

# Rushford Lake Landowners' Association, Inc.

Volume 60 No. 4

Fall 2018

Official Newsletter of the  
Rushford Lake Landowners'  
Association



## RAFFLE WINNERS!

2019 Summer  
Vacation Package  
(R&K Marina)

~ Gene Partridge ~

Gold Lake Pendant  
(Bill Hart—Hart's Jewelry)

~ Bill Thompson ~

Handmade Quilt  
(Jeanne Elliot)

~ Elaine Sobczyk ~

**Congratulations!**

## RUSHFORD LAKE PENDANT



AVAILABLE FROM:  
**HART'S JEWELRY**  
WELLSVILLE, NY  
585-593-2775

# Fall Newsletter — 2018

Our 60th Year

## From the President & Board of Directors

**T**his past summer was certainly one for the books! We called out for help... and it came pouring in. Our lake community was given a unique opportunity to come together, have fun, celebrate and raise money for the good of the whole, and we did it in fine style.

This newsletter will give testament to the many people and

businesses who turned a somewhat wild idea into a successful endeavor. Crafted as an event to celebrate both the 90th Anniversary of the Caneadea Dam and the 60th of the Landowners' Association, the real target was to raise funds to assist with the financing of mechanical parts of the Caneadea Dam that were in critical need of repair.

Please read the articles in this



newsletter and see what has been going on at the lake. It truly was a summer to remember — and one to serve as an example of how the concept of "It takes a Village" can work so well when we band together and unify our efforts.

## Our Association — 60 Years Strong!

It has been some time since we did a review of who we are and how we got to be what we are today, so here is a short look back at our 60 years.

In 1958 lake residents responded to a request from the owners of the lake — Rochester Gas & Electric (RG&E) to organize a landowners' group to act as a liaison for issues around the lake. The organization was established with eleven lake "areas" each with an Area Director who acted as the liaison with RG&E.

In the mid-1970's RG&E proposed dismantling the Caneadea Dam because it no longer provided a useful function for the company. So, throughout the next several years the Landowners' Association spearheaded the effort to "Save the Lake" and

protect the real estate investments for all District landowners. Under the exceptional leadership of Tom DeBolski and a Steering Committee, the towns of Rushford and Caneadea were brought together to formulate Chapter 78 which created the Rushford Lake Recreation District in 1981.

During the early 1990's when tax assessments skyrocketed due to new rules and regulations the RLLA took up a grassroots initiative to fight unreasonable taxation. A strong committee learned plenty and fought to see a 10% decrease in tax assessment. Meanwhile, our "Legal Fund" was created and stands at the ready to this day.

About the time of Y2K, Association leadership researched how to get fireworks on the lake. This

is when we asked landowners to pony up for the annual display — and here we are with our July 3rd tradition.

Ten years ago, in celebration of our 50th Anniversary the RLLA held the first Chicken Bar-B-Que at Balcom Beach. It's success has made the event an annual affair!

Fast forward to 2018 and our 60th year. Once again the RLLA leadership and the Association members found new ways to celebrate. The theme was "Denim, Diamonds and the Dam" — not only an anniversary celebration (both the RLLA and the Caneadea Dam @ 90) but a fund-raising event for the Dam. The funds raised will help to preserve and maintain the dam.

## Book Club

Another year filled with wonderful selections and lively discussion. Our group continues to be a fun

and stimulating mix of readers of all levels.

The last meeting for 2018 will be held Tuesday Nov. 13th. The reading selection is The Girl Who

Wrote in Silk, by Kelli Estes.

Everyone is welcome to join in at anytime. The Book Club meets at the Rushford Free Library at 2:30 PM.

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## Rushford Lake Landowners' Association – Fall 2018

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### Past President Tom DeBolski Honored

On August 24th, several friends, neighbors and officials gathered, rather quietly, to honor and remember an Association Past President who gave much time and energy to the Rushford Lake Landowners' Association and the Rushford Lake District. Thomas F. DeBolski was instrumental in guiding the way toward the formation of the Rushford Lake Recreation District.

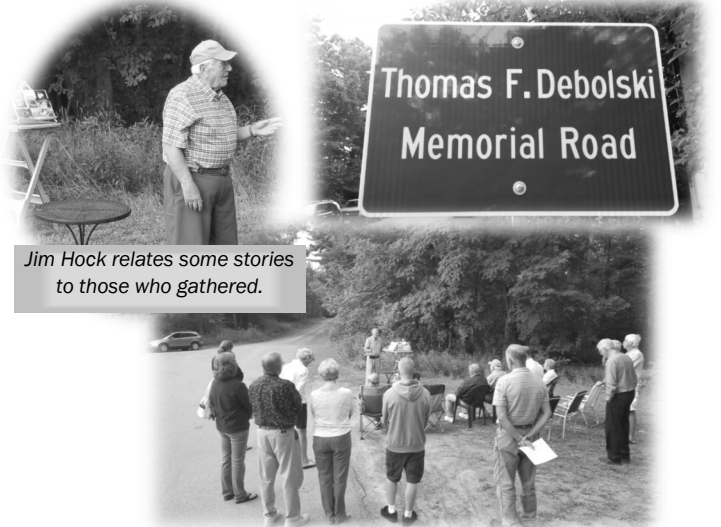
Tom was remembered by those who knew him, worked with him and those who considered him a friend. In his honor, Dam Road in the Town of Caneadea has been officially named the

#### Thomas F. DeBolski Memorial Drive.

Tom's leadership in saving the Caneadea Dam was remarkable. He assembled a diverse group of individuals to help advise and ultimately find a solution to preserving Rushford Lake.

In 1980, after years of dedicated work, the dam and the lake were deeded to the landowners and it remains the first lake district formed in New York State.

A fine tribute to one who gave much to this lake community. Tom was a U.S. Navy veteran who served in WWII. He was a



Jim Hock relates some stories to those who gathered.

Bob Panter recounts some of Tom's accomplishments.

teacher and administrator in the Salamanca City School District and was active in the NYS Athletic Association. Tom passed away in April, 2016 after retiring to Fort Meyer, FL.

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## 90th Anniversary Gala Celebration — *Denim, Diamonds & The Dam*

*This successful fundraiser was made possible thanks to the many hands that helped and some outstanding sponsors! Ultimately, through ticket sales, raffles and sponsorships we raised \$40,000 for the Caneadea Dam @ Rushford Lake Fund*

**EVENT CHAIRPERSON:** Faith Sikorski Olson

**COMMITTEE MEMBERS:** Samantha Helwig, Kaitlin Houghtaling, Kate Himes, Muriel Kummer, Randi Sturbo, Julie Westerman

**SPONSORS:** Julie Walter & Mary Jo Hubbard

**PUBLICITY:** Bonnie Cady

**PRINT, DESIGN & DATABASE MANAGEMENT:** Dick Hubbard

**DECORATIONS & FAVORS:** Terry Franger

**BASKET RAFFLE:** Sandy Gleed

**PRESALE RAFFLE:** Mary Jo Hubbard

**SET-UP/TEARDOWN:** RLLA Board of Directors

**TENT DONATION:** Kathy Hock & Paul Smith

#### CORPORATE EVENT SPONSORS:

Ace's Country Cupboard, Allen's Marine Sales & Service, Bennington Marine, C & R Landscaping, Fillmore Pharmacy, Fillmore Shop n' Save, Hart's Jewelry, Heppner's Liquor Store, Keller Marine Services Inc., M&T Bank, Maxim Management Services LLC, Nautique Boat Company, Nicholson Pharmacy, Nunda Lumber & Hardware Inc., Pioneer Propane, Pomeroy Well Drilling, R & K Marina, Inc., Reed's Liquors Inc., Schwab Aggregates LLC, SEKO Logistics, Thomas & Johnson, Inc., Uncle Tom's Cabin



*Thank You, everyone!*

Sunset over the tents at the Gala

**INDIVIDUAL SPONSORS:** Jeanne Elliott, Michael & Marsha Abraszek, Anonymous

# Rushford Lake Landowners' Association - Fall 2018

## Food Pantry Boat Drive Successful

Once again, the landowners who could, left donations of non-perishable goods at their dock so that RLLA volunteers could pick up and deliver the filled bags to the Rushford Area Food Pantry.

The Food Pantry is a local, private, non-denominational entity that offers food to those in

need within the Rushford Area. Yearly, the donations that we make from the Rushford Lake community is the largest single contribution that the Food Pantry receives.

The Food Pantry and those families and individuals who are less fortunate are grateful for our continued support.



Empty Before...

Our Donation!



The Ground Crew with Food Pantry manager, Cheri Wade

## 2019 Lake Guide Information

Next year the Lake Guide will be produced directly by the Association via a committee of the Board of Directors. If you are interested in helping out, please send over an email and let us know.

The plan is to keep the format very similar to the past several years, but you will probably see some changes, nevertheless.

If you have pictures that you would like to share, please send them to the below listed email address. We will attempt to accommodate as many photos as we can.

In addition, if you would like to place an ad in the book or know of someone who would, please let us know and we will work out the details together.

If your name or address information listed in the directory is incorrect, please let us know so that we can get it published correctly.

Here is the contact information that you should use:

Email address:

[RushfordLake@yahoo.com](mailto:RushfordLake@yahoo.com)

Phone:

716-604-8380

## 2019 Calendar of Events...

RLLA Annual Meeting	TBD
Fill The Lake Contest	TBD
Annual Fireworks	Dusk, July 3rd
18th Annual Golf Outing	Sat., July 27
RLRD Elections	Sat., July 27
Chicken Bar-B-Que	Sat., August 10
Kid's Fishing Derby	Sat., August 31
Food Pantry Boat Drive	Sun., Sept 1

## More Thanks...

It seems we can never thank enough those who are supportive of our lake district and step up to the plate to make things happen. Our special thanks to:

The **Vom Scheidt family...** for providing a place on their lake frontage for fireworks.

**Bob Panter and Gary Jaros...** for helping the fireworks crew get set-up before and after the event!

**Brian Hohmann...** for running the Kid's Fishing Derby this year.

Food Pantry volunteers—boat crews, ground crews!

The **Jaros family...** for participating in the Rushford Labor Day Parade!

...**Happy Thanksgiving to All!**...