

## We've always loved our lakes! By Karen Mouzakes

Here are a few comments made in the local newspapers about our Twin Lakes:

In January "Yaphank Lake was the scene of gay activities, the ice was 3" thick and the villagers enjoyed ice skating and coasting."  
Mid-Island Mail – January, 1938

Robert Stokes just moved in from upstate and was now attending Yaphank School. It was reported that to avoid a long walk around the lake he "commuted" to school by canoe.

"Probably it is known to but few residents here that great expounder of the Constitution Daniel Webster, once honored Yaphank by a visit and fished along its lower streams. On one occasion, Mr. W.J. Weeks met the great orator while paddling down the river, the two saluting each other familiarly as they passed. Both Webster and Martin Van Buren were frequent guests of Samuel Carmen in Southaven."

The Patchogue Advance, March 25, 1878

"The draining of the upper lake creates a stench, which we hope will not be prolonged. A tub and rowing race is proposed by the ladies."

The Patchogue Advance, July 21, 1878

"The draining of the lower pond and repair of a defective flue, was a picnic for small boys this week. The number of stumps and logs exposed proves that the ponds were once large swamps, through which a small stream probably meandered its way to the ocean."

The Patchogue Advance, July 27, 1878

"A regatta on the lower lake is a probability."

The Patchogue Advance, August 17, 1878

"Where can you find a better place for skating than on the twin lakes – Willow Lake and Lily Lake? Children large and small, have fun enough in the healthy and exhilarating exercise and sport."

The Patchogue Advance, December 9, 1882

