



President's Corner

Living and working in New Jersey (insert governor/bridge/traffic joke here) or pretty much any place not in New England and having a summer camp in New Hampshire means that you really only make it to camp in the summertime. Our typical summer season starts with the Memorial Day weekend mouse eviction/de-cobwebbing/camp opening; is followed by the 4th of July boat parade and flares, then a week of vacation plus a couple of long weekends here and there; and ends with the Labor Day weekend refrigerator cleanout/boat pulling/camp closing. Add a couple of kids busy with school and sports to the mix and you're lucky to make it to Labor Day some years. Sure, when my grandparents retired they spent the entire summer at the lake and were even able to stretch summer out into a warm October every once in a while. But a drafty camp with a woodstove is nothing but a drafty camp when the wind is blowing across the lake and right into your bedroom. So like it is with a lot of people, having a summer camp means Memorial Day to Labor Day and a lot of driving in between.

However, for the last two years, thanks to a very generous offer from our neighbors, my family and I have been able to make it to Blaisdell in the winter. Wow, who would have thought that the same view could look so different? I've spent countless hours over many summers looking out my front window, never growing tired of the view and always managing to see something new. Take away the leaves and water, add snow and ice, and boy do things look different. The first year we made it just as the lake was freezing up. The remaining pockets of open water

were losing out to the ice as we watched. And who would have guessed you could sled from the bend in the road all the way down to the beach or that the septic field could also serve as a snow board half-pipe. This year the lake was frozen and everything was covered with snow. The snowmobilers were out, and there were even reports of coyotes and bald eagles roaming the ice. Board games and chili take on a new seriousness when it really is too cold for my kids to want to go swimming.

Someday maybe we'll insulate the place, and assuming my wife and I will ever be able to retire, we'll spend an entire year on the lake. Who knows what will happen or what we'll see. Until then we'll get up as much as we can for as long into the fall as Indian summer will allow. If you're a year-rounder make sure to stop for a moment to appreciate how the same view can look so different with the changing seasons. If you're a summer camper like me, try to fit in a visit to see the winter Blaisdell for yourself. It's worth the trip.

Steven Domber, President

New BLPA Board of Directors

At the 2013 Annual Meeting, the following were voted to serve until the 2016 Annual Meeting: *Officers:* President-Steve Domber, Vice President-Vicki Willard, Treasurer-Bob Wright and Clerk-Betsy Fowler; *Board Members:* Ron Bourcier, Christopher Kelley and Doug Southard.

Dave Young, Janet Luca and Laura Hallahan completed their terms. Our thanks go to them for their years of service.

Awards/Recognition

Two appreciation awards were presented at the 2013 Annual Meeting.

Leon Malan: BLPA acknowledges its sincere appreciation by presenting its 2013 Award to Leon Malan for his outstanding contribution on the Board of Directors – 1995-98 and 2003-06, Director of Water Quality and Conservation – 2006-13, and for his selfless dedication to our Association.

David Young: BLPA acknowledges its sincere appreciation to David Young by presenting its 2013 Award for his outstanding contribution on the Board of Directors - 1976-79, 1990-93, 1994-97, 2010-13, Secretary - 2001-08; Vice President - 2006-08, President- 2008-10, and for his selfless dedication to our Association.

2013 Blaisdell Lake Dam Repairs

By Bruce B. Ellsworth, Dam Committee Chair

At the BLPA Annual Meeting on 27 July 2013 I reported that, pursuant to the by-laws and by a vote of the membership in 2012, the level of Blaisdell Lake would be lowered beginning in September 2013 to allow an inspection of the dam and to provide BLPA members an opportunity to make repairs to their waterfronts and docks. I further reported that I was not aware of any problems at the dam, and that I did not expect any repairs to be necessary.

On 3 September, four boards were removed from the sluiceway. I expected that, without significant rainfall, the lake would drop approximately one foot each week. In order to reach the bottom of the pit, we expected to remove a total of eleven boards, which had to be removed in stages due to the amount of water pressure against them. Each board is six inches wide.

On 9 September, three more boards were removed.
On 16 September, two more boards were removed.
On 23 September, two more boards were removed.

As the water level dropped and more of the dam was exposed, Don Hall and I invited Roscoe Bartlett, who had worked on both earlier phases of the dam reconstruction, to examine it. We found an erosion hole between the 1994 project and the 2003 project, three minor cracks along the dam face, and many hairline cracks in the epoxy coating that covered the entire dam. Roscoe agreed to complete the project if requested, and submitted an estimate of project costs.

On 18 September, I recommended that the Board approve the entire project. On 21 September I received approval to proceed.

During the week of 23 September, Roscoe pressure washed the entire dam face, repaired the hole between the two earlier reconstruction phases, cleaned and filled the minor cracks along the face, cleaned and filled two previously undiscovered erosion points on the corners of the intake box, and recoated the entire dam face. Work was completed on 28 September at a cost of \$6,599.

As the lake reached its lowest point, the water in the "box" slowed enough to allow a more thorough inspection of its interior. What appeared to be a crack was discovered along the rear wall. I called in Al Golden of H.A. Harris & Sons, who has provided the product materials as well as construction guidance on all three of these projects, and who, after our joint inspection, found that it was not so much a crack as a construction joint from the 1950 installation. He recommended taking no action at this time, but rather re-inspect it at our next five-year draw-down. I agree.

Since the late fall was extremely dry and the lake had not yet recovered to normal levels, on 2 Dec 2013 Donny Hall and I inspected the pit at the Blaisdell Lake Dam. The inspection revealed that there was some small amount of groundwater seeping into the pit and that the concrete pit walls were not unusually spalled, indicating that there is no present need to restore or resurface them.

(Continued on Page 3)

2013 Dam Repairs (Continued)

New boards have replaced the ten-year-old boards that were removed in order to allow homeowners to complete their shoreline projects.

Board Note: Many thanks to Bruce and Don for taking on what turned out to be a much larger project than initially expected. Their hard work and volunteered time are much appreciated. Remember the first four purposes in our By-laws have to do with the dam, plus having water in the lake is kind of important.

“An ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure.” - Benjamin Franklin



Dog House Weekend

Many thanks once again to the Bailey/Olson family for another wonderful social and fundraising event! Gail presented the BLPA with a check in the amount of \$4,482.00. She noted that the event went well and thanked all who helped out. At any given time there were at least 12 people helping – cooking, serving, traffic control, set-up and clean-up.

We all like to hear the details from this amazing event, so here are the statistics: Sold/consumed – 160 pounds of hamburger, 96 pounds of hot dogs, 6 gallons of “secret sauce” (78 pints sold) and 96 pounds of bacon. It’s hard to believe all of that can happen in one short weekend!

2013 Wright’s Beach Weed Watcher

Honor Roll

By Vicki Willard,
Vice President and Beach Committee Chair

We are grateful to these generous BLPA members who volunteered their precious summer lake time to sit on Wright’s Beach and welcome boaters using our launch.

These folks offered boat inspections and educated boaters about keeping invasive weeds out of *all* New Hampshire Lakes but *especially* beautiful Blaisdell Lake. Thirty-four BLPA members logged more than 130 summer weekend hours protecting the lake.

We are also grateful to Justin Shumway who created and maintains our new easy-to-use on-line weed watch scheduler, to Sharon Kenrick who has chaired the Weed Watch Committee for many years, and to Carrie Godkin who watches our beach throughout the week.

Thank You Wonderful Weed Watchers!

Bethany Bourcier	Fritz Pratt
Betsy Fowler	Harrie Rand
Bev Hurd	Henry Howell
Bill Holmes	Hunt Willard
Bob Wright	Jim Luca
Brad Holmes	Jo-Ala Markson
Bruce Ellsworth	Julie Mundy
Bruno Steblai	Justin Shumway
Carol Conforti-Adams	Kristen Kelley
Carrie Godkin	Kristine Mozes
Chan Blodgett	Marilou Steblai
Chris Adzima	Mario Abruzzese
Cynde Robbins	Nancy Isaacson
Dave Young	Sharon Kenrick
Debbie Lang	Steve Domber
Dick Seale	Tim Beale
Don Hurd	Vicki Willard
Floyd Mundy	

NOTICE

This is a reminder for those around the lake using bubblers at their docks that there are rules about how to use them and that bubblers need to be registered with town clerks.

Adopt-a-Highway

Our Adopt-a-Highway Agreement with the state has been renewed. Tim Beale heads up the clean-up along Route 114. If you would like to volunteer your help, please contact Tim at fishingislife@tds.net

Around the Lake

Happy Birthday!

Don Wright, Estelle Rooney's brother, celebrated his 100th birthday on November 11, 2013.

In Memory:

Mary-Lee O'Brien, also known as "Memmer" passed away peacefully on April 19, 2013, surrounded by her family, after a long and courageous battle with leukemia. Mary-Lee was a past member of the BLPA Board of Directors.

Miriam Rose O'Leary Lovett of Lovett Road, South Sutton died on Saturday, January 11, 2014. She was born in Lynn, MA. After her marriage to John M. Lovett, she moved to Blaisdell Lake in South Sutton, NH and grew to love the lake as much as John. They lived there for 49 years. Two of her five surviving children, Charles W. Lovett and John M. Lovett live in South Sutton, also.

Stephen Forster passed away in December, 2012. We just recently learned of this and no further information is available.

