

Oregon Lakes Association

A Voice for Our Quiet Waters

P.O. Box 586 • Portland, Oregon 97207

Newsletter

CITIZEN LAKE WATCH PROGRAM

The Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ), along with the help of many volunteers, has continued the Citizen Lake Watch Program through its fourth year. Individuals from 24 lakes are involved in monitoring their lake water quality. DEQ provides secchi disks, pH paper, thermometers and data forms to volunteers who, in turn, provide their time, eyes, backs and use of their boats. Data is collected by volunteers on a weekly basis from late Spring through early Fall. DEQ then plots and assesses the data, and uses it to assess general trends over time as well as to identify concerns for further lake management efforts. Equally important, this program serves as a means to communicate with individuals who are concerned and interested in their lake water quality.

The potential for further developing and expanding this program is tremendous. DEQ, under a grant from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, has initiated discussions with the U.S. Forest Service, OLA and Portland State University about opportunities for enhancing the program for 1992. These discussions and modifications will take place this Fall.

The lakes and volunteers involved in the 1991 program are listed below. DEQ would like to thank these volunteers and encourage others who may be interested in the program to contact Elizabeth Dimmick at 229-6305.

Volunteers

Gary Lovegren
 Glenda/Gary Flanik
 Martin Tjomsland
 David Hamilton
 Fred McMillan
 Maxwell Peel
 Chris Kern

Lake

Blue
 Cullaby
 Cultus
 Diamond
 Garrison
 Hosmer
 Lake Oswego

Volunteers & Lakes (continued)

Joan Frazee	Lava
Norm/Bernice Dain	Mercer
Jack Adams	Munsel
John Milandin	Odell
Warren Stafford	Siltcoos
Bill Sasson	South Twin
Joe Bakkenson	Sunset
Richard Peterson	Suttle
Grover Reed	Timothy
Ralph/Charlotte Schmidt	Triangle
Fred Barstad	Wallowa
Bob Anderson	Woahink

NEW LOGO

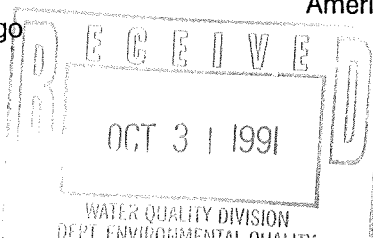
OLA has a new logo as shown on this newsletter. OLA would like to thank Kate Simon and Scientific Resources, Inc. for the development and design work for the logo.

PAST PRESIDENT'S REPORT

The Oregon Lakes Association (OLA) has gotten off to what I believe is a successful start in it's first year. OLA was officially formed at the Devil's Lake Grass Carp Festival on September 8, 1990. Approximately 25 members were present at the meeting where officers were elected and a core of OLA members staffed a booth at the festival.

Shortly thereafter, the OLA board developed a modest workplan for the first year. During this time, OLA has achieved most of it's major goals including:

- growing to over 130 members;
- becoming a State Chapter of the North American Lake Management Society (NALMS)



and participating in the NALMS semi-annual meetings;

- filing for federal non-profit status;
- submitting and supporting a statewide phosphorus detergent ban which was passed in the last legislative session;
- planning and holding an annual conference in Florence (September 21, 1991) and initiating the planning of the 1992 conference at Diamond Lake;
- providing input to the Department of Environmental Quality on its Citizen Lake Watch Program and a Lake Management brochure;
- initiating a quarterly newsletter.

At the annual business meeting on September 20, goals for the second annual workplan were discussed. Items such as continued growth in membership, greater outreach and support to lake homeowners and lake associations, new legislative aims such as support for a state lake program, and increasing knowledge on lake management and lake processes in Oregon were discussed. Both the business meeting and the conference were invaluable in setting OLA's direction for the next year. A survey of members was taken at the conference. Based on the survey results, the following were common membership concerns/interests (not in priority order):

- A need for a state supported lake management program;
- A stronger weed/nutrient control program;
- Better protection of high quality waters;
- Expanded Citizen Lake Watch Program (monitoring);
- Development of lake water quality standards;
- Development of lake specific management plans;
- Stronger assistance to lake associations;

The conference focused on coastal concerns. Regional issues that were discussed and were commonly of concern to those that attended included:

- Excessive weed and algae growth;
- Addressing nutrient loadings from septic tanks;
- Sedimentation and in-filling of lakes from construction and forestry activities, improving guidelines, practices and enforcement;

- Setting limits for nutrient loadings in lakes and developing strategies to meet them;
- Increased monitoring and knowledge of lake water quality and lake processes.

Hopefully, most of OLA's members will continue to come and help set our future direction (as well as have a good time).

I cannot let the end of my year as President slip by without thanking several individuals who volunteered many hours in getting OLA off to a good start. I apologize if I missed a volunteer or two, but I would like to recognize and thank the following individuals for their efforts: Joe Eilers, Ela Whelan, Stan Geiger, Dave Smith, Dell Isham, Larry Caton, Richard Peterson, Anjala Ehelebe, John Collins and Dave Humphries.

Lastly, I would like to wish the new OLA President, Joe Eilers, good luck and give him my support for OLA's second year of operation!

EURASIAN WATERMILFOIL CONTROL IN LAKE LYTLE

In 1989, the City of Rockaway Beach requested the Tillamook County Soil and Water Conservation District to establish a Coordinated Resource Management Plan (CRMP) to solve the problems occurring in Lake Lytle and Crescent Lake. The Oregon Department of Agriculture and the Oregon Department of Fish & Wildlife were invited to participate in the CRMP as consultants for aquatic weeds.

The Lake Lytle Enhancement Committee resulted from the CRMP process. A survey of Lake Lytle and Crescent Lake revealed that the dominated aquatic weed species was Eurasian Watermilfoil and the infestation was sufficiently dense to curtail and/or prevent all boating, fishing and swimming activities.

The committee voted unanimously to control Eurasian Watermilfoil using the aquatic herbicide, Sonar. The June, 1990 control project was successful as evident by the resumption of such activities as swimming, fishing and boating.

The control of Eurasian Watermilfoil was only one step in the management plan. Other management plans include raising the water level of Lake Lytle and the City of Rockaway Beach is involved in developing Prevention and Environmental Stewardship programs.

A MESSAGE FROM THE NEW OLA PRESIDENT, JOE EILERS

As we move into the second year for the Oregon Lakes Association, I'm pleased with the organization's accomplishments and excited about our opportunities for the future. I want to congratulate Andy Schaedel, the past president, for his outstanding service to OLA and recognize that he has set high standards for his successors. OLA had a productive first year largely because Andy set goals and kept us on task to meet the objectives. Accomplishments for OLA in 1990-91 included successful lobbying in support of phosphorus control legislation, a dramatic boost in membership from 10 to over 100 members, organization of a successful annual meeting in Florence, solicitation of participation in OLA from both the technical and lay communities, and submission of the application to the IRS for non-profit status.

I intend to follow Andy's lead by continuing to set obtainable goals for the organization that raise the profile of OLA and achieve additional protection for Oregon's lakes. Some of the areas where we hope to make progress in 1991-92 for OLA include:

1. Lobbying for the creation of a lake management staff position within the Department of Environmental Quality. Oregon has approximately 6000 lakes and yet not one full-time staff person is allocated for lake protection.
2. Development of a computer-based lake data base. We actually don't even know how many lakes we have in Oregon; wise management of the resources requires that we know something about our lakes.
3. More proactive outreach to regulatory organizations and lake management societies outside Oregon. This involves increasing our communication with the Clean Lakes program of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and soliciting assistance from our parent organization, the North American Lake Management Society.
4. Organization of a well-attended 3rd annual meeting on Oregon's Cascade lakes.
5. Doubling our membership to help promote better stewardship of lakes and develop the organization into a strong force for lake protection.

I welcome your comments on these objectives and encourage you to submit your ideas regarding the goals for OLA. Jot down your ideas and send them along to me or other officers or, better yet, attend one of the board meeting and present your ideas in person. *The next board meeting will be at 6:15 p.m. on December 11, 1991, in Salem.* Regardless, we hope to hear from you concerning how OLA can meet its objectives of protecting and rehabilitating Oregon Lakes.

NEWS ON OUR STATELY NEIGHBORS

Aquatic Weed Bill Signed. Freshwater lakes and waterways of the State of Washington will benefit from House bill 1389 signed by the Governor on May 20th of this year. Passage of the bill provides an appropriation to the Department of Ecology to develop an aquatic weed program. The bill provides a sources of public funds to help shoreline property owners fight nuisance aquatic weed problems like Eurasian watermilfoil on lakes, rivers, and streams in the state. The aquatic weed bill will add a \$3 fee to boat trailer licenses that establishes a fund at DOE to be used specifically to control nuisance aquatic weeds. An estimated \$500,000 a year will be raised by the fee. The department will give preference to projects having matching funds or in-kind services. [from WALPA NEWS, July 1991]

Grass Carp at the Borders. According to a report by Del Isham, of the Devils Lake Association, grass carp are now legal to introduce to the waters of Washington and Idaho. The information is not yet complete to make an evaluation of whether to release the carp in Oregon, but that decision might be made in the next year. Stay tuned for further details (or call Del).

WRITE YOUR CONGRESSMAN

Now is the time to write your support of the funding of EPA's Clean Lake's program. The 1990 Clean Lake's budget nationally was \$12 million. The Northwest share of that was \$350,000. We need more in the total budget, the Northwest needs a larger share, according to past OLA president, Andy Schaedel, and Oregon needs a larger share of the Northwest budget. The latter is an interstate issue, but writing your support for funding of the Clean Lake's program can help get and keep monies in this uncertain budget. Our lakes need all the help they can get.

SECOND OLA ANNUAL MEETING ABSOLUTELY LIMNOLOGIC!

We should have taped the whole thing. The weather was perfect. The turn-out was fantastic. OLA members and interested parties filled the meeting room. And the presentations were entertaining. A total of 75 registered for the meeting.

The Second Annual meeting was held at Driftwood Shores, a rather pleasant place to spend more than just one night before an OLA meeting. The Board met Friday night to take care of important matters like putting numbers on everyone else's name tags for the door prizes, and transitional positions for management of OLA during 1991-1992 (see officers at end of the newsletter).

The meeting was held in Florence to draw attention to coastal lakes. Presentations were given on the following: Del Isham and Rick Raymond on Devils Lake, Doug Larson and Jim Mannon lakes in the

Florence area, Stan Geiger on Garrison Lake near Port Orford, Dave Humphrey on Lake Lytle in Rockaway Beach, and Peter Nelson on Clear Lake near Florence. Tom Merritt of the Oregon Dunes National Recreational Area provided National Forest Service perspective on managing resources in this unique area near Florence. Andy Schaedel gave an overview of lake water quality in Oregon and the Federal Clean Lakes Program. Next year's meeting will focus on High Cascade Lakes.

LAKE ASSOCIATION EDUCATIONAL MATERIALS

At the OLA meeting in Florence, Andy Schaedel of the Department of Environmental Quality, circulated a very informative single sheet educational piece called *This Lake is Your Lake*. It would be just the kind of material to circulate to lakeside homeowners, and lake users, the better inform them about the way lakes work and how people can live near them and have minimal impact on the lake.

OLA LAKE WATCH is published quarterly by the Oregon Lakes Association
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