



March 2007

Winter 2006-2007 Newsletter

Established 1909

2007

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Clint Farnsworth

Vice Commodore –
Lucia VerSteeg

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Lucia VerSteeg

Chris Westbrook



Winter Greetings From Cranberry Lake

Winter didn't arrive until mid January 2007 and then it came on with a vengeance.

Between mid January and the end of February we received over 5' of snow and the day time high temps were below freezing; looks like an old fashion Winter! It's mid March as I write this Newsletter and Cranberry's still having -20 degree temps. The lake did not freeze until mid January and then the snow came before we had much ice.

The result on the lake was lots of slush and safe snowmobiling only on the beaten path between the Pinecone and Cranberry Lake Village.

The Cranberry Lake Lodge closed in October for renovations and remains closed as I write this newsletter, hopefully to reopen for the Summer Season. We plan to hold the Boat Club Banquet there again this year.

The Pinecone Restaurant has been sold and continues operation as a Restaurant under the new ownership. **Hooray!!!**

The Town of Clifton property reassessment is scheduled for completion by the May 2007 Tax Roll. Those of you with Town of Clifton property will be receiving / have received the tentative revaluation by the end of March, 2007.

Jay's year end Financial Report indicates that the Club has \$9,637.33 in the General Fund and \$5,512.92 in the Community Improvement Project Fund.

The Newton Falls Paper Mill has been purchased by a group headed by Dennis Bunnell who lead the management team when the Mill was owned by Appleton. The necessary permits and financing arrangements that have been underway for over two years are now all in place to enable the Mill to start making paper again. This wonderful outcome is the direct result of much blood, sweat, and tears expended by Dennis Bunnell, and Chris Westbrook, President of the Clifton Fine Economic Development Corporation, along with other Community and State Leaders.

"DOUBLE HOORAY!!!"

Community Improvement Project Fund / 2007 Membership



2007 Boat Club Activities

Boat Show and Parade –
June 30

Banquet – July 14

Picnic – August 11

Committee Chairs for 2007

Membership – Sherm Craig

Regatta (Boat Show and
Parade) -
Hal Brown

Fish and Game – Wes
Marsh

Dock and Navigation – Jay
Edel

Water Quality Monitoring –
John
Adami

Nominating – Chris
Westbrook

Picnic – Janet Rhodes

Banquet – Pauline VanEpps

Merchandise – Kass
Thompson

Centennial – Allen Splete

Community Improvement
Projects– Clint Farnsworth

The Boat Club's Community Improvement Project (CIP) Fund is headed into it's second year with over \$5,500 available for worthy projects. Four projects were completed in 2006 as noted in the Fall Newsletter. Two additional projects are in the feasibility / planning stages. A small Water Overlook Pavilion for the Town of Clifton Beach Park that would cost \$5,000 to \$8,000 if approved and a Boat Wash Station for the Colombian Road Boat Launch.

Attached to this newsletter is the annual membership renewal form and included on that form is a place where you can make an additional donation to the CIP Fund. There is also a place to list your Community Improvement Project ideas. [Link to Printable version of 2007 Membership Renewal and Community Improvement Project Fund Donation Form](#)

Waterfront Revitalization Strategy, Towns of Clifton and Fine

In early 2006 the Towns of Clifton and Fine received a \$35,000 planning grant from the State of New York to help decide what projects we'd like to see happen along our waterfronts. The planning activity, lead by a team from the Wildlife Conservation Society (WCS) under the leadership of Zoë Smith and a Waterfront Advisory Committee (WAC) made up of local residents, conducted three public hearings to gather input and prioritize projects. Following these hearings the WCS and the WAC met through the Winter of 2006/2007 to refine and organize this data into a Strategy document; a plan for the two Towns. A draft Strategy was presented to, and preliminary approval given by, the two Town Boards in February of 2007. A public information session is being scheduled for late April 2007 to present the draft Strategy and gather final feedback on the recommended projects.

Note: Those wishing to review the Draft Strategy for the Waterfront Revitalization for the Towns of Clifton and Fine may do so at www.wcs.org/adkwaterfront . (This Note update added on 05/31/2007.)

Fish and Game Report – 2006 by Wes Marsh

Fishing – AHH! What a difference a year makes. If you'll recall, the 2005 summer weather was spectacular. 2006 was cool, wet, and windy. My first trip to fish a pond ended up as a 2 hour walk in a cold rain. This set the tone for several trips, as well as the July Fishing Derby. Most boats were off the lake by noon that day. Rumor has it that ESPN will be filming a derby this coming summer. Despite the weather, the lake remains a prime fishing location for both large and small mouth bass. Unfortunately, the Northern Pike population continues to grow in both size and numbers. There were reports of an early spring pike near the village weighing 24 lbs. and one reported mid-summer of over 36 inches. A 24" pike was taken and released (unfortunately) near Chair Rock Island. It appears that they have found every bay on the lake. Very few brook trout reports this year.

Hunting – Good news-the number of deer seen and bucks taken this past hunting season was encouraging. There were reports of several bucks taken, however, I won't give away the areas! When it comes to a successful hunt, my camp has a different story however. Five bucks were seen, three were shot at, but none were harvested. The track soup was thin! In addition, a first year hunter from Georgia missed a bear three times! I guess "buck fever" and "bear fever" are similar. My greatest outdoor thrill this past

Newsletter

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summer came when we discovered moose tracks 300 yards from our camp on the south shore.

My camp has grown from four guys in a tent in the 70's to this year with 23 hunters representing six states. First came sons, then their friends, then grandsons and their friends. Throw in a few neighbors, and it has outgrown itself, both in the amount of work and in safety. The old-timers can't find a fair way to scale back, so we're ending a 75 year tradition. It's been fun.

Editors note: On behalf of all Boat Club Members, I thank Wes for the last 10+/- years of Fish and Game Reports. They have been great fun to read!

In Memory Of — It is with sadness that we note the passing of Club Members: Dave Carney, Albert Fowler, Roland Hok, and Nelson Leavell; as well as long time resident Stan Lawrence.

Last Updated 06/04/2007