



P. R. P. Association, Inc.

P.O. Box 98, E. Wakefield, NH 03830

Associated Website: www.pineriverpond.org

"Dedicated to promoting the welfare
of Pine River Pond and its environs."

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Secretary	VACANT	Seeking Volunteer

DECEMBER 2014 NEWSLETTER

RESIDENT'S MESSAGE: *from Joe Carriere*

"I'd like to thank the entire PRP community for all we have accomplished this year—our members, volunteers, small business partners and all who have contributed. As we prepare to look at 2014 in the rear view mirror, let's take a moment to collectively pat each other on the back for a GREAT year! Together, we achieved a double digit membership increase, formed symbiotic relationships with many local small businesses, enabled the successful hatch and rearing of a loon chick, re-invigorated our weed watch program, organized our annual golf tournament, provided our membership with a 'best in class' fireworks venue and safely reveled throughout the 101 days of Summer.

Looking forward to 2015, we'll continue with many of our 2014 membership programs while we roll out our new website that is sure to take the membership experience to new heights. We'll soon offer: automated membership, fireworks and clothing store financial transactions; a community directory; online picture sharing; automated intra-lake classifieds; web hosted loon watch and water quality volunteer scheduling; and much more!

In closing, on behalf of the entire PRP leadership, I'd like to again thank our members for your unending support and wish you a very happy Holiday Season and peaceful New Year. "

ANNUAL MEETING: Held on Sat. July 12th in Bob and Carol Lundgren's yard on Grenier Road. It was a nice day with 5-70 attending. Our president, Joe Carriere opened the meeting with the pledge of allegiance. Rosemary Stewart, Secretary, read a summary of the minutes of the previous two meetings. This was Rosemary's last meeting as secretary. Also Ron Canney stepped down from the Board. We thank them both for their

service. Three donations were approved: \$500 to the Loon Preservation Committee, \$500 to the AWWA (Acton Wakefield Watershed Alliance) and \$300 to the NH Lakes Assn.

Former President Peter Congdon has done well recovering from a recent illness and offered to be advisor to the Board. Doug Stewart was nominated and appointed to the Board. Jim Fitzpatrick reported that the lake host program successfully continued manning the Lord Road boat ramp. While weeds have been discovered and checked, none were found to be threatening. We thank Jim for overseeing this important function. We are also aware that because there are many private boat launches on the lake, we all need to be vigilant about NOT bringing weeds on trailers/boats/motors especially since neighboring lakes Belleau and Balch harbor invasive milfoil. Many other topics were covered at the meeting but most of these are described under separate headings in this newsletter.

PRP WEBSITE: *(by Joe Carriere)*

You've been talking and we've been listening! Over the past year, we've kept our ears open to your suggestions on how to make the PRP website experience more rewarding. It was clear that members didn't relish the manual process of filling out the membership form, writing a check, paying postage, mailing it in and then wondering why they weren't getting emails yet. It was equally clear that the volunteers didn't love the trips downtown to collect the mail, manually processing the forms, building email lists and looking forward to doing this while they wished they were out on the water. Well..... we've begun a full PRP website makeover to enable members to complete membership transactions, volunteer for loon watch/water testing timeslots, list for-sale items, share photos, view and sign up for PRP events, buy PRP clothing store items, selective contact of other members and much more through the new website. Our target rollout timeframe is this Spring so 'stay tuned' for what we hope will bring you a more cost effective and greater PRP experience!

RECAP OF THE SUMMER: It was a pretty nice summer all things considered. Late June and early July were warm, August was cool but September made up for that being quite warm. Early in the season, once again, we had a delay in the water level going to "full" even though we had substantial snow from a cold snowy winter. The NH Dam Bureau was slow in inserting the boards which led to a low lake when it's normally full. This is done to preserve some docks from ice damage though it can be frustrating to those in shallow areas. Fortunately some heavy rain made up the difference. Timing is tricky but we're at the mercy of the Dam Bureau's schedule.

MEMBERSHIP: According to our treasurer, Howie Knight, our current membership is 373 as of 12/10/2014 so last year's membership drive bore fruit! If you're not aware, one major function of our association is to accumulate a funding "war chest" if needed to help fight invasive weeds. We have a reasonable amount in our War Chest, but clearly not enough to combat an invasive species should one arrive. As an example we just learned that Michawanic Village has recently spent several thousands fighting a severe algae problem in Michawanic Pond, a small water body not more than 100' from PRP, near the condo beach.

LAKE WATER TESTING: (not drinking water testing). This had been managed by Barry Fryer for many years but he has decided to step down. We thank Barry for his service which followed in his father, Baron's, footsteps.

Fortunately Dave Lee Sr. agreed to assume the responsibility so this summer, on four summer Monday mornings...June to September, Dave met with volunteers from the lake along with two gentlemen from UNH to do the testing. The process involved anchoring in a deep (55-60') spot mid lake and lowering sampling devices to varying depths to record temperature and other factors. Samples are stored in bottles for analysis by UNH.

Also a "Secchi Disk" was lowered to assess clarity. The disk is round with alternate black and white pie shaped wedges painted to aid visibility. We'd then move to Meadow Brook, which flows under Lord Road, where a sample was taken slightly upstream. Later after leaving the lake, the men from UNH also sample Youngs Brook which flows into Pickerel Cove. The results, basically good, are posted on the website. Dave has indicated he was only doing this for one year, so we need a new volunteer. Requirements are a party boat capable of carrying five or six people, a small quantity of equipment, the ability to be available mid-week and a love of Pine River Pond. Dave has a full plate already with the e-mail tree so please, someone step up! Call Dave at 603-522-6152 and he'll explain everything in greater detail.

MESSAGE FROM THE DUNN's: Tim and I would like to thank all those who were a part of making the "PRP Store and More" successful for the past five years. It was so much fun meeting all of you who visited the little "bunkhouse" to purchase gifts, memorabilia and ice cream. It was wonderful to hear all the stories of family camps that were passed down through the generations. PRP history is rich with stories! We also enjoyed having the opportunity to welcome so many newcomers to the lake. It has been a pleasure to give back to this very special PRP community, one that no one should take for granted.

A BIG thank you to Tom and Shelly Daniels, our new shopkeepers, please support them in their all their efforts.

Sincerely, Deborah and Tim Dunn

THE NEW PRP STORE: We're extremely grateful that Tom and Shelly Daniels have stepped forward to assume the responsibility of future clothing sales. This is THE major fund raiser aside from dues to build our weed control war chest. The **new location** of the PRP Store is **500 Pinewood Shores** and is in the process of being set up. This new location is just north along the same shore as it was when Boni McRobbie ran it. (1/4 mile north of the "culvert"). Also, the PRP Store, in addition to accepting good olde cash, will be able to take all major credit cards Tom & Shelly Daniels look forward to seeing you! Their cell # is: 978-880-8055.

FIREWORKS SHOW July 12: This was the third year of our floating fireworks venue and it is working out extremely well considering our other option which is to have no display at all. Why is this? It is due simply to the rules governing professional fireworks. There are NO suitable locations on our lake shore anymore.

Once again, we received just about enough money to pay for this popular event. Please note: we'd appreciate donations from friends and family too!

BTW, we enjoyed the pre-show singing of the Star Spangled Banner from one of the boats on site. It was a real goose-bumper!

PARTY BOAT "PARADE": There was no formal boat parade this year since we learned that a boat parade requires a permit (sigh) from the Marine Patrol! Since the boat parade was always informal and not sponsored by the PRP Assn, it was not clear who would have to pull a permit.

However there was what appeared to be a "non-parade" that went by. It consisted of a few UPBIAR ("Unidentified Party Boats In A Row). Strange!!!

WEED WATCH UPDATE: (by Joe Carriere)

Nature abhors a vacuum.....and so do weeds. This autumn we advised our membership by e-mail of a rapid growth of an unusual weed at the Southeastern end of the lake inside the circular bog with the large floating island, another bog about 1/4 mile NW on the same side of the lake and, another patch about 40' X 50' in the lake. This third group of native milfoil plants was found in a pool of water, isolated by the drawdown, in a cove on the NW side of Bass point. (this is basically between the two bogs) We provided DES samples and the results came back as a form of milfoil (*Myriophyllum verticillatum*) that is native to much of the United States (to include NH) and not 'harmful' to our lake. While deemed non-harmful and non-exotic from a DES invasive perspective, we remain concerned as to whether it has been native to our lake and regarding any potential recreational impact to the lake based on its rapid growth. To that end, we continue to engage DES and ACT (Aquatic Control Technology; a DES approved contractor) to gather more information and put a contingency plan into place, should one be needed, for this or future efforts. While both DES and ACT advise that our situation represents a natural boom/bust cycle of nature and does not constitute an emergency, we believe it would be in our best collective interest to be prepared with an action plan if needed given the realization of how fast a potential infestation can occur. If you're wondering how you can help, we ask that you: 1) remove yearly leaf litter from your shoreline area after the drawdown to minimize phosphorous and other nutrient entry to the lake 2) consider joining the weed watch program (contact Cindy Pfeiffer) and 3), talk to your neighbors and encourage them to join the PRP Association if they aren't current members so we may maximize our resources.

WEED WATCH GROUP: We are in the process of forming a weed watch group. Volunteers are needed from all areas of the lake to ensure complete coverage of our entire shoreline - including coves and islands. Each volunteer will monitor their respective shoreline at least 1 day each month for the months of June, July, August & September. We will ask that the volunteer report back on any weed that may be suspect. A watchful eye on the shoreline during these months is the most pro-active plan to combat an infestation as all of these species grow at an incredible rate during the summer months. A kickoff for the group will happen in late spring, where we will hand out information packets and get a brief informational overview of invasive species by Amy Smagula, Exotic Species Coordinator for the State of NH. The goal is to get 100% of our shoreline monitored through volunteer efforts. A small commitment on your part can make a huge difference in the quality of our lake recreation and the value of our real estate!

If you would like to volunteer to help out, please contact Cindy Pfeiffer at 781-690-0681 and cindy_pfeiffer@verizon.net

WINTER SPORTS: Here's the annual pitch for the Seven Lakes Snowmobile Club. A core of dedicated area snowmobilers work hard to get permission for, maintain and groom over 50 miles of trails in Greater Wakefield. With more and more construction and development in the area it's getting harder to keep trails open, so we appreciate the cooperation of the many landowners who permit this use. This is further made possible by NH's important landowner protection laws. The trails are also used by walkers and cross country skiers, so it's important to use caution and common sense when traveling the trails. To learn more about the Seven Lakes Snowmobile Club, please see their website: www.sevenlakessnowmobileclub.com or look on FACEBOOK.

LAKE E-MAIL "TREE": Contact administrator Dave Lee Sr. and he will broadcast important lake-related information to our on-line group. Dave does *not* compose or edit messages so you should e-mail it to him so he can forward it. In the "for sale" category, please keep it to lake-related items. Dave also keeps us in the loop about town government via e-mail. In order to get onto the group e-mail list, simply e-mail him at prpassociation@roadrunner.com. We thank Dave for his dedication. Requests to Dave should be from PRP Association members only.

LAKE DRAWDOWN INFO: Lake drawdown began on or just after Columbus Day. It was a FAST drawdown year with the level declining to about 8'. As of Nov 22 it is almost all the way down. The schedule, rate of drawdown and timing of reinsertion of boards is controlled by the Dam Bureau.

2014 25th ANNIVERSARY GOLF TOURNAMENT:

Once again thanks go to longtime lake resident Don Cormier who organized another successful golf tournament at Province Lake Country Club. The results are as follows: 1st Place Team - A Flight: Alvaro Hernandez, Pat Albert, Ken Forrence, Jim Labbe; 1st Place Team B Flight: George Gaillardetz, Ed Gillespie, Greg Eldridge, Gary Frank; 1st Place Team-C Flight: Tony Stewart, Brian Stewart, Dave Eckstrom, Joel Ponte. Closest to the Pin #: Ken Cru, Closest to the Pin #11: Greg Eldridge, Paula Doyle; Closest to the Pin #14: J. Kane. Closest to the Pin #4 and #17 (on Second Shot): Tony Stewart, Brian Stewart, Dave Eckstrom, Joel Ponte; Putting Contest: Alvaro Hernandez, Pat Albert, Ken Forrence, Jim Labbe

2014 ICE OUT CONTEST: The response was initially very poor for the 2013 ice-out contest but like the year before, an e-mail reminder in mid-January generated many more entries. The entry process has never been easier and I'll try again. Winner gets \$100!! Note: This is for members of the PRP Association, their spouses and dependent children.

- 1) There's no formal application form again this year.
- 2) Simply e-mail me your best guess by including your name, address, phone #, as well as the ice-out month, date and time in on the hour or ½ hour. NOTE: One entry per e-mail to me. Please don't send multiple names on a single e-mail.
- 3) For those of you without e-mail, simply mail me a note with the same information.
- 4) My e-mail is robertlundgren1@roadrunner.com and mail is 94 Grenier Rd, Sanbornville, NH 03872

- 5) Ice out will be defined by the point when the lake is essentially free of ice. My call! The winner will be the closest guess either before or after the announced time. As respects this contest the ice never goes out after dark! If there's a tie, the pot is split.
- 6) The guesses must be received no later than January 31. They will be filed and not looked at until after the ice out time is announced. Winner's name is announced at the annual meeting. **WHY NOT ENTER NOW?**

LOON NEWS: (by Dave Lee Sr.) Success! For the first time in many years, Pine River Pond had a Loon chick. It was not without several problems but we were able to overcome them. After finding a suitable place to nest the adults laid two eggs and sat on the nest for 28 days, hatching just before July 4th. The chicks did have some difficulty getting into the water but with the help of the Loon Preservation Center trained staff person, we were able to do a multiple chick toss to get them off the island where they were nesting. Unfortunately that evening we lost one of the chicks, we believe to a predator. The other did survive thanks to attentive parents and a group of dedicated volunteers who participated in our weekend Loon Watch Program. We want to thank all of you who participated, you did a great job! Now that we have had success, we are already working to make some minor changes so that we continue to



have Loon chicks on Pine River Pond in the future. One of the changes is thanks to the permission of the Golini's who own the island favored by the loons. The anti-erosion boards around the island appear to create a problem for the chick(s) when it comes time to leave the nest. To remedy this, a temporary ramp will be set up to make it possible for the chick to get to the lake without human intervention. Once off the nest, the ramp will be removed.

LAKE HOST PROGRAM: (by Jim Fitzpatrick)

The Lake Host program will be entering its fifth year this coming spring and under new leadership. It is my belief that this vital program of helping to keep PRP free of invasive plants is best served by having the next generation of stewards oversee the program. Mike Wons, who summers here with his family and has been a Host for two years both here and at Lovell is my candidate for this position. In addition to checking over the boats he will be involved with writing grants, budgeting, presenting information to the town, to the board of PRP Association and to the annual meeting. I will remain involved with the program to help as needed.

PASSAGES: We extend our sincere sympathies to the families of the following individuals who we have learned passed away over the last few months:

Doris Rhodes of Virginia Lane
Peter Miller of Sparhawk Terrace

Happy Holidays to all.
Bob Lundgren, Newsletter editor

P.S. Don't forget to check out our website:
www.pinceriverpond.org