



DECEMBER 2015 NEWSLETTER

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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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Another great year on the pond is rapidly coming to a close and I'd like to again personally thank our membership and board for your support, generosity and more importantly.....your continued selfless acts that benefit and further bind our tight knit community. I would be remiss if I did not call out a few that have gone above and beyond in their donations of time and resources. To the Daniel's, who've taken our PRP Store to new heights with their vision and dedication; the Kolb's in offering their home for our annual meeting and re-birthing the boat parade; the Pfeiffer's and the entire 'weed watch team' for their vigilance in patrolling our shores for invasive species, the Lee's and Golini's for the yearly loon over-watch and care efforts; the Schulz's for their continued support to all lake association members; and especially the entire Bryant family, for their very generous and selfless act of kindness in remembrance of Alton Bryant's passing. So as we prepare to enter the holiday season, I kindly ask that when we charge our glasses and toast to our memories along with the future's prosperity, that we also toast to the all the PRP members that have and continue to make it the great community that it is. May your holiday season be bright and the new year be prosperous in peace.
Joe Carriere, President

ANNUAL MEETING: submitted by Phil Valenti

The Annual meeting was held on July 11, 2015 at the home of Mark and Tracey Kolb on Olde Pine Road. It was a pleasant morning with 55 members attending. Joe Carriere, our President, opened the meeting at 9:30 a.m. with a Pledge of Alliance to the flag. One of the first acts of business was to elect new officers. Phil Valenti was elected Secretary and all the Board members were carried over for another year. Other actions included the approval of donations of \$500 to the Loon Preservation Committee, \$300 for the NH Lake Association, \$500 to the Acton Wakefield Watershed Alliance (AWWA). We discussed many topics at the meeting, those topics included, but not limited to the new website migration, email addresses, business partner coupons, safety, weed watch, the loons and water quality. Those topics will be described under separate headings in this newsletter. Other business emphasized the importance of all the owners around the lake to join the association as our membership numbers are down as well the importance of boat safety. If you know of new owners in your neighborhood, reach out to them and let them know about the Association. As for Boating safety we should all be aware of the 150' rule as it just not for the shoreline, but for boat to boat as well as boat to person. The meeting adjourned at 11:40 a.m. Have a happy and safe winter and see you all around the lake !

PRP HAS A NEW WEBSITE: submitted by Joe Carriere

“I know, I know, we've been promising a new website for some time now, and hopefully it goes live before the Fall Newsletter goes out! We are very close to clearing some technical glitches and taking it live with Phase 1 rollout. Phase 1 will bring some new content that will be very evident but it will be phases two and three that will enable online commerce (membership, fireworks, store, etc.). Our goal is to complete all phases prior to March so that the website is wrung out and the staff is fully trained in time for the new membership year. As we move forward with the new website, we ask for your patience and that you offer positive suggestions on how our volunteer staff can make it better.”

RECAP OF THE SUMMER: submitted by Bob Lundgren

Overall it was a pretty nice summer with a minimum number of rainy days though when it did rain it came down in buckets in two or three thunderstorms. The lake started out low and except for a week or two mid-summer, the water did not go over the spillway. One thing that was noticeable was the tremendous amount of boating activity on those summer weekends. This prompted an informal survey of powerboats by PRP member Lee Cooper on August 8 & 9. He reported that between the hours of 9 and 10 AM each day there were 442 power boats including 186 pontoon boats and 63 personal watercraft. I'm assuming most were at their docks. It was

interesting to compare this with part of a more comprehensive survey done by Dave Lee Sr on August 14, 2003. Then he counted all categories of boats but noted that there were 145 pontoon boats and 22 PWC's.

I must comment on the handful of very noisy boats and wonder if they really have to be that loud. Included in that was the boater on 4th of July weekend who had what some called "The boat powered by sound" which pummeled us with HIS favorite rock music. Fortunately (I think) he was a visitor. As the lake gets more and more use, especially at peak times, it's important to think of all the others with whom we share this large liquid "back yard".

MEMBERSHIP: submitted by Howie Knight, Treasurer
"Our membership is down 33 members from last year with a total of 340. There have been a number of properties sold this year on the lake so if you have new neighbors please tell them about the association and encourage them to join. The highlight on our financial statements has been the sales at the PRP store; up 100% over last year."

As you can see Howie is a man of few words but one of many numbers. He does a great job as reasurer!.Thanks Howie!

LAKE HOST PROGRAM: submitted by Jim Fitzpatrick
The Lake Host program has a six year history of providing paid summer employment for two eligible youths checking watercraft and trailers for invasive species entering and leaving Pine River Pond at the Lord Road ramp. The program is looking for a person to oversee it. The two lake hosts, currently Mike Wons and Matt Daniels, pretty much run this invaluable program, but a liaison is needed to be the point person between Pine River Pond and Concord. Jim Fitzpatrick is currently the liaison and Mike Wons is the "liaison-in-training". For more information call Jim Fitzpatrick 603-522 8404 or e - mail to jimnatekris@aol.com

LAKE WATER TESTING: submitted by Dave Boisvert
This year water testing was conducted on June 1st & 29th, July 27th, and Aug 31st. The results were compiled by Bob Craycraft from U.N.H. and submitted to the P.R.P. Association. I would like to thank the volunteers who donated their time on the test dates. Thanks very much to Kurt Pearson, Pam Maden, Ted Bitomski. and Ken Cobb. Once the new website is up and running we hope to have the results posted there for all to see.

THE NEW PRP STORE: submitted by Tom and Shelly Daniels:
"Thanks to Boni McRobbie and Deb Dunn for paving the way for making the PRP Store a great lake tradition. Through their hard work, so many of the details that go into running the store were already in place for us when we got started.

Shelly and I really enjoyed the store this past summer – our first year running the store (16 years on the lake). It was great to meet so many wonderful people and hear such great stories about the lake and its history. We started off the summer with free hot dogs and snacks on July 3rd and ended the season with some holiday shopping sales November 21-22. It was a much busier day July 3rd, with FREE food!

Sales were brisk all summer long, but really picked up in late August and September. We actually had one day in August where we sold over \$1,000 worth of Pine River Pond merchandise! With plenty of hats, t-shirts, sweatshirts and ice cream sold, we tried a few new items this year that added additional variety. Some new items sold well (the items Shelly brought in), and some not so well (the items I suggested). Fleece jackets and wine glasses were big hits (anyone see a theme there?). At \$3/each, many folks bought can and bottle koozies/coolers after picking up that new shirt or jacket. Late in the season we added etched bistro/coffee mugs (\$14), holiday ornaments (\$4), PRP car stickers (\$3) and nylon lined jackets (\$42). Gift Certificates are also available and were used as that special "Thank you".

This was the 1st year that the store accepted credit cards, and that was a very popular payment option with over 125 credit card transactions and \$9,000 in receipts. Early in the year, Pine River Pond maps and books sold well, as newcomers to the lake stopped by the store and picked-up those lake essentials.

For those of you who haven't stopped by the new location, we have signs posted on our beach and driveway. The "store" is located mid-lake, between the Sand Bar and Little Gluek Island, almost directly across from the Pine River Association access point. We always leave one spot open on our dock for visiting boats, and if that spot is full, you can beach your pontoon boat or jet ski on our all sand beach.

We really want to thank all of those people who took that time to stop by to introduce themselves and support the P.R.P Association and we hope to meet lots of new folks again in the coming year!

Tom & Shelly Daniels
500 Pinewood Shores
978-880-8055

FIREWORKS SHOW July 11: Submitted by Doug Stewart
It's crazy how fast the years go by, this was the fourth year of our floating fireworks venue .The weather could not have been more perfect. In my humble opinion there is no better way to enjoy fireworks than from a boat or the shoreline of Pine River Pond.
As in year's past, we received just about enough money to pay for this popular event. We have already reserved Atlas Fireworks for the 2016 show, so please remember to donate to the fund when renewing your membership.

PARTY BOAT PARADE: Submitted by Tracey Kolb
"Thank you so much to all who donated to our party boat fundraiser. I would especially like to thank the gentleman who swam over to our boat with a twenty dollar bill held out of the water! We had a lot of fun and collected over one hundred and fifty dollars to put in the invasive weed fund. Despite the short notice we had many well-decorated boats and the turnout was excellent. A special thank you to Timm (not a misprint!) and Carol Roy who led the parade with Timm's band rocking out! We will have plenty of lead time for next year's parade so we are looking for suggestions. Collection boat at the sand bar prior? Jet skis to collect from docks on shore? Let me know your thoughts on how we could improve a great event!

WEED WATCH UPDATE: submitted by Cindy Pfeiffer
"We had several weed specimens sent to NH DES at their request this past season after photos of these weeds were emailed to Amy Smagula. I am happy to report that none of these submittals were invasive / exotic.
-Additional volunteers are needed to monitor the shoreline of the many islands on our pond. Right now only 1 island is committed to being monitored in the June - Sept season. We could also use a few more volunteers for the main shoreline.
- We will conduct an educational tour of Youngs Brook next summer to give our weed watchers an opportunity to get up close & personal with some of the native plants. One of our volunteers has offered to give this tour as the brook is plentiful for specimens. More info will go out to the volunteers late spring to get a date on the calendar for late June/early July.
-I will be looking into additional opportunities for volunteers to be educated on both native & invasive plants and will share this info with the group as it becomes available.
-If interested in volunteering or if you have any questions, please feel free to contact Cindy Pfeiffer at cindy_pfeiffer@verizon.net or 781-690-0681"

WEED SURVEY of PRP submitted by Doug Stewart
"Back in late summer of 2014 members of the PRP Board was made aware of a weed that appeared to be growing aggressively at the south end of the pond. The "Floating Bog", the bog just to the north, and a boat ramp (behind Bass Point) was found to have a native form of milfoil growing in those areas. The NH DES agency was consulted with and confirmed the species in question. Native milfoil, is just that, native, and should not cause any of the issues that non-native species of milfoil can create.
As a proactive measure, the PRP Association contracted with Aquatic Control Technologies (ACT) to perform a weed survey of the entire lake this past September. ACT is the organization that NH DES contracts with for all weed control/remediation performed in the State.

The results of the survey were good. Other than the previously identified areas with native milfoil, no other types of invasive species were found.

As part of the survey a detailed report was created. Recommendations on control/remediation of the existing native milfoil was included in the report. The PRP Board will discuss during the Spring board meeting and decide if any action should be taken. We will post a copy of the report to the new PRP website once it is up and running.

The board will also vote on whether to have an annual survey performed going forward. This survey, along with our Weed Watch volunteers, will go a long way in protecting the quality of the lake.

WINTER SPORTS: submitted by Bob Lundgren

Here's my 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, including how to join and how to help, check out their Club Facebook page or go their website: www.sevenlakessnowmobileclub.com.

Ice fishing is also a popular pastime and it is requested (and is the law) that snowmobiles give ice fisherman a wide berth when passing by.

Ice skating tends to be pretty rare since frequent snow limits skateable ice. Needless to say whatever your reason to be on the lake, be sure the ice is safe, especially near any "bubbler" systems near the condo docks in "Dam Cove".

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: by Bob Lundgren: Lake drawdown began on or just after Columbus Day as it always has. Last year was a "FAST" drawdown year so this was supposed to be a "SLOW" year, though it seemed to be relatively fast. As of this writing it appears as if the lake may not be drawn down all the way since one or two stop logs still remain. This makes sense to me in the following ways: 1) It gives us some "insurance" water in case we have a dry winter. 2) It could be helpful to the loons since this

year we have failed nests due to late rising water. 3) For those of you with well points it means a higher water table. 4) It can prolong the usefulness of the ice sheet by prolonging access from shore. The schedule, rate of drawdown and timing of reinsertion of boards is controlled by the Dam Bureau.

2016 ICE OUT CONTEST: The response was initially very light for the 2015 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 snail- 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: Submitted by Dave Lee Sr.

"We had a mating pair of loons on the pond this year. After two unsuccessful attempts and losing the first two eggs they did lay and hatch another egg on Ramalu Island. The hatch was successful but it still needed assistance with getting into the water. As in previous years a "Loon Toss" was necessary. Don't get upset, this is just a method to get the chick from behind the retaining wall on the island and placing it in the water on the other side. The chick was hatched late in the season and grew rapidly with the help from the adult loons and from our Loon Volunteers who watched and protected the chick from boats on the weekends. Thanks to all involved. To the best of our knowledge it's now thriving in its winter home".

We are continuing our work with the Loon Preservation Committee during the fall and winter to make sure that we have another successful nesting site for next year. This will mean some modifications to Ramalu Island which the LPC is working with the owner of the island.

CHINESE MYSTERY SNAILS:

Large snails were recently discovered in the area of the Lord Road Boat Ramp. NH DES has confirmed from pictures that the species is the Chinese Mystery Snail which is an exotic/invasive species. An easy method to

tell the difference between our native snail vs. Chinese Mystery Snail is size. Our native snail is about the size of a pistachio vs. the Mystery snail being up to the size of a walnut or golf ball. Recommended action is to remove when found and dispose in the trash or bury at least 12 inches below ground at a minimum of 25' from the water's edge. All females generally contain embryos from May to August and young are born from June through October, so earlier removal would seem most optimal. For additional information see:

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Chinese_mystery_snail.

GOLF TOURNAMENT:

There was no golf tournament this year due to declining participation. Once again, we thank Don Cormier for his time and organizational skills for a twenty-five year run.

COMMUNICATION WITH PRP OFFICERS:

Please note that the header now shows both lake phone numbers and e-mail addresses for the officers. These new e-mail addresses were created to help make staff contact less confusing. It is planned that future newsletters will only list the email method of contact as many officers do not have instant access to the lake numbers. Officer's phone numbers will remain on the website and PRP Guide, however, for those that opt for that contact method.

PASSAGES:

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

Alton Bryant of Connecticut and Windy Point Road for 30 years and, husband of Lois Bryant, passed away in August.

Doris Rhodes of Virginia Lane,. She was predeceased by her husband Bert several years ago.

Peter Miller of Sparhawk Lane also passed away.

Mary Wolfe long-time summer resident of Glueck's Island was pre-deceased by her husband Fran many years ago

Happy Holidays to all.



Bob Lundgren, Newsletter editor

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