Silver Lake Association (SLA)

MEETING TYPE: **Annual**
MINUTES TYPE: **Proposed**

August Meeting Minutes

Date: **August 9, 2025**
Time: 9:00 AM – 11:40 AM
Location: Epworth Hall

I. **Call to Order**

Meeting called to order at 9:00 am by Bob Capurso, President

II. **Meeting Attendance**

Roll Call

❖ **Executive Committee**

President – Bob Capurso
1st Vice President – Betsy Kent
Recording Secretary – Brian Kinsman
Communication Secretary – Michelle Hess
Treasurer – Cathy Volk

❖ **Attendance:**

Karen Norton, Ron Norton, Bonnie Bright, Pete Balcom, Bob Capurso, Michele Hess, Frank Bright, Cathy Volk, Tom Sczezny, Nancy Balcom, Don Starner, Leslie Kunze, Bill Northrup, Jim Musclow, Kathie Musclow, Larry Murray, Eric Miller, Carol Miller, M. Hanzly, Betsy Kent, Chuck Kent, Pete Gross, Bobbie Ratliff, Mary Gavigan, Chris Gavigan, David Boersma, Sue Hettler, Mike Hettler, Kevin Jones, Tom hess, Robert Michalski, Jean Trost, Ken Trost, Jeff Miller, Norreen Tillotsun, Ed Bauer, Bob Bausch, Kelly Paganelli, Suzie Carlson, Aaron M, Robert Ritz, Cherly Dovolos, Paul Zinter, Marcia Veley, Brad Hulme, Mike Bellamy, Jane Eliasz, Sally Capurso, Larry Bauer, Jessica DeMarte, Brian Kinsman

Voting Directors/acting Alt. Dir./Exec. Comm. – 45
Others - 16
Total in attendance – 51

- **Pledge of Allegiance/Prayer**
- **Welcome-Bob C.**
- **Special Guests –**
    - **Lorraine Sturm: Perry Herald and Silver Lake Fireworks**
        - Free copies of Perry Herald for pick up
        - $49 per year for Perry Herald
        - No website – subscribe or purchase at shops on Main St or Walgreens, Crosby's, etc.
        - Started in 1877 and Lorraine has owned it since 2008
        - She does all the work including interviews, news, investigations, writing, and layout processes
        - Please consider subscribing to continue to the viability of the newspaper
        - She has been on the lake since 1965 and acted as association secretary for about 20 years
        - Thanks to Mark Emmerson for his series he ran based on past minutes about 10-15 minutes ago which is available at the library – thank you Jessica and also in book form
        - Fireworks: started out with her brother many years ago and in 1998. She sent letters out to SLA so that they could have the first show in 1999 and it has been going ever since. It is a dedicated account at Tompkins Community Bank and all money goes to the fireworks with donations to Fire Dept and maintenance of buoys. Continue to try to give personally to the funds in addition to SLA donation. This year's display cost about $8200 (first show in 1999 was $3000)
    - **Suzie Carlson and Jessica DiMart: Perry Historian**
        - Resident artist Lemuel Wiles approx. 100 years ago who lived on Northwest side of lake with display at Perry Public Library
        - Thank you to Ford Eberstein the unofficial West Perry Historian who has written many articles for Historical Wyoming a quarterly publication published by the Wyo Co Historical Association
        - Lemuel Wiles born on Suckerbrook Rd – his parents Nancy and Daniel Wiles
            - They each had four children from a previous marriage
            - Lemuel is the child of the marriage of Daniel and Nancy
        - Held first exhibit of his artwork at 12 yrs old in Perry at the district school house and were all pencil drawings he charged 2 pins for admittance
        - After Perry he attended the Genesee Wesleyan Seminary in Lima and became a teacher in the town of Castile and when he earned enough he attended Albany Academy for art where he met Rachel Ramsey and married in 1854
        - Moved to Utica in 1857 to teach drawing and penmanship and Librarian at Utica Library
        - Quit teaching in 1864 and moved to NYC
        - 1876-1888 Art Director for Ingham University in LeRoy
        - Summer of 1888 he moved back to Perry and Wiles Silver Lake Art School was built drawing students from all over the country
        - His wife passed in 1896. Lemuel and his son Irving would spend summers at Silver Lake and go to NYC to spend winters on their individual art.
        - He passed away at the age of 79

- 11/2/1926 the art school burned to the ground which is why the exact location of the art school is under debate
- 1937 article from Perry Herald described “Scene at Silver Lake” at library – it may still hang in the Perry public library today
- In 2022 the library undertook a digitization project of the collection of Lemuel Wiles and go to NYHeritage website and search for Lemuel Wiles and can find high res files of the paintings that the library owns
- Thank you to those who contributed to the digitization project
- Painted some of the first representations of what California would have looked like on some of his trips to that area in 1840s.
- How did the Perry Public Library end up with an art gallery?
    - Lemuel Wiles nephew wanted to donate them and he reached out to Perry Public Library and he left the paintings and memorabilia to the library in his will. He also arranged for the money which built the gallery which is an addition to the library.
    - The rest of the collection comes from private donations
    - Library is open Mon-Thurs 11-8, Fri 11-5, Sat 9-1
    - perryhistorian@gmail.com please reach out with any parts of Perry history – even if you don’t want to give them up they can be digitized by the library and returned to you. They help the library with people who are researching their history or history of Perry, the lake, etc.

- **Officer Blake Russell: Perry PD**
    - Sargent for Village of Perry and Police Officer since 2013
    - Attended Marine Law Enforcement training academy in 2021 and assists Dave Richardson with Lake enforcement
    - Usually out around 4 or 6 and will stay out until after dark (until the last few boats have lights on or are back in for the evening)
    - Relatively quiet year on the lake
    - People failing to turn lights on after dark continue to be an issue
    - Kayaking and canoing can be done at night but you have to have a lantern on the boat (issue is usually at the southern end of the lake where they rent kayaks out)
    - PWC/jet skis at night cannot operate from sundown to sun up because they don’t have lights – most at night are lake residents and go in quickly
    - Safety items boats should have: coast guard approve level 4 life vests for all on boat children 12 and younger have to be in the life vest while on the boat, coast guard approved throwable, sound producing device (horn, whistle, etc includes kayak and canoes), anchor and line, visual distress signal, fire extinguisher. Any of those missing can be a citation during a safety boarding. A Safety Boarding does not require any reason to check things out other than being on the lake.
    - Boater’s Safety Certification (Brianna’s Law) – anyone has to have a boating safety certificate to operate any type of watercraft on the lake and you need to have the certificate with you at all times. Can add the certificate to your driver’s license through the DMV and that would be valid anywhere in NYS, need original certificate if outside of NYS.
    - Speed limit in the lake is 25 MPH if not otherwise posted and cannot create excessive wake within 100 ft of shore.

- **Homeowner of Distinction Award – Leslie Kunze**
    - Leslie presenting award – 3 nominees received 8 nominations
    - 2 winners this year which previously happened in 2009 and 2015

- **Brad Hubert**
  - May 2022 purchased original Silver Lake Institute cottage
  - Restored both inside and out including trellises and window restoration, trees, signs, and attention to detail
  - Featured on Magnolia Network in 2023 6 mos into his project
- **Tom & Michelle Hess**
  - Wildflower garden for erosion control
  - Landscaped on all sides of house
  - Tree removal and turned the old tree into a swing

- **Directory Cover Award – Betsy Kent presenting to Tim Snyder**
  - Tim Snyder and family to receive award for Directory Cover Award – presented with gift card to cards around Perry and Silver Lake Marine and Plaque
  - They built a house across the lake about a year ago and they have always dreamt about having a place on the lake and they're thankful for the lake community

- **Thank You Plaques for departing Members**
  - Peggy Phillips and Steve Re departing as TDs at Silver Lake Institute
  - Frank Bright – has been a staple for many years for Water Quality and entertainment with CLEAN and WQ
  - Michelle Hess – thanks for help with CLEAN and all she has done for website and facebook

- **What's New Around the Lake?**
  - Traber house is being sold, sign is on water – they have been here for a long time and are selling the lake property listed by Rivellino for 550k
  - SLI – every Friday night music at the blue dock at 7pm – had 12 boats last night open to the public. Pull up the boat and listen to music. Yummies truck is there. Last one for the season is 8/29
  - Nothing new about Perry Market – Tops deal fell through is the latest news

- **Approval of July Minutes – Thank you Brian Kinsman**
  - Motion**:** Don Starner
  - Second: Mary Gavigan

- **Treasurer's Report – Thank you Cathy**
  - Slightly ahead of where we were at last year at this time due to timing of tract sheets. This month will be catch up month.
  - See attached report – vote to be held for $2700 for leaf collection
    - Motion**:** Chuck Kent
    - Second: Jim Musclow
    - Tom Hess Opposed

- **Flares Report** – sold 1537 chemical flares – slight decrease from last year. Look at how many sold this year and try to budget accordingly for next year. 10 boxes to be stored in Lakeville for the off season

- **Veteran Launch and Lunch – Sally C./Mary Gavigan**

- Had about 58 veterans and their wives with 9 captains who escorted around the lake and helpers in the kitchen from the Warrior House and helpers outside
- 2-3 people helping the veterans get on and off the boat
- Have increased each year (40 the first year) and we had a waiting list this year waiting to get in this year
- Feedback was very good and veterans were all very thankful
- "Uncle Hank" a veteran who came on the trip is 101 and he promises to be back next year
- Thanks to all captains and those who provided desserts

- **Water Quality – Frank Bright, Kelly Paganelli /CLEAN**
  - See attached report – also available on CLEAN website
  - CLEAN is going to present WQ reports to SLA → CLEAN is a registered 501c3 not for profit with its own group
  - Going forward CLEAN will write reports and provide to SLA – will continue to be the same
  - New board:
    - Rob Ritz – President
    - Kelly Paganelli – VP
    - Michelle Hess – social media/treasurer
    - Todd Shuskey – board member
    - Lee Loomis – board member
    - Nate Walls – board member
    - Ron Norton – consultant
    - Frank Bright – consultant
  - All SLA WQ people are folded into CLEAN as team members
  - CSLAP sampling is continuing Frank is not doing it
  - Silver Lake Watershed Commission – committee that SLA has a member on. It has representation from every municipality in the watershed who takes water. Everyone on the committee votes. CLEAN recommends Lee Loomis be the representative from SLAWQ
    - Vote: All approve
  - HABS – reported to NYS - Google NYHABS to report
    - 9 reports on Silver Lake so far this season
    - If state sees something very problematic they will contact someone in CSLAP to test possible bloom
  - LWRP – local waterfront revitalization program – plan that is going to guide how this lake is developed in the future
    - Representation from SLA on the Waterfront Advisory Committee (Bob Capurso and Mike Bellamy)
    - From CLEAN Frank, Kelly, and Michelle
    - All residents can provide input through the survey online – everyone can submit. This input guides the waterfront advisory committee.
    - Use phrases like "weed management" and "targeted dredging"
    - LWRP developed in 2 stages – first phase on the lake and municipalities around it. State feedback came back and told the LWRP plan to expand these services and include the outlet and waterway all the way to the Genesee River
    - No planned ideas currently – possible dredging, lake weed management, hypolimnetic aeration (deep water aeration), and improvements to state boat launch
    - 3 different LWRPs will be developed for 3 different municipalities
    - During most recent meeting there was a presentation about current status of dredging project

- Current dredging hold up is where to put the sediment – strategy for 10 years has been find a spot. We find a problem with a spot and we step all the way back to look for another spot. LWRP with ToC Supervisor Stan Klein and Scott Schrader Administrator for Wyo Co (managing dredging project) – attempt to identify multiple places to put sediment
  - Gameplan pushed on Scott S – contact WNY Crop Management (they test all farm fields and tell farmers what to do) – they will be able to tell farmers how much they can accommodate and develop multi-site plan for distribution of sediment for final resting place.
- Knotweed moving around
- Golf Tournament – Thank Yous to everyone who donated (money, gift baskets, golfers, lunch guests, etc.)
  - Made about $7,000
- Watercraft Inspection Steward – unable to staff full time as they wanted to we may be able to help with this moving forward. We are considered "Remote" so we may have to augment salary in future
- SL Boat Launch – approx. 25 complaints per year about the boat launch starting now → they are setting about to fix it this season it will not happen until the water is down and the State Parks office has to apply for permit to the state. Gameplan is to extend the launch.
- Bioreactor project trying to be resurrected with a new name
- Aquatic weeds – Bob Michalski has now spear headed the group for weed management and has been in contact with multiple individuals at county level and DEC as well as Chuck Johnson at Aquatic Weed Control (contractor who does this professionally) and with other lakes (Betsy Landry at Honeoye Lake who has a county run program for about $60k/year with three employees doing it every day from 7/1-8/28 every summer)
- Need more people on our team because current members are older and we need next group of help email Rob Ritz or Kelly Paganelli
- Farms are required to have farms tested for nutrients to make sure they don't put too much fertilizer down – need about 500 acres to accept 1" of sediment. Sediment can go anywhere in the county.
- Targeted dredging to remove sediment in sites that are nutrient rich and deep water aeration chemically caps the lake bed (but not cheap). Cap it 20 acres at a time – lake surface area is 800. 40 units required for the 800 acres.
- Money allocated for dredging includes commitment from County and Claudia Tenney's office
- Michelle has handouts regarding survey for the LWRP

- **Old Business – Approval of $2,700 for Leaf Vacuuming. CLEAN to receive $2,500 donation from the Town of Castile – two dates and two locations for leaf pickup.** Proposed to the town and they could reimburse to CLEAN because they are a 501c3. $2700 is tax included and town reimburses $2500 to CLEAN. Bob reports he is able to maintain pick up sites, break down sites at end of season and maintain going forward
  - CLEAN does not have to do anything
    - Motion: Tom
    - Second: Cathy Volk
    - Opposed: 5

- **New Business –**
  a. **Changes to By Laws -Discussion - Much Thanks to Attorney Mike Hettler, CPA Cathy Volk, and just regular people Sally and Bob Capurso**
  b. **Frank appreciates work goes into amending the by-laws: proposes that by Article 9 these proposed changes were not distributed at a previous meeting**

c. **Bob – reports he has asked for help with by-law changes for the last several months to be completed by this meeting. Apologies it is not in time for a timely vote. Reports he did not have help until recently.**
d. **We will adjourn the Annual Meeting until September instead of closing the Annual Meeting to amend by-laws for September's mtg. Motion to postpone the by-law discussion.**

b. Nominations

- **Election of President – Currently held by Bob Capurso**
  - Nomination for Bob Capurso offered by: Chuck Kent
  - Majority Vote Approved
- **Election of Treasurer - Currently held by Cathy Volk**
  - Nomination for Cathy Volk: Bob Capurso
  - Majority Vote Approved
- **Election of Second VP –Currently Open and to remain Open**

- **Next Meeting – Sept 13th 9:00 AM Epworth Hall**
- **Fun Theme – Ron Norton Annual Hawaiian Shirt Day**
- **Meeting Adjourned – Thank you all for attending**