

KEUKA LAKE OUTLET COMPACT

Five Maiden Lane
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KEUKA LAKE

John Andersen, Chairman
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315-536-3374

February 13, 2003

Marcus Whitman Central Schools
Baldwin Road
Rushville, NY 14544
Att: Mr. William Rotenberg

From: Ed Balsley, KLOC Gate Manager

RE: **Special Event Water Release and Reduced Flow Policy**

At their January meeting, the Keuka Lake Outlet Compact (KLOC) adopted a "Special Event Water Release and Reduced Flow Policy". The purpose of the policy is to improve scheduling and communication of special events on the outlet, minimize risk, and help avoid conflicts of uses while maintaining the primary goal of flood protection and public safety.

When evaluating a request to open or close the outlet gates for a special event, the KLOC Gate Manager will consider the cost, amount of potential water discharge, and impact on current or expected water level. Events scheduled during normal Village employee working hours would not incur a charge. Scheduled releases or changes to gates settings will be considered if the current lake level is within the lake level guide window (i.e. between the recommended minimum and maximum levels). During high water levels, i.e., above the maximum recommended level, and where gates setting and water discharges are being used to control flooding potential on Keuka Lake according to the Reservoir Regulation Manual, requests to reduce water releases for a Special Event will not be allowed.

The KLOC in their discussions recognized that many groups have an interest in Special Event water releases or reduced flow in the Keuka Lake Outlet and these Special Events have a positive impact on the local economy. In the past, some of these events were conducted without public notification or requirements for insurance. According to John Anderson, Chairman of the KLOC, "this is a needed policy to help the KLOC reduce risk and ensure lake levels are properly maintained."

Groups interested in requesting a special event release or reduced flow will be required to fill out and submit a request to the KLOC Gate Manager at least two weeks prior to the event. The advanced notice will time for scheduling and public notification in the local media and on the Keuka Lake Association's website. Approved events will be posted on the bottom of the "Keuka

Lake Level Guide" that is published in several local papers. Events will also be posted on the Keuka Lake Association's website, www.keukalakeassoc.org, on the lake level page.

According to Ed Balsley, KLOC Gate Manager, "this policy will afford better communication between the KLOC, interested parties, and the public who may be using the Keuka Outlet during special events." The public should be aware, however, that unscheduled water releases by the Gate Manager for normal flood/water level control will cause the outlet water levels to rise rapidly and without warning. Recreationists need to be aware of this situation and respond accordingly.

Groups interested in obtaining a request form may contact the KLOC Manager's office at: KLOC Gate Manager, 5 Maiden Lane, Penn Yan, NY 14527 or Fax: 315-536-5866 or email: mubed@adelphia.net. Forms may also be obtained from the Keuka Lake Association's website, www.keukalakeassoc.org, on the lake level page.

Please forward a copy of this notice to the Marcus Whitman Eco-Program personnel.

Xc: Peter Landre, Executive Director, C.C.E
KLOC Commissioners



President's Report

As I write this, Keuka Lake is completely capped with ice for the first time in several years. The surrounding hillsides are blanketed with snow, and the lake has been drawn down to the prescribed winter level in anticipation of typical spring inflows resulting from snow melt and rain. Meanwhile, we're in the grip of an "old fashioned" upstate New York winter.

The KLOC (Keuka Lake Outlet Compact) recently adopted a revised gate management procedure for evaluating and coordinating requests for water discharge from the lake to facilitate educational and recreational activities in the outlet. Peter Landre and Ed Balsley lead this effort, with helpful participation from a number of interested constituencies. (See Peter Landre's article).

Last month your KLA Board met to review our 2003 program. Three primary areas of focus will be pursued: Water Quality, Boating Safety, and Effective Lake Level Management. The problem of aquatic weed growth in the lake will also be investigated (see Peter Landre's articles herein). Additionally, plans are being formulated to publish an updated KLA directory. It's shaping up to be another busy year.

Many of you included contributions with your dues renewal, and we greatly appreciate your generosity. These funds enable us to continue our program of preserving and enhancing those qualities we all treasure about Keuka Lake.

Bill Oben

WELCOME TO OUR NEW KLA MEMBERS

Steve & Karen Brandt
Lora & Dave Brown
Meg Wahlig Cole
Rev. Stephen D. Gilbert
Bill Gilmore
Gary Miller
Nancy & Sandy Morgan
Kevin & Julie Murphy
Irv & Darci Salisbury
Tom Tunney
John & Linda Vang
Jeff & Brenda Williams

2003 MEMBERSHIP INVOICES

Thank you to all of you who have renewed your KLA memberships for 2003. New information was requested on the invoices and most of you volunteered this information, which will be entered into our updated database. Please be assured that neither your phone numbers nor e-mail addresses will be shared with other organizations nor will they be published in a future Keuka Lake Directory

Listen to the Lake