

# Lake Todd Times

Issue #19

June 2004

## Annual Meeting

Our annual meeting on June 19 was well attended. It began with coffee and refreshments provided by Marion Hall, Allene Hamilton, and Joanne Doherty and enjoyed by everyone. President Bob Doherty called the meeting to order at 9:00, and after accepting last year's minutes, reports were presented.

Our Treasurer, Gerry Gold, reported that as of May 31, 2004 we have a balance of \$16,965.04 in the treasury. David Payne reported on the condition of the dam. We will need to make some repairs this year and clear debris and trees below the dam. David will be getting estimates for this work and the executive board will review bids before work is done. Skip Tonkin presented our Water Quality Report. In general, the readings were fairly stable compared to past years, except for a very high phosphorous concentration at the Gillingham Drive inlet. This is the first time this particular site has been tested. DES recommends we test more than once a year so we can get more consistent and regular data. Hopefully we can do that this year. Norman Lehoullier and Skip will go out for the initial testing with Andrea Lamoreaux on July 15. Allene Hamilton talked about the loons (no nests are reported as of yet) and sold flares for Flare Night, July 2. Gerry Gold reported on our weed watchers program and encouraged anyone with concerns about possible milfoil near their property to contact him so it can be checked out.

Norma Murphy spoke about our newsletter and encouraged anyone interested in contributing an article to send it to her at [normslake@yahoo.com](mailto:normslake@yahoo.com). A special thank you goes out to Norma, who served as our secretary for the last couple of years. Fortunately, she will stay on as the editor of the newsletter.

Bob Doherty and Gerry Gold reported on the Village District. Signed petitions and proposed boundaries were presented to the Selectmen in Newbury and Bradford on June 7 and 15, respectively. A joint meeting of both boards will be held July 12 in Newbury to establish boundaries and set a formation meeting for district voters. The formation is expected to take place on August 21. (See article on page 3 for more details.) The ownership and maintenance of the dam by the Village District will enable the District to purchase liability insurance through the NH Municipal Association for approximately \$1,000 a year and will also allow for equitable financing of dam and lake expenses. The executive board was given authority to "gift" money to the Village District after its formation to assist it financially until a budget is approved and money is raised through assessments of property in the Village District. This is expected to take approximately a year. More information about the transfer of individual littoral dam rights will be delineated in the next newsletter.

John and Elaine Warren, along with their neighbors, Peter and Sue Carl, have offered to host this year's social on August 21. The association thanks the Weilers for graciously hosting the picnic for many years, and we look forward to a return there in the near future.

New officers were elected as follows:

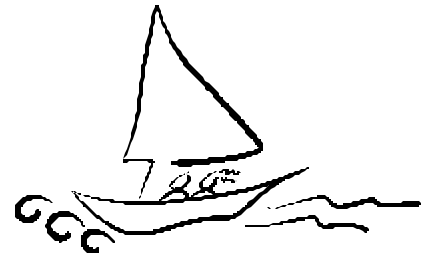
President:	Bob Doherty	Directors:	Carol Tonkin
Vice President:	John Warren		Elaine Warren
Secretary:	Jim Bruss		Alex Azodi
Treasurer:	Gerry Gold		David Payne

The meeting adjourned at 10:30, but people lingered well past that time, socializing with neighbors and friends and enjoying the Lake Todd community spirit.

Bob Doherty



# Neighbors on the Lake



We visited recently with Bill and Marjorie Weeks at their home on Gillingham Drive, where they have resided for the past year with Strider, a very large Leon Berger and Zeb the cat. Bill and Marjorie are originally from Vermont, albeit some distance apart, with Bill from Bellows Falls and Marjorie from Burlington.

They have been gradually moving east from Vermont, with stops in Barnstead and Hillsboro before making an offer on 223 Gillingham when a previous buyer's deal fell through. Within two months after closing they purchased land on the lake to give them the best of both worlds.

Bill used to run a country store in Bellows Falls when he was a teen, so when he noticed that Dodge's Country Store sold Boars Head Meats, that was the absolute clincher to settling here. (Bill is a devotee of deli meats to the point where he would travel over an hour, from Springfield to Stratton, Vermont, just for that brand!)

Bill and Marjorie travel together most of the

week to Concord, where Bill labors over the databases of the NH Department of Environmental Services, while his better half works at the NH Dartmouth Psychiatric Research Center. Marjorie also travels around the state meeting with the geriatric population, which she finds very rewarding.

Like so many of us here, they love the wildlife (one of the local bears said hello to the bird feeder shortly after their arrival) and exchange sightings with each other at the drop of a hat. And, of course, Lake Todd itself is "beautiful" and great for swimming and kayaking.

John Warren



## Annual Dues

Thank you for those of you who have paid your annual dues of \$25 this year. Your dues help pay for the registration and maintenance of the dam, the cost of any repairs, as well as annual water tests by the Department of Environmental Services. If you have not already done so, we ask that you send your check to Gerry Gold, Treasurer, Lake Todd Association, P.O. Box 169, Bradford, NH 03221. Thank You!

The Lake Todd Association



## Flare Night

**Don't forget Flare Night on Lake Todd is this Friday, July 2nd. We will be lighting our flares at 9:00. Let's all light up our beautiful lake!**

## Lake Todd Social

Come meet your neighbors,  
Fun to be had by all!  
Good food, games, s'mores,  
And much more!

Date: Saturday, August 21 (Rain date: Sunday, August 22)

Time: Tentatively, noon

<u>Place:</u> Pete & Sue Carl's	John & Elaine Warren's
57 Route 103	69 Route 103
Newbury	Newbury
603-938-5854	603-938-2960

RSVP: Mary Lehoullier @938-2960

What to Bring: Something to grill, a dish to share, drinks and chairs.

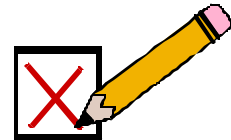
Supplied: Lemonade, paper goods, campfire, s'mores, and a great time!

Elaine Warren

## Update on Village District

As you know, owners of lakefront (littoral) properties at Lake Todd are also part-owners of "the mill dam at the outlet of Lake Todd." Enabling littoral owners of Lake Todd lands to rid themselves of liabilities related to the dam is the motivation to form a Lake Todd Village District. The District will be a legal municipality under New Hampshire laws, although only for the purposes of impoundment of water and supply and protection of water. We expect the earliest date at which ownership interests can be given to the proposed District will be at the proposed first annual meeting of the Village District in October. In turn, the annual meeting requires voter approval of the Village District at the Formation Meeting on August 21. Voters in the Village District must vote to authorize the District to accept Quitclaim Warranty Deeds from current littoral property owners to achieve full or majority ownership of the dam. Voters will also have to approve an annual budget and authorize the District to purchase insurance. These actions can only happen at an Annual Meeting where warrant items are discussed and voted.

Please put these two key dates on your calendars, as participation is requested of all interested Lake Todd residents: **Monday, July 12 and Saturday, August 21.**



**Monday, July 12, 7:00 p.m.**: Two-town Selectman Meeting at Newbury Town Offices

Purposes: (1) To formally set the date for voting on the Village District petition and (2) approval of Village District boundaries and voter list.

**Saturday, August 21, 9:00 a.m.** (if date is approved by Selectmen): Village District Formation Meeting, expected to be at the Bradford Community Center — Warrants to be posted.

Purposes: (1) To see if voters residing in the district will vote to establish the district; (2) to name the district, if approved; and (3) to choose necessary officers to hold office until the first annual meeting.

Format: Similar to a Town Meeting, with a Moderator appointed by the Selectmen.

In addition to the above meetings, we expect to have a Budget Meeting in September to prepare an annual budget for the Village District. We will also hold the first Annual Meeting sometime in early October. The main purposes of the first annual meeting will be to elect regular officers to full terms; to see if voters will approve an annual budget; to see if voters will authorize the elected District Commissioners to expend funds; and to determine if the voters will vote to have the District accept ownership of the dam in Bradford and enter into Quitclaim deeds with current littoral owners. In addition, subsequent annual meetings will take place on the fourth Saturday in June, beginning in 2005, if the date is approved by voters.

We hope to see as many people as possible at the meetings on July 12 and August 21.

Gerry Gold

## In Memoriam



It is with a sad and heavy heart that I inform you that Ray Hamilton passed away on Wednesday, July 23, after a brief hospitalization at Concord Hospital. Our condolences and supportive thoughts and prayers go out to Allene and her two sons, Jere and Wade, and their families. Ray and Allene have given much of their time and talents to the Lake Todd Association over the years. Ray served as President many times and was currently a Director of the association. We could always count on Ray and Allene to do the big job or the little one with the same humble and gracious approach that served as a beacon for the way in which they live their lives. Ray was one of the first kind faces I met when Joanne and I arrived here over 30 years ago. I can recall Ray and I making the trek up from Massachusetts to the statehouse in Concord one late wintry day in the early eighties to meet with the “dam” people over some emergency repairs that had to be made. Ray was always well prepared and his incisive mind and quick smile served the association well. It saddens me to think he won’t be around as I begin my retirement. He would always ask me if I was going to retire soon. It probably was helpful that we shared a common career in education and that our wives were both librarians that we found it easy to develop a good friendship. Roy Parsons, Skip Tonkin, and I will miss our golfing buddy. Ray is truly a man who will be missed. The way in which he lived his life is a good model to us all. Thank you, Ray, for all you’ve given us.



Bob Doherty



in memory of my father

We remember him watching the loons, listening to them, observing them.  
Those mysterious birds who dip and fly,  
Whose plaintive cries fill the night  
Like a breath of air rippling the lake, smooth in the dusk.

Loons have such a hard time coming into existence.  
They must nest just at water level,  
And defend their eggs against all sorts of predators;  
Even then they often lose their young to dangers lurking below.  
The adults dive and disappear beneath the lake,  
Only to reappear half a lake away  
As though they were everywhere at once  
Their lives seem somehow courageous, and impossible

and yet there are loons.

Jere Hamilton