



2016 Annual Report

Presented at the May Member Meeting

May 11th, 2017



"Water links us to our neighbor in a way more profound and complex than any other."

-John Thorson

2017 May Member Meeting Agenda

May 11th, 2017. 4 P.M. Stow, New York.

Review of the 2016 May Member Meeting Minutes

Presentation of the 2016 Annual Report

Board of Directors Election

Open Floor - Membership

Summary of 2015-2016 Achievements

The Chautauqua Lake & Watershed Management Alliance (Alliance) has had an exciting and successful first two years in operation. During that time, the Alliance was honored by 31 Founding Member organizations coming together in 2015 and 27 Members in 2016 who all understand the incredible asset that Chautauqua Lake is to our entire community. During this time, the Alliance has worked with the County and area Foundations to secure \$385,000 in local funding specifically to be used for local match requirements on member project grant submissions. These local match dollars leverage limited local resources to bring additional state and other outside dollars to our community to fulfill recommendations made in the Chautauqua Lake Watershed Management Plan and the Chautauqua Lake Macrophyte Management Strategy. Of the \$385k in local match funding secured by the Alliance, approximately \$157k has been successfully utilized and leveraged to bring in a total of just over \$1.6 million in state dollars to our community representing over \$2.4 million in total project investments in our lake and watershed. There are currently nine active projects the Alliance is the primary project facilitator for that are physically located in the Town of Busti, Town of Chautauqua, Town of Ellery, Town of North Harmony, Village of Celoron and Village of Lakewood. This means we are currently working with six of the nine municipalities that directly border Chautauqua Lake as well as the County and multiple other non-municipal member partners to develop quality impactful projects, secure funding and ensure implementation and project completion. Additional project details can be found on Pages 4-10 under the "2015-2016 Project Summaries" section of this report.

7/2016-6/2017 Members

- Chautauqua – Cattaraugus Board of Realtors
- Chautauqua County Chamber of Commerce
- Chautauqua County Government
- Chautauqua Institution
- Chautauqua County Soil & Water Conservation District
- Chautauqua County Visitors Bureau
- Chautauqua Lake Association
- Chautauqua Lake Fishing Association
- Chautauqua Lake Partnership
- Chautauqua Utility District
- Chautauqua Watershed Conservancy
- Holmberg Foundation
- Jamestown Audubon Society
- Jamestown Board of Public Utilities
- The Lenna Foundation
- NYS Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation – Allegany Region
- North Chautauqua Lake Sewer District
- South & Center Chautauqua Lake Sewer District
- Town of Busti
- Town of Chautauqua
- Town of Ellery
- Town of Ellicott
- Town of North Harmony
- Village of Bemus Point
- Village of Celoron
- Village of Lakewood
- Village of Mayville

History and Mission

The Chautauqua Lake & Watershed Management Alliance (Alliance) is the natural evolution of the Chautauqua Lake Management Commission (CLMC). Since its inception in 2005 and pursuant to its core mission, the CLMC was a major contributor to the development of the *Chautauqua Lake Watershed Management Plan* and initiated work on the *Chautauqua Lake Macrophyte Management Strategy*, which sets forth specific recommendations for the proper management of our precious natural resources. The CLMC was an advisory committee to the Chautauqua County legislature and having accomplished its core mission, it was determined that the CLMC would sunset in 2014 in order to evolve into a new Alliance.

The Alliance framework was developed through a series of stakeholder meetings, significant research, and forward-thinking innovation. It was established in order to secure funding to implement the recommendations determined under the lake and

watershed plans. The Alliance also aims to strengthen existing relationships among member organizations already engaged in important lake and watershed activities, and to promote a comprehensive and coordinated effort to ensure the sustained health, ecology, and uses of Chautauqua Lake and its watershed.

This Alliance is for the benefit of all Chautauqua Lake and watershed stakeholders and our primary objective is to collaborate and coordinate locally in order to secure State and Federal funds (as well as funds from other sources outside the County) for Alliance Members and Member Projects via grant writing and leveraging local dollars. The Alliance is a non-profit 501(c)3 charitable organization located in Chautauqua County, New York.

Our mission:

The Chautauqua Lake & Watershed Management Alliance, working in collaboration with lake and watershed-related organizations, municipalities and other stakeholders, will promote and facilitate implementation of recommendations from the *Chautauqua Lake Watershed Management Plan* and the *Chautauqua Lake Macrophyte Management Strategy* by prioritizing projects, securing funding and allocating resources.

By working in collaboration with as many stakeholders as possible, we deepen our collective focus, strength, and leveraging capabilities, for the benefit of Chautauqua Lake, its watershed, and ultimately our Community.

2015-2016 Project Summaries

Water Quality Improvement Projects (WQIP)

Description: Work involves six (6) separate grant awards to address streambank and channel instability at seven (7) priority sites along Prendergast Creek, Bemus Creek (two sites), Goose Creek, Ball Creek, Dutch Hollow Creek, and West Dutch Hollow Creek. The purpose of the work is to improve water quality in Chautauqua Lake and its tributaries by reducing erosion and associated sediment and nutrient loading caused by streambank and channel instability. Sediment transport to the lake, from unstable banks like those being addressed by this work, is a significant source of nutrients, including phosphorus, which can impair water quality when present at excess concentrations (e.g., contributing to algae blooms and/or excessive nuisance aquatic

vegetation growth). The work will also help address ongoing property loss, including imminent threats to infrastructure, caused primarily by bank erosion.

Projected budget for all six (6) projects:

Total: ~ \$1.43 Million

State: ~ \$1.07 Million

Local: ~ \$358,000

Grantee: County of Chautauqua

Alliance Role: Grant writing and administration; project management/coordination

Other Involved Member Partners: Chautauqua County Soil & Water Conservation District (technical services); Chautauqua Watershed Conservancy (education & outreach)

Funding Overview: The majority of the project cost is funded by the Environmental Protection Fund administered by the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (NYSDEC). The remaining share is provided by the County of Chautauqua as local matching funds from the Occupancy Tax Program and reallocated Chautauqua Lake Management Commission (CLMC) capital funds. The State-funded share of nearly \$1.1 million would not have been possible without the commitment of these matching funds. Local matching fund contribution percentage requirements vary depending on the source of funding. These particular WQIPs require a 25% local match. That is, for every \$1,000 of a total project amount, a local match contribution of \$250, in either cash or in-kind services such as equipment, labor, or service from local employees or volunteers, results in an additional \$750 from the State in the form of the WQIP grant award. Local match requirements are a critical tool used by funding agencies to ensure local “buy-in” and encourage high-quality projects with clear value to the local populace. When projects are properly vetted, designed, and executed, both sides benefit because the grant recipient or beneficiary has successfully leveraged a significant return on its investment (in this case, \$4 worth of work for every \$1 spent from local funds), and the grant provider assures itself a well thought-out, effective project.

Project Descriptions:

1. **Prendergast Creek Stabilization Project, Chautauqua, NY**
 - a. Status: Completed, Fall 2016

b. **Outcomes & Achievements:** Completed a streambank stabilization and stream restoration project on an approximately 1,100-foot-long section of creek. Contractors installed approximately 650 feet of large rock rip-rap toe protection in two sections, performed bank-slope grading and stabilization with vegetation, installed two cross-channel grade stabilizers (engineered rock riffles), and performed final site cleanup, grading, and seeding.

2. **Bemus Creek** Stabilization Project, Ellery and Bemus Point, NY (two sites)

a. **Status:** Design and permitting complete; Construction partially completed, Fall 2016; Scheduled for completion, Summer/Fall 2017

b. **Outcomes & Achievements:** Largely completed streambank stabilization and restoration at one of two sections of creek to be addressed by this project. Contractors installed approximately 500 feet of large rock rip-rap toe protection in three sections, installed about 70 feet of rootwad and stone revetment, performed bank-slope grading and stabilization with vegetation, installed three cross-channel grade stabilizers (engineered rock riffles), and performed final site cleanup, grading, and seeding. Remaining work primarily includes treatment of a downstream section of creek with about 500 feet of large rock rip-rap toe protection, bank-slope grading and stabilization with vegetation, cross-channel grade stabilizers (engineered rock riffles), and restoration of disturbed areas.

3. **Goose Creek** Stabilization Project, Busti, NY

a. **Status:** Design and permitting complete; Construction scheduled for completion, Summer/Fall 2017

b. **Objectives:** Work will help address streambank and channel erosion and instability along an approximately 500-foot-long section of creek, including about 350 feet of large rock rip-rap toe protection, bank-slope grading and stabilization with vegetation, cross-channel grade stabilizers (engineered rock riffles), and restoration of disturbed areas.

4. **Ball Creek** Stabilization Project, North Harmony, NY

a. **Status:** Design and permitting complete; Construction scheduled for completion, Summer/Fall 2017

b. **Objectives:** Work will help address streambank and channel erosion and instability along an approximately 1,000-foot-long section of creek, including about 250 feet of large rock rip-rap toe protection, bank-slope grading and stabilization

with vegetation, cross-channel grade stabilizers (engineered rock riffles), riparian buffer restoration, and restoration of disturbed areas.

5. **Dutch Hollow Creek Stabilization Project, Ellery, NY**
 - a. Status: Preliminary design in progress; final design and permitting scheduled for Summer 2017; Construction anticipated for Fall 2017 or 2018
 - b. Objectives: Streambank stabilization and stream corridor restoration to address an approximately 1,300-foot-long reach of Dutch Hollow Creek, just north of Interstate I-86, which is negatively impacted by excessive sediment loads and frequent debris jams that obstruct the channel, cause head cutting, cause erosion of banks and new side channels, and result in the formation of oversized depositional features. Work aims to protect nearby infrastructure and banks and significantly reduce the amount of sediment and nutrient loading to downstream areas, including Chautauqua Lake, caused by the ongoing bank and channel instability.

6. **West Dutch Hollow Creek Stabilization Project, Ellery, NY**
 - a. Status: Preliminary design in progress; final design and permitting scheduled for Summer 2017; Construction anticipated for Fall 2017 or 2018
 - b. Objectives: Streambank stabilization and stream corridor restoration to address an approximately 850-foot-long reach of West Dutch Hollow Creek, where abrupt localized channel erosion is resulting in larger-scale negative impacts further downstream in areas where the stream flows in close proximity to residential properties and roadways. The work aims to significantly reduce the amount of sediment and nutrient loading to downstream areas, including Chautauqua Lake, caused by the stream instability.

Village of Lakewood / Town of Busti

Engineering Planning Grant (EPG)

Description: The Village of Lakewood plans to retain the services of a licensed professional engineer to undertake a study that inventories and assesses the condition and capacity of existing stormwater infrastructure, defines surface drainage areas (catchment areas), and models nutrient loads, in order to identify viable future

improvement projects that would mitigate potential flooding and have a positive impact on the environmental health of Chautauqua Lake. The work is scheduled to start during Summer 2017.

Projected budget:

Total: \$136,500

State: \$100,000

Local: \$36,500

Grantee: Village of Lakewood

Alliance Role: Grant writing and administration; project management/coordination

Other Involved Member Partners: Town of Busti (local match); County of Chautauqua (local match)

Funding Overview: The State share of funding for the project is provided by a New York State (NYS) Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) / Environmental Facilities Corporation (EFC) Wastewater Infrastructure Engineering Planning Grant (EPG), funded through the New York Clean Water State Revolving Fund (CWSRF) program. Local matching funds will be provided by the Village of Lakewood, Town of Busti, and the County of Chautauqua from the Occupancy Tax Program and reallocated Chautauqua Lake Management Commission (CLMC) capital funds.

Village of Celoron,

Lucille Ball Memorial Park Improvements

Description: The Village of Celoron has planned improvements to Lucille Ball Memorial Park located along the Chautauqua Lake waterfront via two New York State grants issued by the Department of State with funds from Title 11 of the Environmental Protection Fund. These improvements primarily included the removal of the existing breakwall and small dock and replacement with a steel-sheet pile wall; installation of heavy limestone 'rip-rap' in front of the new sheet pile wall; removal of the existing blacktop path and replacement with a new boardwalk; and construction of a new handicap-accessible kayak and canoe launch. Preliminary engineering and permitting

for the waterfront work is complete, and the Village has also completed zoning changes and installed new security cameras at the Park. The remaining work is scheduled to start in Summer/Fall 2017.

Projected budget for both grants:

Total: \$874,130

State: \$437,065

Local: \$437,065

Grantee: Village of Celoron

Alliance Role: Grant writing (for second grant) and project administration

Funding Overview: One-half of the project costs will be provided by two grants from the New York State Department of State with funds provided under Title 11 of the Environmental Protection Fund, and the remaining 50% of the project costs will be contributed by the Village of Celoron in the form of cash or in-kind services.

Chautauqua Lake & Watershed Invasive Species Control

Description: The Alliance will work with stakeholders to strengthen local capabilities to monitor, respond to, and manage new or existing invasive species on Chautauqua Lake and in its watershed. Work will focus primarily on early detection. Prevention and early detection are critical components of effective and efficient invasive species management programs. Assessment and rapid response are important next-steps after early detection. The costs associated with invasive species control and the sizes of infestation typically increase exponentially with time. Prevention programs alone are unable to stop all invasive species introductions. Therefore, early detection programs seek to identify and address these invasions early in the process when control costs and environmental risks associated with treatment options tend to be lower. The bulk of the work is scheduled to start in Spring/Summer 2017.

Projected budget:

Total: \$50,000

State: \$50,000

Grantee: County of Chautauqua

Alliance Role: Grant administration; project management/coordination

Other Involved Member Partners: Chautauqua Lake Association; Audubon Community Nature Center; Roger Tory Peterson Institute

Funding Overview: Funding for this project was secured through the efforts of Senator Cathy Young and the County of Chautauqua in the form of a local assistance grant administered by the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation.

5/2016-5/2017 Board of Directors

<u>Director:</u>	<u>Nominating Member Affiliation:</u>
Linda Barber – Chair	Chautauqua Watershed Conservancy
Don Emhardt – Vice-Chair	Town of Chautauqua
David Shepherd - Secretary	Holmberg Foundation
Pierre Chagnon – Treasurer	County of Chautauqua
Sally Carlson	Town of North Harmony
Vince Horrigan	County of Chautauqua
David Spann	Soil & Water Conservation District
Ken Shearer	County Chamber of Commerce
David Wesp	Town of Ellery

Special Recognitions

The Alliance wishes to recognize that we as a community continually stand on the shoulders of those who have gone before us. Special appreciation to all those listed below and to the many more who remain unnamed.

CLMC participants: Linda Barber, Chuck Battaglia, Bill Boria, Craig Butler, Sally Carlson, Pierre Chagnon, Doug Champ, Jane Conroe, Rick Constantino, Fred Crosscut, Bill Daily, Jeff Diers, Tom Erlandson, Mark Geise, Tom Geisler, Lyle Hajdu, Vince Horrigan, John Jablonski, Joe Johnson, Don McCord , Wade Morse, Debbie Naybor, Andrew Nixon, Karen Rine, Kevin Sanvidge, Kim Sherwood, Mark Stow, Art Webster, Dave Wilson, Tad Wright and Chris Yates

Leading the evolution from CLMC to an Alliance: Linda Barber, Pierre Chagnon, Don Emhardt, Mark Geise, Lyle Hajdu, Vince Horrigan, Don McCord, Dave McCoy, Randy Sweeney and Tad Wright.

Funders: The Lenna Foundation, Ralph C Sheldon Foundation, Chautauqua Region Community Foundation, Holmberg Foundation and the County of Chautauqua.

Appendix A

2016 May Member Meeting Minutes

Thursday, May 12, 2016

4:00 p.m. at Stow Senior Center

Directors Present: Linda Barber, Sally Carlson, Pierre Chagnon, Don Emhardt, David Spann and David Wesp.

Absent: Vince Horrigan, David Shepherd & Ken Shearer.

Others in Attendance: Erin Brickley - Alliance Executive Director. Doug Champ, City Riverfront Management Council & interested citizen.

Founding Member Representatives in Attendance: Marla Connelly - NYS Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation - Allegany Region, Cassie Pinkoski - Chautauqua County Soil & Water Conservation District, Craig Butler & Doug Conroe - Chautauqua Lake Association, Lyle Hajdu & John Jablonski - Chautauqua Watershed Conservancy, Tom Cherry - Chautauqua Utility District, Mike Saar - Jamestown Board of Public Utilities, and Dave McCoy - Chautauqua County.

I. Call to Order:

The first annual May Member Meeting of the Chautauqua Lake and Watershed Management Alliance (Alliance) commenced at 4:04 pm.

II. Review of the 2015 Annual Report:

Ms. Barber reviewed highlights of the 2015 Annual Report. Mr. Chagnon spoke on some highlights from the Profit & Loss section of the report.

III. Election of Directors:

A total of 18 Members participated in the election, either verbally in person or through the 2016 Member Voting Form. The results were 17 votes for the slate of candidates recommended by the Governance Committee and one member who abstained. With 31 total Members, the 17 votes satisfied the By-Law requirement for a Member quorum required to complete the election. Therefore the recommended candidates, Pierre Chagnon (County), David Wesp (Towns/Villages) and Ken Shearer (At-Large) were all re-elected to a second term of service to run 5/2016-5/2019.

IV. Open Floor to Members:

Ms. Barber opened the floor to any Member updates or upcoming events and/or comments from the general public in attendance. Please see May 12th, 2016 Board Meeting Minutes as Member updates from both the May Member meeting and the May Board meeting that were held consecutively are documented there.