



Letter From the President

By: Neil Mackey

Another summer season has come and gone on the lakes. Hopefully many of you made some more wonderful memories, I mean who will ever forget all the rain we had and the mosquitoes! (the summer of 04 that was n't) Enough said.

I'd like to take this opportunity to again thank a few people; firstly all the wonderful trustee members that continue to work thoughtfully and unselfishly for the membership. Secondly I would like to thank two trustees that have recently tendered their resignations due to health situations with immediate family members. Ruth Burgart, our social committee chair who has done a splendid job at arranging some interesting and informative guest speakers on various topics and who has single-handedly made the year end picnics an

event which everyone looks forward to! Thank you Ruth, you will be missed. The other trustee who the membership owes a debt of gratitude to is John Page, who has handled the water quality control component of our association. He has maintained a great working relationship with key officials in both Leicester & Salisbury enabling us to get their cooperation when needed to comply with the process we use to test the lakes water quality. John has also magnanimously offered his small boat for the milfoil crew to use on Fern Lake which will ultimately save us time and money in patrolling those waters. Thank you John.

Those resignations have opened up 2 slots on the Board of Trustees. Anyone interested in serving especially with a bent for filling the social chair position or water quality spot should contact

Ellen Flight at ###-###-#### or email her at ellen@keewaydincamps.org.

On a sad note I wanted to inform the membership, particularly some of the more long-standing members that a long time lake dweller and former trustee Margery Stillman died unexpectedly on October 25. Memorial donations in her name can be made to Addison County Humane Society or the Town Hall Theater in Middlebury.

One final announcement is that your board is in the process of working toward the goal of formulating a professional and unbiased survey. This survey would address some of the concerns and /or issues that affect the membership at large. The results would hopefully give the board a sense of how to better serve the members.

Milfoil Control Program

By: Andrew Menkart

We have completed another successful season of Eurasian Milfoil control on both lakes. Our four person crew of Jeff Powers, Tulley Mackey, Joe Carr, and Sam Merrick worked hard pulling and surveying for fourteen weeks ending August 27th. The rainy and overcast weather this season created less than ideal conditions for surveying which requires calm water and clear skies to have sufficient visibility to see plants from the boat. In spite of the weather, the crew pulled a total of 7700 plants this season which is consistent with the total quantities of the

past three years. Over sixty-six percent of that total were in North Bay and North Bridge Bay. This year we are posting the final report on the web site in pdf format. Included in the report are spreadsheets and maps of both lakes that show locations and quantities of plants pulled at various locations.

Our total budget for the season, including the value of the in-kind contributions, was \$——. Our out-of-pocket expense (without the value of the in-kind contributions) was \$——. The total amount we expect to receive from the State of VT DEC Grant-

In-Aid program (subject to final review and audit) is \$——.

Fern Lake continued to have new Milfoil growth this year. The crew pulled a total of 138 plants from three locations. We are spending significantly more time on Fern Lake and we feel that the spread can be contained. John Page has offered us the use of his boat on Fern Lake next year which will save us the time of hauling and transporting one of the two primary boats from Dunmore to Fern each time we go to Fern Lake. Thanks John!

At least two of our existing crew are planning to return to work next summer and we have a new crew member who is eager to start. At this point we are still looking for one more summer employee. Anyone who knows of a possible candidate should have them call me at ###-###-####. They must be willing to obtain SCUBA certification prior to starting or early in the season while working.

We had a total of thirty-nine people participating in the Shoreline Watch Network, logging a total of 1360 hours. Thank you all!

We again had "in-kind" contributions from Cassella Waste Manage-

ment, CVPS, and most notably Keewaydin Camps who made available valuable office and dock space at Camp Songedeewin.

We would also like to thank the residents of Leicester and Salisbury for their financial contributions to the program as approved at their Town Meetings. Thanks also to Leicester Town Clerk Donna Pidgeon for her role as the Authorized Town Representative for our grant application.



2004 Milfoil Crew Members: Jeff Powers, Sam Merrick, Tulley Mackey, and Joe Carr

By: Tom Scanlon

Water Safety

During this past boating season there were no major accidents or injuries reported on the lakes. However boating safety concerns are always present. This past season we had more representation and enforcement on the weekends from the Vermont State Police. But their presence was cut short and the season curtailed prior to Labor Day, one of the busiest weekends on the lake. This was unexpected, even to the Auxiliary Trooper from the Recreation Enforcement Unit who was working the lake. The LDFLA, and its members individually, should contact the Recreational Enforcement Unit, or the Director of Public Safety to insure that this does not happen during the 2005 season. Contact can be made at the following:

Recreational Enforcement Unit
2777 St. George Road

Williston, VT 05495
Telephone - 802-878-7854
ksleeper@dps.state.vt.us and/or
tpowlovi@dps.state.vt.us

Numerous citations were given out for violations on Lake Dunmore. These were primarily for lack of appropriate Personal Flotation Devices (PFD's), particularly on Personal Water Craft (PWC), lack of boater safety certification by boat/PWC operators, and speed violations, particularly in "No Wake Zones." Numerous complaints were made to the Auxiliary Trooper, primarily from fishermen, concerning skiing and tubing before and after legal hours, without spotters, and without lights well into the evening hours. Being a fisherman I have to concur with these observations and have found this past season to be the worst in years for these types of violations. It was indi-

cated that next season an attempt will be made to alter some of the hours on the lake for enforcement to deal with these problems and additionally to make the Vermont Fish and Game Wardens aware of the same and have them assist in enforcement.

All boaters should be aware of all the requirements for boating safety and the laws relating to the same. Copies of the Vermont Boating Handbook are available at all of the Vermont State Police Barracks or it can be found on line at <http://www.boat-ed.com/vt/handbook/>.

The boating safety course is also available on line at www.boat-ed.com/vt.

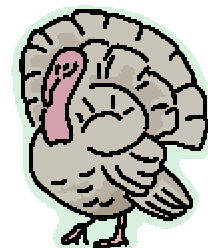
The season has ended and before we know it we will be on and in the water again in 2005.

Nominating

By: Ellen Flight

Last Spring we had a wonderful response to our request for new people to join the Board. Thanks for all who responded - we were delighted to welcome several energetic new members to the Board. As you have read elsewhere in the newsletter we once again have openings on the Board. If you

passed up the opportunity last spring - you get another chance! Call or email Ellen Flight of the nominating committee if you are interested or know of someone who has the time and commitment to serve. ###-###-#### days, ellen@keewaydin.org We look forward to hearing from you!



Membership

By: Lynne Peck

Membership dues for 2004 provided the association with income of \$——. We also received \$—— in additional contributions and \$—— in map sales.

We have paid all our operating expenses to date and we are waiting to

receive grant money from the state. We are on track in regards to our budget and I expect to have a good report for our annual meeting.

Thanks to our supporting members and thanks to the State of Vermont. For

without grant money we could not fund the milfoil program on annual dues alone.

Any questions or concerns? Please feel free to contact me.

My View of the Lake

By: Susan Davis Patterson

From my spot on Lake Dunmore, even in November, I am mesmerized by the flow of white tipped waves riding down the mid-section of the lake. Snug by my living room stove, I can type and gaze outward to the nearly bare softwoods and still green hardwoods on the shore, past the island, across the way. In this “interim season”, the quiet of the lake is occasionally punctuated by a hunter’s shot, but mostly buffeted by brisk winds from the north and the play of light on the rolling waves and the floor of the woods next to my camp. Today, this place fulfills the name I bequeathed it: “Dancing Pines”, as the majestic white pines to my south sway back and forth, showering down still more pine needles and cones for me to rake up, by and by.

What is this magic that grips so many of us Dunmore dwellers? That

brings us back to camp-bowers as often as possible? That inspires us to carve out a segment of time in our lives – summers, retirement, winter recreation – to become one with our lake and hills and pines? It’s a yearning for calm and simplicity in our lives, for the feel of sun and breeze and sweet water on our bodies, the fragrant smell of cedar in the air we breathe, the invigoration of muscles stretched from a hike or ski, the companionship of friends and family in an idyllic setting. It isn’t only the family dog that feels perfect contentment at the lake!

We lake lovers share a passion for our very special spot in Vermont. We recognize each other after only a sentence or two of conversation, and enjoy commiserating together – about the weather, spouses less interested in the lake than we, never-ending camp up-

keep and improvements, and, of course, wanting more time at the lake. We need to bond with each other, and this newsletter, as well as our web site, is a first step in connecting. Join with me in singing the praises of our lake and suggesting more ways we can enjoy its many opportunities together. Drop me an email, log on to our web site and sound off about whatever moves you, or write a column for our newsletter. And, always, come to the lake whenever possible. May it sooth your soul and bring beauty to your days, as it does to mine.

Finance Report

By: Lynne Peck

In 2004, membership got off to a slow start . I reported at the annual meeting that our numbers were down compared to the previous year. However after sending our 2nd request for dues notices we caught up and actually surpassed membership totals for 2003..

Our overall participation rate was 77%. Out of a total of 477 requests we received dues for 371 memberships. We had 312 dues paying households on Lake Dunmore out of a possible 407. That's a 76% participation rate. On Fern Lake we had 45 dues paying households out of 56 possible for a

participation rate of 80%. I'm very happy to report we had 14 commercial memberships out of 12 requests which means we had a commercial participation rate of more than 100%! We also had many members giving very generous extra donations. (Please note that my statistics are estimates as with multiple homeowners for the same properties it is an ongoing job to figure who belongs to what property.).

Although 100% participation in all categories would be great I am pleased with our results and I thank each and every one that supported us this season.

Of the 100 or so property owners who chose not to support us with dues I hope we can all encourage them to be a part of the team next season. It was suggested that those names be published in the newsletter however for many reasons it's not possible. If anyone wants more information about membership feel free to contact me..

Thanks again for your support. I am committed to seeing that 2005 will be our best year yet.

Insect Control

By: Linda Pitkin

It was a challenging summer for all of us when it came to mosquitoes. This year, Mother Nature provided conditions that favored the mosquitoes, not the Mosquito Control District. Despite having aerial-sprayed thousands of acres with larvicide and having spent nearly 300 man-hours ground-spraying adulticide, the Brandon-Leicester-Salisbury-Goshen Mosquito Control District was hard put to make conditions comfortable for District residents. The big hatch in August was the result of the helicopters we use for aerial spraying not being here on a timely basis due to overwhelming demands on their time because of Tropical Storm Bonnie and Hurricane Charlie. The company covers New England, New York, and as far south as New Jersey -

all of which were affected. Once the hatch occurred, the frequently cool rainy weather made ground spraying of adulticide difficult. For spraying to be effective, the weather must be above 55-60 degrees, dry, and not too breezy. Many a night, drivers were scheduled to spray only to have to cancel due to poor spraying conditions.

Applicator training: If you or a family member are interested in a summer job as a spray applicator, we are always happy to welcome new drivers. There is free training provided leading to State certification. You need not be a Vermont resident to be trained and there is no minimum requirement for hours worked. For more information, send a letter of interest to Paul Doty, BLSG Mosquito Control District Coor-

dinator, 199 Town Farm Road, Brandon VT 05733.

Replacement trucks: And finally, the District needs to replace two of its aging pickup trucks used for spraying. We are looking for pickups, preferably with automatic transmissions, in good running condition that can maneuver around the narrow roads and driveways we spray. The trucks need not be beauties, but they must be inspectable. The District is a non-profit and can accept your tax-deductible gift. We have a small budget for purchasing trucks and can pay \$2000 or so per truck. If you have a truck you think might be of interest to the District, please contact David Bishop at ###-###-####.

Thank you for your continuing support.

Social Committee

By: Andrew Menkart

Ruth Burgart did an outstanding job of putting together a number of wonderful events this summer, culminating with the gala annual picnic at Camp Keewaydin. The picnic was a resounding success in spite of torrential downpours during the evening. We all fit comfortably dry on the deck and inside the main dining hall. If any of you haven't attended a picnic, you are missing the rich experience of camp and lake history that abounds in that hall. Historic birch bark canoes, photos, award plaques, and much more cover the walls and ceilings of the warm and rustic space. The highlight of the evening was a performance by the twenty-plus women's barbershop group: MAIDEN VERMONT. They gave an outstanding "a cappella" performance that included doo-wop and the blues in addition to standard barbershop tunes. The quality and uniqueness of their performance was a real treat. If you missed hearing them or would like more information about them, visit their website at www.maidenvermont.com.

As always, we thank Camp Keewaydin for welcoming us and provid-

ing such a perfect venue for our annual picnic. We are indeed fortunate to have their support!

Earlier in July, Sue Wetmore, a Brandon resident and Director of the Rutland County Audubon Society, led an early morning bird watching expedition to Silver Lake. The number of birds that Sue could identify by sound and sight was amazing, and we were transfixed by the variety of birds spotted that morning.

The scheduled "Bears in Vermont" presentation in July was canceled and replaced by a presentation about watersheds by Ethan Swift, Watershed Coordinator for the Vermont Department of Environmental Conservation. Ethan gave a slide presentation which explained the water shed issues and their importance in general. We also learned details about the Otter Creek Basin watershed, of which we are a part.

The success of the Vermont "Raptor Recovery Program" has generated a lot of local and national press. Vermont has been the only state in the contiguous United States that lacks the breeding of bald eagles. There is a joint ef-

fort, utilizing a federal appropriation secured by Sen. James Jeffords and the cooperative efforts of The National Wildlife Federation, the Vermont Department of Fish & Wildlife, Outreach for Earth Stewardship, the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service and Central Vermont Public Service, which has introduced captive-raised birds that they hope will return to breed in Dead Creek, Addison County. A CVPS representative gave us an excellent presentation on the program in August.

Hope to see you all next year. We are looking for someone to head the Social Planning for next summer, so please contact Ellen Flight if you are interested.



Photo Contributed by Tom Scanlon

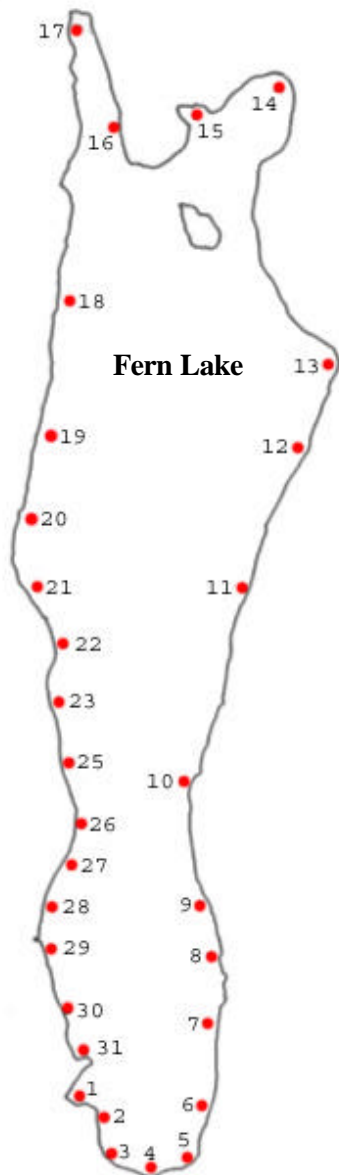
The water quality tests for summer '04' showed excellent results eg: no unsatisfactory test results so far as E.coli bacteria presence (the standard for swimming water safety being 77 E.coli per 100 ML sample of water.)...tests were conducted around the periphery of both lakes Dunmore and Fern.

This year, as was accomplished last year, we picked test locations in the vicinity of higher than average historic results, though not necessarily unsatisfactory historic results...we have not, however, sampled the same sites yearly, rather sites in the general vicinity.

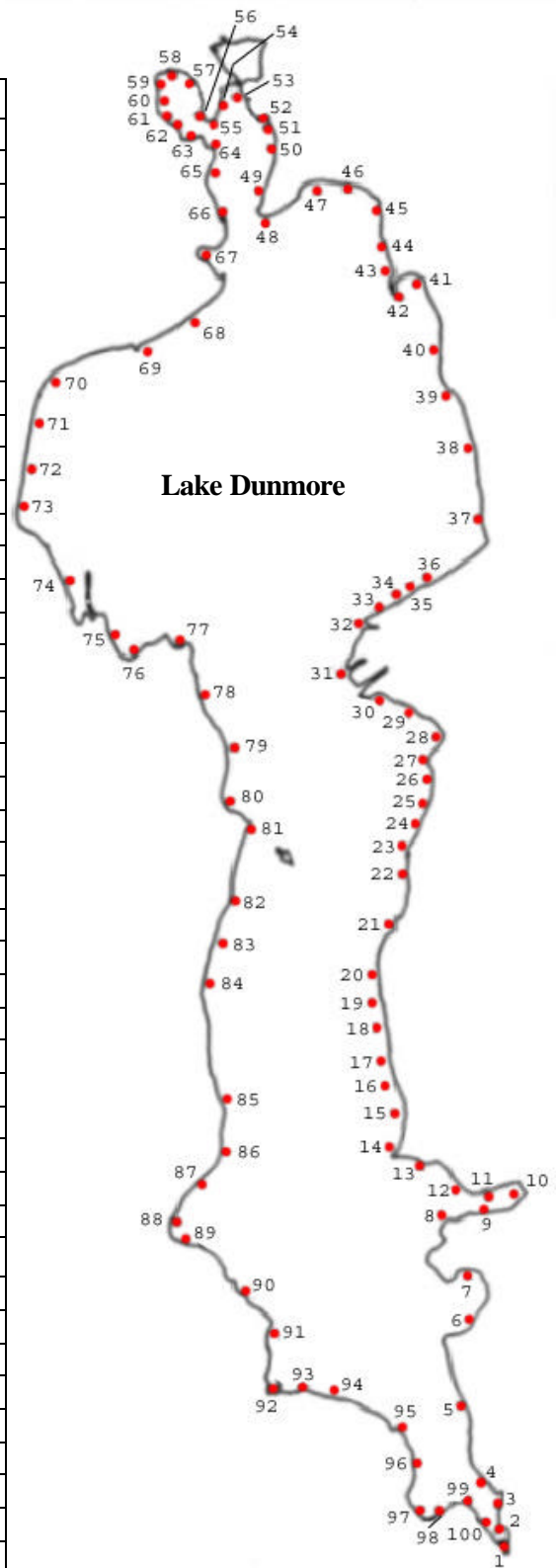
Eight tests were taken at Fern Lake and

thirty three at Lake Dunmore. In the case of each test the results were always less than 1/2 the water standard (77) and most in the teens or single digits! We will probably continue this intensity of testing in 05, albeit at different sites (for the most part).

Below are the established sites for testing. The numbers in the chart correspond with the testing site on the map.



Lake Dunmore	
Site Number	Test Result
2	25
7	9
9	9
12	10
15	4
19	16
21	10
25	4
28	6
32	1
35	1
38	3
41	32
44	4
46	1
49	1
52	11
58	18
62	15
65	1
67	18
72	1
73	2
75	3
78	1
83	3
87	15
89	11
92	24
94	5
96	1
98	3
99	15
Fern Lake	
Site Number	Test Result
3	19
6	18
10	4
13	8
15	38
17	6
20	11
28	24



Towns Awarded Planning Grant

By: Andrew Menkart

Leicester and Salisbury Awarded Planning Grant from State of Vermont

The planning commissions of Leicester and Salisbury have just been awarded a grant from the State of Vermont Department of Housing and Community Affairs. The grant money was available for "planning" related projects only. The two towns decided that their chances for being awarded some of the available money would be improved if the applied together. They also concluded that primary asset that both towns share is Lake Dunmore. The initial grant application was for \$25,000 and covers the items shown in the summary below. The amount awarded by the state is \$18,200.

The two town planning commissions and LDFLA representatives will be meeting over the winter to decide how best to move implement the various tasks. The Leicester Planning Commission is currently seeking a new member; if any Leicester property owner from our membership is interested in serving on the

commission please contact the Leicester Town Clerk, Donna Pidgeon.

SUMMARY - Municipal planning grant application

- The towns of Salisbury and Leicester geographically share Lake Dunmore.
- The Planning Commissions of both towns have met and decided to apply for a grant in the amount of \$25,000, offered by the Department of Housing and Community Affairs.
- If granted, members from both Planning Commissions and the Lake Dunmore / Fern Lake Association will work together with Regional Planning to study opportunities for collaboration on shared concerns and needs based on study results.

Areas of study:

- Roads and Transportation
 - Access management study

- Inventory current road conditions
- Review emergency access
 - Conduct traffic counts
- Develop standards and policies
- Recreation and Public Access
 - Inventory access and facilities
 - Develop informational materials
- Water Quality
 - Computerize sampling data
 - Shoreline assessment
 - Develop policies
- Growth and Development
 - Research policies and regulations
 - Develop policies

2005 Directory

By: Lynne Peck

In the spring we are planning to print a new directory. It is our hope to have the most correct and up to date data as possible. You can help us by checking your directory listing and notifying us of any changes as soon as possible as this is our last newsletter before the new directories will be printed. Please contact Lynne Peck with questions, con-

cerns, or data changes, ###-###-#### or gpeck@together.net. Thank you.



Happy Holidays

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