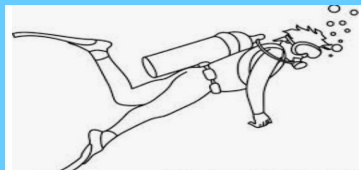


**Square Pond
Improvement Association
2022 Newsletter**




*This RED FLAG is a “DIVER DOWN” Flag
Please stay clear of area for diver’s safety*



Lee Robator, President of SPIA


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**Square Pond Improvement Association
Officer/Director/Coordinator Contacts**

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Vice President: Kristen Waitt waittk@gmail.com

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Director 5: Jane Kirton jkirton@sanford.org

Director 6: Kim Caron kcaronster@gmail.com

Director 7: Kathy Parenti Kathy.parenti@gmail.com

Director 8: Allan Krans 6krans@comcast.net

Director 9: OPEN

Director 10: Treasure Island Rep Scott Haley

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Facebook Page: Square Pond Improvement Association

President's Letter 2022

Last year COVID continued to impact SPIA's activities but to a lesser extent as we slowly returned to normal activities. We resumed in-person membership meetings with the June meeting being held at the Carons' garage as the Acton Town Hall was not available to the public for outside meetings. Happily, the August meeting was held at the Acton Town Hall. We have reserved the Acton Town Hall for the 2022 membership meetings. I want to thank Kim and Rob Caron for graciously opening their property to SPIA. As always, our committees and volunteers continued to do their work to educate and protect the lake. SPIA has been blessed to have so many people step up and help in so many ways. I want to thank our volunteers from the bottom of my heart. We are a caring community with shared goals of preserving the lake and enhancing lake life for all.

The Lake Dweller's Handbook was hand distributed to every property owner on Square Pond. If you did not receive a copy, please let me know and I will get you one. The feedback has been overwhelmingly positive. The handbook has been shared with other lake associations and some have asked if they could use the material to produce a comparable book for their lakes.

As many of you know, the West Shore Drive culvert needs to be replaced. SPIA is working closely with the Town of Acton, its Road Committee and Agent, The Army Corp of Engineers, Maine Dept of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife, and Maine DEP to come up with a satisfactory solution to its replacement. To assure our voice is considered, SPIA has engaged the services of a municipal attorney and civil engineering firm to help with the oversight of the culvert replacement design & plan. I feel we have a good working relationship with the town, various groups and agencies involved. I want to give a special thanks to Allan Krans, a SPIA board member, for his guidance and advice through this process. Allan and his wife Mary are relatively new to the lake. During his professional career, he was the municipal attorney for the city of Dover, NH. His background in municipal law has been a tremendous asset and invaluable to SPIA.

President's letter continued-

Kari Bracy, SPIA's Treasurer, informed me of her desire to step down as treasurer due to personal reasons. Brian Ferland, another SPIA board member, has agreed to take on this role and the two have been working together to assure a smooth transition. The transfer of Treasurer duties will be formally completed during the June 25th membership meeting. Kari has served SPIA well as Treasurer and I want to thank her for all she has done and will continue to do for the lake. I also want to thank Brian for stepping into the shoes of Treasurer for SPIA. I am looking forward to seeing you on the lake this summer.

**Lee Robator, President
Square Pond Improvement Association**



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SPIA Treasurers Report
For the period ending December 31, 2021

	FY 2021	Budgeted 2021
<u>Income:</u>		
Dues & Donations	\$26,086	\$23,000
Newsletter Ads	\$1,725	\$1,600
Earmarked Donations (All)	\$220	\$0
Watershed Survey Grant (VLMP/LSM)	\$0	\$0
Amazon Smile donations	\$337	\$150
Bank Interest	\$1	\$0
Total Income:	\$28,370	\$24,750
<u>Expenses:</u>		
Water Quality Improvement	\$1,672	\$5,000
Invasive Plant Patrol (IPP)	\$0	\$300
Watershed Survey 2019	\$0	\$2,000
Newsletter	\$1,396	\$1,500
Membership/Invoice Letters	\$525	\$500
ME Sec'y of State Annual Report	\$35	\$35
Winter Camp Watch	\$0	\$0
Website/Webcam	\$938	\$1,000
Insurance (Officers/Directors Liability + Sign)	\$1,255	\$1,500
Food (SPIA Meetings & Snail Snatchers Lunch)	\$254	\$600
PO Box Rental/Postage	\$92	\$165
Office Supplies	\$0	\$150
Lake Markers/Pontoon Boat/Trailer	\$620	\$700
Legal Fees	\$2,754	\$250
Social Activities Committee	\$0	\$500
SPIA/Sq Pond Signs	\$0	\$200
Lake Dwellers Handbook (based on 600 copies)	\$2,872	\$3,000
ASYCC Projects / Matching Funds	\$0	\$2,500
Kendall Memorial Bench	\$1,380	\$0
Total Expenses:	\$13,794	\$19,900
<u>Donations:</u>		
ASYCC	\$5,000	\$5,000
LSM (formerly VLMP)	\$250	\$250
Acton/Shapleigh Fire & Rescue Depts(\$200 ea)	\$0	\$400
Total Donations:	\$5,250	\$5,650
Income Less Expenses/Donations:	\$9,326	(\$800)
<u>Account Balances:</u>		
Checking	\$36,689	
Savings	\$3,756	
Total Assets:	\$40,445	

Respectfully submitted: Kari Bracy, Treasurer

The Boater's Wave....it is actually a thing!

There was some chatter on the SPIA Facebook page last summer about people waving while passing in boats. I decided to do some research, and found out that "The Boater Wave" is actually a thing! Read this article I found at boatplanet.com

History of the Boater Wave

Boat Owners have been giving each other "the wave" for many years. They are joined by the common bond of shared experience and dedication to the lifestyle. Mind you, this bond is made up of an estimated 12 million registered boaters as of 2018. Unfortunately, the exact origins of the wave itself are unknown. One thing is for sure though, it is here to stay.

How Does the Boater Wave Work?

The boater wave is more than just a simple "hello" with your hand. There are rules and responsibilities when it comes to the wave, and most boat owners take it seriously.

Think your fancy new yacht excludes you from having to wave back to an older pontoon? Think again! Whether you have a pontoon, ski boat, center console, or yacht—doesn't matter. Remember, this is a lifestyle, not a beauty pageant. No matter the year or manufacturer of your boat, if someone waves at you on the water, you wave back. If you are a passenger on a boat, you are also expected to wave back whenever waved to. You'll have plenty of time to relax while being escorted around on the water, so take a moment to enjoy this boating tradition. You don't even have to put your beer down.

The boater wave should also be a proactive and not reactive gesture. The best way to keep this boater wave alive is to strive to be the one who initiates the wave. So the next time you are out on the lake and a fellow boater shoots you a wave, be courteous and wave back. Life is too good on the water to not participate in "The Wave!"



Square Pond Invasive Plant Patrol

Hi!

I hope you all had a great winter and are ready to spend another great summer at our beautiful Square Pond!

Thank you to all of our IPP patrollers!!! We had a great 2021 season where 12 people turned in paper work documenting their summer 2021 patrols for the Lake Stewards of Maine (LSM). Thank you! The paperwork provides clear evidence to the State of Maine we are actively working to keep our lake free from invasive plants. We are always looking for more volunteers. There are many areas of Square Pond that do not have patrollers assigned to them. Patrol coverage is needed at the north end of the lake shoreline, the area around the three islands at the north end and $\frac{3}{4}$ of Treasure Island. The east side of the lake from just outside the gate house cove to several cottages past the sandbar is also lacking patrol coverage. It would be great to have a few people covering these areas. Please consider volunteering. Our season will be starting in July. If you are interested in learning more please come talk with me after the Board meeting or Email me at ipp-squarepond@gmail.com for more information. I will provide you with the training you need & a kayak scope to make it easy to see the underwater plants. Remember, the more eyes we have looking at the water the better to catch any invasive plants early before they take hold in our lake.

Every season there are more lakes in Maine that (surprise!) discover there is an invasive plant in them. I recently read an article about a lake in MA that resorted to aggressively treating their lake for an invasive plant and people were prevented from using the lake for day after it was treated to kill the invasive plant. We do not want to find ourselves in that position.

Invasive Land Plants News I want to thank Mary Ann Robator for volunteering to take over as the Invasive Land Plant Coordinator. .If you believe you have Japanese Knotweed or Purple Loose Strife on your property please send an email to:

invasivelandplantsqpond@gmail.com and someone will make arrangements to take a look.

See you all at the lake! -Donna Rosenkrans, IPP Coordinator

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Treasure Island in Shapleigh, Maine: A Brief Journey Through Time

The story of Treasure Island, located on Square Pond's "Lower East Side," begins far before TILOA (Treasure Island Land Owners Association) was ever formed or its inhabitants set foot on the island. For those who are interested, please join me in a brief look through the window of time.

Our brief journey takes us back before the turn of the 20th century; back in the days of horse drawn carriages and into the period when a bustling railway industry churned up and down the east coast and Springvale's shoe factories and Sanford's wool industry were thriving. This was a time of wilderness exploration, river development for mills and "big city folks" looking for summer escapes in Maine. During the late 1880's, the locally famous Sanford Hotel was built and was very modernly furnished with some of the basic comforts of home we enjoy today. Adventurers and business people alike traveled the rail system from New York and Connecticut to escape the big cities, as many still do today, albeit by car or SUV.

As we draw open the blinds on our window of time, we are just after the turn of the 20th century, in the very early 1900's, during the period the Goodall Worsted Mills of Sanford were a bustling industry producing a new type of wool called "mohair plush" (which comes from angora goats). Amongst the local mills in Sanford, it is here, shortly after the turn of the 20th century, that we find a local stop for our first inhabitants of "Treasure Island", the Leshner family. Traveling by rail to Kennebunk and carriage to Sanford, the Leshners would refresh from their travels at the Sanford Hotel before continuing their journey.

It is documented that through business relations, Mr. Leshner, (the owner of a large store in New York City), purchased some land from the Goodall Worsted Mills for his family to spend the summer, around 1903. The property then referred to as Blueberry Island became the family's big city, summer escape. A summer home or "Lodge" for their family, maids, cooks and such was erected on the west end of Blueberry island which still proudly stands today.

At the time of the lodge construction, a windmill (for pumping lake water) and an ice house (containing ice from the lake's winter freeze) were also constructed. As there was no electricity, the icehouse, which was filled with lake ice and sawdust, was critical for storage of perishables

Treasure Island continued:

throughout the family's long, summer stays. Originally included with the Lesher's land purchase from the mills, were lands known as Blueberry Island and a smaller island referred to as Loon Island.

It is reported that around the time of purchase, Blueberry Island was more of a peninsula off the mainland, as it was connected by a land bridge at the closest point to the mainland. This narrow land bridge was used for island access. The winter's ice provided the means to transport the materials needed to construct the Lesher's summer complex.

It has been noted that during the summer months, the Lesher's found many activities to occupy their time. Among those were boating and long walks from Blueberry Island into the local Shapleigh Corner store, for supplies and candy. According to local town records, it appears a large portion of this country store still stand today. The Lesher's remained on Blueberry Island for about 30 years.

As the sun sets on the first part of our shore journey, we find ourselves in the early 1930's and in the big depression. The depression was the cause of much change in our country and it is here we see the sale of the Lesher's family summer retreat. However, long after the Lesher's sold the Lodge, it was said one of their boats, a wooden scull, hung from the ceiling rafters.

As we begin our next phase of our short journey, we find ourselves whisking through the 1930's, 40's and 50's. It is here, along with the end of the depression, we find both Blueberry and Loon Islands being sold for various reasons or situations. Along with the changing owners came different uses of the property. It is recorded that the island was used as a girl's camp (Camp Kick-A-Wa) for some time and it is said this is when the name was changed from Blueberry Island to Treasure Island. Years later, the property was sold and it was used either as a boys camp or a co-ed camp (Camp Jon-Care), sometime in the 1950's.

An article from Newspapers.com taken from the Democrat and Chronicle (Rochester, NY) dated August 26, 1955 refers to "many young Rochesterians returning home from summer at camp." The article further goes on to identify 25 local boys and girls from Rochester, NY who were returning home from summer at camp at Camp Jon-Care in Shapleigh,

Treasure Island continued:

Maine. So this could imply that sometime during the 1950's the island converted to a co-ed summer camp rather than just girls or boys.

In the very early 1960's, two developers bought Treasure Island. The company, Leisure Living owned by two men, one of which was Al Bowron, began subdividing and developing the island which created the island community that exists today. In conversation about Treasure Island's developer, Al Bowron, the listener will most likely hear the descriptive phrase "larger than life," describing his personality. One is likely to agree that in order to take on such a project as developing Treasure Island, those words are most likely correct!

Al Bowron's son, Scott Bowron, took interest and became involved with Treasure Island's development in his later college years. Working alongside his father, Treasure Island began to take shape. As many cottages were built and sold, the summer community of Treasure Island was formed. It has been rumored that Treasure Island was developed as a test community for the bigger community of Frye Island, on Sebago Lake. Although this can not be confirmed, it is true that Treasure Island's developer, Leisure Living, did develop the Frye Island community as well.

Shortly after the passing of Al Bowron, Leisure Living was dissolved and the island properties were sold. Scott Bowron retained the property containing the Lodge. Although the exact timeline is unclear, Treasure Island continued to mature through the 1970's and in July of 1977, adopted their first official community bylaws.

As we fast forward into the 21st century and into the last part of our journey, we find the Lodge still standing on the island's west end as it has, since 1903. As it has hosted for over a century, the Lodge today is the summer home escape for the granddaughter of Treasure Island's original developer, Jill Bowron Morgan and her husband Ethan Morgan and their two children Briggs and Charley-the next generation of Treasure Island's pirates and Indians. They maintain the property, along with its history, while still displaying what is believed to be the original, coveted Leshner family's scull which continues to proudly hang from their ceiling rafters.

Jill and Ethan are very social people, so if passing by the Lodge's extensive shoreline, you happen to spot them out and about, they will surely return a friendly wave and if time permits, engage in a welcoming, neighborly

Treasure Island continued:

conversation.

It is here we will disembark from our short, historical journey about Treasure Island. Today, there is a lot more to Treasure Island than there was back in the early days of Blueberry Island, in the early 1900's. Not only is it home to the Lodge, we are family friendly community of 78 cottages. Today TILOA is a strong, volunteer based association. It is its selfless, volunteer spirit which allows our many docks and ferries to be installed and removed every year and that maintains our many systems which support our community. The island has come a long way since 1903 and Treasure Island (TILOA), functions more like a very small town.

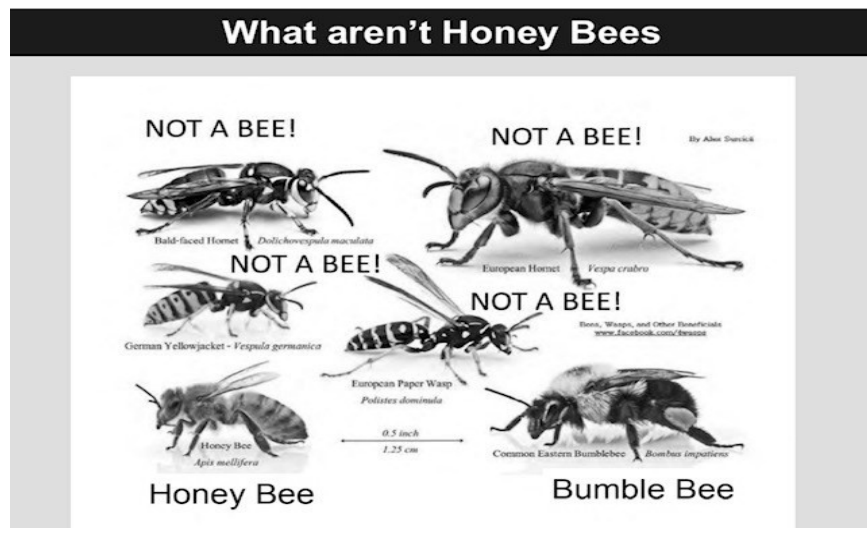
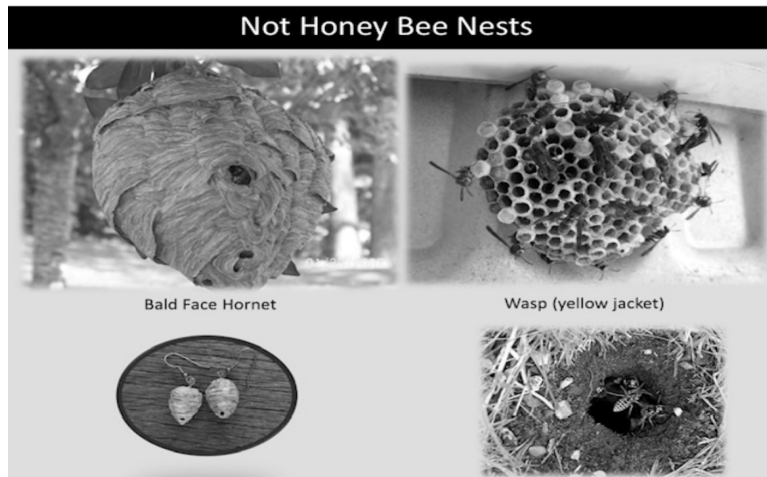
Although today 78 cottages call Treasure Island and our community their summer residence, one must not forget the monument that stands so majestically facing the day's setting sun and where our island community took its first breath: at "the Lodge."

Thank you for joining in on this brief journey of Treasure Island.

**Written by Scott Haley
A 15 year resident of Treasure Island
March 2022**

Recipe (Dad's FDNY) Barbeque Sauce	
1 Bottle A-1 Sauce	1 Tsp Worcestershire
1 Bottle Chili Sauce	1 Dab Tobasco
2 1/2 Bottles Ketchup	1 Can beer
2/3 Pint Red Wine Vinegar	2 Tbl black pepper
1/2 Sm bottle lemon juice	1 Tsp soy sauce
1 Tbl dry mustard	
1 Sm jar mustard	

Mark Parenti, local beekeeper, informed me that fresh, local honey is a very different thing from what you find in most supermarkets. “I have a number of folks that get honey from me who swear by it and more than a few who were really surprised at the difference between local honey and store bought. Supermarket honey tends to be highly processed and a lot of the beneficial nutrients are lost in the process.”



More Buzz About Bees

Yellowjacket Wasps are responsible for about 1/2 of all human insect stings. They often become a nuisance from August through October, as they build up in large populations and scavenge for human food at picnics and cookouts and other outdoor get-togethers. It is best to wait for freezing temps to kill off these annual colonies. Stinging workers do not survive the winter and the same nest is not reused.

Honey Bees are very important animals. Humans rely on them to pollinate crops, especially fruit trees. Honey bees usually leave people alone, but are attracted to some soaps, perfumes and hairsprays. If one comes near you it is probably confused. Once it realizes you have no nectar, it will leave you alone, but people do sometimes get stung stepping on bees.

Bumble Bees are important as pollinators. They can be aggressive around nesting sites but they are rarely aggressive during foraging activities. Their nests are small compared to honey bees.

Paper Wasps are beneficial because they feed on insects considered pests by humans. They build nests around homes such as underneath eaves. Wasps attack when the nest is disturbed and each can sting repeatedly. Their sting typically cause localized pain and swelling, but in sensitive individuals or when many stings occur, more intensive reactions can occur including death. Paper-like nests, shaped like tiny umbrellas, are suspended by a short stem attached to eaves, window frames etc.

Baldfaced Hornets are a member of the Yellowjacket family. They are aggressive and will attack anything or anyone that invade their space. They can sting repeatedly and their sting is very painful. They build paper-like nests which are grayish-brown, inverted, pear-shaped, and up to 3 ' tall with the nest entrance at the bottom. The nests are built hanging from trees, bushes, vegetation and occasionally buildings.

Eastern Cicada Killer Wasps is one of our largest native wasps. These large non-aggressive wasps build nests in the soil, often in lawns and are commonly encountered during the summer months. The males can be territorial and may fly in a seemingly aggressive manner 'buzzing' intruders, but lacking stingers, they are incapable of stinging.



FIREWORKS

The colorful fireworks displays that light up the sky each year around the Fourth of July may be beautiful to the eye, but can be harmful to the environment when set off over lakes.

The science behind fireworks is pretty straightforward in that what goes up, must come down. Although fireworks displays create a sense of awe among the viewers, they also produce a reasonable amount of debris.

Fireworks displays in celebration of the Fourth of July have been a staple for many decades, and will always be. Keep these points in mind:

Although many people love fireworks, there are many that don't— for different reasons.

Many animals fear fireworks—and go missing.

Fireworks usually “happen” after sleeping time for many.

We can do our best to be mindful of our neighbors...finish them before 10 pm, and

Do your best to keep them the first 2 weeks of July.

THANK YOU FOR ALL THE FIREWORKS SHOWS!!

Cottagelife.com



ASYCC 2022 For Square Pond

P.O. Box 47, Springvale, ME 04083-0047

The Acton-Shapleigh Youth Conservation Corps (ASYCC), a non-profit association serving Square Pond, Mousam Lake, Goose Pond, and Loon Pond (Mousam Lake-Square Pond Watershed), wishes to thank SPIA and its members for your continued support.

The 2022 ASYCC Courtesy Boat Inspection (CBI) season will begin approximately the third weekend in April. Coverage will be weekends only until the end of May, then we will begin daily coverage at the launch until the end of August. During the months of September and October we will resume weekend coverage. The coverage schedule will basically be the same as it has been for the last couple of years.

We are going to have a challenging year for hiring and budgeting an Erosion Control Crew (ECC) for 2022. The ECC team will begin their season near the end of June when the school year ends. The crew is looking to complete at least five to six new projects for landowner's on Square Pond to meet the requirements of the 319 Grant Phase I – which includes landowner reimbursement for materials used and a waiving of DEP permit fees. If you are interested in having any erosion issues addressed by the ASYCC ECC team, make sure you reach out early as their schedule fills pretty quickly. Please visit asycc.com for more details or email: programdirector@asycc.com.

Our annual golf tournament fundraiser will be held on Friday August 5th at Province Lake Golf Course. We will be sending out signup forms in June.

You can find our 2021 Annual Report on our web site with all the details related to ECC projects completed and the total number of boat inspections.



Your Music

**This is shocking.....
Not everyone enjoys your music!!**

**And, you may not like them for not liking your
music, but the fact remains that the lake is a
community!**

**Loud music is outside of the
“MUTUAL RESPECT” Guidelines**

Sound carries over water.

**Mind your
Noise Pollution**

Thank you!

**DO YOU HAVE
EROSION PROBLEMS
ON YOUR PROPERTY?
SEE BELOW ON HOW TO
GET REIMBURSED FOR
MATERIALS, FREE LABOR AND
WAIVING OF
DEP PERMIT FEES.....**

The ASYCC is looking for 5-6 projects.
Get your request in soon!

Please visit the ASYCC website ASYCC.COM for more
details, or email:

programdirector@asycc.com



Ova-a-Nole

By: Barbara Petersen, whose family has been on the lake since the late 1920's or early 1930's.

Ova-a-Nole has been in the Petersen family since Grandpa Everett acquired the land in the late 20's or early 30's. After clearing enough land, a cabin was built. Along the way the driveways and waterfront were lined with rock walls, and abundance of rocks in Acton!

Square Pond was the summer retreat for the Petersen and Grant families. Cousin Bob Grant remembers coming as a child each summer from their home in New Jersey to stay at camp and attend the Grant Family reunions. Those family reunions were held at the Grant Family Farm across the street from the South Acton Baptist Church. In later years, Bob would bring his own family to Square Pond, camping out on the 'spare' lot. His children remember learning how to waterski behind Eldon's boat. The cousins took turns cheering the skiers on as they waited their turn. One of those cousins could be seen building sand castles with our little girls.

My girls spent many a summer day playing in the pond. Grandpa took them fishing often. With a five gallon pail and plenty of worms, grandpa and the girls headed out on the pond to his favorite perch grounds. After patiently baiting hooks and removing perch from hooks, a pile of perch was brought ashore. Grandpa spend the next hour or so cleaning the catch. Soon—all were enjoying a hearty meal!

The camp itself saw many changes over the years. The men dug underneath to erect a solid foundation under the camp. That was enlarged to add on a room, kitchen and bath. This added space under the camp became grandpa's playroom. Here, he could pursue his hobbies, one of which was golfing. A hole in the floor, just spaced, gave him a place to practice his putting! There was a small woodstove to heat his space, warm the camp floor and dry grandma's laundry, all for when they returned and spent year round at camp. Grandpa always had a fishing line off the dock in summer and fishing traps on the ice in winter. He watched from inside the camp for the bobber to disappear or a flag to pop up. He caught many meals in this way. The woods behind the camp were his deer hunting grounds.

Ova-a-Nole continued-

The garage by the road was built to house Eldon's boat and grandpa's car.

One winter when cleaning off the camp roof Eldon found some very tender spots that told him "don't step here!" The roof was replaced with a change in the structure of the camp. That under-the-eaves-bump-your-head sleeping area was gone! A larger, higher roof gave the camp a second floor. Now the family could stay at camp with a sleeping area! Later on the inside of the camp was rearranged to make it more livable and friendly. Still later, the roof was covered with metal.

Now grandpa and grandma are gone. Camp is home to my sister. "Ova-a-Nole" remains the family gathering place. This past summer the Grant Family Reunion once again gathered to share and enjoy each other at Square Pond. A new crop of kids were chasing minnows and splashing in the pond. The pond with its ever changing weather conditions is still home to the ducks and loons that grace this space. I wonder if there is still a favorite perch ground? Square Pond is dear to several generations of Petersens' and Grants and their families. There's a peace In these surroundings, joy in remembrances and love abounding. Peace.

-Barbara Petersen

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A list of, and sincere thanks to our volunteer Snail Snatcher Team:

Divers—Tim Reinken, Aaron Smart, Jamie Albertson, Mike Albertson, Lori Laurendeau, Mike Laurendeau, Kim Caron, Rob Caron, Krissy Caron, Keegan Simons, Carl Roediger, Mark Rautenberg, Pat McDonough, Dan Waitt, Phil Grove, Scott Matthews, Jason Matthews, Matt Tessier, Mark Parenti, Geoff Lansberry

Surface Breather Divers—Kyle Cadott, AnnMarie McMurray, Kristen Waitt, Pat McDonough, Don Foote, Anna Borgal, Terry Borgal, Jan Tessier, Nic Rogers, Kevin Constien, Julia Lussier, Hermes Godoy, Heather Beaupre, Max P

Snorkelers—Lynn Bostrom, Bill Tessier, Hamilton Lansberry, Ahern Kids, Karla Luthjarv, Pat Coady, Aoife Lancourt

Surface Support—Scott Lansberry, Deb Lansberry, Hamilton Lansberry, Alison Cooney, Beth Brown, Scott Matthews, Bill Deans, Judy Porreca, Ken Roy, Dick Folsom, Donna Rosenkrans, Bill Rosenkrans, Jane Kendall Murphy, Tom Costello, Dave Romano, Kristen Waitt, Brian Morrisroe, Joan Camire, Ed Woods, Lori Woods, Rich Leary, Julie Charron, Lee Robator, Maddy Corbett, Lisa Garroway, Brett Laviolette, Karen Johnson, Christine Beaudoin, Dillon Temm, Claire Williamson, Karen McPherson, Sam Beaudoin, Jen McDonough, Jill Smart, Abby Smart, Sam Williamson



2021 Snail Snatchers Report

The Snail Snatchers were back in the water during the summer of 2021 and we broke many of our own records for both amount of snails removed and the number of volunteers that came to help. The basic numbers for 2021 are:

Total number of dives	Snail Total (lbs)	Man-Hours	Total Divers	Total Surface Breathers	Total Surface Breather Boat	Total Snorkelers	Total Surface Support
8	2203	401	21	14	1	7	40

We have a great team of people for all phases of the operation. As you can see there has been only one person doing the surface breather boat, Joel Tessier. We could use a couple more people to help in this area. We have a great group of divers with several new people that took advantage of the dive class and reimbursement of \$200 after 10 hours of snail diving. We hope to offer this again this summer.

More people signed up to train and use the surface breather which is still a great success. It gives the feeling of diving without the need for diver certification. If anyone is interested in trying it let us know.

I would like to acknowledge two of the unsung heroes of our snail snatcher crew. Ken Roy takes the dive tanks to the dive shop every week after a dive. There are as many as 15 heavy dive tanks to bring to Wolfeboro and then pick them back up and put them in the trailer. This is a huge job. Scott Lansberry does the difficult job of bringing the snails to the dump for disposal. This is a very difficult and smelly job. We have had weeks that we get over 300 lbs. of snails, and all must be bagged and delivered to the dump. I thank them both for their service but would also like to reach out for a few volunteers to help them.

What we need most is more pontoon drivers to bring surface breathers and divers to a station and then return them. Looking for volunteers.

The dive trailer was a huge success and major advantage to be more productive on-site. Thank you to all that help but it together.

Anyone interested in getting involved? Contact a snail committee member. This information is available on the SPIA website.

I would like to thank the many volunteers that take time out of their weekends to help. Some people even go out during the week as well. Here is the list of the people that volunteered in 2021. If you see them just say thank you, they are all helping the lake. If I missed anyone, I apologize. Please contact me, and I will add your name.

Rob Caron (rcaronster@gmail.com)

**Loons.....
A Natural
Treasure!**




The common loon is an unrivaled natural treasure. Not only does it represent the wildness of Maine that attracts so many to live or vacation here, but its dependence on clear, cold water and healthy fish populations also makes the loon an important biological indicator.

While Maine's common loon population is quite robust, a long-term mortality study has shown that lead poisoning from the ingestion of lead fishing tackle is one of the leading causes of death among adults, causing 10-13% of deaths in recent years. These preventable deaths are occurring in adults that are otherwise very healthy with no other ailments.

Over the years, legislation, educational efforts and proactive lead tackle exchange programs have worked to reduce lead poisoning in loons and other fish-eating birds. Current Maine state law *bans the use and sale of lead sinkers and lead-headed jugs weighing one ounce or less or measuring 2 1/2" or less.*

But given the recent mortality data, we have more work to do. Recognizing the need to continue education regarding this issue and to provide opportunities for the public to do the right thing and rid their tackle boxes of lead objects, Maine Audubon and MDIFW launched a lead tackle buyback program in 2020.

Check fishleadfree.org/me for the most recent list of participating retailers where you can turn in your lead tackle. Make sure you report any dead loons found to Maine Audubon.
Source: Maine Dept of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife (MDIFW)




Responsible + Safe Boating


Rules of the Road

Learn more at mefishwildlife.com/boat

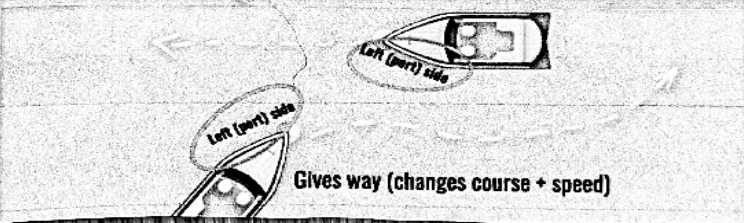
Meeting head-on: When two powered watercrafts are head-on, always stay to the right.



Passing: The powerboat being passed must maintain its course and speed. The powerboat passing another powerboat must change its speed and course to avoid collision (give way).



Crossing: The powerboat approaching the port side (left side) gives way (slows down + changes course). The port/left side can be identified by red navigation lights at night (red=stop).



Remember, you are sharing the water with other boats, paddlers, and wildlife; just like driving a car, there are rules of the “road.”

Meeting head-on: When 2 powered watercrafts are head-on, always stay to the right.

Passing: The powerboat being passed by another powerboat must maintain its course and speed. The powerboat passing another boat must change its speed and course to avoid collision (give way).

Crossing: The powerboat approaching the port side (left side) gives way (slows down) & changes course). The port/left side can be identified by red navigation lights at night (red=stop).

These situations change when a sailboat is involved.

*Sailboats are assumed to have more restricted maneuverability than powerboats, and therefore have right of way over most boats.

News from Three Rivers Land Trust

Hello Square Pond folks! I am so glad I was able to catch up with you in person last year and I look forward to doing so again this year. In the meantime, I wanted to share some updates with you.

My biggest news is the award of a grant from the Federal Highway Administration Recreational Trails Program (RTP) to help finish constructing the Goat Hill Trail. We requested \$50k, the highest award amount it offers, and we received it. I think this successful application reflects the value RTP sees in universally accessible trails. The trail and views from Goat Hill have brought so much pleasure to folks in Acton and Shapleigh, and I know there are many people with mobility challenges who are looking forward to being able to visit, too. We did have one intrepid Acton resident who uses a wheelchair head up to the top last fall even though the trail requires more work to meet accessibility standards. We will need to raise more funds in addition to the \$50k from RTP to finish the trail and picnic area at the summit. Currently we are awaiting bids from trail contractors, and that will give us a better idea of our total fundraising needs. Thank you so much to everyone who has contributed to this exciting project!

When I see you in June, I will have an update on our “Goat Hill to Shapleigh Pond” connected trail vision, and plans will be finalized for our second annual Plein Air art auction event. The silent and live auction will be held on Sunday, July 24 from 4 to 6 PM at McDougal Orchards, and will feature finger food, drinks and music. As much as we enjoy our farm breakfast event, we have decided to take a break this year to focus on the auction. We hope to hold a local food event later in the season when our local farms are bursting with fresh produce.

Other events you may want to save the date for: Walk at Goat Hill-April 23.....Annual Meeting (Zoom) May 18..... Kite Day @ Goat Hill & Romac Orchard September 17.

Join our e-news list: 3rlt.org Look under the “Communication” tab - to stay up to date with our news & events, including our monthly volunteer trail workdays.

Thank you, as always, for your membership and support!

-Ruth Gutman

Three Rivers Land Trust

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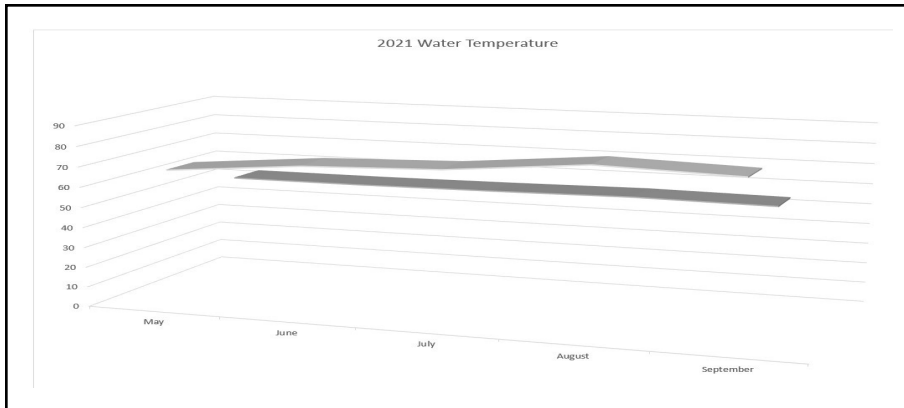
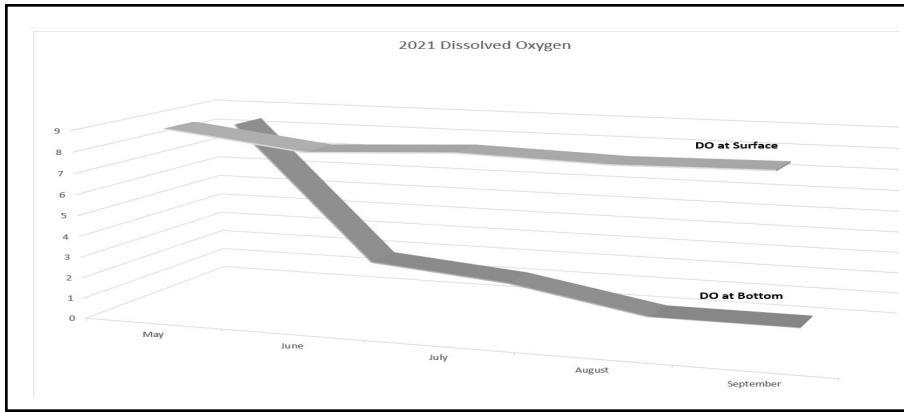
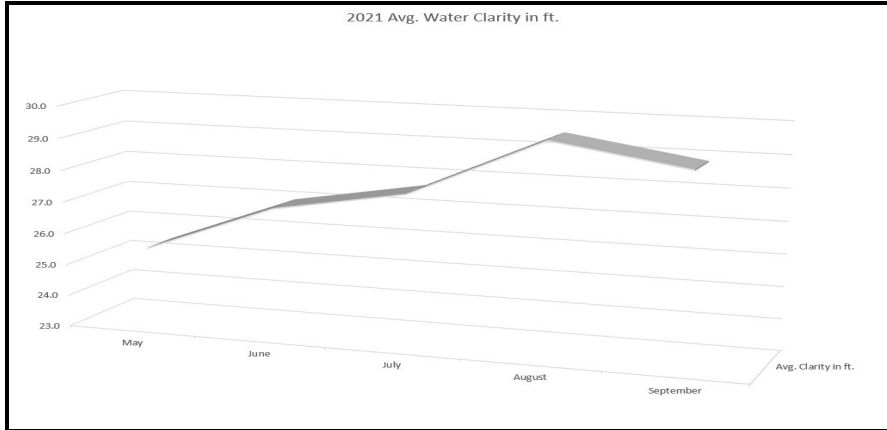
207-324-5038

Big Kayak

July 4th 9am

Watch social media for changes-If 4th looks like rain, may have on 3rd

Water Quality Graphs



Water Quality for 2021

The summer of 2021 had various weather changes. June was nice and warm while July brought us more than usual rain and cooler temperatures. Then August and even September brought great weather. The changing weather throughout the summer, especially rain and pollen, can affect water quality.

As a reminder, we are monitoring water clarity, dissolved oxygen, water temperature and when possible, phosphorous. Last year I couldn't get phosphorous testing done due to the lab not having capacity, but I am hopeful that it will start up again this year.

I have changed the way I show the data this year. Instead of showing the data from all the testing I have created simple graphs showing the monthly average of each test. So now you can see the water temperature at the surface and bottom, dissolved oxygen at the surface and bottom and finally the water clarity, all for each of the summer months. I hope this will be easier to visualize.

In general all the measurements were very consistent with previous years and clarity was actually higher than many years. I think the work that's been done to improve the runoff into the lake is helping.

I would like to thank Dale Johnson for donating the funds to replace the DO probe on the Dissolved Oxygen meter. It was determined to be failing by the Lake Stewards of Maine and needed to be replaced. The \$230 replacement cost was funded by Dale. Maintaining the equipment for testing is always incredibly important to ensure the accuracy of our data for comparison to previous years.

The Lake Stewards of Maine is the agency that all data is reported to, and they monitor any changes in the data from all lakes in Maine. They are a non-profit organization and are always short on funding but are critical to informing water quality monitors about what our readings are telling us. If anyone wants to donate to them you can go to their web site <https://www.lakestewardsofmaine.org>.

As always if anyone has questions you can email me at rcaronster@gmail.com

Looking forward to the summer of 2022. If you see the Parrothead out testing stop by and say hi.

Rob Caron

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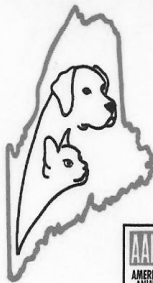


Good Neighbors....

***“Good Neighbors
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In the quality of life!”***

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It is to enjoy a beautiful, peaceful place,
And respect everyone’s way of having fun!***

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Respecting the night sky....

Only about 10% of the US population sees the night sky in a natural state because of excess outdoor lighting. How can you help?

Use exterior light fixtures that are shielded and direct all of their light towards the ground. Use the minimum number of fixtures and lowest wattage bulbs necessary.

**PUT YOUR
 LIGHTS ON
 TIMERS.**

Maine Boating Laws

Life Jackets-Personal Flotation Devices (PFD)

There must be a readily accessible wearable PFD for every person aboard a boat, canoe, or kayak

Children 10 years of age and under must wear a PFD whenever the watercraft is underway

Boats 16 feet in length or longer must have a throw-able flotation device
Everyone on a paddleboard, "jet ski," or being towed on skis, tubes, etc. must wear a PFD

Rules For Boats and Personal Watercraft

Headway speed only, leave no wake, within 200 feet of all shorelines. This is for safety, courtesy and IT IS THE LAW!

All watercraft, even canoes, kayaks, and paddle boards must carry a sound producing device, such as a whistle, so you may attract attention in the event of an emergency.

Must be 12 years or older to operate a boat of more than 10hp, unless supervised by someone at least 16 years of age. You must be 16 to operate a PWC.

PWCs (Personal Watercraft or "Jet Skis") may only be operated between sunrise and sunset.

Operators of PWCs between 16 & 17 years of age must carry proof of completing a safety course.

Prolonged circling, racing, and wake jumping is "Imprudent Operation" and prohibited by law.

At night, all watercraft must be lighted. Laws vary by length of boat.

*This is a synopsis of the laws, please refer to:

www.maine.gov





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Approaching Non-Powered Boats

When approaching a non-powered craft, such as a sailboat, kayak or paddleboard, **YOU** are the **GIVE WAY** craft and do **NOT** have the right-of-way. You must take early and substantial action to keep clear of non-powered craft. You should alter your speed and course, and approach non-powered craft with caution.



Acton Emergencies Dial 911

Town Hall: 207-636-3131

Address: 35 H Road Acton, ME 04001

**Transfer Station: Sunday 12-4, Monday 8-2,
Wednesday 10-4, Saturday 8-4**

Website: www.actonmaine.org

Shapleigh Emergencies Dial 911

Town Hall: 207-636-2844

Address: 22 back Road Shapleigh, ME 04076

Transfer Station: 207-636-3688

**Summer Hours: Sunday 8-4, Tuesday 9-4,
Thursday 9-4, Saturday 8-4**

Website: www.shapleigh.net

***Square Pond Improvement Association
2022 Meeting Dates:***

***Location: Acton Town Hall (35 H Road)
Saturday, June 25th at 9am***

Saturday, August 27 at 10am

***Plan on attending meetings to stay informed!
Come and sit, listen, or participate & meet your lake
neighbors!***

Watch website and FB page for any updates.



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| HIDDEN LAKE | MOOSE POND |
| GREAT EAST LAKE | PINE SPRINGS LAKE |
| ROCK HAVEN LAKE | GRANNY KENT POND |
| SILVER LAKE | SYMMES POND |
| SHAPLEIGH POND | NORTHEAST POND |
| SQUARE POND | LAKE ARROWHEAD |
| LAKE SHERBURNE | SOKOKIS LAKE |
| LITTLE OSSIPÉE LAKE | PICKEREL POND |