

Silver Lake & Miscellaneous Issues - chapter #23

In this next chapter it shows some miscellaneous lake issues and activities the SLCOA (SLA after 1993) were involved with in the 1990s. Environmental organizations, Watershed Commission and the Water and Soil Conservation District, even the sheriff patrol were communicating with the SLCOA and its members. Silver Lake is very important to this community. Everyone has to be included to get done what needs to be done. But what is Silver Lake without fun? There were so many activities from the whole community that made this area a great place to be for summer fun.

At the May 19th, 1990 meeting, P.I.P. (Pride in Perry) and C.A.R.E. (Castile Area Residents for the Environment) representatives spoke to the SLCOA. P.I.P. discussed the subject of providing a Solid Waste Disposal alternative to Perry and possibility in the future. C.A.R.E. rep Lois Link, discussed the contamination of wells from manure run-off. Castile Supervisor Bob Bowles attended the SLCOA meeting to discuss solid waste disposal and what GLOW (Genesee-Livingston-Orleans-Wyoming) Solid Waste Management Committee is about.

At the July 21, 1990 meeting Bob Murray suggested the Lake District get a trash pick-up day. Bob Bowles discussed Recycle for Perry garbage disposal program that Castile residents used every Saturday after payment of the \$10 registration fee. He also mentioned that a trash pick-up day was not possible and it was cost prohibitive.

At the September 1992 meeting information on recycling and refuse pick-up in Castile was shared. Bob Bowles said that in September of 1992 NYS had a mandate for recycling placing the burden of task on local villages. A solid waste management plan was in effect. Genesee-Orleans-Wyoming would share a landfill in the future. Wyoming County was looking at \$90 per year (on the tax bill) per house plus a user fee of \$1.05 per tag for up to 60-pound bag or 30-gallon can with a 5 bag limit each week for 5 years. There was no determination on seasonal residents. Villages were not mandated to go with the plan, they could do their own. Don Cook would write a letter on the cost for seasonal owners and their concerns. He would send it to the Town/Village Board in October. Clarence Clark gave an update on solid waste management plan which was working for a county wide contract. The county committee was reviewing proposals from haulers.

Expansion of Silver Lake Golf Course which featured a pond filled from the lake was a concern of the SLCOA. The increased need for water and environmental impact of construction and pesticides were discussed. The SLCOA requested to cottagers and towns to cut back. It was suggested an environmental impact document be filed and limits be placed on water drawn. Because of the proposed 9-hole addition of the golf course Dick Bausch reviewed the course's water usage for 1991 which totaled 3,510,000 gallons. Despite a short 78 day season with 3 hour watering periods at 250 gal/min., the drop in the lake level was ¼ -inch. (Usual: 100 days with ½-inch drop). This was the most water ever drawn from the lake. Lake volume is based on 768 acres at 325,000 gallons per acre-foot depth. The course pond at hole #9 will be aerated next year. 2/3 – 3/4 of water penetrating the grounds came from precipitation and watershed and through this pond. This new pond was located where the driving range barn is located and was a 1.5 acre, 7 foot deep pond. 25 out of the 34 acres of the new course will drain into that pond. The new course will not draw water from the lake. The first nine holes will continue to use lake water.

For new business it was reported at the April 25, 1992 meeting that a letter was distributed at the Watershed Commission meeting regarding the Country Club extension and erosion prevention. A copy went to Dick Bausch. The Country Club had also applied for a permit on a pump house for its middle pond. Dick Eliaz of the Planning Board reported that there was no action on it due to possible noise and lack of information.

The Walker Road boat launch was closed. The launch was private property and the owner faced legal and insurance problems over it. Fishermen must use the marinas or the carry-on launch at Silver Lake State Park.

The 1997 Annual meeting had guest speakers Dave Richardson and Jim Prince of the Sheriff's lake patrol that updated the membership on their work and the town of Castile justice Alphonse Millillo that discussed his role when tickets were issued on the lake (8 since 1991).

Lake Patrolman Jim Price updated the SLA membership on the conditions of the lake. The lake level was at 105 inches at the spillway, which meant water flowed over much of the shoreline. This was the result of the flash flood on July 8, 1998. The county imposed a boating ban July 9-12 followed by a one week, no wake limitation.

At the 1999 Annual Meeting Rich introduced guests Undersheriff Ron Ely and Marine Patrolman Jim Prince. Patrolman Prince said Silver Lake is a safe lake. In the past, officers have only encountered one boating accident with injuries and none in 1998. Jet ski operators had been ticketed after call-in complaints. The new officer on the marine patrol was Jeff Hoffman. The others were Gary Jurkowski and Dave Richardson. The State Park Police had patrolled from their own boat brought in for the fireworks display. Undersheriff Ely ran for sheriff that November as Allen Capwell was retiring. Ely told the members he was there to show support for continuing the marine patrol. When he submitted the department's budget, he suggested a jet ski patrol and more hours.