

TLIA News

Tripp Lake Improvement Association is a not-for-profit organization whose mission is the well-being of Tripp Lake and its surrounding watershed in Poland, Maine.

www.triplake.com Tripp Lake Improvement Association

Summer 2011



canoe in Winterbrook

EURASIAN MILFOIL POSSIBLE THREAT TO LAKE

By Babs Shapiro

The possibility of an invasive plant, Eurasian Water Milfoil, being a threat to our lake, was a wake-up call last week. After receiving a message from the DEP, Roberta Hill, leader of the Invasive Plant Patrol workshops, called a meeting of IPP First Responders to survey the waters of Tripp Lake for this plant. The response was immediate; the group jumped into action.

DEP had been contacted by a volunteer boat inspector at Kezar Pond in Lovell. The alert came after a small amount of EWM was discovered on the trailer of a boat about to be launched into the Pond. The owner of the craft said he'd last been on Tripp Lake. The boat inspector, however, neglected to get the name or complete license number of the person. About a dozen interested people attended the meeting, including Tom Dean and myself. The lake was divided into sectors and teams are presently checking the waters. As of this writing, no evidence of Milfoil has been detected. For this, we should be very thankful. It's possible that the sample has been on the trailer for some time and might have been picked up at another lake.

A full report will be given at the Annual Mtg. on July 9th.

TLIA NOTICES

Summer 2011

Annual Meeting, Saturday, July 9 at 9 a.m. IMPORTANT!

Please attend.

Arrive at 8:30 for coffee and to meet friends, old and new.

Boat Parade on Monday,

July 4, at 10 a.m. Leave from area of Hemlock Campground. Deck your boat with bunting, flags, balloons. Play music! Stay in line as you parade around the lake. Try not to outrace the boat ahead of you. A great way to begin the 4th!

Public Beach Cleanup, Sunday, July 10 at 8 a.m. Meet at the Public Beach on Rt. 11. Howie says to bring rakes and plastic gloves. He'll provide bags. It's an important public service that we've provided for years. Join us and make the lake a better place.



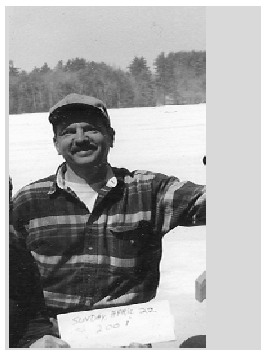
George
Kelley, Jacqui
Misenheimer,
Susan
Carbone at
beach
cleanup

Public Beach Attendant... to visit the public beaches on lakes that are fully or partially within the town of Poland. Visits are scheduled during June, July, Aug., Sept., and Oct. for quality and preservation of the beaches. There is no fee to town residents for beach use. A "one-day" use permit for non-residents will be \$5.00 or a non-resident season permit can be purchased for \$50 (available at the Town Office or Recreation Dept., both on Rte 26). For more information, please call Julie Mocchiola, Rec Dept. 998-4650 or the Town Office at 998-4601.

GREAT LAKES! SAVING OUR WATERWAYS.

(Taken from an article about Roberta Hill, Director of the Center for Invasive Aquatic Plants, Lewiston SunJournal, April 26, 2009.)

"What's the big deal about invasive plants?" The impacts are very serious and well documented. They include habitat disruption, loss of native plant and animal communities, impaired fishing and degraded recreational experiences, reduced property values and other significant economic losses." *(cont. on pg 2)*



On the Water

Summer 2011
By Rick Lundstedt

This seemed like a very usual Spring in some regards. Most of us had to wait to put the docks in due to the high water levels. That actually worked out since it was a very rainy start and we weren't missing much. That cool,

damp start had its affect on the bass as well. This year's spawn stretched out to several weeks. Some years it's condensed into a few. The punch line here is that even though folks got a late jump they were still able to enjoy what is arguably the best fishing of the season.

We had two unwelcome "guests" to our lake this year. First is the few hundred seagulls that took up residence. Fortunately at this point it appears that most of the population has moved on. The second is fairly recent, namely the possibility of the introduction of Eurasian Milfoil in Tripp. You can see the separate article on that for the latest news.

On a positive note we also had many welcome guests great us so far. The hummingbirds, swallows, herons, osprey and loons are thriving as is the bass population. The lake's oxygen level is very good as reported by John Laskey and Jack. That is most likely the outcome of the very windy days we've had. It's important to start with high levels of oxygen so that the summer reductions don't stress the fish too much.

Anna and I took a cruise out of Puerto Rico this past April. I'll tell you about that in the next article...but let's just say I finally reached one of my fishing goals...and she got the big one!

It's going to be a short summer so let's get out there. See you soon...on the water!

(continued from pg. 1)

"What's the most important thing for people to know about invasive aquatic species? People are the primary means of spread. We play an important role in its prevention. Anytime we put an object (a boat, trailer, seaplane float, anchor line, fishing gear, hip waders, duck decoy, etc) into a body of water, that object is a potential vector of spreading an aquatic invader. Checking, cleaning and drying our gear before and after using it in the water will help keep Maine waters healthy."

"Is there a need to act quickly? As with a serious illness, early detection is key. The earlier the introduced organism can be detected, the greater the chances for finding an effective treatment and reducing the risk of spread....With over 6000 lakes and ponds and thousands of miles of streams in ME., the challenge before us is enormous. There is much to be done. I strongly encourage all to visit the Maine Volunteer Lake Monitoring website at www.mainevolunteerlakemonitors.org to learn how they can get involved."

Condolences

...to family of Claudie Getchell

Jeannine "Claudie" Getchell, wife of Ronnie, mother of Ron, Jr. and Scott and grandmother of Meagan and Ryan Getchell, passed away in May, 2011. She was a life-long member of TLIA and served as its Secretary for a number of years. The family lived on Western Prom in Auburn during the winter and on Jordan Shore Drive in the summer for over 50 years. She was a dedicated worker for TLIA and participated in all its projects, whether it be pulling Purple Loosestrife or posing for TLIA merchandise with her family. An avid reader, she could usually be seen on her porch or on her outdoor swing with a book in her hands. A good neighbor and friend, she will be sorely missed.

Russ Moat

Many of us, sadly, said "good bye" to our friend, Russ Moat, who died on March 31st, the day he and "Diane" had planned to be back at his comfortable home on Garland Swamp Road after spending the winter in Costa Rica. Russ was born in Montour Falls, NY in 1951, attended high school in NY and graduated from the University of KY with a Master's Degree in social work. After serving in Kentucky and Okinawa, Japan, he retired with the rank of major from the Army National Guard and pursued a career in social work for the state of Maine and in private practice. His parents and also a son, Seth, predeceased him. His son, Joshua, of NH survives, as do four sisters. Russ had many talents and many friends between Garland Swamp Road and Costa Rica and most certainly other parts unknown. We will always remember Russ, our "Major of Garland Swamp Road."

(continued on page 4)



kids at a tie dye workshop at Judy King's

The first meeting was at his home, Wolf Cove, (then called Lobsterland) with Ron Getchell, Peter Jordan, Don Goss, Charles Rodway, Bert Skehan and Lewis Murray in attendance. These men were the nucleus of the newly formed non-profit corporation known hereafter as the Tripp Lake Improvement Association.

In addition to preserving the quality of the Lake, steps were taken to ensure that trees and foliage in the watershed would remain healthy. When a gypsy-moth invasion occurred in the 80's, the Association took steps to prevent defoliation by spraying trees with a non-toxic substance.

TLIA's commitment to stewardship of this fragile lake has been unwavering. **Linda Laskey** led a younger generation of children on **Ecology Walks and Talks**, enlightening them on the wonders of Tripp Lake. We've been committed to sending two elementary school children each summer to the Maine Conservation Camp near Mt. Abrams. Linda's husband **John**, with the help of others, monitors the water quality of the Lake twice monthly for dissolved oxygen and clarity, and other criteria. **Scott Williams**, aquatic biologist, tests Tripp twice yearly for other in-depth data, providing us with a clearer picture of lake conditions.

A **Watershed Survey** was conducted in 1996 to identify and repair areas of erosion around the lake. Following that, volunteers held a **Demonstration Project**, followed by a **Watershed Management Plan** which was completed in 2003. All projects were directed by **Androscoggin Valley Soil and Watershed Conservation District**. A tremendous amount of fundraising and volunteerism made these projects possible.

We've outlawed Jet skis, prevented zoning changes which would have allowed illegal businesses to flourish near the lake. We try to monitor campgrounds and existing businesses so they don't negatively impact the lake. Road Associations repair private roads, preventing runoff from entering the lake and nearby streams. We encourage people to buffer properties, be aware of invasive plants, clean and monitor the Public Beach. Our eyes and ears must be open to violations which would endanger this lake.

Our organization needs new leaders and members. The Newsletter needs new editors. The older members are getting tired. We need "new blood." Our membership has grown from forty members to about one-hundred forty. Its nominal membership fee has gone from \$5 to \$15 over the years. Not bad for a small lake, but we must do more.

WE NEED YOU AND YOUR HELP TO CONTINUE. PLEASE ATTEND OUR ANNUAL MEETING ON SAT., JULY 9, 2011 AT THE RICKER MEMORIAL LIBRARY AT 8:30 A.M. ITS IMPORTANCE CAN'T BE OVERSTATED.

Condolences

(continued from page 2)

Tom Dean's father, Dr. Philip J. Dean of Holyoke, MA and Naples, FL, passed away on November 9th, 2010. We offer our sympathies to Tom and his wife, Terri and his 15 siblings and their families. Dr. Dean was an accomplished physician who wore many hats in the medical field during his career; most are too numerous to mention here. Following graduation from Tufts University School of Medicine, he served in the United States Navy for 23 years. During this time, while in Washington DC, he was the primary care physician for congressional members, Supreme Court justices, presidential candidates, foreign military & embassy personnel and world leaders. Following retirement from the Navy, he returned to Holyoke, MA and practiced family and internal medicine for over 20 years. Dr. Dean and his first wife, Janet O'Connor of Poland, had 9 children together. He also had 7 stepchildren with his second wife, Dolores T. Clark Dowd Dean, who also survives him.

POOLE'S HISTORY OF POLAND

(from Poole's History of Poland, Poole Bros. Publishers,
Mechanic Falls, ME
By Babs Shapiro

Last fall we described how the first settlers on Meguire Hill Road arrived at their new home, with children carried in a "large covered basket, like chicken in clean straw." This was over 200 years ago, in 1796.

"From this time forward this little settlement increased very rapidly; the giant forests disappeared as if by magic, giving place to broad fields dotted with charred and blackened stumps, which each season were hidden by a luxuriant growth of corn, grain and grass. Log houses were built throughout the entire length of the hill. When a new family moved into the place, they were sure of a hearty welcome and a part of some humble dwelling was kindly offered for their accommodations until they should be able to provide quarters for themselves. The entire population lent their aid so that it required by a few days for the erection of a comfortable dwelling, which was as good as their neighbor's, and was considered good enough. If anyone had a hard job before him all hands turned out and it was soon finished. Thus, digging a well, junking and piling a burnt piece, or any other hard job was made easy by the many willing hands."

The first school was taught by Joseph Hall, who settled on the east side of Tripp Pond. Hall did not prove a very efficient teacher as he seemed to entertain the idea that his whole duty consisted in keeping order. If he was asked to explain a rule in arithmetic or anything of the kind, he answered: 'That is not any business there in the book; you must not learn from that.' One term closed his reign, and he was succeeded by Percy Loring who settled on the Moses Snell farm. Loring proved more efficient as a teacher, still he held to many Puritanical notions which would be looked on with abhorrence in this enlightened day. Textbooks were few and far between, one book generally sufficing for four to six pupils."

"Arithmetic was taught from a large manuscript gotten up by the teacher, never extending further than the simple rule of three, which was long since done away by analysis. As to grammar, it was a study almost entirely unknown. The discipline was of the strictest sort, each pupil on leaving the room was required to face about and bow to both school and teacher, nor turn his back until he had closed the door, that is, the male members, but the females must make a curtsy. Also on the way to and from school, every person they chanced to meet was treated to the same civilities, and any violation of these rules subjected the offender to a severe application of the ferrule the next morning."

At the summer term a female teacher was employed, whose duty it was to teach young misses to knit, sew and also embroider. The teacher generally boarded around, so many days being allotted each scholar. They often found coarse fare and hard lodgings, but no fault was ever found as the people did the best they could, and gave their guests as good as they could afford themselves. The wages of teachers were from fifty to seventy-five cents per week for females and \$8 to \$10 per month for males."

.(to be continued in the next issue of the TLIA Newsletter.)

SUMMER, 2011, TRIPP LAKE IMPROVEMENT ASSOCIATION

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