

Otsego Lake Association  
Meeting #4  
August 10, 2002 - 8 AM  
Springfield Community Center  
Attendance: 45

\* Bob Einreinhofer reviewed the agenda and acknowledged members' contributions: Thanks to Bob Kingsley for drafting the OLA position paper on zebra mussels; to Win McIntyre (WMC), Bill Harmon and the staff at BFS for input on papers and letters and for clerical support; to Dan Rosen for writing press releases and letters; to Sue Baldy for typing mailing labels; and to all the members who attended the Watershed Management Council meeting on 7/30.

\* Bob Einreinhofer reviewed the letter sent to the OCCA thanking them for their support in launching the new Otsego Lake Association. He also reviewed the letter sent in response to the Opinion column in the Oneonta Daily Star. It was noted that, while the Star editorial was far from enlightened on the matter of zebra mussels, the Freeman's Journal and the Cooperstown Crier have been very supportive of the Lake and the Association's efforts in this regard.

\* The Association has obtained a certificate from the County Clerk to conduct business under the name of the Otsego Lake Association.

\* Bob Einreinhofer placed a final call for nominations for the Board of Directors.

\* Sheriff Mundy, in response to questions about the enforcement of laws on Otsego Lake, reported that there are three lakes in his jurisdiction (Canadarago, Goodyear, Otsego) and only two or three operators. The Sheriff's boat patrols only on weekends due to budget constraints and lack of trained personnel. The Sheriff confirmed that any citizen witnessing a boater breaking the law should report the incident to the Sheriff's Office along with the registration number of the boat and, if possible, a description of the operator. **Sheriff's Office: 547-4273.** Upon request, **Sheriff Mundy** agreed to supply OLA with the total **A.** number of patrol hours on Otsego, **B.** number of violations issued, and **C.** number of warnings issued. **(Action Item #1)** He will also supply a copy of the NYS boater regulations and find the cost of a decibel meter used to determine noise levels of watercraft.

**Bryant Kolner** volunteered to obtain a copy of the regulations from Lake George and the funding available for law enforcement agencies to get equipment. He will forward the information to Bob Einreinhofer. **(Action Item #2)**

\* The OLA position paper on zebra mussels, drafted by Bob Kingsley, was circulated. Bill Harmon answered questions regarding the zebra mussel, its possible introduction into Otsego Lake, and the means of controlling entry. OLA and the BFS support the installation of boat washing stations at the two launches in Cooperstown and at the Springfield launch. All boats entering Otsego Lake should be washed on a volunteer basis. OLA encourages the municipal councils to enact laws making boat washing mandatory. Funds are available to purchase the equipment through a grant developed by Win McIntyre (WMC). Members should petition their local councils in support of the washing stations. OLA members and representatives from the Field Station will attend the Springfield Council meeting on Monday 8/12 and the Cooperstown Council meeting on Monday 8/19.

\* No wake zone: **Pat and Tom Ackman** produced plastic laminated signage regarding the "no wake zone" for posting at the motels. They met with Mr. Fry at the Aalsmere and will meet with the other motel owners this week. **(Action Item #3)** Nancy Einreinhofer arranged a "photo op" for Pat and Tom with the Freeman's Journal in an effort to reinforce knowledge of the law.

\* Bill Harmon reviewed the status of the walleye stocking program funded by the NYSDEC. The walleye was stocked to (1) improve the diversity of the Otsego fishery and to (2) reduce the alewife population thus improving water clarity. The first year's walleye have reached 14". The minimum size for anglers in NY is 15". In order to reduce any fishing pressure on the growing fish and allow more to successfully spawn, the