



Co-Executive Directors
Dr. Carol Collins
Dr. Lorraine Ruffing

Secretary/Treasurer
Beverly Pozzi

2015 Year End Report

Board of Directors
Lisa Adamson
Dr. Rolf Ahlers
Sarah Brown
Kathryn Hull
Arlene Lotters
Shirley Mockel
Mary Helen O'Keeffe
Robert Tully

Milestones in 2015

APWQC has two new board members, Shirley Mockel and Sarah Brown. At the annual meeting in August 2015 Lorraine Ruffing was elected co director with Carol Collins; Lisa Adamson was elected as chair of the Board for 2015-6. APWQC Board member Robert Ervien III died at his Sanibel, Florida home in spring 2015.

The APWQC Board and officers would like to thank our members, friends and associates who participated in the activities listed below. Without their enthusiasm and commitment we could not have accomplished the following:

Meetings and membership:

- Co Executive Director Carol Collins attended Lake George Park Commission (LGPC) and Lake George Watershed Coalition (LGSWC) meetings throughout the year and helped secure a grant to fund a comprehensive lake wide management plan. The plan has been awarded funding through a NYS consolidated funding application to the Town of Queensbury.
- Dedee Connor, Lisa Adamson and Beverly Pozzi attended preview of the Jefferson Project's software and photographic projects at the Darrin Freshwater Institute early summer 2015
- Carol Collins attended the fall 2015 Salt Conference
- Lisa Adamson (and Fred Hardt) attended x4 Town of Lake George Septic Initiative Program special workshops (see website) on alternative septic installations for lakeside properties and for training area engineers enhanced unit installations addressing high water tables and restricted sites. (Dunham's Bay has installed 6 of these new "Clarus" units this year).
- Officers/Chair attended 2 Septic Transfer Law workshops and a previous insert "Pave Drain" workshop at the invitation of the Town of Queensbury
- Winter 2015 Co Executive director Lisa Adamson visited Lake Tahoe and spoke with TRPA (Tahoe Regional Planning Agency) and Tahoe Blue about special status of Tahoe with the Federal government and their successes and difficulties with enforcement

Social gatherings:

- Pizza party at the Ahlers' mid snorkel swim event 7/15, wine and cheese at Mary Helen O'Keeffe's post snorkel swim 7/15, fall coffee social at Beverly Pozzi's and Lorraine Ruffing's with members, officers and some board present. Ad hoc planning at Lisa Adamson's fall 2015 with Lorraine Ruffing, Bob Tully, Dedee Connor, Rolf and Luise Ahlers, John, Elaine and David Taylor.
- APWQC members (Carol Collins and Arlene Lotters) represented APWQC at Cleverdale/ Rockhurst mid-winter social at Sans Souci and summer invitational.

Communication/Education:

- Sent out 2 newsletters to all Assembly Point residents; in addition, emailed the newsletters to 75 area environmental agencies, Lake George Park Commission and Town officials, other water quality awareness groups, engineers and area press.
- Kept website current (www.assemblypt.com)
- Installed a photo shop program on coalition computers for graphic implementation. Lisa Adamson took a short photo shop workshop.
- Adirondack Lawn signs distribution continued.
- APWQC created a 9x9” “No more sealcoating” lawn sign as part of an educational initiative to inform about the toxins in this product.
- Bulletin Board at the corner of Bay Parkway and Crossover maintained.

Activities

- Organized the second annual underwater swim to train residents to check hot spots for algal blooms off Assembly Point; photos posted on website
- Submitted algal and water samples for testing to Darrin Fresh Water Institute, the Fund for Lake George and JB3Consulting, created inventory spreadsheets of findings
- 3 APWQC members walked the Point and determined how many properties had seal coated drives. Created a hardcopy spreadsheet and working map
- Carol Collins and Lorraine Ruffing organized a site visit to discuss with Warren County Soil and Water and with representatives from Shore Colony and Town of Queensbury options for more effective remediation of storm water runoff; APWQC co directors sent a letter of recommendations to Tom Van Ness- Town Highway Department on this subject.
- APWQC and AP residents contacted ToQ Highway dep’t, spring 2015 about tardy salt and sand collection along Assembly Point Road.
- APWQC Board and members walked Assembly Point with Adirondack Invasives specialist Zach Simek and Town Supervisor John Strough to view the large invasions of Japanese Knotweed and vines on trees and discuss how to address without chemical intervention. Rolf Ahlers dug up large section of a residential infestation. Lisa Adamson dug up remainder, injected large stems with vinegar, suppressed with leaf coverage and contractor’s plastic at 124 and 128 Lake Parkway.

Funding

- Received an organizational support grant of \$4000 for implementation in 2016 from the Lake Champlain Basin Program
- Received a grant of \$400 from the Golub Foundation for shoreline buffers
- Donation of \$200 Mary Helen O’Keeffe

Special thanks

We would like to give special thanks to

- Kathy Bozony for ongoing support with the snorkel swim and for introducing to the ToF LG and the ToF Q a septic transfer law draft
- Tony Metivier for supporting the septic transfer law to the ToF Q Board

- Rosemary Pusateri and the Cleverdale Rockhurst Stewardship group for reintroducing the necessary Fertilizer Restriction Law to the LGPC for adoption as a uniform lake wide policy
- Corrina Parnapy <http://parnapyc.wix.com/avacal-biological> and Joe Biss (JB3Consulting) for testing our algal and water samples
- Town of Queensbury John Strough for invitations to workshops relating to water quality and storm water management
- Walter Lender, LGA, and Bill Mason, LGPC for letters of support for our LCBP grant
- Kathy Jarvis at the (Lake Champlain Basin Program) LCBP for advice on our grant application and work plan;
- The Golub Foundation for \$400 support toward shoreline buffering and storm water control planting.

Focus for 2016

During 2016 we intend to continue to link with other water quality groups and search for innovative and cooperative approaches to solve basin-wide water quality problems. We will engage in the following activities and possibly additional ones if funding allows.

Meetings/ Gatherings

- Increase active membership and involvement of current members in planned activities
- Annual APWQC meeting ***Friday Sept 2*** ; we will launch a new edition of the history of Assembly Point as well as a welcome package for new residents, review current activities and results; elect new officers and board members. Time and location to be announced in spring newsletter
- Attend relevant Town and environmental meetings

Communication/Education

- Create a “No Sealcoating” educational flier
- Create a snorkel swim poster
- Update the website; increase photo shop skills; install a “Go To Meeting” app for Board meetings and planning sessions; consider installing GPS apps on smart phones for tracking algae/invasives along the shorelines
- Create and distribute a welcome package to new residents with past newsletters, and an updated version of Robert Adamson’s account of the history of the Point as well as fliers and signs on Adirondack lawns, sealcoating etc.

Projects

- Continue to work with the Town of Queensbury to design solutions for containing storm water runoff along Sunset Lane and Assembly Point Road as well as from Otyokwa property
- Encourage residents to voluntarily end their use of fertilizers and pesticides; support a uniform lake wide fertilizer/pesticide restriction
- Support the proposed septic transfer law and encourage the To Q (Town of Queensbury) to update and standardize its septic records using the To LG SIP (Septic Initiative Program) as a model to determine age/placement of all systems, efficacy of systems and pump outs
- Organize the 3rd annual snorkel swim to monitor invasives around the Point and the kick off of a lake wide snorkel keeper initiative; a professional diver will train residents to identify invasive species, aquatic plants and algae off Assembly Point; algae locations will be tracked and photographed by swimmers; the information will be added to our data base on invasives around the Point.
- Assist residents to plant buffers and to retrofit their driveways. 1-3 projects planned

- Support the Lake George Park Commission efforts to establish stream corridor and tree removal regulations and a uniform fertilizer restriction law; meet with State officials in Albany to press for increased funding for LGPC.