



Cranberry Lake Boat Club

December 2017

2017 – 2018 Officers

Commodore – Nick Hunter

**Vice Commodore –
Bob Sutor**

**Secretary –
Patty Farnsworth**

**Treasurer -
Jenna Burkard**

Board of Directors

**David Barr
Piers Bramham
Arlene Davis
Clint Farnsworth
Gil Gelasch
Bill Gleason
Sally Holden
Nick Hunter
Joe Mauro
Catherine McCann
Dave Rurkowski
Mary Simmons
Karen Vavra
Ian Ward**

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Cranberry Lake Boat Club Winter Newsletter

Commodore Greeting

Such a busy fall in the Hunter family with traveling, house construction in NJ, taking care of Aunty Helen, and our first

grandchild arriving in January. I wouldn't want it any other way! Joyce and I are thankful to have a healthy family and so many amazing friends! Thank you all for making this past year one of the best for us and the boat club!



The boat club has involvement in so many facets of the Clifton-Fine community life. This includes politics as well as the activities and pretty much everything else. For most of us, the face of the CLBC is Clint and Patty Farnsworth. These two veterans of the board have worked tirelessly at all levels of the boat club business. Here is a shout out to thank them for sacrificing their time and energy for the betterment of the town and for all our members over the past decades. On a more personal level, I wish to thank them for helping to guide me through my first year as Commodore. They really are the BEST!

2017 In Review

Dock Is a Success

This was a very successful first year for us as new owners of a dock. Remember, it is because of Brett Blackmer's kindness that we have a location for our dock. There were only a few minor issues that Brett and I worked through. Now we look forward to a second year with a dock at the same location. Here are a few reminders about the arrangement that allows us to continue our access to the dock.

- 1) Only the aluminum dock belongs to the CLBC. All the wood structures belong to Brett and his family
- 2) Brett's dock, picnic table, boats etc. are private and not to be accessed or used for any purpose.
- 3) To use the dock, a current boat club membership patch must be displayed on your boat
- 4) No overnight dockage is permitted!
- 5) Treat our dock and Brett's property as if it were yours!

Invasive Species (repeat from last year)

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

Team Leaders

CIP – C. Farnsworth
Directory/Membership – P. Farnsworth
K. Vavra
Banquet – N. Hunter
C. Farnsworth
Cardboard Boat Race – J. Burkard
Dock/Navigation – B. Gleason
Firecracker 5K/10K – I. Ward
Fish & Game – D. Hall
Historian - B. Gleason
Merchandise - D. Lough
Nominations – S. Holden
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

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.

Tools for sampling the lake are available for borrowing and Plant Sample Drop Boxes will be located in the Library Lobby. Plant samples collected can be identified and compared to those previously collected. Only one invasive species has been found thus far, variable leaf water milfoil (VLM), which has been in Cranberry Lake for decades. We must continue to be vigilant for the inevitable invasion of other species and be prepared to attack them immediately. We must ALL be involved if we are to fight this inevitable lake issue.

Community Projects

Pavilion:

This Fall, we completed the sidewalk from the Playground to the Pavilion. The major Pavilion elements are now complete. Of the \$39,415 raised for the Pavilion, about \$4,000 remains. We are looking at some combination of more picnic tables, soffits, fascia and roof vents in this next year.

Clifton Community Center Front Yard:

In partnership with the Town of Clifton Board a 31' sidewalk, a lighted 30' Flag Pole centered on a 19' hexagon pad backed by the Memorial Rock have been installed in the Front Yard of the Clifton Community Center. We celebrated this Milestone with our Town Supervisor, Chuck Hooven, raising the Flag for the first time in early Oct. We thank the Damoth Fund for providing \$1,820 for the flag pole and another bench. Thus far, CIP (with the Damoth Grant) has spent about \$2,000 and the Town about \$3,500 plus significant help from the Town Highway Dept. We look forward to landscaping in the Spring which CIP will fund.

Miscellaneous

- Special thanks to Gil Gellasch, Derek Lough, Sootbusters, and Kelly Smith for the design and concrete work completion in the Community Center front yard and the Pavilion walkway.
- The CIP Fund has about \$14,500 plus the Pavilion's \$4,000.
- Other 2017 project support included; Banner Committee - \$250, Beach Park Maintenance - \$250, Wanakena Channel Marker - \$300 (not completed yet).

Officers and Directors

Welcome aboard to Karen Vavra. Karen and best buddie, Jamie Owens, have been a part of the Cranberry Lake community for decades. Karen has assisted Patty Farnsworth with the directory and will shortly be taking over full





responsibility. Karen brings volunteer experience from her Florida community. We look forward to sharing her digital expertise and knowledge to continue our growth.

We also welcome Bob Sutor onto the board. Bob has had the task of implementing and updating our facebook page and website previously. Now he is a full fledged director and we have further put him to work as my Vice Commodore. Good Luck to my new confidant!

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Events

FIRECRACKER 5/10K - The July 1st Race, coordinated by Ian Ward, had 72 participants and netted better than \$5000.

CARDBOARD BOAT RACE - The July 15th, Race coordinated by Paul and Jenna Burkard, was held at the town beach for the second year. There were 9 boats and an overflow crowd. It's not too early to start accumulating cardboard and designing your entry for next summer!

PICNIC – The picnic was held at the new Pavilion for the second year and was attended by nearly 50 members and friends. Everyone brought a share dish, the club supplied burgers, dogs, and water. A good time was had by all! Let's get everyone there next year!

RECEPTION / ANNUAL MEETING – Our annual meeting and banquet was attended by 80 members with a special guest speaker, Sherm Craig, Chairman of the Adirondack Agency. There was a short Q & A and a terrific meal produced by the Stone Manner.

PADDLE FOR THE LIBRARY - The July 22nd paddle managed by Piers Bramham and Dave Rurkowski had 52 registrants who paddled the Oswegathchie 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 \$735, all of which was donated to the Clifton Community Library.





New Postal Clerk

Meet Julie Davenport. She travels every day to Cranberry Lake from Harrisville to be our new postal clerk. After saying goodbye to a wonderful clerk, Cindy Whitmore, we are fortunate to welcome another talented, efficient, and friendly lady.

Grass River Railroad (GRRR)

The Grasse River Railroad trail effort is well underway thanks to the leadership of Peter Dunham. The Friends of the Grasse River Railroad, a not-for-profit steering group, has been incorporated as a committee of the Clifton-Fine Economic Development Corporation. A number of members of the community have made valuable contributions in support of the initiative. Over \$15,000 has been raised but more will be needed. Efforts to formalize a partnership with the DEC are moving forward. Locally, Susan Sweeney Smith and Chuck Yartz are taking point on the project. Thanks to all who have helped to make this progress possible! Stay tuned for manual help call outs!

Commodore's Notes

1. Local election results from November: Town Supervisor is Chuck Hooven, Town Clerk is Karen Soltau, Superintendent of Highways is Kelly J. Smith Jr, Councilman are Mary Zuhlsdorf and Cory Perrault.
2. Nice job by Allen Ditch and all those involved in the celebration of the new Wanakena Bridge. With the Fourth of July parade following the ceremony, it was a day to be remembered for a long time.
3. Do you know all your neighbors? Why not take a minute and introduce yourself and talk to them about the boat club initiatives and membership.
4. Thanks to Mark Friden for his continuous trip down memory lane. His facebook posts are teaching us all history and geography! Well Done!
5. Please pass on any suggestions or questions to me. Always happy to hear from you! Remember, be involved in ***your*** club and ***your*** town!
6. "May the size of your fish always be bigger than the holes in your net"

See You In The Spring!

Nick

