

The History of the Silver Lake Association (SLA) Chapter #7

Officers of the 1980s

Presidents – Dr. W.M. Humphrey (80, 81, 82, 83, 84), Howard Benedict (85, 86, 87, 88), Elaine Cook (89)

1st and 2nd Vice Presidents – Dr. Paul Burgeson (80, 81, 82, 83), Fred Ball (80, 81, 82, 83), Elaine Cook (84, 85, 86, 87, 88), Bob Moscicki (85, 86, 87), Doug Klein (88, 89)

Secretaries – Ann Hiebach (80), Jane Bellamy (81, 82, 83), Doug Klein (84, 85), Lynn Griffen (86, 87, 88), Chris Myers (89)

Treasurers – Gil Landon (80, 81, 82, 83), Jane Bellamy (84, 85, 86, 87), Jack Hourihan (88, 89)

Completion of the Sewer System

A required sewer hearing will be held at Epworth Hall Saturday July 26, 1980. Dr. Humphrey said the engineers informed him that the construction of the sewer project may begin this Fall on both sides of the lake. As of the 1981 Annual Meeting the sewer project was currently on schedule with a goal for bids by the Fall. In August the sewer project passed the audit and control. Gil Landon reported the sewer construction bids would be advertised by mid-October and awarded by January of 1982. The long awaited news that the construction bids for the sewer system were opened with three presently being reviewed. The plan would be to have an August 1st, 1982 construction date. Twelve remaining right of ways continue to delay final proceedings.

As of July 10th, the 3 lowest bidders for the sewer project remained under assessment. Dr. Humphrey's Presidents report at the 1982 Annual meeting stated, *"The sewer program that was 10 years in its formation next year is finally coming to a conclusion. It is expected to award the contract between August 10th and 15th and the construction would start any time after that. The low bid for the construction was \$3,708,625 which was \$780,530 under the engineers estimate. One of the hold-ups is Mt. Morris who is one of the big users of Silver Lake water. Mt. Morris resigned from the Water Commission Board and refused to help financially in the Commissions expenses. Mt. Morris also refused to contribute to the construction of the new dam and they also stated that they wanted \$5000 for a right of way for the sewer line across their pumping station property. It was already costing \$11,000 for both legal and otherwise obtaining the right of ways. That amount was not reimbursable by State or Federal grants. Therefore, the property owners would probably receive a \$10 assessment on their tax bill."*

At the August 21, 1982 meeting it was stated by Gil Landon and Dr. Humphrey that the awarding of the sewer project contract was delayed for 30 days by the Department of Environmental Conservation because of three unsettled right of ways. Two appeared to be settled the third may be required for condemnation. At the September 25, 1982 meeting it was announced that the signing of the sewer project had been completed. The work would start in about 2 weeks; the SLCOA had to wait for written approval from the State. As soon as the date for the sewer project is set to start construction, a newsletter will be sent out. The President's report stated: For the first time in nine years of Dr. Humphrey being President, there was tangible evidence that sewers were becoming a reality. He stated that it was most rewarding that he saw the work of the SLCOA Officers and Directors was finally paying off.

At the June 11th, 1983 meeting, Guest speaker Jack Gilligan, Office Manager of CMH Construction Co., informed the directors that were present, the sewer construction was completed in the Institute and it was underway at the Old Orchard Beach area. The construction would also commence on the southwest side of the lake. Directors Jim Sorenson and Rev. Winters of the Institute commended the construction firm for their cooperation with cottage owners and their respect of property.

The schedule for completion was November of 1984. After this date the cottage owners would be able to hook up to the sewer line and be able to divert their wastes into the disposal plant. This is a cause for a celebration. At the October 5th meeting an update of the sewer project was given by Jack Gilligan. The work on the east side of the lake is almost completed. Work on the west side of the lake had begun. Crews would work from the golf course going south to the Silver Lake Marina. Work north of the golf course was being held up pending the outcome of a right of way challenge by a cottage owner.

The bidding on the treatment plant in the town and the main line to the lake is being held up by the design paperwork with the DEC. The engineers and the town personnel would be meeting on the bidding and schedule. Bids were awarded to Frank Bailey of Perry and to the Livonia Pipeline Co. for the construction of the Treatment Plant in town and the installation of the main sewer line to the lake. The DEC approved the contracts for the treatment plant expansion and the pipeline from the plant to the lake. Frank Bailey and the Livonia Pipeline Co. had one year to complete their projects.

Questions arose on the types of toilets that were allowed with the new sewer system. Can a water saver toilet be used? What is the standard flush toilet? Some of the sewer hookup responsibilities were: The town of Castile would have to approve and issue the specifications on proper installation for connecting to the sewer; a no charge permit was required by each cottage owner; the smallest allowable toilet would be a 3 ½ gallon flush model; cottage owners were able to connect to the sewer line after July 1st, 1984; the town inspectors would check the work before it was covered with dirt; holding tanks would have to be pumped and filled with stone. There were approximately 850 cottages that would hook up. CMH Construction was installing lift pumps on the west side of the lake. They felt that the work would be done in early August which included restoration of roads and lawns. A thank you letter was sent to Burdette Randall, Town of Castile Supervisor, for the help keeping the sewer project moving through the many branches of government (local, state, and federal).

Roy Cipolla, Superintendent of the sewer project attended a meeting July 13, 1985. This was explained to the people present:

- He was responsible for insuring the permits and final inspections
- He and his men would inspect the hook-up to the main sewer line
- There were two types of permits
 1. A free permit for cottages that have laterals installed as part of the main sewer project
 2. A \$5.00 permit for new cottages that require a lateral to be installed. A \$250.00 charge would be levied for the installation of the lateral.
- A permit was good for 90 days and the cottage owners have one year from July 15, 1985 to get a permit
- Requirements for hook-up:
 - Toilet must have enough water to move waste. This meant a 3 gallon toilet can be used.
 - Toilet must be vented
 - All drains must be hooked up to the system, e.g. toilets, sinks, showers, etc.
 - Sump pumps cannot be hooked up to the system, nor can drains for rain water run-off

Ten years the SLCOA dedicated their time to complete one of the most important projects to help diminish the pollution getting into Silver Lake. The next phase would be to control the agricultural run-off and have the farmers come on board with this necessary plan to clean up Silver Lake.