



INDIAN LAKE ASSOCIATION, ADK, INC.

ANNUAL MEETING MINUTES

August 8, 2026 – Camp Pierce Barn - Rt 30, Indian Lake, NY

President Helen Glass called the meeting to order at 9:35 am. She welcomed all members, and our guests, Town Supervisor, Brian Wells, John Callaghan, and Mark Finkle, Executive Director and Board Chairman, Hudson River area, Hudson River Black River Regulating District respectively, and RJ from the Indian Lake Marina. She thanked all for attending, and especially RJ and Tim Pine for selling our Boater's Guides and donating all of the proceeds back to the Association.

ASSOCIATION BUSINESS

Secretary Glass verified that a quorum existed, with over 90 attendees, and then called for approval of the minutes from our last Annual Meeting on July 26, 2025. The minutes were approved by acclamation.

ELECTION

Secretary Glass then called for nominations for the three incumbent Directors, Helen Glass, Mary Prusko and Scott Smith for re-election.

Secretary Glass received one nomination from the floor from Coleen Smith for all three incumbents. All three were elected unanimously.

Secretary Glass then called for nominations for the three open director positions.

A nomination was made by Ellen Sinski for Peter Siniski as director. Peter was elected unanimously.

A nomination was made by Marietta Zacker for Douglas Zacker as director. Douglas was elected unanimously.

After a call for a third nomination, Jean Poirier volunteered; and was subsequently nominated by James Poirier and elected unanimously.

Secretary Glass congratulated all the newly elected directors and wished them well.

The Meeting was then turned over to Treasurer, Mary Prusko who gave her financial report.

TREASURER'S REPORT

- Our total bank balance as of July 26, 2025 was over \$14,380 inclusive of a CD of \$5,000.
- Our total bank balance as of July 31, 2026 was over \$19,000. also inclusive of the CD.
- The CD will be rolled over in September. We will look for the best terms.
- Our net increase was approximately \$4,600., due mostly to Membership renewals, donations for Boater's Guides and sale of the ILA Calendars.
- Last year's meeting: \$1,600 in sales, \$2,200 in costs, net loss of approximately \$600.
- Membership at 139 (up from 135); 12 new members joined; 60% of membership was up for renewal

Programs and Sponsorships

- Merrill Scholarship awarded to Hunter Tracy, who will be attending Paul Smith College, majoring in environmental services.
- Indian Lake Theater sponsorship increased.
- Community Pride cleanup program was sponsored again.
- The Facebook page grew from 485 to 600 followers.
- We also allocated funds for the Calendar, the Boater's Guide, and the Newsletter.

- If anyone would like a more detailed copy of the financials, please contact her at Treasurer.ILA.ADK@gmail.com

DAM REHABILITATION UPDATE

President Glass thanked Treasurer Prusko for her report, and introduced John Callaghan, Executive Director of the Hudson River Black River Regulating District.

Director Callaghan thanked President Glass for the invitation to speak once again, and then introduced Mark Finkle, Chairman of the Hudson River Area of HRBRD. Director Callaghan then reported:

- DEC issued formal approval-to-fill last week, a key milestone for the project.
- Project ran 36 months vs. the planned 24; water levels kept normal throughout all three construction seasons
- Challenging hydrology: record ice year, rapid inflow, Great Sacandaga 15ft over target elevation
- Contractor (C.D. Perry of Troy) now on punch list; engineer is Colliers Engineering Design
 - Punch list issued the prior week; conference call held to confirm scope
- Site restoration underway, including new car-top launch and parking area (16-20 spaces estimated)
- Contractor expected to demobilize by end of September; site fully open by then
- Dam structure sound; engineers say it can retain water for another 500+ years if maintained
- New real-time water gauge data live on the regulating district website, replacing USGS feed
 - More interactive than the old USGS site; feedback welcomed
- Light pollution concern raised by attendees
 - Commitment to turn off non-operational lights when staff not present
 - Request to angle lights toward dam rather than toward houses; will be reviewed

- Conklinville Dam project currently out to bid; part of \$100M, 10-year infrastructure investment

President Glass then introduced our featured speaker, Denise Silfee, Director of Education and Communications of the Adirondack Center for Loon Conservation, who presented

“THE SECRET LIFE OF NESTING LOONS”

- Mission: research, conservation, and outreach using loons as environmental sentinels for freshwater ecosystem health.
- Mercury monitoring ongoing since 1998; ~700-800 loons banded, ~500 estimated still alive.
 - Mercury levels plateaued 2010-2019; concern that recent rollbacks to air quality regulations may reverse this.
- ~28-30 lake monitors track ~100 lakes each summer; nest cameras capture behavior when researchers aren't present.
- Loons nest May-August; nest up to 4 times if earlier nests fail.
 - Nest site fidelity: return to same spot annually; males choose site, prefer birthplace.
 - Two eggs laid asynchronously; hatch ~28 days apart; one chick often stronger.
- Key threats to nesting success:
 - Water level rise (flooding): #1 cause of nest failure in 2024.
 - Black flies: can force nest abandonment; longer seasons linked to warming temperatures.
 - Extreme heat: loons overheat at 88°F+, may abandon nest to cool down.
 - Human disturbance: flushing behavior triggered by people too close (stay 150ft away).
 - Lead fishing tackle: primary human-caused cause of loon death; fatal within 2-4 weeks if ingested
 - Bald eagles: #1 predator of loon chicks.
- Climate change shifting nesting range northward; Adirondacks now the southernmost nesting edge.

- Population concern: slow but steady decline in chick presence over 20+ years.
 - A breeding pair produces ~12 chicks over 24 years; only 3-4 reach breeding age.
- Floating nest platforms available for deployment on private property where nests repeatedly fail due to water level.
- Loon Observation Reporting Tool (to be renamed Loon Tracker): interactive map on adkloon.org for public sightings.
- If a loon is tangled in fishing line: photograph it and call the Loon Center with location details.

President Glass thanked director Silfee for her presentation, and proceeded with her report.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

- Transition year following resignations of Glenn and Dan.
- Dock issue remains unresolved: DEC enforcement not expected to soften; each member must weigh their own risk.
 - Some abandoned docks still floating; cleanup is a state responsibility.
- Wake boat petition: ILA surveyed members; results split 50/50; decided not to join Blue Mountain Lake Association's petition to regulate wake boats on Indian Lake.
- Water quality testing program under consideration.
 - Hamilton County Soil and Water results hard to find and possibly behind on Indian Lake.
 - Testing kit costs ~\$400; need volunteers to conduct it.
- Light pollution: encouraged members to aim lights downward and talk to neighbors.
- Picnic table at Long Beach: a third table added after email to forest ranger.

Community Support and Spending

- Theater sponsorship increased to \$500.
- Monthly trivia event sponsorship began (previously hosted by Axes and Irons, now closed); survey asks whether to continue.

- Scholarship amount (\$500) under review for increase; survey input requested.
- Survey on back of agenda covers donation priorities, fireworks, trivia, and other topics; directors review all responses. Please complete it.
- Lisa and Justin's Dock-and-Dine will be available again next summer at the marina; cards left on the table.

After questions and comments from the members, President Glass adjourned the meeting at 11:30 am. Next meeting will be next July or August 2027, date/time/place TBD

Respectfully Submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read 'Helen Glass', followed by a period.

Helen Glass, Secretary to ILA