

Members,

Welcome to something new for 2016! You provided the Board of Directors with your email, and we are taking steps to enhance our means of communicating with you. We will continue to use email for periodic communications we believe to be of interest to the Oneida Lake community, or regarding current needs of the Association.

First, we hope that you know of the Oneida Lake Association Facebook page. If you are 'into it', then "like us". Also look at the <u>website</u> to learn of what topics the Board discussed last year. Then explore other portions of the website.

New Membership cards are being printed to ask if you would prefer to receive the two seasonal Bulletins by email. Hard copy printing and mailing constitutes the greatest portion of your dues. The Board hopes that we can better communicate electronically, and hold dues at \$5.

Use of email will also enable us to seek volunteers for weed pulls, invasive species surveillance, and highway cleanup activities sponsored by the Board. More importantly, it will allow us to more quickly learn of your Oneida Lake concerns for which you believe some Board action is appropriate.

There will be a few rough spots as we advance use of email, so please bear with us.

The lake finally froze over on the night of January 18-19. Ice fishing members and friends are asked to be safe out there, and are reminded that foul hooking and culling walleye are illegal practices. Oneida is the southern limit of burbot. Anglers catching them are asked to return this species to the water (if you are not going to eat them).

Board members will be at the State Fair Sports Show the last weekend of January, at the Oneida Kallet Theater show February 6, and at the Turning Stone show April 1-3. Come out and renew your 2016 OLA membership and enjoy a show, or elect to renew online via our website. And don't forget to get your neighbors and boating and angling buddies to join! Help us with **Member Challenge 2016**.

Last, we express our condolences to the family of Dr. John Forney for the passing of his wife, Janet, last December. She patiently shared John with the OLA community since 1957 while he devoted untold hours creating the world-renowned Cornell research facilities at Shackelton Point.

Have a happy and safe new year on our lake!

Scott Shupe, President

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