

Lake Front

A Salem Lakes Association Publication



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Thank You For Your Support!

We would like to recognize and thank the following Salem Lakes Association members for their support in 2015. The members listed below represent approximately 38% of the property owners around the Salem Lakes. And of those listed, approximately two thirds of those members donated anywhere from \$5.00 to \$100.00 above and beyond their \$10.00 dues.

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 The Surdy Families
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Aerial photo by Craig Crawford



From Your President...

Greetings all!

Another winter has passed and what a different winter it was in Northern Vermont. Little snow and late cold and early melt. The ice fishing village was short lived due to ice melt. However, the smelt fishing was great; spoke to a gentleman from out of state and he said he caught over 400 smelt in a

short weekend. Have not heard too much about other fish caught, although one day back in June, two fishermen said the fishing was great, and that they had caught two big pickerel! Spoke to an expert fisherman re: walleye fishing and he said that the best walleye fishing is only after 10 pm on. Go figure.

A very cordial welcome to all our new landowners on the Lakes. May you enjoy the lakes as much as we old timers do! We look forward to meeting you, and hope that you will get this newsletter. Please accept our invitation to join us at the Annual Meeting on Saturday, July 16 at 9 a.m. at Char-Bo Campground.

The water quality of Big Salem is holding fairly well. Thanks to Paula Staples and Claire Roberts and their work with the Lay Monitoring Program. As of last year's inspection, no milfoil or invasive species found. We keep holding our breath!! We encourage all lake shore owners to be vigilant regarding their areas. Please do not take our water quality we all enjoy for granted. Persons dropping their equipment in lake infested waters, such as our own Derby Pond or Memphremagog, should have their equipment cleaned before coming to our lakes!

At our last monitor training session, the state personnel demonstrated a diesel engine which they purchased as a trial in lieu of washing stations.

Lake Seymour has purchased one and volunteers to wash our infested boats, if necessary. We shall explore purchasing one for next year, funds available.

Meanwhile on the Internet, we have just launched a new Facebook group. Our newsletter editor, and web master Tim Votapka, who has done a great job putting out the newsletter for years, added this group to allow members and friends to stay in touch throughout the year. It's an open forum in which you may post photos and other news you want to see and share and we're happy to have it up there.

A bit of history: Back in 2000, I believe, a very dedicated local Vermont Senator, Ben Blais, advised a number of our lake shore owners to organize, as other lakes were doing. This on account of lake situations, such as invasive species, state grants for various lake projects, etc. Back then, the Newells, Guyettes, Surdys, my wife, Lois and I were among the brave pioneers who organized the Salem Lakes Association. David Wood became president and he served for many years until his retirement. The office of president remained vacant for a few years, as I was still employed in my railroad career. I took over as president a number of years ago.

After our Annual Meeting on July 16 2016, I am retiring from the office of President of SLA. However, this does not mean that I will not devote efforts to helping a new person and also the long-serving Directors. I have four grandchildren ages 9 yrs. to 3 yrs., and I want to ensure they enjoy the Lakes as much as I have.

Each year, the Officers and Directors of the Association are discouraged by the number of lake shore owners who don't pay their dues for membership and support; last year approximately 65 or so paid out of a possible 190. At \$10 per membership, which would support the safety of our lakes and their property values, it would seem that that amount would not be exorbitant! Come on folks, we need your help and support !!

A very appreciative thank you to the officers and directors who continue to serve and protect our precious lakes. A special appreciation to Tim Votapka for his handling our annual newsletter, the website and our social media pages. Don't forget Facebook, and while you're at it, check out our LinkedIn group as well.

It's been a privilege to serve as your president . Thank you for your good wishes, your contributions and your overall support. I wish you all a safe, sunny and happy Salem summer.

Andy Major

Lake Scores Well in E-Coli Tests

Last July, the E-Coli testing committee consisting of Roger Cartee, Dennis Bond and Ross Ogilvie took water samples from Salem Lake and Little Salem Lake to submit for e-coli testing. Twelve samples were taken in bottles supplied by North Country Hospital which also did the testing. Multiple sites in the lakes were tested along with the river and stream tributaries feeding into the lakes.

The process for taking the water samples is based on guidelines from the Vermont Department of Health:

- Sample in water at least three feet deep
- Sample one foot below the surface of the water
- Samples should be processed within 30 hours after collection
- Care must be taken to avoid the introduction of silt into the bottles

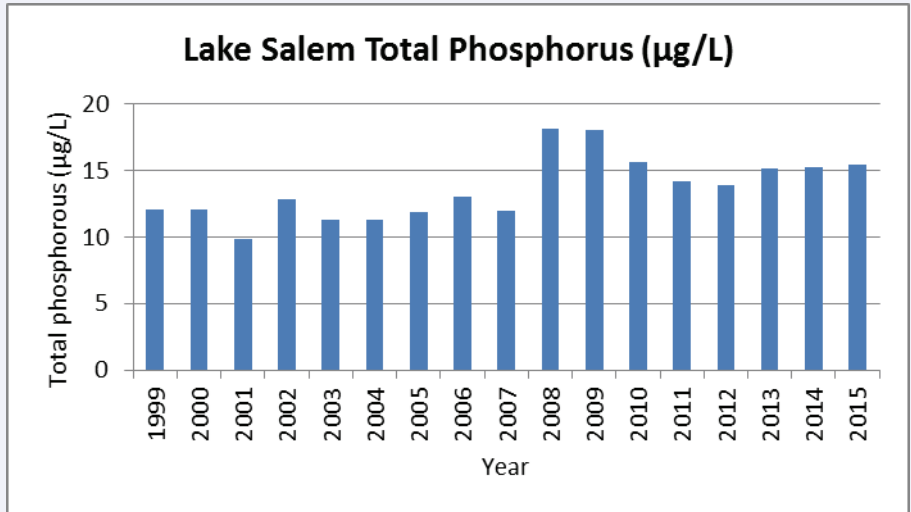
Samples were taken at 12 sites and labeled with location, time and date and delivered to the hospital lab for testing the next day.

Results from the hospital lab show that the lakes are in good shape for swimming and other water activities. The Vermont Department of Health cites a sample result less than 235 e-coli/100 mls as the threshold for safe swimming. The samples from the Salem Lakes showed a range of 0 e-coli/100 mls to 40.8 e-coli/100 mls, well below the safe swimming threshold. Salem continues to be a safe and inviting environment for swimmers, boaters and all other water activity enthusiasts.

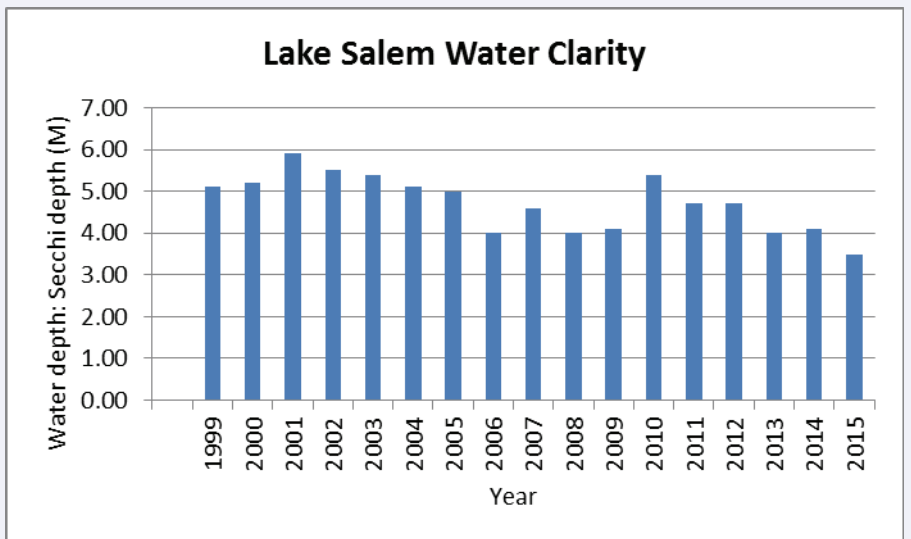
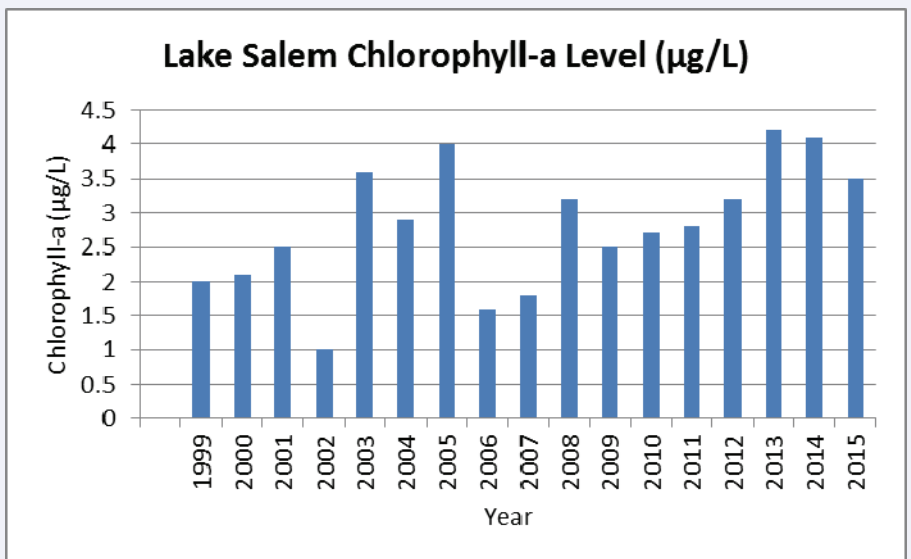
Special thanks to our lay monitors Paula Staples and Claire Roberts who have volunteered several hours tracking Salem's water quality.

Parameters are within acceptable levels, however the board continues to monitor the data and will provide updates.

Clarence Ogilvie



E-Coli is one of several measurements used to determine water quality at the lake. We also monitor Total Phosphorous Level, Chlorophyll-a Level and Water Clarity.



Important Lessons Learned While Growing Up On Salem Lake

When most people think about going to the lake they think boating and swimming. Little do they understand that it is so much more than that. Growing up on Lake Salem has helped to shape me into the person I am today. There are so many memorable things about life on Salem.

10: The weight limit on the boat is just a suggestion! There is always room for more!

9: Getting "bored" at the lake is not even a thing.

8: No matter how long you try and how deep you dig you will never reach China!

7: The cold lake water doesn't faze you!

6: There isn't a bug that scares you (just whip out your tennis racquet bug swatter)!

5: You've lost something important in the water (and most likely us kids have snorkeled to try and find it!)

4: Sunsets on the lake beat sunsets anywhere else in the world.

3: When the sun goes down, it means it's time for a bonfire!

2: S'mores are a food group.

1: You feel bad for those who didn't grow up on the lake.

Christa Kelley Goodwin



'Hello' to Some People Behind The Scenes

When you motor or paddle around the lake, you'll pass by some folks enjoying a cup of coffee in the morning. You'll see a couple of kayakers on their way to Little Salem. A friendly wave and a smile and they're soon out of sight. Well, here's a chance to get to know a few people you may not always see in the course of your R&R at Salem.

LAKE FRONT

Published annually by the
Salem Lakes Association
Derby, VT.

WWW.SALEMLAKESVT.ORG

Tim Votapka—Editorial Director
Roger Cartee—Printing & Circulation

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Jim Ritson, Jim Johnson, John Guyette,
Lois Young, Dennis Bond, Ross & Andrea
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A. These three ladies are employed at the Town of Derby, Vt. Municipal Office. They are Maryann Tetreault, Faye Morin, and Nancy Gosselin. The Salem Lakes Association finances are handled through the Town Office and all records are kept there. Sincere appreciation is extended to them for the many services they extend to our Association. These ladies never hesitate to give of themselves and their services, cheerfully and without reserve.



B. Tim Votapka (Lake Front editor, web and social media).

C. Lay Monitors Paula Staples, Claire Roberts.



Annual Meeting
Sat. July 16, 9 a.m.
Char-Bo Campground Hall



Some Free Press on Us in Cabin Living!



from the deck **LAKE ASSOCIATION SPOTLIGHT**

NAME: Salem Lakes Association
AREA SERVED: Salem Lake and Little Salem, part of the Clyde River systems that flow into Canada.
MEMBERSHIP: The Salem Lakes Association is an all-volunteer organization that serves close to 200 lakeshore properties. The group, led by president Andrew Major, works with the Vermont Agency of Natural Resources. It belongs to the Federation of Vermont Lakes and Ponds, and the Memphremagog Watershed Association, which encompasses bodies of water in Vermont's Northeast Kingdom.

PROJECTS:
 ■ Monitoring the water quality of the lake.
 ■ Eurasian water milfoil prevention is a priority. The lakes have been milfoil-free ever since the association noticed that this aquatic nuisance became an issue at public-access ramps during the boating season. With so many great fishing and

recreational lakes around the northeast corner of Vermont, Salem is vulnerable to milfoil infestation from any incoming prop, trailer or paddle that may come into the lake from another water body that has the weed in it.
 • Volunteer inspectors or lake monitors paddle around the lake during the warm season looking for any signs of milfoil.
 • A major aspect of the program is education. The association takes steps to make sure every property owner (or renter) has information on milfoil in plain sight. Fliers, newsletters and meetings help spread the word.

SUCCESS STORY: "We have been able to remain milfoil-free because we've never relaxed our efforts to keep an eye on what goes into the lake," Major says. "We have been very active in monitoring our public boat access area with inspectors. We've also educated our property owners (and renters) so they can do their part to keep milfoil out along their banks and docks. We're certainly happy about the results so far."

AFFILIATIONS: Federation of Vermont Lakes and Ponds, vermontlakes.org; Memphremagog Watershed Association, memphremagogwatershedassociation.com.
WEBSITE: salemakesvt.org



Photo courtesy / Teri Molyneux
 and Ponds, vermontlakes.org; Memphremagog Watershed Association, memphremagogwatershedassociation.com.
WEBSITE: salemakesvt.org

share your story
 Does your lake have an association that's improving water quality? Do you belong to a land association that is always looking out for its members? To tell us more about the good work your association is doing, email cabinliving@aimmedia.com. Please include two or three high-resolution photos of your lake or cabin area.

■ Boat Access Inspectors are stationed at public-access ramps during the boating season. With so many great fishing and

Salem Lakes was covered in the October 2015 issue of Cabin Living (debut issue). The article acknowledges the group's successful efforts to keep milfoil out of the lake.

Greeter-Monitor Project Underway

The Salem Lakes/Town of Derby Greeter-Monitor Project is well underway for this year.

Two veteran monitors did not return. Jeremiah Barker graduated a Divinity Masters Degree and Nate Sustaita is studying to be a nurse at CCV. Five monitors are: Eric Bingham, Rebecca Bingham, Sam Brunette, and spares Monica Bingham and Molly Smith.

Our season of monitoring at the access began May 28 and will last through September. Already one boat has been identified with Eurasian Milfoil. Boats and equipment have been slow in arriving due to rain and cold weather.

Greeters cover two shifts per day from 5:30 a.m. to 8:30 p.m. at the big access and certain shifts at Little Salem access as needed. All equipment, including bait boxes, arriving are inspected for both plant and animal invasive species.

An important function of the monitors is the education of arrivals as to the danger of invasive species and the illegality of transporting them. Educational materials can be found at the shanty at the big access.

This project is paid in part with support from the VT Department of Environmental Conservation funds.

Top Photo: Greeter/monitors Molly Smith, Monica Bingham, Eric Bingham, Rebecca Bingham, Andy Major, Mikey Major (dog).

Bottom Photo: Greeter/Monitor Sam Brunette.



Independence Day on Main

The 49th Derby Annual Gala parade and July 4th celebration will occur on Monday, 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 Newport-Derby Rd. Please join us on the float and for set up on July 3 at Mr. Hayward's camp (East Salem Drive) around 2 pm. For more info call Roger Cartee 802.598.2747.

Annual Meeting July 16

Saturday, 9 am at the CharBo rec hall (Haward Rd. between Big and Little Salem). Bring a potluck dish to share and we'll supply the coffee, tea and juice. Catch up with your friends and listen in on the latest news affecting our lakes. Rain or shine. Don't forget your own place settings.

Visit Our Website & Join Our Facebook Group!

See Us online and join our group any time. Share your memories, photos and news on our Facebook group, and while you're at it visit our website to download some past issues of Lake Front while you're there.
www.salemlakesvt.org

A Note From Jud Kratzer, Vermont Fisheries Biologist

The DEC has not stocked any fish directly into Salem Lake since 1980. We had been stocking salmon fry and yearling trout in the Clyde River upstream and downstream of the lake until this year. We discontinued the trout stocking because a recent creel survey showed that there was insufficient trout fishing effort on the Clyde River to justify continued stocking. We discontinued the salmon fry stocking because we are moving adult salmon from the lower Clyde River upstream of the Clyde Pond dam so they can spawn in the river between West Charleston and Clyde Pond. We do not want stocked salmon fry to compete with the fry that are born naturally in the river. We are still stocking 30,000 salmon smolts per year in the lower Clyde River, below Clyde Pond.

2016 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
Mail to: Janet Cartee
Salem Lakes Association
17 Northern Ave.
Newport, VT 05855

