

CASIN' THE BASIN

VOLUME XII

S U M M E R 2 0 0 4

NUMBER 2



Lake Champlain
Basin Program

INSIDE :

Canal Schooner	1, 4
Manager's Letter	2
2004 Grants Update	3
Cultural Heritage Issues	5
Bald Eagles in the Basin	6
Basin Bulletins	6-7
Sea Grant Updates	8
In Memory of Jane Potvin	8
Committee News	9
Requests for Proposals	9
LCBP 2004 Budget	10
Awards and Staff Updates	11
Resources	12

Canal Schooner to be Launched

Ernie Haas



On July 3, 2004, a memory of Lake Champlain's past will awake. For the first time in more than a century, a Lake Champlain sailing canal boat will be launched and sail to the Lake's historic ports. The *Lois McClure*, a replica canal schooner, will be launched at the Burlington Waterfront during the Independence Day festivities. Volunteers and staff of the Lake Champlain Maritime Museum worked for the past three years to build the replica, which is modeled from two 19th century shipwrecks in Burlington Harbor.

Continued on page 4.

Lake Champlain Steering Committee

C. Randall Beach
NYS Dept. of Economic Development
 Tamsen Benjamin
VT Agency of Transportation
 Jean Roberge-Boucher
Québec CAC Chair
 Gerard Boutin
*QC Ministère de l'Agriculture,
 des Pêcheries et de l'alimentation*
 Stuart Buchanan
NYS Dept. of Environmental Conservation
 Louise Calderwood
VT Dept. of Agriculture
 Peter Clavelle
Mayor of Burlington, VT
 Canute Dalmasse
VT Agency of Natural Resources
 Joe DelVecchio
USDA-NRCS (NY)
 Mario DelVicario
USEPA Region 2 (NY)
 Anita Deming
NY CAC Chair
 Larry Forcier
Lake Champlain Sea Grant
 Gerard Cusson
QC Ministère de l'Environnement
 Buzz Hoerr
VT CAC Chair
 Fran Keeler
USDA-NRCS (VT)
 Steven Lanthier
NYS Soil & Water Conservation Committee
 Gerard Masse
Societe de la faune et des parcs du Québec
 Gerald Potamis
USEPA New England
 Robert Reinhardt
NYS OPRHP
 Dan Stewart
Mayor of Plattsburgh, NY
 Dave Tilton
US Fish & Wildlife Service
 Mary Watzin
UVM School of Natural Resources

Casin' the Basin is published free of charge by the LCBP, 54 West Shore Road, Grand Isle, VT 05458. Material may be reproduced without permission, as long as credit is given. The views expressed in this newsletter do not necessarily reflect the position of the US EPA or NEIWPC.

Editorial Staff

Nicole Ballinger - Co-Editor
 Colleen Hickey - Co-Editor
 Anita Deming
 Buzz Hoerr
 Bill Howland
 Art Stemp
 Michaela Stickney

Produced under EPA grant # LC991923-01.

Queen City Printers

Design: Don Hanson

Printed on recycled paper with vegetable-based inks.

A Busy Summer

This summer is a time of excitement for everyone who loves Lake Champlain. Hats off to the Lake Champlain Maritime Museum for the July 3rd launch in Burlington of the schooner, *Lois McClure*. The *Lois McClure* will be a moving icon for the profound role of Lake Champlain in our cultural and economic heritage, and the trade links, north and south that connect us to our neighbors.

Congratulations to ECHO at the Leahy Center for Lake Champlain, as this fabulous facility opens its doors for a second year. Over 150,000 visitors to ECHO last year have verified that this world-class aquarium and science museum is exactly what we need to teach about the ecology, culture and history of the Lake Champlain Basin.

We salute a new organization in New York showing strong leadership and initiative in tackling water pollution, the *Champlain Watershed Improvement Coalition of New York*. Known as CWICNY, this network of professionals from five Lake Champlain Basin counties, organized by Soil and Water Conservation Districts, pools regional resources to share information, identify priority capital improvements and search for funding.

In Québec, a series of public meetings has provided important guidance for the management

of Missisquoi Bay. We congratulate the Québec Ministry of Environment for translating *Opportunities for Action* into French, entitled *Perspectives d'action*. This demonstration of cross-boundary commitments will build a broader understanding of Lake Champlain issues, priorities and needed actions.

Planning for the 400th anniversary commemoration of Samuel de Champlain's arrival in the Basin continues. Quadricentennial Commissions have been set up in New York, Vermont, and Québec and the Lake Champlain Basin Program is taking an active assisting role.

The essential work to clean up Lake Champlain takes many forms. New York Governor Pataki recently announced an additional 260,000 acres of land conservation in the Adirondack Park, in partnership with International Paper Company. Vermont Governor Douglas has secured more than \$8 million dollars in state funds for the Clean and Clear Water Action Plan to reduce phosphorus in Lake Champlain. Québec Premier Charest has significantly increased investment in phosphorus reduction in the Missisquoi Basin with renewed focus on nonpoint sources. This summer, I hope you will do your part to reduce pollution of this beautiful Lake.

- Bill Howland, LCBP Manager

Pete Warner



View of Lake Champlain from Split Rock Mountain in New York.

About the Lake Champlain Basin Program

The Lake Champlain Basin Program (LCBP) was created by the Lake Champlain Special Designation Act of 1990. Our mission is implementing the Lake Champlain management plan, *Opportunities for Action*. Program partners include New York, Vermont, and Québec, the US Environmental Protection Agency and other federal agencies, and local government leaders, businesses, and citizen groups. The Lake Champlain Steering Committee (sidebar) leads the LCBP. The LCBP receives annual US federal appropriations. Many sources fund Plan actions including federal, state, local, and provincial agencies, and contributions from local communities, businesses, and individuals. Visit our website at www.lcbp.org to learn more, or call (800) 468-5227 in NY or VT.

Education and Outreach Grants Awarded

Stevens Brook Watershed Education and Outreach Project *St. Albans Bay Watershed Association \$4,590*

Up to 1,500 residences within the Stevens Brook Watershed of St. Albans City will be able to participate in hands-on sessions about lawn and garden practices designed to reduce pollution to St. Albans Bay. Key partners include the St. Albans Watershed Association, a BFA High School class, VT Green Lawn Coalition, the City of St. Albans, Gardener's Supply, UVM Master Gardeners, and Lake Champlain Sea Grant.

Interpreting Key Lake Issues Within the Boquet River Watershed *Boquet River Association \$6,670*

BRASS will coordinate a series of interpretive tours and hands-on opportunities involving Lake Champlain priority issues to heighten adult and student awareness of watershed protection, restoration, and enhancement needs.

NY Stormwater Educational Trade Show *Champlain Watershed Coalition of New York, \$5,000*

Workshop sessions, local project demonstrations and an innovative technologies trade show will highlight nonpoint source pollution concerns and regulations affecting the NY portion of the Lake Champlain Basin. Stormwater contributes an estimated 46% of NY's nonpoint source phosphorus load.

Addison County Better Back Roads Project *Addison County Regional Planning Commission \$3,788*

ACRPC and the Vermont Local Roads Program will host a workshop and demonstration project for town road commissioners, road crews, local government officials and watershed groups in 21 towns. Participants will be introduced to techniques that will reduce erosion problems and phosphorus contributions to Otter Creek.

Burlington-Colchester Bike Bridge Interpretive Posters *Winooski Valley Park District \$2,400*

After two sessions of classroom instruction, students and teachers from Burlington and Colchester will create 10-15 colorful interpretive posters that will illustrate several priority issues facing Lake Champlain. More than 40 students are expected to participate in the project.

Agriculture and the Environment Course *William Miner Agricultural Research Institute \$3,750*

Miner Institute instructors will teach environmental science students and regulatory professionals skills to interpret regulations, such as CAFO, that will define the dairy industry's future in the Basin. Trained students with solid science backgrounds in dairy farming practices and environmental issues would make the implementation of CAFO regulations easier for legislative bodies and farmers.

Lake Champlain Birding Trail Wayside Exhibits *Lake Champlain Birding Trail \$1,500*

Additional wayside exhibits will be created for the Lake Champlain Birding Trail to complement existing panels at locations such as the SandBar (osprey) and Grand Isle ferry landing (migratory birds).

2004 LCBP Grant funds to be available

Three rounds of LCBP grants funded through the USEPA appropriation are anticipated in 2004. Grants will not be awarded until federal funding is available to the LCBP. Grants are only awarded for those projects which help to implement *Opportunities for Action*.

Organizational Support Grants (RFP issued May 21, 2004 - Proposals were due June 23rd)

Grants up to \$4,000 will support increased organizational capacity for organizations whose mission statements are specifically focused on achieving water quality improvements in a Lake Champlain watershed. Cultural heritage and sustainable recreational programs may also be eligible. The LCBP anticipates up to \$25,000 will be available under this grant category.

Local Implementation Grants - includes Partnership Program and Annual Priorities Grants (RFP planned for release by July 1, 2004 - Proposals due delivered by October 1st)

In 2004, this category provides up to \$5,000 to support Partnership Program grants and \$5,000 – \$10,000 for Annual Priorities grants. Organizations which are approved for funding in the fall are encouraged to schedule project work from December 2004 and beyond. Specific details will be posted with the request for proposal. The Lake Champlain Basin Program anticipates up to \$80,000 be available under this grant category.

MRBA



MRBA volunteer at river clean-up.

Education and Outreach Grants (RFP planned for release by October 1, 2004 - Proposals due delivered by November 19th)

Grants of up to \$7,500 may be awarded to projects designed to implement *Opportunities for Action's* education and outreach actions by increasing awareness of basin issues, implementing school curriculum programs about the watershed and/or providing hands-on opportunities for citizens to take action on behalf of the Lake. The Lake Champlain Basin Program anticipates up to \$25,000 be available under this grant category.

As more information is available, it will be posted to the LCBP website at www.lcbp.org.

Continued from page 1.

Corridor of Commerce

Imagine the interstate highway without any tractor trailer trucks. Lake Champlain has little commercial traffic today, but before our highways and railroads were built, most freight moved on water. The Lake was an important “water highway” for centuries beginning with the Native peoples who settled along its shoreline and on the banks of its tributary rivers. For the early European traders, the Lake’s location eased travel between Montreal via the Richelieu River and New York City via the Hudson River.

Lake Champlain played a major role in military conflicts when English and French forces sailed on its waters to meet in combat. American and British forces battled over the Lake in the American Revolution and the War of 1812. Once the national dominion over Lake Champlain was established, trade began in earnest. Schooners, sloops and early steamboats cruised the Lake, but trade was hindered by the practice of unloading freight at the Lake’s southern end and hauling these goods overland to a port on the Hudson River dozens of miles away.

This barrier was removed by the completion of the Champlain Canal in 1823. “I don’t think you can over-imagine how dramatically Lake Champlain changed with the opening of the canals,” said Art Cohn, director of the Lake Champlain Maritime Museum. “The volume of commerce and the amount of boats on the Lake increased geometrically. It went from dozens of boats on the Lake to hundred of boats on the Lake almost overnight.”

Innovations followed, including the Lake Champlain sailing canal boat. With a collapsible mast and retractable keel, this new craft could be converted from a wind-powered sailing ship to a canal barge, thus increasing efficiency and reducing transportation costs.

The Lake’s economy boomed and soon agricultural products were shipped south along with other raw materials and manufactured goods. Boats heading north carried coal to fire forges, run steam engines and heat homes. Port towns from Whitehall, New York to St. Albans, Vermont bustled with activity. Burlington was the busiest of all. By the 1870s, it was the third largest lumber port in the United States with twelve wharves jutting into the Lake.

Decline, Disappearance, Rediscovery, and Threat

Sailing canal boats were everywhere on Lake Champlain in the mid-1800s. The expansion of the railroad in the Champlain Valley and the greater efficiency of steam powered tugs, which could tow several canal barges at a time, gradually reduced the amount of sailing canal boats on the Lake. By the 1920s, shipping on the Lake had all but disappeared, and only one canal schooner continued to transport cargo.

Sailing canal boats were adaptable, sturdy craft that could carry just about anything. In 1980, divers found the remarkably intact remains of the *General Butler*, an 1862-class canal schooner that smashed into the Burlington Breakwater and sank in a fierce storm in December 1876.

The Lake’s frigid depths holds many secrets. Additional archeological discoveries have revealed a maritime past that was beyond imagination. A threat to these resources arrived in 1993 when zebra mussels arrived in the southern reaches of the Lake. Zebra mussels can encrust and deteriorate shipwrecks. The threat of losing these irreplaceable artifacts created the momentum to document them before they were lost forever. The Lake Champlain Maritime Museum began a systematic survey of Lake Champlain in 1996. Almost half of the funds for the underwater survey came from the federal government through the Lake Champlain Basin Program. Since it began, this on-going study has examined 288 square miles of Lake bottom, and has located and documented 75 shipwrecks.

Rebuilding and Revisiting the Past

The design of the *Lois McClure* was derived from measurements of the *General Butler* and the *O.J. Walker*, another canal schooner that sailed Lake Champlain. Built by master shipwrights with the help of many volunteers, the *Lois McClure* is named in honor of a great Lake Champlain advocate and philanthropist.

In August, the *Lois McClure* will sail the Lake,



Graphic courtesy LCMM

visiting traditional port towns. The boat will play a part in many Lake celebrations. “It makes a wonderful addition to the Battle of Plattsburgh Commemoration,” said Carolyn Harding of the Plattsburgh and North Country Chamber of Commerce.

The Maritime Museum has designed a curriculum that will guide educators in teaching about life aboard a canal boat. This summer, as the *Lois McClure* rests at town piers, residents and visitors will walk on her decks, explore her living quarters, and imagine what life was like when Lake Champlain was a bustling “water highway”.

Miner Heritage Exhibit Receives Commendation

The William H. Miner Agricultural Research Institute won a 2004 Upstate History Alliance Certificate of Commendation for the new Heart's Delight Farm Heritage Exhibit. Opened in 2003, the Heritage Exhibit interprets the innovative farm the industrialist/philanthropist William H. Miner built on his family homestead in the early 1900s. The exhibit includes audio-visual displays, a scale model of the sprawling farm complex, photos, artifacts, and an outdoor interpretive trail, which features wayside exhibits designed by the Lake Champlain Basin Program.

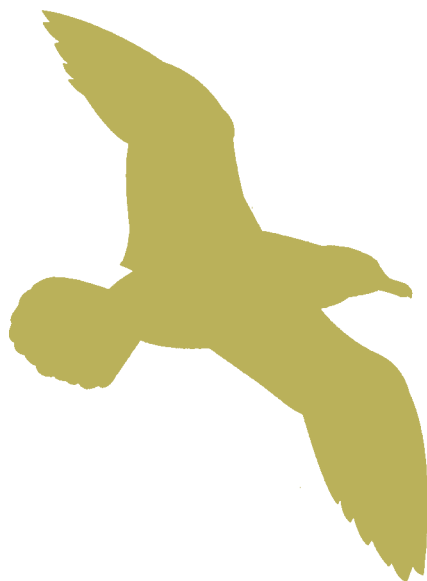
The Heart's Delight Farm Heritage Exhibit was only one of six Certificates of Commendation awarded this year by the Upstate History Alliance, which includes 39 of New York's 62 counties. Congratulations!

Preparations for 400th Anniversary of Champlain's Arrival Begun

The Lake Champlain Quadricentennial Commission met for the first time on May 10, 2004. The Commission was established by Vermont Gov. Jim Douglas to begin preparing for the 400th anniversary of Samuel de Champlain's arrival to the Lake in 1609. The Hudson-Fulton-Champlain Quadricentennial Commission of New York established by Gov. Pataki, has been meeting since fall of 2003. The Lake Champlain Basin Program will help coordinate between these two commissions and their counterparts in Québec.

New Wayside Exhibit Manual and Website Available

The LCBP Wayside Exhibit Program has now generated more than 100 interpretive signs in the Basin. The LCBP teamed with the Chittenden County Regional Planning Commission to publish a 2nd edition of the Wayside Exhibit manual. To receive a copy, call LCBP at 800-468-4688, or visit on-line at www.lcbp.org/wayside/manual.htm. The LCBP has also created a new website featuring the location of the Wayside Exhibits and their content. Visit on-line at www.lcbp.org/wayside/index.htm.

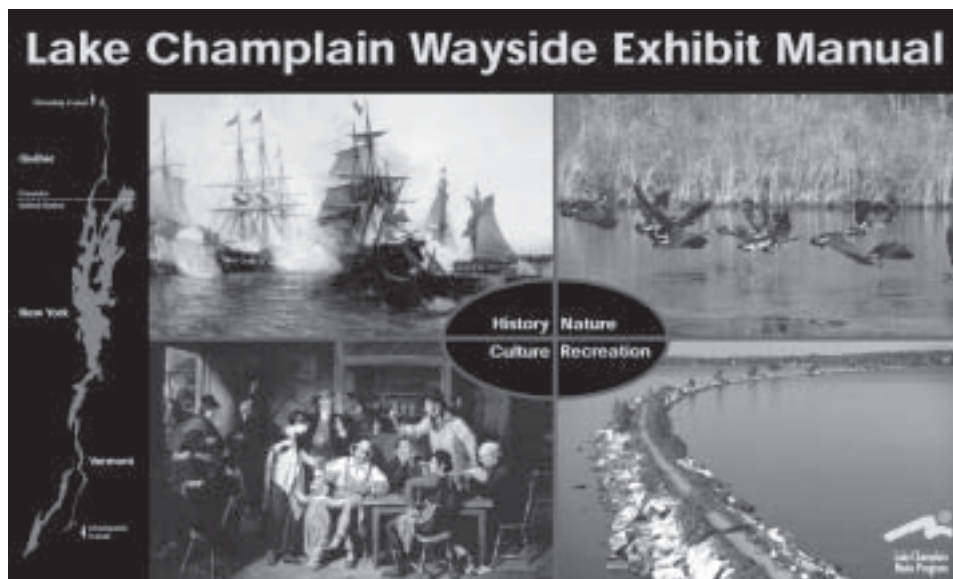


Steering Committee Wins Interpretive Award

Region 1 of the National Association for Interpretation's *Community Interpretive Service Award* was awarded to the Lake Champlain Steering Committee for LCBP's Wayside Exhibit Program. The award "recognizes businesses, individuals, or civic groups whose major focus is not interpretation, but have worked in their region or community to demonstrate financial or program support for local organizations or agencies with interpretive projects or facilities."

The LCBP supports efforts that showcase and interpret the Lake's past, culture, natural history, and environmental issues. The LCBP offers in-kind design, editing and review services for organizations and groups that use the signage template as described in the *Lake Champlain Wayside Exhibit Manual* as resources permit.

LCBP



Bald Eagles Call Addison County Home

Two young bald eagles safely settled into their new home at the Dead Creek Wildlife Management Area in Addison on Monday, May 17th. The eagles' long journey to Vermont began in Maryland, where they were removed from the nests of wild bald eagles. This project will help restore a nesting population of bald eagles to Vermont's Lake Champlain basin.

The two birds are the first of several young eagles to be transplanted from other states as part of Vermont's Bald Eagle Restoration Initiative. More than 40 trained volunteers will prepare food, feed and monitor the eagles.

The eagles are expected to be fully independent by September. They will likely stay in the area until late fall and then head south in search of open water.

CVPS



A young bald eagle scopes out its new home at Dead Creek Wildlife Management Area in Addison, Vermont.

"We hope people will respect the security of the hack site and give the eagles the space they need to develop, undisturbed," said Brad Mann, Vermont Fish & Wildlife Department game warden. "If people want to see the young birds, the best place to go is to the eagle web site. The site features a web cam that sends live video from inside the hack box. It's like being right there."

For three years, six to nine eaglets will be raised annually at the Dead Creek hack site. More young eagles are expected to arrive from Massachusetts in June. It is hoped that in four to six years, once the eagles are old enough to breed, they will return to the Lake Champlain Basin to nest.

The Vermont Fish & Wildlife Department is coordinating this bald eagle restoration effort in partnership with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, the National Wildlife Federation, Outreach for Earth Stewardship, Central Vermont Public Service (CVPS), and others.

B a s i n B

A n e y e o n w h a t ' s n e w o n a

To view the young eagles at the hack site and learn more about the Vermont Bald Eagle Initiative visit the website at www.cvps.com/eagles.

Senator Jim Jeffords secured funding for the new project through the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

New York Farms Protected

Over \$1.98 million dollars from the NY State Farmland Protection Fund will ensure the long-term use of two large dairy farms in Clinton and Essex Counties. The Clinton County Farm, known as the Rover's Farm, will preserve 1,615 acres, about 95% of which are prime farmland soils. Most of the preserved land is part of the Heart's Delight Farm, offering nearly a mile of frontage on the Little Chazy River and additional frontage on Lake Champlain. The application, which is the first of its kind for Clinton County, was coordinated by the Clinton County Planning Office.

In Essex County, Florence and Steve Sears will preserve their Crown Point Livestock Farm, located just west of the Champlain Bridge. More than 400 acres of corn, alfalfa, and grass will be preserved through the conservation easement. This farm also has beautiful frontage on Lake Champlain. The Farmland Protection Fund requires a 25% match.

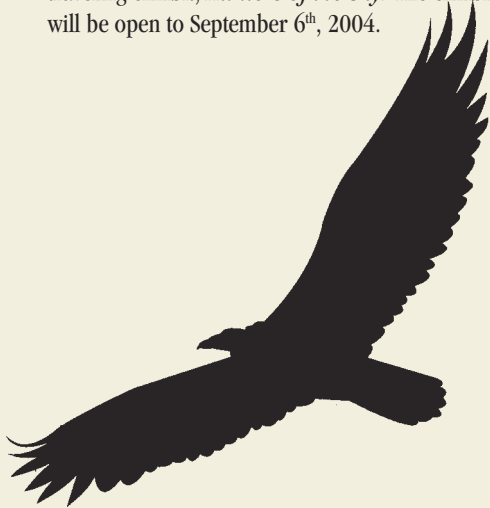
VT F&W



A young bald eagle is lifted to a hack box where it will stay until able to fly on its own. The eagle hack box was constructed using Forest Stewardship Council-certified wood grown in Addison County, Vermont.

Hunters of the Sky Opens!

For thousands of years, birds of prey have gripped the human imagination. Raptors have been revered as divine messengers, prized as hunting companions, celebrated as symbols of power, and reviled as scavengers and deadly killers. Visit ECHO at the Leahy Center for Lake Champlain for a closer look at eagles, hawks, falcons, owls, and vultures, as part of the traveling exhibit, *Hunters of the Sky*. The exhibit will be open to September 6th, 2004.



ECHO Basin Backyard Explorers

This new program for students (grades 3-6) provides a year-long opportunity to learn about Lake Champlain's ecological, cultural, and historical resources. Participating teachers receive a free workshop, curriculum resources, classroom materials, and three visits to ECHO, including a school program for their students. Lake Champlain Basin Program resources, such as the *Lake Champlain Basin Atlas CD* and Basin maps are also included. The program culminates in April '05 with Basin Backyard Explorer Fair Week, a celebration highlighting student accomplishments and projects. The cost is only \$3.25 per student for the entire year-long program, but space is limited. Kick-off teacher workshops will be held in August.

For more information about these ECHO programs, call (802) 864-1848 or visit www.echovermont.org.



26,000 Pounds of Pesticides Collected!

NYS DEC, Soil and Water Conservation Committees and other local groups worked together to collect unused or outdated pesticides in Clinton, Essex, Washington and Franklin County in April through the Clean Sweep Program. Farmers could dispose of the products for free, but other business owners paid a fee after the first 100 pounds. Funding for the program came primarily through the NYSDEC.

Québec hosts tree planting effort

Québec groups planted trees and windbreaks to protect local streams along the Pike River on May 8th. The Corporation Bassin Versant Baie Missisquoi also worked on a similar project with Missisquoi River Basin Association on another tributary to Missisquoi Bay.

Celebrate the Lake

More Events Online! Check out our Watershed Activity calendar at www.lcbp.org for events like stream cleanups, water chestnut pulling, talks, and walks by great organizations throughout the Basin.

Contact Laura Hollowell at lhollowell@lcbp.org to post a watershed event.

EVENTS

Adirondack Waterfest - Friday July 9, 2004. Roger's Island Visitor Center, Fort Edward, NY. Hosted by the Washington Co. and Saratoga Co. Soil and Water Conservation Districts. For more information call (518) 692-9412 ext. 2, (518) 885-6900, or the Greater Adirondack RC&D Council: (518) 623-3090.

Plattsburgh Children's Museum - Open daily at City Hall during the Plattsburgh Mayor's Cup Week, July 2-10, 2004.

Watersheds Interactive: Investigating the Watersheds in Which We Live - July 14-16, 2004. University of Vermont. A professional development workshop for teachers co-sponsored by the Watershed Alliance and The Vermont Institute of Natural Science. Contact Caitrin Noel at (802) 656-5428, or visit www.uvm.edu/~watershd/?Page=workshop.html for more information.

Water Chestnut Public Forum - Saturday August 7, 2004, 9:30am to 12:30pm. Skenesborough Park Community Center (on the Champlain Canal) in Whitehall New York. Pre-registration required by contacting the LCBP at (800) 468-5227 or (802) 372-3213. A boatride to view water chestnut will also be offered.



Water chestnut harvesting in the South Lake.

New England Environmental Education Alliance Conference (NEEEA), Opening Doors: Collaboration Strengthens Our Voice to Build Sustainable Communities from October 15-17, 2004 at the Breadloaf Campus of Middlebury in Ripton, VT. Hosted by Vermont SWEEP. Visit www.vermontsweep.org for more information.

TNC

Lake Champlain Sea Grant Update

Sea Grant supported the application of one of six national candidates awarded a NOAA Coastal Management Fellowship. Vanessa Levesque, a recent UVM MS graduate will be working with the Maine Coastal program. Robyn Smyth, another UVM MS, was selected for a one year Knauss Marine Policy Fellowship. Both programs are open only to Sea Grant supported applicants.

Sea Grant is continuing its work in community based watershed protection in the Englesby Brook watershed in Burlington. Students from Champlain Elementary School mapped the watershed last spring and designed a watershed boundary sign for 28 locations. Sea Grant and Friends of Burlington Gardens are also working to promote low input grounds care among the business community. Participating businesses that adopt one or more "brook friendly" practices will receive a certificate and door sticker recognizing them as a *Friend of Englesby Brook*.

Seventeen participants participated in Lake Champlain Sea Grant's Fisheries Leadership Institute on March 5 and 6, 2004 at the Valcour Conference Center. Classroom training focused on aquatic biology, fisheries habitat and management as well as nuisance species. In late June, participants were scheduled to complete "hands on" activities with phyto/zooplankton identification, fish identification, and physical limnology. The group included representatives from The Nature Conservancy, Lake Champlain Trout Unlimited, ECHO Lake Aquarium and Science Center, the Lake George Association, AuSable River Association, and the Lake Champlain Walleye Association.

For further information contact Jurij Homziak at (802) 656-0682 or Mark Malchoff at (518) 564-3036 at their respective Sea Grant offices in Burlington and Plattsburgh.



Champlain Elementary students learn about geology and water quality as part of the Sustainable Schools project organized by Shelburne Farms. The LCBP provided partial funding for the project. Sea Grant continues to provide planning and technical assistance for the project as well.

Shelburne Farms



SUNY Plattsburgh



Aboard the SUNY's research vessel, the *Monitor*, researchers from both Plattsburgh State and UVM will assist Fisheries Leadership Institute participants in hands-on activities. Fishing guides, professional anglers, and fishing web page editors are just some of the types of individuals participating in the program.

In Memoriam, Jane Potvin

LCBP



Lake Champlain lost a great friend this past spring with the passing of Jane Potvin. Jane served as an ambassador for Lake Champlain, whether our visitors were from Macedonia, Indonesia, Québec, the Hawaiian Islands, or from a neighboring town. As an important part of the LCBP staff team for more than a decade, Jane encouraged visitors to learn more about the Lake, to appreciate its treasures, and to commit to improving water quality within our lifetime. Jane inspired countless neighbors and visitors with her passion for Lake Champlain, Vermont, and the Champlain Islands.

In addition to Jane's work with the LCBP, Jane served in the Vermont House for eight years, was an original member of the Vermont Citizens Advisory Committee on Lake Champlain's Future and was serving on the Vermont Water Resources Board. Many dignitaries were present at Jane's memorial services, including former Governors Madeleine Kunin who gave Jane's eulogy and Philip Hoff.

Jane was largely responsible for bringing the Lake Champlain Basin Program office to the Champlain Islands. We are sad to lose her as both a friend and co-worker. We will think of her often as we watch the ferries churn the icy channel in winter, witness the first great blue heron of spring, or enjoy the sunset over the Adirondacks.

The Lake Champlain Basin Program has received many memorial donations in Jane Potvin's honor. We will keep you posted as we decide how best to use these donations for an action that continues Jane's legacy as a steward of Lake Champlain.

Committee News

Stormwater an Issue for VT CAC

This past spring, the Vermont Citizens Advisory Committee learned about the Stormwater Investigative Docket process convened by the Water Resources Board and heard from legislators and the VTANR about interim stormwater measures. After considerable study, the VT CAC passed a motion to consider partial removal of the Alburg Passage causeway. New funds would have to be sought for the project. In June, the CAC attended the annual stakeholders meeting of the Missisquoi River Basin Association to discuss the Clean and Clear Action Plan. Monthly meetings will resume in September. Contact Michaela Stickney, VT Lake Champlain Coordinator at (802) 241-3619.

New York CAC to Host Summer Meetings

The New York Citizens Advisory Committee is holding a series of topical workshops on Lake Champlain issues this summer. The June meeting focused on agriculture and included a trip to the research center in Willsboro, NY. Wastewater treatment plants, agriculture run-off, cultural heritage, nuisance species and public health issues will be addressed in the future. This spring, NY CAC members also learned about declining walleye populations through Dave Nettles, US Fish and Wildlife Service, and assisted New York Public Broadcasting with exploring possible Lake Champlain issues for future broadcasts. Contact Art Stemp, NYDEC Lake Champlain Coordinator at (518)-897-1216.

Welcome New Education Committee Members!

Since January, six new E&O Committee members have been appointed including: Chantal d'Auteuil and Jean Hubert from Corporation Bassin Versant Baie Missisquoi, Amy Ivy from Cornell Cooperative Extension, Bill Wellman of the Lake Champlain Chapter of Trout Unlimited, Karen Bates of the Vermont Agency of Natural Resources and Deborah DeSilva, Communications Professor at SUNY Plattsburgh.

New CHRAC Chair/Vice Chair

Deborah Doyle-Schechtman, well known for her work with the cultural heritage issues has been appointed chair of the Cultural Heritage Recreation Advisory Committee. John Krueger from the Clinton County Historical Association has accepted the position of vice-chair.

Québec Meetings Well Attended

About 50 people attended each of four all day sessions hosted by the Corporation Bassin Versant Baie Missisquoi. Québec Ministry of the Environment staff also participated in the meetings which focused on agriculture, municipal impacts, recreation and tourism and water quality.



Chantal d'Auteuil presents data during Québec's public meetings this spring.

The LCBP Issues Three Requests for Proposals!

The LCBP's Technical Advisory Committee has drafted three Requests for Proposals for scientific projects:

- A research project to evaluate factors driving the recent prevalence of toxic cyanobacterial blooms in Lake Champlain. The project will support the goal of protecting humans from water-related health hazards, as outlined in *Opportunities for Action*.
- A research project to estimate sea lamprey (*Petromyzon marinus*) egg survival both in and out of the nest. This information will be used to advance the accuracy and specificity of sea lamprey life history modeling efforts to gain more knowledge about alternative control strategies. This will achieve the next step for implementing a long-term sea lamprey control program for Lake Champlain.
- A series of on-farm projects will help identify systems or technologies that will lead to the reduction of phosphorus and other nutrients in the waste stream from animal manures. These projects will support the goal of reducing phosphorus pollution from agricultural lands, as outlined in the Lake's management plan, *Opportunities for Action*.

Proposals will be selected and work is expected to begin on these projects in the next several months. Contact Miranda Lescaze, LCBP Technical Coordinator at (802) 372-3213. Stay tuned for results of their findings!



Young sea lamprey in net.

Visit the LCBP Resource Room!

Located with ECHO at the Leahy Center for Lake Champlain, the room is loaded with Lake information, including online resources, books, maps, videos, and kid's activities. Open daily from 10am to 5pm with ECHO admission, or FREE with advance appointment. Call (802) 864-1848 ext. 109. One College Street, Burlington, VT.

LCBP FY 2004 Budget

Framework for Plan Implementation	\$484,077
Basin Program Management, New York and Vermont Coordination	\$310,123
Administrative Assistance and Office Operations	\$161,786
NEIWPCC	\$12,168
Informing and Involving the Public	\$274,474
Program Coordination and Implementation, Program Development	\$158,474
NY/Que Resource Development, LCBP Resource Room	\$56,000
Educational Support Grants, Watershed Training Programs	\$33,500
CBEI Teacher Training, Publications, Atlas, Web Enhancements, Supplies	\$26,500
Building Local-Level Implementation	\$307,508
Local Project Implementation & Organizational Support	\$180,000
Technical Program Coordination and Circuit Rider Development	\$127,508
Measuring and Monitoring Success	\$514,218
Long-Term Monitoring Program	\$288,148
Lay Monitoring Program	\$16,000
Phosphorus Reduction	\$84,119
NY Agricultural BMP Tracking System	\$76,000
Land Cover/Land Use Change Project Development	\$8,119
Toxic Management/Pollution Prevention	\$10,000
Development of a Basin-wide Toxic Materials Control Strategy	\$10,000
Human Health Protection	\$45,000
Blue-Green Algae Monitoring Program	\$20,000
Driving Factors: Blue-Green Algae Blooms	\$25,000
Nuisance Aquatics Management	\$143,000
Lake Champlain Water Chestnut Management Program	\$63,000
Estimating Survival of Sea Lamprey Eggs	\$35,000
Recreational and Cultural Heritage Resource Management	\$124,674
Cultural Heritage & Recreation Coordination	\$72,299
Wayside Exhibit Program	\$10,000
Non-motorized Tourism Clearinghouse Partnership	\$10,000
Lake Champlain Underwater Survey	\$23,100
Coordination for 400th Anniversary Commemoration NY, VT, QC	\$5,775
Lake Champlain Documentary Initiation	\$3,500
Economics	\$10,000
Integrated Ecological-Economic Cost-Benefit Analysis Project Planning*	\$10,000
Total US EPA funds to support LCBP 2004 budget:	\$1,700,000

Please note: Additional Federal funding from the US Geological Survey (\$210,070) and the US Fish and Wildlife Service (\$45,000) support specific additional line items in the LCBP budget. Additional federal, state, local and provincial funds are used to support the priority actions in *Opportunities for Action* each year.

*From re-allocated FY 2003 funds



Congratulations to WPTZ!

WPTZ, News Channel 5 has received another Edward Murrow Regional Award for *Champlain 2000*! The award, recently issued by the Radio and TV News Director Association was awarded for Life's Basic Needs, the *Champlain 2000* half-hour special which aired in December 2003. It is the third Murrow award recognizing the excellent reporting through the *Champlain 2000* news series. The LCBP and KeyBank are proud to be partners in this exciting partnership with Channel 5. Tune in Channel 5, Mondays at 6 p.m. to learn more about Lake Champlain, or explore the *Champlain 2000* links on WPTZ's website www.thechamplainchannel.com or LCBP's website at www.lcbp.org/cham2000.htm.



Chris Lassell, LCBP's New York Circuit Rider greets Wyeth employees during their environmental field day activities.

LCBP Outreach at Wyeth in Rouses Point, NY

Thanks to Wyeth Pharmaceuticals for inviting the LCBP to two events in the past few months to discuss Lake Champlain issues with employees. Most recently, Wyeth asked LCBP to participate in Earth Day activities on-site at Rouses Point. For further information on having LCBP attend your community events, contact Colleen Hickey, Education and Outreach Coordinator at (800) 468-5227.

Staff News



Theresa Faber
Theresa (Terry) Faber is retiring in July after 13 years as the Lake Champlain Coordinator for US EPA Region 2. A Rutgers

University graduate, Terry worked at US EPA Region 2 since 1973. She started her career reviewing environmental impact statements and was involved with Lake Champlain through the Clean Lakes program, even before the inception of the Management Conference. Terry was also an *ex officio* member of TAC. A lifelong NJ resident, Terry is married to Richard, a computer teacher, and has 2 children, Jessica, 24, and Richard, 21. She is actively involved in several needlecraft organizations. The LCBP thanks Terry for her terrific teamwork and wishes her a fun and healthy retirement!

Another LCBP Baby!

Our friendly Resource Room staff, Stephanie Larkin, gave birth to baby girl Maeve, on March 4th. Stephanie and husband, Josh Fairfax are enjoying the new addition to their family.

Lake Champlain Steering Committee Awards

This spring, the Steering Committee acknowledged several LCBP committee and/or staff members for their outstanding service to the program:

- Jim Connolly**, for his service as the NYSDEC Lake Champlain Coordinator from 1991-2002.
- Michelle Bertrand**, for her dedication and volunteerism as former Québec CAC chair.
- Ron Ofner**, for his dedication and hard work as the New York CAC chair for six years.
- Sylvain Primeau**, for his terrific effort coordinating Lake Champlain issues at the Ministry of Environment in Québec.
- Beth Card**, for her helpful coordination at the New England Interstate Environmental Water Pollution Control Commission.
- Nicole Ballinger**, for her teamwork as the LCBP's Communications Coordinator and Webmaster since 1998.

Terry Faber, for her teamwork as the EPA Region 2 staff for 13 years.

Canute Dalmasse, for his leadership as Executive Committee Chair, 2001-2003.

Erik Beck/US EPA



Beth Card of NEIWPCC accepts an award from Bill Howland.

Contact the Lake Champlain Basin Program

Our main office is centrally located near the Grand Isle, VT ferry landing. Additional staff supporting the program work in New York, Vermont, and Québec and at regional offices of the US EPA.

Main Office
Gordon Center House
54 West Shore Road - PO Box 204
Grand Isle, VT 05458
Tel. (802) 372-3213 / (800) 468-5227 (NY/VT)
E-mail. lcbp@lcbp.org
www.lcbp.org

Staff Supporting the Program
Call (802) 372-3213, unless otherwise noted

- Nicole Ballinger - Communications & Publications Coordinator
- Erik Beck - LC Coordinator, US EPA New England, (617) 918-1606

- Jim Brangan - Cultural Heritage and Recreation Coordinator
- Terry Faber - Coordinator, US EPA Region 2, (212) 637-3844
- Colleen Hickey - Education and Outreach Coordinator
- Laura Hollowell - Resource Room Specialist, (802) 864-1848 ext. 109
- Bill Howland - Basin Program Manager
- Kathy Jarvis - Administrative Assistant
- Stephanie Larkin - Resource Room Specialist, (802) 864-1848 ext. 109
- Chris Lassell - New York Circuit Rider, (518) 897-1367
- Miranda Lescaze - Technical Coordinator
- Martin Mimeault - Québec Ministry of Environment, (450) 928-7607
- Art Stemp - NY Lake Champlain Coordinator, (518) 897-1216
- Michaela Stickney - VT Lake Champlain Coordinator (802) 241-3619
- Lisa Windhausen - Aquatic Nuisance Species Coordinator

R E S O U R C E S

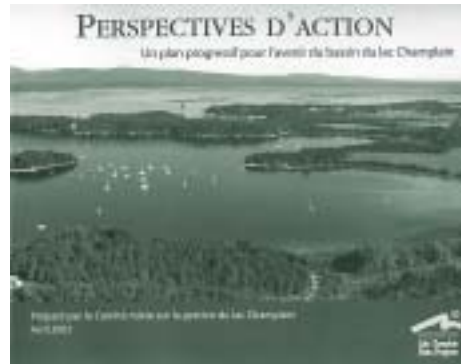
The Shoreline Stabilization Handbook for Lake Champlain and Other Inland Lakes

This 50-page full color guide is a must for landowners, towns, consultants, and other groups dealing with shoreline erosion problems. Produced by the Northwest Regional Planning Commission, and several other groups including Sea Grant and the VT Agency of Transportation. The LCBP funded \$10,000 towards this project. Contact the LCBP or the Commission at (802) 524-5948 for a free copy or read it online at www.nrpcvt.com.



2004 Paddler's Trail Guidebook

This 95 page publication features more than 250 sites along 30 Lake Champlain paddling trails. Call the Lake Champlain Committee at (802) 658-1414 for further information and pricing.



Perspectives d'action. A complete translation of the management plan for Lake Champlain, *Opportunities for Action*. Prepared by the Québec Ministry of Environment. Read online at www.lcbp.org.

Lake Champlain Wayside Exhibit Manual, 2nd Edition. Prepared by the Lake Champlain Basin Program.

Smart Waterways Website, www.smartwaterways.org. Provides information on the Chittenden County Storm Water program and clean water tips for local residents.

More resources online at: www.lcbp.org click on Publications/Reports

NEW LCBP Technical Reports:

Blue-green algae reports:

Monitoring and Evaluation of Cyanobacteria in Burlington Bay, Lake Champlain. Dr. Mary Watzin, Angela D. Shambaugh, and Emily K. Brines; Rubenstein Ecosystem Science Laboratory, School of Natural Resources, University of Vermont. LCBP Technical Reports #39 (Nov. 2001), #40 (Nov. 2002), #41 (Dec. 2003).

The Feeding of Supplemental Phosphorus on Dairy Farms in the Lake Champlain Basin: An Education/Demonstration Project. Kurt Cotanch, Catherine Ballard, Wanda Emerich, Charles Sniffen, and Everett Thomas; W.H. Miner Institute. April 2003. LCBP Technical Report #42.



Lake Champlain Basin Program

54 West Shore Road
Grand Isle
Vermont 05458

CHANGE SERVICE
REQUESTED

PRSRTD STD
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
PERMIT NO. 179
BURLINGTON, VT