

**Square Pond Improvement
Association
2019 Newsletter**



**www.squarepond.org
Lee Robator, President, SPIA
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President's Letter

It is hard to believe my first year as president is in the history books. My job has been made easier thanks to so many members who have taken an active role in being lake stewards. Special thanks to those who have taken leadership roles as SPIA board members and to others who oversee various groups and activities supporting the monitoring of lake quality. There are many ways you can help. Please contact me if you are interested in getting involved. Many hands make light work. (207-636-1009) We are planning an updated watershed survey for May 4th, the last one having been conducted in 2006. It includes all properties in the greater watershed designation for the lake. As of this writing, we have 21 volunteers who will be assisting technicians conducting the survey. We could use more volunteers. If you are interested in helping, contact MaryAnn at robator44robins@yahoo.com. (Subject line: Watershed Survey). Many of the sites noted from the 2006 survey have been addressed. The new survey will help refocus our energy and must be completed in order to qualify for any available grant monies.

There has been significant amount of property turnover on the lake. It is important that new property owners fully understand the responsibilities and restrictions of lake front property in the Shore land Protection Zone. SPIA has been very instrumental in providing information to help educate property owners through the newsletter (thank you Marji Kilgus), and our meetings. This effort continues to be a major priority.

A high level of property owner participation in SPIA is very important for a variety of reasons including: being a viable vehicle for education and communication, providing ongoing financial support for various projects and activities, supporting grant applications and promoting a sense of community. Under Bill Kilgus' efforts, SPIA membership grew at an extraordinary pace and continues under Kim Caron's diligent oversight.

A couple of quick notes:

*SPIA is purchasing surface breathing apparatus that will lower the cost and expand options related to snail harvesting

*Japanese Knotweed (a land plant-looks like bamboo when mature) has been found in various areas. Efforts are underway to eradicate this invasive plant. Please keep a lookout for it and report any findings to Donna Rosenkrans ippsquarepond@gmail.com There is a particular way to address its removal and we have a team of folks willing to assist.

*ASYCC (Acton Shapleigh Youth Conservation Corp) provides a valuable resource to property owners addressing such issues as drainage and erosion control through best management practices. You provide the materials, they provide the labor. You can learn more by going to their website www.asycc.com

*Have Real Estate rental agents have been educated on fireworks pollution?- Many either have firework restrictions in their rental agreement, or have agreed to add a restriction clause.

*Be diligent about inspecting all boat launches for any pieces of plants that may be on your boat and trailer carried in from another body of water. Please use the public launch for accessing the lake as there are trained inspectors who will assist in inspecting boats.

We are very fortunate to not have invasive plants in our lake. Many of our neighboring lakes have infestations. Everyone MUST continue to be diligent against the introduction of invasive plants. It has an immediate impact on the quality of our lake and corresponding property values. **PROTECT YOUR INVESTMENT!**

*Lastly, we hope you will please consider increasing your financial support to SPIA. There are various levels of giving and we are a non-profit 501C-3 organization.

See you on the lake!

Lee Robator

Square Pond Improvement Association

Officers

President: Lee Robator 207-636-1009

Vice President: OPEN

Treasurer: Kari Bracy karibracy@icloud.com

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Director 5: Carlyn Daigle, Treasure Island Rep

Director 6: Brian Ferland brian_r_ferland@yahoo.com

Director 7: Jane Kirton jkirton@sanford.org

Director 8: Kim Caron kcaronster@gmail.com

Director 9: Kathy Parenti

Membership: Kim Caron joinspia@gmail.com

Invasive Plant Patrol: Donna Rosenkrans ippsquarepond@gmail.com

Water Quality: Rob Caron rcaronster@gmail.com

Webmaster: Mark Parenti mark.a.parenti@gmail.com

Newsletter Editor: Marji Kilgus campdejavu59@yahoo.com

Website: www.squarepond.org

Facebook Page: Square Pond Improvement Association
(for paid members of the SPIA)

Square Pond Improvement Association Treasurer ' s Report-2018

Period ending 12/31/2018

Income:	YTD 12/31/18
Dues & Donations	\$19,270
Newsletter Ads	\$1,725
Earmarked Donations: Matching Funds	\$1,000
Earmarked Donations: Dive Equipment	\$2,335
Bank Interest	\$11
Total Income:	\$24,341
Expenses:	
Water Quality Improvement	\$5,087
Town beach/Boat Ramp Cleanup	\$0
Newsletter	\$1,381
Membership/Invoice Letters	\$832
ME Sec'y of State Annual Report	\$35
Winter Camp Watch	\$1,220
Website/Webcam	\$547
Insurance (off/Direct Liability & sign)	\$400
Food (June/August Meetings)	\$0
PO Box Rental/Postage	\$90
Office Supplies	\$28
Lake Markers/PontoonBoat Trailer	\$1,047
Legal Fees	\$0
SPIA/Square Pond Signs	\$0
ASYCC Projectss	\$0
Total Expenses:	\$10,667
Donations:	
ASYCC	\$6,000
3 Rivers Land Trust	\$0
VLMP	\$350
Acton/Shapleigh Fire & Rescue (\$200 each)	\$400
Total Donations:	\$6,750
Income Less Expenses/Donations	\$6,924
Account Balances:	
Checking	\$13,690
Savings	\$2,502
1 YR CD	\$0
Total Assets:	\$16,192

Respectfully submitted: Kari Bracy, Treasurer

Invasive Plant Patrol-Donna Rosenkrans

I want to thank all of the Invasive Plant Patrollers for their Participation this past season. We had quite a few new people learning the process this year. The response to turning in patrol sheets was great. Thank you!! With your help, we were able to cover about 90% of the lake.

As always, the Invasive Plant Patrollers are always looking for help. The more eyes we have on the water, the better. If interested in learning more, send an email to:

Donna Rosenkrans, IPP Leader ippsquarepond@gmail.com

Again, thank you!! Without your help, none of this would be Possible. *-Donna*



Water Quality 101: Why do we, and why should you care?

The waters provide wildlife habitat, recreational opportunities, (including swimming, fishing and boating), and significant revenue from tourism and property taxes. Residents in both Acton and Shapleigh would say that they value the beauty and way of life enhanced by Southern Maines lakes and ponds,-especially Square Pond.

Today, the water quality in Square Pond is above average. Long term trends could bring us in the wrong direction for us, and many more lakes in our area.

As we face the inevitable pressure of growth, it is so important to watch and pay a mindful eye to protect our lake. The region is growing! And as it grows, the development can definitely increase the potential for contaminated waters. We all "know" the water in our area.... We all "know" what the plants are that are there year after year....PLEASE-if you see anything unusual, or different, email Donna

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Square Pond/Goose Pond/Mousam Lake

A great story of “how it came about” years ago-

Source: Acton/Shapleigh Historical website

[Www.actonshapleigh.org](http://www.actonshapleigh.org)

"Goose Pond, located at the northern end of Mousam Lake, is connected to Mousam by a large culvert. In the spring of the year overflow from Square Pond runs into Goose Pond via a canal which was engineered by Goodall- Sanford Mills. This pond has a number of year round residences and more camps. Square Pond, at one time called Crystal Lake, is situated in the town of Shapleigh and Acton, about eight miles from Springvale. It is 522 feet above sea level and covers an area of 910 acres."

"The general opinion is that before 1900 Square Pond was considerably larger than it is today. After the Goodall-Sanford Mills bought the water rights and put the dam on the pond, the water level was lowered by the mill's need for water. In the early 1900s the water from Square Pond, Mousam Lake and the Mousam River was used many times over by the mills along the river. At times the sand bar near Treasure Island landing was completely out of water and was used to drive a horse and buggy between the island and the mainland. Libby's Island was part of the west shore."

"Much of the land on the west shore was bought up by the Goodall-Sanford Mills when they needed lumber to make pine shipping crates and hardwood rollers for the dye house. The mills in turn sold the shore frontage to mill supervisors at very reasonable prices. The Shapleigh shore line was owned by individual farmers whose deeds ran to the lake and by the town itself when they inherited the Town Farm property."

"One of the earliest camps on Square Pond on the south shore was owned by Joe LaPorte. Laporte owned considerable frontage on the southwest side of the lake. Just north of his property was a camp owned by William Batchelor and the next camp was William Bodwell's. Mr Bodwell owned a steam boat and he also had 2 daughters. The steam boat was used often for fishing and picknicking parties."

"On the Shapleigh side of Square Pond at the north end were 2 camps owned by Ramsey and Chick. The camps are now owned by Ramsey and Fiske, formerly Dunnells. There was also a camp on top of the hill near the dam owned by the Clark family of Sanford and thought to still be owned by decendants of the original owners."

"The large island at the south end of the lake was owned by the mills and sold or given to a Mr Leshar of NY. Mr Leshar was owner of a large store named Leshar-Whitman in NYC. He also became the

-Continued

Selling agent for the Goodall Worsted mill for dress goods and worsted lining material for overcoats. He and his wife wanted their large family to experience country living so they came by train., trolley and wagon every summer to their lodge on Blueberry Island. They had a windmill to pump water for washing but their drinking water came from Leshers spring which is up in the Owls Nest area. The children used to walk to Shapleigh Corner every day for the mail and penny candy. They also walked to the church at the corner. One of the Leshers boys married Marion Bodwell whose father owned the steam boat and a camp on the Acton side of the lake."

"The next camps built on the Shapleigh side were AsaPratts (owned by Sammy Carll in 1985) and Raymond Doe's (1927-28), both build about the same time. In 1934 the so-called Town Farm lots were put up for sale and Earl Libbey built his camp in 1935. Many places from the town beach down to the point were built by friends and relatives of the Hawkes family of Wakefield MA. A camp belonging to Arthur Powell was built on land in Indian Village leased from Mr. Smart. When Mr. Smart refused to renew the lease the camp was moved over the ice one February day to its present location where it is now owned by Michael Bonetti, Sr."

"Mr. Leshers store was a victim of the depression of the 1930's and heavy overcoats went out of style so he sold the island to a Mr. Bond, who sold to a Mrs. Quinn. Mrs. Quinn used the lodge as a girls' camp called Camp Kick-a-Wa and she changed the name of the island from Blueberry Island to Treasure Island. After a few years it was sold again to Clifford and Mary Whiting who ran a boy's camp called "Jon-Care." The Whitings sold to Mr Bowron who divided the island into lots and developed Treasure island as it is today about 65 camps served by a ferryboat, central water supply, electricity and all the modern conveniences, each camp being privately owned."

"Square Pond now has about 400 summer residences with 40 or more families living on or near the lake year round."

***The above was quoted from Acton Shapleigh Historical Society**

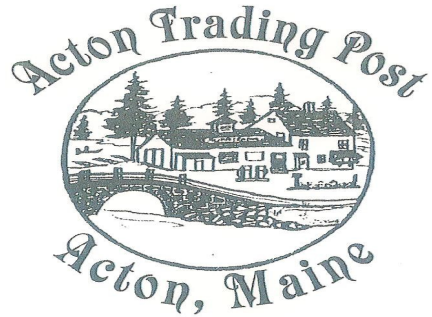


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Maine's Official Sweetener-Maple Syrup!

All around York County-your Square pond area-maple trees can be found! Those of you who reside here all year, have most likely visited a sugaring operation in March. For those of you who choose a warmer winter area, here is some information about Maine's Official Sweetener! Basically, you only need 3 things to make maple syrup; a source of maples sap, a vessel that will support heat and a heat source. In addition, a good supply of patience would be helpful!

Mother Nature is totally in charge regarding when the sap runs. Nights below freezing and days that rise above freezing (40's) are great sap running days. This usually occurs in February and March, but syrup has been made in southern Maine in January and April. This is an unpredictable business.

Getting ready for the sugaring season is probably a lot like opening your camp for the season! It depends on how large the job is, time available and the number of able bodied persons to help!

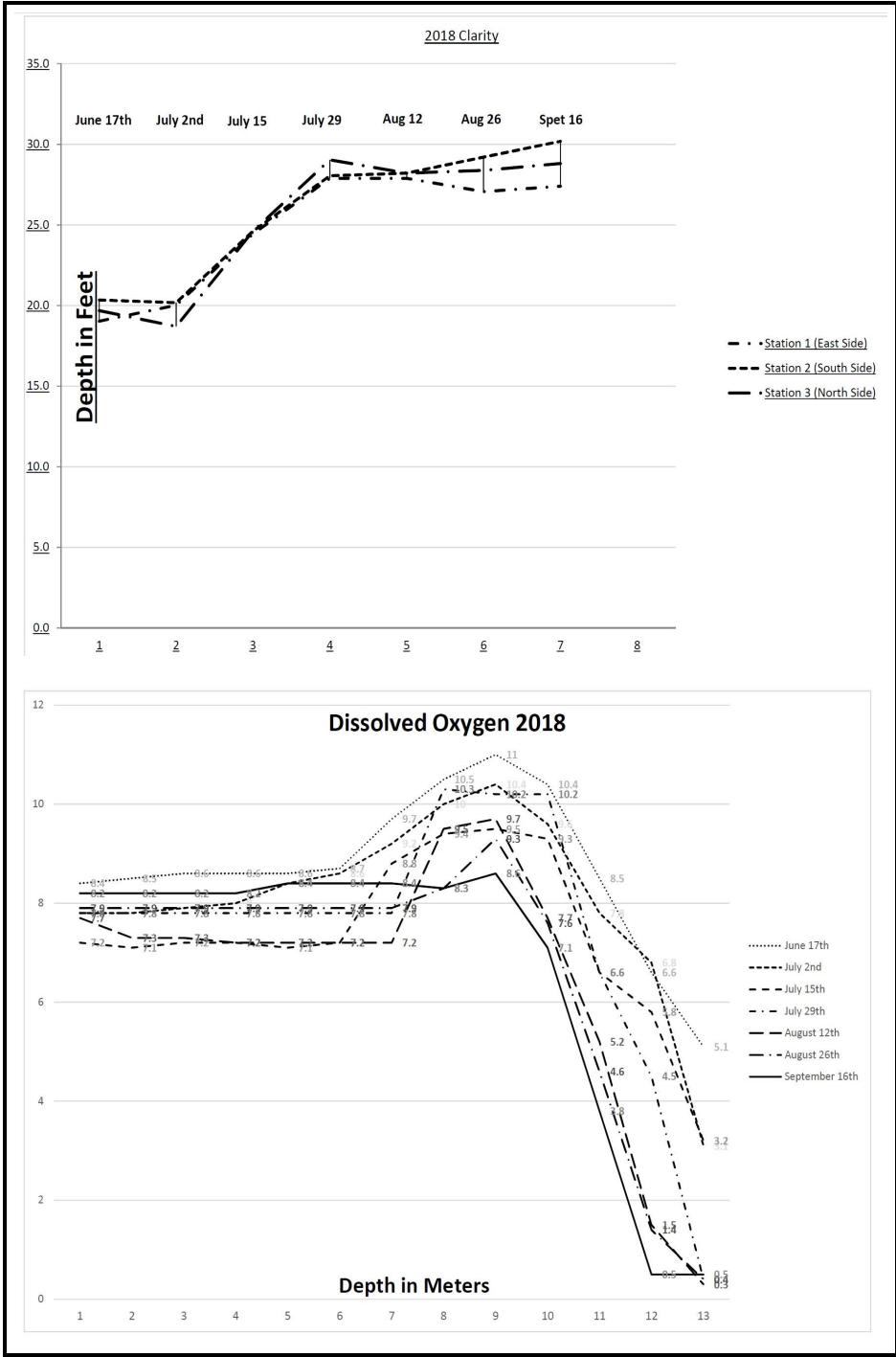
I am Debi Hartford of THURSTON AND PETERS SUGARHOUSE, LLC. My husband and I are retired educators and making Maple syrup is a dream come true for Harry! Harry's relatives were the Thurston's and the Peter's in our business name and they made syrup here in the 1920's, 30's and 40's. Thank you to those of you who have gone NORTH out of the camp roads and found us; we are on Route 11 in West Newfield.

Our sugarbush (the area with maple trees) has a pipeline system to collect the sap which goes directly to our sugarhouse. Some sugar makers use buckets or a combination of buckets and pipeline. In most sugar bushes, pipeline stays up all year long; so, animal and wind damage need to be repaired before each season. With the winds we had in 2018, there was considerable blow down damage. Each year, the spouts (put in the trees) are replaced, new holes are drilled and the spout is "tapped" in the tree. Monitoring your trees and pipeline is an ongoing task during the sugaring season. Spouts are removed at the end of the season.

Boiling sap is the job you often see illustrated. Basically, sap from the tree is 1-3% sugar. To get pure maple syrup, the sap needs to be concentrated to 67% sugar. This can be accomplished by simply boiling the "raw" sap from the tree or concentrating the raw sap with reverse osmosis (RO) before boiling. We use RO to save time and energy. Sources of heat vary; wood, propane and oil are common. Syrup is graded according to density, clarity, color and flavor. Today's international grading system includes: Golden Color/Delicate Flavor, Amber Color/Rich Flavor, Dark Color/Robust Flavor and Very Dark Flavor/Strong Flavor. The darker the syrup, the stronger the maple flavor. Mother Nature basically determines the grade.

Enjoy Maine Maple Syrup!

Contributing Writer– Debi Hartford, Thurston And Peters Sugarhouse, LLC



To: All SPIA Members

Square Pond saw early ice this year without early snow after the ice formed, so we had a few weeks of awesome skiing. This is something we don't often get because the snow usually comes at the same time as ice is in. It ended up being another very cold winter with ice exceeding 24". We expect a late ice out this year, probably after mid April.

2018 Water quality was on par with most years. We had low clarity in June but a normal low that we see from excessive pollen. As the summer went on, clarity improved as expected, with visibility approaching 30' at the clearest point.

Dissolved Oxygen also tracked a normal path as you can see from the graphs with low DO as the water warms up in the summer. This is also expected every year and showed nothing out of the ordinary for Square Pond.

I did test Phosphorus as well, and it reported as 5 micro grams/liter which is considered a normal level as defined by the Maine Center for Disease Control. I will continue to test every year and as with the other tests, we are just checking to make sure there are no substantial changes.

On the "snail front,".....I have ordered the surface breathing unit and look forward to getting volunteers to try their hand at snail snatching. Some of us that are certified divers will test it first and establish procedures and then train others.

I would like to thank all of the people that help throughout the summer with water quality and snail snatching as well as invasive plant patrol. It is a lot of work, but very important and extremely beneficial to our lake.

If anyone has any questions, please contact me at rcaronster@gmail.com



**Have a great
Summer!**

Sincerely,

Rob Caron



New England is Crisscrossed With Thousands of Miles of Stone Walls...

That's enough to circle the globe-four times.

By Anna Kusmer May 4, 2018

Walk into a patch of forest in New England, and chances are you will...almost Literally...stumble across a stone wall. Thigh-high, perhaps, it is cobbled together with stones of various shapes and sizes, with splotches of lichen and spongy moss instead of mortar. Most of the stones are what are called "two-handers"-light enough to lift, but not with just one hand. The wall winds down a hill and out of sight. According to Robert Thorson, a landscape geologist at University of Connecticut, these walls are "damn near everywhere" in the forests of rural New England.

He estimates that there are more than 100,000 miles of old, disused stone walls out there, or enough to circle the globe four times.

Who would build a stone wall, let alone hundreds of thousands of miles of them, in the middle of the forest? No one. The walls weren't built in the forest but in and around farms. By the middle of the 19th century, New England was over 70 percent deforested by settlers, a rolling landscape of smallholdings as far as the eye could see. But by the end of the century, industrialization and large-scale farms led to thousands of fields being abandoned, to begin a slow process of reforestation.

"New England had great pastures," says Thorson. "It was a beef-butter-bacon economy."

As farmers cleared those New England forests, they found rocks-lots and lots of them. The glaciers that receded at the end of the last Ice Age left behind millions of tons of stone in a range of sizes. New England soils remain notoriously stony today.

When life give you stones? Build a wall. Farmers pulled these plow-impeding stones from their fields and piled them on the edges. "The farmer's main interest was his fields," says Thorson. "The walls are simply a disposal pile. It was routine farm work." This process was replicated at thousands of farms across the region-a collective act of labor on a glacial scale.

The supply of stone seemed endless. A field would be cleared in the autumn, and there would be a whole new crop of stones in the spring. This is due to a process known as "frost heave." As deforested soils freeze and thaw, stones shift and migrate to the surface.

Wall building peaked in the mid 1800's when, Thorson estimates, there were around 240,000 miles of them in New England. That amounts to roughly 400 million tons of stone, or enough to build the Great Pyramid of Giza-more than 60 times over.

No one dedicates more time to thinking about these walls than Thorson, who has written a children's book, a field guide, and countless articles about them since he first moved to New England in 1984. Thorson, bald and bearded, a mossy stone himself, is a landscape geologist, and he distinctly remembers his first walks in the New England woods-and coming across one stone wall after

-New England stone walls-continued

another. His mind was full of questions about what they were and who built them, “it was a phenomenon that was extraordinary,” he says. “One thing led to another, and I got obsessed on the topic.”

Thorson started the Stone Wall Initiative in 2002, aimed at educating the public about this distinctive feature of their forests, in addition to conserving the walls and studying how they impact the landscape around them. Thorson has built a reputation as the ultimate expert on this phenomenon. “You know how a natural history museum would have a person who identifies stuff for you? I’m kind of that guy for stone walls,” he says.

Thorson may be particularly obsessed with the walls, but he’s not alone in the interest. He is constantly invited to speak at garden clubs, historical societies, public libraries, and more. “The interest doesn’t die down,” he says. “Twenty years later, it’s still going on.”

His field guide, *Exploring Stone Walls*, is a directory of some of the most unusual, interesting, or distinctive walls in the region. The tallest example is a mortared sea wall beneath the Cliff Walk in Newport, Rhode Island, measuring over 100 feet. The oldest wall, in Popham Point, Maine, dates to 1607. Thorson also highlights Robert Frost’s “Mending Wall,” located on his farm in Derry, New Hampshire, the inspiration for the famous line, “Good fences make good neighbors.”

The stone walls provide a snapshot of 19th century history....a map of what land was cleared and farmed at the time. Combine that with other data on the forests themselves, this can help specialists model historic forest cover and, in turn, help ecologists understand how forests grow back after they have been disturbed or cleared entirely. The walls can hold the key to New England’s social history, including settlement patterns and farming styles. They provide a static backdrop against which change can be measured.

Each of the millions of stones that make up New England stone walls was held by a person, usually a subsistence farmer or perhaps a hired farm hand. What remains is a trace of countless individual acts etched on the landscape, “Those labors,....hundreds of years later, they endure.”

“Stone walls are the most important artifacts in rural New England,” Thorson says. “They’re a visceral connection to the past. They are just as surely a remnant of a former civilization as a ruin in the Amazon rain forest.”



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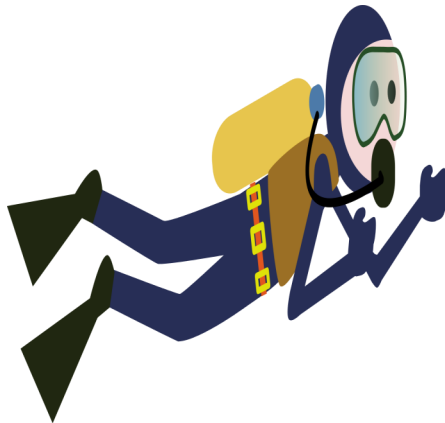


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Acton Shapleigh Youth Conservation Corp

Spring is here and it's time to prepare our camps for relaxing summer fun,...but before we put our docks and boats in, we should assess our property for erosion!

Why should we? Because it's easier to prevent than repair! How we and our neighbors manage our properties has an impact on lake water quality, and perhaps loss of water frontage. Storm water runoff into the lake brings with it loose soil particles that brings phosphorus which can lead to algae blooms, aquatic plant growth that suffocate fish and wildlife habitats.

After reading several articles (to control erosion into my Koi pond in CT), I have decided to share some of the simple practices that we all should consider on our lake. Here is what I learned-

Look for:

- pathways of water flow
- leaves & pine needles that are clumped together
- then follow the path uphill to find the source (roof, driveway, road?)
- if possible, draw a simple base map

Next: figure out the best solution by selecting from options to divert and infiltrate runoff water. (See <http://asycc.com/education.html> for information on erosion control practices)

If minor;-Divert water to uneven areas (as run-off can pool) with good vegetative ground covers. Plant native vegetation along the waterfront while being careful to avoid turf grass, (it doesn't grow well in saturated soils). Wetland plants thrive in saturated soils, absorb nutrients that grow algae, trap sediment and debris, deter those nuisance wildlife, provide cover for fish and dampen wind and wave energy.

DON'T remove trees, shrubs, native plants, or all aquatic plants (they absorb wave energy).

Use filtration fencing for all construction activities.

If moderate or severe: ASYCC can help with assessing, implementing and/or recommending solutions. Contact Doug Ridley: eeleader@asycc.com for more information.

Need more ideas? Check out "maine.gov- The Buffer Handbook Plant List, or <https://extension.umaine.edu/publications/2500e/>

WE ALSO ENCOURAGE EVERYONE TO SUPPORT THE WATERSHED SURVEY ON SQUARE POND IN MAY AND BE THERE WHEN THEY COME TO INSPECT YOUR PROPERTY.

-Debbie Lansberry, Contributing Writer

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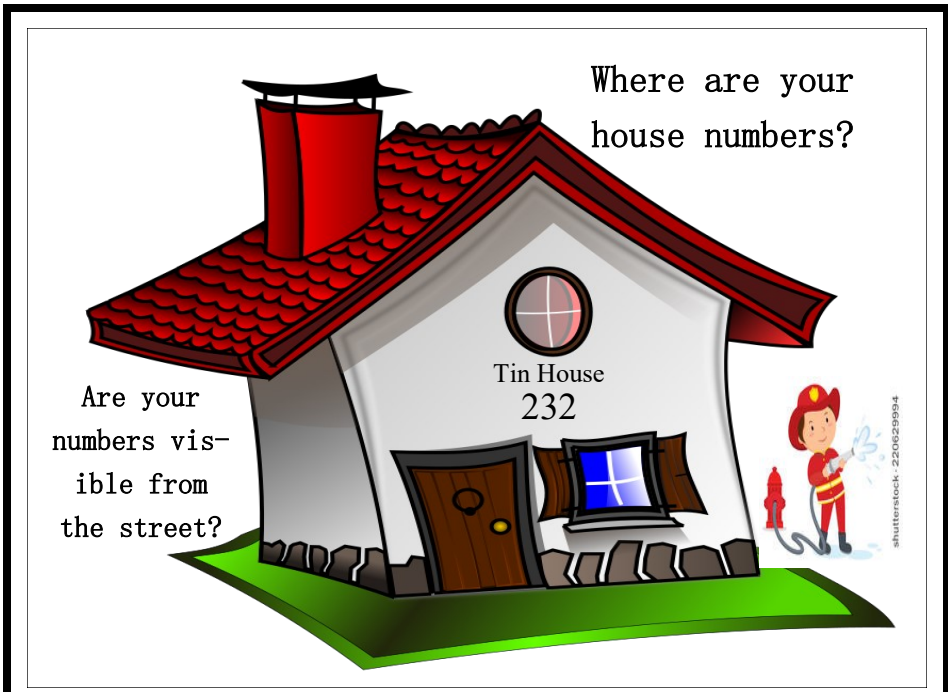
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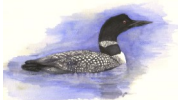
**HOME THEATER and BEYOND is a homeowner, and long time
Supporter of the SPIA-Mike Bonetti**

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Interesting Signs YOU are a Good Neighbor!

Good Neighbors are Friendly

*Nice and approachable. No one says you have to be best friends, but at least be able to smile and say hello... as opposed to a glare or simply being ignored.

Good Neighbors are Quiet

*Anyone who has ever lived next to a noisy neighbor can attest to this. Good neighbors are aware that there are other people living in the area and keep noise to a minimum.

Good Neighbors Respect the Surroundings

*Anyone who lets garbage or junk accumulate in visible areas to your neighbor shows disrespect. "Pick up the dog poop..."

Good Neighbors Handle Situations Maturely

*If a neighbor ever has a problem with you or something you are doing (say your dog has been barking a lot recently), he or she would kindly approach you about the matter. Everyone gets along better & problems are solved faster when people behave like mature adults.

Good Neighbors Help When and Where They Can

*There isn't a rule stating that good neighbors should lend a helping hand, but in general, they do.

Good Neighbors are Trustworthy

*You want to feel safe knowing packages, mail and items left at your residence will not be stolen. With good neighbors, you shouldn't have to worry. (in our case boats, life jackets, paddle boards etc...)

ULTIMATELY, while you can choose where to live, you CAN NOT choose your neighbors. Bottom line-BE a good neighbor!

APRIL 2019-SNAIL SNATCH 'SNOPSIS'

A localized collection of invasive “Chinese Mystery Snails” was discovered in Square pond along the west shore in 2013. these snails prefer freshwater lakes with soft, muddy or silty bottoms and have become a problematic invasive species in many areas. Originally native to East Asia, these snails were sold in San Francisco in the late 1800’s as a food source. They gradually made their way to the east (at a snail’s pace...sorry) and are now found in Maine, New Hampshire, Massachusetts, Connecticut, Rhode Island, New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Maryland and Virginia.

These snails (*Bellamyia chinensis*) have no natural predators other than the Square pond Snail Snatchers and garlic butter. They reproduce exponentially, and may carry many parasites and flatworms. Typically, they are first discovered long after their population has grown and spread so vastly that they are beyond control and carpet the lake floor. Fortunately, the population in Square Pond was thought to be localized and an effort to control their spread was launched.

The volunteer Square Pond Snail Snatchers (scuba divers, snorkelers and surface support personnel) have worked to control this population. The snails were found primarily in 3 to 15 feet of water (a few were as deep as 18 feet) in a 1000-1200 foot stretch of shoreline along the west shore.

The females live 4 or 5 years and have most of their offspring in their 4th and 5th years, when they are bigger, more easily found and harvested. They may have up to 100 live births at a time, and more than 170 births in their lifetime. Most births occur from June to October so we try to dive as often as possible in the early spring before they have a chance to breed.

The Snail Snatchers hope that we have impacted, or at least delayed the spread of this invasive snail. Harvest rates began at a snail-sational (sorry again) 25 pounds per hour-long dive early in 2013. The snail distribution density varies., so the harvest rates may vary from dive to dive, and from diver to diver..simply by chance. Harvest rates tend to be slightly higher during the early spring dives, then taper down as the summer progresses. In 2018 we averaged 12.1 lbs/dive-hour over 35 dives.

The 2018 snail-tastics are 35 dives to hand harvest about 426 pounds of snails, or about 27,690 individual snails at about 65 snails/pound. Our totals since 2013 are 425 dives, 7050 pounds of snails or an incredible 458,120 snails...now that’s a lot of garlic butter!

WE NEED TO INCREASE THE PARTICIPATION OF THE VOLUNTEER SQUARE POND SNAIL SNATCHERS. If you are interested in getting more involved, please contact us. More *divers, snorkelers, and surface support* help would be greatly appreciated. If you do a dive or snorkel to harvest snails, please weigh your snails and notify me of your amounts collected. We are researching a new floating surface compressor system to eliminate the need for heavy SCUBA tanks, and will be another tool to use in this effort. This should allow less experienced divers to contribute comfortable and safely in this effort.

Though we do not realistically expect to eradicate the population, we are hopeful that we can control the population through ongoing harvesting efforts into the future.

-Square Pond Snail Snatchers
Mark



February 2019– Ice Fishing Derby Results

The Sanford Elks oversee the fishing derby on Square Pond. Here are some answers to questions that have been posed over the years:

***The derby started 19 years ago as a private group of 9 people who threw \$10 each into a hat with the winner taking home the pot.**

***The derby has since then been turned over to the Sanford Elks Lodge and turned into a fund raiser for Maine children Cancer Program 10 years ago. The first year had around 200 registered fishermen and raised \$5,700.00.**

***For 2019 season, there were a total of 468 registered participants of which 132 were kids. They raised \$20,716 this year. The first prize fish was a 22 1/4 inch Brown Trout and the prize money was \$1,000.00**



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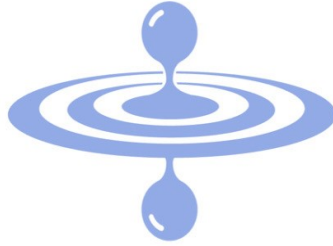
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Invasive Lake Plants: What are the Costs?

Maine is the only New England state that has not experienced serious infestations of invasive aquatic plants. Unless real efforts are made to prevent these plants from finding their way into our lakes and ponds, we will have to pay the high cost that other states have faced, including:

***RECREATIONAL LOSSES: Heavy Plant Growth+Less Enjoyment for Everyone!**

- Entanglement of boats and motors in thick weed beds
- Problems for fishermen-
 - Stunted growth of some species due to high plant densities
 - Difficulty navigating
 - Impact on fisheries resulting from plant control measures

***Reduced shore front property values**

***Reduced tax and retail revenues to communities with affected lakes**

***A nuisance and potential danger to swimmers**

***Revenues from tourism may decline**

***METHODS USED TO CONTROL AQUATIC PLANTS: Very Costly and Potentially Damaging to the Environment!**

Mechanical Plant Harvesting (cutting/mowing): \$350-\$1500 per acre. Does not remove rooting systems and ensuing plant fragments could spread plant infestation. Ongoing maintenance generally requires 2 to 3 cuttings per season to obtain acceptable control.

Herbicide application: \$200-\$100 per acre. Costs vary depending on treatment rate, chemical used and water depth. Generally needs to be repeated every two years. Negative effects include the loss of beneficial plants, nutrient release, water use restrictions, questions concerning long-term impacts to the ecosystem, and social acceptability.

Bottom Barriers: \$10,000-\$20,000 per acre (Professional installation). Limited Application due to cost, difficulty in stabilizing large areas, and impacts on the lake ecosystem.

***REAL DOLLAR COSTS TO OTHER STATES:**

VERMONT: Currently spends \$200,000 annually just to staff invasive plant control programs for only 46 of its 285 larger lakes.

NEW HAMPSHIRE: \$100,000 in state and local operating funds is used annually to support 7-9 invasive plant control projects. This amount does not even come close to the public demand for programs for NH 's 55 infested lakes.

MASSACHUSETTS: Massachusetts spends over \$290,000 annually on grants for local lake projects, most of which is used to battle invasives in its 298 infested lakes.

CONNECTICUT: More than \$150,000 a year in state funds is spent to cost share local projects for invasive control.

Many States have had to hire full time people just to manage invasive issues.

PREVENTION-PREVENTION-PREVENTION

Japanese Knotweed

This past season, one of our Invasive Plant Patrollers, noticed Japanese Knotweed growing on the west shore side of the lake. Japanese Knotweed is a plant that grows on land and is invasive. A process has begun to address this issue. Several areas were identified, and property owners were notified. Permission was obtained to begin working the problem, to prevent more spreading of the plant.

You will find, enclosed with this newsletter, a tri-fold hand out that will help property owners identify the plant, the process to use if you think you have the plant on your property, and who to contact.

We will be working with the ASYCC to help keep this under control.

-Donna Rosenkrans, Invasive Plant Patrol Leader

Square Pond Watershed Survey

By now, you may have received your postcard reminder of the watershed survey to take place on May 4th.

The purpose of this watershed survey is to update sources of pollution to the lake from the 2006 watershed survey. The project is done with the support of Acton Shapleigh Youth Conservation Corps (ASYCC), and Maine Department of Environmental Protection (MDEP).

This is an important step in protecting the lake for future generations to enjoy.

When:

Saturday, May 4th beginning at 8:30-1 /2 hour training

Where:

Shapleigh Town Hall (you will need transportation to the lake sector you will be assigned to)

Bring:

Bag lunch, clipboard, pencils, tape measure, good walking shoes, weather-appropriate clothing, bug spray, sunscreen

The teams will complete much of this work on May 4th. We are hoping to have all unfinished site and paperwork complete by end of the month.

Please contact Lee or Mary Ann Robator with any questions:
robator44robbins@yahoo.com Subject: Watershed Survey

Also, please contact if you would like to volunteer-

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Jon Christensen
Owner



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Cottage Definition: noun—a small simple house, typically one near a lake or beach. Synonyms: cabin, bungalow, shanty



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FIREWORKS!

So many people love fireworks!

...but there are many that don't—for different reasons.

**Many animals fear fireworks—and go missing.
Fireworks usually “happen” after sleeping time for many..**

They POLLUTE the lake...

Can we do our best to be mindful of our neighbors...

Do our best to keep them in July...

Keep them before 10pm.

We will all be thankful.

THANK YOU TO ALL THE FIREWORKS SHOWS THAT YOU DO!

Northern Saw-Whet Owls

Two summers ago, I was sitting out behind our cottage and kept hearing “who who...who who.”

Later that week the sounds came closer...close enough for us to get some photos of the owls. We were fascinated.

And now, this article has come to my attention, and I wanted to share it with you. From MASSWILDLIFE By: Andrew Vitz, Ph.D.

The Northern Saw-whet Owl is the smallest owl in the eastern United States, second only to the Northern Pygmy Owl in the contiguous U.S. It consumes rodent prey that are almost one-third its own body size. Saw-whet owl habits were not well known and their migration was not discovered until a mass mortality over Lake Huron at the turn of the last century revealed their nocturnal movements. Since then, bird banders have made a concerted effort to document their movements and numbers during fall migration.

It continues today with standardized protocols and well over a hundred banding stations, although more than half of the birds are banded at only 20 very active stations in the Great Lakes region, New England, Maryland and Virginia.

The owls are 8” long, and weigh between 2.3 and 5.3 ounces, which is about half the weight of the screech owl.

Male and female look alike with large heads, yellow iris, and feathered legs down to the talons. As with other owl species, saw-whets have asymmetrically located ears enabling them to pinpoint prey locations, and they can fly silently due to their soft feathers and the fringed edges of leading edge of their flight feathers. They hunt nocturnally from low perches (5-10 feet off the ground) along forest edges and openings and consume a variable diet (mammals, birds, insects), with mice composing a large portion of their prey. The saw-whet owls are secondary cavity nester, meaning that it does not create its own nest. Rather they rely on existing cavities often created by large woodpeckers. Saw-whets are also known to use nest boxes in a suitable habitat.



Photo
Cred:
Donna
Rosenkrans

Would first responders be able to find you?

9-1-1

“What is the Address of your Emergency?”

****Is your house clearly numbered?***

****Can responders see your house from the road?***

Can your house numbers be seen at night?

Lyme Disease

Mount Auburn Hospital

What Causes Lyme Disease?

- Lyme Disease is caused by a blacklegged or deer tick
- Risk of exposure is greatest in the woods and the edge between lawns and woods.

Who is at risk for Lyme Disease?

- Anyone who was bitten by a tick that carried Lyme Disease.
- The risk for Lyme Disease is the highest in the Northeast and North-Central states.
- People who work and play outdoors (hikers, golfers, landscapers, campers...) are at greater risk

If I have a tick will I definitely get Lyme Disease?

- No. In most cases, the tick must be attached for 36-48 hours before the Lyme Disease bacterium can be transmitted.

How do I remove a tick?

- If a tick is attached to you, use fine-tipped tweezers to grasp the tick at the surface of the skin.
- Pull the tick straight up and out. DO NOT twist or jerk the tick.
- Clean the bite and your hands with rubbing alcohol, and iodine scrub or soap and water.
- You may get a small bump or redness that goes away in 1-2 days, like a mosquito bite. This is not a sign you have Lyme Disease.

****See a doctor if you develop a fever, rash, severe fatigue, facial paralysis or joint pain within 30 days of being bitten by a tick. See a Dr. if you have a red circular rash at bite.**

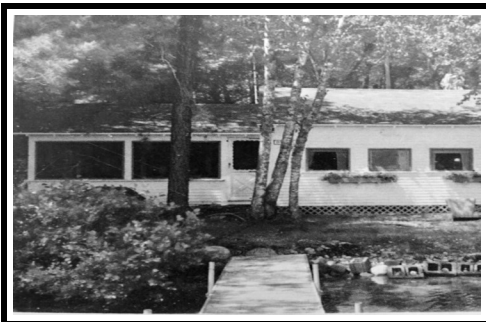
Thanks for the Memories-



**Interestingly enough-
The "camps" in
these photos
belong to the same
families today as back
then. If you were lucky
enough to be here then...**



**Today, the boats are a
"little" faster and
fancier...the "camps"
are a "little" more
updated...**



**BUT...
Square Pond
is still
Square Pond-and we are
all so lucky to be here!**

Thanks for the Memories.....

Many of the residents on Square Pond, –both full time and part time, have deep roots that span over decades.

A couple gals suggested we create a “In memory of,” page.

I asked a few folks that have been on Square if they had any memories, ...anything specific that brings those gone before us to mind. Please read below, and feel free to contribute next year! Thanks Kim and Kari for the idea–

Every time I see the sun shining on the island inn the late afternoon, I can hear my father say, “Marjorie, just look at that island, it’s the best time of day!”

In loving memory of my parents, Bernard and Marjorie Chadbourne. –Jane Kirton

Circa 1935 my Grandparents, Lillian, “Nana” and “Grampy,” –the 1st Alfred Lindquist went from tenting with family to building a shell of a cottage, ...and a hand dug septic. We often look at the sunsets and imagine that generations before us enjoyed the same view.

I am pretty sure Nana and Grampy love seeing 5 first cousins now all owning camps along the shoreline of Shapleigh.

–Al Lindquist

There is something about hearing a camp door slam shut. I hear in my mind, my Nana loudly saying from the 1960’s era, “Don’t slam the door!”

–Donna Rosenkrans

If I begin to read a book and I don’t like it, I hear my dear friend say to me, “You don’t have to read anything you don’t like any more–read for pure joy!” In memory of Marcella Porecca. –Jane Kirton

Thanks “Mom,” Ruth Woodside, for bringing me to Square Pond in the 1970s. –Bill Kilgus

To Ray and Ruby Robator–Thank you for a lifetime of memories. Five generations and going strong! –Lee and MaryAnn Robator

Send memories to: campdejavu59@yahoo.com –Marji

The Difference Between a Milkshake and a Frappe

I remember first moving to Florida in 1971, and being disappointed not seeing "Frappes" on the menu. In fact, no one knew what it was?! I also remember using the word "tonic" as a kid, and again, in Florida, the word used was "soda." So, when I read this article about the difference between a milkshake and a frappe, I wanted to share portions of it with you.- written in New England Today by Aimee Tucker.

When is a milkshake not a milkshake?

To make a classic chocolate frappe with 3 scoops of chocolate ice cream, a generous splash of milk, and thick drizzle of chocolate syrup. Put all of the frappe ingredients into a tall fridge jug with an opening that perfectly fits in a "stick" blender. Mix away until you have a thick and rich concoction.... namely a chocolate frappe.

I don't know why we call the delicious mix of ice cream, milk syrup, and sometimes malt powder a frappe (pronounced "frap") here in New England, but when you really think about it, a milkshake shouldn't be anything other than shaken (NOT stirred) milk and syrup. And a frappe, which sounds funny, must be the fancier of the two, meaning the one with the ice cream.....it makes perfect sense.

Bottom line seems to be, that a milkshake is a "beverage that is made of milk, ice cream and often flavoring and blended until foamy."unless you live in New England, a milkshake would never include ice cream.

*I have found New England uses different terms, words or phrases for things than other parts of the country. But I guess this is normal, after all! bureau, wicked, frappe, tonic, bang a uey, leaf peeper, ayuh, the Cape, Hahvahd Yahd, American Chop Suey, elastic, grinder, Johnny (hospital gown), Packie, Rotary, Statie, Double D's -Any others?!

Acton Emergencies Dial 911

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Website: www.actonmaine.org

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SATURDAY, JUNE 29TH AT 9AM

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SATURDAY, AUGUST 24TH AT 10AM

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