
REFLECTIONS FROM THE LAKES

Lake Dunmore/Fern Lake Association

P.O. Box 14, Salisbury, Vermont 05769

www.LakeDunmoreVt.com

Spring 2003

Letter From The President

By Jackie Beacham

Spring seemed to leap into Vermont this year. Suddenly, the snow was gone and the flowers were popping up from what we thought was frozen ground. Winter did return, as it always does, but the flowers persisted and now, in mid May, Vermont is in full bloom. The lake water is still on the cool side, although there have already been water skiers on the lake. It reminds us all that summer is just around the corner.

It also reminds us that we need to pay better attention to the boating rules. The 200' rule seems to be the one that comes up the most in regard to dive flags, other boaters, swimmers and shorelines. The boating rules will be posted in our new directory which will be distributed at the annual meeting in July. Please read through the rules and share them with other members of your family and renters when appropriate. Posting these rules for all to see would also be helpful.

The other areas of concern are milfoil, insect control, water quality and membership. Reports on each will follow.

Last year Article III Section 1 of the Lake Dunmore/Fern Lake Association By-Laws was changed and voted on at the Annual Meeting. This year the Board of Trustees will be made up of 12 Trustees instead of the customary 15. Each year 4 Trustees' terms will expire. This year Jeff Wallin, Bill Shouldice, Ellen Flight and I have expiring terms. Jeff, Bill and I will not be returning. Ellen has agreed to run again. Deb Wing has resigned and Tracey Holden will be resigning after the meeting in July. We are looking for members who would be interested in becoming Trustees. Please contact me at 802-388-7983X32 or by e-mail jackie@sover.net if you would like to be considered for the Lake Association Board.

And please, encourage your neighbors to become members of the association. \$45 is a small price to pay for our successful milfoil program and the other services provided by the membership. It seems to me that every single cottage should be helping to support these programs. If all of you took a few minutes to ask the question, "Are you a Lake Association member?" then you could feel that you did your part in sustaining the beauty of Fern Lake and Lake Dunmore for future generations.

DATES TO REMEMBER:

Annual Meeting – July 7th, Salisbury Church, 7PM
Keewaydin Picnic – August 24th, 5-7, hot dogs and hamburgers on the grill.

See you on the Lake-

Milfoil

By Andrew Menkart

The "Milfoil Crew" is ready for action again on Dunmore and Fern Lakes. We are fortunate to have three returning crew members: Jeff Powers, Tully Mackey, and Travis Smith as well as one new recruit, Joe Carr.

LDFLA's Milfoil Control program was started in 1994 and has become a model program for an effective, economical, and environmentally friendly method of controlling and containing the spread of the invasive Eurasian Watermilfoil plant. The backbone of the program includes a combination of ongoing detailed surveying of the lake for new milfoil growth, and careful hand pulling of the plants and roots.

The four crew members will be out in two small boats surveying and diving from May 26th to September 1st. They will often be surveying in the morning before the wind picks up and diving later in the day. They will also be at the state boat ramp on busy weekends checking for milfoil on the

trailers of boats coming from other lakes. When they are scuba diving they will display a dive flag on the boat and on a float in the water (red with a white diagonal stripe). If you see the flag being displayed, please keep your boat more than 200' away. It is illegal and highly dangerous to operate a boat near scuba divers. If you want to see what the dive flag looks like, pick up a copy of the Vermont State Boating Laws from any State Police office. You also may see small round bouys that have been set to assist in surveying certain areas of the lakes, please do not disturb them.

We encourage association members to participate as part of a Shoreline Watch Network. Learn how to identify Eurasian Milfoil and be on the lookout for it at your waterfront and while boating. To see what Milfoil looks like, visit the LDFLA website at www.lakedunmorevt.com/ldfla/ and click on the Milfoil link. The Milfoil Crew is also available to train groups or individuals in how to identify milfoil. We ask that you do not pull any aquatic plants yourself. Pulling milfoil plants improperly can actually further the spread of the plant, and pulling native plants can create new areas for milfoil to take root. The Milfoil Crew will be available at the State Boat Ramp on Saturday July 12th and Saturday August 2nd to answer any questions members may have. They will have handouts and pictures as well as some live Milfoil plants for you to see. Call Jeff Powers at 802-352-1013.

We are fortunate to have received a commitment for partial funding for the 2003 program from State of Vermont through their Aquatic Nuisance Control Program Grant. We are also thankful for the financial contributions from the towns of Leicester and Salisbury, as well the contributions of facilities and services from Camp Keewaydin, CVPS, and Cassella Waste Management.

Water Quality

By: John Page

Review of coliform bacteria tests over the past several years would indicate that both Fern Lake and Lake Dunmore look very good. We'll

hope for continued good results base on the following:

In 2002, water quality tests were directed at the few locations that had tested sub-standard (over 77 E. coli /parts per million) in 2001 and at locations where historic testing averages seemed higher than the norm, though not sub-standard for swimming water quality. All tests proved satisfactory.

For summer 2003 we will test those same locations sampled in 2002 plus an expanded "spot checks" sampling; we'll continue this approach, barring other concerns, in future years. The total sampling for this season will involve 36 locations at Lake Dunmore and 9 locations at Fern Lake. As in the past, follow-ups will be initiated in case of unsatisfactory initial samples, with support requested from respective towns (Salisbury and Leicester). You may recall that in 2001 we requested re-sampling and did accomplish that objective in the town of Leicester; Salisbury declined to participate in re-testing. We hope that they will reconsider, in the event of future water quality concerns

Insect Control

By Dr. Ralph Carbo

Our past winter may leave us open to a questionable infestation of mosquitoes this summer, even though the Brandon, Leicester, Salisbury, Goshen Mosquito Control Group (BLSG) has already been air larvasiding for the past week when possible. Airborne spraying encompasses an area from Salisbury to the Pittsford town line and into Goshen. The rest will depend on the flooding along Otter Creek. It also is important for everyone to drain any wet puddles around your area to kill larvae.

The emergency plan to control the possibility of Encephalitis is still on the books. If anyone notes any sick or dead birds, DO NOT HANDLE THEM. Contact the Health Department or the BLSG Control Group emergency phone at service at 802-247-6779. This number will also have information for the public concerning that day's situation about spraying conditions in different areas. This should reduce the necessity for callbacks. You can still make arrangements for special events.

ATTENTION

The Lake Association and BLSG Mosquito Control inspect your lanes for your safety. Checking for width and turn-around for spray trucks, fire department trucks and rescue squad vehicles. It is in your best interest and safety for you and your neighbors to make sure your area is accessible.

PLEASE CHECK THE FOLLOWING

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 pot holes 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

The Annual Picnic, sponsored by Camp Keewaydin, will be held on Sunday, August 24, 2003 from 5-7pm at the Camp on Lake Dunmore Road (Route 53). All members and their families are invited. Let's try for another big turn out this year

This year, like last year, we'll have "Lake Bingo" as an icebreaker. This will give people a chance to meet more cottage owners or get re-acquainted with the folks they met last year. I will be looking for new "items" to put on the Bingo cards, so if you have any suggestions, please mail them, or e-mail,

recburgart@aol.com, them, to me before August

1. Like last year, we will have prizes for the Bingo game as well as door prizes. As promised, we will have beer and a sing-a-long. Have a great summer on the lake.

Hope to see you at the picnic

Water Safety

By Kelly Churchill

The Vermont state police will be contacted before the forth of July weekend to have patrols in place for this most busy time.

In the fall a new ramp at the access to the south side of Waterhouses will be constructed. I have the plans for this ramp if anyone is interested in viewing them. This ramp will make it much better to load and unload boats. This has had concerns that this will attract more people to the lake, the state has found this not to be true in all the other cases of replaced ramps.

The new ramp has plans for a dock that the people of the lake can organize to build; the state would supply the materials. The state will not construct the dock so if anyone would like to take on the organization of this please call me at 802-453-4838.

Membership

This year we will have an updated directory published. It will be available at the annual meeting or thereafter by contacting the milfoil crew at 802-352-1013.

Last season we achieved 75% total membership. On Lake Dunmore we had 294 paid memberships 74% of total membership for lake Dunmore. Fern Lake had 41 paid memberships which comprised 83% membership for Fern Lake. Out of 12 business memberships around the lakes we had 11 paid members.

We thank all of you that supported us in 2002 and look forward to your continued support in 2003. \$45 is a small price to pay for all the benefits the Lake Dunmore/Fern Lake Association offers. Please help us make the membership reach 100%.

Web Site

By Liam Powers

We continue to update the web site and make improvements. We have added an online calendar and a "Links" page. If you have an event you would like posted, let us know and we would love to place it on the calendar.

As soon as the water-quality test comes in, we will post them on the site. You can find this newsletter, information about our milfoil program and a whole lot more at www.lakedunmorevt.com/ldfla.

For more information or to let us know what you think of the Association please Email us at ldfla@lakedunmorevt.com.

2003 LD/FL ASSOCIATION TRUSTEES & COMMITTEES

Trustees

Jackie Beacham
P O Box 627
Middlebury, VT 05753
(2003)

Kelly Churchill
7370 Plank Rd.
Bristol, VT 05443
(2004)

Andrew Menkart
Forest Dale, VT 05745
(2005)

Jeff Wallin
113 Stonebroke Rd.
Leicester, VT 05733
(2003)

Joyce Shultz
P.O Box 152
Salisbury, VT 05769
(2005)

John Page
163 Westside Drive
Leicester, VT 05733
(2004)

Dr Ralph Carbo
2592 Lake Dunmore Road
Salisbury, VT 05769
(2004)

Lynne Peck
755 James Road
Weybridge, VT 05753
(2005)

Ruth Burgart
25 Scotsdale Rd.
Carmel, NY 10512
(2004)

Ed Bird
P O Box 13
Forestdale, VT 05745
(2004)

Bill Shouldice
P O Box 1531
Montpelier, VT 05602
(2003)

Tracy Holden
P.O. Box 256
Brandon, VT 05733
(2005)

Ellen Flight
500 Rustic Ln.
Salisbury, VT 05769
(2003)

Committees

President
Jackie Beacham

Milfoil
Jeff Wallin, Chairperson
Andrew Menkart

Zoning
Joyce Shultz

Vice President
Jeff Wallin

Insect Control
Ralph Carbo, Chairperson
Bill Shouldice

Web Site
Liam Powers

Finance
Tracy Holden, Chairperson
Jeff Wallin, VC
Bill Shouldice

Socials
Ruth Burgart, Chairperson

Nominating
Jackie Beacham, Chairperson

Legislative
Bill Shouldice, Chairperson

Water Quality
John Page, Chairperson

Secretary of Corporation
Ruth Burgart

Maps & Membership
Lynne Peck
Ellen Flight

Water Safety
Kelly Churchill, Chairperson

Executive Secretary
Liam Powers
P.O Box 328
Charlotte, VT 05445