



Cranberry Lake Boat Club

December 2016

2016 – 2017 Officers

Commodore – Nick Hunter

Vice Commodore –

Clint Farnsworth

Secretary – Patty Farnsworth

Treasurer – Jenna Burkard

Board of Directors

David Barr

Piers Bramham

Paul Burkard

Arlene Davis

Clint Farnsworth

Gil Gelasch

Bill Gleason

Sally Holden

Nick Hunter

Joe Mauro

Catherine McCann

Dave Rurkowski

Mary Simmons

Kass Thompson

Ian Ward

Team Leaders

CIP – C. Farnsworth

Directory/Membership –

P. Farnsworth

Banquet – N. Hunter

C. Farnsworth

Cardboard Boat Race –

P. Burkard

C. McCann

Dock / Navigation – B. Gleason

Firecracker 5K/10K – I. Ward

J. Mauro

Fish & Game – D. Hall

Historian – B. Gleason

Invasive Species – A. Davis

Merchandise – D. Lough

Nominations – S. Holden

K. Thompson

Picnic – D. Barr & G. Gelasch

Poker Paddle – P. Braham

D. Rurkowski

Publicity – M. Simmons

Water Quality – E. Kipp

J. Englert

Web Site/Facebook – B. Sutor

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Cranberry Lake Boat Club Winter Newsletter

Commodore Greeting

Holiday greetings from your new commodore! Most of us are now into our alter lives, having departed Cranberry Lake for other parts of the globe. Joyce and I remained until early November and then returned to Cranberry in December for the first winter visit in many years. We experienced the freezing of the lake and some lake effect snows. We joined with my fellow first responders to celebrate Christmas at the Fire Hall and reflected on the wonderful friends we have made in this little piece of paradise. Cranberry Lake is such a special place for me. My first visit to CL was way back in the 70s when my parents had Bob Sherman build our log cabin. Since my retirement, Joyce and I spend more than half the year at Cranberry and now consider this to be our true home.



The variety of backgrounds and talents that our members possess helps to explain why the boat club has existed and flourished and has been a part of this unique place for over 100 years. But don't forget that this is not just a summer community. There is winter hiking, skiing, snow shoeing, snowmobiling, and don't forget the First Strike Ice Fishing Derby Jan 28th and the "Whiteout Weekend", Feb 12-14th (<http://adkwow.webs.com>) It is because of this wide range of activities and the diverse member talents that the future looks bright for us as a club, but the towns of Clifton and Fine are in a transitional state. The wellbeing of these two towns is best described as nebulous. Each of us has the potential to help forge a community that has more than potential. Let's all renew our commitment to this incredible part of the world. Get involved, stay involved, assist others to do the same as we help move Cranberry Lake and the surrounding area forward. For the last 3 years, one of our biggest local challenges has been trying to recreate a boat club dock. Although a town dock would be preferable, it is not possible at this time. I ask you to please take special note of the opportunity we have for a short-term boat club solution. Happy Holidays to all!

To Dock or Not to Dock

We have sent out a mailing describing the opportunity for a new CLBC dock. At the time of this publishing, we have received donations and pledges for just over \$10,000 so the dock looks like a GO! If you have not received a separate mailing on the Dock situation, please check the web site. Additional funds collected will be used for the other ancillary items needed such as cleats, fenders, carts, and maintenance. Thanks to Dave Lampart, Clint Farnsworth, Susan Sweeney Smith, Brett Blackmer and the town church for their effort to bring about this opportunity. Check our web site <http://www.cranberrylakeboat.club> for updates to the current level of donations.

2016 in Review

Invasive Species



One of the most challenging issues associated with the maintenance of our lake is the potential for invasive species entering from outside sources. The NYS DEC has funded the Lake Stewards program as a first level of protection. Stewards are located at the boat launch by our dam and the boat wash station located just outside of Star Lake on Rt 3. These programs provide invasive species information and voluntary boat wash services. Please check, your boats, canoes, kayaks and jet-skies before each is returned to Cranberry Lake each season. If they have been elsewhere, have them cleaned at a wash station before re-entering Cranberry. Please encourage those that visit our lake to do the same.



Arlene Davis has become the boat club's invasives expert. She has attended numerous meetings and received collection and identification training. In turn, she has traveled the lake to run 10 seminars and demonstrations. The goal is to educate everyone on the lake so that we can create a bench mark for where invasives exist on the lake and then to monitor them. With funds provided by the Damoth Fund, Andrew and Cindy Love, and the CLBC, she and her husband Mark, have purchased and built equipment that allows us to view, collect, and identify the lake vegetation. You are encouraged to borrow equipment and take plant samples that can be evaluated.

Plant Sample Drop Boxes have been located in the Library Lobby and at the Public Launch (near the steward's shed). Plant samples collected have been identified and their locations noted. Only one invasive species has been found. This was variable leaf water milfoil (VLM) which has been in Cranberry Lake for decades.

A CLBC navigational map is framed and in the Library Lobby. This map is used to display the areas of shoreline which have been surveyed this year. Very few volunteers have been involved in the surveying process. I encourage everyone to contact Arlene and help to protect our lake. We must ALL be involved if we are to fight this inevitable lake issue.



Community Projects

1. Clifton Community Center Pavilion

A total of \$39,415 has been raised and about \$31,500 has been spent to date. Finishing touches of electrical outlets, removable panorama sidewalls, four pressure treated picnic tables, a pillars of support sign, and a ceiling were accomplished this year. Extending the sidewalk from the Playground to the Pavilion, adding soffits, fascia and roof vents remain for next year.

2. Clifton Community Center Front Yard

The CIP Committee has teamed with the Town of Clifton Board to plan and implement Streetscape improvements to the front of the Community Center. Improvements include a new 30' Aluminum Flag pole with light, another bench for a total of three, arranging the Memorial Rock in a new setting and some low maintenance plantings. The Committee has committed \$3,000 from the CIP Fund, been granted \$1,820 from the Damoth Fund and \$2,000 from the Northern New York Clifton Fine fund for a total of \$6,820 so far. The Flag Pole has been purchased from Todd's Supply. Ground breaking is planned for next spring following Town Board approval of the overall plan.



3. Other Project Support

We have made donations from our Community Improvement Program (CIP) fund to several other town projects. We provided \$250 to the Banner Committee, \$300 towards the staining of the 2 Pavilions with Sikkens Cetol, and \$250 to the Wanakena Foot Bridge Reconstruction.



Officers and Directors

At the Annual Meeting, the membership voted David Barr, Piers Braham, Gil Gelasch, and Mary Simmons in as new Directors. Welcome aboard to these new board members and a thank you to Derek Lough, Suzanne Liberty, and Dave Lampart for their service. At our August Board of Directors meeting, the Directors elected Nick Hunter as Commodore, Clint Farnsworth as Vice Commodore, Jenna Burkard as Treasurer, and Patty Farnsworth as Secretary.

Events

FIRECRACKER 5/10K - The July 2nd Race, coordinated by Ian Ward, had 86 participants and netted \$4100.

CARDBOARD BOAT RACE - The July 16th, Race coordinated by Paul Burkard, was held at the town beach for the first time. There were 11 boats and an overflow crowd. It's not too early to start designing your entry for next summer! The event netted \$277.

PADDLE FOR THE LIBRARY - The July 23rd poker paddle managed by Nick Hunter had 60 registrants who paddled the Oswegathie from Wanakena to Hawk's Nest and back. They made up to 6 stops and picked up a token at each. Each token was good for a card in a poker hand. The event concluded at the Pine Cone for prize drawing and light snacks. A great event for all ages. The event raised \$915, all of which was donated to the Clifton Community Library.

PICNIC / RECEPTION / ANNUAL MEETING - This event, held at the new Pavilion located behind the Community Center, was attended by 75 members and friends. Everyone brought a share dish, the club supplied burgers, dogs, and water, and we played numerous games. A good time was had by all! Let's get everyone there next year!



Loons

My favorite sound each morning is that of the loons calling to each other. I have yet to see babies riding on the backs of their parents but 2017 may be the year. Each year a loon populations census is taken on more than 200 lakes in the Adirondacks. This census takes place on the third Saturday in July from 8-9am. Check in with Fred Guevara to volunteer your time. This year's census included 10 adult and one immature loon on CL. Additionally, stewards from the **Biodiversity Research Institute's Adirondack Center for Loon Conservation** visit Cranberry Lake multiple times each summer to check on the population and try to identify banded birds. Their banding and data collection has contributed to better understanding the health conditions of our population and their migration patterns.

Water Quality

Did you know that Cranberry Lake has had its water tested multiple times each year since around 1998? Ed Kipp along with John Englert, John and Dot Adami have been volunteers taking measurements and water samples since I can remember. They send their information and samples to the Adirondack Watershed Institute at Paul Smith's College for evaluation. Fortunately, the condition of our lake continues to stay fairly constant despite all the changes that have taken place.

Website and Facebook Page

Our Web Site and Facebook page have undergone some significant changes this past year. Bob Sutor is now our technology consultant and has made some exciting modifications. Note the Upcoming Events Calendar, Membership Application, Weather Reports, Local and Adirondack News Features, Pictures from Cranberry Lake (send him your best shots) and so much more. Go check things out at <http://www.cranberrylakeboat.club>



Commodore's Notes

1. Did you know that Bud and Kass Thompson are the ones most responsible for the care of the Town Beach? Kass plants and maintains the flower gardens that help to make the facility inviting to all. Additionally, Bud keeps the grass looking great! A big thank you to Clint Farnsworth for getting a layer of stain on the structures just before the cold weather set in.

2. Who sets up and keeps those beautiful flower boxes all over town? You're right if you immediately think of Kass Thompson again along with Anita Bachus.

3. Please pass on any suggestions or questions to me. Always happy to hear from you! Remember, be involved in **your** club and **your** town!

4. Congratulations for your continued donations to help make a boat club dock a reality!

See You In The Spring!

Nick

