



News - January 2020

President's Welcome | Brenda Plastridge

Happy wintertoeveryone! There are important updates I would like to share in this newsletter. Board members and I always welcome ideas and suggestions to improve and care for this pristine and special lake. Thank you to everyone that helped make 2019 another successful year for the Lake Parker Association. Your donation of time and money along with your suggestions and ideas are what makes our association successful. You will find the following in this newsletter ...

Walking Path Improvements

Website Updates

Rainbow Trout Stocking

Rec Committee Report

Lady Liberty ICE OUT

Photo Contest Winners/ 2020 Lake Parker Calendar

Meeting held on Weeds and Water Quality

Questions or Suggestions: Contact any Board Member

2020

Lake Parker Association Executive Board

President: Brenda Plastridge (bplastridge@lakeparker.org)

VicePresident: Matt Sheehan (msheehan@lakeparker.org)

Secretary: Joan Hudson (jhudson@lakeparker.org)

Treasurer: Joyce Croteau (jcroteau@lakeparker.org)

Membership: Ken Kasz, Committee Chair (kkasz@lakeparker.org)

Recreation: Tim Plastridge, Committee Chair

Water Quality: Art Greenbaum, Committee Chair

Boating & Water Safety: Steve Cutler, Committee Chair

Fishing & Wildlife: John Wooten, Committee Chair

Walking Path Improved

Early Saturday morning, July 6, 2019 ten individuals unselfishly gave their time and effort to make the walking path more enjoyable and safer for all. A new bridge has been constructed across a drainage ditch on the south east end. All of the metal bridges have brand new planking installed on them. The walking path has seen a lot of work from weed whackers making the tall grass go away. Now no one needs to walk through waist high grass which hopefully keeps the chance and exposure to ticks lower. There is only one small project left which is to strengthen the support under a bridge on the south west end of the trail. There will always be a need to keep the grass and weeds cut down so if anyone would like to take some time at this feel free to contact Tim Plastridge at bplastridge@myfairpoint.net or 525-3479. Our heartfelt thanks go out to the work crew of ten who were Ann Faison, Dave Muller, Grace Muller, Frances Muller, Soph Holden, Matt Sheehan, Lisa Sheehan, Ben Sheehan, Steve Cutler, and Tim Plastridge. And a special thanks to Ken Kasz for all his weed whacking weeks prior. A great crew with great results.



Website Updates

You may have noticed that our website is undergoing some changes, <http://lakeparker.org/> We have had a difficult time getting volunteers with the knowledge of word press to assist us keeping our website fresh. A few of the Board Members are working to understand word press to make changes to our website. It is just slow going right now. You may notice that we have posted the newsletters from the last couple of years and moved some of the articles from the home page. We have added a section for Minutes of the Annual Meetings. We are also

adding links referring members to the State of Vermont websites on water quality, weed control, etc. As always, we appreciate your patience as we work to keep the website updated.

Rainbow Trout Stocking at Lake Parker

The Vermont Fish and Wildlife Department has earmarked 900 rainbow trout for Lake Parker in the Spring. LPA wishes to thank our local VT Fish & Wildlife contact, Mr. Jud Kratzer, for his continued efforts on our behalf.

Recreation Committee Report

- During the summer and fall two campers and their families donated wooden dock pieces that they were retiring to the committee for use on the trail. This gives us a start on projects for the spring/summer of 2020.
- A new hot dog social named “Hot Diggity Dog Day” was attended by 50 people in July and brought together many residents that had not met prior. We thank the generous use of the location from one of our members for hosting this barbeque and look forward to this event continuing in 2020.
- Unfortunately, our boat social scheduled in the middle of the lake was called off this year by mother nature, but we will give it another try in 2020.

Please take a look at the bottom of the Member Registration form and consider volunteering for any of the items listed. At the annual meeting on June 20th all Committee Chairs will be voted on and the position of President. We know all too well how fast summer goes by and how few weekends there are but we always welcome any suggestions for events to bring the campers around the lake together. Side note- Spring starts only 86 days from Christmas!!

UPCOMING EVENTS

Green Up Day, May 2nd meet at Art Greenbaum's on Parker Road

Coffee Hour Social, June 6th 10:00 am, 103 Holt Lane, hosted by Madeline & Ron Ducham

LPA Annual meeting, June 20th 10:00 am - West Glover Church

Hot Diggity Dog Day Social at Lake Parker TBA

Glover Day July 25th

Lady Liberty has returned to Lake Parker for the 2nd Ice Out contest to benefit the Glover Ambulance

Be on the look-out for Lady Liberty as she will be moved around the lake during the ice out fund-raiser. Tickets are on sale at several area businesses - C and C Supermarket, E M Brown & Son, Parker Pie, Nick's Snack Shack, Westmore Town Clerk's office, Glover Town Clerk's office and Glover Ambulance. A little history, when America was to receive the Statue of Liberty, many locations were considered for her home. West Glover was one of them. Fed up with City Life, Ms. Liberty decided to check out West Glover and see what she has missed all of these year, the quiet! But winter set in early, and now Lady Liberty is stuck until spring. Help the Glover Ambulance prepare for her rescue come Spring Thaw.

Photo Contest Winners

The winners of the 2018/2019 Lake Parker Photo Contest have been determined! The first place winners are:



Lloyd Klinger (Nature & Wildlife)



The Byrne Family (On & Around Lake Parker)



Mary Jo Kasz (Camp Life)

Ten other pictures were selected to be included in the Lake Parker 2020 calendar. They were taken by: Sue Tester, John Wooten, Brenda Plastridge, Christy Patt, The Byrne Family and Mary Jo Kasz. Congratulations to all!

Lake Parker Calendars can still be ordered! They are available to active members at a cost of \$15 plus shipping and handling. All profits from the sales will be donated to the Lake Parker Association. **Send requests to:** LakeParkerAssociation@gmail.com, your invoice will be emailed or delivered with the calendar. (Do not send your check until you receive your invoice.)

Meeting held regarding Phragmites Weeds

A little background on Phragmites. At our annual meeting in 2018 there were a few individuals who were concerned about a weed they had on their beachfront and the spillway. After the meeting the board reached out to the State of Vermont and had someone come up to take a look. We had a representative from the State that came up and toured the Lake via pontoon boat. There was also another pontoon boat filled with LPA members. We found out that the weeds in question were phragmites which are invasive. At that time, we also found out that camps that have nuisance weeds in the water in front of their camps could fill out applications to put a mat down so they would have easier access to the water for swimming and boating; (there is a fee for the process), the applications would then be reviewed and after consideration could be approved by the State. We have had some camp owners that have gone through that process.

This year there were a larger number of camp owners that showed more concern over Phragmites. On September 27, 2019, interested members of the LPA including Board members met with Misha Cetner, Lake and Shoreline Permit Analyst and Ben Copans, Regional Watershed Basin Planner from the State of Vermont, at Brenda and Tim Plastridge's residence. The purpose of this meeting was to discuss the weeds and water quality of Lake Parker.

Below is a brief summary of the information presented by the State reps at this meeting.

1. Phragmites. This is an invasive plant and is difficult if not impossible to eliminate once it takes hold. Control, not elimination is possible. It is typically spread by seeds, not by boats. Misha outlined possible control methods. He noted that there is a timeline for eradicating them safely to prevent further spreading. He suggested that LPA start with a survey to determine and map out where it presently exists. Misha offered to assist with getting the survey project underway. After completing the survey map, options for control can be discussed with LPA and implemented by LPA membership with some assistance from the State.
2. Phosphorous trends: LP currently has increasing levels of phosphorous which contribute to overall water quality and weed growth. Phosphorous is attached to sediment, septic seepage, manure, etc. and enters the lake through tributaries (streams) and runoff from shorelines. Most phosphorous enters lakes immediately

after heavy rains. Misha suggested that the first step would be to check the tributaries via the “LaRosa Tributary Water Quality Monitoring Program” which requires volunteers to sample each tributary 6 times a season and 2 times during rain events. The LPA would need to complete a short grant application this winter, an LPA volunteer would need to attend a one day seminar in Randolph, Vt., and then coordinate the sampling, which takes approximately one hour per sampling event. LaRosa provides information regarding the tributaries only. After completing this first step other sources of phosphorous including lake shore properties, town roads and adjacent water shed properties and farms can be evaluated. Misha suggested LPA lakeshore members address their properties first before working with the town and watershed landowners. Clean up our own properties before asking others to do so. Planting 5-10’ buffer zones at lakeshore, making sure septic systems are not leaking, controlling runoff from roofs, etc. are ways in which landowners can help. See item 3 below.

3. “Lake Wise” program. This State program is designed for individual lakeshore property owners to access and implement actions which will reduce and/or control runoff and related sediment and phosphorous into the lake for their own properties. Information regarding this program: <http://dec.vermont.gov/watershed/lakes-ponds/lakeshores-lake-wise>. Misha indicated that the State could conduct a presentation to LPA landowners and members if there is interest in the Lake Wise program.
4. Roads and Farms; Runoff from roads and farms within our watershed also contributes to the water quality of the lake. Both State reps again recommended getting our own properties in order before approaching the Town and local farmers; in general, it’s been their experience that both Town and farmers have been receptive to reducing runoff once lakeshore property owners demonstrate they have taken action on their own properties.
5. A “Septic Social” meeting can be held with a State presentation if LPA members and LP Watershed property owners are interested. The Shadow Lake Association held one last summer and it was well attended.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED: As a first step, the LPA Board is looking to complete #1 above. We are looking for volunteers for a working committee. If you are interested please contact bplastridge@gmail.com You will be contacted later by Art Greenbaum as to next steps.

The LPA wishes to thank Misha and Ben for their time and presentations, which were extremely informative.

Lake Parker Association Membership

Our dues remain at \$25 for 2020. Membership is open to all property owners whose land(s) are on or drain into Lake Parker. Membership is open to all residents and landowners in the Village of West Glover.

We welcome your input and suggestions as well as your time, talents and financial support. With everyone participating, we have the best chance to preserve our lake. The \$25 annual membership fee is the source of funds for supplementing the costs of mailings, meetings, insurance, maintaining the website, required dues, and for such projects as deemed appropriate for the benefit of the Lake Parker Watershed by the Executive Committee.

Primary Residence: _____

Full Name (and spouse/partner): _____

Mailing Address _____

City/State/Zip: _____

Primary Phone Number (with area code): _____

2020 Dues: \$ 25.00

Additional donation \$ _____

Total Paid \$\$ _____

If any of your information has changed since last year, please write "NEW" next to it. Please make checks payable to "Lake Parker Association, Inc." and mail completed form and payment to:

Lake Parker Association Inc., 48 County Rd Unit 40, West Glover, VT 05875

Physical/Street Address at Lake Parker _____

Phone# at Lake Parker (area code): _____ Map/Camp No.: _____

Email address: _____ (Your address will not be shared)

The Association depends on volunteers to keep the lake healthy and safe for you and your families. We are seeking members to volunteer in the following areas:

_____Glover Day Table _____Membership _____Boating & water safety

_____Walking Path _____Grant Planning/Writing _____Meetings Setup

____Lake Protection Projects _____Newsletter or Website _____Recreation activities