

# THE DISTRICT DISPATCH

## The Cuba Lake District Board of Commissioners Information Letter

### October 2008

#### 2008 District Election Results:

On August 30, 2008, a total of 44 ballots were cast reelecting Jerry Collins to a second five year term as Commissioner on the Cuba Lake District Board of Commissioners. Jerry was sworn in at the September 11<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Board of Commissioners.

Also, at the September 11, 2008 meeting the following elections and appointments were made:

[Note - dates in () are end dates for terms for the publicly elected positions.]

Elected to Chairman of the Board – Lynn Sweet (2010)

Elected as Deputy Chairman of the Board – Dave Shemeld (2009)

Appointed as Secretary – Isabel Warren

Appointed as Legal Counsel – Jack Hart

Other Commissioners on the Board and their term dates are:

Joe Higgins (2011)

Jay Morris (2012)

Treasurer – Andy Lindquist (2009)

Lake Manager is Scott Barrey.

Committees and assignments will be revised or reaffirmed in the October meeting.

#### FOLA Region 1 Conference – Moonwinks, October 18, 2008:

Sponsored by the CLCOA, the 14<sup>th</sup> annual NYS Federation of Lake Associations (FOLA) Region 1 annual meeting will be held at Moonwinks Restaurant, Cuba Lake, NY on October 18, 2008. The agenda includes:

1. Welcome by Regional Director Don Cook and host Cuba Lake Cottage Owners Association at 10:00 a.m.
2. " Keyholing" – Developers using lake lots as access to a lake by large developments in a watershed  
Panel Presentations and Discussions
  - a. Canandaigua Lake Association – President Tony Busch
  - b. Canandaigua Lake Watershed Council – Kevin Olvany
  - c. Bristol Harbour - Fred Sarkis
  - d. Diamond Properties – John Waugh
  - e. Former Attorney for the Town of Canandaigua – Derek Brocklebank
  - f. Keuka Lake Association – John Webster
3. Lunch at 12:15 (Choice of roast beef, meat loaf or Caesar salad with grilled chicken)
4. New York State Senator Catherine Young at 1:00 p.m.
5. Rushford Lake and the revised New York State Dam Safety Regulations
6. Plant Surveys – Scott Kishbaugh of the Albany Office of NYSDEC

Contact Barbara Utter, 5086 Willowbrook Drive, Clarence, NY 14031, **716-741-3208** or at **585-968-2565**.

The necessary registration form is available at

<http://www.ourcubalake.com/FOLA/2008%20FOLA%20Regional%20App.pdf>.

#### Garbage Collection:

The current service provided by the District's contract with SDS will end with the last pickup on October 27, 2008. Service will resume May 4, 2009. Those residents living at the lake through the winter season must make their own arrangements for collection. Services available include:

- **Don Clark – 585-593-7110**. Pickup is on Thursdays; recycle pickup is every week, the rate is \$20.00 per month (no surcharges). If you pay up-front for the 6 months November through April, the cost is \$110 payable prior to November. Price covers 4 bags per week plus recyclable items. First pickup – the first Thursday in November (Nov 6<sup>th</sup>).

# THE DISTRICT DISPATCH

## The Cuba Lake District Board of Commissioners Information Letter

- **SDS – 716-372-6905.** 5 bag, Pickup is on Thursdays; recycle pickup every-other week. For continuous service, the first pickup would be Nov 6th the first recycle pickup Nov 13th. The estimated rate this year for both Allegany and Cattaraugus Counties is \$26.53. The rate includes a fuel surcharge which is a variable therefore you must confirm the rate at the time of placing your order. If over 62 years of age ask about the senior discount.

To assure continuation of service, you must make arrangements prior to October 31, 2008. While the above discussion of rates is our understanding of current rates, they are subject to change and you must confirm your cost or potential costs with your intended service provider.

### Spillway Activity:

- Winter Draw-Down Schedule (approximate total drawdown is 8 feet):
  - Remove First 4 levels of ties – November 1, 2008.
  - Remaining ties – The first Monday after Thanksgiving; December 1, 2008.
- Prior to raising the water level next spring, work will be done to repair cracks in the downstream apron of the spillway.

### Water Quality:

#### Bacteria test results for the 2008 season:

Informal spot-checks of bacteria levels were taken during the summer at fixed points in the Lake. The results are compared to the data from last year and are shown to the right. The “single sample” test results are comparable to the Allegany County Health Department’s “Single Sample” limits

	June 2007	July 2007	July 2008	August 2007	August 2008	Sept. 2007	Sept. 2008	Allegany County Health Dept. Limits	
<b>Single Sample Tests</b>								<b>Single Sample</b>	<b>30 Day Period Samples</b>
<b>Total Coliform Bacteria - Colonies per 100ml</b>									
Shore						2000	1600	N/A	2400
Rawson Inlet	600	940	N.R	800	1000	1850	1320		
Spillway	400	860	N.R	500	800	1400	920		
Dam	30	290	N.R	200	150	1000	240		
<b>E-Coli - Colonies per 100ml</b>									
Shore						30	100	235	126
Rawson Inlet	<10	<10	70	<10	<10	10	<10		
Spillway	<10	<10	20	<10	<10	<10	10		
Dam	<10	<10	<10	<10	<10	<10	<10		
<b>Fecal Coli - Colonies per 100ml</b>									
Shore						15	100	1000	200
Rawson Inlet	340	<10	100	<10	<10	3	<10		
Spillway	380	<10	30	10	<10	1	20		
Dam	30	<10	<10	<10	<10	14	<10		

used in determining acceptability of water quality for bathing beaches. If the results represented the logarithmic mean of samples taken over a 30 day period then the limit criteria would be as shown in “30 Day Period Samples”.

Based on single sample results, at no time through the summer did the coliform levels recorded exceed the recognized limits. The June 2007 data was taken shortly after a dairy farm spill upstream in Rawson Creek; the major part of the spill was contained and pumped out before reaching the lake.

It is interesting to note that the July E-coli and Fecal Coli data may indicate some “flow-through” issues that were apparently ameliorated by the time of the August test. In September a “control” point was taken along the shore at or near a septic system discharge. These points were taken as a check of test results since values at other locations are at such low levels. They do seem to suggest the impact of local septic systems on the bacteria levels in the lake.

# THE DISTRICT DISPATCH

The Cuba Lake District Board of Commissioners Information Letter

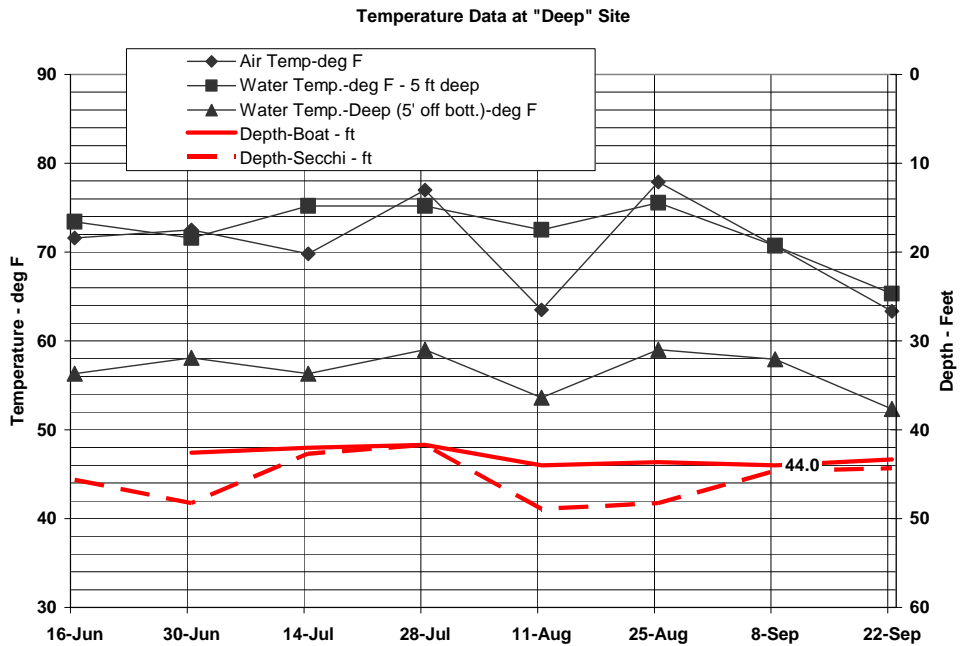
## CSLAP Testing:

Water testing under this New York State program coordinated through FOLA, consisted of transparency and chemical test samples being taken 8 times; twice a month, June through September. Chemical results require lab testing by the DEC with results being published usually by February of the next year.

Some of the data that can be reported is shown here:

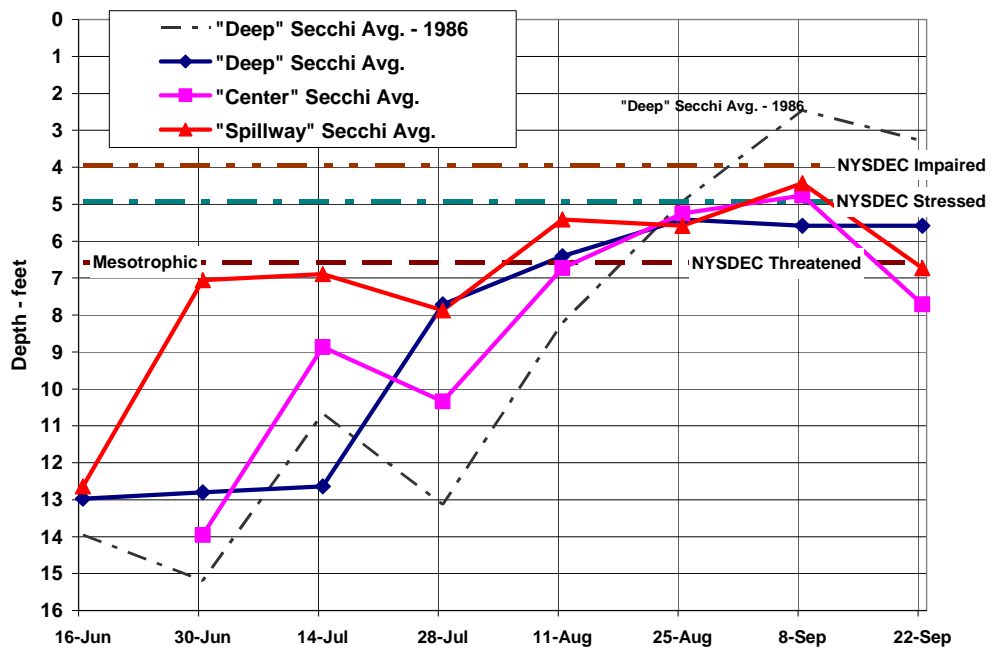
Data was taken at three Sites the "Deep", "Center" and "Spillway" sites as shown in the July 2008 issue of the *Dispatch*. The "Deep" site

temperature and depth data is shown to the right. The depth data shown by the dotted line is "sounded" using the Secchi disk and line. The "Boat" data is as measured by the depth meter on the GPS system. The variance between the two measurements reflects drift of the boat over the disk, even with an anchor, which of course varies with the wind. The deviation of the "Boat" data reflects preciseness of the site location repeatability (navigation issues).



## Water Clarity – Secchi Disk

The data shows that "Mesotrophic" conditions were approached by the end of June at the "Spillway" location and in early August data for all locations. Clarity levels progressed to the NYSDEC defined "Stressed" condition at the "Center" and "Spillway" sites by the early September sampling. The improvement in clarity at these sites at the end of September is perhaps due to the heavy rain and high spillway flow which occurred between the two September readings. The "Deep" site being isolated from the high flow path of the water stayed at a constant level late August through September.



# THE DISTRICT DISPATCH

## The Cuba Lake District Board of Commissioners Information Letter

The NYSDEC criteria shown on the chart refer to fitness for recreational use including “bathing”. In looking at CSLAP data history which is taken at the “Deep” location, the deepest clarity value recorded was in July 1988 at 28 feet and the worst clarity depth reported was in September 1986 at 2.5 feet. Anything 4 feet or less would fall into the NYSDEC “Impaired” rating. September readings in the years 1986 and 1987 were within the “Impaired” rating level. Note that 1986 was the first year data was recorded.

CSLAP definition –“Transparency -- Determined by measuring the depth at which a black and white disk disappears from sight, the Secchi disk transparency estimates the clarity of the water. In lakes with low color and rooted macrophyte (“weed”) levels, it is related to the productivity of the lake.”

CSLAP testing protocol can be found at -

<http://www.cslap.net/2003/2003%20CSLAP%20Sampling%20Protocol.pdf>.

### Fall leaves are falling down!

A good way to help control the weed population is to keep nutrients from entering the lake.

A major source of nutrients can be the unnatural addition of high quantities of leaves into the lake. Please don't deposit your leaves into the lake water or onto the lake bed. Leaves sink to the bottom and provide compost nutrients for the aquatic plant life.

### Weed harvesting:

Approximately 300 hours of “cutting and fetching” produced 79 truck loads or roughly 1975 cubic yards of weeds harvested from the lake this year. The predominant variety seemed to be “pondweed” with the specific variety unofficially identified by the writer as “POTAMOGETON GRAMINEUS L., Grass-like Pondweed”. The weed is difficult to pick up with the harvester as it clings to the conveyor system and drops back into the water from the down side of the conveyor.



This results in large flotillas of weeds on the water collecting

in the downwind shoreline nooks creating cleanup problems and undesirable conditions for residents. The manufacturer of the harvester has indicated a solution may be available by replacing the harvester's conveyor system “belts” with a different design. This will be addressed prior to the next cutting season.

### Sediment Basins:

The recently completed Mt. Monroe basin is functioning well. This project will be completed with the reimbursement of funds from FEMA which should be completed in the near future. FEMA is evaluating the reimbursement figure based on the higher than the pre-bid estimated cost used in the original FEMA application. Final evaluation will result in a reimbursement ranging from \$41,000 to \$53,000 making the total reimbursement range from \$74,000 to \$86,000.

Observation of the water flow and settling action of the Abbott Creek basin indicated a need to improve upon the deceleration of the water flow to allow greater sediment collection before the

# THE DISTRICT DISPATCH

## The Cuba Lake District Board of Commissioners Information Letter

water enters the lake. Adjustments have been made to the flow path which have improved the efficiency of the basin.

### **Dredging:**

Dredging projects that can be accomplished by the traditional method of bringing heavy equipment on to the lake bed are limited by accessibility to the location. Also, many bottom areas in need of dredging have soft, silt-like materials which will not support such heavy equipment. Alternative methods include barge type operations which scour the bottom and pump the resultant slurry to a holding area for drainage and drying of the material. Such systems have been looked at in the past but were very small in capacity. New equipment is being brought to market which may be of the size and type appropriate to the conditions at Cuba Lake. One such system that will be considered is the *DINO Six* pictured here. The unit can work from 14 inches to 10 foot depth and can pump 1100 gallons (5.4 cubic yards) per minute of slurry up to 50 feet of total head. The slurry or sludge is pumped to drying bags or tubes such as pictured here:



Such systems still have logistical problems one of which is the amount of material that has to be handled to remove a relatively small amount of material and the location of the bags for the water recovery process.

For the project pictured here the removed sediment shrunk 6 - 1 from in situ. This means the 100 CY capacity tube actually received 600 CY of in situ material. Three 40 ft. circumference x 25 ft. long tubes and one 30 ft. circumference x 50 ft. tube were used to dewater 5000 CY of in situ sediment.



### **Other Notes:**

#### **North Shore Road Sign:**



The North Shore Cuba Lake District sign has been moved to its new location.

Issues relating to the ownership of the land which forced the move are being addressed by the State Office of General Services.

#### **Navigation Aids:**



While the Lake Manager has been in contact with the NYS Parks, Recreation & Historic Preservation (OPRHP), Marine Services Unit, the philosophy behind the setting of the most recently installed navigation aids has not yet been determined. The Lake Manager will meet with the Unit to try to gain some insight on the matter when they remove the buoys for the winter season.

#### **WRP-Rawson Creek area:**

As reported in the July 2007 *District Dispatch*, a public meeting was held in May of 2007 to review the WRP (Wetland Restoration Project) for a portion of the area between the Mallard Farm and Cuba Lake, along Rawson Creek. The Federally funded project seeks to recreate wildlife habitat on lands long "abused" by agricultural activity.

# THE DISTRICT DISPATCH

## The Cuba Lake District Board of Commissioners Information Letter

An update on status of the project has been provided by Mary Kerstetter, District Conservationist, Cattaraugus County, NRCS\* . She reports – *“Currently the project is accepting estimates from contractors and construction is scheduled to start after a contractor is selected. All permits are in order. Due to the current lateness of the year though, construction may not happen until next spring, depending on the availability of the contractor selected for the project.”*

\*NRCS =Natural Resources Conservation Services of the US Department of Agriculture.

### **Town of Cuba, Sewer District #5 Project:**

Based on information provided by Tom Swift, of Clark, Patterson Lee Engineers (CPL), the following is a summary of the status of the Town’s sewer project.

A total of 346 invitations to hookup were issued with 284 positively responding and 21 saying no. 41 have not yet responded.

Action is currently in progress to obtain a single easement for the State’s leased lots. The remaining 108 required easements are being secured from private individuals.

The engineering responses to comments made on the report covering the design details by all involved agencies (DEC, DOT, Allegany County DPW, RDA and EFC) were issued by September 18, 2008.

Advertisement for contractor bids can begin upon receipt of final approval from the agencies mentioned.

Note that the turn-around time to receive the last DEC comments was 6 weeks. If this represents the usual lead time, the Advertisement for contractor bids could be by the end of October 2008.

CPL feels that a target for ground breaking of “late this fall” is possible although dependant upon the variables of receipt of final approvals and the contractor selection process.

It is anticipated that the first user/contractor site meetings to formalize the plans for each site could begin within 2 months after contractor selection.

It is further anticipated that the “main” will take 6 months to install. Starting point, direction and sequence will be at the discretion of the selected contractor so definitive plans have not been made to this point.

Targeted on-line date is within 18 months after start of construction.

The April 29, 2008 revision of the system layout drawings has been posted at

<http://www.ourcubalake.com/Sewer%20Project/Plan%20May%202008.pdf>. Note the drawings posted are subject to change at any time by the contractor and are provided for reference only. Any questions should be directed to Tom Swift at (716) 372-0514.

---

**We would like to reduce the cost of the distribution of the Dispatch. Please send your E-mail address(es) to [dshemeld@roadrunner.com](mailto:dshemeld@roadrunner.com) so that you can receive the Dispatch by E-mail. The advantage to you is that you will get it when it is first sent to the printer, you will get it in color and you can get it no matter where you are. The issue will be in .pdf format.**

**Commissioners:** E-mail - [commissioners@cubalake.org](mailto:commissioners@cubalake.org)

Lynn Sweet, Chairman (585) 968-1735

Dave Shemeld, Deputy Chairman (716) 968-3928

Jerry Collins, (585) 968-0112

Joe Higgins, (716) 372-4265

Jay Morris, (585) 968-3828

**Lake Manager:** E-mail –

[sbarrey@cubalake.org](mailto:sbarrey@cubalake.org)

Scott Barrey, (585) 968-0500; or, cell (585) 474-3960

Dana Harvey , Tech. Operations, cell (585) 474-3959

**Office Hours** – Mon, Tues & Thur; 3:00 to 6:00 PM, or by appt.

**Other officials:**

Jack Hart, Counsel (716)373-1600

Andrew Lindquist, Treasurer (585) 968-3269

Isabel Warren, Secretary (585) 968-3215

**Mail Address:** Cuba Lake District, PO Box 201, Cuba, NY 14727

Location: Cuba Lake District Office, 31 Water Street, Suite 8, Cuba, NY

**Meetings** – District office; 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday of each month; beginning at 7:00 PM (Exceptions are published in local newspapers.)