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# Digester

Summer/Fall - 2014

Volume 54 No. 2

The Newsletter of the Long Island Chapter - New York Water Environment Association, Inc.

## PERFECT WEATHER RESULTS IN RECORD ATTENDANCE AT CLAMBAKE

By Tom Immerso

Following last year's great weather, the odds of another beauty were probably minimal at best – except that the 'weather gods' were not aware of it! Perfect weather prevailed on the side of NYWEA attendees – a record 238 of them! – at the Long Island Chapter's Annual Clambake, held on Friday, June 20th at Cedar Creek Park in Wantagh. The flawless evening resulted in an enjoyable and successful outing as the huge crowd took part in the food fest, knocking off generous servings of burgers, hot dogs, sausage and peppers, kielbasa, spare ribs, chicken, clams on the half shell, fish salad, corn, salad, cake, etc., along with copious allotments of beer and other assorted beverages!



(See Clambake on page 6)

## CRUISIN' ON THE CARMANS

By Tom Immerso

Following a record rainfall earlier in the week, this year's 'canoe club' enjoyed some high water (& swift currents!) in gathering for the annual ESC canoe trip to conquer the Carmans River in Yaphank on August 15th. Some 20 intrepid adventurers started a leisurely paddle of the River from just north of the LIE, under excellent conditions due to the aforementioned recent heavy rains, enabling the crowd to literally 'cruise' downstream for a distance of approximately 3 miles. A light breeze and brisk current assisted the group in minimizing paddling. The only portages necessary were for crossing Sunrise and Montauk Highways. Occasional encounters with tree branches and roots lying across the River made for great scenic vistas along the route, aided



(See Carmans on page 12)

## THE CHAIR'S MESSAGE

Greg Smith



Well, my term is ending... This has probably been the quickest two years that I have ever experienced, serving as your Chair. I'd just like to say "Thank You" to the entire Board of Directors. They are a very hard-working group that I've always been able to count on to get the job done.

I am honored to say that during my term I was lucky to have the Spring Meeting hosted here on Long Island. The event was held at the Hyatt Regency in Hauppauge in June. The turnout made it a great success and we proudly held our first Long Island Challenge Team Invitational in the process. I would like to specifically thank Donna Bee, the Operations Team Coordinator, for getting the teams together for the invitational and for ensuring that the competition ran smoothly – which it did.

During our Spring Meeting this year we had Suffolk County Legislator William R. Spencer speak about "Suffolk County Sewer Infrastructure and Funding." He informed us as to what the future plans are throughout Suffolk County. I was happy to see all the new Young Professional Stony Brook Chapter students that attended. I personally emphasized the need for additional wastewater treatment plant operators and was honored they showed up for the dinner. I was able to hear their ideas and goals for the future in wastewater and the anticipated engineering-related jobs that they envision securing for the future, as well.

I want to especially thank the Operators Challenge Team, the Brown Tide. These guys practice hard all year long. They spend a lot of time improving and honing their skills each year. I have had the opportunity in the past and present of judging for the teams in the Collections Systems Event and can attest to their hard work and dedication. I also would like to send out a special thanks to all the sponsors that support our team.

I was fortunate enough to have some record turnouts during my term. We had some great weather for the past two years for the Clambakes. This year we added another new game called 'baggo.' The game went well and everyone enjoyed it. The annual Meet N' Greet saw a great turn out on the water at Bayside Clam Bar. The O&M Committee puts this event on and does a great job making all the arrangements. A special thank you goes out to Anthony Bacchus, in charge of the Program Committee. He definitely made my life a whole lot easier as Chair. And, of course, my sincere appreciation goes out to the entire Chapter membership for all their support during my term.

I'm turning things over to the new Chairman, Steve Hadjiyane, who was always there for me to help get the job done. Thanks again, Steve. Lastly, I'd like to offer a special thanks to the Operations and Maintenance Committee for all their support. I will now serve at the pleasure of the new Chair...

### **A NOTE FROM THE EDITOR**

As with so many things in life, change is inevitable and the Digester is no different. I have served as the Editor of the heralded Digester publication since 2005, when I took over the position from Bob Carballeira. Bob provided me with extensive training and pointers, and I hope I have been able to live up to his fine example. I've followed the motto of "printing all the news that's *generally* fit to print" and have tried my best to provide a publication that's both informative and fun. I know our new Editor, Bill Nylic, will do a fine job and I'll be sure to provide him with the guidance that was provided to me by Bob. It's truly been a pleasure all these years. All the best.....

Chris Korzenko  
Editor

### **A NOTE FROM THE ASSISTANT EDITOR**

Having served as the Assistant Editor through both Bob Carb and Chris K's tenures as Editor, I can certainly say that I 'worked with the best.' Chris quickly became a 'chip off the old block' in his editing capabilities, emulating Bob to the max! On behalf of the Chapter Board, Committee Chairs and the entire Chapter membership, I'd like to extend a heartfelt "Thanks You" to Chris for his professionalism and friendship in working with him over the past decade. It has truly been a pleasure and I feel that he has left us in very capable hands with Bill Nylic taking over the reins. All the best to you, Chris, as you move from the Editor's chair to the Vice Chair!

Tom Immerso  
Assistant Editor

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**ARTICLES FOR THE DIGESTER**

Articles for the Digester can be e-mailed in MS Word format to the Editor, Chris Korzenko at:  
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**Articles in this edition**

Perfect Weather Results in Record Attendance at Clambake	Cover
Cruisin' on the Carmans	Cover
The Chair's Message	page 2
New Members	page 4
Captree Fishing Adventure	page 4
Tech Assess Seminar a Success	page 5
Awards a Plenty at Annual Dinner Dance	page 5
Dinner Dance Photo Montage	page 7/8
Chapter Scholarship Application	page 9/10
2014 Royal Golf Outing	page 12
NYWEA Application	page 13
Support our Advertisers	page 14+
Calendar of Events	Back Cover

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The Editor reserves the right to modify submitted articles to have them fit within the space allowed and to reflect the technical nature of the magazine. Attempts will be made to notify the writer prior to publication when changes are made in articles.

**NEW MEMBERS**

by Peter Petriccione

Welcome to the Chapters' new members:

- |                 |                  |                  |
|-----------------|------------------|------------------|
| Ernest Iannucci | Caroline Willi   | Kelly Brown      |
| Damon McMullen  | Robert Abitbol   | Mike Colalillo   |
| Grace Molino    | Adam Jacoby      | Terence Daly     |
| Natalie Mottl   | Joseph Edgar     | Joseph Farina    |
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| Colin Ayers     | Amanda Chudow    | Michael Horch    |
| Paul Brandt     | Michael Mulligan |                  |

**CAPTREE FISHING ADVENTURE**

By George Desmarais

The New York Water Environment LI Chapter's Young Professionals and Operators Committee held its annual fishing trip out of Captree State Park on August 7, 2014 on the Yankee III. This year a crew of 52 enjoyed an afternoon out on the water. The boat ventured out of the inlet and worked its way back in the bay to the RM Bridge for about four hours. The group had lots of laughs, food, and sun along with quite a few fluke & sea robins - but mostly throw backs, unfortunately. The crew consisted of members from the following organizations:

- |                    |                    |                  |                 |
|--------------------|--------------------|------------------|-----------------|
| Nassau County DPW  | Suffolk County DPW | Northport        | Great Neck WPCD |
| Schneider Electric | GA Fleet           | KG Power Systems |                 |
| Waste Incorporated | D&B                | H2M              | LKB             |
| CDM Smith          | Gannett Fleming    | GA Fleet         | PCS             |
| NYC DEP            |                    |                  |                 |



The largest keeper fluke (aka, 'pool-fish') was caught by Hunter Grudier with a 21-1/2" fish weighing close to 4 lbs. The trip was a great success and a great time was had by all those aboard.

*Dale Grudier 'stealing the spotlight' with his son, Hunter's, pool-winning fish!*

## **TECHNOLOGY ASSESSMENT SEMINAR A SUCCESS**

By: Nick Bono

The annual Long Island Chapter Technology Assessment Seminar was held On Thursday, October 9<sup>th</sup>, 2014 at the UPSKY Hotel in Hauppauge. This is the second year that the seminar has been hosted at this venue. This year's turnout was modest as compared to years' past, with only 72 attendees showing up the day of with a total available seating capacity for 120. Although numbers were a little lower than expected, the seminar was well received and a success for the Chapter. Those in attendance consisted of a mix of licensed wastewater operators, professional engineers and other interested professionals. The seminar included breakfast and lunch, and featured 12 speakers who presented a variety of topics focused on current trends in the wastewater industry.



Deviating from the past, this year's event also included vendor booths in the back of the presentation room where corporate sponsors could showcase their current product lines and provide designated areas for the presenters to address individual questions during scheduled intermission and downtime. Not only was the occasion a great learning experience, it also provided an excellent stage for engineers, operators, and vendors to network. The topics discussed ranged from storm water pumping, to advances in membrane biological reactor technologies, to the measurement and control of biogas ensuring that no matter what your interest or expertise there was something new to learn. Each presentation ran for approximately 30 minutes including question and answer time. In addition to the presentations and face time with local brand representatives, this event was approved for 6 contact hours for licensed wastewater treatment plant operators, and 6 professional development hours for licensed professional engi-

neers.

Overall, the event was a huge success for the local L.I Chapter who gained 6 new chapter members. A special thank you goes out to the L.I. Chapter Technology Assessment Committee for organizing the event, the volunteers who assisted at the registration desk, the UPSKY Hotel and all of the sponsors listed below for their support!

A big thanks to all of the 2014 L.I. Chapter Technology Assessment Seminar Sponsors:

ADS Environmental Services  
Cameron Engineering & Associates, LLP  
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D&B Engineers & Architects, P.C.  
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## **AWARDS APLENTY AT ANNUAL DINNER DANCE**

By Tom Immerso

Following an irregular schedule of both a Spring & Fall Dinner Dance last year, courtesy of "SS Sandy" wiping us out in 2012, the LI Chapter held this year's 'one and only' Annual Dinner Dance on October 24, 2014 at the Woodbury Country Club. Some 141 attendees participated in the affair, commencing with a lavish cocktail hour, which included hors d'oeuvres as well as both hot and cold buffet tables. This was followed by a dinner selection which included roast prime rib of beef, chicken Francese and salmon.

*(See Dinner Dance on page 11)*

*(Clambake from page 1)*

And just when you thought it couldn't get any better, there was nary a glitch with power (no generator needed this year!), bathrooms, or (for the most part) bugs! The games, which included bocce ball, horseshoes, golf chipping and, in its inaugural season, cornhole (don't ask; please see Mark Wagner) in lieu of volleyball, moved along at a brisk pace, despite the rearrangement of some of the game sites from last year's locations (e.g., bocce ball). The dunk tank was a non-event again, as it's still in the 'repair shop' from last year (!). Thanks to the provision of Jerry Werner's tent, those who wanted to stay out of the sun for the duration of the outing were able to do so. Numerous raffle prizes were awarded, as well as the big 50/50 raffle, won by Jay Kirvpananthan of D&B – and, for the second year in a row, on a ticket bought earlier that same day! (Sorry, George – we're not buying tickets early from you anymore!) Anyhow, aside from handing out the big \$2,500 raffle prize, along with various bottles, tickets for ball-games, golf balls, etc. from our very generous sponsors, trophies were awarded for the games as follows:

#### BOCCE BALL

1st Place - Joe Sesto and Sean Ferrarini  
2nd Place - ???

#### HORSESHOES

1st Place - Phil Faicco & Max Labossiere  
2nd Place - George Desmarais &  
Gary ('Buddy') Arman

#### GOLF CHIPPING (MEN)

1st Place - Chris Gravino  
2nd Place - Chris Osman

#### GOLF CHIPPING (WOMEN)

1st Place - Debbie Williams  
2nd Place - Debbie Samu

#### CORNHOLE

1st Place - ???  
2nd Place - Aaron Adesso & Jake Miller

As in the past, all who took time out from their busy schedules to be in attendance had a great time and are already looking forward to next year's return to Cedar Creek Park. Special thanks go out to Dick Crescenzo, Rich Hults and the "Ops Crew" (Donna Bee, Tom Mortensen, Craig Carlson, 'Birthday' Bob Knecht, Greg Smith, Ty Howell, Tom Pfersching, Tim Conroy, Jim McConie, Jr., Gary Arman, and especially, Anthony Bacchus!) for setting us up, Maurice Osman for arranging with Dennis and the Davenport Restaurant in Mineola to cater our affair so lavishly once again, and Dennis Koehler and 'semi-retired' Joe Baader - for continuing to simply show up & enjoy themselves after running the affair for so many years! (You guys deserve it!) Also, to 'Mr. Werner,' for providing his tent (although he didn't grace us with his presence this year!) and, of course, all of our generous sponsors (see

*(See Clambake on page 11)*

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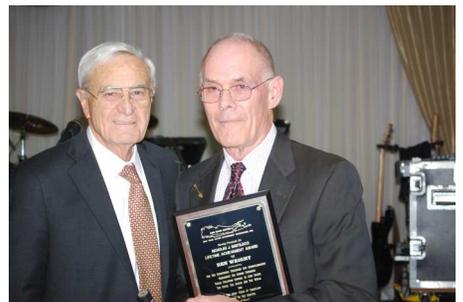
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# DINNER DANCE 2014



**DINNER DANCE 2014**





# Long Island Chapter Scholarship Application

(All blanks must be filled in or else application will be deemed incomplete)  
Please tear off and submit with appropriate materials

The New York Water Environment Association, Long Island Chapter  
Gannett Fleming, 100 Crossways Park, Suite 300, Woodbury, NY 11797 - (516) 671-8440

## Applicant Information (Applicant must be a resident of New York State)

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: (\_\_\_\_)\_\_\_\_-\_\_\_\_  
Street Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_  
E-Mail: \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Birth: \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_  
County: \_\_\_\_\_ Social Security: \_\_\_\_-\_\_\_\_-\_\_\_\_ Female Male

## School Information

Name of School: \_\_\_\_\_  
Anticipated Graduation Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Grade Point Average: \_\_\_\_\_  
SAT / ACT Score: \_\_\_\_\_ Class Rank: \_\_\_\_\_ out of \_\_\_\_\_  
Honors or Awards Received: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Extracurricular Activities: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Hobbies: \_\_\_\_\_

Education Goals: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Career Goals: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Current Employer, if any: \_\_\_\_\_

Hours per week: \_\_\_\_\_

Please specify college or university you will be attending, or if still unknown, schools applied to:  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Intended Major: \_\_\_\_\_

## Other Scholarship Information

Are you the recipient of any other scholarship this year                      Yes            No

If yes, please list from which organization(s) and the amounts:

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### Essay Questions

Please complete responses to each of the following questions. It will be necessary to use separate sheets of paper, since your response to each question should be 500 to 600 words. Please type your responses. **Points will be deducted if responses are not typed.**

ANSWER 'A' AND EITHER NUMBER 1 OR 2.

A. It has been said that water is the most precious commodity which we have. Describe what personal efforts and initiatives you might take or have taken to help ensure the protection of this resource for future generations.

1. What actions have you taken to affect or initiate change with respect to the environment?
2. Describe how your career choice would positively impact the environment?

### Certification and Release Authorization

The following information must be completed for the applicant to be considered for scholarship awards.

*I certify this information is true, complete and accurate. I also authorize the release of this information to confirm and/or verify this application.*

Student's Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_

### Checklist:

**For a submission to be considered for a scholarship, it must be complete. Fax applications will not be accepted. The following items are all required:**

Complete and sign application. Please type or print neatly. All blanks filled in. Please attach to the completed application the following information:

1. Requested essays.
2. Official school transcript (copies not accepted).
3. A minimum of two letters of recommendation, one must be from a teacher; the others must be from someone not related to the applicant.

*(Clambake from page 6)*

separate listing) and attendees. See you again next year – under equally favorable skies – if we can sneak another one past the powers that be! In the meantime, have a great – and safe – summer!!!

**CLAMBAKE SPONSORS**

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*(Dinner Dance from page 5)*

Greg Smith, in his ‘swan song’ as our Chapter Chairman, opened up the event by briefly describing upcoming Chapter outings/events and thanking the membership for its continued support and enthusiastic involvement. Following Nick Bartilucci’s presentation of the first award, in his name, Greg then proceeded with presenting the remaining well-deserved awards. The following honorees were recognized:

**Nicholas J. Bartilucci Lifetime Achievement Award**

Ben Wright – Suffolk County DPW

**Bob Carballeira Distinguished Service Award**

Mark Wagner – Cameron Engineering

**Chapter Achievement Award**

Steve Hadjiyane – Gannett Fleming

**Operator of the Year/Ernest Lisi Award**

Tim Conroy – Belgrave Water Pollution Control

**David B. Flaumenbaum Safety Award**

Bill Howe – Silverite Construction

Additionally, ‘5S Shovels’ were distributed to the following seven (7) Chapter members: Gold – Craig Carlson, Jake Miller and ‘the ubiquitous’ Donna Bee; Silver – K. Gopal and Joe Marturano; and Bronze – Greg Le-

vasseur and Bill Nylic. Congratulations to all the award and shovel recipients!

Finally, our Operations Challenge Team – the Brown Tide – consisting of Captain Dale Grudier, Brian Blouin, Alec Breen, Aaron Adesso and Jake Miller, was recognized for their fine showings during this past year in the State, Regional and, most recently, Division 2 National Competitions, in New Orleans, where they placed second overall. Nice going once again, guys! They also provided yet another unique team photo for the back cover of this year’s Dinner Dance Journal, standing in knee-high receiving waters with a label indicating “The Tide Is In.” Once again, nice touch, fellas...

The evening was topped off with dancing and desert, inclusive of a cordials/coffee bar. The Board’s Anthony Bacchus did a fine job of handling the event pretty much all by his lonesome, now that Dennis and Joe (if you don’t know them, ask someone) have hung up their spikes in coordinating this affair. Our thanks go out to him, as well as to Steve Hadjiyane, our incoming Chairman, for making the arrangements with the excellent band, Studio G. Finally, we thank all of our generous sponsors for their continued support in making the event a success – once again!

**THE LONG ISLAND CHAPTER  
NEW YORK WATER ENVIRONMENT  
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WISHES TO THANK THE FOLLOWING  
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Gannett Fleming Engineers & Architects, P.C.  
H2M Architects & Engineers, P.C.  
Koester Associates  
Nova Consulting  
W.A.S.T.E., Inc.**

**CHECK OUT THE COLOR INSERT WITH  
PHOTOS FROM THE DINNER DANCE**

(Carmans from page 1)

by a few early hints of fall afforded by the change in color of some of the ubiquitous marsh plants.



The journey took us through beautiful stretches of Southaven Park, where egret and swans, among other wildlife, were readily visible. Unusual was the absence of marine life – trout, turtles, etc. In any event, the River appeared to be in great shape with crystal clear waters in most areas. Following a break for lunch in Southaven Park, the trip continued south to the newly renovated Wertheim National Wildlife Refuge, where several Park Rangers provided an informative lecture on the history and ecology of the Carmans River. This was followed by a tour of the new facility, which now includes a diorama and ‘hands-on’ exhibit replicating



the area surrounding the Refuge – beautiful and laid out in a most informative fashion. The outing ended with a leisurely 1-mile paddle to the brackish headwaters of the Great South Bay. The group finished the day tired, but appreciative of the beauty and serenity that still exists in traversing the river systems of Long Island.

As it turned out, the rainfall that preceded the outing provided just the right amount of ‘cooling’ for a perfect day temperature-wise and the light breeze kept us essentially ‘bug-free.’ The group also appreciated the fact that they had gotten a chance to see one of the last completely rural and pristine regions that still exists on Long Island. The new facility at Wertheim, inclusive of improved walking trails, are an added bonus and it’s highly recommended that – canoeing or not – you take advantage of these free ‘nature perks!’ In a few years, we’ll visit again, hopefully complete with anticipated enhancements to the new facility’s docks, to make them more ‘canoe friendly!’ Until then, plan on joining us in completing the ‘river circuit’ that will take us to the Peconic River in Riverhead next year. See you there!

## **2014 ROYAL GOLF OUTING**

By: Joe Hurley

The weather gods finally betrayed us for the 30th Annual Royal Golf Classic. Two consecutive rain postponements resulted in an October 27 playdate that reduced the playing field to about 70 golfers. The day, however, turned out to be a crisp autumn day, ideal for golf, for those that came to play. A record number of tee sponsors (34) complemented the lower than usual number of players. Closest to the Pin went to Brian Schneider on 5 and Long Drive went to Nick Felicetta on 7. Low Net honors went to Tom Dunham (73), Ralph Sergio (73) and Gerry Turner (74). Low Gross scores went to Frank Feeley (80), Bill Donovan (82) and Jim Lounsberry (84). Everybody parred the Cocktail Hour and Dinner including Steve Hearl who again was the Most Honest Golfer although there were a couple of close contenders. Many thanks to those that played and to the many sponsors that help make the Royal Golf Classic so successful.

Also a special thank you to George Desmarais who does most of the work for which I take all the credit.

We look forward to seeing you all next year for the 31st Royal Golf Classic.

# Membership Application

New York Water Environment Association, Inc. • A Member Association of the Water Environment Federation

PLEASE PRINT Date of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_

First Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Last Name: \_\_\_\_\_ M.I.: \_\_\_\_\_

Title: \_\_\_\_\_ Employer: \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address:  Business or  Home Business Name (if applicable): \_\_\_\_\_

Street, P.O. Box: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ County: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone: ( \_\_\_\_\_ ) \_\_\_\_\_ Fax: ( \_\_\_\_\_ ) \_\_\_\_\_

WEF Sponsor (if applicable): \_\_\_\_\_ Sponsor's Member I.D. Number: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Work Code: \_\_\_\_\_ Education Code: \_\_\_\_\_ Job Title Code: \_\_\_\_\_ Environmental Focus: \_\_\_\_\_

Primary Chapter Code: \_\_\_\_\_ 2nd Chapter: \_\_\_\_\_ 3rd Chapter: \_\_\_\_\_

## Member Categories – Please Check One

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WEF Watch	State of changes in laws & regulations	\$50.00
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**JANUARY**

January 13 - Board of Directors/Committee Chair Meeting (Davenport Press)

**FEBRUARY**

February 4-6 - NYWEA Annual Winter Meeting

TBD - Board of Directors Meeting @ Gannett Fleming

TBD - O&M Committee Meeting

**MARCH**

TBD - Board of Directors Meeting

TBD - O&M Committee Meeting

**APRIL**

April 1 - Deadline for LI Chapter Scholarship Applications

TBD - O&M Committee Meeting

TBD- Board of Directors Meeting

**MAY**

TBD - Spring Dinner Meeting

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