



# The Upper Lake Mirror

Upper Greenwood Lake  
Property Owners Association's Newsletter

JUNE 2010

SUMMER EDITION

## Stumps, Stumps, Stumps: It's all Lemonade

By Karen Sarnowski

February 24, 2010, near blizzard conditions, something just wasn't right out on the lake. Three feet of snow yet stumps that were a foot above the lake bottom were still showing. What was happening! Then the monsoons and snow meltdown came and the lake filled. Docks were being pushed up by the ice rising up from the lake bottom and with that ice were portions of the frozen lake bottom along with the ensnared stumps and garbage. Board Trustees consulted with lake management experts, did internet searches and checked any available source to confirm our belief. The perfect storm of events had occurred!

In 2001 and 2002 we did a much larger dredging project. The lake was lowered and work was completed much later into the winter. Many stumps exposed, dried out and when the lake filled up they floated like corks. Stump removal started in May because the winter was longer and went well into August. In 2010 we once again have a great opportunity to significantly reduce the number of stumps. This time, however, when we drew down the

lake and stumps were exposed we had a very cold winter without much snow. Snow adds a level of insulation and actually prevents the bottom of the lake from freezing when exposed. This year the exposed lake bottom froze substantially around every stump that was rooted to the lake bottom. As the lake started to fill the still frozen bottom of the lake was "ripped" from the unfrozen portion of the bottom of the lake, taking with it all of the ensnared stumps. Anything and everything that was on the lake bottom came up. We realized this when 8 to 12" of water was pouring over the dam. The lake was full, maybe the fullest in the 25 years and the lake bottom was now on the top of the lake.

Pictures of all the areas were taken and a meeting with our consulting lake manager Princeton Hydro was arranged. He reviewed our pictures with total amazement because he had never seen anything like this. He called many of his peers to learn if they were familiar with an event like this but they were not. So, our next step was to develop an action

plan. His recommendation was to immediately close the lake because of safety issues for all who use the lake. Our concern was not with the visible stumps, but those that were semi-submerged or floating under the lake's surface. Closing the lake also allowed for us to work unhindered by motor boat traffic.

We then sprung into action calling for volunteers to help us. The decision to utilize volunteers was driven by a number of reasons. Proposals that we received from contractors to remove stumps and bring them to shore was nearly \$7,000 per day! This seemed to be a cost we were not too sure we could handle. Our best shot was to call for volunteers and see what we could get done. We could always contract out the removals later if we didn't get the volunteer effort. We reached out and received generous help from our community! For full details on the weekly stump removal activities please see our "Stump Reports" posted on our web site UGLPOA.org.

There are still some areas that we need to work and we are hoping that with warmer weather and people putting their boats in that we will see more people joining our cause to rid the lake of stumps.

*Continued on page 2*

## Weeds 2010

By Pat Toffler

The Weed committee conducts an annual weed management program with consulting support from Princeton Hydro and Aquatic Analysts. On a weekly basis the Environmental Committee conducts a water-sampling data collection. The data are forwarded to Princeton Hydro and a local lab for analysis. The results are used to tailor the chemical treatments to eradicate weed beds and to prevent or defeat algae blooms. For 2010, we will continue the program and are anticipating the addition of an innovative weed reduc-

tion application using a product called "Clear-Cast" which is advertised to permanently destroy a weed infestation. A report which summarizes the results of last year's efforts has been posted, under Newsletters, on our web site UGLPOA.org. Members of the community should notify Mr. Pat Toffler (973-749-6083, patnic@msn.com) if they observe weed growth or algae. We will make every effort to redress problems that interfere with the opportunity to enjoy the water for fishing or boating.

### UGLPOA Contacts

E-mail Address: [uglpoa@yahoo.com](mailto:uglpoa@yahoo.com)  
Website: [www.uglpoa.org](http://www.uglpoa.org)  
Telephone: 973-853-4262  
Fax: 973-853-4106  
US Mail: Box 457, Hewitt, NJ 07421

### The Upper Lake Mirror

Published Semi-Annually  
Editor . . . . . Lou Mangerpan  
Graphic Designer . . . . . Ken Shafton  
Lake History Reporter . . . . . Julia Held

# Security 2010

By Jason Horn

If this past winter has taught us anything, it's to wear your life vest on the ice. Most people stayed off the ice due to very unstable conditions, but a few ventured out and found out the hard way that the water under the ice is extremely cold. We had two ATV's go through the ice this past

winter and one of those people ended up in the hospital with hypothermia. So please, when this winter comes around, remember next year to wear your life jackets on the ice. It may save your life!

As this boating season approaches, there are a few things to remember. West Milford Police WILL be on our security boat so please make sure your paperwork is in order. Security will also be conducting sweeps of the lake looking for trespassing boats every weekend so please

make sure your boat stickers are applied to prevent any unnecessary aggravation. And PLEASE, due to the possible stump conditions, keep your speed down. NJ State law is 30 mph but this season we suggest a slower speed. We have received many complaints about speeding boats and PWC's and our Board of Trustees takes this matter very seriously. Repeat offenders may lose their POA membership. We hope everyone has a fun filled, safe summer out there.

## New UGLPOA Messaging System

By Lou Mangerpan

In July of 2009 a new "Messaging System" was introduced by the UGLPOA Board of Trustees in response to member requests from our Lake Survey to improve rapid communications between the Board and the lake community. To date we have transmitted over seventeen messages and have approximately 1000 Easement members on the system. Some

of the messages were announcements and reminders on upcoming events and meetings. Others were of a more serious nature concerning break-ins around the lake community and the temporary restriction on motor boating due to the unsafe condition on the lake at that time. Feedback from members who are on the system have been positive and we are getting frequent

requests from new members to be added to the system.

If you wish to join our e mail system, please go to our web site, UGLPOA.org, and send your information through the "Contact Us" link. Please keep in mind, all information is checked and verified to be sure the individual is a member of the lake community before it is added to the system. If you have any suggestions on improving the communication system, please send them to us using the "Contact Us" link.

## Stumps, Stumps, Stumps

Continued from page 1

Residents living on the Eastern shoreline currently cannot get to their docks with out risk to their engines and motoring in the southern end of the lake to get to the canal is like running an obstacle course and there seems to be one ill placed stump that is out of sight but just at the right depth to take a prop hit. Details will be issued via the electronic mail system and will be posted at the website.

As people move toward putting their boats in, they may find stumps sitting where their boat would normally be parked. Please check your dock before launching your boat in case there is a parking issue. We may need to make some temporary dockages for some people until the stumps are removed. Please have patience, we are trying very hard for the lake to be usable for all but its very work intensive and most of us work full time jobs in addition to having family and other obligations.

The work of certain individuals in our community needs to be recognized: Travis Lizotte of TNL Carting and Phil Barbaris Builders were instrumental in getting

friends together to work out on the lake pulling stumps, clearing collected stumps with their own machinery and trucks and getting them to the stump field. They did this on many weekends. We would have never accomplished what we did without their and their friends' volunteerism. Also the donated food for our volunteers on the part of Sue and Don of Utopia Deli, and Mario of Mario's Deli cannot go unrecognized. Since they are all very busy running their businesses, they gave back to their community by supporting our efforts in the way they could, by feeding our volunteers. Thank You!

The Board would also like to recognize those "silent volunteers"; people who upon their own undertaking just started pulling stumps out of the lake, with no call for help just took the opportunity to do what was best and right for the lake. If you would let us know who you are we would like to include you in our annual volunteer party, so please call the office and let Lisa know.

Which brings me to a conversation I had at the very beginning of this saga with my associate board member, past stump chairperson and stumping colleague, Warren Colnaghi; we were discussing the

issue at hand: Stumps. And after a bit he says to me, "Karen, It's lemonade, it's all lemonade". While I knew he was right that the stumps unleashed from the bottom would eventually be a good thing I couldn't help to wonder how long it would take to make the lemonade. The very nice surprise is that there are many others that want to help us in making the lemonade. This in itself is truly inspiring. Another surprise was seeing many of our younger members in our community volunteering and hopefully getting poised to take on greater leadership roles in UGL. I know I embrace that and thank you greatly for all you have done and what I know you will continue to do. We couldn't have done it without you.

I hope the community realizes how much money we have saved (and continue to save) in this effort from all of the volunteers' unselfish acts of giving. Please give back to them by giving them opportunities for contracting and/or dining at their establishments. And at the minimum, if you know them, give them a big thank you, as well as to anyone else you know that has volunteered. It takes the whole community to make a community!

# On the Beach

By Andy Fineman

This year has been unique in recent Upper Greenwood Lake history. Our year began with the stump crisis, and although the impact on the beach was minor the effect will be clear. The beach opened this year, for the first time in a decade, with no new sand. Also, there will be late hours only on Fridays till 8:00 pm. These cost cutting measures, we hope, are only for this crunch year. So, we are asking that everyone refrain from kicking up too much sand while walking, and there can be absolutely no foot-dragging.

The Committee is planning to hold several "Music Under the Stars" beach parties this season and you can find the

dates and times on our web site, UGLPOA.org. The Hot Dog Roast is set for August 14, 2010 and I can already taste the mustard. So mark the date on your calendar of fun stuff.

Our Beach Staff is returning almost in its entirety with one new member. In addition, the duties of Beach Manager are being passed on to James Merse who has served for several years as one of our key staff members.

Be sure you get your email address on the Beach List so you can get special notices of weather-closings, and other announcements as they occur. If at any time you have questions regarding the beach, feel free to contact me at [afineman@warwick.net](mailto:afineman@warwick.net), or call the POA office at 973-853-4262.

# Future Newsletters

By Lou Mangerpan

The UGLPOA is feeling the effects of the current economy just like everyone else. The cost of printing and mailing newsletters is rising and we must look for ways of cutting those costs. Therefore, the Fall 2010 newsletter will be limited to four pages with additional information and articles posted on our web site, UGLPOA.org. Starting in 2011, the entire newsletter will be posted on the web site and notification of its posting will be sent through our Message System. We are looking into possibly sending the newsletter directly to our members electronically. Please be assured the content of the newsletter will not change and we most likely will be able to increase the depth of the articles.



# Clubhouse Needs Volunteers

By Laura Nietzer

Our clubhouse is one of the nicest places on the lake, and even though people in our community continue to rent the clubhouse for parties, it is still underutilized, due to a lack of volunteers, for community events. Last season, members asked for an evening "Kids Connection" and we put it on the clubhouse calendar for one Friday each month. No one was willing to step up and run this event. We also had requests for "Open Mic Night" as well as other Friday Activities. Again, we lacked volunteers.

You don't need to do much for these community gatherings. Do you have young children and work? Would you like to meet other people in Upper Greenwood Lake who also have young children? Please consider helping to run a "Friday Night Kids Connection" once a month this fall. Would you like to see some children and family events or activities this summer during the week? Please consider volunteering to help at an ice cream social or maybe we can revive Candy Bar Bingo, a big hit of the past. The clubhouse is available during the week but we need volunteers.

The Clubhouse Committee is looking for volunteers who are knowledgeable in heating and air conditioning, as well as carpentry and other skills that can help us maintain our building. The Committee, a small group of people, would love to get new and perhaps younger people involved. Please contact the office if you are interested in joining our committee.

# UGLPOA Activities

By Craig Hornyak

Our 2010 budget, including Activities, is tighter than ever. We had to sacrifice several activities and cut our spending on others such as our fireworks. We are doing our best to watch our spending so that we are able to put together community events for everybody. Still, 2010 is going to be another fun year! The events scheduled are posted on our web site UGLPOA.org.

Please note that All events are subject to change or cancellation if attendance or ticket sales are insufficient. If we do not get enough advance response for an event, it will be cancelled. Plan to attend and have lots of fun, meet some new people and support your community. Our events are very affordable and fun. In most cases our events are cheaper than going out to dinner or a movie. We always try to keep our prices as low as possible. In fact, most of our events last year were cheaper than

# Reminder

**If you are making needed dock repairs you must contact the office to notify us of the same. Dock replacement and repairs are not allowed without authorization by the Board. Please help us with compliance.**

other lake community's events in the area.

We also need volunteers. Right now there are only about five members running these events and we would like to get more of you involved. We have a lot of fun putting the events together and running them. Come and be a part of our great community

If you are interested in helping on the Activities Committee please call the UGLPOA Clubhouse at 973-853-4262 or go to our web site at [www.uglpoa.org](http://www.uglpoa.org)

**In This Issue**

Stumps, Stumps, It's all Lemonade . . . 1

UGLPOA Activities . . . 3

Future Newsletters . . . 3

On the Beach . . . 3

Clubhouse Needs Volunteers . . . 3

Encroachments . . . 4

New UGLPOA Messaging System . . . 2

Security 2010 . . . 2

Weeds 2010 . . . 1

Reminder . . . 3

Board of Trustees . . . 4

# Encroachments

*By Laura Nietzer*

It is important for those of us living adjacent to our lake to remember most of the land along the lake, know as "Parklands", is owned by the association. If you have any question about the location of Parklands, please feel free to contact the UGLPOA office at 973-853-4262 for information and avoid of removing any encroachment or the possible loss of your POA privileges by not being a member of good standing. We would like to thank all the property owners who have contacted the POA office prior to the start of a clean up or repair. Please know that if there is any improvement on Parklands that you feel is needed, all you have to do is contact the UGLPOA office.

# Board of Trustees

The current Board of Trustees is listed on our web site at UGLPOA.org.



## Upper Greenwood Lake Property Owners Association

Box 457  
Hewitt, NJ 07421

Website: [www.uglpoa.org](http://www.uglpoa.org)

PRESORTED  
STANDARD U.S.  
POSTAGE & FEES  
**PAID**  
HEWITT, NJ  
PERMIT NO. 128

POSTAL PATRON