

Lake Todd Times

June 2009

Welcome Back to Summer on Beautiful Lake Todd!

Every year it is such a pleasure to see the lake brimming with life, the trees on the shore lush and green, the kayaks and canoes skimming across the water. We hope you had a healthy and relaxing winter season, wherever you were, and share in the joy of being back on the lake. We begin the summer as always with a couple of important meetings, as well as dates for other functions and activities. Be sure to mark your calendars and join us!



- | | |
|-------------------------|---|
| June 27
9:30 a.m. | Annual Meeting
Bradford Area Community Ctr.
(Coffee/Social following meeting) |
| July 19
1:00 p.m. | Weed Watcher Expedition
Meet at Warren's House |
| August 22
12:00 noon | Lake Todd Social
Weiler's House
192 Gillingham Dr. |
| August 29
8:30 a.m. | "Adopt a Highway" Cleanup
Meet at Warren's House |

Don't Miss The Social!

Bill and Margie Weiler are once again our hosts for the Lake Todd Social. It will be held at their home, 192 Gillingham Drive on Saturday, August 22 at noon, with a rain date of the 23rd. Please call Margie (938-2892) and let her know what you would like to bring (main dish, salad, dessert). Along with a dish, bring your family, chairs and liquid refreshments and plan to have a wonderful time with your neighbors on the lake.

Adopt A Highway

By John Warren

Normally our efforts at picking up the trash also tend to bring rain, so it was a relief to hold our first cleanup on April 25 to the tune of sunny skies. This is a state-run program, and to participate an organization has to apply and agree to abide by the terms of their agreement. We were approved in July of 2006 and with a core group carrying the load, have been out on Rte. 103 three times a year.

The state provides vests, warning signs, and trash bags; we supply the effort and energy. The bags are left alongside the highway to be picked up by the Department of Transportation, and we provide a follow-up report as to injuries, unusual items, amount of debris, etc.

Where this was our initial venture following the long winter, we collected 12 bags, which is about par for this time of year. This year's elite crew included the Beatons (Caroline, Gayle, Mike and Shane), Peter Carl, Patty Dugdale, Bill Weiler, and especially Anne Stowe of Newbury, who generously agreed to join us. We are grateful to all of them for their pride and effort in helping to

Annual Meeting

At our Annual Meeting on Saturday, June 27, we will be electing a Commissioner (3-year term), as well as a Moderator, Secretary and Treasurer (1-year terms). Currently, our officers serve on a rotating basis, with elections for new officers each year. We invite the nominations of anyone willing to serve in any of these capacities, and hope you will attend the Annual Meeting and let your voice be heard. Descriptions of duties are posted on the website (www.laketoddvillagedistrict.us), or mailed upon request. If you have questions, please call John Warren (938-2960), William Weiler (938-2892) or Michael Beaton (938-6201). After business is conducted, we invite you to stay for coffee and socializing. Warrant articles, as well as minutes of last year's annual meeting are attached.

Neighbors on the Lake



We are in the process of canvassing our lake community for people to introduce! If you or someone you know would like to be featured, you can reach me at 938-6206, or at normslake@yahoo.com. We'd love to meet you!

Norma Murphy



No Sign of Loons Nesting . . . Yet

This is the time of year we look forward to our loons nesting and the arrival by July of a baby loon. They usually nest on the small island by the very end of May or first week of June, but so far there is no sign of nesting. It may be that they have nested somewhere else, or that they have nested and their nest was washed away. If you have any information, please let us know!

Carol Tonkin

Flare Night Coming Soon

Joyce Sinagra and Carol Tonkin may have already knocked on your door selling flares for our annual Flare Night on Lake Todd. If you haven't purchased yours yet, you will also have an opportunity to buy them at our Annual Meeting on June 27. This year the flares are selling for \$3.00 each, 3 for \$8.00, 6 for \$15.00, or 9 for \$21.00. Flare Night will be on Friday, July 3. Please join us in this annual tradition and help light up our lake!

Annual Budget Hearing - May 30, 2009

The meeting came to order at 9:30 a.m. at the Bradford Community Center. Handouts of the income and expense statement, the dam projection costs, the proposed budget for the 2009 - 2010 year and administration cost were given to the attendees.

John Warren explained the administration cost to run the Lake Todd Village District. There were no questions or concerns on the cost. A suggestion was made to donate \$50 to the Bradford Community Center which the Village District uses for the annual meeting and annual budget hearing at no charge.

Bill Weiler explained the dam project. The costs involved for the dam project are permits, engineering, legal, concrete and soil testing, trash rack repairs, construction and landscaping. The wall on both the east and the west side of the dam need to be raised. D.E.S. requires the dam can withstand a 100 year storm.

After the discussion of the administration cost and the dam project the proposed budget for the 2009 - 2010 year was explained. The funds to be appropriated will be voted on at the annual meeting scheduled for June 27, 2009 which will be held at the Bradford Community Center at 9:30am.

Elaine Warren read the income and expense statement with no questions asked. Carol Tonkin will audit the treasurer's books before the annual meeting.



Meeting adjourned at 10:00

Submitted by,

The Brick Mill House of Bradford, NH

By John Warren

(Part 3 of 4)

Getting back to Bradford, John has a construction background, having apprenticed as a carpenter, while Ruth-Ann has a flair for design, so their talents complemented each other. They also made wise choices in David Masury, John McAt-evy, and Mike Butler who proved to be superbly capable craftsmen. Weekends saw the Harris' arrive from Boston, get settled in a little cottage out back, then meet with the "boys" to discuss the past week's toil and plan the next. The job was a partnership, unique in that they tried to maintain as much of the original building and machinery as possible while transforming it into a comfortable and livable home. Today you can see a Pierce Arrow differential attached to the second floor ceiling (still leaking); there are many patches in the floors where the drive belts came from the basement to the machines, a wheel in the living room which controls the flow of water, and the graffiti accumulated over the years still embellishes the walls.

And grunt work there was in abundance. A perfect example was the glue on the floors from the gang nailing and assembly of wooden boxes. It was so thick that sanding just melted it and made a bigger mess, so weekend after weekend was spent chipping enormous amounts of glue.

A rickety 85-foot shed, which was taken down soon after purchase, ran from the then side of the mill all the way to the intake area of the penstock. The penstock itself was 4 1/2 feet in diameter made of oak, banded with metal, and covered with moss, which unfortunately collapsed, and sadly there are no photos to remember it by. This section was filled in and today the only striking evidence that it was ever there is a formidable granite arch into the cellar where the water ran. In the basement the water turned a turbine and then was redirected to the right front of the house. From Main Street the other arch is visible, and the flow then joined the main stream.

They built a multilevel deck at the back of the house and at the base of the falls, with the top deck a "medieval pulpit," but this is one preacher you will never hear due to the roar of the water. Interestingly, these decks survived the wild antics of the floods of 2005 because they were built flexibly rather than rigid. I personally saw them bouncing up and down during the worst of it and was amazed they survived.

The power plant has many stories to tell, mostly of brown-outs when the keeper went home for supper. When dances were held at the Town Hall someone was elected to keep him company playing cards past the witching hour of 10:00, the finale of the dance.

The work was largely complete by May of '78, but David Masury would stay on, using it as his workshop for a few years, rent free. When he finally moved out (he never cared for the sound of the falls) he left behind the gift of a priceless hand-crafted chair. The rent money would have been long gone by now, but this piece will last a lifetime.

The rights to the dam and water flowage were owned by Eddie Westerberg, presenting problems to the summer visitors and residents of Lake Todd. In the fifties, the Lake Todd Cottages and Birch Lane Cottages catered to tourists who were often dismayed when their sandy beaches were magically transformed to mud flats if too much water was released overnight by the factories. Roy Parsons then formed the Lake Todd Association to purchase the dam and control their own destiny. The actual sale in 1959 was to each of the littoral owners on the lake. Over the years, many a buyer of property on Lake Todd, if they bothered to read the fine print in the deed, was probably a bit taken aback to discover they were now proud part-owners of the dam — for better or worse — worse being the maintenance, repair, and liability.

The liability issue would eventually spawn the creation of the Lake Todd Village District as the only viable way to insure the dam, as well as providing an equitable taxing mechanism for funding from the property owners. The Village District now owns the dam, which despite its age held up well during the record floods of 2005, a tribute to the original builders and to Carl Milner who rebuilt it in 1943.

ARTICLE 2: To see if the Village District will raise and appropriate the sum of \$2038 for the following:

- | | |
|---|-----------|
| 1. General Government Expenses – Administrative | \$1738.00 |
| 2. Water Distribution & Treatment | 300.00 |

The moderator read article two. John Warren reviewed the article. John Warren asked if there were any questions. Bill Weiler asked if the dam fees were included in article 2. John Warren explained the dam fees were in article 3. There were no more questions on article 2. The moderator asked for a motion to pass article two. Bill Weiler motioned to pass article two. Peter Carl seconds the motion. The article was accepted.

ARTICLE 3: To see if the Village District will raise and appropriate the sum of \$7750 for Dam Repairs and Improvements.

The moderator read article 3. Mike Beaton reviewed the article. Mike Beaton asked if there were any questions. Craig Amerigian asked if the berm was on the west side that needed repair. Mike Beaton explained the berm was on the east side of the damn that needed to be repaired. There were no other questions. The moderator asked for a motion to past article 3. Peter Carl motioned to pass article three. Bill Weiler, seconds the motion. The article was accepted.

ARTICLE 4: To see if the Village District will raise and appropriate the sum of \$3000 for the Non Capital Reserve.

The moderator read article 4. Bill Weiler reviewed the article. There were no questions asked. The moderator asked for a motion to pass article 4. John Harris motioned to pass article 4. Peter Carl seconds the motion. The article was accepted.

The moderator asked if there were any questions. Joyce Sinagra asked how these articles were going to affect the taxes. John Warren explained taxes should go down.

Other Business:

John Warren explained the lake water quality report and engineering report is available for review. Also important dates are as follows: July 4, 2008 flare night at nine o'clock. Village District picnic is on August 16, 2008. Location: the Warrens, @ 1:00, bring a side dish, and a chair. Highway cleanup, August 30, 2008 at 8:30. Meet at the Warrens. Elaine Warren is looking for someone to take over running the website.

Lake Todd Village District
Annual Meeting
June 28, 2008
Page 3 of 3

The Lake Todd Village District is being sued by a Village District owner in the amount of \$4,800.00. A court date is set for August 6, 2008 at the New London District Court. Please come and show your support.

The moderator then asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting. Peter Carl motioned to adjourn the meeting. Elaine Warren seconds the motion. The motion was accepted, and the meeting was adjourned at 10:10 a.m.

Respectfully submitted by,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Susan Carl".

Susan Carl
Lake Todd Village District Clerk