



the Waubeeka

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Let the Sun Shine! Waubeeka 2004

Dear Neighbors,

Greetings. As I write to you, only a few days before the Budget meeting, I have some important concerns. For many of us, the increase proposed by the Board will surely have a financial impact. After many months of budget discussions, the Board is recommending a significant increase in the yearly assessment so that we can continue to provide our membership with the most appropriate services and quality of life improvements.

The growth of our community over the past few years, and the subsequent strain placed on our infrastructure, dictate that we can no longer do more with the same, or less, money. As we continue to approach full-time residency, we are faced with structural and quality of life improvements that demand a fiscally responsible budget. Balancing financial concerns and addressing community health and safety issues is not an easy task.

On a more sobering note, and one that affects the whole community, is the number of members who have not paid their yearly assessments. It is sad to report that we have outstanding debt that equals almost 10% of our entire budget. The reality is that, as of this writing, community members owe us more than \$40,000. The Board, while trying to exercise neighborly compassion, must act responsibly and take the most aggressive stance with members who neglect their responsibility. We are interested in working with folks who have fallen on hard times, but we need written communication so that a payment plan can be established.

The Board of Directors will no longer tolerate chronic neglect. We will pursue immediate legal action against any members who fail to take responsibility for their payments. If you don't pay, it will be costly. There's not much more to say. We cannot operate effectively with this amount of outstanding debt. Please pay in a timely fashion. Thank you for your attention.

As we embark on our 53rd season, I have been giving a great deal of thought to the future of our community. I do not take this lightly. Some of our dedicated and loyal members will be leaving the present Board after elections in July. These individuals have done an extraordinary job in leading our community for the past few years. They are the essence and core of what makes this community so special. Their dedication and hard work will be missed.

My reason for writing is two-fold: first, to give personal and public thanks, and secondly, to reach out to every neighbor and ask you to consider either running for the Board or joining an active committee. Nine years ago I gave it some thought. It was one of the best decisions I ever made. Serving the community for the past nine years has been wonderful. Please think about making a contribution. You won't regret it.

Have a great summer. If you need me, call or email me at president@waubeeka.org. See you on the road.

All the best,
Jesse

Attention Lawn Lovers!

Please remember that any fertilizer (or other lawn product) that you apply to your lawn will ultimately end up washing into Lake Waubeeka and feeding our troublesome lake weeds. The impact of too much nitrogen and other natural nutrients on our lake's ecosystem can be disastrous. Moderation is the key!

Help Us Create a List of Eco-Friendly Home Products

Are you using environmentally safe products in your house and yard? If so, what are they? For instance, have you found a fertilizer, laundry detergent, dish soap, or other household product that does not harm our lake? We'd like to make up a list for our residents, so that we can all benefit from a healthier lake. Send your suggestions to waubeekan@waubeeka.org.

☺ WAUBEKA FORTUNE COOKIE ☺

A pumped septic tank is a happy septic tank!
Showers of joy to those who pump every two years!

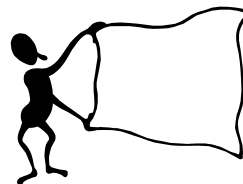
2004 Waubeeka T-Shirts

Waubeeka T-shirts available for purchase before and after the Budget Meeting on Sunday, May 30th at the Community House. Remember to bring your checkbooks!

Attention Snowbirds!

If you plan to be away during the winter months, please TELL someone—a friend or neighbor! We wasted a great deal of water this winter with all the water pipes that burst, and in some cases Flo had a hard time tracking down the origin of the leaks.

If you are a summer-only resident, please take steps to safeguard your residence—and our community's precious resources—after you leave Lake Waubeeka. If your empty house suffers a burst pipe during the winter, it will not only damage your property, but will also cause LWA to lose hundreds of gallons of water.



Community Bulletin Board

HOME WANTED: Local professional actively looking to join the Lake Waubeeka community. If you are thinking of selling your home or know someone who is, please contact me ASAP—a "fixer-upper" is OK! Principal or broker, please call Paul, 203-438-9455 (home) or 203-994-0847 (cell).

COMPUTER SERVICES: Upgrades, Home Networking, Websites. Evening Consultations Available. Discount for Waubeeka Residents. Call Jamie 778-6678.

WAUBEKAN TAG SALE? Response to a proposed **residents-only** Tag Sale has been lukewarm to date. We still can set it up if enough people are willing to participate! Contact Donna at 744-8370 or email dgiachetti@yahoo.com. Date to be announced.

MOUNTAIN DIRECTORY: It's Sunday morning. Your computer goes ballistic and you can't get in touch with your usual computer whiz. You know there are probably a dozen people right here on the mountain who could solve your problem... But who are they? Where are they? Or there's that perpetual leak in the kitchen faucet, a garden that needs work, a cat who needs to be fed while you're on vacation, a new coat of paint on the shed, or you might even like a makeover, a massage or a private yoga lesson! If you have a business skill or personal talent that you would like to let our community know about, contact Carol Nicklaus at 791-2720 or by email at cnicklaus@comcast.net. Call to discuss your ideas and share your skills!

VACANCIES

We are seeking nominees to fill three (3) positions on the Board of Directors for 2004 - 2005.

Elections will occur during July's Annual Membership meeting. Instructions on what you must do in order to be nominated will be announced in the next Waubeekan.

Please consider running for the Board!

In Memoriam

Harold Pollack, a long-time resident of Lake Waubeeka and the keeper of our invaluable archives, passed away this winter on February 29th at the age of 87. Harold's presence in our community and his commitment to Lake Waubeeka's history are impossible to fully describe. Many people will remember Harold fondly as an energetic man whose vivacious attitude and spirited love of life brought smiles to others.

Below is the correspondence that took place between the Board of Directors and Harold's wife, Ruth Pollack.

Dear Ruth,

On behalf of the Board of Directors, I would like to extend our deepest sympathy and condolences to you and your family over the recent passing of Harold. Lake Waubeeka has truly lost one of its most prized and dedicated members. Harold was creative, hard working and loyal to our Lake Waubeeka family. He will be greatly missed by everyone in our community.

I have known the Pollack family for my whole life, especially through my friendship with Ira. I can honestly say that I never appreciated Harold until my association with him on the Board. His contributions were profoundly significant, and his loyalty to our community was unmatched.

Harold's most important contribution was his dedication to maintaining and keeping our historical records. As our resident archivist and historian, he leaves a legacy that will have deep meaning and significance to many people for many generations to come. We have a proud and vibrant history, and we have Harold to thank for its existence.

Harold was special, unique and an original. I will miss him... and so will the Lake Waubeeka family.

Sincerely,

Jesse Uhrman
President, LWA

Dear Waubeekans,

Thank you for your thoughtful and sincere expressions of sympathy. We appreciate your deep regard and affection for Harold and your recognition of his concern for our community.

Harold's tireless service spoke volumes about his devotion to Waubeeka. He enjoyed and valued his role as archivist, and was happy to find documents and information vital to the operation and functions of the Board of Directors and the community.

Your warmth and appreciation helped ease our sorrow considerably.

Thank you again.

Sincerely,
Ruth Pollack and family



Got News?

We are seeking submissions for the Waubeekan. You may submit articles, comments, poems, items for sale, and more. Submit to mailbox at 138 Carol Street. All articles should be signed and have a phone number. Send electronic submissions to waubeekan@waubeeka.org

--Donna Giachetti Navarro, Editor

It's Softball Season!

Get your bats and gloves ready and mark these dates. This year's adult softball games will be held at 10:00 am. You don't need to register, just show up. A splendid time is guaranteed for all!

Monday, May 31st
Sunday, July 4th
Sunday, August 8th
Sunday, September 5th

☺ WAUBEEKA FORTUNE COOKIE ☺

Bliss to those who keep their trash away from scavenging raccoons! Please don't leave your garbage at the curb for several days before pick-up unless you have a securely-covered trash bin. Put it out the NIGHT BEFORE!

Heads Up, Artists & Crafters

The third (new) Annual Lake Waubeeka Art Show will open this year on Saturday, August 21st at 8:00 pm, with our now-traditional Wine & Dessert Gala. The show will also be open on Sunday, August 22nd from 11:00 am until 7:00 pm. All Waubeekan artists & crafters, working in all media, are invited to participate (limit of five pieces per artist). Start thinking about what works you'll want to exhibit to your friends and neighbors! For additional information, or to volunteer, call Carol Nicklaus at 203-791-2720 or email cnicklaus@comcast.com.

Baby Waubeekans

Welcome to the new arrivals!



Joan and Paul Karp of Alan Road are the proud grandparents of twin girls born 11/13/03 to Lori and Gary Karp

Alaina Nicole Karp
Bethany Alexandra Karp

 **15 MPH speed limit** 

LWA Has Moved.. Sort Of

The mailbox for LWA has been moved. All Lake Waubeeka correspondence should now be addressed to:

Lake Waubeeka Association
137 Post Road
Danbury, CT 06810

Thank You, Part 1






A big thank you to Sara Gondell of 4 Sage Road for the donation of an antique organ for the Community House. We're sure that it will provide years of entertainment and pleasure to the Community.

Thank You, Part 2

We appreciate the good intentions of those who want to donate items to the Community House. However, not every donation is useful to Lake Waubeeka. Please do not leave things on the porch of the Community House—first call a Board member to determine if your proposed donation is needed. Items that are discarded at the Community House become damaged by the elements and create an eye sore. It then becomes someone else's headache to dispose of them. Thank you in advance.

Fire Pit Rules 2004

We're pleased to announce that the new fire pit at the Paul Street Beach is now available for community use. However, please note these safety rules:

-  The beach closes at 11:00 pm. Be considerate of your neighbors.
-  Adult supervision at the fire pit is required at all times, without exception.
-  Make sure your fire is completely extinguished before you leave the beach.
-  Place all extinguished embers and ashes into the METAL garbage can located near the pit.
-  Please don't leave your firewood at the beach. There is no room for storing extra firewood.

And finally...

PARENTS: WATCH YOUR CHILDREN! The fire pit is not meant for climbing, jumping, standing etc. It has already been repaired once due to lack of supervision.

Garbage Matters

Currently, household garbage is picked up curbside once a week, on Mondays. Please have your garbage and recycling out at curbside no later than 6 am Mondays.

The summer garbage pick-up schedule (Mondays & Thursdays) will be in effect July 4th through Labor Day. Recyclables are picked up only once weekly on Mondays.

Large items (furniture etc) can be left at curbside at any time for removal by our caretaking staff. Contractors **MUST NOT** dump construction materials in Lake Waubeeka's dumpsters. Fines will be imposed on homeowners whose hired workers do not follow this rule.

www.waubeeka.org

Have you checked out Lake Waubeeka's website yet? If not, take a look at www.waubeeka.org. Even if you've visited the site before, check again because a lot of new features have been added and the site is being updated all the time.

There is a community discussion forum where you can start a topic about just about anything that you think that other community members might have an opinion about... and then everyone can voice their own thoughts! We also will keep you notified about all of the happenings around the lake, and soon you'll even be able to sign up to receive the Waubeekan by email!

Look for the newly revised site in early June, and then keep checking back to see what's new! If you'd like to contribute to the site, please feel free to send your thoughts to us at webmaster@waubeeka.org.

Tuesday Nights at the Movies

Beginning on June 1st, movies for adults (rated PG, PG-13 or R) will be shown every Tuesday night at the Community House, starting promptly at 8 p.m. Bring your own cushions for comfort.

The title of each week's movie will be advertised at the gates in the days preceding its showing.

Gate Reminder

Please be patient with the entrance and exit gates! Let the gate go through its full cycle before proceeding. A \$100 fine will be issued to anyone caught breaking a gate. 24-hour surveillance cameras take pictures of all cars entering and exiting the community.

Desperately Seeking Children's Volunteers

We are in need of volunteers to coordinate and run the children's summer Arts & Crafts program for children ages 6-9. For many years, Kristen Krate and Lisa Glaser have graciously donated their time and energy, and we're grateful for their efforts. Now the time has come for them to pass the baton.

Without volunteers, there will be no children's art program. Please call Kristen at 797-1829, Lisa at 790-8040, or Mary Ellen at 743-2564. Hope to hear from you.

Drinking Water Sodium Levels

Our drinking water's sodium level tends to exceed 28.0 mg/L, which is the mandatory consumer notification level as specified in the CT Public Health Code. If you are on a sodium-restricted diet, please inform your physician.

☺ **WAUBEEKA FORTUNE COOKIE** ☺

When talking about dog poop,
a scoop is worth
a thousand words.

Keep Your Boat Clean

Please do not launch any new (or used) boat on the lake without first **CLEANING** it thoroughly. We cannot allow our lake to be contaminated by organic "hitchhikers" such as zebra mussel eggs, which are invisible to the eye, but very dangerous to the health of the lake. If you are not sure what products to use to clean your boat, please consult your boating supply company.

PLEASE VOLUNTEER! THIS MEANS YOU!

In a community of nearly 260 homeowners, it's easy to see that there is PLENTY to do, and not enough people to do it! Renters, weekenders, snowbirds, full-timers—we all have something to contribute. We need your involvement, whether you'd like to:

- ☞ run for the Board of Directors
- ☞ chair a committee
- ☞ volunteer your time for a special project
- ☞ suggest and implement a new community event

Once Upon a Time in Lake Waubeeka...

This is a story of four people called **Everybody**, **Somebody**, **Anybody** and **Nobody**.

There was an important job to be done and **Everybody** was sure **Somebody** would do it.

Anybody could have done it, but **Nobody** did it.

Somebody got angry about that, because it was **Everybody's** job.

Everybody thought **Anybody** could do it, but **Nobody** realized that **Everybody** wouldn't do it.

It ended up that **Everybody** blamed **Somebody** when **Nobody** did what **Anybody** could have done.

—Author unknown