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Digester

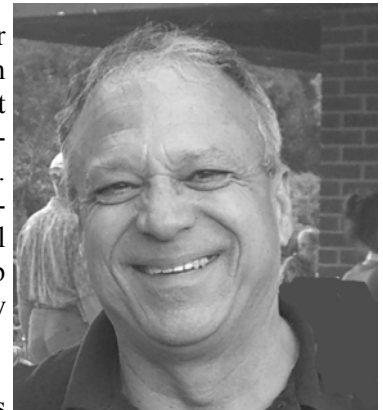
Summer —2008

Volume 47 No. 3

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

BOB CARBALLEIRA
THE ULTIMATE VOLUNTEER
by **George Desmarais with assistance from**
Tom Immerso & Tom Lembo

This edition of the Digester brings with it the sad news of the passing of one of our own, Bob Carballeira on Friday, August 29, 2008 while jogging at his family cabin up in Northern Vermont. Bob “Carb” was always there to lend a helping hand at Chapter functions, held almost every position on the committees and Board of Directors and always, *always* had that smile on his face when enjoying helping others. Whether it was helping another canoeist portage the tricky terrain on the environmental science canoe trip, taking pictures as the “unofficial” photographer at all Chapter events or taking on a new task of developing the Chapter’s website, Carb just never knew how to say “no”. Carb just went and got it done, didn’t look for any fanfare, attention or accolades and loved helping others.



After graduating from Manhattan College in 1967, Bob went to work for Nichols Engineering for three years and then as a sales representative for Fisher & Porter for two years until June 1972. He joined SCDPW as a Sanitary/Civil Engineer in 1972 and worked his way up the ranks to Principal Civil Engineer until 1997 (25 years). He dabbled in the financial services field for 1 ½ years and also worked for Nelson & Pope Engineers for 3 ½ years until 2002. He then returned to SCDPW for another five years and then retired from government and went back to Nelson & Pope until that fateful Labor Day weekend.

Carb’s list of activities in the LIWEA Chapter is amazing. While everyone thinks about getting involved, he had it already done. A member of NYWPCA since 1970, he quickly got involved in Long Island Chapter activities. At one time or another he was Co-Chair of the Environmental Sciences Committee and Awards Committee, Editor of the Digester, Clambake Bocce Director, Chapter photographer and an active member of the Board of Directors from 2001 through 2006. He also recently volunteered to shepherd the cause as being the liaison between NYWEA and the Chapter for coordinating getting PDH’s for professional engineers for Chapter seminars. In recognition of Bob’s longstanding commitment to the Chapter, the Board of Directors has recently decided to name the Chapter’s annual Distinguished Service Award in honor of Bob Carballeira.

Bob was awarded the Chapter Achievement Award in 2005, was elected in 1989 to the NYWEA Select Society of
(See *Bob Carballeira* on page 7)

OFFICERS OF THE LONG ISLAND CHAPTER

Chairman SCDPW P. O. Box 696; Ocean Beach, NY 11770 bill.roesch@suffolkcountyny.gov	Bill Roesch 631-854-4178
Vice Chair/Secretary Dvirka & Bartilucci 330 Crossways Park Drive; Woodbury, NY 11797 –2015 J.Baader@db-eng.com	Joseph Baader (516) 364-9890
Treasurer H2M Desmarais@H2M.com	George Desmarais (631) 756-8000
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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:
Korzenkoca@CDM.com

Or mailed to: CDM
100 Crossways Park West, Suite 415
Woodbury, NY 11797

Digester Staff
Tom Immerso (516) 571-6850, Assistant Editor
Steve Hearl (631) 756-8000
Bill Roesch (631) 854-4178
Jerry Werner (631) 289-8900
Matt Scheiner, (516) 671-8440 Photographer

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COMMITTEES

Academia (Inactive)

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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.

THE CHAIRMAN'S MESSAGE Bill Roesch



This issue of the Digester is dedicated to Bob Carballeira whose untimely and way too early passing has deeply affected many of us. Others have detailed Bob's accomplishments, service and dedication to NYWEA and the LI Chapter, his love of family, life and friends as well as his dedicated service to community and humanity. I just want to add that, like many others, Bob is missed and will remain a huge loss for many of us.

In keeping with Bob's commitment to NYWEA and the Chapter we have named the Chapter's Distinguished Service Award after Bob to commemorate and recognize, in a very small way, Bob's legacy so that it can be remembered as long as there is a Long Island Chapter. For those of you not in attendance at our annual golf outing, a moving and eloquent eulogy was given by George Desmarais who spoke with and from the heart.

This is the last time I have the privilege of presenting my message as the Chair. My term expires this year and, after two years as the Chair, I believe I have done the best that I can for you the members and the Chapter as a whole.

My fellow Board members have been dedicated and energetic free thinkers that allowed us as a Board to make many changes and improvements for you. Shortly there will be available applications for scholarships dedicated to Long Island students and Chapter members. Operators have been the beneficiary of many events, allowing the highest attendance figures in a long time. Membership has started to rebound and is rising. These and many other accomplishments in the past two years is a result of the hard work of the greatest Board in the State. It has been my honor to work with these guys and do what we have done.

Joe Baader will be our new Chair. Joe's perspective, though different from mine (engineer versus operator), is what is needed to maintain and increase the forward momentum that has been developed. Joe has long been one of two reasons (Denis Koehler being the other, of course) the clam bake, Spring meeting, dinner dance and election night meeting have come off so well. That energy, drive and organizational expertise will now be put to use to guide the Board over the coming two years.

Rich Webber will be taking up the Vice Chair/Secretary position. Joe has already provided Rich the name of his chiropractor, acupuncturist and orthopedist for the inevitable crippling writer's cramp. Both Joe and Rich deserve your support in the coming years.

The bad news to all this is that after a lifetime (or it seems that way) of service, Jerry Werner will no longer be there to stick his nose into the Chapter's business. He has completed all the positions on the Board and goes into the territory of past past Chair. I owe my service to the Chapter to Jerry, who dragged me kicking and screaming into a local watering hole to get involved in the O&M Committee and then dragged me along for the ride to the Board. As Jerry's Board participation recedes, his day in and day out influence and support will be sorely missed. Thank you Jerry.

I also want to thank each and every Board member for allowing me to become the Chair and accomplish what we have. Even George's constant and way too numerous e-mails will be a fond memory. Each and every one of my fellow Board members holds a special memory that I thank them for as well. Also, even though she has moved on, Jessica Levinson (formerly with D&B) was a big help to us on the Board and Joe in particular and is deserving of the thanks due her.

Thank you to Gary, Lars, Matt (even though you quit), Dan, Frank and John, Matty, Jon, Peter, Chris, Rich, Tom and Dennis. These Committee Chairs, and their committee members who have worked very hard in developing new and better ways to celebrate the work of the Chapter – a job well done. You all did outstanding work, thank you. Finally to Roy (Captain Grandpa), Wally, Dale, Janice, Brian, Tom and Marty who have toiled as the Chapters' Champions State wide and nationally. From nothing to now has been a great ride that you and the Chapter should be justifiably

(See *Chairman* on page 9)

CAPTREE FISHING ADEVENTURE

By Lars Augustin

The New York Water Environment LI Chapter's Young Professionals and Operators Committee held its 2nd annual fishing trip out of Captree State Park on July 31, 2008 on the Yankee III. This year the crew of 50 ventured out into the ocean for about five hours filled with lots of laughs, food, and fishing. Despite the green faces of some of those aboard, the sky was blue, the sun was shining and the fish were biting. The crew consisted of members from the following organizations:

Nassau County DPW
D&B
Sidney Bowne & Sons

Suffolk County DPW
H2M

Gannett Fleming
CDM

Two miles out into the ocean fish were being caught. While the rocking of the boat kept some faces green, it helped bring the fish aboard. Fluke, sea bass, bluefish, skates and sea robins were among the fish caught. Lars Augustin of Gannett Fleming reeled in the pool winning fluke. The trip was a great success and a great time was had by all those aboard - even those who got skunked. A special note of thanks and appreciation to Lars and Greg Levasseur for organizing and coordinating another successful trip – great job!

While some may be petitioning for never going out into the ocean again, we look forward to another great trip next year! And if we happen to venture into the ocean again, those with green faces will just have to heed to the advice of Captain Fred: **“Don’t be bashful, don’t be shy, run to the rail, and let it fly!”**■



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NEW MEMBERS

by Peter Petricone

Welcome to the Chapters' new members:

William Arthur - Suffolk County SWSD #3

Richard Flohr, Jr.

Alison K. Auriemmo - H2M Group

Walter L. Furrer - Suffolk County DPW

Rodolfo Barranco - Manhasset Lakeville Water Dist

Stephen Gravino

Peter Brindley - Posillico Environmental Svs Inc

Gregg Kelsey - Town of Brookhaven

Bryan A. Casull - H2M Group

Taylor Kolasinski - Suffolk County DPW

Andrew J. DeMartin - Manhasset Lakeville Water Dist

Keith Olsen - R.J. Industries, Inc.

Paul Downey - Suffolk County DPW

Craig R. Pacheco - Suffolk County DPW

Ray W. Dunbar

George E. Payne - Suffolk County DPW

Jiangzhao Zhang - Gannett Fleming

CRUISING ON THE CARMANS

by Tom Immerso

Despite an ominous looking morning with the threat of thunderstorms later in the day, an undeterred, enthusiastic group gathered for this year's annual ESC canoe trip to conquer the Carmans River in Yaphank on August 15th. Some 22 intrepid adventurers started a leisurely paddle of the River from just north of the LIE, under excellent conditions due to 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 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, heron, turtles and trout, among other wildlife, were readily visible. In addition, some of the younger members of the group took advantage of the River's crystal clear waters by taking periodic 'dunks' along the way. Following a break for lunch in Southaven Park, the trip continued south to Wertheim Wildlife Refuge, where Park Rangers provided an informative lecture on the history and ecology of the Carmans River. The outing ended with a leisurely 1-mile paddle to the brackish headwaters of the Great South Bay. Fortunately, the stormy weather moved in

(See Carmans on page 7)

RECORD CROWD IN ATTENDANCE AT ANNUAL CLAMBAKE!

by Tom Immerso

Despite a threatening forecast that, luckily, never materialized, some 186 attendees convened at the NYWEA Long Island Chapter's Annual Clambake on Friday, June 20th at Cedar Creek Park in Wantagh. The event once again proved to be both enjoyable and successful 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 generous allotments of beer, soda, water and beer (again!) to help stave off the, um, 'humidity.'



As usual, the focus of attention centered on the competitive bevy of games, which included volleyball, bocci ball, horseshoes, and golf chipping. Dunk tank specialist Jerry Werner, fully recovered from last year's mysterious 'sensitive tummy' illness, once again graciously offered to be victimized, and took a good-natured 'beating' – mostly at the hands of the many kids in attendance! (Thanks again, Jerry!) Aside from Jerry's soaking, trophies were awarded for the games as follows:

VOLLEYBALL

1st Place - H2M

2nd Place - STES - Glen Cove

BOCCI BALL

1st Place - Ed and Tony (STES - Glen Cove)

2nd Place - Bob and Irene (WASTE, Inc.)

HORSESHOES

1st Place - Chris Murphy and Gary Arman
[“combined district!”]

2nd Place - Henry Chlupsa and Phil Dixon

GOLF CHIPPING MEN

1st Place - Pete Palmari

2nd Place - Jon Hoffman

GOLF CHIPPING WOMEN

1st Place - Alice Zimmerman

2nd Place - Kristin Arman



Bill Roesch with Bill y Grandner and the Operators Challenge Team

Despite a brief delay in starting the bocci tournament - due to the fact that we had no bocci balls and had to go buy some! - the games ended right on time – just when the bugs were starting to get our scent. Rich Cranton (Loc Pump) walked off with the big \$2500 scholarship



(See Clambake on page 9)

(Carmans from page 5)

shortly after the completion of our trip, too late to deprive us of having a great day.

Partly cloudy skies provided the requisite shade for a perfect day temperature-wise and the light breeze kept



us essentially 'bug-free.' The group appreciated the fact that they had gotten a chance to see one of the last completely rural and pristine regions that still exist on Long Island. In 4 years, we'll visit it again. Until then, join us in completing the '4-river circuit' that will take us to the Peconic River in Riverhead next year. Hope to see you there! ■

(Bob Carballeira from page 1)

Sanitary Sludge Shovelers (silver shovel), was accepted by WEF into the Quarter Century Operators Club and attained his professional engineering license in New York State in 1973. He also led an active, full, fun and rewarding personal life. He volunteered at many senior citizen functions in the Town of Huntington to assist his wife Anne whom works for the Town developing the Senior Citizens program. He ran the St. Philip Neri RC

Church local youth program for 13 years, all while raising four children (James, Doris, Steven and Peter). The family spent as much time as possible at the Vermont cabin, skiing, kayaking, canoeing, traveling and enjoying the peaceful solitude and company of family and friends.



Another example of Bob's unselfishness and desire for helping was his intense pride in having donated more than 21 gallons (not pints) of blood and over 100 units of platelets through the NY Blood donors program. The next time you get a call from the NY Blood Services asking for a blood donation, think of Bob and his donation of over 168 pints of blood.



Carb was with us for a too short period of 63 years and he will be greatly missed by his family, friends, community and his water pollution cronies. He was definitely one of the "good guys." He may be gone but his spirit will live on for those of us who knew him well. ■

WE WILL MISS YOU...IF YOU DO NOT PROVIDE YOUR E-MAIL ADDRESS.

To help reduce printing and postage expense, the LIWEA Board of Directors has decided to eliminate mailing of meeting announcements and The Digester as of January 1, 2009. Funds saved will be used to support other programs. If your name is on the following list, NYWEA does not have your e-mail address. If you are scheduled to renew before the end of 2008, please add your e-mail address to the renewal application. To have your e-mail address added more quickly to the Chapter database, please e-mail Steven Hearl at shearl@h2m.com.

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Daniel Davis	Robert E. Knecht	Michael P. Reichel	William H. Wilkens
			Juan J. Zambrano

(Clambake from page 6)

drawing prize. A fund raising raffle sponsored by our generous consultants and vendors (see list below) closed out the evening - just as a few claps of thunder could be heard in the distance.

A special 'add-on' this year were the free Chapter windbreakers that were given out to all paying adults. This was the first time in nearly 20 years that this coveted item has been made available. If you got one, treasure it, as it may well be another 20 years before you see them again!

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 Jerry Werner, Rich Hults and their "operations crew" for setting us up, Maurice Osman for arranging with the Davenport Restaurant in Mineola to cater our affair, and Dennis Koehler and Joe Baader for their tireless and efficient coordination of the event. Special thanks to Mr. Werner for providing his tent and 'public address system,' and, of course, to all of our generous sponsors and attendees. See you again next year - maybe we'll even remember to bring the bocci balls!■

* * * * *

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(Chairman from page 3)

proud about. I have been impressed since the first practice and remain so every time I watch you. Your dedication to the competition and work for the Chapter is unequalled in its accomplishments and rewards.

Along with the thank you's I am again going to apologize for memorializing my thoughts in print. It has been pointed out to me that I often express thoughts that would better be left unsaid. As such, I have been asked to apologize for implying that a fellow Board member was less than appropriately handling himself as a judge for the NYWEA Challenge Team competition. I am very sorry that these thoughts implying impropriety or inappropriate actions made their way onto the pages of the Digester. I am accountable (solely) for what I write and it was unkind and demeaning to utilize this forum for that. I apologize to the Board member and the Board and you the reader for my lapse in judgment and the implication I made. More so, I am deeply sorry for putting the editors of the Digester in the line of fire. I wrote the words, I am responsible, not them. AND if I missed anyone else to whom I may have wronged, offended, enraged, disappointed, defamed or just annoyed for any reason whether NYWEA, Committee Chairs or anyone else I am sorry you were upset with me.

Along with this last message I want you to know this is the last time that I write for the Digester. Someone else will need to find a way to champion the needs of operators and report on the Challenge Team and try to entertain. I have enjoyed trying to bring you information in a non-boring method and occasionally lighten up the prose in this tome. Even though I am "always right," I know my limitations. Thank you for this opportunity and if I can help you now or in the future get in touch. I will do what I can for you.■

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- November 13, 2008** - Lockout/Tag Out Training
- November 19, 2008** - Chapter Board Meeting
- November 21, 2008** - Annual Chapter Dinner Dance (Woodbury Country Club)
- December 3, 2008** - Election Night (Fox Hollow Country Club)
- January 2009** - Chapter Board and Committee Chair Meeting Davenport Press

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