on the 2008 MS4 Annual Report on May 6 at 6PM at Town Hall in the Court Room.

What is MS4 you ask? Read on.

MS4 is the name of the storm water management program. The acronym stands for municipal separate storm sewer systems. MS4 includes both municipal and non-municipal systems of streets and roads with drainage, catch basins, curbs, gutters, ditches, manmade channels or storm drains, whether or not the system is owned by a municipality. Any MS4 may be a city, town or village system, or one serving a large publicly-owned complex such as a military base, hospital, school or prison.

Following is information on how the program came into being, what are its goals, some things you and I can do everyday to protect our lake, and contacts if you want more information.

STORMWATER MANAGEMENT for the TOWN of PUTNAM VALLEY

State/Federal Stormwater Management Laws, Regulations and Programs: More than a decade ago, the U.S. government created the Federal Stormwater Management Program under the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES.) The Program's goal is to limit pollution of the nation's lakes, streams, rivers and estuaries by runoff from construction sites and developed areas. It is administered by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA.)

The New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) has received delegation from the Federal Government to carry out the NPDES Program, using a system of state permits called SPDES (State Pollutant Discharge Elimination System.)

Protecting Local Quality of Life by Managing Stormwater

Problems from stormwater vary in severity, depending on soil and surface water conditions and on the way people use land and other resources. Unless stormwater runoff is controlled, it always harms local quality of life, whether through high-visibility occurrences such as floods and washouts, or through subtler and more pervasive losses, like degradation of drinking water, swimming or fishing, or a general weakening of the natural systems with loss of native species and increase of invasive species. Research by the US Environmental Protection Agency finds stormwater runoff to be the leading source of water quality impairments to estuaries and the third largest source of impairments to lakes.

What Can You Do To Help?

Household Chemicals:

- Be aware that many chemicals commonly used around the home are toxic. Select less toxic alternatives. Use non-toxic substitutes wherever possible.*
- Take unwanted household chemicals to hazardous Waste Collection Centers. The Putnam County Dept of Health holds Hazardous Waste Drop-off Centers twice a year. To find out when, call the Health Department at 845-225-5186.*
- Never pour unwanted chemicals on the ground. Soil cannot purify most chemicals, and they may eventually contaminate runoff.*
- Recycle used oil and antifreeze by taking them to service stations and other Recycling Centers. You can dispose of Motor Oil at the Putnam Valley Highway Department. Call 845-526-3333 to make arrangements. Never put used oil or other chemicals down storm drains or in drainage ditches. (One quart of oil can contaminate up to two million gallons of drinking water.)*
- Use low-phosphate or phosphate free detergents and dishwasher detergents. These can now be found in your local Supermarket.*

Landscaping and Gardening:

- *When landscaping your yard, select plants that have low requirements for water, fertilizers and pesticides.*
- *Use landscaping techniques such as grass swales (low areas in the lawn) or porous walkways to increase infiltration and decrease runoff.*
- *Leave lawn clippings on your lawn so that nutrients in the clippings are recycled. Compost your yard trimmings. Compost is a valuable soil conditioner which gradually releases nutrients to your lawn and garden. (Using compost will also decrease the amount of fertilizer you need to apply.)*

Septic Systems

- *Inspect your septic system annually. Pump out your septic system regularly. (Pumping out every three to five years is recommended for a three-bedroom house with a 1,000 gallon tank; smaller tanks should be pumped more often.)*
- *Do not use septic system additives. There is no scientific evidence that biological and chemical additives aid or accelerate decomposition in septic tanks; some additives may in fact be detrimental to the septic system or contaminate ground water.*

Information has been taken from the Stormwater Management Guidance manual for Local Officials—2004, and from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency—Polluted Runoff (Nonpoint Source Pollution) Do's and Don'ts Around the Home.

To See What the Town of Putnam Valley Has Been Doing to Meet Requirements in Stormwater Management...go to the Town's website, www.putnamvalley.com, and click on the Stormwater Tab.

Direct any questions to Susan Manno at smanno@putnamvalley.com or Gary Wulftop, Stormwater Coordinator/PV Highway Department, 845-526-3333 or email gwulftop@putnamvalley.com.

RBLPOA BOARD MEMBERS

NAME	POSITION	PHONE	EMAIL
Cathy Hanson	President	917-733-1608	cathlag@aol.com
Sam Lec	VP & Roads Chair	347-724-9279	samucl.m.lec@gmail.com
Arthur Sheridan	Treasurer	914-962-3349	art-sheridan@comcast.net
Jeanette Rein	Recording Sec & Social Comm Chair	845-528-1402	ljrein@comcast.net
Joan Billows	Financial Sec & Beach Comm Chair	845-528-2922	jillows@comcast.net
Drew Brown	Corresponding Sec & Website	914-528-8047	drew260@aol.com

Members at Large:

Bobby Coles		845-528-7456	colcsbob@aol.com
Ernst Demm	Lake Comm Chair	845-526-8863	ernst.demm@inficon.com
David Spittal		914-474-1217	davidkspittal@aol.com
Friedel Muller-Landau	Ecology Topics	845-528-7658	fricde.lm@gmail.com
Bill Brigham		845-526-1919	wabrigham@aol.com
Gary Smith	Boat Comm Chair	845-526-2451	pcr-kydz@comcast.net
Ula Swenson	Immed Past Pres	845-526-8640	ulajcff@comcast.net

