



# LLHA COMMUNICATOR

Volume 3 Issue 1

February 2010

## APA Proposes New Restrictions on Size and Height of Boathouses.

Current Adirondack Park Agency (APA) regulations limit boathouse structures to one story with no bathroom or kitchen facilities, no heating systems and no living or sleeping quarters. A boathouse is defined as a structure used only for boats and related equipment.

As reported in the *Adirondack Daily Enterprise*, APA officials recently stated, in a news release, that the current definition fails to prohibit large "attics," and broad rooftop decks, which result in some very large non-jurisdictional shoreline structures.

Recent New APA proposed regulations would require that a boathouse be no larger than 900 square feet and must be 15 feet or less in height. In addition, all rigid roof surfaces would have a minimum pitch of four on 12. These regulations would apply to new structures and existing structures planned for expansion. Modifications of existing structures exceeding the proposed parameters would require a variance. Six public hearings on this issue were held early in January.

More information on the proposal is posted at <http://www.apa.state.ny.us/>.

### CHECK OUR WEBSITE

[WWW.LOONLAKEHOA.ORG](http://WWW.LOONLAKEHOA.ORG)

- Message Board
- Hiking in Loon Lake Area
- Loon Lake History
- Newsletter Archive
- LLHA Items offerings (T-shirts, hats, Visors)

## Property Assessment Update

### *2010 Assessment Roll delayed Until 2011*

Doug Tichenor, Town of Franklin Tax Assessor stated that new assessments, based on current market values, will be sent out to property owners town wide in MARCH 2011, not March 2010 as originally planned.

Unless there has been new construction or demolition completed on individual parcels, assessments will remain the same for 2010 as they were in 2009

The new assessments will be reflected in subsequent tax bills starting with the September 1, 2011 School Tax Bill and Town and County tax bill of January 2012.

Mr. Tichenor explained his reason for the delay; he said he is waiting to get more property sales data and also wants to give the new Town Board members some time to become more familiar with the assessment process.

You may recall that Tichenor was the guest speaker at our membership meeting last summer. At that time he gave us an informative account of the assessment process and took questions. (See *LLHA Communicator* of September 2009 posted on our website [www.loonlakehoa.org](http://www.loonlakehoa.org).) People who have questions can contact him (518-891-0436) or [dmt@northeast.org](mailto:dmt@northeast.org).



# Town of Franklin News

## New Town Council Members Elected

In the last November election, Town of Franklin voters chose 3 new members of the Town Council. They are Supervisor Arthur Willman (R), Councilman Donald Hamm (R) and Councilman Bradley Merrill (R). In addition, incumbent Highway Superintendent Jacques DeMars, Justice Roger Symonds, and Town Clerk Sandra Oliver were reelected.

Long time Town Supervisor Mary Ellen Keith (D) and Town Council member candidates Les Parker (D) and Bruce Young (D) were defeated.



## New Town Board Votes to Abolish Planning Board

A major item in the new Town board members' election campaign platform was their promise to review, revise or rescind the contentious subdivision law the town enacted last fall.

At its first meeting in January the new board followed through on that promise by voting (3 to 2) to authorize Town attorney James Martine to draft a law that would abolish the Town's planning board as a first step.

Last fall the town had passed a subdivision law, which requires approval of any subdivision of five lots or more within a 10-year period. In addition, it appointed a planning board to review projects

Opponents of the subdivision law maintain that the law is unnecessary because it would be a duplication of Adirondack Park Agency (APA) regulations and would be costly for the Town to implement. Whereas, proponents point out that the APA does not have jurisdiction over hamlets regarding subdivisions.

A public hearing on the local law was held on February 8 at after which the Town Board will vote on it at a subsequent meeting.

# Town of Franklin 2010 Budget Woes

The 2010 Town budget approved by the previous administration in November 2009 had to be reduced by \$57,600 due to the inappropriate inclusion of \$57,600 of grant funds dedicated for new furnaces in Town buildings. Consequently the new administration has to work with \$57,600 less in order to maintain the same Town property tax rate of \$ 7.50883 per \$1000 of assessed value.



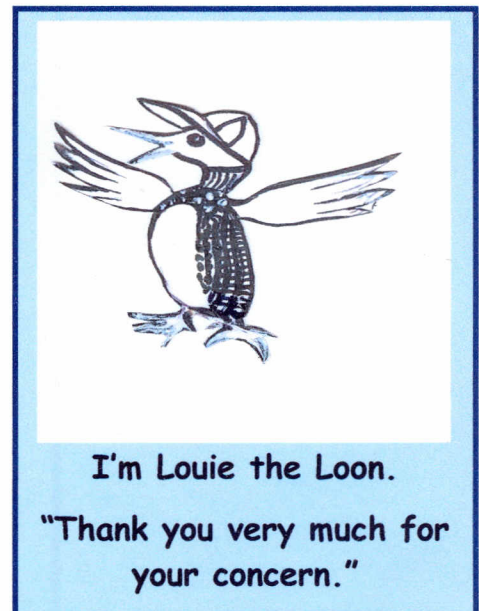
## Good Response to Aquatic Plant Monitoring Fund

### *Loon Lake Community Answers the Call*

In his president's message in the last issue of *LLHA Communicator*, Vince Pagano, on behalf of the LLHA Board, implored Lake shore owners and others privileged to use Loon Lake to contribute to a special fund to finance a yearly monitoring of Loon Lake for the presence of invasive species.

As indicated in a LLHA Monitoring Fund Appeal flyer distributed to all members and some non members, we need to raise \$1,340/yr. Fortunately this goal was not only met but exceeded for 2010. As of this writing, we have collected 47 donations totaling \$2,456.

Although we have exceeded the 2010 goal, we would still encourage those who have not already contributed and still intend to contribute, to do so. The excess will be applied to the 2011 fund.



## NY Gov's Budget Cuts VICs

NY Governor Paterson's Executive Budget proposes the closure of the Visitor's Interpretive Centers (VICs) in Paul Smith's and Newcomb to save the State hundreds of thousands dollars a year. Supporters say the closing of the VICs would mean the loss of the beneficial educational programs and trail systems enjoyed by the many local residents, visitors and school children

It is hoped by supporters that the State legislators restore this budget item or that other entities such as Paul Smith's College and Syracuse University can save the VICs which they consider a wonderful treasure. If the VICs line is not restored to the budget, the VICs would be phased out by January 2011.

**Editor's Note:** If you haven't yet visited one of these centers, you may want to schedule a visit during the coming vacation season. [www.adkvic.org](http://www.adkvic.org)

## Adirondack Architectural Heritage (AARCH) Tour of Loon Lake

In past years the Association for the Preservation and Revitalization in Loon Lake (APRILL), an *ad hoc* committee of Loon Laker, coordinated successful tours of Loon Lake with Adirondack Architectural Heritage (AARCH), a prominent nonprofit historic preservation organization for the Adirondack Park, whose mission is "to promote better public understanding, appreciation and stewardship of the Adirondack's unique and diverse architectural heritage."

Susan Arena, AARCH Program Director recently has contacted LLHA President Vince Pagano and APRILL Chairperson Nancy Pagano, indicating AARCH's interest in conducting another tour this summer. In response to this request, Nancy indicated to Ms Arena that another tour would be welcome, but she suggested that this time it be given through LLHA if its Board agrees. A successful tour is dependent on the willingness of a certain number of owners of original Loon Lake cottages to open their historic edifices to the tour. In addition, a small number of volunteers from the LLHA membership would be helpful.

It is anticipated that it would be of mutual benefit to both AARCH and LLHA if this tour materializes.

Vince would like to hear from any LLHA members as soon as possible if they would like to volunteer or open their homes for the proposed tour. You may contact him at:

[vincepagano@hughes.net](mailto:vincepagano@hughes.net) or 518-891-4095.

Editor's note: AARCH was formed in 1990 and is located in Keeseville, NY. And its web address is: [www.aarch.org](http://www.aarch.org)

## Winter Break

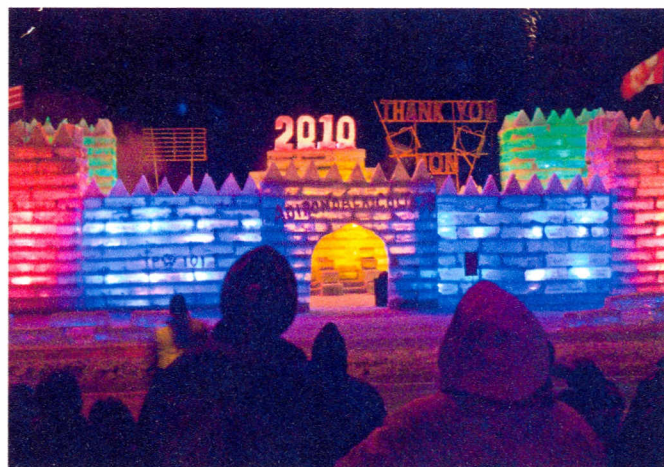
### Saranac Lake Winter Carnival (Feb. 5-14)

In spite of the exhilaration of outdoor winter activities and the enjoyment of the Holiday seasons, the long Adirondack winters can be monotonous; and a break is welcomed. One such respite is the Saranac Lake Winter Carnival.

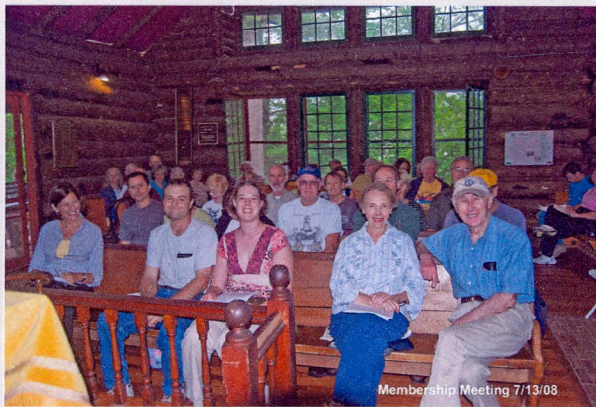
Entering its 113<sup>th</sup> year, the Saranac Lake winter celebration still retains the passion, excitement, and togetherness of a community gala – the near zero degree temperature notwithstanding. This Saranac Lake celebration is longer running than any other event of its kind in the eastern United States.

The ten day festival starts with the coronation of the Winter Carnival King and Queen and continues with the lighting of the Ice Palace, fireworks, performances, sports, dances, parades, and a spectacular fireworks finale.

*Editor's Note: We salute the many volunteer and sponsors whose unselfish efforts and generosity bring about this memorable event year after year.*



## Saranac Lake, All-America City



## Membership Update

As of this writing, LLHA is happy to announce that we have 97 paid-up memberships. Increased and sustained membership is a testament of faith in the worthiness of our efforts. We appreciate and thank you for all your support and cooperation. Also, we extend a special thanks to Membership Committee Chairman Len Wisse for bringing about a very successful membership drive outcome.

**MEMBERSHIP MEETING: Sunday, July 11, 2010 at 12:00 Noon at LL Jewish Center**

**PICNIC: Sun. Aug. 1, 2010, 1pm-4pm at the Beach**

**Loon Lake Homeowners Association**  
PO Box 219, Vermontville, NY 12989,  
Phone/Fax: 518-891-4095, E-mail:  
[president@loonlakehoa.org](mailto:president@loonlakehoa.org),  
Website: [www.loonlakehoa.org](http://www.loonlakehoa.org)



## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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Tom Bartiss, [vicepresident@loonlakehoa.org](mailto:vicepresident@loonlakehoa.org)  
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## Presidents Message

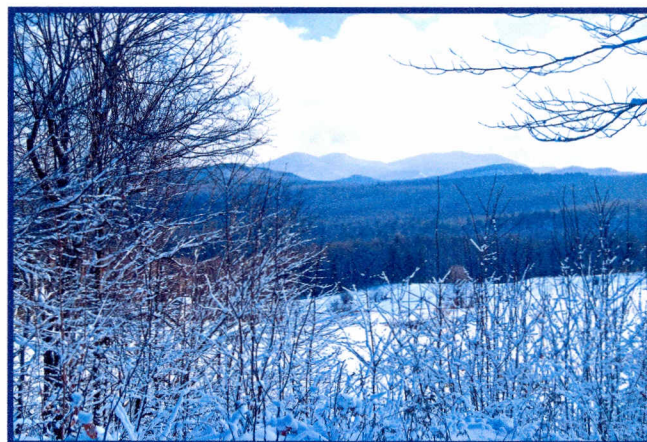
By Vince Pagano

A long time ago a wise person gave me some good advice. He said, if you want something that you know you wouldn't be able to get solely by your own efforts, ask someone(s) who is or are in a position to help. Be mindful, he added, that what you ask for should benefit others in addition to yourself. and if you don't ask, chances are that you won't get what you want.

I know – you must be thinking, “there he goes again, trying to be profound.” But, I must say the advice worked. Last fall I, on behalf of our Board of Directors, asked the Loon Lake community to contribute to the Aquatic Plant Monitoring Fund and you answered the call with donations totaling \$2,456, an amount that exceeded our yearly goal of \$1,333, giving us a good start for 2011.

I thank you, the LLHA Board thanks you, the loons, fish, ducks, and the water, etc. thank you. Bravo!

All the Best to you.



Bare trees and seedlings powdered white,  
Invite you to behold winter 's delight  
of windswept driven snow below  
and rolling mountains painting the horizon with a  
cool glow  
while the sky above looks down upon Loon Lake in  
all its brilliance..

