



February, 2020

Song Lake

Winter Newsletter

From the Song Lake Property Owners Association

A Tribute to Donald Collier



On December 10, 2019, Song Lake lost a valuable member. Don Collier was one of the founding members of The Song Lake Property Owners Association in 1956. Don was a longtime lake leader and will be missed by his neighbors, friends and family. He is survived by his daughters, Diana Moreland of Homer and Nancy Gouchie of Tully, four grandchildren and six great-grandchildren. The association sent a memorial contribution in his name to Make-A-Wish Foundation.



2019 Song Lake Walleye

1941 Song Lake Largemouth Bass

A Tradition Continues



Six-year-old Madison Wells loves to fish. Her parents, Brian and Katie, purchased the Wells Cottage from Brian's father, Howard, in 2016 and have become regular vacationers on the lake ever since. In an interview with Madison, she stated that her favorite fishing spots were just behind the island (south side), in the North Cove and right on her own dock. Her brother, Connor, also fishes, but he too, is impressed by his sister's angling skills. Madison likes to fish with a variety of colored lures as well as worms. Her favorite lures are Strike King-Slime Stick (best used right around dinner time) and the Zoom-UTale with the black and red glitter,



which she uses in the morning and afternoon. Madison stated that her "trick" for getting fish off the hook with the least damage is done using surgical forceps. She recalled a day last summer when she caught 13 fish in one hour. All were released. Of course, not all fish are release and she recalled one time her family friend JoJo caught a huge bass (4.8 pounds) which they did eat for dinner. Her dad has been her instructor, and he does keep some stats for her. "The longest fish Madison ever caught was 13 inch largemouth bass." The hardest part about fishing "is waiting!" but Madison seems to take it all in stride.

This is an election year. If you are interested in joining the board please contact any board member listed below.

The **SLPOA Board's** next meeting is scheduled for March 18th, 2020 at 5PM (location to be determined)

Look for our notices, or email the Association at songlakeassociation@gmail.com to find out more.

Song Lake Watershed Committee Meets the second Saturday of each month at 8:30AM. We would love to see you then!

Song Lake Property Owners Association

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The Song Lake Property Owners Association

SLPOA

PO Box 489

Tully, NY 13159

We depend on our neighbors to tell us what's going on. If you have news you want to share or even an item you want to sell send us an email at:

songlakeassociation@gmail.com

and check out the website at:

www.songlakewatershed.org

THANKS TO ALL OF OUR ASSOCIATION MEMBERS AND WATERSHED SUPPORTERS!

Renew Your Membership OR Become a Member Today!

Dues continue to be just \$25 per year.

Make your checks payable to: The Song Lake Property Owners Association.

Please consider making a much appreciated donation to the SLPOA Watershed Fund.

Complete the form and mail it with your check to:

SLPOA Treasurer

PO BOX 489

Tully, NY 13159

Make sure your membership is up-to-date!

We could use some help with our website! It's not complicated, and we just need help keeping it up-to-date. If you have a few minutes a month to spare, please let us know, and THANK YOU!

Song Lake Action Plan Update

A Watershed Management Plan for Song Lake is described in detail in State of the Lake Report and Comprehensive Management Plans for Song Lake, Crooked Lake Tully Lake, Stradder Caves, 2019.

This report was prepared after three years of study and provides important information on many aspects of our lake. Read the full report on our website www.songlakewatershed.org

Coordinated Actions taken by SLPOA

- ☑ Weed removal – We will work again next year to rake and remove floating plants.
Carl Grillo will be the contact person (315) 696-5963
- ☑ Benthic mats at swimming areas - Action timed for spring 2020
Look for the emails with specific dates and instructions.

Resident Choices and Best Practices

- ☑ Create shorescapes and shoreline buffers to reduce stormwater nutrients and other pollutants.
Find out more by attending the workshop, Protecting Water Quality in the Kettle Lakes and Beyond, March 24, from 5:30 – 7:30 (dinner provided). Register by calling 315-443-3741.
- ☑ Keep boats in deeper water to limit resuspension of sediments into the water column and erosion along the shoreline. Please use the bathymetry map provided here with the Anglers' Survey.
- ☑ Keep septic system clean by pumping (every 3 years) with proper maintenance. SLPOA will continue the septic system incentive program. **This offer is available on the website!**

Ongoing

- ☑ Coordination with Cortland County Soil & Water for shoreline buffers and shorescaping.
- ☑ Continue to work with the experts as we monitor the changes occurring in the lake.
- ☑ Toxic Cyanobacterial Harmful Algal Bloom Monitoring.

We work with many experts including close contact with the DEC Lakes Monitoring Program, professionals within NYSFOLA, and experts within our local universities including SUNY-ESF and SUNY Oneonta.

CyanoHABs

Song Lake has a long history of toxic algal blooms. Just be aware, and if you see a suspicious area, please do the following: 1st) Keep pets and children out of the water for 24 to 48 hours in that area. 2nd) Take a picture and send it to our email at songlakeassociation@gmail.com or text it to Tarki at 747-876-2198. 3rd) Call either Tarki or Carl Grillo 315- 696-5963 so we can grab a sample to have it tested for toxicity.

Boat Launching at Camp Hoover

Camp Hoover has graciously agreed to provide use of their site for one day in April to launch boats and one day in October for boat removal. This will be organized with special arrangements through the Song Lake Property Owners Association and will be dependent on the Camp schedule. Look for an update in your emails and please **DO NOT** contact the Camp. If you have questions call a member of the board or email the association directly at songlakeassociation@gmail.com.

What Happened to That “Wee Harvester?”

We have it in the cove. If you want to find out more, please call Tarki at 315-696-5262.

Boater Safety – New Law

You will soon need to complete a safety course to operate a motorboat in New York, regardless of when you were born.

Gov. Andrew Cuomo signed a bill into law in August that will gradually expand the state's safety-course mandate, requiring anyone operating a motorboat or Jet Ski in New York to complete the training offered online or in a classroom.

Brianna's Law, as the new law is known, will be phased in over six years, applying first this year to those born in 1993 or later before gradually including all motorboat operators by 2025.

The law is named after Brianna Lieneck, an 11-year-old girl killed in a 2005 boat crash off Long Island.

The new law applies to anyone operating a "mechanically propelled vessel" in navigable waters anywhere in New York. It does not apply to non-motorized crafts, such as canoes, sailboats, stand-up paddle boards and kayaks.

Previously, only those born after May 1, 1996, had to complete a safety course to operate a motorized boat. And even then, those under the age of 18 could still operate the boat without taking the course if they were accompanied by an adult.

You have to be at least 10 years old to operate a motorboat in New York or 14 to operate a personal watercraft, such as a Jet Ski.

The law, which took effect Jan. 1, requires:

In 2020, all motorboat operators born in 1993 or later to take the safety course.

In 2021, it applies to those born on or after Jan. 1, 1988.

In 2022, those born on or after Jan. 1, 1983.

In 2024, those born on or after Jan. 1, 1978.

In 2025, everyone regardless of age.

The state Bureau of Marine Services offers the safety course in a classroom setting at sites across the state. At least a half-dozen companies also offer the course online. Fees for the course vary, though the state charges those over the age of 18 a \$10 fee for the issuance of a safety certificate once the course is complete. Boatus.org offers the only free on-line safety course approved by the state. For more information, visit the State Park's boating website at parks.ny.gov/recreation/boating.

C-OFOKLA Update

This Kettle Lake Coalition is planning a year of outreach and fun!

Join us by checking the website: www.cofokla.org or our FaceBook Page.

We will start our Kettle Lake Series, March 24th with a workshop for lake residents, farmers and all of us living in the watersheds. Protecting Water Quality in the Kettle Lakes Watershed and Beyond, will be held at the Tully United Community Church, from 5:30 to 7:30 PM on March 24th. Dinner will be provided. To register, call **Meredith Perreault, 315-443-3741**.

Don't miss our second annual Anglers' Garage Sale June 6th at the Tully United Community Church from 9:00 to 2:00.

If you have a story you want to share with us, please contact a member of the board, or send us an email.

Song Lake Property Owners Assoc. 2020