

# Lake Todd Times

Issue #25

June 2006

## Time to Meet Again

We hope everyone had an enjoyable and healthy winter, whether you were in sunny Florida or here in beautiful New England. It is that time of year again when we get together to discuss issues that are important to everyone on our exquisite Lake Todd.

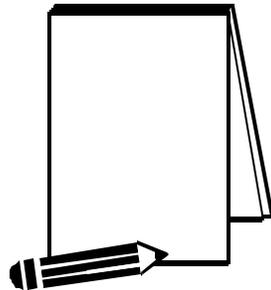
The annual meeting of the Lake Todd Village District will be held at 9:30 a.m. on Saturday, June 24th, followed by the Lake Todd Association annual meeting (at approximately 11:00). The meetings will be held at the Bradford Elementary School auditorium. See you there!



## Change in Annual Dues

Last year the annual dues were reduced to \$5.00; unfortunately, it was not adequate and will return to \$10.00 this year. Expenses for the Lake Todd Association include donations to fire, rescue, and loon association, as well as publishing of the newsletter.

We would appreciate your filling out the attached membership form and forwarding it, along with your check for \$10.00, to the Lake Todd Association, P.O. Box 169, Bradford, NH 03221. You may also bring it to the annual meeting on Saturday, June 24. Your contribution makes a difference. Thank you!



## LTA Bylaw Changes

For many years, the Lake Todd Association has represented the littoral owners of the dam in matters related to its operation and maintenance, as well as water quality testing. Since the transfer of the dam to the Village District, those matters are no longer the responsibility of the LTA. At last year's meeting, the members decided to keep the LTA going as an organization to coordinate social activities around the lake. With these changes has come the need to amend the bylaws to be consistent with the organization's new purpose. Members will be asked to approve these amendments at this year's annual meeting.

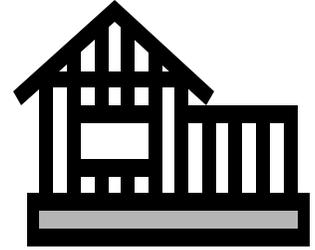
The substantive changes are as follows:

- The article on assessments was removed.
- The president may authorize the treasurer by e-mail to pay expenditures up to \$500, and the board may authorize expenditures over that by e-mail vote.
- The executive board has been reduced from eight to six, to consist of four officers and two directors. The quorum for the board was reduced to three.
- The executive board's duty to regulate water level and water usages was removed.
- Reference to meetings called to deal with dam issues was removed.
- Executive board now must meet twice a year.
- Reference to standing committees for the dam and water testing were removed.
- The article on agency for littoral owners was removed.

Copies of the bylaws are available by calling me at 938-2892.

Bill Weiler

## Update on Pickman Subdivision Project



The proposed Pickman subdivision plan for 37 residential lots on 165 acres at the northeast corner of Lake Todd is scheduled for another hearing on Tuesday, June 20, at 8:00 p.m., before the Newbury Planning Board. The Pickmans are seeking final approval for their major subdivision between Gillingham Drive and Old Sutton Road (aka Gulf Road).

When approved in Newbury, wetlands reviews by the State Department of Environmental Services will be required. Recognizing the state's final authority with wetlands issues, the Newbury Zoning Board has given conditional approval for numerous road crossings in wetlands, contingent upon state review and final decisions.

A portion of the subdivision, with eight residential lots, is located in Sutton. The Sutton Planning Board gave its approval for that part of the plan several months ago.

Steep terrain and wetland considerations have complicated the Newbury review process. Previous Planning Board meetings have resulted in the granting of waivers for the design of the access road from Gillingham Drive.

Seeking to retain the maximum allowable number of lots despite the necessity of not building on extensive wetlands, the developers decided to design the Newbury portion (29 lots) of the subdivision as a cluster zone. Under cluster rules, lot sizes can be smaller than the two-acre conventional lots permitted in Newbury. The present plan calls for about 40 percent of the total site, mainly wetlands, to be in conservation.

Gerry Gold

## Flare Night

As most of you know, it is a Lake Todd tradition to light flares all around the lake the night before Bradford's July 4th parade and fireworks. Because the 4th of July falls on a Tuesday, it is expected that Bradford's celebration will be held on Saturday, July 1st. This makes Friday, June 30th, Lake Todd flare night! Joyce Sinagra will be selling flares at the an-

## Our Newsletter

The Lake Todd Times made its debut in July of 2000. It has been our intent not only to keep residents informed of important issues affecting our beautiful lake, but to provide interesting articles on the history of the lake, wildlife, social events, and the people who live on the lake.

If you have any items you would like included in the newsletter, please forward them to me at [normslake@yahoo.com](mailto:normslake@yahoo.com). I appreciate your ideas and contributions!

Norma Murphy



## Spring Reigns on Lake Todd

With the repaired Lake Todd Dam standing strong after two so-called hundred-year floods within eight months, it is good there's no need to worry for another hundred years.

On Saturday evening, May 13, the water was rising and there was much more rain in the forecast. It was promising to be an interesting weekend. Sure enough, Peter Fenton called at 6:15 Sunday morning, reporting that the water was high. I called Bill Weiler.

By 6:30, when Bill and I got to the dam, the party had already started! Fire and Rescue crew were on site, lights flashing. John Warren arrived and we opened the penstock as a precautionary measure. Fire and Rescue started the difficult process of removing a large tree that had fallen into the river below the dam. Using the town's heavy equipment and lots of elbow grease, they pulled it out, piece by piece.

Steve Lucier, Bradford's road agent, volunteered to count the available sand bags. We had plenty on hand, and enough people to fill them — a great relief! Throughout the day and evening, John Warren and I took turns with hourly watches on the water level. The big concern wasn't the dam, but the property on either side of the dam. If the Harris Brook started running, we could be in deep (and cold) trouble! (The Harris Brook was what we named it last October when prior to sandbagging the Harris property, lake water saturated the Harris yard, causing the ground to begin sliding away.)

Throughout the day, the water continued to rise, and we closely monitored it into the evening hours. During twilight, Ruth and John Harris came home. John agreed to keep an eye on the water level and call me if things got worse. On the High Street side, the sandbag wall installed last October along the Ormiston property was doing its job.

About 8:45 Sunday night, we had a scare when Bruce Edwards called and said he had heard from the State of New Hampshire that the dam had been breached!! I raced down to the dam and everything was fine. A police officer told me the problem was on Water Street, where a small holding pond flooded and had to be breached. Again, Fire and Rescue were on hand, working on the problem.

The October flood had been substantially stronger, with more rain and a quicker, higher rise in lake level. We were lucky then that dam repairs were completed just a week before the flood and that the lake level was still several feet below normal for those repairs. Water from Loch Lyndon's two dams upstream almost breached a culvert on Gillingham Drive this year, but was not a factor at the Todd