



The Upper Lake Mirror

Upper Greenwood Lake
Property Owners Association's Newsletter

NOVEMBER 2010

FALL/WINTER EDITION

Newsletter goes Electronic

By Lou Mangerpan

Starting with this Winter Newsletter the UGLPOA will not be printing two newsletters each year. Due to rising costs, which the Board is always trying to keep down, in printing and mailing, the Board decided to print and mail only the Spring Newsletter and place the Winter Newsletter on the UGLPOA website. Notification advising the Newsletter is ready for viewing on the website will be sent out electronically through our Message System. Currently, we have over 1000 member households on the Message System and adding more each month as

members see and understand the types of messages they will be receiving.

If you wish to add your email address to the Message System and receive notifications on lake activities, emergency alerts, and other announcements such as meetings, please go to our website, UGLPOA.org, and send in your request by using the "contact us" link. All requests will be screened to be sure the sender is a lake community resident. Members can opt out of the Message System at any time following the same routine.



Beach Tags, Where are your Beach Tags

By Julia Held and Lou Mangerpan

Beach Tags; who has beach tags? Well, the Julia Held family has a few. Granted these may not get you on the beach next year, with the exception of the one from 1943. That has to be a Senior Citizen tag and we all know they get a discount on everything. If you have any old beach tags you would like to share with us, please send a .jpg photo. In the mean time enjoy these.



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The Oliveri Family Lake History

By Edith Oliveri Esposito

My grandparents, Ida and Pietro Oliveri, emigrated to the United States from their native Italy in the early part of the 20th century. They were country people who found themselves thrust into the hustle and bustle of city life. They purchased the house at 98 Upper Greenwood Road in Upper Greenwood Lake in the spring of 1954 to provide a summer haven, away from their apartments in East Harlem, New York for their large and growing clan of nine children and 23 grandchildren. Our grandfather loved gardening. At the lake he had the opportunity to grow vegetables on his “farm-land” instead of in pots on his apartment landings.

I coordinated a family reunion of all the cousins to share our cherished memories of Upper Greenwood Lake and to meet and love each other as the best friends that we were in the glory days at the “Lake.”

We were sure we were multi-millionaires. We had no clue that we were poor. We would be deposited with our mothers at the lake house just after school let out in June and we all stayed through Labor Day. Our grandparents and mothers cared for us and provided all the activities available at their fingertips, which were mainly centered around the beach. There was John’s grocery store at the top of the hill on Upper Greenwood Road and Lake Shore Drive where we purchased penny candy and little boxes of marshmallows – six per box – to roast after dinner over our brick BBQ fire. We ran errands there to get bread and milk. We ate watermelon each night under the stars, and some nights we watched bats circle above. We saw foxes and woodchucks, we rode horses at Clooney’s Farm, we swam every single day, and we went on what we thought were miles long nature hikes. (But now that we’re grown, we know that our house was only one street

above the road by the creek.)

Each Friday night our fathers drove up from New York City and all the children lined up on the white wall in front of our home and waited for their cars to come down the road. Then one by one or



two by two we jumped into our father’s arms and looked for any goodies that were brought for us. We would then disappear into the house. When the last child on the wall was picked up by his or her father and brought into the house, the clan was whole.

Some dads took us to the drive-in movie theatre in Warwick to see Jerry Lewis



movies; other fathers took us to Clooney’s to ride the horses; some fathers took us hunting with rifles; other dads practiced with us with bows and arrows to hit set-up targets; and some dads, such as mine, loved to read and play with the kids in the sun parlor area of the house.

Each night and every day we were treated to spectacular feasts of everyone’s favorite foods made from scratch by Grandma. We didn’t have a clue that the tiny kitchen which served dozens of people every day, was inadequate, or that the one bathroom, with a stall shower right off the kitchen, was primitive and also inadequate for such a large family.

When Grandma died in 1968, only four months after her first son had passed away, the joy and enthusiasm went out of the family because the clan was no longer whole. A year later another uncle died, at the young age of 35, leaving behind four very small children. With each death in the family, the hole in our hearts grew larger. Grandpa no longer had the same



drive and determination, and his remaining children didn’t want to be there in the lake community without everyone else, so the house was sold. Yet in our hearts, we never left the Upper Greenwood Lake of our childhood. Memories of our road, the spillway bridge to the beach, the beach house, our home, our hammock, and our fireplace, forever connect us to the lake.

Continued on next page

All of us, at one point or another, have journeyed back to Upper Greenwood Lake to see the house, to walk on the road, to visit the beach, and to visit the movie theatre. “Going back” is important to us and we have made it our business to share our stories with the new generation of offspring — to convey to them the peace, love and joy that Upper Greenwood Lake gave to all of us and to herald the deep love our grandparents had for their family. It’s a tribute to them that none of us can really ever leave the Lake.



Addendum: Edith wrote in a later email that the Oliveri Family reunion which was held on August 14, 2010, was a “smashing success.” Fourteen of the original 23 grandchildren were there, and together with their significant others, their children and grandchildren, and two of three aunts (the remaining spouses of the original nine children of Ida and Pietro) they were a party of 61 people.



More Ways Than One to Volunteer

By Karen Sarnowski

With the lake lowering you can be a good steward of the lake by taking this opportunity. The weekends of October 30, 2010 and November 6th and 7th, 2010 have been organized to mark stumps out on the lake. Help is needed for marking, as well as, assisting indoors with preparing refreshments and making additional markers. We are not sure if this newsletter will reach you before those dates but if it does it would help if you volunteered some time.

Another great opportunity to help would be to remove exposed stumps at the lake’s edges. Feel free to walk along the lake’s shoreline and carefully remove stumps you can safely reach and place them onto the adjacent parklands. Then, let us know where they are so we can remove them from the Parklands. Even better would be to leave the stumps adjacent to the road for pickup. Just give us the address and we will send a truck to haul them away. If you are not sure of a

specific locations where stumps can be found, e-mail us and we will give you the location of some opportunities. If you want to take them for “yard art”, feel free. But, please don’t trespass on others properties. Get the permission of a property owner to access through their property; most people will probably be appreciative of your help.

For both opportunities, questions, etc.; e-mail Karen@pcmcompany.com and uglpoa@yahoo.com

Weed Management Activity in 2010

By Pat Toffler

During the 2010 summer season, the UGLPOA contracted with *Aquatic Analysts* to provide bi-weekly lake surveys and associated water/weed treatment. Throughout the summer, our lake's quality was very good, as measured by clarity, dissolved oxygen, the presence of zoo-plankton, consistent and stable Ph, low levels of Phosphorus, and weed control. As a result, the costs of weed management and algae control were significantly reduced from prior years. In 2011, we intend to address lily pad growth in Laramie Cove and to test a relatively new chemical treatment designed to destroy weeds at their roots which may further reduce costs by retarding the rate at which the weeds are able to regenerate. Questions, concerns, or suggestions regarding weed management should be addressed to Pat Toffler through the UGLPOA office.

SUMMARY OF MANAGEMENT SERVICE PERFORMED AT UPPER GREENWOOD LAKE AND MOUNT LAUREL LAKE IN 2010

Aquatic Analysts, Inc. (AAI) was retained by the Upper Greenwood Lake Property Owners Association (UGLPOA) to manage nuisance aquatic plant and algae growth in Upper Greenwood Lake and Mount Laurel Lake in 2010. AAI performed ecological surveys of both lakes approximately every 2 to 3 weeks from early May to the end of September utilizing our (AAI's) airboat. The purpose of these surveys was to recommend timely chemical treatments by observing aquatic plant growth and the onset of algal blooms before they became a nuisance.

During 2010, AAI surveyed Upper Greenwood Lake on eight (8) days and Mount Laurel Lake on eight (8) days. A single dosage *Sonar A.S.* application was given in late May to Mount Laurel Lake and the following areas of Upper Greenwood Lake: Audobon Cove, Firehouse Cove, Yardville Cove, Bridge Cove, Glenwood Cove and the area around the islands. A two-part *Sonar A.S.* application was given to Witte Cove during early June. These treatments achieved excellent control of the targeted aquatic plants (milfoil, cabomba and curlyleaf pondweed).

Pioneer and Racetrack Coves were treated on June 29, 2010 with *Cutrine-Plus* and *Reward* to control the growth of milfoil. Laramie Cove was treated with *Cutrine-Plus* and *Reward* on August 10, 2010 to control the growth of milfoil. The cove was treated again on September 14, 2010 with *AquaPro* to manage the growth of spatterdock and water lilies in the center and along the shorelines. Each treatment produced good results. *Copper sulfate* was applied to the following areas of the lake on two occasions to control the growth of filamentous algae, *Lyngbya* sp.: northeast lake, Laurel Cove, Witte Cove and the Causeways Coves (August 10, 2010) and Witte Cove (September 14, 2010).

Ice dangers are possible this winter

By Karen Sarnowski

With our significant drawdown, the winter's ice may be more risky than usual. As the water returns to pre-drawdown levels, which will occur slowly, the ice may be more unstable. Please take extra precaution during the upcoming winter season.



Can you help us clean up our lake?

By Karen Sarnowski

With the significant drawdown there is much debris seen in the lakebed. It is a good opportunity to clean up debris that should not be in our lake. If you are a lakefront homeowner and/or dock owner or even just a lake user who wants to pitch in, please dedicate some time to lake bottom clean up. There are smaller sized stumps that can get pulled out, garbage & glass, tires (I have seen many), garbage cans, street cones, and you name it, it is out there.

We are organizing coordinated tire pick-ups and stump pick-ups to assist everyone that takes the time to clean the lake. Emails have already been received from some homeowners needing assistance in cleaning their areas due to personal physical limitations. We will try to coordinate this assistance using our volunteer list and anyone who wants to volunteer to help in lake clean up. Feel free to stop by any accessible area and jump in the lake bed and clean away! The Dover Road Park and the Firehouse Park are two areas that come to mind but maybe you have a fishing spot that you frequent that could use some clean up. If you do remove stumps, place them on the parklands in the area and let us know (call the office) where they are so that we can collect them.

Now is also the time to dig out any lily pad roots. Their roots are very tuberous and lengthy but experience has shown if you remove some of it, it may not come back for a year or two. Another item that should be removed if found is fishing line. Fishing line is not good for our bird friends because it can become entangled around their feet causing a drowning situation.

We appreciate everyone's help in keeping our lake as pristine as possible.

Security 2010

By Jason Horn

What a difference a year makes. This time last year, I was wondering when summer was going to arrive. It rained constantly and I think it only reached 90 degrees once last summer. This summer however, was one of our best yet. Sun all the time, lots of 90 degree plus days and very little rain. As far as security goes, this year was a quiet one. Due to budget constraints, we only had the West Milford Police department join us out on the water one time this year and they did not issue any tickets. Unlike the last two years, everyone stopped this year had a current registration and boating certificate.

I think the most activity we had this year was finding and returning missing boats to their owners. As we head into winter, keep a close eye on ice conditions before heading out on the lake. Last year, we had several ATV's go through the ice resulting in one man going to the hospital

for hypothermia. This year may be a lot like last year. The lake is being lowered and if it starts to freeze before the lake is full again, the ice will once again be very unstable. A few things to remember while you are out there:

1. Wear a life jacket.
2. No fires are permitted on the ice.
3. No bubblers are allowed as someone could fall through the thin ice in that area.
4. No motorcycles; don't blame us - it's a State law. The only vehicles allowed on the ice are ATV's and snowmobiles
5. Fishing; you can fish by yourself or with non-resident friends. But, your friends can't fish without you being there.

Well, that's all for security on our first ever e-mail only newsletter. See you on the ice.

The Eagles Have Landed

By Karen Sarnowski

Maybe you are one of our lucky residents that have already seen the eagles we have around the lake. If not, this season the drawdown may help you to have your first sighting. I have heard of eagles being around for the past three years and tried in vain to spot one. Finally I found one perched on one of the islands in the southern end of the lake and very visible from the Witte Road causeway. Another resident along Witte Road spotted on more than one occasion a family of three feasting out on a stump. If you watch the stumps and the trees around the open water areas you may also see our national symbol!

Making Lemonade and the Lake Lowering

By Karen Sarnowski

The summer season buzzed by as it always seems to do. A number of board members were actively working the barge all summer hauling stumps to the lake's edges. It has been a long haul (no pun intended) and there is still plenty of work to be done. That is the reason for the drawdown.

Given the fact that last fall we began lowering the lake immediately after Labor Day for the Dredging Project and then with our stump issue this spring did not open the lake to recreational boating until just before Memorial Day the board decided to not lower the lake until after Columbus Day. The prime reason for a lowering this year is to mark stumps for further removals next spring and summer. The plan is to try to get down 3 feet. I say try, because we can only lower until Nov. 1 and whatever the water depth is at that time we can maintain but cannot lower any further as per the Lake Lowering Permit that we received from the NJ Department of

Fish and Wildlife. With the wet weather we have had, it may be difficult to get down 3 feet but we are going to try our hardest.

Where ever we get to we will then go out and mark stumps with new markers. Because of the clarity of the water finding

get a marker and mark it yourself or call the location into the office so someone can go out and mark it.

If you are interested in helping to mark and have a non-motorized boat or boat with a small motor, please call the office 853-4262 or e-mail

Uglpoa@yahoo.com and a board member will get in touch with you. Many hands make light work.

We must give a huge thank you to everyone that pitched in, one way or another, over the past year. We would have never accomplished what we did in such a short time without all of those helping hands. It made many of us truly proud to be a part of such great community spirit!!! Our lake was gorgeous this summer, even when other lakes were having nothing but

problems with algae blooms and weeds with the high, high temps.



the stumps should not be a problem. If you see a stump that is not marked by your property you can call the office to

Water Buffalo seen in Upper Greenwood Lake

By Bob Moskin UGLPOA Historian

The summer was now beginning and I was sleeping in our lake front house last Saturday just enjoying the early morning quiet and the sounds of the wind blowing through the trees. My family was still sleeping as I thought about going in the row boat that day and just having fun. Suddenly, I heard some loud bangs and roars that echoed through the mountains. The rumbles got louder and louder and seemed to be coming closer on the lake. I ran to the window, but could see nothing. The sound was so loud that the glass cups in the kitchen were shaking. I got dressed and ran out the rear door to the lake front, saw strange waves, and my ears rang from the loudest sounds that I had ever heard on Upper Greenwood Lake. But still there was nothing to see, so I ran up to the street and down the hill to a section of open land adjacent to Point Breeze Drive that faces the beach area.

I couldn't believe my eyes, because there in the open water was a large military tank that floated, didn't sink, and had large cleat tracks that spun and sprayed water out the rear like a waterfall. The machine was so loud that windows shook and people held their ears. As the tracks on side went faster, the machine turned and the huge size of the grey monster could be seen by all. I watched it move towards the end of the beach, travel right up onto land, stop next to the bathrooms, make a loud explosion and turn off.

Suddenly, two steel hatches opened at the front and two men popped their heads out, and climbed down off the bow which stood about six feet off the ground. They walked to the rear and the entire back end was lowered with a ten foot platform that was bigger than a dump truck.

It wasn't long before a crowd of neighbors stood at the water's edge, with everyone asking what the heck is that and still others had called the police.

A man from the Upper

Greenwood Lake Board of Trustees came over and calmed the crowd as he explained that this was our new machine pet, called the "Water Buffalo". It was bought from US World War II army surplus and was being converted to a floating platform for stump removal.

The entire make up of the crowd changed as soon as they heard two major points; first, that this floating tank had helped our boys in WW II, and second, somebody was finally going to do something about the tree trunks and large stumps that were floating up and down that main sections opposite the beach where people were trying to boat.

It was 1957; I was nine years old and my eyes lit up as he promised rides to people that would help. I asked what I could do and he said nothing, but he handed me a paper coffee cup and said, "Here kid, see if you can collect quarters from the neighbors to help with the running the Buffalo."

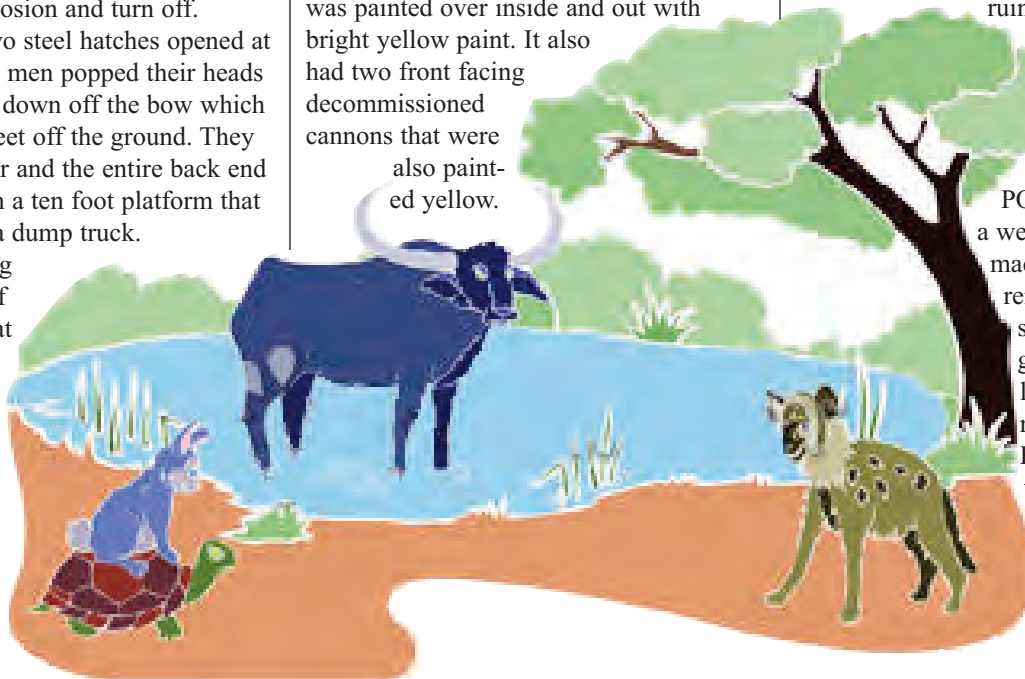
So, every weekend after that about four men volunteered, lowered the rear door in open water and dragged those prop breaking stumps out of the channel. A year later, the UGL Women's Committee got involved and asked for volunteers to paint the beached Water Buffalo. The sided of the vehicle stood about eleven feet tall, so I helped with holding the step latter as the army grey was painted over inside and out with bright yellow paint. It also had two front facing decommissioned cannons that were also painted yellow.

Not only was the 10 cylinder rotary aircraft engine loud, but now it could be spotted miles away! As time passed, I was enlisted to help with donations. Volunteers were able to stand on the front and hold on for dear life. The operator stuck his head out of the hatch and steered the front end to face people's docks. We yelled up to the houses with megaphones and asked for cash to buy oil and fuel. With a few loud roars, people would run down to the ends of their docks and drop quarters into our cups.

The township of West Milford got involved too, but not to help. It seemed that the cleats on the tracks literally ripped up the road in front of the beach, so the operators could only drive on the road if they purchased rubber tracks. No one had the funds for this so the Buffalo was kept at the beach.

I think by about 1959 the POA raised enough money to erect and weld "I beams" on top for operation of a rolling electric winch. This enabled the volunteers to lift stumps straight out of the water and into the rear holding bay. Hundreds of stumps were eventually cleared in the main channel.

Early in the 60's two of the operators got sick, with no one to replace their skills. Unfortunately, the Buffalo was left uncovered during the winter. The rear dump filled with water, which rusted and ruined many of the motor parts. It lay dormant for a few years which made matters worse. Finally, the POA was forced to hire a welder who cut the machine apart, and its remains were sold for scrap metal. It was a great tool while it lasted. Only the stories of the UGL Water Buffalo grew over time.



Leaf Invasion of an Unnatural Kind

By Karen Sarnowski

As the Dredging Committee Chair, fall is a favorite time of year for me but it isn't necessarily the case when it comes to our lake's health. Those falling leaves all too frequently end up in the lake bed to add to decomposing matter which will eventually lead to silt infilling the lake. Unfortunately we cannot control the free falling leaves but we can act to not add to what ends up in the lake.

While looking for some internet info on the effects of leaf decomposition in our lake, I found some additional material that spoke to another problem out on the lake, but more on that later.

Only a week or so into the season we were notified by a community neighbor of other neighbors blowing their leaves into the lake. Another fall with calls of people doing things that are very simply detrimental to our lake and in the end cost each and everyone of us more money due to needing dredging projects to maintain the lakes natural depths.

This issue is not confined to just New Jersey but world wide. An article on eutrophication of lakes was found coming from New Hampshire:

"Since eutrophication is increased nutrient input, any activity in the watershed of a lake that increases nutrient input causes eutrophication. Land use changes can result in significant changes in nutrient runoff. Studies in New Hampshire have shown that phosphorus export from agricultural lands is 5 times greater than from forested lands, and urban areas may be more than 10 times greater. Stormwater runoff from these developed land areas is the major source of nutrients for most lakes. Other activities that contribute to eutrophication are lawn and garden fertilizers, faulty septic systems, washing with soap in or near the lake, erosion into the lake, dumping or burning leaves in or near a lake, and feeding ducks."

Storm water runoff is a major issue here in UGL since we aren't talking so much runoff as we are run in with all of the drains leading to the lake, but that is a story for another day. Fortunately for our lake's health the town's Lake Committee went to bat for all of our lakes and developed the new Fertilizer Ordinance and the new Septic Ordinance. Both of these ordi-

nances are terrific for our lake communities throughout West Milford and we are fortunate to have those volunteers working hard for our lakes at a township level.

Washing with soap doesn't stand out as a huge issue to me although anyone who washes their car in their driveway potentially can contribute to phosphorous levels so using the car wash downtown would be a much better choice when it comes to the lake.

Erosion into the lake is another minor point in my opinion. It probably occurs somewhat and that is why we encourage lakefront owners to use bulkhead walls to help to protect the shoreline but again I don't see this as a major contributor.

Now we come to one that is totally controllable, dumping or burning of leaves in or near a lake. What must we do to get our community to stop this practice? At times in the past, lawn services have been guilty of also blowing leaves in the lake, and we are sure to either stop them at the time if able, or call their office to let them know that this activity is not ok. But please, for all of you out there still doing this; bag up your leaves and take them down town to the compost center. They want your leaves, our lake does not.

The last item really got me because we have spent a couple of years trying to get specific individuals to stop feeding and encouraging large quantities of ducks! Well here you have it; feeding the ducks and encouraging them in large numbers is not good for our lake Fortunately, the state DEP personnel agreed that feeding the ducks was not a good practice since duck food encourages other wildlife including bears so they finally intervened and apparently the feeding has stopped and voila the duck population is significantly diminished. So, please do not feed the ducks, or geese for that matter; they both add to the eutrophication process.

The City of Orlando also had an informative piece which I quote sections here:

"Leaves, acorns, grass clippings and other debris contain high concentrations of the nutrients phosphorus and nitrogen, which are the most common cause of lake pollution in urban lakes." and *"For the sake of our lakes, bag your leaves, grass*

clippings and other small pieces of yard waste, and dispose of them... Even better, start a compost pile or invest in a mulching blade for your mower. Do not mow, sweep, or blow leaves and other yard waste into the street. Keep curbside drains and gutters free of debris. If you have a lawn service, please be sure they comply as well."

I think both of these sources say it best. Please work with us to keep our lake as healthy as possible and share this info with a neighbor who may be unawares of the damage they are doing.

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