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# ◆ REFLECTIONS FROM THE LAKES ◆

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## Lake Dunmore/Fern Lake Association

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P.O. Box 14, Salisbury, Vermont 05769

www.LakeDunmoreVt.com

Fall 2002

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### Letter From The President

We closed the cottage this past weekend. The weather was drizzly and damp, but the lake was still beautiful. It actually seems strange to have cold weather since it has been warm for such a long time and autumn came to us late this year. The leaves are finally falling, but when you really look, there are still mantles of green. I miss the lazy days of summer when reading on the dock and cooling off in the lake were major activities. Fall is so busy, with too many things to do before winter sets in. But, I find that leaving the lake in autumn only makes returning in summer all the more special.

The Trustees met the beginning of October to plan for this coming year. A new directory will be published and distributed at our Annual Meeting in July. We will be seeking to renew old ads and solicit new ones. If you or someone you know would like to place an ad, please contact Tracy Holden at vtprotec@sover.net.

Milfoil, insect control, water quality and water safety were also discussed. We have become increasing aware of the need to educate the many users of the lake on dive flag rules, the 200' rule and respect for others. We will be posting these rules in the new directory. If you have other ideas you would like us to consider, please e-mail them to me at jackie@sover.net. We will be meeting again in February.

Until next summer-  
Jackie Beacham

### Finance Committee

By: Tracy Holden

The Membership Committee is gearing up to make the necessary revisions to the Directory, and we've started working on advertising renewals. As suggested by the members at the Annual Meeting 2002, Association Members will be noted in the Directory with an \*. We will make every effort to be sure each member is duly noted. Please look to see if your neighbors are supporting the cause!

If you know of any changes/corrections that need to be made, or you are a business owner who would like to advertise in the Directory, please let us know. You can either drop us a note to PO Box 14, Salisbury, VT 05769, or call Tracy Holden @ 802-247-6621. The new Directory will be available at the Annual Meeting (July 2003) and thereafter at Waterhouse's

### Milfoil

By Jeff Wallin

The 2002 summer season was again very busy for the milfoil crew. Nearly 7,500 milfoil plants were picked from 14 different patch locations. Two of the patches were newly discovered this year, however, no milfoil was found in 7 historic patches.

In addition to the patches, we found single or small groups of plants at 13 different sites around the lake. Finding these locations is critical to keeping the nuisance plant population in check and is why you see our crew surveying the shoreline on a weekly basis.

Even with the weekly survey, we never have enough eyes searching the shoreline. We rely

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heavily on shorefront property owners to assist through our shoreline watch program. If you are not already involved, please consider contacting our office next summer to learn how you can help out the program while enjoying the lake. A simple hands-on session with our milfoil crew can teach you how to recognize milfoil while you are swimming, rowing, paddling or kayaking. Not only will you be providing a valuable service to the lake community, but you will be reducing the financial burden of the program on the Association and enjoy a closer awareness of the lake ecosystem. Please contact the Association next season to find out how you can become involved.

I would like to offer special thanks to our milfoil crew, Pat Hayden, Jeff Powers, Tully Mackey, and Travis Smith, for their dedicated service this past summer. We have been blessed with a great crew every year who have managed to keep Eurasian milfoil at bay in Lake Dunmore and completely out of Fern Lake. Thanks again, fellas!

## Water Quality

By: John Page

A total of 15 water samples were taken on Lake Dunmore and Fern Lake during the week of July 17, 2002. The test sites were selected based on concerns from the 2001 tests.

This years data are consistent with overall high quality results evidenced by our annual testing over the past several years. Town compliance with enhanced Vermont Sanitary Regulations is good news for the future; and lakeside residents are encouraged to use only bio-degradable paper products for extended septic system viability. The water quality testing is conducted as an extra effort of the water milfoil crew. Follow-ups, in the event of high E. coli results, are conducted in concert with towns of Leicester and Salisbury (towns are asked to purchase test bottles & our crew does the work). In the year 2001, Town of Leicester did indeed purchase

test bottles for re-testing and those re-tests showed satisfactory results.

This years numerical results can be found on the last page of this newsletter. For more water quality information please visit our web site at [www.lakedunmorevt.com/ldfla/waterquality](http://www.lakedunmorevt.com/ldfla/waterquality).

## Insect Control

By Dr. Ralph Carbo

Due to a dry summer, plus the early spring arial larvasiding of the flooded lowlands, the mosquito problem was minimal. Very little land spraying by truck was needed. The found dead birds were properly handled and checked by the Health Department. Minimal West Nile Virus was found in Vermont. The BLSG Control Group (Brandon Leicester, Salisbury, Goshen) is already well-equipped for next season.

Next Spring we remind you to do the following in order to help BLSG control the mosquitoes.

1. Widen lane and cut low overhanging branches.
  2. Keep all containers with standing water empty i.e. bird baths, pots, beached boats, canoes, and potholes in the road.
  3. Cut brush away from buildings.
  4. Raise any low hanging wires.
  5. Keep check on damp shaded areas.
- Take all garbage and debris to your local dump.

## Keewaydin Picnic 2002

By Ruth Burgart

From the time I attended my first LD/FLA picnic about six years ago, I knew it needed an ice breaker – one of those games that gives people a reason to meet each other. I observed that just being a dues-paying association member wasn't enough to entice people to talk to you. Understandably, association members stayed in comfortable groups of two or four, rarely venturing beyond their group. We needed a reason for cottage owners on the west shore to meet

cottage owners on the east shore, or people from Fern Lake to meet people from Lake Dunmore. Little did I imagine that I'd actually get a chance to put that idea into action. With the help of Trustee Ellen Flight, "Lake Bingo" came to life and seemed to be a hit at the last Keewaydin picnic. Armed with a "bingo card" containing information pertinent to the lakes and the surrounding area (i.e. Attended 4<sup>th</sup> of July parade in Brandon; Owned cottage 30+ years; Have 2002 LD/FLA dock tag posted on dock) picnickers had to meet new people in order to complete their card and qualify for prizes. Almost every picnicker played the game. From our observation post on the deck of the Keewaydin dining hall, there appeared to be a lot of hand shaking, talking and mulling about punctuated with an inordinate amount of laughter. People weren't standing about in their safe, small groups as in the past.

In total, 87 people signed in at the picnic. Those who came were treated to hamburgers, hot dogs, and an array of salads and chips, all expertly prepared by the Keewaydin staff. Door prizes, "Bingo" prizes, and a gift from Keewaydin meant that no one left empty-handed. In fact, a few people left laden with prizes. Some people missed the sing-along and some missed the beer. Both, I promise, will be at next year's picnic.

Finally, I want to thank again Camp Keewaydin for their gracious hospitality and generosity, Kampersville, Pleasant Hill and Shaw's for their gift certificates that were "Bingo" prizes, and Jane Burton of Middlebury who donated the flowers and who made the centerpieces. I don't know about you, but I can't wait for next year's picnic. Suggestions for "Bingo" items will be gladly accepted.

## Legislative Update

By Bill Shouldice

Not a single **political pundit**, including us, predicted this outcome!

Democrats indicated from the outset of this

campaign season they would be unable to obtain a majority – sending the election of the Governor and Lt. Governor to the legislature. The Vermont Constitution requires that the legislature elect, by secret ballot, the Governor and Lt. Governor if no candidate obtains 50% or more of the vote.

Democrats continued their campaign – accusing the Republican controlled House of thievery if they were to elect Republican candidates – sending a clear message to voters that they did not even intend to pick up enough votes in the House or Senate to elect their own candidate. So they took pledges that cornered them – Wednesday morning both Racine and Shumlin conceded their races to the Republican's - Douglas and Dubie.

Voter turn out was higher than expected and when all is said and done the turn out may have broken historical records in an off-year election.

Speculation is that the call for a change resonated with voters and change they got. There were also a number of local ballot issues that brought voters to the polls. But not a political junkie alive anticipated that the race for Governor or Lieutenant Governor would be resolved one-short-day after the polls opened. Nor did they predict that Speaker Walter Freed, R-Dorset would need to scramble against House minority leader John Tracy, D-Burlington to regain control of the House rostrum. November 5<sup>th</sup> results were almost a complete contradiction of what had been anticipated.

In retrospect the public must call to question **media polling numbers**. How could Douglas' polling numbers have shown, in some cases such drastic, differences than that of a "non-partisan poll conducted by the media"? The media ought to take a closer look at the information that they are disseminating to the public. The public ought to look with skepticisms at the information that the media puts out.

**Governor:** Only in Vermont would the polls show a gubernatorial candidate up by 10-points and then have that same candidate trail all-evening-long – that is just what happened to Chittenden County democratic candidate Doug Racine. Republican State Treasurer Jim Douglas never gave up his

lead and woke on November 6<sup>th</sup> to a solid 3 percentage point lead. Although Douglas did not obtain a majority, he does hold the plurality. Racine said during the campaign, that he would support the candidate with the most votes rather than send the race to the legislature. Racine kept true to his word and at 11:00 am conceded the race to Mr. Douglas. The legislature is required to vote in January – and will rubberstamp the concession.

**Governor-elect Douglas** wasted no time Wednesday – announcing his transition team; Tim Hayward, President of the Vermont Bankers Association will head up the team, joined by capable politicians Betsy Bishop, principle of Capitol Strategies, Mike Smith, former deputy Treasurer and Neal Lunderville, Douglas' campaign manager.

**Lieutenant Governor:** Election-day polls showed the Lt. Governor's race in a dead heat – but Chittenden County republican candidate Brian Dubie handily won the race with a 9 point spread. Senate President Pro Tempore Peter Shumlin (D-Windham) conceded the race as the calendar flipped to November 6<sup>th</sup>. Progressive candidate Anthony Pollina showed statesmanship by tracking down Dubie at GOP election headquarters and congratulating him in person. Dubie said he is a born and raised "moderator", perfect for the job as Vermonters will need to work together. **Lt. Governor – elect** Dubie will be spending his days to commencement of the 2003 learning the rules of the Senate, in an effort to stay ahead of the Democrats.

**Legislature:** Most pundits concluded that the Democrats would likely maintain their control over the Senate, but not by a wide margin. Democrats head into the 2003-2004 legislative biennium with a comfortable 19 to 11 margin over Republicans.

The House results came as the biggest surprise of the evening for both sides of the aisle. No one anticipated that Republican Speaker Walter Freed was in jeopardy of losing the podium. A

number of, thought to be strong, Republican incumbent legislators were turned away at the poll booth but supported in a large way Jim Douglas. Strange as the results may seem – pundits will spend weeks trying to explain it. The House breakdown is 73 Republicans, 70 Democrats, 4 Progressives and 3 Independents.

## Wanted - Used Computer

The Milfoil Crew currently relies on a old, unstable computer to manage the administrative duties throughout the summer. The current machine has Windows 98, Pentium 133 Mhz, 64 MB Ram, CD-ROM, 3.5 Floppy Drive, 3 GB HD. Such a donation would not only assist with our day to day needs and state requirements, but could also be credited as an in-kind donation against our annual operating costs. If anyone has a computer that could replace this and is willing to donate it, please contact the Board at [ldfla@lakedunmorevt.com](mailto:ldfla@lakedunmorevt.com) or call Andrew Menkart at 802-247-4116.

## 2003 LD/FL ASSOCIATION TRUSTEES &amp; COMMITTEES

## Trustees

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Jackie Beacham 802-388-3030 P O Box 627 Middlebury, VT 05753 (2003)	Joyce Shultz 802-352-1029 P.O Box 152 Salisbury, VT 05769 (2005)	Andrew Menkart 802-247-4116 Forest Dale, VT 05745 (2005)
Jeff Wallin 802-247-3468 113 Stonebroke Rd. Leicester, VT 05733 (2003)	Lynne Peck 755 James Road Weybridge, VT 05753 (2005)	Debbie Wing 802-459-2216 71 Olympus Road Proctor, VT 05765 (2005)
Dr Ralph Carbo 802-352-4259 2592 Lake Dunmore Road Salisbury, VT 05769 (2004)	Tracy Holden 802-247-3245 P.O. Box 256 Brandon, VT 05733 (2005)	John Page 802-247-4629 163 Westside Drive Leicester, VT 05733 (2004)
Ed Bird 802-247-3009 P O Box 13 Forestdale, VT 05745 (2004)	Bill Shouldice 802-223-1197 P O Box 1531 Montpelier, VT 05602 (2003)	Ruth Burgart 845-225-3989 25 Scotsdale Rd. Carmel, NY 10512 (2004)
Kelly Churchill 802-388-4287 7370 Plank Rd. Bristol, VT 05443 (2004)	Ellen Flight 802-352-9860 500 Rustic Ln. Salisbury, VT 05769 (2003)	

## Committees

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<u>President</u> Jackie Beacham	<u>Milfoil</u> Jeff Wallin, Chairperson Andrew Menkart	<u>Zoning</u> Joyce Shultz
<u>Vice President</u> Jeff Wallin	<u>Insect Control</u> Ralph Carbo, Chairperson Bill Shouldice	<u>Web Site</u> Liam Powers
<u>Finance</u> Tracy Holden, Chairperson Jeff Wallin, VC Bill Shouldice	<u>Socials</u> Ruth Burgart, Chairperson	<u>Nominating</u> Jackie Beacham, Chairperson
<u>Legislative</u> Bill Shouldice, Chairperson	<u>Water Quality</u> John Page, Chairperson	<u>Secretary of Corporation</u> Ruth Burgart
<u>Maps &amp; Membership</u> Debbie Wing, Chairperson, Lynne Peck Ellen Flight	<u>Water Safety</u> Kelly Churchill, Chairperson	<u>Executive Secretary</u> Liam Powers 802-425-6283 P.O Box 328 Charlotte, VT 05445

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### 2002 Water Quality Results

The 2002 water tests were taken Wednesday, July 17, 2002. The State Health Department states that a count of over 77 counts of E. Coli per 100 mL of water is not suitable for swimming

Fern Lake



Sample Site	E Coli count Per 100 mL. Water
1	8
2	9
3	4
4	12
5	12

Lake Dunmore



Sample Site	E Coli count Per 100 mL. Water
1	5
2	11
3	4
4	2
5	8

Sample Site	E Coli count Per 100 mL. Water
6	5
7	5
8	0
9	21
10	5