

Newsletter **IRLC** *Indian River Lakes Conservancy*

FALL/WINTER 2003



The goal of the Indian River Lakes Conservancy is to preserve the natural character of our area, with a focus on protecting clean water, fish and wildlife, and the scenic vistas along the shores of the lakes and the Indian River.

Board of Directors

Executive Director – Shirley Carpenter
President – Ed Robertson
Vice President – Elliott Hillback
Secretary/Treasurer – Steve McDonald
Members – Mark Scarlett, Bob Wakefield

NEW BOARD MEMBERS

We are pleased to announce the election of 2 new members to the IRLC Board of Directors. Mark Scarlett and Bob Wakefield have joined the Board and we welcome them.

Mark and his wife, Louise, have lived in Rossie for over 30 years. Mark is an avid canoeist and nature photographer, hobbies that have him where he loves to be, outdoors. Mark has worked in many capacities for non-profit organizations throughout his career and is currently Executive Director of Claxton-Hepburn Medical Center Foundation in Ogdensburg.

Bob Wakefield lives in Gouverneur on the Oswegatchie with his wife, Janet. Bob has degrees in biology and botany and has worked in these fields in labs, national parks and forests across the country. He retired as Director of the Minna Anthony Common Nature Center after 27 years of service with the NYS Parks Department.

Mark and Bob are outstanding additions to the Board, bringing, along with their expertise, years of knowledge and experience in the Indian River Lakes area.

IRLC UPDATE

The annual meeting was held on June 29th at Camp Wabasso on Millsite Lake. Cornell Cooperative Extension kindly made their facility available for our business meeting and a paddle and oar outing following the meeting.

Gerry Smith, a local ornithologist (bird guy) and consultant for IRLC and Anne Johnson, who is affiliated with the New York State Flora Association outlined their plans to inventory the plants and critters at Grand Lake Reserve.

Work is underway on the two (2) grants awarded to the Conservancy this year. Funds received from the Land Trust Alliance and from the Northern New York Community Foundation are being used to enhance the Conservancy's organizational development. Goals of

community outreach, expanding membership support, training and expansion of the board of directors are all being met. Consultant Gerry Smith has been extremely helpful in advising and guiding us in this work.

We have applied for a Land Trust Alliance Grant available for 2004. If successful this grant will help us with costs associated with land transactions in 2004. We will also seek grants to help fund a parking area and informational kiosk at the Grand Lake Reserve trail on Burns Road.

There is a committee working on building loon nesting rafts, which should be in place for the spring nesting season. With the help of our consultant, these will be placed in strategic locations on the lakes. We hope we can report on successful nesting loons next year.

IRLC was involved with the Redwood Historical Society this fall when asked to assist with the presentation of "A Stroll Down Cottage Hill Road and Burns Road". The program featured a review of the families, farms and factories from pioneer days to the present. These roads have several old foundations from a church, homes, barns and old cheese factories left from when this area was actively farmed. Viola Savage, Mary Hunneyman, Don Wingerath and Steve Caldwell provided much of the information along with contributions from many that attended the September meeting of the Historical Society.

EVENTS

WINE & CHEESE PARTY

Marge and Sandy Hillback again hosted a wine & cheese fundraiser at their Butterfield Lake cottage in August. IRLC supporters shared conversations with many friends, new and old while enjoying outstanding wines from California and cheeses from around the world. The fundraiser included a cruise down Butterfield Lake with tour guide Gerry Smith on board. The trip proved to be of special delight. Much thanks to the Williams family for the use of their pontoon boat and to John Rogers for volunteering his time to pilot the boat along the shore of Butterfield Lake and Grand Lake Reserve. This year, the wooden loon cutout of an Indian River Lake, donated by Bob Jennejohn, was won by Randy McDonald.

This event is great fun and a nice opportunity for our members and guests to join together in support of the Conservancy.



Preparing for cruise along Grand Lake Reserve

PADDLE AND OAR

We enjoyed several outings over the summer that were well attended. We paddled on Lake of the Woods, Grass Lake and Red Lake. This is a great way to meet other members and to enjoy an afternoon viewing wildlife and the natural beauty of our lakes.

These outings are open to all. Come out and join us next year!

COTTAGE HILL MARSH

On a beautiful Saturday morning in July, an enthusiastic group of volunteers gathered at Cottage Hill Marsh to create a trail. Thanks to Don & Vicky Storey, Chris and Toria Furry, Barb Kinner, Laura Cashmore, Margie Hillback and Harold Carpenter for joining members of the Board in clearing this trail.



Clearing the Trail

SCHOLARSHIPS

The Indian River Lakes Conservancy works with the schools and serves as the administrative unit for a scholarship program that provides funding for students who are planning to further their education in the field of environmental science. The recipients this year were Miraya Clemons and Christopher Curley.

Miraya is from Copenhagen, New York and graduated from Jefferson Community College this past spring. She was an outstanding student while attending JCC. She is now attending SUNY Potsdam where she is majoring in biology. Eventually she hopes to become a biology teacher and encourage young people to become concerned about water quality and the environment.

Christopher is a graduate of Hammond Central School

where he was third in his graduating class with an average of 92.97. His activities while in high school included band, soccer, yearbook, National Honor Society, student council, senior play, and St. Lawrence County Youth Leadership program. He is now attending Clarkson College in Potsdam where he is majoring in science and engineering.

Funding for these scholarships is provided by IRLC, member lake associations and individual donations. Annual scholarships are available for a local high school graduate and a Jefferson Community College graduate going on to study in the field of environmental science, or a child or grandchild of a member of IRLC or a member lake association. Butterfield Lake Association has been the major supporter of this program through its auction at their annual picnic. It is hoped that other lakes served by the conservancy will get involved in the fund raising for this most worthwhile program.

PROPERTY NEWS

The response from our members and the community to our acquisition of the Grand Lake Reserve has been enthusiastic. We appreciate all those who have given so generously to support this fantastic gift to the community.

Posting has started along the lake front boundaries and Burns Road. Surveying work is underway with hopes of completion by October, 2004. Volunteer member, Larry LaRue, has been a huge help working with the survey team, helping to minimize the cost of this extensive and difficult work. Participants in the permitted deer hunting program are volunteering over 300 hours on trail improvements, posting, surveying and mowing.

LEAVING A LEGACY

When IRLC was founded, there was a vision. By working at preserving the natural landscape around us, we could make a difference for the future.

IRLC is an all volunteer land trust. Our work is inspired by a strong sense of community and a love for the area where we live.

We established an endowment fund in 2002 to stabilize our financial status and to ensure that over the long haul we can continue to maintain and broaden our commitments.

This year the board will establish a stewardship fund. This fund will enable the Conservancy to properly maintain the property that has been entrusted to our care.

The Indian River Lakes Conservancy is all about sharing the beauty of this remarkable place with future generations. Through a legacy of protected land, we seek to preserve for others the qualities of this countryside that have so enriched our lives.

Becoming a member is one way of helping to leave such a legacy. Another way is the legacy you leave in your will. Your charitable bequest to IRLC can make a lasting contribution to the quality of life for your family now and for generations to follow.

Please consider including IRLC in your estate plans. You do not need a large estate to make a bequest; it can be of any size and can take many forms. In the end, you will have enriched the lives of all who love this place as much as you do.

If you do include IRLC in your will, please let us know, so we can properly thank you, and, most importantly, so we can be sure your wishes will be fulfilled.

MEMBERSHIPS

Our growing membership reflects the considerable community support for IRLC and the land preservation work we are doing.

This month we kick off our 2004 membership drive. Please renew your membership now, or check the "new member" space and join us!

We would like to recognize and thank those that have so generously supported the efforts of the Conservancy this year. Your continued support enables the Conservancy to continue its mission.

Butterfield Lake Assoc., Grass Lake Assoc., Lake of the Woods Assoc., Judy Adams, Robert Andrews, Dani Baker, Karen Bald & Nadine Gardner, John Bartlett, George Bartlett, Dave & Debbie Bearup, Fred & Rosemarie Belcher, Bob & Berry Belge, Peter Berzins, Jim & Gail Borkman, Mary & Bill Bostick, Elizabeth & John Briggs, Mike Buzzell, Harold & Shirley Carpenter, Henry Carse, Jeffrey & Priscilla Cashmore, Laura Cashmore, Mr. & Mrs. William Catlin, Mike Chetwin, Jerry & Kathy Cole, Donald Coley, Jeff Combs, Paul & Bridgid Cook, John & Judy Dixon, Verna Docteur, Elaine Dooling, Marlene Douglas, David Dupra, John & Lauren Evans, Michael Eyre, Lee J. Fischer, Ken & Kate Fisher, Jessica Fisher, Peter Gaskin, Robert & Kathey Gibbs, Norman Gitzen & Tiffany Rayburn, Jim & Liz Golembeski, Alan & Barbara Gray, Don Harter, Toni Heer, Elliott & Margie Hillback, George Hills, Priscilla Hiter, Jurgen & Judy Hoomans, Cheryl Hurley & Walter Dutcher, Robert & Betty Jennejohn, Anne Johnson, Elliot Klass, Henry Koster, Lawrence LaRue, Richard LeClerc, Alexander Macur & Catherine Zehr, The Malotte Family, Ron &

Barb Mann, Gretchen & Dave Martin, Joe & Janet McChesney, Randy & Janet McDonald, Steven McDonald, Ann & Russ Metcalf, Andrew Meyn, Dr. & Mrs. Tom Morgan, Dr. Richard Muller, Kevin Murray, Mr. & Mrs. Allan P. Newell, Mrs. Michael Ordog, John & Stephanie Palmer, Terry Panunzio, Eric Panunzio, Dale & Beth Porter, Will Ramseier, Gail & Daniel Rizzo, George Robertson, Tom & Phoenix Robertson, Bill Robertson & Heather Souders, Dave & Joan Robertson, Ed & Denise Robertson, John Rogers, Robert & Susan Rusch, Richard & Jacqueline Sabat, Richard Sauer, Louise & Mark Scarlett, Doug & Jan Scott, James & Stacey Sheldon, George & Joan Smith, Jeff Smith, Royce & Joan Spies, Jeffrey & Judy Stelljes, Tammi Stoll, Don & Vicky Storey, Chris & Tami Storey, Robert & Marie Sturge, John Sundbeck, Ken & Shirley Thomson, Butch & Kathy Tipper, John & Paula Tobin, Daniel & Pamela Tordy, Roland & Nancy VanDeusen, Alex Velto, Robert & Janet Wakefield, Jason & Emily Walker, Gerald Walsh, Marcy Waters, Harland & Doris Waterstraat, Craig & Sally Waterstraat, Patrick White, Don & Linda Wilcox, Charles & Judy Willis, Don & Phyllis Wingerath, Allan & Bonnie Wysocki, Amy York Wakefield

THANK YOU!!

We greatly regret any errors or omissions

IRLC CONTACTS

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**INDIAN RIVER LAKES CONSERVANCY
ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP FORM - 2004**

Name: _____ E-Mail _____

Permanent Mailing

Address: _____ Phone: _____

Seasonal Mailing

Address: _____ Phone: _____

\$ _____ **Renewal** \$ _____ **New Member** \$ _____ **Additional Donation**
Membership [\$20.00] **Supporter [\$35.00]**

Conservator [\$50.00] **Protector [\$100.00]**

Benefactor [\$250.00] **Eagle [\$1,000.00 and above]**

\$ _____ **Scholarship Fund** \$ _____ **Endowment Fund** \$ _____ **Stewardship Fund**

Please make checks payable to: **Indian River Lakes Conservancy** and mail with this form to **P.O. Box 27, Redwood, NY 13679**. Thank You.

Know someone who might be interested in joining? Please give us their name and address

_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____

Indian River Lakes Conservancy
P.O. Box 27
Redwood, NY 13679

Return Service Requested

