1992-93 Annual Meeting was held on June 7, 1992

> Lake Williams Informational Update Sunday, June 7, 1992 Lake Williams Campground 4:00 p.m.

Old Proposal - State Ownership: Following is the town/lake's portion of the old proposal: \$600,000 Total Purchase Cost -200,000 1/3 State Share 400,000 2/3 Town Share -250,000 State Grant \$150,000 Share to be paid by Lake Residents - State owned dam and water rights - No local control - by either town or lake residents - Public access - Project would cost approximately 1.5 million dollars

Present Proposal - 25 Year Lease

\$300,000 Cost of Lease <u>350,000</u> Repair Estimate \$650,000 Total Cost Lease/Repair

\$650,000 Total Lease/Estimated Repair Cost -217,000 1/3 State Share -250,000 State Grant

\$183,000 Share to be paid by Lake Residents

- Lake remains in local control

- No public access
- Flood & Erosion Control Board is holder of 25 year lease
- 25 year lease with right of first refusal if property is put up for sale
- Question: Should the Town of Lebanon through the Flood and Erosion Control Board proceed with negotiating a lease agreement as described in "Present Proposal" above.

# LAKE WIDE MEETING

#### Dear Friend,

While the project to lease and repair the dam has begun, there still seems to be yet another bump in the road ahead. The dam has undergone the necessary inspection and is closed once more (except for a small flow for downstream wildlife), and Lake Williams is returning.

Two things happened this week that caused some concern:

- (a) A well-intentioned but untimely attempt to unite the lake with a special district
- (b) Erroneous information that the lake group was NOT interested in the lease agreement for the dam

Both these items combined to give mixed signals to the principal people involved in this project. Because of dozens of calls and letters to both the Gilmans and 1st Selectman Joyce Okonuk, they are once again convinced that the lease agreement is OK as far as the lake group is concerned. State Officials, however, are being a little more cautious and have suggested that a formal "nose count" be taken to see exactly how much support for this project there really is!

Acting on this suggestion, a meeting has been scheduled for next Sunday. The meeting will be held at Rider's Lake Williams Campground Pavilion. In attendance will be 1st Selectman Joyce Okonuk, Cyrus & Evan Gilman, Tom Morrisey and other members of the DEP. The meeting is scheduled for 4:00 PM. This will be an opportunity to get all the details and numbers. It will also be the best and hopefully the last opportunity to show the State of Connecticut how we really feel about saving Lake Williams.

To push this deal over the top, it's important that everyone attend! I don't feel that I can overemphasize the significance and impact your presence will have.

Please join us!

Sincerely yours,

Lilbert S. Koss

President, LWBA

5-31-92

LAKEWIDE - SPECIAL MEETING -SUNDAY JUNE 7,1992 4:00 PM LAKE WILLIAMS CAMPGROUND

# LAKE WILLIAMS BEACH ASSOCIATION ANNUAL MEETING

Sunday - June 7th, 1992 - 1:30PM at The ACRE



#### AGENDA:

Lake Situation Update Secretary's Report Tax Collector's Report Treasurer's Report Auditors' Report Old Business

#### **NEW BUSINESS:**

Discussion and Vote on Ratification/Rescinding of the Special Assessment Discussion and Vote (if appropriate) on the Dispersal of The Lake Preservation Funds Adopt 1992/93 Budget Set LWBA Fees for 1992/93 LWBA Annual Picnic Mile Long Tag Sale Nomination of Officers Election of Officers Swearing In of Officers Other New Business Adjournment

#### Nominations will be taken for the following offices:

Office	Current
President	Gilbert A. Koss
Vice-President	Harley Atkins
Secretary	Nancy Viccaro
Treasurer	Kent Sleath
Tax Collector	Phil Godeck
Director	John Serbin
Director	Valerie Dinardi

Proposed by Nominating Comm.

Gilbert A. Koss Valerie Dinardi Nancy Viccaro John Serbin Phil Godeck Kent Sleath Harley Atkins

(Directorship is a 2 year term. The remaining 2 Directors, Audrey Koss and April Schulze, have terms that expire in 1993.) Additional Nominations can be made from the floor or by contacting the Nominating Committee Chairperson, Valerie Dinardi, at 642-4042 (LK Wms) or 873-1789 (Home).

#### Commentary

Ever since Oct 1978 when the Army Corp of Engineers recommended that corrections be made to the dam and spillway, Lake Williams' existence has been at risk. Much time, effort, and money was expended on trying to solve the problem of repairing the dam and subsequent preservation of the lake.

Many solutions from "do nothing... it'll take care of itself" to "buy the dam privately" and everything in between has been proposed. Several ideas have been actually tried, but rejected by one or more parties to the deal. The DEP wants the dam repaired, the Gilman Company wants compensation for it's ownership rights and expenses, the Town of Lebanon wants to preserve Lake Williams, at as little cost as possible and... the lake property owners want a full lake on a permanent basis.

It's time to step back and take a look at the situation in the light of recent history and then weigh it against the current proposal.

May 1991 - Voters reject proposal to purchase waterfront property and help the State buy the dam. No other proposals discussed.

June 2, 1991 - LWBA votes to assess itself \$150K to donate to the Town of Lebanon to complete the purchase.

July 1991 - Lake property owners donate \$19K in cash to aid the fund.

Sept 8, 1991 - LWBA passes resolution to guarantee loan repayment to creditors, and accept and disperse all funds for the preservation of Lake Williams.

Sept 9, 1991 - Letter from Rep. Fred Gelsi stating that the town's share must be raised by taxation across the grand list. However; similar options might be considered.

**Sept 10, 1991** - Letter to Charles Gilman from LWBA notifying him of the lake residents commitment to provide the town's portion.

Oct 7, 1991 - Having raised over \$150K in cash and commitments, the LWBA officially notified 1st Selectman Richard Bauwens that the fundswould be available.

Oct thru Feb - Gilmans reopen meetings with DEP on the basis of all necessary funds being available.

Feb 14, 1992 - DEP notifies Gilmans that the project can proceed.

Apr 1992 - DEP notifies Gilmans that due to budget cutbacks, the promised State funding is no longer available and all negotiations are suspended.

May 1-7, 1992 - Gilmans meet with DEP. DEP offers to help finance a lease and repair agreement between the town and the Gilmans.

May 8, 1992 - 1st Selectperson Joyce Okonuk calls an informational meeting to allow the DEP to discuss the lake situation directly with lake property owners.

May 9, 1992 - 1st Selectperson Okonuk proposes that the Flood and Erosion Board be reappointed as primary authority to the lake districts in Lebanon.

May 17, 1992 - Informational meeting at Lake Williams Campground.

Page 2

## CURRENT PROPOSAL

Because of the State's current financial problems, and because the DEP had committed to a project that would run over 1 million dollars, the DEP has cut back on it's initial offer to purchase the dam.

A different proposition is being considered by the town. This is a 25 year lease of the dam, by the Town of Lebanon, with the State putting up most of the money.

To recap the details, the basic premise is for the town to lease the dam from the Gilman Company for 25 years in return for a one-time cash payment of \$300K. The town will repair the dam under the watchful eye of the DEP (approximately \$350K for repair). The DEP will reimburse the town for 1/3 the cost of the lease and the repair (approximately \$217K). The town will receive a Grant for \$250K. This leaves a balance of \$183K to be provided for by the town.

From the results of previous referendums, it seems obvious that the lake property owners will be the ones to shoulder the \$183K (or larger) deficit.

We know that all funds from the State MUST go to the town, therefore it's rational to assume that the Town of Lebanon will be doing the negotiating with both the State and the Gilman Company.

With the lake property owners temporarily out of the negotiations, 1st Selectperson Joyce Okonuk called a meeting of lake area resi-

#### SNOLVER JOINS

dents. This meeting was strictly informational for both the Town and the lake area. Members of the DEP were there to provide answers and info straight from the source. The lake property owners that attended gave almost unanimous support for proceeding with the lease agreement.

After some discussion, it was decided that the best way to expedite the situation, was to reappoint a new Flood and Erosion Control Board. This Board has the authority to complete the lease agreement, assess funds as necessary, and repair the dam.

Realizing that speed was essential, the lake was drawn down to facilitate the inspection of the dam. I was informed that a topographical study of the lake bottom was necessary. This is why the total drawdown.

The initial tentative timetable is to inspect the dam and lake bottom, close the dam to leave water over the summer, and repair in the fall.

The need to expedite this lease and repair might not be immediately obvious but, if you look back at the history of negotiations you'll find that the State keeps on changing players. Every 2 years there's a new group of officials that have to consider whether to honor the promises of their predecessors. There may be a lot of new faces after the November elections. Concluding this arrangement quickly is essential!

Page 3

#### ADDITIONAL INFO & CONSIDERATIONS

On Sunday the 17th of May there was an impromptu meeting called by some concerned property owners. It was held at the Lake Williams Campground and MC'd by Bud Hathaway. Bud and a few associates had been working all winter on a Special Municipal District to fund the town's share of the DEP's proposal to purchase and repair the dam. The fact that the DEP now says that they don't want to OWN the dam, had pushed this Special District aside.

The lease agreement that the DEP wants will mean that 25 years from now a new lease will have to be negotiated. This point was brought up at the meeting along with a suggestion to include a "purchase option" in the lease. This could overcome the problem of renegotiation in the future and allow the town the opportunity to purchase the dam. It was strongly recommended that the Flood & Erosion Control Board approach negotiations for the lease with this as a consideration.

As the Flood & Erosion Control Board would be responsible not only for Lake Williams, but for the other lakes in town also, it is logical to assume that people from other areas of the town will also be seated on the board.

To try to place control of Lake Williams in the hands of Lake Williams property owners, the Special Services District Ordinances were looked at again. While the Special Municipal District didn't fit the new situation, a Special Taxing District based on Flood and Erosion Control for Lake Williams might. Most of the details were already addressed and it would not be too difficult to alter the ordinances to fit.

Petitions were signed to have the Lebanon Board of Selectmen call a meeting in the Lake District surrounding Lake Williams. The petition basically was to enact a Special Taxing

District that would be involved in the acquisition and maintenance of the dam.

On the surface this looks like an excellent vehicle for determining the future of the lake area. But, like everything else, it may not be as easy as it looks. In fact we have to consider some risks involved.

(a) The Special Taxing district could be put in place within 30-60 days. But it might take longer. How much time can we allow?

(b) No matter how fast it's done, will the participation of a Special Taxing District be recognized by the State? The State has indicated that it prefers to deal with the Town of Lebanon and that the Flood & Erosion Control Board is OK.

(c) If the Special Taxing District will have control of the Lake Williams dam, will it still have to answer to the town's Flood & Erosion Board? If so... what really is gained?

(d) Will the Special Taxing District be empowered to negotiate on behalf of the town in this matter?

The reality of the matter is that we need a unified voice around the lake when it comes to regulations that affect the area. In this aspect the Special Taxing District is a great idea. To insist on being involved in the actual negotiations for the lease however, could be very risky! We must consider the time element involved and what items can be changed AFTER the dam is fixed.

Your views on this matter will be appreciated.

Hilbert A. Korr President, LWBA

Page 4

#### NOTES

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Jane Sleath, who did such a terrific job organizing the last few LWBA Annual Picnics, won't be able to help this year. Your past efforts have been greatly appreciated, Jane.

Betty Godeck, April Schulze, and Audrey Koss have accepted appointment as co-chairs of this year's picnic. They would appreciate as much aid as possible. Especially those wonderful hand-crafted items donated for the fund raising portion of the picnic would be very welcomed. Your involvement is what makes this annual festivity a success.

The Mile Long Tag Sale is being considered again. While it used to be held every 2nd year, we've had it 3 years in a row and people are starting to look forward to it. We'll discuss it at the Annual Meeting.

He's done it again. Otto Koenig has put his skills into building another distinctive bulletin board. This board and the one Otto donated last year, are both superbly crafted and look like they'll be around a long time.

Thank you very much Otto. We're attempting to get permission to locate the new one near the beginning of Lake Williams Drive.

### Lake Williams Beach Association

Governmental District Established 1953 Lake Shore Dr. Bx 365

Lebanon, Conn. 06249

Tax Collector Philip Godeck

#### TAX COLLECTOR ANNUAL REPORT YEAR 1991 - 1992

- I. This report covers the period of May 14 1991 to May 13 1992 of the Lake Williams Beach Association. The Tax rate of \$345.00 was approved at the annual meeting of June 2nd 1991 also a prepayment of \$1200.00 would be accepted by the Tax Collector.
- 2. Collected during this period

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Delinquent taxes for the year 1989

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- total 145.06 767.90 55,701.55 3. There was an overpayment of \$180.00 which was refunded as the tax collector had no authroity under the State Statute of excepting anything other then voted taxes. this amount is not included in my inter Totac
- 4. Number of property owners who are delinquent of 1991 fiscal year are 13 and notices of liens were mailed.
- 5. The Board of Directors meeting of May 1st 1992 amended the collection of \$300.00 part of the taxes, which I received 4 payments. As the books were closed for the fisc year 1991 these payment were entered for the year 1992. The follow up of the notices 9 liens were filed and 1 release. Outstanding liens 4 in the year 1990 and 1 for \$9.

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Miscellaneous Expenses	250.00		250.00	
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# The Governmental District of: LAKE WILLIAMS BEACH ASSOCIATION

Established 1953

June 17th, 1992

Dear Friend,

We are returning the money that was raised to save Lake Williams with our hearty thanks. At the Annual Meeting held on June 7th, 1992, the LWBA voted to rescind the assessment it had placed on itself the previous year. The group also decided to refund all assessments, contributions, and loans received during the year for the "Save the Lake" project.

The fund which totaled over \$150,000 in cash and commitments, had done a great job. It showed that the Lake Residents were intent on saving Lake Williams! This show of commitment was the catalyst that revived a seemingly dead issue. When it seemed the darkest, you and your neighbors showed that you were serious enough to provide the substantial amount of money needed for the town to complete the deal on the dam.

Now the \$150,000 that was raised has lost it's usefulness. A promising lease agreement is on the table and the town hopes to complete all negotiations this summer. The needed monies will probably be raised by an assessment on Lake District properties in the near future. Therefore, we are returning all funds, with earnings, to their source.

Enclosed you will find a check(s) matching the amount that you committed to this cause, plus a small amount of interest. The fluctuation of interest rates, sometimes on a daily basis, made it impossible to calculate to the absolute penny how much each participant was to receive back. Consequently, with the permission of the LWBA, we are distributing all earnings on a per dollar basis.

If you feel that any error has been made, please contact either myself or LWBA Treasurer John Serbin.

On behalf of your neighbors, the LWBA Board of Directors, and myself, I thank you sincerely for your confidence and continuing support.

Sincerely yours,

Gilbert A. Korr

President, LWBA

# - NEWS LETTER -

**JULY 1992** 

Editor - April Schulze



## Hi neighbor!

The annual LWBA meeting was held on June 7th. I will give you the highlights of the meeting and then go into detail on each item. A vote was taken on returning the "Save the Lake" funds. Dates were set for the Mile Long Tag Sale and the Annual Picnic. The proposed slate of officers was voted in without changes. The new business included discussing the condition of the pavilion at the Acre (especially the roof) and the appointment of a Beach Committee Chairman.

The group voted to rescind the assessment it had placed on itself the previous year and to refund all assessments, contributions, and loans received during the year. It was also agreed that the interest would be calculated on a per dollar basis. Since the meeting, a concentrated effort has been made to mail out all the checks. If you have not received vours vet, it should arrive within a week. Contact Gil Koss or LWBA Treasurer John Serbin to resolve any problems. Once again I would like to say that your generosity and commitment was not only heart-warming but also effective. We are all anticipating

a successful outcome of this continuing effort.

The Mile-Long Tag Sale will be held on Saturday, July 11th & 12th from 9 AM to 3 PM. Nancy Vicarro is again in charge of this fund-raising event. Those that would like to hold a tag sale on that day should give the \$5.00 fee to Nancy. Most of the fees are used to cover the cost of advertising. The "Certificate of Participation" should then be displayed at your tag sale. This annual event is becoming well known and is well attended by customers. It is a good opportunity for those that participate.

This year a tag sale will be at the Koss cottage to benefit the repair of the pavilion roof. It was obvious to those that sat in the pavilion that the roof is in very sad shape. The Association voted to table ideas of getting water, electricity, and bathrooms on the acre to make it more usable. But it would be wise to repair the roof before there is further decay. Several people are interested in this project and are willing to donate their time. This worthy cause will be the target of this year's Association bake sale at the Koss cottage on July 11th. Please help us to "raise the roof" by delivering baked goods (or select tag sale items in good condition) between 7:30 - 8:30 AM Saturday morning. We would also love to have you come and man the tables for a spell, or take a break from your tag sale to come buy a snack. Hope to see you there!

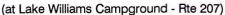
The beach committee is in its forming stage. Dave Schulze has been appointed Chairman (642-7823 or 228-3823). So far members of the committee are Ron Steinhilber & Gil Koss. Anyone who cares to join this committee please contact Dave or one of the members. We need some ideas on how to (inexpensively) solve our erosion problems and make the three beaches safe and enjoyable for our members. The first meeting will be Sunday, July 12th at 1:00 PM at the Schulze cottage (284 Lake Williams Dr. - second cottage on the water from first beach). If you have thoughts you would like to share, come to the meeting or somehow get the ideas to the committee. We will also welcome strong backs and willing volunteers for the labor involved.

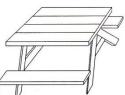
The latest on the lake is that the Flood & Erosion Control Board has been appointed by the Town's Board of Selectmen. It consists of the following members: Selectman Joyce Okonuk, Harold Liebman, Carlton (Bud) Hathaway, Atty A. Timothy Smith & Alan Seilhammer. Alternates: Michael Melville & Harry Stoll. They have already held a couple meetings. They meet at the Lebanon Town Hall every Tuesday at 8:00 PM.

Office	Elected	Res.	Lk Wms	
President	Gilbert A. Koss	623-9278	642-7336	
Vice President	Valerie Dinardi	873-1789	642-4042	
Secretary	Nancy Viccaro	666-2880	642-6387	
Treasurer	John Serbin	642-7292		
Tax Collector	Phil Godeck	642-6292		
Director	Kent Sleath	633-9564		
Director	Harley Atkins	345-8148	642-7299	
Director	Audrey Koss	623-9278	642-7336	
Director	April Schulze	228-3823	642-7823	



# LWBA 44th ANNUAL PICNIC





## SATURDAY JULY 25TH, 1992 - 12 NOON TO ?

Picnic time is just around the corner again. This annual event will bring Lake Williams Beach Association families together with West Shore Owners and Seasonal Campers for fun, food, and frolic.

Again Lee & Sandy Rider have graciously offered the use of Lake Williams Campground for the picnic. There will be free hot dogs, hamburgs, and soft drinks. Please bring a potluck dish or dessert that will serve 8. We are adopting the campground tradition of everyone bringing their own plates, silverware, and tablecloth. Plans are to eat at 1:00 PM and continue the afternoon with games, etc. Of special interest is a Hay Ride through the campgrounds at 7:00 PM.

As in the past, this group effort invites your participation. Volunteers will be welcomed in several areas. Valerie

M

Dinardi (642-4042) will be leading the children's games. She will be needing helpers, judges, and donated prizes. We also need people to cook and help with food. The picnic committee will hold a meeting to plan the event on Friday, July 17th at 7 PM at the Koss cottage. Feel free to join us then or just show up at the picnic and pitch in.

The terrific donations to the Chinese Auction last year made it so successful that we are going to do it again. Hand-crafted and new items can be dropped off at Betty Godeck's house or brought to the picnic before noon.

We need a head count for planning purposes. Please complete the form below (or relay the information) by Thursday, July 16th to one of the committee co-chair persons: Audrey Koss (642-7336) April Schulze (642-7823) Betty Godeck (642-6292)

lail to: A	pril Schulze	223 W.	Main St.,	Hebron,	CT.	06248
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 Name:			Phone#:	3
Number planning to atte (Members,Seaso (Guests - \$2.00 ea	nal Campers		wners - No charge)	
I will bring (circle one)	Salad	Casserole	Vegetable	Dessert

# Lebanon to vote on lake dam project

By DEAN R. JACOBOWITZ Chronicle Staff Writer

LEBANON — Although property owners around Lake Williams will shoulder the cost of a dam repair project, voters at a town meeting will have to grant their approval before the project can get under way.

State and town officials, who met Tuesday to discuss details of the repair project, said the town meeting will be one of the earliest steps in the process. The town vote will be required, they said, because the town will have to enter into an agreement to lease the dam from its owner, the Gilman Brothers Co. of Bozrah.

Lebanon's flood and erosion control board and the state Department of Environmental Protection are hammering out an agreement to lease the dam for 25 years, a proposal recently favored by members of the Lake Williams Beach Association. Tom Morrissey, director of the Inland Water Resources Division of the DEP's Bureau of Water Management, said Tuesday the project could be complete by fall 1993 if all the details can be settled in time. If townwide approval is granted by late September, he said, the final construction plans could be ready by Halloween. The state would then execute the lease with the Gilmans.

After a 30-day public notice period, he said, the project could go out to bid. Construction could then get under way by March 1, 1993.

The total cost of the project is estimated at \$650,000, Morrissey said. A \$250,000 state grant has already been set aside for the project and the state will pay another onethird, or \$225,000. Lake area residents are expected to share a final cost of about \$200,000. CHRONICIC THUR AUG 692