

2018 - 2019

ANNUAL REPORT



CANANDAIGUA LAKE
WATERSHED ASSOCIATION

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Member Households



Workshops & Community Outreach Events

You Help Make Our Work Possible!

Here is a snapshot of what you are a part of as a member of the Association.

Message from the President, Neil Atkins

This Annual Report provides an overview of our activities. And, as shown, we are in the midst of a very busy season. Our Harmful Algal Bloom (HABs) monitoring program has been expanded to 30 zones using 29 volunteers. All of our volunteers recently completed training in sampling and reporting protocol. Our Secchi Disk program has been expanded to 20 volunteers who will now measure surface temperature as well as water clarity. Our Outreach program continues to provide several Viewpoints presentations during the year. It has also partnered with the City of Canandaigua and the Town of Canandaigua to expand our Healthy Lawns program. And, we continue our outstanding education curriculum for our school children.

We value our partnerships with Canandaigua Lake Watershed Council in support of many projects including the aquatic invasive species' watercraft stewards boat inspection program, the Finger Lakes Institute for sampling analysis, the Finger Lakes Land Trust, and the Ontario County Soil and Water Conservation District for our programs with the Agricultural community.

The quality and the success of our programs lie with our very able and passionate board members who are engaged in the committees that have organized and executed these programs. All of our communications, our news letters, program announcements and timely water quality reports, are compiled and sent out by our Association Director, Lindsay McMillan.

And, most importantly, we thank our members for their continued support. It is through their generous giving that we are able to meet the challenges that face us in our effort to maintain a clean and healthy lake. We encourage our membership to become involved in our activities. Please consider joining a committee, serving on our board of directors, or becoming involved as a member of a municipal board or committee.

We thank you for your continued support!

PROGRAM & COMMITTEE ACCOMPLISHMENTS

PROJECTS COMMITTEE

The Projects Committee is comprised of six CLWA board members that work to develop programs and to monitor activity around the Canandaigua Lake watershed. The committee has identified the following programs as priorities for CLWA's involvement during the past year.

Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS): CLWA has continued its involvement with the AIS initiative by sourcing funding, gaining support through partnerships, and implementing actions to protect Canandaigua Lake from aquatic invasive species. Our program efforts include the full-time coverage of watercraft stewards at the State Marine Park launch in Canandaigua and the DEC launch in Woodville. We also produced a Clean, Drain, Dry video to help spread the word on clean boating practices.

Soil Health Workshop: The opportunity for engagement with the agricultural community to encourage healthy land for higher water quality is an important initiative for CLWA. This year, CLWA partnered with Ontario County Soil and Water Conservation District to host a Soil Health Workshop, which was attended by 181 individuals working in agriculture. Attendees learned about cover crops, no till systems, water quality, managing pests through Integrated Pest Management (IPM), tile drainage, conservation easements, and manure management. We look forward to continuing this partnership and seek to expand these types of programs for farmers in the future.

Hemlock Woolly Adelgid Education and Outreach: The NYS Hemlock Initiative based out of Cornell University is the leading research entity on HWA and its progression across our forests. For the 4th year in a row, CLWA has partnered with the Hemlock Initiative on workshops around the watershed. This year's workshop was held in Naples. CLWA Volunteers and members also had the opportunity to participate in a field survey at High Tor where we scouted for the *Laricobius nigrinus*, the biocontrol beetle that was released at the site in 2016.

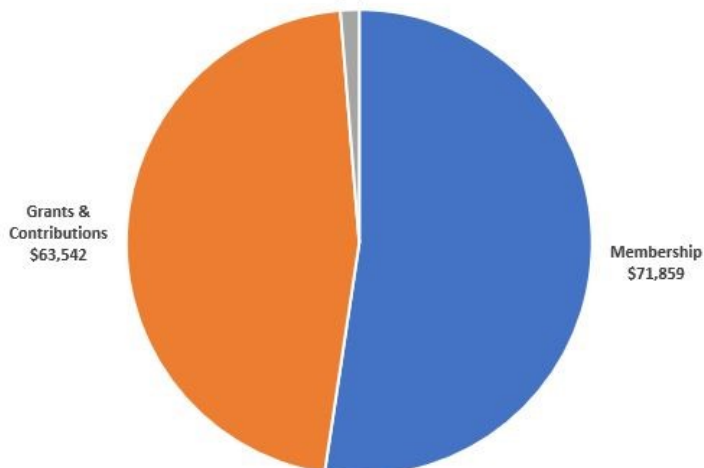
Thermistor array: We are in the process of establishing a thermistor array in Canandaigua Lake near the City of Canandaigua water treatment plant. This array will allow us to study the movement and mixing of the thermocline. It will be positioned in 70+ feet of water and will measure and record water temperature in one-meter increments. This data will provide a component in a model that the DEC will accept for inclusion in the 9 Element Plan that will be used in the update of the Canandaigua Lake Watershed Management Plan. The 9 Element Plan is a plan that will identify and quantify sources of pollutants and describe the actions to meet the determined water quality goals.

CLWA will provide continued support for several wetland restoration projects including:

- The Fallbrook Restoration project on the FLCC campus, which will convert peak flows into a 17-acre retention area for treatment before reaching the lake.
- The Naples Creek / Parrish Flats project which is designed to alleviate flooding around the State Route 245 bridge and areas to the east.

2018 INCOME

Other \$1,773



TOTAL INCOME \$137,174



Workshop / Event Attendees



Citizen Science Programs



Boats Inspected for AIS



Students Received Watershed Education

COMMUNITY OUTREACH COMMITTEE

Last year, the Community Outreach Committee launched the "Lake-Friendly Lawn Care" initiative to help combat the amount of pesticides and fertilizers entering our waterways. A working group was formed to include representatives from the City and Town of Canandaigua, the Watershed Council, and other community groups. The purpose of the working group is to encourage best practices among the larger landowners in the watershed to have them serve as "Lake Champions". We have been meeting with HOAs, businesses and organizations to have them commit to using lake-friendly practices. Look for our lawn signs at FLCC, the Canandaigua School District, Wood Library, the Canandaigua VA, Constellation Brands, and all of the City and Town Parks, among other locations!

The Outreach Committee is also pleased to report that CLWA hosted 12 outreach events from August 2018—August 2019. Highlights include presentations on Microplastics, Lake-Friendly Lawn Care, and a HABS Symposium that was attended by 140 residents. We look forward to bringing even more water quality topics to our members in the year ahead.

CITIZEN SCIENCE COMMITTEE

The Citizen Science Committee helps oversee four citizen science programs for the organization. With the goal of understanding our lake ecosystem better, CLWA is partnering with local, regional and state water quality experts to train volunteers in collecting a wide range of data about Canandaigua Lake. Programs include:

Volunteer HABS Shoreline Monitoring Program: In 2019, 26 volunteers performed 295 shoreline surveys and collected 38 water samples which were tested at the Finger Lakes Institute for blue-green chlorophyll a. The data collected as part of this program is used to craft our Water Quality Updates to notify residents of current lake conditions. This program is becoming increasingly more important for public communication as we experience significant water quality challenges throughout the summer months.

Secchi Disk Water Clarity Monitoring: Volunteers performed 249 quality clarity readings at 20 sites on the lake through the secchi disk program, including clarity and water temperature. In 2019, we developed a new online reporting tool for volunteers to streamline the data collection process and make real-time access to the reports available on the CLWA website.

CSLAP: Volunteers collect bi-weekly samples from two set monitoring locations from June through September as part of the Citizens Statewide Lake Assessment Program (CSLAP).

Macrophyte Survey Program: Three volunteers are participating in bi-weekly surveys of the aquatic plants in Canandaigua Lake through the Finger Lakes PRISM.

CLWA also launched a new research project in August 2019 to investigate the causes of the large-scale foaming events that have been seen on Canandaigua Lake. More to come on this important research in 2020!

MARKETING AND MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE

The Marketing Committee is an integral part of our organization, as it helps engage our community in the important work of CLWA! One of our most exciting efforts this year was the production of new two videos – one on Aquatic Invasive Species and another for our Watershed Education Program. These videos are used on our website and social media pages to visually communicate our organization's priorities.

Beyond our traditional print materials and newsletters, the Marketing Committee also strives to bring you timely electronic communications on pertinent watershed topics. This past year, this included 41 email blasts and 102 Facebook updates.

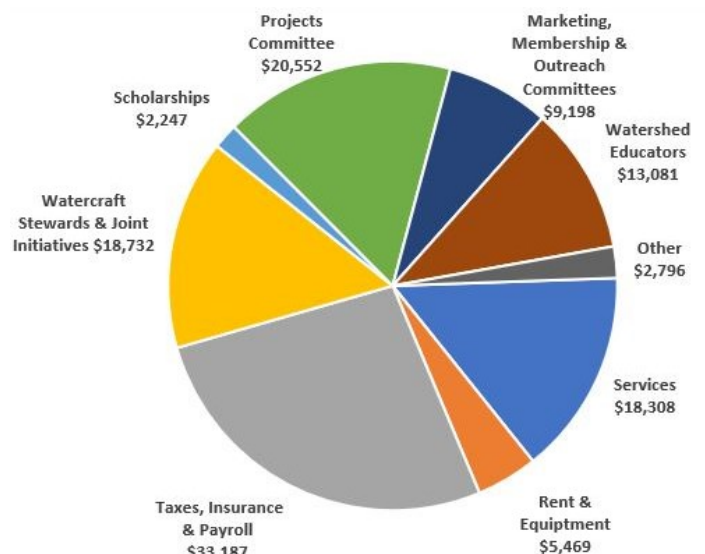
The Membership Committee executes the organization's annual fundraising campaigns including the fall membership drive and summer annual appeal. Efforts to expand membership and awareness for CLWA include new homeowner mailings, community engagement events and letters to neighbors. We look forward to working with our new members to promote positive patterns of lake stewardship!

WATERSHED EDUCATION PROGRAM

Since 2006, the goals of the Watershed Education Program have always been to increase the awareness of water quality issues and watershed health while empowering young people to become stewards of their watersheds.

This school year, the program reached over 2,400 students! This includes our ongoing programs in the Canandaigua, Naples, and Marcus Whitman School Districts for 3rd-6th graders, Wetland ecology and stream monitoring field work with Naples, Marcus Whitman and St. Mary's elementary students, and Watershed Exploration Day at Onanda Park. Informational materials about watershed protection are also sent home with each student's family to spread awareness about our lake environment.

2018 EXPENSE



TOTAL EXPENSE \$123,571

2018-2019 BOARD OF DIRECTORS



Neil Atkins
CLWA President
Projects & Executive
Committees



Katrina Busch
Executive &
Marketing Committees



Ted Carman
Citizen Science &
Projects Committees



Sonya Carnevale
Outreach Committee



Susan Carpenter
Citizen Science &
Projects Committees



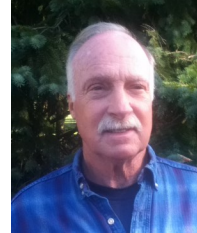
Dee Crofton
Citizen Science
Committee



Jack Dailey
Projects & Finance
Committees



Linda Dworczyk
CLWA Treasurer
Finance & Executive
Committee



Rob Gray
Outreach Committee



Nadia Harvieux
Citizen Science &
Executive Committees



Lynn Klotz
CLWA Secretary
Citizen Science &
Executive Committee



Bob McCarthy
Membership
Committee



Sally Napolitano
Citizen Science
Committee



Wade Sarkis
Executive, Projects &
Nominating Committees



Gordon Stringer
Membership &
Marketing Committee



Tom Zimmerman
Projects Committee

CLWA STAFF



Left to Right:
Watershed Educators Beth Altemus and Becca
Jensen, Association Director Lindsay McMillan

PARTNERSHIPS

Protection of Canandaigua Lake requires the ongoing support and collaboration with an array of stakeholders. CLWA is proud to partner with the following organizations to protect the water quality and overall environment of the Canandaigua Lake watershed.



The Canandaigua Lake Watershed Council

mission is to maintain and enhance the high water quality of the Canandaigua Lake watershed through

research, education, restoration and, if necessary, regulation. The Council strives to cooperate with partner organizations to effectively implement projects throughout the watershed that will protect and improve water quality.

FINGER LAKES INSTITUTE



HOBART AND WILLIAM SMITH COLLEGES

Finger Lakes Institute (FLI) is dedicated to the promotion of environmental research and education about the Finger Lakes and surrounding environments. In collaboration with regional environmental partners and state and

local government offices, the Institute fosters environmentally-sound development practices throughout the region.



The mission of **The Finger Lakes Land Trust** is to conserve forever the lands and waters of the Finger Lakes region, ensuring scenic vistas, clean water, local foods, and wild places for everyone.



Department of
Environmental
Conservation

The DEC Finger Lakes Watershed Hub was established in 2016 to address Finger Lakes water quality issues and develop new policies, programs, and technologies to ensure clean water for New York residents.

ADDITIONAL PARTNERS

Providing technical support and assistance on a local or regional level

- Finger Lakes Community College
- Finger Lakes PRISM
- Finger Lakes Regional Watershed Alliance
- Ontario County Soil and Water Conservation District
- Ontario County Water Resource Council
- Ontario County Planning
- NYS Hemlock Initiative
- NYS Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation
- NYS Department of Environmental Conservation
- Yates County Planning
- ... and our municipal partners in the Canandaigua Lake watershed