

Summer 2013

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Welcome Back!

Greetings, All,

Hoping you all had a great winter! And here we are looking to a great Salem summer which is speeding along. In this issue of *LakeFront*, you will read terms such as "Shoreline Development" and "Septic Social" which may or may not make one's hair stand on end. At ease, let's sit and listen or stand and contribute to the topics which are of great importance to our lakes, rivers and water quality. Our cottages are grandfathered, I am told, and no one will be spanked and told to go home or go away. Five public hearings, date and location to be announced, will be held on the topic, one meeting right here in the Kingdom.

On the topic of septic, on July 19, a workshop will be held by Memphremagog Watershed Association wherein two different systems will be on display to see and discuss.

Any information that can be gleaned from these topics is bound to make us more knowledgeable and perhaps give us ideas on how to change our properties, in large or small ways, to positively affect the lake's water quality. Vermont has 280 lakes; if we all work together to improve the water quality, just think what an impact this would have. Other states are also working on these issues.

We'll see you all at the Annual Meeting on Sat., July 20, 2013 at 9 a.m. at CharBo for potluck brunch. In the meantime, if you cannot attend the meeting, perhaps we could mail our dues to our treasurer, Janet Cartee.

Have a great summer!

- Andy Major



Got Moose?

Everybody likes to watch the animals outside their camp, but the beasts are getting bigger as time goes by. In the past couple of years, we've pulled in more reports of moose sightings in broad daylight than ever before. This young lady above was photographed earlier this spring after Roger Cartee and Ken Young grabbed a camera and snapped what appeared to be an expectant mother moose ambling along the Salem lake front. Keep an eye out for two sometime this summer!



Lake Front

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Oh No. Not Again!

First there was that awful spring flood that swamped our property in 2011. Then there was the aftermath of Sandy last fall which we barely escaped. Now, with those memories still too fresh, Mother Nature tosses us a curve ball and leaves us with a deluge right around Memorial Day weekend that just wasn't fair. It even came with snow!



Photos courtesy of Roger Cartee.

The Flag, the Lake, and the Reward of Foresight

The Salem Lakes boat access monitors wear many hats during the summer. At the beginning of their shift, one of their first tasks is to raise the American flag where it flutters high above the David H. Wood Memorial Fishing Access for all to see. And by the time their shift ends and the flag is respectfully folded up for the night, these monitors will have inspected every inbound boat and trailer for signs of invasive aquatic species, educated visitors about water quality and logged every of fish catches in both Big and Little Salem.

From the founding fathers on into our own day, the conservation of natural resources has been an important aspect of the American tradition. American sportsmen--hunters, trappers, and fishermen-- alongside America's foresters and farmers have always been especially conscious of our dependence upon healthy land and healthy waterways. Thomas Jefferson, famous for his agrarian sensibilities and lifestyle, also kept a close eye on the fish populations in the ponds around Monticello. President Teddy Roosevelt, an avid outdoorsman, called upon Americans to be steadfast stewards of the nation's natural resources. As Roosevelt knew, our natural resources are foundational; without the health of the land upon which the republic is built, there is no republic for the American flag to represent

The Salem Lakes Association shares this American tradition of conservation, and the lake monitor program has made tremendous strides in safeguarding our lakes. Every summer our monitors participate in a day-long training workshop run by the Vermont Agency of Natural Resources, Water Quality Division. At the workshop, Salem's access greeters and board members of the Salem Lakes Association join members of other Vermont lake associations to learn how best to facilitate the greeter program.



The U.S. flag flies proudly over the David H. Wood Memorial Access Area..

The greeter programs in Vermont and Maine are becoming widely acclaimed through the Northeastern U.S. as an effective antidote to the proliferation of invasive aquatic species that plague many of our nation's water bodies. Residents, campers and the fishermen and other beneficiaries of the lakes and ponds along the Clyde River from Island Pond to Gardner Park have been fortunate to have a strong leadership in the Salem Lakes Association, beginning with David Wood and for the past several years, association President Andy Major. The volunteers which Dave and Andy have organized and the monitor program, which they have crafted and sustained have done wonders in keeping Salem Lakes the healthy water bodies they are today.

This cannot be taken for granted. Not far away milfoil has been found in Derby Pond, Lake Memphremagog, and Lake Willoughby. This has wrecked havoc on the quality of these lakes and while proving to be a financial burden as well.

This is why the Salem Lakes Association remains so committed to preventing Eurasian Milfoil infestations.

Here at Salem lakes we have been reaping the rewards of foresight for quite some years. We can't let our guard down now. As President Roosevelt warned, "there must be the look ahead, there must be a realization of the fact that to waste, to destroy, our natural resources... will result in undermining in the days of our children the very prosperity which we ought by right to hand down to them amplified and developed."

The Salem Lakes Association has been for years doing what Roosevelt described as the task of his administration: "endeavoring to get our people to look ahead", so that we may "use the water resources of the public lands for the ultimate greatest good of the greatest numbers... for their children and their children's children."

- Jeremiah Barker

Meet the Man Behind the Buoy



Ever wonder how that bright orange buoy makes its way out to its perennial floating spot every year? Norm Miller, Salem Lakes Association director, tends to the watery marker that's moored over the sunken island on the eastern side of Salem Lake. The buoy provides a fair and safe warning to boaters approaching the subsurface island, and it serves as a helpful indicator to fisherman looking for a good spot to drop a line in for some smallmouth bass.

Thanks Norm!



Newport Trade Market Survey Open for Input

Several major developments are proposed for the Newport Trade Market area over the next few years. UVM Extension, in partnership with Newport City Renaissance, is conducting the Newport Trade Market Analysis which is designed to provide market information needed for economic development efforts, while also developing the capacity and knowledge of individuals and organizations engaged in downtown and community revitalization. A key component of the trade market analysis is the Newport Consumer Survey.

The survey targets those who live, work, and visit Newport and solicits information on shopping habits and retail preferences in the Newport Trade Market area. It is being distributed over several months ending mid-August after input from year-round residents, seasonal residents, winter visitors/tourists, summer visitors/tourists, and second homeowners.

The results of the anonymous survey will be

analyzed by UVM Extension using additional research and data to provide extensive demographic, consumer spending, and business data. This analysis will provide detailed insights about consumers, their lifestyles and buying behavior, and businesses in the Newport Trade Market Area.

The results will be used to provide information for current businesses as well as to assist in recruitment efforts for new businesses. Results will be made available to the public in a final report in the early fall 2013. The survey is available in paper format and online. To receive a hard copy, contact Karen Geraghty at the UVM Extension Office, Newport. 802-334-7325 ext. 483 or email Karen.geraghty@uvm.edu. Or visit <https://survey.uvm.edu/index.php?sid=54114&lang=en>



Remembering Rosalie Guyette & Clarence Ogilvie

Rosalie L. Guyette, 86, of Derby, VT passed away peacefully on April 24, 2013 surrounded by her family in Burlington, VT. She was born March 18, 1927 in Derby, VT, the daughter of Edmond and Marie (Moeykens) Lippens. In 1950 she married Arthur Guyette (our first president) who died in 2011.

Rosalie graduated from the University of Vermont with a Master's Degree in Education. She was a long time teacher and started her career in the 1940's where she taught in a one room school house. The majority of her career was at the Newport City Schools. Rosalie loved to travel to many locations in every continent except Antarctica. She also lived in French Morocco, Africa when she was newly-wed. She was a devoted wife, mother, and grandmother.

Rosalie and her husband lived on Big Salem since 1969. When Arthur was elected first President; he confided with Rosalie that he was too shy and nervous to speak before a group. Rosalie quickly took the gavel from Arthur and saved his presidential career. She was that way. She served as Secretary, took minutes when she wasn't. Always showed up with a delicious pot luck dish at meetings. She rarely stopped contributing to the association, counting loons for many years.



Rosalie Guyette

Thank you, Rosalie, for all that you have done. May you rest in peace!

And in 2012, **Clarence J. Ogilvie**, the father of Ross Ogilvie, died peacefully at home in Parkton, MD.

Clarence was born at home October 6, 1926 in Houston. Musically minded for a great many years, Clarence made a successful career in the military and in education. He was a professional musician in symphonies and bands in Maryland.



Clarence Ogilvie

He taught instrumental music in elementary schools in Maryland for over 30 years. Prior to retirement, he was a mentor to other music teachers. His knowledge of military theme songs was invaluable during the annual 4th of July parade, his being most careful not to omit or slight any military branch. He greatly enjoyed helping out with the Salem Lake Association's float. His talent and help were greatly appreciated by the 4th of July gang. Clarence, may you rest in peace. Thanks to your family for sharing you with us.

Best Fish I Ever Caught Was With My Bare Hands



After so many summers on Salem Lake there are bound to be a few good fish stories in my library. Yet the best one I ever caught was in front of my own dock with my very own bare hands. True story, and I wasn't even fishing at the time.

It was a typically quiet morning up at the lake. I had already indulged in my early morning time puttering around the shore line with my coffee in hand. I had just wandered out to the end of our dock to enjoy the warm sun and light breeze when I happened to look down into the shallow water to notice the tail end of a healthy fish sticking out from a cinder block below the surface. Not wanting to spoil the nature moment I refrained from hollering for the kids and opted to call them out side with a rather distinct whistle I've used for years; a soft, simple two-note little call that very closely resembles the social greetings chickadees send one another. It's worked with them for years - though they may not want to admit that today.

Any who, whistle I did and out they came, being careful not to pound their feet on the dock as they ventured out to see what I brave adventure I had started. I told them to get the toy bucket and a net which they did with great speed and efficiency.

Still not knowing exactly what fish species I had lurking in that block, I crept down very slowly like a great grey crane stalking its prey. The fish was a decent size; too big to be able to turn-around. I knew my best chance was to exploit its blind side and place a net behind it while I used my bare hand as a diversion up front. I know, trick right? But hey, bear in mind I didn't know how many teeth this thing had, so give me some credit.

The tactic was flawless. Fish backed up right into the net and was promptly deposited into a temporary blue aquarium above. The kids were very impressed as indicated by the earnest expressions of "whoa!" from both of them. Older daughter was very keen on interacting with the fish which by now was identified as a small rock bass. Younger son not so much, though still very interested and quite content to watch over his sister's shoulder.

Over the next 15 minutes, the kids watched this prize catch tour around its makeshift tank. And when it was time to let the bass go free, my daughter eagerly volunteered to handle the release (see photo above left).

Of all the frogs we've caught; of all the much bigger fish we've hooked out on the open water, this one rock bass remains among the most exciting fish stories in our archives. It didn't take a big outing with all the gear and glamour. It happened right in front of our own home on an ordinary-looking morning.

Sometimes that's the best way to get a swell fish story going and a great memory in the palm of your hand.

Photo and story by Tim Votapka.



Always optimistic, the author goes for a big catch beneath his own dock, on an ordinary morning in another point in time..



Act 138 and Background on Legislative Changes

In the previous VT Legislative Session, Vermont's Legislature passed Act 138 directing VT ANR (Vermont Agency of Natural Resources) to prepare a report with recommendations on how the state should work toward the restoration and protection of shore lands, including how the state should regulate shore land development and whether the state should enact statewide regulation for activities within shore lands.

VT ANR's Act 138 Shore Land Protection Report was issued in December 2012. The report is comprehensive making a strong case for the need to add state regulations to Vermont's Department of Environmental Conservation's existing fine program of educational and outreach programs. The report contains well documented scientific, financial and aesthetic rationale for regulations to protect natural vegetated lake shores. In addition, the report reviewed the laws in effect in other states including Maine and New Hampshire and then gave several options for the legislature to consider adopting to establish state wide standards in Vermont.

When the Legislature convened in January 2013, Representative David Deen introduced Bill H.223 to the House where it was discussed in Committee, revised, and passed out of Committee as a new bill, H.526. H.526 was discussed in the House and revised. The whole House then voted to pass Bill H.526 over to the Senate. The Vermont Senate began discussing H.526 on April 3, 2013.

If a bill passes the Senate, then the Legislature will direct VT ANR to draft specific parameters such as width of required buffers. This will be another opportunity for public input.

Seymour Lake Association's Board of Directors has publicly joined Westmore Association, Echo Lake Protective Association, Memphremagog Watershed Association and the Vermont Federation of Lakes and Ponds in supporting state wide standards for lake shores in Vermont.

Because the bill in the Vermont Legislature is undergoing frequent revision, SLA has not taken a position on each iteration of the bill, but some individual directors, as well as a number of individual SLA members, have written Vermont's Representatives and Senators voicing support for the type of Legislation proposed by the Act 138 Report.

Reprinted with permission from the Seymour Lake Association. Article by Peggy Barter and Ginny Garrison,



The Town of Derby is in the process writing its Town Plan. Currently, the town has very little in regulation to shoreline development and protection of shoreline to keep our lakes safe and clean. The following articles are helpful in stating where the state is at and where it may be heading in regard to lake protection.



Vermont is at a critical juncture with respect to shore land protection. (Photo by Tim Votapka)

Proposed State Lakeshore Protection

The need for laws to protect water quality and shore land property has wide support throughout the country. Many states have excellent and extensive laws protecting these valuable resources, but some states have been behind in crafting and implementing these laws. At the same time, individual property rights and the public right to unpolluted lakes (the public's property) must be balanced in any legislation to properly represent these two important sides of the issue.

Here are three excerpts from Act 138 which clearly state the shore land situation in Vermont:

"Vermont is at a critical juncture with respect to shore land protection. Vermont is the last remaining northeast state without adequate programs in place to restore and protect lake health. There is a need to ensure protection of remaining undeveloped shore lands and to educate current shore land

owners about how to restore already developed lakeshores.

"According to a U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) study of lakes across the country, the health of Vermont's lakes is less than both the northeast region and the national average.

"Vermont's current shore land management programs focus on education, outreach and technical assistance. At present, there is no statewide standard for shore land management and the responsibility for developing standards falls to municipalities. Less than 20 percent of towns have implemented ordinances...adoption of effective local shore land zoning has progressed very slowly over the last 40 years, and efforts have varied in effectiveness."

Reprinted with permission from the Seymour Lake Association. Article by Erik Lessing.

Ever attend a Septic Social?

It's an opportunity to learn about septic systems while sharing a social time with other lake shore owners Hosted by Erik and Rhealene Lessing and Tom and Amy Wagner plus septic system expert Mary K. Clark, State Vermont Environmental Analyst. Friday, July 19 at 1 p.m. We will visit two sites, the first two older typical systems on Seymour Lake, and the second a new innovative system on Echo Lake. After first socializing and viewing the Lessing's systems, we will make the short trip to Echo Lake to view the Wagner's system. For directions and registration, email Maria Young at maria@northwoodscenter.org or call her at 802-723-6551x115.

Independence Day on Main

The 46th Derby Annual Gala parade and July 4th celebration will occur on Thurs. July 4 right in the heart of town. The parade begins at 10 a.m., after a 9 a.m. muster at the Elks Club on the Newport-Derby Rd.

Please join us in the parade (theme: "Supporting Our Freedom") and at the Major's home the prior afternoon to help decorate the association float. For more info contact Andy Major, 802-766-2662.

Milfoil Search

More volunteers make less work through the warmer months, so if you've got a canoe, kayak, paddle boat or anything else seaworthy, please consider applying a watchful eye toward our milfoil watch. Volunteers are needed to assist our lay monitors Claire Roberts and Paula Staples and to help match money made available through grants from the state and town.

Annual Meeting

Plan on meeting with your fellow association members Saturday, July 20 (9 a.m.) at the CharBo campground recreation hall. You bring your potluck brunch dish d to share and we'll supply the coffee, tea and juice. Catch up with some friends, and listen in on the latest news affecting Salem Lake. Rain or shine. Please bring your own place settings.

LakeFront Support From DEC

This newsletter is paid for in part with support from the Vermont Department of Environmental Conservation funds.

See Us On Social Media



2013 SALEM LAKES ASSOCIATION MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION/RENEWAL

Name (s) _____

Salem Lakes Address _____

E-mail address _____

Mailing address (if different from above) _____

Street _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____ Tel _____

Please consider an additional donation to support milfoil inspection, education and general support of the association _____

Thank you. Total Enclosed _____

I'm interested in helping with (check as many as you like)

- ☐ Lake Monitor ☐ Fundraising ☐ Communications ☐ Director/Officer
☐ Recruitment ☐ Other _____

Annual Dues \$10
Drop off at Annual Meeting or
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