

Exploring the Lake Associations: The Quest for Data

31 May 2017

NSF-CNH Annual Team Meeting II

Madison, WI



grassroots
Bottom-up
Collective action

Goal of Civic Associations


Improve community through volunteer work by its members

Approach

Influence through collaboration & persuasion
(and possibly/sometimes direct policy)

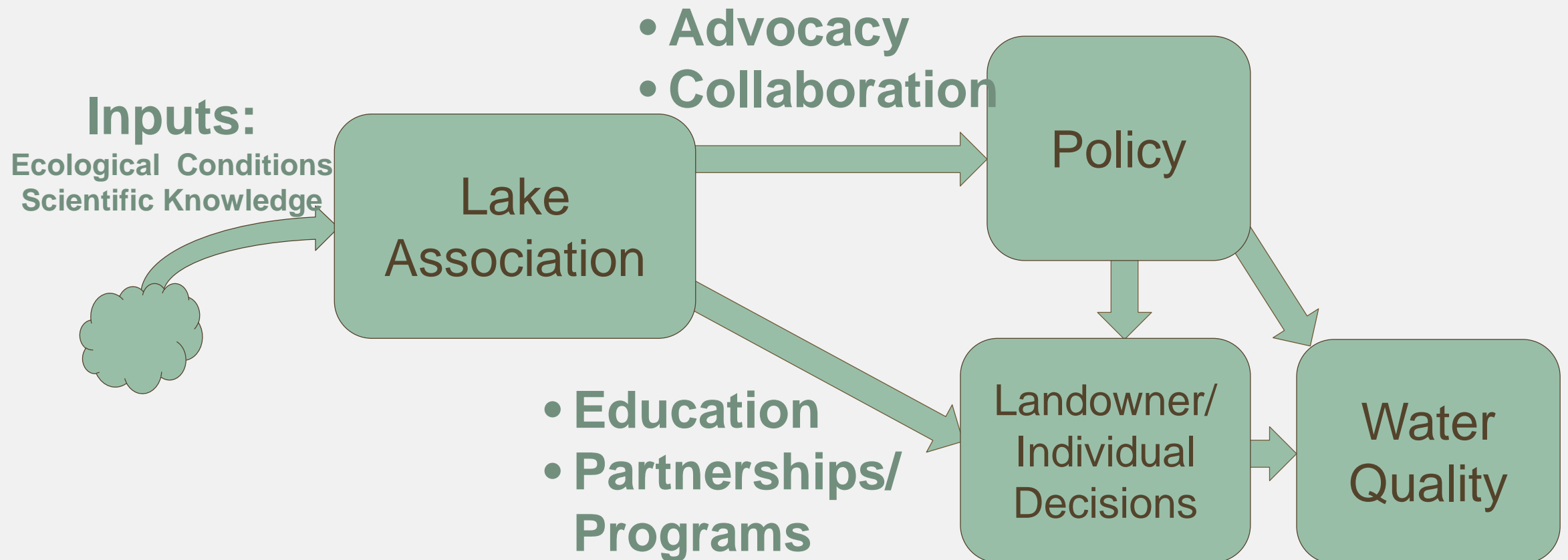


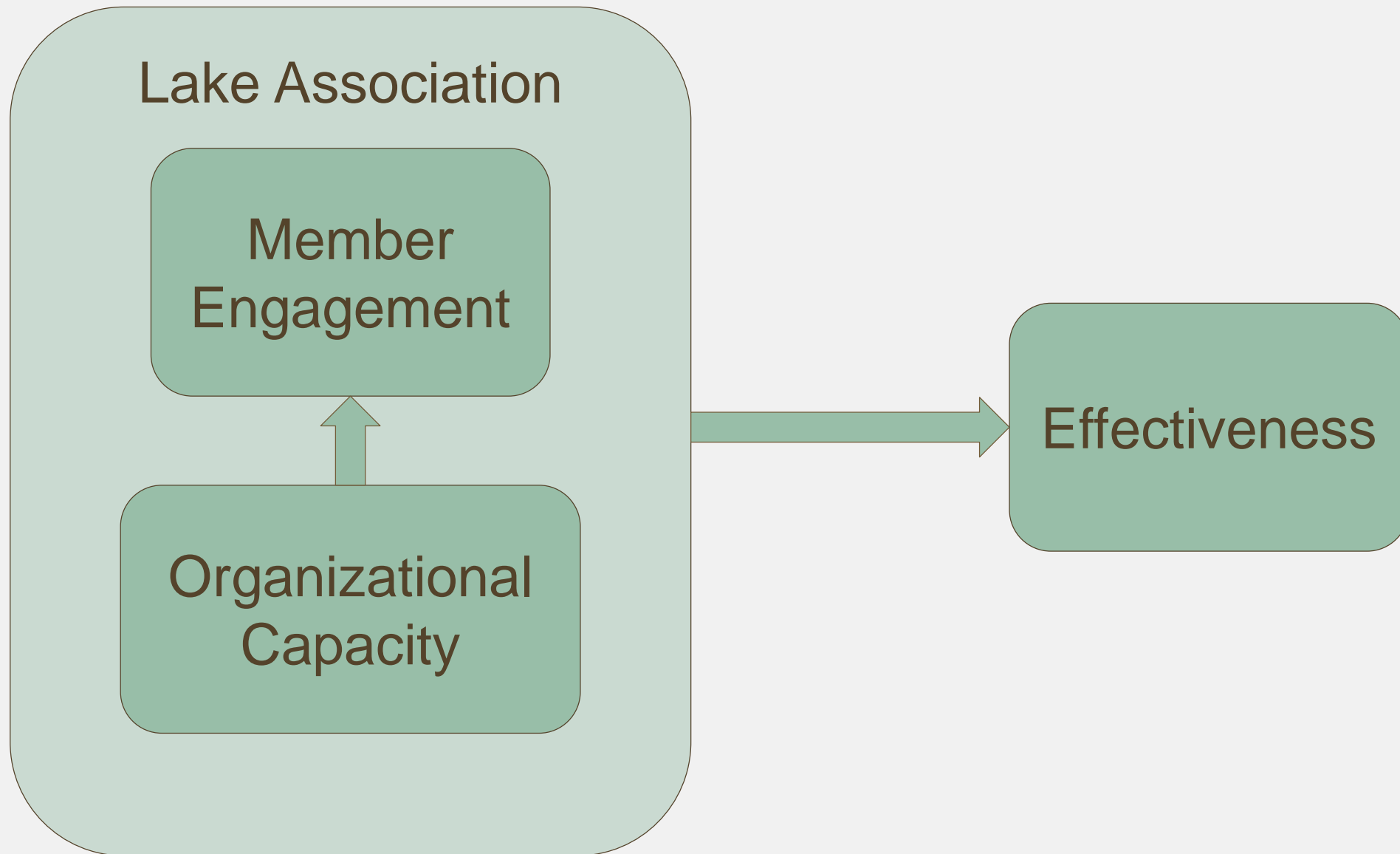
Lake Associations are Civic Associations



...apply surveys, interviews, and document analysis to understand the **organizational capacity** and **effectiveness** of lake associations and the ways in which these associations use information about lake water quality to **influence land-use policies**.

How can lake associations affect land use decision making?





Member Engagement

Degree to which organization
generates participation/involvement



FACILITATING ENGAGEMENT

Size | Social Connectedness |
Perceived Competence | Organizational
Attachment | Leadership

Organizational Capacity

What about the institution facilitates
success?



WHAT FACILITATES SUCCESS?

Membership Composition

Age | Gender | Income | Education |
Residency | Place History

WHAT FACILITATES SUCCESS?

Funds & Revenue

Budgets | Donations |
Membership Fees



WHAT FACILITATES SUCCESS?

Guiding Documents

Bylaws | Mission Statements | Policy
Briefs

Effectiveness

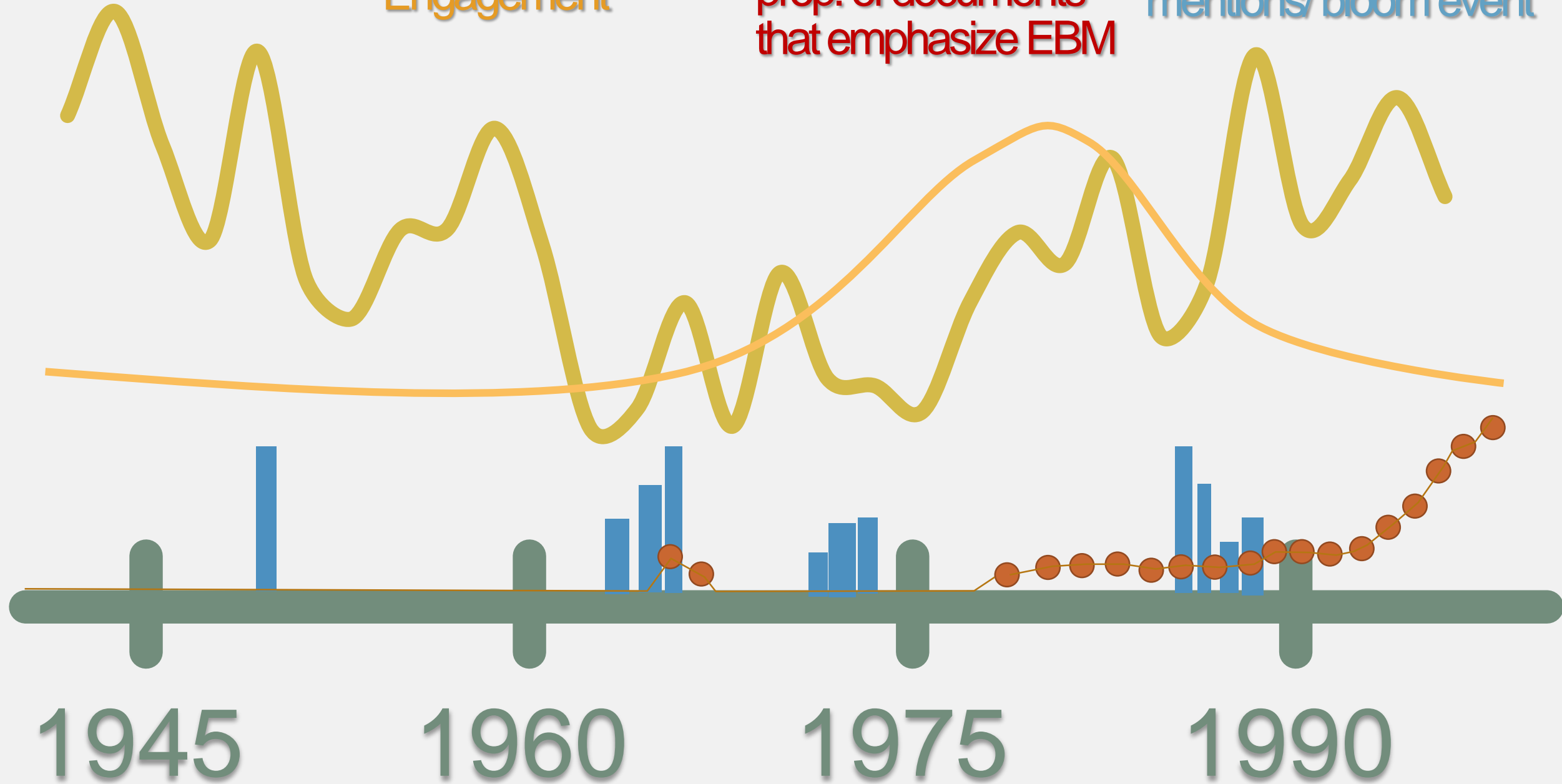
adj. : producing a result
that is **wanted** : having
an **intended** effect



Amount of Political Engagement

Ecosystem Focus:
prop. of documents
that emphasize EBM

of LA newspaper
mentions/ bloom event





INTENDED EFFECT

Public Recognition

Lake-related news articles referencing
association expertise | Awards received
| Community knowledge of
mission/activities



INTENDED EFFECT

Policy Influence

Newsletter & Newspaper Articles |
Interviews & Focus Groups with
Collaborators



INTENDED EFFECT

Social Trust

Community survey reports (survey &
focus groups)



INTENDED EFFECT

Organizational Networks

MOU's | Documentation of partnerships
| Community perceptions of
collaboration



INTENDED EFFECT

Education & Outreach

Survey research



WHERE IS THE INSTITUTIONAL
KNOWLEDGE?

Data Quest 2016



Cornell University
College of Agriculture and Life Sciences

Cornell Biological Field Station at Shackelton Point



Oneida Lake Association

Conservationists and Environmental Advocates since 1945

© Pleasant Photography
by Diane Bush



Scott Shupe (President)
President@oneidalakeassociation.org



Edward Mills (Vice President)
Elm5@cornell.edu

Oneida Lake Association

Conservationists and Environmental Advocates since 1945

What We Do

...**protect**, **restore** and **preserve** the natural resources of Oneida Lake and its surrounding ecosystem. The OLA has evolved from what was once perceived as a fishing association to what has today become a powerful environmental **partnership** group.

Scott Shupe (President)

President@oneidalakeassociation.org

Edward Mills (Vice President)

Elm5@cornell.edu

WHERE'S THE DATA?

Oneida Lake Lore

Fascinating and true stories about Oneida Lake, compiled by Jack Henke:

Books About Oneida Lake History

Oneida Lake's past has been chronicled in many forms, but two books, *Oneida Lake--Place Names and History* and *Tales of Oneida Lake*, both authored by O.L.A. Director Jack Henke and published by North Country Books, 311 Turner Street, Utica, New York, 13501, contain the most complete documentation of the lake's heritage. Both of these volumes reveal the wealth of lore and data that adorns the lake's long saga.

Oneida Lake--Place Names and History presents an accounting of Oneida's past through a discussion of the origin of the names of communities, bays, points, and even underwater reefs that are found throughout the lake's basin. This book discusses, among other topics, the Yankee origins of Bridgeport, the naming of Brewerton for a British major who served in the French and Indian War, and the story of Deswatines, the mysterious Frenchman whose legend highlights Frenchman's Island's past.

A few unusual place names add color to the Oneida story. Wantry Island was once called "One Tree Island" until ice wiped out its lone tree, prompting New York State, in its concern for navigational clarity, to rename the isle. Poddygut Shoals and Bay, both relatively rotund formations, got their titles from an old fish pirate name for a "beer belly." Nannyberry Point, located west of Constantia, acquired its name from the herd of goats kept there by the chef of the Sylvan House, a hotel on Frenchman's Island. A large blueberry patch thrived





WHERE'S THE DATA?

OLA Archived Publications

[OLA Bulletin - Fall 2015](#)
[OLA Bulletin - Spring 2015](#)
[OLA Bulletin - Fall 2014](#)
[OLA Bulletin - Spring 2014](#)
[OLA Bulletin - Summer 2013](#)
[OLA Bulletin - Spring 2013](#)
[OLA Bulletin - Summer 2010](#)
[OLA Bulletin - Spring 2010](#)
[OLA Bulletin - Summer 2009](#)
[OLA Bulletin - Spring 2009](#)
[OLA Bulletin - Spring 2008](#)

[Oneida Lake's Vital Wetlands](#)
[Oneida Lake's Precious Resource](#)
[Oneida Lake and its Environs -- 1896](#)
[Oneida Lake and its Environs -- 1897](#)[Oneida Lake Lore](#)

[2015 OLA Annual Meeting Highlights](#)

[OLA Thanks Anne Marie Buerkle](#)

[Invasion of the Water Chestnut](#)

[Editorial on Boat Noise](#)

Articles by Jim & Sue Kelly

[Chapter 1: October, 2000](#)

[Chapter 2: Halloween, 2000](#)

[Chapter 3: November, 2000](#)

[Chapter 4: Christmas, 2000](#)

[Chapter 5: New Years, 2001](#)

WHERE'S THE DATA?



Oneida Lake Association
PO Box 3536 Syracuse, NY 13220-3536
info@oneidalakeassociation.org

Do you Have information on past OLA Activities? Since the 1940s, the Oneida Lake Association has recognized the lake as the heartbeat of the region. The OLA has played a pivotal role in key issues from banning commercial fisheries to managing cormorants. I am part of a team of researchers from Cornell University, University of Wisconsin, and Virginia Tech seeking to understand how lake organizations, like OLA, support lake management and protection activities. To do so, we need your help in collecting historical information about OLA. Based on my conversations with OLA President Scott Shupe and past President Ed Mills, there is not a central archive of OLA activities that goes further back than the newsletters on the website. If you happen to have information on past OLA activities and please let us know. Materials we are looking for include:

- Old newsletters
- Meeting minutes and notes
- Letters to legislatures and agencies
- OLA resolutions
- Participation roles for volunteer activities
- Newspaper articles
- OLA produced brochures
- Any other citizen-initiated materials to enhance management and protection of the lake

I plan to visit Oneida Lake next summer or fall to attend an OLA meeting and meet with people interested in lake management and protection efforts. During that time, I would like to digitally scan any documents you may have and would like to share with our research team. This will help me do archival research into how OLA has changed over time. If you'd like to contribute to this effort, please contact Scott Shupe at President@oneidalakeassociation.org Learn more about our project: www.cnhlakes.frec.vt.edu Please contact me if you have any questions contact Mike Sorice at: msorice@vt.edu

Email from former OLA Historian

the OLA possesses a scrapbook that contains news articles compiled during the Association's formative years, 1945-1950. I gave the scrapbook to Warren Darby when I left the OLA several years ago....

The fultonhistory.com site is extremely useful...

What's missing is the "behind the scenes" interactions between Association officers and regulatory commissions. Richard Colesante and Kurt Snyder, two longtime members of the OLA's Board, can fill you in on some of these details. I would also be happy to talk with you.



SIDE NOTE ON EFFECTIVENESS

To outsiders, OLA is sometimes derogatorily referred to as the "walleye club."

-My field notes



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Meet Our Staff





Sustaining Founders



LANDS'END



Community Partners



ADAM SODERSTEN

**Director of Marketing &
Development**

"All four lakes make our city special
and I'm constantly reminded of their
beauty by friends and out-of-town
guests."



PAUL DEARLOVE

Watershed Program Director

"I feel lucky to be around so much
water and all the opportunity that
comes with it."



What We Do

Our goal is to **raise community awareness** of the issues facing the watershed, **advocate for the welfare** of our lakes, and help **procure the necessary funding to clean and protect** these waterways. We **work closely with** state, county and local government agencies, waterway user groups, businesses, and community nonprofits to serve as both a positive voice for the **promotion of our cherished lakes** and a **fundraising vehicle** for achieving these ends.

ADAM SODERSTEN

Director of Marketing &
Development

"I found lakes make our city special, and I'm constantly reminded of their beauty by friends and out-of-town guests."

PAUL DEARLOVE

Watershed Program Director

"I feel lucky to be around so much water and all the opportunity that comes with it."

WHERE'S THE DATA?

- Historical Data – Eric Olson
- Lexis-Nexus
- CLA Data – Interviews with founders, board members, and staff





LSPA

*Devoted to the Environmental Quality
of the Lake Sunapee Watershed*

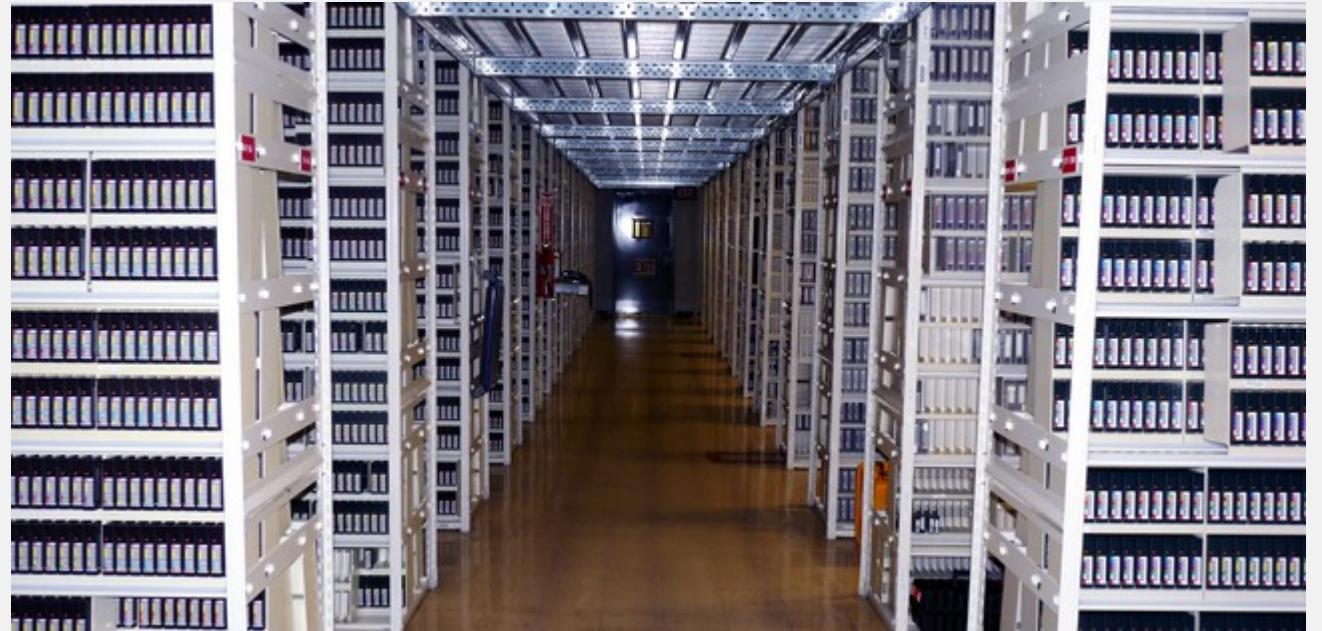




Our Mission

LSPA, founded in 1898, is a member supported nonprofit organization dedicated to **preserving and enhancing** the special environment of the Lake Sunapee Region through **education, research** and **collaborative action**.

WHERE'S THE DATA?





WHAT'S NEXT?

- M.S. Student – Leah Fitchett
 - Summer – Sunapee
 - Fall
 - Classes on historical research; interviewing; survey research
 - Begin exploring/coding the data
 - Next summer – Big data collection push



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