



CANDLEWOOD LAKE AUTHORITY

P.O. BOX 37 • SHERMAN, CONNECTICUT 06784-0037 • (860) 354-6928 • FAX (860) 350-5611

Minutes of Regular Meeting July 9, 2014

Attending:

P. Schaer	Sherman
E. Hayes	Sherman
H. Berger	Sherman
H. Mayer	New Milford
M Toussaint	New Milford
J. Wodarski	New Milford
J. Murphy	Brookfield
W. Lohan	Brookfield
C. Robinson	Danbury
D. Rosemark	Danbury

Absent:

B. Kemble	New Fairfield
N. Gyle	New Fairfield
J. Hodge	New Fairfield
B. Brown	Brookfield
E. Siergie	Danbury

L. Marsicano, CLA Executive Director
M. Howarth, Public Education Director (left meeting at 8:35PM)
F. Frattini, Administrative Coordinator

Recorder: M. Howarth/F. Frattini

Guests: M. Propper, Danbury
S. Wodarski, New Milford
S. Randall, Sherman

Phyllis Schaer, Chairman, called the regular meeting of the Candlewood Lake Authority to order at 7:38 P.M. at Brookfield Town Hall, Brookfield, CT. She welcomed the guests.

Secretary's Report: For the secretary, Frances Frattini noted there was a correction to the minutes of the May meeting. On page two paragraph 2 line 7 that reads "The present SMP does have a section on buffers – they are required within ~~one~~ five years if the owner needs a permit for work....." change the word one to five as highlighted above. Harold Mayer moved that the minutes of the May 14, 2014 meeting be accepted as corrected, seconded by Bill Lohan and voted with all in favor. Motion carried, minutes accepted.

Chairman's Report: Mrs. Schaer reported she had attended the NEC-NALMS conference and some very informative sessions on Blue-Green Algae, Buffers and Grass Carp. On June 17th the Towns met to review the report of the independent contractor and on July 15th the CLA will meet with them to review the findings that corroborated the findings the CLA had provided. The Towns have a concern that there is phosphorus loading in the lake. Mrs. Schaer reported that the CLA has a summer intern, Sophia Licht, who will be monitoring the Zebra Mussel Hotels for the season. The Ramp Monitor training in late May was not very well attended

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DANBURY TOWN CLERK

2014 JUL 14 P 12:16

BY: 

and it was not publicized, the DEEP is working on an on-line Ramp Monitor certification course. New Fairfield has formed a "Shoreline Stabilization Committee" and Mrs. Schaer asked if any New Fairfield delegate might like to be a member as she and the Executive Director couldn't be members as they are not residents of New Fairfield. She had been in touch with Danbury regarding the balance of the 2013-14 Appropriation and was assured that the check would be cut on Thursday. She had met with Mr. Laudenat and his staff at FirstLight regarding problems related to the lake and how they would like to deal with them, some issues were; would the Grass Carp deplete the oxygen levels, would CLA support not doing deep drawdowns, septic fields possibly leaching into the lake, buffering and revegetation and a restructuring of the whole CLA to name a few.

Vice Chairman's Report: Mark Toussaint noted that his report would be covered under Public Awareness.

Treasurer's Report: Bill Lohan, Treasurer, advised that as there was no regular meeting in June the Treasurer's Report of Income and Expenses for the month ended May 31, 2014 need to be accepted. He asked for any questions, with none, Mr. Lohan moved to accept the Treasurer's Report of Income and Expenses for the month ended May 31, 2014 be accepted as presented, motion seconded by Dan Rosemark and voted with all in favor. Treasurer's Report of Income and Expenses for the month ended May 31, 2014 has been accepted and filed for audit.

Mr. Lohan noted that the Authority needed to appoint the auditor for fiscal year ended June 30, 2014 and made a motion to approve Fiorita, Kornhaas CPAs seconded by Jerry Murphy and voted with all in favor. Motion carried and Mr. Lohan reported that the audit should begin the first week in August.

Mr. Lohan further reported that there would be no report for June as we prepare for the annual audit. Mrs. Schaer reported that the donated boat has been sold for ninety-five hundred (\$9,500.00) dollars.

Executive Director: Mr. Marsicano advised that his reports for June and July are attached to these minutes.

He noted that the Clean-Up again filled a 30 yard dumpster and was very successful, the Authority participated in two Memorial Day parades – Sherman and New Milford, there was a Zebra Mussel Task Force meeting at the end of May, Water Quality has been very good thus far this season with Secchi disk readings of 4.7 meters in New Milford and 4.5 meters in New Fairfield on July 8th. He and Mrs. Schaer took the *News Times* staff, including the managing editor and editorial page editor, out on the lake to discuss many lake-related issues and the paper wrote an article about the buoys in Squantz Cover that the residents want moved further south. He as President of the Connecticut Federation of Lakes worked with The Connecticut DEEP on the NEC-NALMS conference where he presented on fifteen years of the CLA Buffer Garden, they have begun monitoring for Zebra Mussel veligers, Project CLEAR was very successful and he thanked all who helped out. Senator McLachlan and First Selectman Cope attended the presentations on the last day. At 8PM Mr. Howarth presented the video that he worked on with the Project CLEAR students at 8:10 PM the meeting resumed.

Public Education Director: His reports for June and July are attached to these minutes. Mark Howarth reported the following events are coming up – first New Milford Village Fair days (July 25 and 26) and passed a sign-up sheet for volunteers to man the CLA booth. Secondly, the Dragon Boat Race planning is going well, there are eleven teams but more are needed. Lots of prep work has been done for entertainment, site work and permits. Volunteers will be needed the day of August 16th. Let him know if you are available.

Mark Toussaint reported that the Public Awareness Committee had met and he noted that Mark Howarth is doing a good job on the Dragon Boat Race. The Committee had suggested earlier in the year that it would like to see an email appeal go out during the summer – possibly by the end of July which can be earmarked for a specific funding but should be labeled for a few items “Special Needs”.

Mr. Howarth reported that the CLA has 900 Facebook friends and with the new email program there are 325 new members on the CLA email list.

Committee Reports:

Public Safety: Ed Hayes, Co-Chair, reported that the communication system is a major concern of the committee with the State DEEP changing the frequency and the CLAMP needing to upgrade to meet this change – they have been advised of two options costing between seventeen to twenty five thousand dollars. They are in favor of stationary radios on the two patrol boats and portable for use on the Steiger or ARKII – Discussion followed and it was decided that the committee will research and report back with recommendations on the replacement radios – this will need to be in place by June 2015. Howie Berger suggested that during the discussion on the renewal of the MOA at the end of this year that this should be included. Discussion continued on the radios. Mr. Hayes advised that the new Laser unit had been received and the Chief will be researching the required training and then it will be put to use on the lake. The loaner PFD program is moving forward with the vests big stenciled - this is good PR for the CLA while trying to make it better and safer for the boaters. Finally Mr. Hayes advised that the committee would like to have the annual appreciation dinner at the Candlewood Lake Club in September this year and will keep the delegates advised of the plans.

Public Awareness: Mark Toussaint, Co-Chair had nothing further to report.

Watershed Management: Harold Mayer, Chairman, reported that there is new student intern working on monitoring the Zebra Mussel Hotels. There was no June Watershed Management Committee meeting but he did want to comment on the need for drawdowns of the lake even if the sterile grass carp are used. He believes that they should be used in conjunction with each other, Mrs. Schaer advised that she will be researching other lakes that have used the grass carp and drawdown and Mr. Marsicano noted that in the recent New England Environmental report it was noted that drawdowns are most efficient when they are done consistently with regards to duration and timing.

Equipment/Facilities: In the absence of the Committee Chairman, there was no report.

Old Business:

Scott Randall advised the delegates that he has recently been appointed to the Lake Advisory Committee as a resident member and discussed his research on the SMP buffer issues.

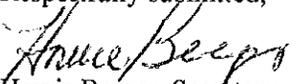
Any and All Business:

Mark Propper asked about the regulation change regarding the grass carp - there was no opposition at the CT DEEP’s public hearing and it is now with the Attorney General and the Legislative Regulatory Review Committee. It was noted that the wording of the permit will have to protect the Towns and FirstLight when the CLA applies for the permit to use the grass carp in Candlewood.

A new invasive weed Hydrilla has found its way into Connecticut but has not yet been seen in Candlewood. This invasive plant is a preferred food source for the sterile carp.

With no further business to come before the Candlewood Lake Authority, Ed Hayes moved to adjourn, seconded by Harold Mayer. Meeting adjourned at 9:22 P. M.

Respectfully submitted,

 
Howie Berger, Secretary
Frances Frattini, Administrative Coordinator

r/b/lm

These minutes are not considered official until they have been approved at the next regularly scheduled meeting of the Candlewood Lake Authority.



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Executive Director's Report

June 9, 2014

Larry Marsicano

The following report summarizes many of the Executive Director's activities from May 9, 2014 to June 9, 2014.

JMM CANDLEWOOD LAKE CLEAN UP

The John Marsicano Memorial Candlewood Lake Clean Up occurred on the scheduled date of Saturday, May 17th. The event was highly successful with debris collected on the lake exceeding the capacity of a 30 yard dumpster that was compacted by the New Fairfield Public Works department with a very large front loader. We had over 30 volunteer boat captains who transported well over 100 volunteers. Five of those boat captains were due to Bill Brown, Jerry Murphy and the Candlewood Lake Club community. Other delegates participating as either captains or at the lunch site included Chris Robinson, Mark Toussaint, Ed Siergie, Phyllis Schaeer and Howie Berger. Mark can report on the sponsorship. We had the following restaurants and entities provide lunch: Bulls Bridge Inn/Chuck's Steakhouse (food and onsite help), Rosy Tomorrows (food and onsite help), Two Steps Downtown Grill (food), Widow Browns (food), the Cookhouse (food), Augie's #1 (food), American Pie Company (food), Paradise Foods (food) Sherman IGA (water), and Town of New Fairfield (water). New Fairfield also provided the use of a grill.

MEMORIAL DAY PARADES

The CLA participated in two Memorial Day parades over the weekend of May 24th. On Sunday, May 25th Phyllis and members of her family rode in the Patrol Boat being towed in the Sherman parade. On Monday, May 26th Lori and Angelina Marsicano accompanied me in the New Milford parade. Nick Marsicano towed the vessel in both parades.

INVASIVE SPECIES

We coordinated another meeting of the Invasive Species / Zebra Mussel Task Force which met on Wednesday, May 28th. Minutes will be prepared in the next couple of weeks. We also coordinated an Invasive Investigator Volunteer Training which was held on Saturday May 31st with approximately eight attending including staff from several of the local Park and Recreation

Departments. We coordinated collection of "artificial substrates" via SCUBA for the CT DEEP for educational purposes which occurred on Sunday, June 8th.

PROJECT CLEAR

We have been working on assembling the Project CLEAR fleet which is needed from Tuesday, June 24th thru Friday, June 27th. Currently we have between nine and eleven boat captains and boats to transport the approximately 125 students and teachers that will be conducting research on the lake.

We still need help during the field research week in providing on-the-water transportation for the students. You can help by volunteering to captain your boat for one or several days or enlisting the volunteer services of other. Fuel expenses are covered in the grant for the program.

LAKE LEVEL / FLOATING DEBRIS

We have received communications from members of the public regarding the level of the lake and the concerns with floating derelict docks, trees, etc. Mark has attempted contacting FirstLight over the last month but none of the email and voice mail has been returned. We have removed some of the debris being found (large plastic floatation barrels, etc.)

WATER QUALITY

We conducted our monthly water quality monitoring on May 28th. Secchi disk transparency was good ranging from 2.7 to 3.6 meters at the four sites we've been monitoring since the early 1980s. Results from analyses performed at our State Certified lab are forthcoming.

A draft of the consultant's report on Candlewood Lake water quality was received by the Town of New Fairfield in the early part of May. In mid-May I offered to provide a review of the report to assist the NF Director of Health but was told by the First Selectman that I would not be allowed to see the report until after the CEOs had met to discuss it and it was available to the general public.

On Wednesday, May 28th I received email from Dr. Mark June-Wells, author of the report, which included the report dated May 27, 2014 as an attachment. The cover letter inside the report was addressed to the Chief Elected Officials and was also cc-ed to Dr. George Knoecklein, Tim Simpkins, Brian Wood and me. Based on the First Selectman's earlier comments, I assumed the report was public and shared the report with several CLA Delegates. The report supported much of what we have said all along with regards to water quality trends. I reviewed the report

and found several items that I thought needed revision, notably the resolution of measurements of nutrients and the stocking rates of triploid grass carp. I sent correspondence back to Dr. June-Wells with my comments. After further fact-checking my and Dr. Knoecklein's comments, Dr. June-Wells revised the report and reissued it, sending it out to the CEOs and those cc-ed originally in an email dated Saturday, May 31st.

On Monday, June 2nd I received a call from the NF First Selectman asking if I had anything to do with obtaining a copy of the report and emphasizing that I was not to have seen it until it had become available to the public. The First Selectman was forthcoming about being very upset that I had received and reviewed the report.

NEWS-TIMES / SQUANTZ COVE

On Tuesday, June 3rd Phyllis and I provided an opportunity for many of the News-Times staff to get on the lake to discuss the proposal to move out the "no-wake" buoys to make more of Squantz Cove "no-wake." Those making the trip were Managing Editor Jean Dubail, Editorial Page Editor Jacqueline Smith, Photo Editor Carol Kaliff, and Captain Len Schaer. A wide variety of lake related topics were discussed.

Our office has received calls from members of the community supporting both extending out the buoys and opposed to extending out the buoys.

NEC-NALMS CONFERENCE / BUFFERS

The annual conference of the New England Chapter of the North American Lakes Management Society is going to be held at UCONN on Friday and Saturday, June 13th and 14th respectively. The conference theme is Green Ideas for Blue Lakes; the conference focus is on what lake community property owners can do to protect their lake; and Saturday's Plenary Presentation, ***"But What Will the Neighbors Think? Creating Native Shoreline Landscapes that are Easy on the Eye and Great for the Environment!"*** will feature Bob Kirschner, Curator of Aquatic Plant & Urban Lake Studies, Chicago Botanic Garden. There are also two workshops on Friday focusing on shoreline buffers. The entire program can be seen at the conference website at:

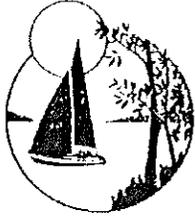
<https://www.regonline.com/newenglandlakesconference>.

Given the interest of the Town of New Fairfield in developing a buffer ordinance, I forwarded information regarding the conference to First Selectman Susan Chapman, Selectman Kim Hanson, and John Hodge.

OTHER

Watershed Committee met on May 27th. Executive Committee met on June 4th.

I was the invited guest speaker at a meeting sponsored by the Lake Mamasco Improvement Fund on evening of June 5th.



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Executive Director's Report ***July 3, 2014*** ***Larry Marsicano***

The following report summarizes many of the Executive Director's activities from June 9, 2014 to July 3, 2014

NEC-NALMS CONFERENCE

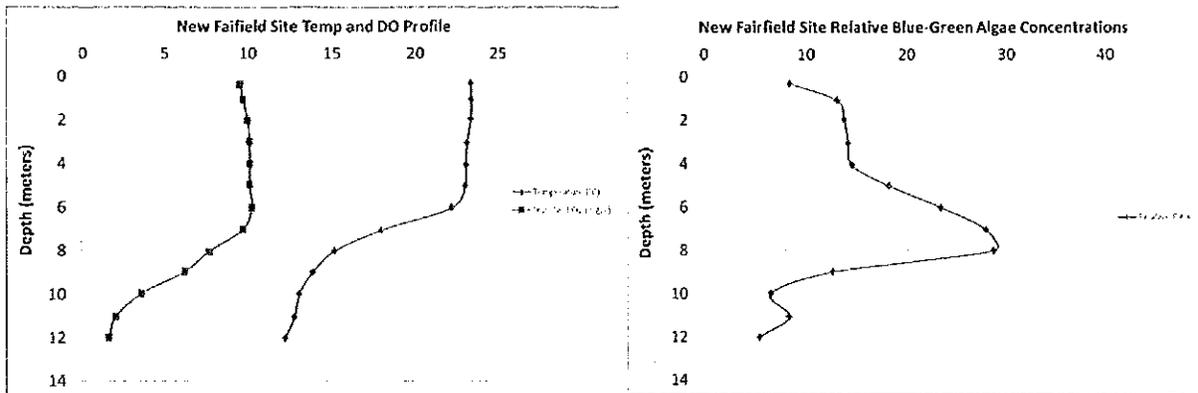
The New England Lakes Conference which I co-coordinated with Chuck Lee from the CT DEEP occurred on Friday and Saturday, June 13th and 14th, respective. In addition to me, Phyllis Schaer and Ed Siergiej attended the event that took place at the UCONN campus in Storrs, CT. Session topics included zebra mussels, blue-green algae and cyanotoxins, aquatic invasive plant management, community success stories and volunteer monitoring.

In one of the "*Communtiy Success Stories*" sessions I presented the ~15 year history of the CLA's Buffer Garden Project which was well received. The presentation highlighted the efforts of the CLA and three Eagle Scouts whose collective efforts created one of the first demonstration buffers in the State of CT. Another interesting presentation in that session was by a member of the East Haddam Lakes Association who shared the presentation he gave to the East Haddam Selectmen and Board of Finance. That presentation showed how the 988 properties on or near four East Haddam lakes generated nearly \$1,040,000 tax dollar in excess of what those lands would generate at the base rate. Go to <http://www.lakehaywardct.com/ehla.pdf> to see the thought-provoking presentation.

PROJECT CLEAR

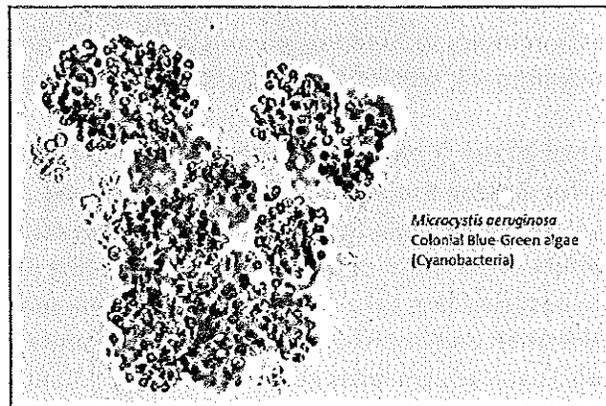
A good portion of the two weeks following the NEC-NALMS conference was spent planning the field research for the Project CLEAR research groups and running the program from Tuesday, June 24th thru Saturday, June 28th. Part of the planning process included developing a stable of 20+ volunteer captains with most using their own vessels to transport research teams and developing the plans for each captain.

The research group I led with Bethel Science Teacher Silvia Nedelcov was the Plankton Group. The groups focus was blue-green algae, i.e. what species were in the lake, how much of it was there, and where was it located in the water column. We learned that the blue-greens that are currently in the lake are layered at about 7 to 8 meters depth. See below.



The figures above show the temperature and dissolved oxygen profiles and the relative blue-green algae cell concentrations at the New Fairfield site collected on Wednesday, June 25th by the Project CLEAR Plankton Group. Note that the highest concentration of blue-green cells occurred at 7 to 8 meters of water which corresponds with the middle, transitional layer of water identified by the rapid change in temperature (from 6 to 9 meters depth). This data was collected using the new instrumentation we purchased with grants from the Meserve Memorial Fund and Goldring Family Foundation.

Blue-green species identified at the water sample collected at eight meters depth included *Microcystis aeruginosa*, *Coelosphaerium sp.*, *Gomphosphaeria sp.*, *Oscillatoria sp.*, and *Anabaena sp.*



WATER QUALITY

We conducted our normal water quality monitoring of Candlewood Lake and Squantz Pond on June 20th and 23rd, respectively. Transparency has been remarkably good. Secchi disk transparency ranged from a low of 2.93 meters at the Danbury Site to a high of 4.57 meters at the New Milford Site. Average Secchi transparency is generally around 2.50 meters.

We are reinstating the Secchi disk monitoring at the town beaches by Town beach staff and starting a volunteer Secchi monitoring program. For the later, we will solicit volunteers from the lakefront homeowner’s community to measure Secchi disk transparency from their docks on a regular basis and have them log it into a JotForm we will create. This will aid us in understanding water quality changes that may occur between our normal sampling events.

In addition, we have almost developed the capacity of performing blue-green algal counts in the CLA's New Milford office. We should be able to do counts by mid July.

INVASIVE SPECIES

Zebra mussel veliger monitoring began in early June. This year a number of students at WCSU are working on the research project. In addition, Dr. Andrew Ogama is assisting in the monitoring of sites in the Housatonic River. Andy graduated from WCSU several years ago, interned for me and the CLA for several years ago, and completed a PhD at a university in Louisiana. Also, a student from UCONN asked to be part of the project. Taylor Falk is from Danbury and met with me for several hours for training on microscopic identification of veligers on June 18th. I introduced Taylor to Dr. Mitch Wagener at WCSU on July 3rd and will be sampling Candlewood with Taylor on July 8th.



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June 11, 2014
Public Education
Mark Howarth

eNewsletters:

In the Memorial Day Weekend newsletter we announced topics such as:

A call for Project CLEAR boat captains as well as a Memorial Day message. A call for ramp monitors to take the CLA sponsored CT DEEP Invasive Investigator training. The dragon boat races were promoted to get teams to form and register and an online store sale was announced.

<http://www.icontact-archive.com/HJfY9I0NQYSQqba7q97DvnxgYhSFzzD?w=3>

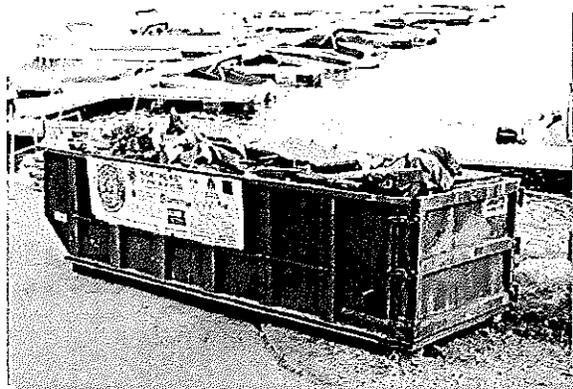
Clean Up:

We held the Clean Up on May 17th. Despite the strong storms overnight, the day of the Clean Up was perfect. We had a fleet of volunteer boat captains who shuttled the Clean Up volunteers around, and as usual, they collected enough debris to stuff a 30-yard dumpster, plus overflow.

We had a number of area organizations and businesses that helped out that day as well. We had a group of divers who looked for trash on the lake bed in popular "rafting" areas. NF Public Works Dept. helped load and compact the debris in the dumpster with their pay loader. Brookfield Fire Dept had their boat out there – Marine 25.

The lunch afterwards at NF Town Park was a big success as always, with a number of area restaurants donating food for the event.

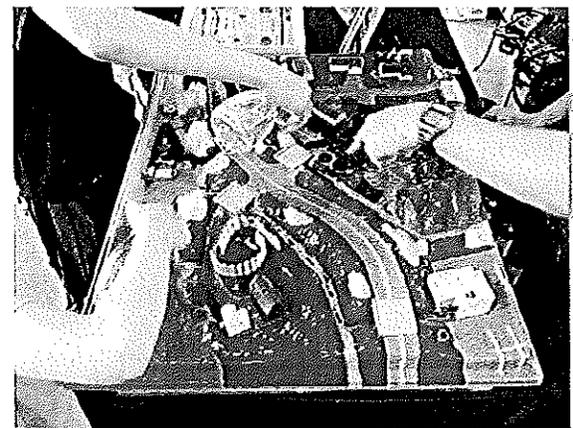




Paddle Sports Weekend at LL Bean:

On May 31st we were at LL Bean in Danbury during their Paddle Sports Weekend. We were there to help promote what we do at the CLA, as well as educate others about invasive species and ways to protect the water quality of Candlewood Lake.

This time, we brought the Enviroscape along with us and set that up at our table. It was a big draw for kids and adults alike. The Enviroscape is a three dimensional, interactive learning tool, designed to show the effects of stormwater runoff.



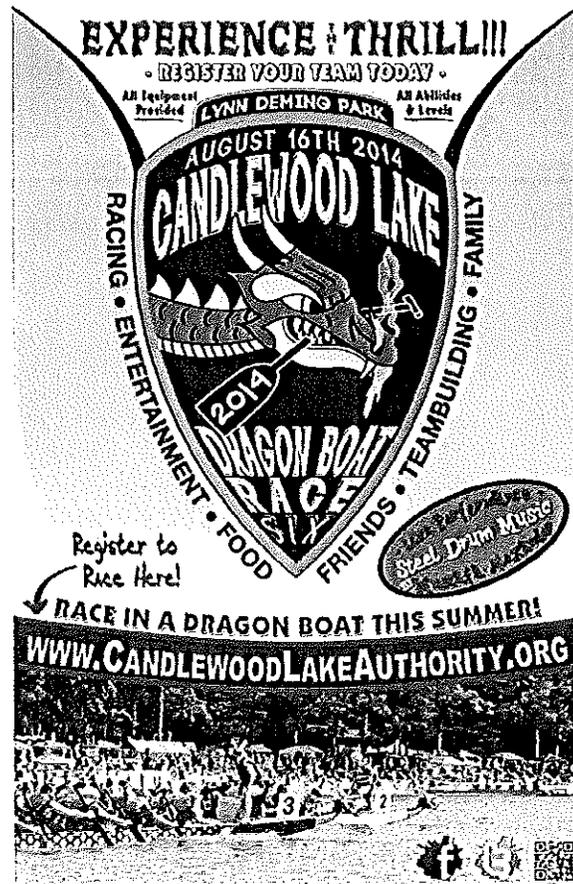
Dragon Boat Race:

We have been promoting the Dragon Boat Races through a number of channels. Posters have been printed and are being distributed around the towns. We have communications ready to go to the chambers of commerce and a series of press

releases are being written to go out shortly. Radio advertisements will also begin in the next week.

We have begun to sign up teams and are always looking for more.

Other planning and preparation for the races continues.



Project CLEAR:

In support of Project CLEAR, the LL Bean Danbury store has donated 135 of their 32oz Nalgene water bottles for the students to use during their research out on Candlewood Lake. This allows Education Connection the opportunity to take the grant money they'd normally have to spend on water bottles, and put it to great use on other Project CLEAR program needs.



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July 9, 2014
Public Education
Mark Howarth

Project CLEAR:

Project CLEAR ran from Tuesday June 16th through Saturday June 28th. We spent the week out on the water with the student researchers. This year's program featured 10 different research groups: Aquatic Invasives, Periphyton, Streams, Water Quality, Fisheries, Sediments, Plankton, Forestry, Aquatic Insects and Shoreline.

To conclude the program on Saturday, we had a brief public presentation session, followed by one-on-one interaction with the students in their research groups where they showed and discussed the work they did that week with those who came to visit their research group.



If you would like to see the video slideshow of the work the students did that week, check out this link. <https://vimeo.com/99949025>



Dragon Boat Race:

We continue to work and prepare for the dragon boat races this year.

We have been advertising on the radio (98Q / 800 AM / 107.3 FM), sent out a press release, sent out email blasts to our readers as well as prior year's participants, placed posters in public areas and utilized social media.

We also created a promotional video, which is on our home page.

<https://vimeo.com/98710025>

We continue to sign up teams for the event and we will use the month of July to get as many teams to participate as possible.

Other planning, including finding additional sponsors, and preparation for the races continues.

CLAMP PFD Program:

We will be printing the backs of the PFD's for the Patrol's new safety vest loaner program and expect those to be completed shortly. We met with all of the marinas around the lake and they all agreed to take part in the program, to act as drop off locations for loaner vests.

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PFD Number

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Candlewood Lake Authority
30 Bridge St. Suite 104 - New Milford, CT 06776
www.CandlewoodLakeAuthority.org
(860) 354-6928

Boat Launch CLEAN – DRAIN – DRY Stencils:

So far we have rec'd permission from Danbury, Sherman and New Milford Park and Rec departments and commissions to stencil their ramps with the message and hope to begin the work shortly. We hope to get permission from NF and Brookfield as well and also the two state launches.

