

# 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](http://www.triplake.com)

Tripp Lake Improvement Association  
PO Box 33, Poland, Maine 04274

Spring 2018



It's mid April and winter has had a hard time leaving us, but Spring is indeed peeping around the corner and it won't be long before we'll all be enjoying summer life on Tripp Lake again. This year is bringing some changes to our area with new homes being built on the lake and another major development of plans for a Hannaford's grocery store at the 4-corner intersection.

This year's bitter cold temperatures challenged us with frozen pipes and temperatures too low to venture outside for long in January, but some of us managed to get in some glorious spring skiing due to the record snow fall.

Soon we'll be outside enjoying our little slice of heaven, and it's at this time that we need to be mindful of the little things we can do to keep our lake clean and safe for years to come. Last year we saw an unusual amount of algae in the water. We all know fertilizer makes our flowers and yards grow beautifully – but that same fertilizer also makes bad things –like algae- grow in our lake. Growth of unwanted plants and algae deplete the oxygen levels of our water. Other areas not far from ours have had very severe algae problems that are threatening the lives of their lakes. Try to resist the urge to use fertilizer and other products that contain phosphorous, phosphate or nitrogen. We need to be especially careful about run-off from our properties and continue to pick up animal waste. We'll be reporting the health of our lake when testing is done later this year.

Time to do our Spring cleaning and reconnect with our neighbors on the lake!

## Let's get fundraising!

### WHAT'S IN STORE FOR 2018

*We have a few ideas in mind to raise money in fun ways and want your help.*

**1. YARD & BAKE SALE** - Been holding onto those extra items forever and ready to find another home for them? Whether it's stuff already on the lake, or stuff you can bring up from your other home, be sure to set aside your unwanted items for our (dare we say it) 1st Annual Yard & Bake Sale! Remember that one person's junk is another person's treasure. An old fashioned bake sale fits in well just in time for everyone's holiday cookouts. We are tentatively considering a date right before the 4th of July and will need lots of volunteers. (Thanks to Karen Pelletier for the suggestion.)

**2. FUN ROUND ROBIN PICKLE BALL** - Hopefully, by now, the word is out that pickle ball is not only alive and well and growing across the country, but it continues to grow in Poland and all across the Sebago Lakes region! Poland Community School Gym now has 3 permanent painted courts. It's time for TLIA to host its' (dare we say it) 1st Annual Fun Round Robin Pickleball! Date TBA so stay tuned. Players are invited from the public. Volunteers are wanted! No experience needed. (Thanks to the Jordan Shore pickle ball players for the suggestion.)

**3. ANNUAL TLIA RAFFLE** for prizes donated by generous local businesses and private donors. To be held at the annual TLIA meeting on July 7, 2018.

**4. We're on the lookout for folks to assist with community outreach and marketing for all fundraisers.** Any other ideas out there? We want to hear from you. And remember, the simpler, the better since we want to leave plenty of time to just enjoy ourselves on Tripp Lake.

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Judy Stone 857-998-0495 [judydstone8291@gmail.com](mailto:judydstone8291@gmail.com)

## Conservation Camp

We are happy to invite your fourth grade family member to join an essay contest managed by Tripp Lake Improvement Association (TLIA). Two winners will be awarded \$635 scholarship (of which parents pay \$50) for a week-long session at University of Maine Bryant Pond 4-H Camp and Learning Center.

Usually the favored session is the Natural Explorer or Junior Explorer- depending on student's age. These combined high-energy outdoor fun with focused exploration of land and water. The website will give you, fourth grade students, and parents detailed information.

<https://extension.umaine.edu/bryantpond/>

Video for the students: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=uoKC2a6WbE0>

The Task: "Why I'd like to attend the conservation camp and what I hope to bring back to my community" (Show why he/she would like to attend the conservation experience and what they would bring back to their community to teach others about the importance of being good citizens of our town's land, streams, rivers, and lakes.)

This year, the students could choose 1 of 2 ways to apply:

1. Write a one page essay (4-5 paragraphs) with a drawing attached illustrating their essay ideas
2. Use technology to create a 3 minute presentation being emailed to me no later than the pick-up date of May 12.

(Google slides, powerpoint, video presentation can be used, but they must be easily shared for future presentation to the Association).

We hope this is a good exercise in writing/producing a relevant persuasive piece about the environment. Entries must be mailed or electronically submitted to my email by May 12. If you are doing letters/ powerpoints (Google Docs) online, please email me these by May 12 to [jamrunner564@gmail.com](mailto:jamrunner564@gmail.com).



## Notes From An Ex-Prez.

*By Babs Shapiro*

It was a clear, cold January day in Poland. Too cold and slippery to climb the mounds of snow leading to our camp, I relished the sight of nature on the Lake, pure white, a snowman offshore, fishing shacks further down, a new home going up on Garland Swamp Road, another on Jordan Shore Drive. Glazed, crystal branches tinkled like wind chimes. In a few more months, residents will be cleaning up, readying for summer. For the moment, I enjoy winter's beauty.

I'd made an appointment to meet with Matthew Garside, our new Town Manager, wanting to know what was happening in Poland since last summer. Matt (he told me to call him that) moved here from Portsmouth, NH last July and is happy to be here. Everyone's been very friendly and he looks forward to meeting more people, getting involved in Town activities.

He was eager to discuss the Town's purchase of Camp Connor on Lower Range Pond. It had been a YMCA Camp for many years and is bordered by Camp Tall Pines on one side, a big beach on the other. Poland Spring Campground is nearby and the camp has acres of forested land. It will open as a day camp next summer for Poland youngsters as well as those outside the community. Scholarships will be available and some counselors have already been hired. Buildings and grounds are being readied for this inaugural season. Donations are being accepted to help make this camp a treasure for the whole Poland community. Don and Susie Stover are contacting people for donations. Send your check to the Town of Poland, earmarked for the new day camp. Thanks!

Five Corners...now Four Corners..(Routes 26 and 11) has been transformed into a safe intersection with the addition of traffic lights. Businesses nearby can be accessed easily: no bad accidents have occurred since its inception.

Hannaford is building a new grocery store near Four Corners, behind Egg-ceptional Restaurant. Ground was broken in January and it may be open for business by next summer. Another boon to the area.

Subway, currently in a strip mall near the high-school, is planning to move across the street in the near future, building a free-standing store with a drive-through window. A new Subway app. is in the works to allow customers to order and pay for food online. What an amazing innovation, certainly to us older folks.

Anyone know what's happening on Poland Corner Road? A large swath of trees has been cleared nearly opposite the apple orchard. A development or just someone selling the timber? Let us know if you have any information.

*Welcome*

We welcome Matt and his family warmly and wish them many good years in Poland.

## Birds on Tripp Lake 2017

By Judy King

Last Summer I talked to friends and neighbors about what birds that they saw on Tripp Lake. Since we are asking you to help us collect a list of bird sightings for this summer, I thought that I would share what I saw last summer...2017.

Chickadee, Shipping Sparrow, Song Sparrow, Robin, Bald Eagle, Loon, Black Duck, Mallard, Gold Finch, Tufted Titmouse, White-breasted Nuthatch, Crow, Mourning Dove, Downy Woodpecker, Ruby-breasted Hummingbird, Canada Goose, Ring-billed Gull, Phoebe, Kingfisher, Hairy Woodpecker, Osprey.

Jeff Hughes also saw Kingbirds, two Piliated Woodpeckers, and Bluejays.

This gives us a count of 24. Can we see more this summer?



Loons



Bald Eagle



Mourning Dove



Canada Geese



## Bird Watch 2018

Claire Marquis and I have been emailing back and forth remembering some of the stories that were shared about the wildlife and birds that live around our lake. We both remember Dr. Harriet Dolittle and her articles in TLIA Newsletters. Harriet was an amazing naturalist, professor, and veterinarian who observed the natural world of Tripp Lake and shared her observations through articles in our newsletters. She is missed by all who knew her. Well, Claire and I would like to encourage our friends and neighbors to start sharing stories about the birds and wild life that we see on Tripp Lake. We want to start having our “**Tripp Lake Bird Count**” again. If all the birders around our lake could jot down all the species that they see from June 1st to August 31st and then email me their list at [judy.king48@gmail.com](mailto:judy.king48@gmail.com), I would compile the list and publish it on our web page in the fall. Claire would like to hear stories about the wild life and birds that you see on your property and on the water and then she would share this info with everyone. Email Claire at [clairemarquis15@hotmail.com](mailto:clairemarquis15@hotmail.com).

Who remembers when we had a Great Blue Heron who use to walk up and down Jordan Shore Drive hunting for frogs and chipmunks? We all quickly learned to slow down and give him space. Has anyone seen a family of Bald Eagles showing their youngster how to dive for fish? Or a moose swim the length of the lake? At my cabin we have a family of chickadees living in one of the bird houses. By early July we start hearing quiet chirping as the parents fly in and out of the house bringing food to the babies. Each day the chirping gets louder and louder as the chicks get bigger and stronger. They demand more food. The parents have to fly to a favorite tree and bring back a little green inchworm and get back to that nest before the chicks get too loud. Our grandkids just love to watch these birds although they would prefer that the birds pick the pretty birdhouse instead of the white one.

**It's time to share your stories and let us know all the species of birds seen on our lake. Feel free to call me with any ideas.** Judy King 508-272-1372

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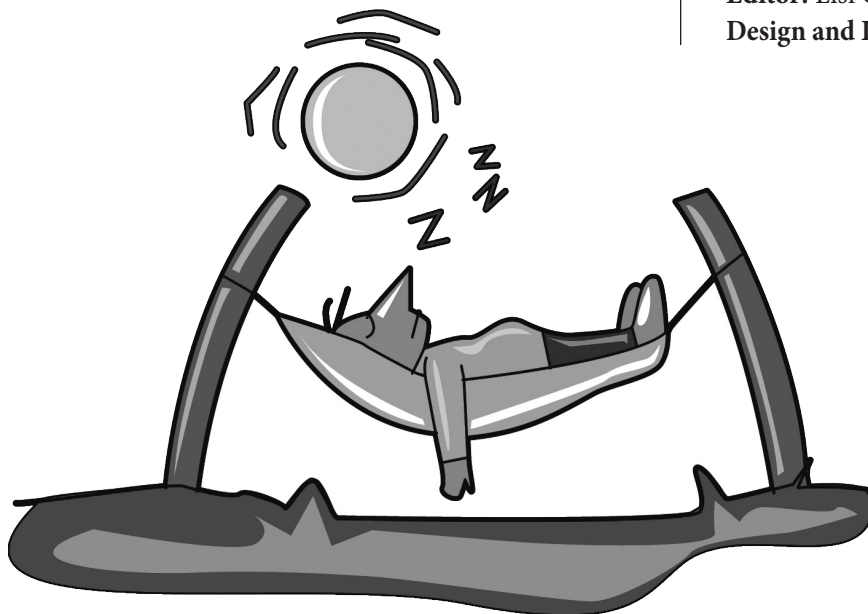
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*Welcome* **ALL newcomers to the lake!**



### **Please send your e-mail address**

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We're trying to lower our  
expenses by putting  
what we can online.

Thank you!