

## **Nominee Statements for 2014 OWLA Elections OFFICERS: (Two Year Terms)**

**1.) Dedicated to the continual improvement of the quality of Owasco Lake and its Watershed, Jim Beckwith seeks the President position of OWLA. Jim believes it is our responsibility to insure the health preservation of our drinking water, and enable healthy recreational use for our citizens. Mr. Beckwith has served two years as Vice President of OWLA and one year as President - Elect and on the Board of Directors.**

**As President – Elect Jim worked with the President and the Board of Directors leading, coordinating and collaborating issues of OWLA while continuing many of the Vice- President responsibilities as indicated and based upon priorities of the Board.**

**As the Vice-President responsibilities include collaboration in creating the Agendas, facilitating the OWLA meetings, participating with most Committees, and working with the Board to create and revise the OWLA Action/Strategic Plan. With the Vision, Mission, Goals and Objectives set for long term planning and sustainability thus allowing OWLA opportunities for grants and other funding to keep Owasco Lake clean for healthy life styles. I will continue the work of the previous presidents and the agencies for a healthy lake.**

**Representative for OWLA on the Finger Lakes Watershed Alliance, the alliance of eleven Finger Lakes for the common good of all the lakes, Jim offers insights on Owasco Lake, and its Watershed contributing ideas and experience. (This group includes a selected representative from each Lake and is looking to build strength for political recognition for the entire Finger Lakes region.) As a lifelong resident of Owasco and Auburn, Jim Beckwith believes our natural water resource must be protected for its quality to remain healthy now and in the future for generations to come. As an officer in OWLA, Jim wishes to contribute his time and energy to make a difference in improving, preserving the Owasco Lake and its Watershed. One emphasis this year is to increase the OWLA Membership. It is imperative for the OWLA watershed community to team together to keep Owasco Lake clean and healthy as it is our drinking water and is enjoyed for swimming and other recreational activities including fishing and water sports.**

### **Jim Beckwith**

2.) I am running for President-Elect of OWLA and I would like to keep on undertaking a range of activities focused on the restoration of Owasco Lake and at the same time help to increase the organizational capacity of OWLA. I offer 20 years of Environmental Planning experience in the Finger Lakes and 20 years of experience as a Director of Planning and Economic Development and as a CEO of a Not for Profit Corporation. I have been involved in various forms of the Owasco Lake Association since 1972. I currently serve as Chair of the Nutrient and Sediment Reduction Work Group for the Cayuga County Water Quality Management Agency.\*

Bob Brower

3.) I am running because I want to continue working to restore Owasco Lake as I have been doing since Bob Brower helped re-establish OWLA in 1988, and because I am interested in assisting OWLA in its efforts to obtain legal standing to speak for Owasco Lake and its watershed. Thank you.

Charlie Greene, May 30, 2014\* (\*Assuming adoption of bylaw amendments.)

#### **Nominee Statements for 20014 OWLA Elections Directors: (3 year Terms)**

4.) Thank you for considering me to serve on the Board of Directors for the Owasco Watershed Lake Association.

I am a life-long resident of Cayuga County and spent much of my childhood living on the lake and currently reside in my retirement home on the lake that my wife and I built 4 years ago.

Over these many years I have experienced first-hand all of the changes that have taken place regarding the overall health of the lake. No need to get into them here. We all know what they are.

My experience includes being one of the water testers assigned to test the creek at Firelane 26. As many of you know, I am currently very actively involved with the manure situation on Firelane 26 where I live. I have spoken regarding that situation to Senator Nozzolio's office, sent letters to Dan Maffei, Kirsten Gillibrand and Senator Schumer. I have presented to the Cayuga County Legislature, the Scipio Town Board, the Owasco Lake Watershed Management Council and others who will listen. I currently have an in-person meeting scheduled with Ken Lynch of the NYSDEC.

It has been my distinct pleasure to work with Charlie Greene and other members of the OWLA organization and I continue to learn from them. As a member of the OWLA Board of Directors I will utilize the skills and knowledge learned in my many years as a senior marketing executive and project manager and from having presented to thousands of customers and organizations to address the challenges confronting us. I hope, that working with all of you, I can help bring about the changes desperately needed to improve the overall health of the lake. Thank you for your consideration.

Ken Kudla

5.) Thank you for nominating me to serve on OWLA's Board of Directors.

When Dr Joe Wasileski first knocked on our door and asked if we would participate in the water testing program, we were immediately caught up by his infectious enthusiasm for the welfare of our Lake.

While my family and I have lived on Owasco Lake for only sixteen years, in that short time we have witnessed a noticeable degradation in water quality and condition. Many longtime residents, like my in-laws, tell me how clear and weed free the Lake was for so many years.

My particular interests are increasing public knowledge about our Lake's threats and acquiring a larger membership base. Additional members will hopefully translate into more clout with the water quality decision makers. Gaining new members will be emphasized at this year's Lake Day.

I wish to serve on the Board to help our organization not only highlight the Lake's problems to the public and legislators, but to emphatically advocate and press for new procedures in the watershed.

I am honored to be offered this opportunity.

Rick Nelson

**6.) Thank you for considering me to serve on the Owasco Watershed Lake Association Board of Directors.**

**We have owned property on Owasco Lake for thirty years and have lived here permanently for the last four years. We have had guests from all over the world and their appreciation of the lake just confirms what a special area this is.**

**I am currently on the Board or Directors of Owasco Flats Nature Reserve after first volunteering to maintain the trails in 2012. I would like to help coordinate the OFNR activities with the OWLA mission and activities. I believe the strength of both organizations will be enhanced by this association.**

**Although I grew up in the Finger Lakes area, it was only after attending a number of presentations by OWLA over the past several years that I am beginning to understand the ecological importance of the Owasco Watershed. I believe OWLA must continue this education process for both the general public and legislators and I would be happy to help in this effort.**

**I am especially pleased to see the aggressive actions taken by OWLA in recent months regarding the farmland run-off issues. It is decisive public actions like this that will identify the critical issues, educate the watershed residents and ultimately make a long term difference.**

**Again, thank you for your consideration.**

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