

THE BIRCH LOG

January 2005

WWW.BIRCHWOODLAKES.ORG

2005 : A CHALLENGING YEAR AHEAD

Al Homann, Editor

Just a short twelve months ago, we entered 2004 pondering how we could ever afford to pay for bottom cleaning of our lakes. In these past twelve months, 100,000+ more cubic yards of silt has been swept into our lakes. Both dams have been damaged and still need costly repairs and improvements . And we are being sued by two groups at this time. What a difference a year makes! Where to start? The longest journey begins with the first step. Since July, your Board members have been working many hours on multiple approaches to handling our multiple problems.

Job #1... Get water back into the lakes.

Lower lake. Our Lower lake dam has been rebuilt to a higher standard than it was for the last 50 years. Higher because of the double row of interlocking bulkheading that is now buried within the dam. Before we will be allowed to raise the water however, we will need to do additional engineering work including H & H (Hydrology [a science dealing with the properties, distribution and circulation of water] & Hydraulics [a science that deals with the practical applications of water in motion]) studies and possible over-topping protection. Because the Lower lake dam has a limited spillway box, the box may not be adequate and may require protection from erosion due to breaching such as occurred this past July.

Upper lake. The Upper lake dam has also been damaged by erosion. In this case, the berm to the south side of the concrete spillway suffered severe erosion. Photographs of this damage and subsequent work done to prevent further erosion have been in past issues of the Birch Log. Whether the north and south

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REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING

Monday, January 10th @ 7:30 PM

At the Clubhouse

The Birchwood Lakes Officers and Directors will be addressing the issues affecting our community. Members are encouraged to attend. The Officers and Directors will be making decisions for you. Why not express your ideas? For detailed info on the meeting format and future meeting dates, go to our website and click on "Board Meetings".

Nonmembers who wish to join the Birchwood Lakes Colony Club are encouraged to come to the meeting. Their application will be taken at the meeting.

A BLCC THANKS

I would just like to wish everyone a Happy New Year! and say "Thank You" for another great year of BLCC Holiday parties! We had a terrific turnout for both the children's party and the adult's. The kids really seemed to have a great time and of course Santa was the highlight of the day. I was very pleased with Cafe Noelle's catering job for the adult's party and most people I spoke with seemed to agree. I hope everyone enjoyed themselves. I would like to specifically thank Liz Bilecki for all of her help. She shared just as much of the workload and truly was my right arm in all of the party planning from start to finish. Special thanks also go to Kevin Fennimore, Lisa Hulse, Tom Jenkins, Frank

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2005 OFFICERS & DIRECTORS

President	John Cirenza	953-8912
Treasurer	Vivian Heiler	654-5507
Secretary	Sandy Scott	953-5640
V.P. Finance	Tom Jenkins	654-0786
V.P. Lakes	Mike Maher	654-4760
V.P. Property	Bill Brown	654-6303
V.P. Recreation	Michelle Swift	654-6268
Financial Sect.	Jim Whipple	953-1937

Directors

Max Bieberbach	11/2005	654-8636
Chris Bradley	11/2007	654-2567
Carol Kontos-Cohen	11/2007	714-2203
Christina Fennimore	11/2006	654-5292
John Rothwell	11/2007	654-4678
Kevin Wall	11/2006	654-6431

Committees

	Clubhouse	
Chairperson	Valerie Wall	654-6431
Sandy Scott		Kevin Wall
	Lakes Restoration	
Chairperson	Tom Andreacci	654-7922
	Membership	
Chairperson	Patty Yulick	953-2734
	Communications	
	Website	
Webmaster	Al Homann	953-3222
	The Birch Log	
Editor	Al Homann	953-3222
	Birch Log Distribution	
NW Lakeside Dr	Bill Bielec	654-1761
SW Lakeside Dr	Joe Zurzolo	953-2734
Upper Lake	Sandy Scott	953-5640

The Birchwood Lakes Colony Club

PO Box 382 Medford, NJ 08055
 WWW.BIRCHWOODLAKES.ORG

MEANINGFUL JOB NEEDS APPLICANT

Are you a decision maker looking for a place to make decisions? Look no further! As the column on the left indicates, we have six directors but the Constitution and By-Laws state BLCC can have seven. Now is the time and here is the place for good men and women to come to the aid of their neighborhood. You can make a difference to help yourself and your neighbors by being an active member of BLCC. And if you are not now a member, there has never been a better time to join. Why now? Because we face more challenges now than ever. Why join if everything is going smoothly? You aren't needed then. You are needed now. Come to the meeting on Monday night and join up!

and Kerri Kenny, Kathy Lawlor, Sandy Scott, Chris Swift and Patty Yulick. I had help from numerous people, so I do apologize if I've forgotten anyone, but please know all of your contributions were appreciated! Lastly, a big thank you again to John Rothwell and his team of helpers for all of their efforts in cleaning up the clubhouse. The clubhouse looked great and we are so grateful we were able to utilize it. Thanks so much again!

Michelle Swift

berms on the Upper lake dam will require downside protection is not known at this time.

At the last board meeting, a committee was formed to select an engineering firm to guide us through this process. The selection of this firm will be made on the basis of DEP Dam Safety department recommendations. It is hoped that the engineering firm will be selected by the February meeting at the latest. Tom Jenkins is heading up this committee and is very pleased and thankful for and to the individuals who have volunteered to serve in this effort.

The Birch Log is published just prior to each monthly meeting and before any special meeting. Materials for the newsletter should be received 12 days before the meeting. Meetings are held on the 2nd Monday of each month, at 7:30 PM, in the Clubhouse. Material may be faxed to 609-953-8429 but the preferred method is by e-mail to AHomann@aol.com. Your e-mail will be acknowledged within 48 hours. If you receive no acknowledgement, call 609-953-3222.