



Associations and Citizen Activists

Following a trend that has surged in other areas in the past few decades, residents and summer people in the Town of Caroga have taken an even greater interest in the community's welfare. Some of this citizen activity is focused within existing homeowners groups, some comes from appointed citizen's advisory groups. Both Caroga Lakes now have associations, supplanting a joint association that was formed in 1906.

East Caroga Lake Protective Association

Formed in 1917, with a handful of members and an annual fee of \$3, this is the oldest of the Caroga area's lake associations and it has been active to this day. It has directors representing parts of the shoreline. It has become a very social organization with a dinner dance in mid summer, boat parades with flares on July 4, a children's day with games and a picnic, a weekly teenage dance, fund raising events like pancake breakfasts, and a farewell dinner at the end of summer held at the association's beach building, Somerset Hall.

Through the 1970s, the ECLPA staged colorful Saturday morning regattas. Perhaps the most important work undertaken by the ECLPA has been the activity of the "weed committee" to control weed pollution, dense mats of weeds including Eurasian milfoil that interfered with swimming, boating, and fishing. The committee was initiated by Dona Goldman, Florence Smeland, and Dori Nicholson, who spearheaded the successful effort of forcing the Department of

Environmental Conservation to remove the pipe that carried effluent from the state campground into the lake and replace it with a new septic system away from the lakeshore. This effort took many meetings, state and local, including a 1984 colorful protest parade in front of the campground gate. Howard Sherman and Frank Bohlander also became active in the weed committee. Sherman secured the town's help in obtaining a weed harvester to dredge the lake. Frank Bohlander helped obtain a state grant for the weed harvester and Sherman helped with the harvest.

Contributed by Inger McDaniel, who dressed for the protest march in a costume of aquatic weeds including the dreaded milfoil.

Kirchens Grove Association

Residents along the loop road from Route 10 to East Caroga Lake formed an association in 1920 to maintain the road into the grove, erect a sign with owners' names, pay taxes, maintain the center area (originally a tennis court), and deal with sewage problems. Before the formation of the Caroga Lake Fire Department, the association owned a fire pump. For a number of years the group held a picnic before its annual meeting. Recently the center area has been used for beach volleyball. With two permanent residents and the removal of a number of trees. The town has taken over maintenance of the grove's access road.

Flora Wing



Canada Lake Orchestra under the direction of Cathy McLelland.

Canada Lake Protective Association

This association was formed in 1922 with 39 charter members concerned with the power company's raising and lowering of the level of the lake. After an agreement with the power company was reached, the association became inactive for 30 years. It was reactivated in 1952 in order to allow for the purchase of Nick Stoner Island from the estate of Cyrus Durey and to maintain the island and control speed boats.

The CLPA was incorporated in 1953 and in 1954 proposed navigation laws and a speed limit for motor boats in order to control what members thought was a threat to the lake. Since 1953, the association has grown to a membership of over 200 with numerous other concerns: water level, equipment to fight fires, boating safety, sailing races, card parties, water testing, youth activities, fireworks and flare lightings, and acid rain. During this time the CLPA has published a newsletter, *The Echo*, enlivened with historical reminiscences, family news, and a full schedule of summer events.

*From a history of the CLPA prepared
by Emily Ann Langworthy*

West Caroga Lake Association

The association is a relative newcomer. It began in the summer of 1988 with two gatherings of South Shore residents concerned with the environment of the lake and other issues. All residents of West Caroga Lake were invited to a meeting at Ernest Hopper's camp and over 50 people attended. From this the WCLA became a reality with Kevin Grygiel as its first chairman.

At the first official meeting, held at the Caroga Chapel, three concerns were paramount: Unsafe boating, excessive noise from high-speed boats, and an anticipated increase in taxes from the new school. The group decided not to launch a crusade against the new school, so the focus turned to boating and the environment. Of special concern was the practice of feeding ducks and what effect that might have on water quality.

An average membership of 75 people supports the organization, which hold an annual meeting at the Caroga Chapel in July. An Annual Social at Sherman's brings together generations of family members for an evening of ice cream and rides. The glue of the association is a newsletter, published four times a year, that informs year round and summer residents of happenings around town.

Linda Gilbert

Stoner Lake Fish and Game Club

The current Stoner Lake Association was formed in the 1960's as The Stoner Lake Fish and Game Club, with the primary mission of improving fishing in the Stoner Lakes. Over the years the club supported various efforts to establish a sustainable population of sport fish. The club, inactive during the 1970's and 1980's, revived in the early 1990's and began to focus on the overall quality of the lakes and the enjoyment of the lake community.

The club is incorporated and membership is open to anyone who owns property on either East or West Stoner Lake. The club meets on the weekends of Memorial Day, July Fourth, and Labor Day. Major activities supported by the club include:

- Monitoring water quality in both lakes
- Projects to improve East Stoner Lake fish habitat
- A one-day catch and release fishing contest, open to all residents of the lakes and their guests.
- A canoe and paddle boat race
- A Labor Day picnic
- A directory of Stoner Lake residents
- Participation in the Town of Caroga Navigation Committee
- A newsletter of club activities, published three times a year

Dave Devendorf

Pine Lake Civic Association

In 1997, a group of concerned residents from Pine Lake formed the town's newest association, with Lucille Hunt as president. The officers include Daniel Ehle, Carol Larter, John Ciko, Annemarie Hansel, Brian TenEyck, Michael Van Gorder, Ron Staring, John Ivancic, and Jeff White. The association's charter modeled after the charter of the WCLA states that its purpose is the creation of comraderie, protection of members' properties, preservation of the ecology and beauty of Pine Lake and surroundings, maintenance of standards of health and pollution control, and the sponsorship of activities to serve the best interests of the Pine Lake area. Board meetings and general membership meetings will determine the association's future.

Lucille Hunt

Black Flies

For years residents complained about the effects of aerial spraying for black flies. In 1990, the APA brought a suit, later overturned, to stop aerial spraying. The town decided to spray that year, but protests continued and so Supervisor Bruce Busch appointed a group to study the effects of aerial spraying and other means of dealing with the Adirondack scourge and to make recommendations to the Town Board. After a year long season of meetings, and study, with advice from outside experts, the committee called for the abandonment of aerial spraying and the adoption of a program of applying Bti- *Bacteria thurengis israelinsis*.

One of the most expensive aspects of Bti spraying is the mapping of every watercourse in the area, including intermittent streams. The whole Town Board pitched in the help with the mapping. Ron Staring was hired and trained to perform the Bti applications early in spring. Ron has to test every stream to determine the amount of black fly larva before applying Bti to the stream. The first spring, 1995, was quite dry, and an improvement was observed. The next year brought such heavy snows that applications were delayed and difficult. By 1997 the full effect of the program was felt and black flies are finally being controlled.

Navigation

At the urging of a group from Canada Lake by way of petition to the Town Supervisor, FritzAnn Surace appointed a Navigation Committee with representatives of all the town's lakes. The group began meeting in the fall of 1996 and under the direction of the co-chairmen, Vic Sammons and Ron Staring, the committee interviewed officers from DEC and the sheriff's department. The committee produced and circulated a brochure and a poster with a summary of navigation regulations and a plea for courtesy on the water. The committee is concerned with the physical health of the lakes and the quality of life on them and is evaluating the effectiveness of the flyers to see if other steps are needed.



Members of the Armed Forces from the Town of Caroga

World War I

Arnst, Alvarado
Farnsworth, Frederick
Gage, Howard
Groshans, Eugene Sr.
Holliday, Arthur
Hayner, Ross
Lane, Elmer
Lane, Raymond
Lane, Harry
Mastropolo, Joseph
Morey, Edward
Mosher, Charles
Sherman, Floyd
Spencer, Martin
Sterling, Ray
Stock, Roy
Unger, John
Willett, Delbert

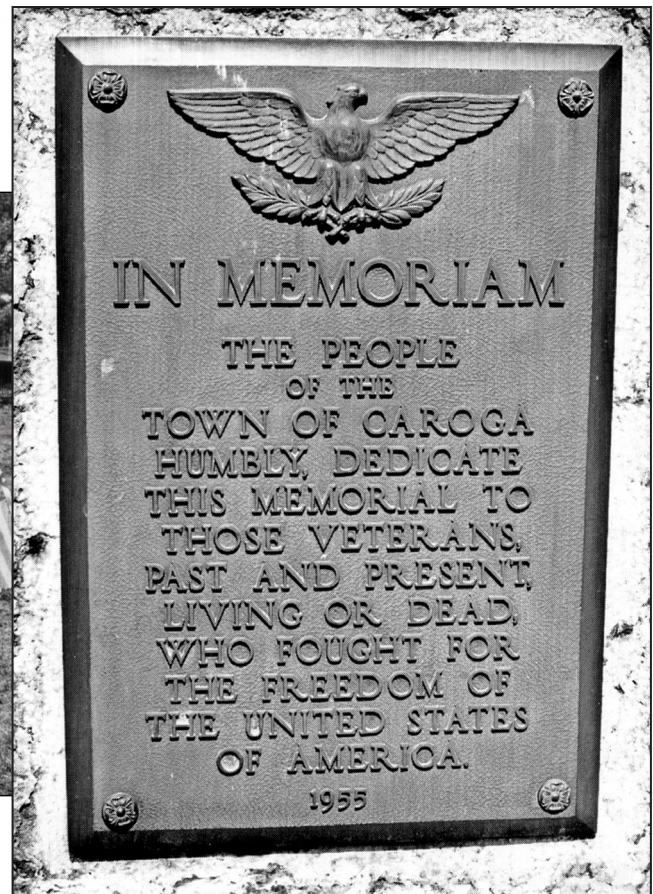
World War II

Arnst, Emmeran
Barney, Gordon
Buchner, Claude
Chappell, Lyman
Clark, David
Dalmata, Philip
Decker, Bert
Delahanty, William
Durey, Alfred
Durey, John
Faber, Edwin
Farnsworth, Clarkson
Farnsworth, Theodore
Ferrari, Robert
Finch, Thomas
Foster, Alfred
Foster, Chester
Foster, Edward
Foster, Henry
Foster, Herbert



Groshans, Eugene
Groshans, Raymond
Groshans, Richard
Groshans, William
Hoffman, Donald
Knapp, Albert
Knapp, David*
Knapp, Elmer
Knapp, Harry
Knapp, Jack
Kovalovich, Paul
Marucci, Nelson
Masters, Robert
Meyers, Andrew
Moody, William*
Morley, Charles
Morris, William
Mussey, Gilbert
Putman, Burton
Rhodes, Frank
Scott, Charles
Smith, Clarence
Smith, Kenneth
Smith, Robert
Smith, William Jr.*
Spencer, George
Unger, Vincent
Westover, Clifton
Winsman, Franklyn Jr.
Yates, Bruce
Yates, Burton

* Killed in Action



Korean Conflict

Busch, Bruce
Cheney, Alfred
Cheney, Marion Meyers
Guy, John
Hayes, Frank Jr.
Hayner, Bradley
Hayner, Harry
Holliday, George
Kovalovich, Viola Mussey
Morris, Ronald
Shutts, Clayton Jr.
Shutts, Ronald
Smith, Eugene
Snell, Albert
Snell, Joseph
Snell, Robert
Spencer, Gordon
Stock, Robert
Stock, Donald

Dalmata, Leslie
Delahanty, Thomas
Dermott, Daniel
Dermott, Phillip
Fisher, Kip
Fisher, Kerwin
Fisher, Kevin
Frank, Theodore
Frank, William
Hayes, Allen
Hayes, Kenneth
Hayner, David
Hayner, Glenn
Hayner, Harry Jr.
Lane, John
Meyers, Arnold
Meyers, Raymond
Putman, James
Putman, Richard
Rhodes, Daniel
Rhodes, Duane
Schmutz, Michael Jr.
Violyn, David
Witzke, John
Yates, Brian

Vietnam War

Bartlett, Joseph
Brown, Harold Jr.
Brown, Peter
Brown, Roger
Cheney, Paul