



BRI'S ADIRONDACK CENTER  
FOR LOON CONSERVATION



## BRI'S ADIRONDACK CENTER FOR LOON CONSERVATION'S 2015 HIGHLIGHTS



➤ *Please join us in welcoming Martha Van der Voort and Rory Keating to our staff!* We hope you enjoy getting to know Martha and Rory over the coming year, and, with your support, that their positions will evolve from one-year into long-term staff. Many thanks to the Cloudsplitter, Freed, and Cullman Foundations, the Northern New York Audubon Society, and our private donors for their generous support, which made these new positions possible.

- With our expanding program, the time has now come for us to “build our own nest.” And so, *we have set the ambitious goal for 2016 of revitalizing a long vacant storefront in the Tri-Lakes area to create a physical Adirondack Loon Center!* The Center will house a dynamic environmental education area, office space for our growing staff (*indeed, we’ve already outgrown the dining room table in the Schoch house!*), and a retail shop highlighting loony items by local artisans. Working in our own “nest” will greatly facilitate our ability to conduct education and training programs, implement outreach strategies, and fortify our scientific research.



- *This spring, we released our New York Loon Status Report*, which summarizes the status of the NY loon population, botulism type-E and other threats affecting loons, and conservation actions taken to maintain their populations. This report is part of a series for BRI's *Restore the Call* national loon conservation project supported by the Ricketts Conservation Foundation. *To download a copy of this informative report, visit [www.briloon.org/adkloon](http://www.briloon.org/adkloon).*

- *Adirondack loon mercury research update:* Once again, our dedicated field staff spent the summer observing loons on more than 90 Adirondack lakes and ponds to determine the reproductive success of more than 300 banded loons with potential to return to the Park. Thirteen loons were also captured and sampled on seven lakes as part of our NYSERDA-supported study to assess the impacts of mercury pollution to Adirondack aquatic ecosystems using the Common Loon as a sentinel species.



- *Loon nesting success study:* In 2015, our field staff placed trail cameras at 15 Adirondack loon nest sites to learn about factors affecting loon nesting success. Since 2013, we have captured thousands of fascinating images, including loons turning eggs, switching incubation duties, and interacting with other wildlife; newly hatched chicks; and humans looking at nesting birds. *Watch for a report about this project later this year!*

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- *We are honored to have received a prestigious National Film Preservation Foundation Grant* to preserve and digitize historic Adirondack loon behavior and natural history films by naturalist Kip Taylor. We look forward to sharing Kip's unique underwater footage of swimming and feeding loons with you in the coming year!

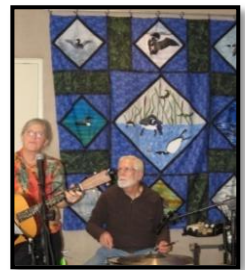


- *Creation of our Adirondack Loon Legacy Fund at the Adirondack Foundation, in memory of Dr. Schoch's stepfather, Dr. David Meiselman*, a world-renowned economist. We are most grateful to Win Meiselman, David's loving wife, who initiated this fund as an endowment for BRI's Adirondack Center for Loon Conservation to help ensure the continuation of our work for many years to come.



*You can become a member of the Adirondack Loon Legacy Fund by endowing your annual donation, making a planned gift, or with an extra contribution.* In addition to providing you with tax or life-long income benefits, your generous membership will help protect these magnificent birds, and the beautiful Adirondack lakes where they live, long into the future.

- *Our 2015 Adirondack Loon Celebration was held on Sunday, October 11, at the Lake Placid Center for the Arts.* The Celebration proved to be a very entertaining day to learn about loons! The day included music by the Rustic Riders; a beautiful art and photo show; a presentation about loon natural history and our Adirondack loon conservation projects; Ellie George's great loon calling demonstration; and a hilarious show by the amazing ventriloquist, Sylvia Fletcher, and her unique and saucy puppets! Congratulations to Ann Haskell, who won the spectacular 2015 "Life of a Loon" quilt!



Stay up to date on these exciting projects at [www.briloon.org/adkloon](http://www.briloon.org/adkloon) and through our Facebook page, [www.facebook.com/adkloon](http://www.facebook.com/adkloon)!