



A Little Spot of Heaven

The Laurel Lake Ledger

Laurel Lake Association

30th Annual Newsletter Spring 2017

KENDALL DESCENDANTS CELEBRATE 80TH ANNIVERSARY OF KENLOCH

On July 2, 2016, about 50 descendants and relatives of Marion and Clayton Kendall gathered at “Kenloch” for a celebration of the 80th anniversary of the family’s presence on Laurel Lake. Attendees ranged in age from twelve months to 92 years. The name “Kenloch” is derived from a combination of Kendall and Wheelock, which was Marion Kendall’s maiden name. The spelling also celebrates the Scottish ancestry of one side of the family by utilizing the Scottish word for lake.

Located at 490 East Lake Road, a few houses north of the boat ramp, construction on the cottage started in the spring of 1936 after Clayton convinced Marion that building a house on Laurel Lake made more sense than building a house on the Cape. Or maybe he didn’t convince her, at least at first. Residents of Worcester, the Kendalls had vacationed in Harwichport for many years, and, in fact, had placed a deposit on a lot in East Harwich in 1935. It was Marion’s dream to have a house with a view of the ocean. Soon after placing that deposit, they received word from friends Jerome



and Helen Howe that there were two adjacent lots for sale on Laurel Lake and that the current owner would only sell the two lots together. The closer proximity to Worcester and the charm of Laurel Lake convinced Clayton that this was a better choice than Harwichport. Plans for the cottage were drawn up by Harold Bradley, who was Clayton’s and Marion’s brother-in-law. Marion still wasn’t convinced, however, so anything she wanted in the cottage, Clayton provided!

Furniture and appliances were purchased through Sears Roebuck and shipped to the Fitzwilliam Depot, where it had to be picked up. Rocks had to be cleared from the waterfront, and sand was brought in to make a beach (a legal activity in those days). The three Kendall children – Lorna, Barbara, and Maynard – loved being at the lake. When Marion realized how much everyone loved it, she was happy with her husband’s decision and the family spent many wonderful summers at the lake, as their descendants continue to do. Tragically, Maynard died of polio in his 20’s, leaving a wife Elsie, and two children, Sanford (Sandy) and Janet, all of whom continue to enjoy the setting. (Elsie was the oldest participant at the reunion.)

Currently co-owned by Debby Nance of Beverly, MA and Gretchen Prunier of Worcester, Kenloch has been the setting of many gatherings of family and friends during the past eight decades. Debby and Gretchen are the granddaughters of the Kendalls, the daughters of Barbara Kendall Leith, and nieces of Lorna Kendall Snow, sisters who owned the cottage after the Kendalls passed away. Representatives from all families were present for the celebration, plus the Wilcox and Garland families, all of whom were related in various ways to the descendants of the Kendalls.

In addition to consuming a few libations and not insignificant quantities of food, the family members took turns telling stories about the good times all had experienced at “camp”, which included swimming, sailing, canoeing, kayaking, water skiing, tubing, party boating, fishing, picking blueberries, outdoor and indoor games (horseshoes, cribbage and Yahtzee, especially), doing projects, telling lies, skinny dipping (mostly after dark), setting off and watching fireworks, and big family dinners along the porch windows facing the lake.



Four generations of the Kendall extended family gathered at “Kenloch” last July to celebrate its 80th anniversary on the lake.

Competitive cribbage games have been a favorite of more than one generation. Dave Leith, Debby’s and Gretchen’s father, was an excellent cribbage player and passed on his love of the game to succeeding generations. Barbara Leith, affectionately known as Beez, loved to play Yahtzee at the outdoor picnic table. The entire lake usually heard about it when she rolled five of a kind. The beautiful outdoor setting has also provided the location for many “scientific projects” engaged in by grandparents and their grandchildren, such as building solar powered miniature boats. One favorite memory held by cousins currently in their 60’s and 70’s involved an old wood and canvas canoe (ca. 1938) that was used many times to circle the lake in the early mornings, usually paddled by Dave Leith, keeping the younger generation quiet while the elder members slept in. That canoe was pulled from under the house and was restored during the fall by Sandy Kendall, with Raymond and Debby Nance, and Rob and Gretchen Prunier providing some elbow grease. Look for its bright red hull circling the lake this summer.

The gathering was a testament to the important role that such a place can play in providing an anchor for many generations of an extended family, as well as the many friends who have visited this captivating place. Friends and family alike often comment about how the stroll down the path to the cottage leads to the release of worry and stress. Marion and Clayton Kendall would be especially pleased to see how many wonderful memories and current joys are shared by four generations who came from various parts of New England and beyond to enjoy the festivities. We all know that Laurel Lake is a little piece of heaven. This was just further evidence of that.

Submitted by Raymond Nance



2017 SUMMER EVENTS—LAUREL LAKE ASSOCIATION

JUNE

3rd - 9:00 AM - The Board of Directors will meet at Camp Fleur de Lis

3rd - 6:00 PM - The 20th Laurel Lake Association Pot Luck Supper will be held at Camp Fleur de Lis dining hall. Enjoy an evening with friends and neighbors by starting off the summer season at Laurel Lake. Bring your own drinks and a dish to share. Coffee, silverware, and paper goods will be provided.

JULY

3rd - **9:30 PM** - Celebrate the Fourth of July with the traditional lighting of flares around Laurel Lake.

Flares are available for purchase at Bottoms Up (Rt. 12), Pottery Works (Rt. 119) and at the Samuels' camp (18 Laurel Lane). (Regular road flares may contain phosphorous and can be bad for the lake. The flares sold by the association are safe for use by the lake.)

8th - 10:30 AM - The **Annual meeting** will be held at White's Field, Laurel Lake Campground, Keene Ave. Our featured topic is an update on the Shoreline Protection Act. Our speaker is Andrea LaMoreaux, Vice President of NH Lakes Association. Association business will also be addressed, a picnic lunch and games & a scavenger hunt follows the meeting. Bring a chair (none provided). Note: in case of terrible weather, the meeting will be moved to the restored train depot building in Fitzwilliam Depot, next to the fire station.

15th - 5-7 PM Concert on the water at Sunrise Rock (west side of lake). Boat on over for some great music.

29th- 11:00 AM - The **27th** Annual Canoe/Kayak Race at Sandy Beach. Registration starts at 9:30 AM. Kids race at 11:05 a.m., 1.5 mile Jr/Sr at 11:00, 5 miler at 12:20, 2.5 mile at 12:30 p.m.

SEPTEMBER

3rd - 1:00 PM - The **30th** Dresser-Friedman Regatta. Rain date is September 4 at 1:00 p.m..

9th - 9:00 AM - The Board of Directors will meet at Camp Fleur de Lis.

10th - 10:30 AM - The Laurel Lake Association Pot Luck Brunch will be held at Camp Fleur de Lis to celebrate the finale of the 2017 Summer season. Bring a brunch dish to share. Coffee, plates & silverware will be provided.

Broad-winged Hawks

For the past several years Broad-winged Hawks have nested in the pines on the top of South Pond Road at the north end of the lake. Those of us in that area are used to seeing them flit about in the tree tops, especially the young ones as they learn to fly. They also have a distinctive call—a loud whistle. Broad-wings are about 15" in body size with a distinctive black band along the edge of their tail. They also are known for gathering into large groups (hundreds) to soar in thermals during fall migration season, on their trip to South America for the winter.

Here's a picture that Mike Foley took of the 2016 family outside of his camp.





SAFE BOATING PRACTICES

[Editor's Note: The 2015 Ledger (available on our web site) has a 2 page article about safe boating. However, many of us have observed unsafe boating activity the past couple of years and the Association Board asked that a summary be published to remind people of some of the basic safety rules. This page, with the calendar of events on the back, can be cut out and posted in your camp. If you have visitors or renters, please share this information with them to ensure their and our safe enjoyment of the lake.]

Take the Boating Safety Course: NH Law requires a Safe Boater Education Certificate for persons at least 16 years old who operate a motor vessel over 25 hp., or a ski craft. All vessel operators, who are required to have a Boater Education Card, must carry the card on board the vessel and have it available for inspection by an enforcement officer. Enforcement of boating rules is the responsibility of the NH Marine Patrol (877-642-9700), a division of the State Police.

Laurel Lake Specific Rules: Maximum speed for all craft is 40mph. Direction of navigation is counter clockwise.

On Board Safety: Pay attention to the boat's capacity—don't overload. Personal flotation devices (PFD) must be USCG approved and there must be one for each person on board. Children 12 years old & younger must wear a PFD while underway. All boats operating after sunset until sunrise must display visible lights.

Navigation & How to Read a Buoy: White with black Top buoy: If heading east or west, go north of this buoy. If heading north or south, go east of this buoy. White with red top: If heading east or west, go south of this buoy. If heading north or south, go west of this buoy. It is illegal to moor to or move any buoy, (except of course a mooring buoy). Every non-motorized vessel you will encounter on the lake has the right of way over a motorized vessel. Non-motorized vessels cannot move as fast or maneuver as quickly as motor vessels.

Towing a Water Skier or Tube: All persons being towed behind a vessel on water skis or any other device **must wear** a USCG approved personal flotation device (life jacket). Ski belts are illegal. In addition to the operator, an **observer** must be on board to observe the progress of the person being towed. The observer must be at least 13 years old, able to determine if a skier is in trouble, and to assist the skier. No more than two skiers may be towed from a single vessel at any one time. If one or two persons are being towed, there must be one observer on board, in addition to the operator, who meet the requirements above. Up to 6 persons may be towed on an approved multi-person device. When 3 or more persons are being towed, 2 observers, in addition to the operator, shall be in the towing vessel. When returning to the shore with a skier, the towing vessel and the skier must remain at least **150** feet from shore.

Boating While Intoxicated: NH law prohibits anyone from boating while intoxicated. Operating any vessel, regardless of how it is propelled, while under the influence of alcohol or drugs, is illegal.

Ski Craft: All onboard a ski craft must be wearing a PFD. Jumping the wake of a passing boat or riding too close to another PWC or boat creates risk and is restricted. Do not attempt to spray others with the wake of your PWC. Not only is it discourteous, it is dangerous and reckless operation.

Safe Paddling: Always wear a PFD. Don't overload the craft and be aware of your surroundings.

Safe Swimming: Swimmers should not swim in boat travel lanes or across the lake unless accompanied by a boat (power, canoe, row, etc.) or using a flag that is visible to others on the lake. A boat travelling 40mph cannot see you and steer to avoid you.

For a full list of laws and safety rules, or for more information on obtaining a Boater Education Card, Contact the N.H. Marine Patrol Bureau; visit <https://www.nh.gov/safety/divisions/nhsp/fob/marine-patrol/boating-education/index.html> or call 888-254-2125 or 603-267-7256. To print the Boating Education Handbook visit: https://www.boat-ed.com/assets/pdf/handbook/nh_handbook_entire.pdf

Submitted by Frank Pierannunzi, US Coast Guard, Retired



MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT OF THE LAUREL LAKE ASSOCIATION

Spring has reached the lake I'm told. Ice was out on April 10th and now it is time to prepare another "Message from the President" for the newsletter.

The message this year is no different than in the past. Your association is working to protect our lake and foster comradery in the lake community but we all need to do our part to keep the lake the "Little Spot of Heaven" that we have come to love and enjoy. Whether it's volunteering to help with our monitoring efforts (water testing, weed watching, Lake hosting), assisting with associations events (annual meeting, canoe race, sail boat race, concert), or simply ensuring that our actions and landscapes are compatible with a clean and healthy lake, everyone's contributions help.

Perry Nadeau, President

Membership Report

(as of 3/31/2017)

Membership Year	2015	2016
Adults	256	255
Children	22	25
Total	278	280
Households	143	137

There are already 28 memberships paid for 2017.

Thank you for your continued support. **Bill Chase**



Left: Flares & fireworks, July 3, 2016

Right: Loon picture taken from a drone, November 2016.

Courtesy of Ken DeBlieu



IN MEMORIAM

Ben Bullock, 76, passed away at home in Fitzwilliam in February, 2017 after a short battle with cancer. Ben and his wife Fran operated Bullock's Farmstand on Number 4 Road for 40 years, a source of beautiful plants and wonderful vegetables (the corn!!) that so many of us shopped for during the summer season. Ben also made the best sausages & kielbasa. For many, many years Ben and Fran donated gift certificates for corn for the canoe race raffle. Besides the farmstand, Ben had a number of different careers, the most recent being 20 years working for the Boston & Maine railroad. Ben was born in Manchester-by-the-Sea, MA but lived in Fitzwilliam for the past 50 years. Besides his wife Fran, Ben leaves behind 4 daughters and 4 grandchildren.

2017 ANNUAL MEETING

Our annual meeting will be held Saturday, July 8, starting at 10:30 am at White's Campground Field on Keene Ave. In addition to association business (finances, membership, activity reports) we will have Andrea LaMoreaux, Vice President of NH Lakes Association as our speaker. Andrea will talk about lake-friendly (and legal!) living along the shoreline. She will review what types of land use and development activities are regulated—and what practices are encouraged—within 250 feet of our lakes. You are sure to take home helpful information about what you can do along the shoreline to keep the lake healthy and keep you out of trouble!

At the end of the meeting, following our picnic lunch, there will be games and a scavenger hunt. And, due to some questionable weather in the past, we now have access to the restored railroad depot building in Fitzwilliam Depot in case of rainy, stormy weather. Look for activity there as you head to the meeting and someone will be at White's Field to direct you to the Depot if needed. Also, don't forget to bring a chair; none are provided.

Our 2016 annual meeting speaker was Steve Roberge, a forestry and wildlife expert from NH Extension Service, who spoke about managing wildlife in the lake area, especially the geese and beavers. Here is a picture from last year's meeting.



Water lilies like this, irises and other water plants are pretty but they don't belong in Laurel Lake. They are not native to the lake and, like all non-native plants, they can become prolific and push out native plants which are critical to our lake's health. Additionally, as noted in the Weed Watch report on page 12, the plants themselves may have invasive plants imbedded in them—the soil, under the leaves, etc.

Do not plant any plants into the lake or on land adjacent to the shoreline.



LAKE HOST PROGRAM

This year marks Laurel Lake Association's 5th year in the NH Lake Association Lake Host Program. Each of these years we have received a grant of a little over \$1000 to provide courtesy boat inspections, educating boaters on how to prevent the spread of aquatic species. The Laurel Lake boat ramp is 1 of 104 boat ramps across the state that are manned by Lake Hosts. With the grant we hire two Lake Hosts that are at the ramp for a total of 6 hours on Saturday and 6 hours on Sunday. The rest of the time we depend on volunteers. Last year Lake Hosts were at the town boat ramp 202 hours. 140 of these hours were covered by the grant and 62 hours were covered by volunteers. On total 183 boat inspections were done last year at the town boat ramp. Luckily no aquatic invasive species were found. We need to remain vigilant for lakes surrounding us have aquatic invasive species. Through boat inspections last year, Eurasian Milfoil was identified at Dublin Lake and Fanwort at Gilmore Lake. Once these species get into the lake they cost thousands of dollars to remove and many times cannot be removed.

We continue to need volunteers to provide more coverage at the boat ramp so please consider donating a few hours of your time during the summer to being a Lake Host. Training is provided and it can be a pleasant way to spend time, meeting new people and enjoying the water.

Submitted by Barbara Brooks, Chair, Lake Host Program

2016 LAKE TESTING RESULTS

This year, unlike prior years, the Laurel Lake Ledger includes the full report from the Volunteer Lake Assessment Program (VLAP) (see the next two pages—8 & 9). As noted in the report, the results of the testing show that the water quality of our lake continues to be good. There were several indicators of the good quality. Algal growth, as measured by chlorophyll-a level, was low and has been significantly improving since monitoring began. Total phosphorous levels decreased compared to 2015 and have been stable since testing began. Both chlorophyll-a and total phosphorous levels are much less than the state medians. Another indicator of good water quality is the levels of *E. coli*, which were well below state standards. Average water clarity (transparency) results were similar to 2015 and better than the state median, but historical trend analysis still shows decreasing transparency since monitoring began. It is likely that the drought conditions last year limited the addition of nutrients and particulates into the lake from the watershed and contributed to the good results. The "bad" pH levels, highlighted in red near the top of the first page, were within the desirable range, but slightly acidic. This is common for New Hampshire lakes due to acid rain and granite bedrock that lack buffering minerals.

For help reading the full VLAP report go to: http://www.des.nh.gov/organization/divisions/water/wmb/vlap/annual_reports/2015/documents/how-to-read-your-report.pdf

Thank you to the 2016 sampling team: Craig Heatley, Phyllis Lurvey, Perry Nadeau, Kathy Olson, Beth Samuels, Daniel Shrives, and Rachel Shrives.

Barbara Green, Chair, Water Testing Committee



Volunteer Lake Assessment Program Individual Lake Reports
LAUREL LAKE, FITZWILLIAM, NH

MORPHOMETRIC DATA

Watershed Area (Ac.):	768	Max. Depth (m):	13.4	Flushing Rate (yr ¹):	0.4
Surface Area (Ac.):	155	Mean Depth (m):	6.1	P Retention Coef:	0.78
Shore Length (m):	3,500	Volume (m ³):	3,826,000	Elevation (ft):	1099

TROPHIC CLASSIFICATION

Year	Trophic class
1992	MESOTROPHIC
2006	OLIGOTROPHIC

KNOWN EXOTIC SPECIES

The Waterbody Report Card tables are generated from the DRAFT 2014 305(b) report on the status of N.H. waters, and are based on data collected from 2004-2013. Detailed waterbody assessment and report card information can be found at www.des.nh.gov/organizations/divisions/water/wmb/swqa/index.htm

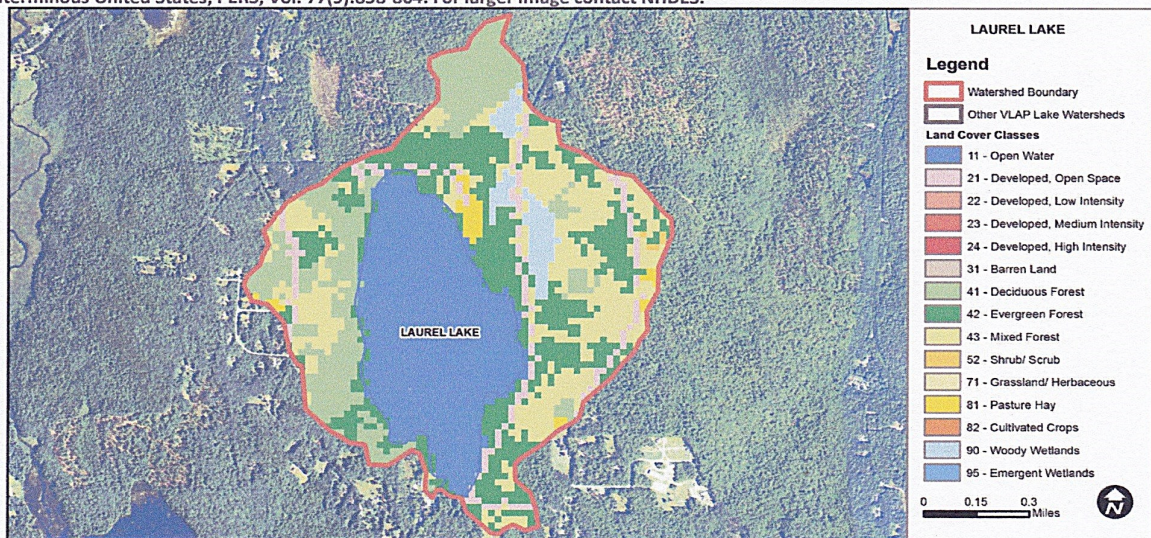
Designated Use	Parameter	Category	Comments
Aquatic Life	Phosphorus (Total)	Good	Sampling data is better than the water quality standards or thresholds for this parameter.
	pH	Bad	Data periodically exceed water quality standards or thresholds for this parameter by a large margin.
	Oxygen, Dissolved	Encouraging	Limited data for this parameter predicts water quality standards or thresholds are being met; however more data are necessary to fully assess the parameter.
	Dissolved oxygen saturation	Encouraging	Limited data for this parameter predicts water quality standards or thresholds are being met; however more data are necessary to fully assess the parameter.
	Chlorophyll-a	Good	Sampling data is better than the water quality standards or thresholds for this parameter.
Primary Contact Recreation	Escherichia coli	Good	Sampling data commonly meet water quality standards or thresholds for this parameter.
	Chlorophyll-a	Very Good	All sampling data meet water quality standards or thresholds for this parameter.

BEACH PRIMARY CONTACT ASSESSMENT STATUS

LAUREL LAKE - CAMP FLEUR DE LIS BEACH	Escherichia coli	Very Good	All sampling data meet water quality standards or thresholds for this parameter.
LAUREL LAKE - TOWN BEACH	Escherichia coli	Very Good	All sampling data meet water quality standards or thresholds for this parameter.

WATERSHED LAND USE SUMMARY

Fry, J., Xian, G., Jin, S., Dewitz, J., Homer, C., Yang, L., Barnes, C., Herold, N., and Wickham, J., 2011. Completion of the 2006 National Land Cover Database for the Conterminous United States, PERS, Vol. 77(9):858-864. For larger image contact NHDES.



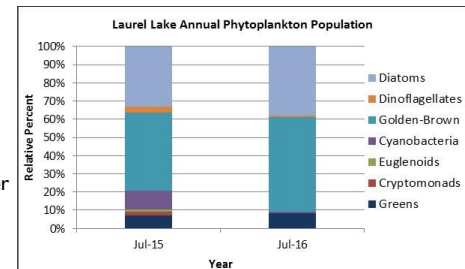
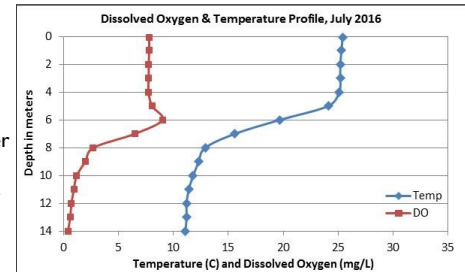
Land Cover Category	% Cover	Land Cover Category	% Cover	Land Cover Category	% Cover
Open Water	28.0	Barren Land	0	Grassland/Herbaceous	0
Developed-Open Space	5.42	Deciduous Forest	17	Pasture Hay	1.46
Developed-Low Intensity	0	Evergreen Forest	23.68	Cultivated Crops	0
Developed-Medium Intensity	0	Mixed Forest	20.99	Woody Wetlands	3.44
Developed-High Intensity	0	Shrub-Scrub	0.17	Emergent Wetlands	0



RECOMMENDED ACTIONS: Lake water quality was good in 2016 and drought conditions likely limited nutrient inputs from the surrounding watershed keeping algal growth low. Water clarity (transparency) when measured with the viewscope is generally representative of lake conditions measured in the 1990's and has remained stable since 2006. This is encouraging and we suggest continuing to measure clarity utilizing both methods as well as adding Apparent Color analyses to deep spot samples to identify if the lake has become darker or more "tea" colored over time due to an increase in dissolved organic matter. The increased frequency and intensity of storm events may flush wetland systems rich in dissolved organic matter that impart a "tea" color to the water which could impact water clarity. DES can add this parameter free of charge in 2017. Keep up the great work!

OBSERVATIONS (Refer to Table 1 and Historical Deep Spot Data Graphics)

- **CHLOROPHYLL-A:** Chlorophyll levels remained within a low range and decreased as the summer progressed. The 2016 average chlorophyll level decreased slightly from 2015 and was much less than the state median. Historical trend analysis indicates significantly decreasing (improving) chlorophyll levels since monitoring began.
- **CONDUCTIVITY/CHLORIDE:** Epilimnetic (upper water layer), Metalimnetic (middle water layer) and Hypolimnetic (lower water layer) conductivity and/or chloride levels were slightly greater than the state medians yet much less than a level of concern. Historical trend analysis indicates stable epilimnetic conductivity levels since monitoring began. Keene Ave. Before Lake conductivity levels were double that of the in-lake conductivity and indicate potential influences from winter road salting and/or a system rich in mineral deposits.
- **E. COLI:** North Beach and Swim Club E. coli levels were very low on each sampling event and much less than the state standard of 88 cts/100 mL for public beaches. Hodgkins E. coli levels were also very low and much less than the state standard of 406 cts/100 mL for surface waters.
- **TOTAL PHOSPHORUS:** Epilimnetic and Metalimnetic phosphorus levels were within a low range and decreased as the summer progressed. Average epilimnetic phosphorus level decreased from 2015 and was much less than the state median. Historical trend analysis indicates relatively stable epilimnetic phosphorus levels since monitoring began. Hypolimnetic phosphorus levels were within an average and stable from June to July and increased slightly in August but remained within an average range for that station. Keene Ave Before Lake phosphorus levels were within an elevated range yet were below average (better) for that station in 2016.
- **TRANSPARENCY:** Transparency measured without the viewscope (NVS) was good in 2016 and increased (improved) as the summer progressed corresponding to the decreased levels of algal growth. Average NVS transparency remained stable with 2015 and was higher (better) than the state median. However, historical trend analysis indicates significantly decreasing (worsening) transparency since monitoring began. Transparency measured with the viewscope (VS) was higher (better) than NVS transparency and increased (improved) as the summer progressed over 7.0 meters.
- **TURBIDITY:** Epilimnetic turbidity levels remained within a low range and decreased as the summer progressed. Metalimnetic turbidity levels were low in June, increased in July likely due to a layer of algae as indicated by the spike in dissolved oxygen at 6 meters, and then decreased in August. Hypolimnetic turbidity levels remained within a low to average range for that station. Keene Ave Before Lake turbidity levels were low.
- **pH:** Epilimnetic and Metalimnetic pH levels were within the desirable range 6.5-8.0 units, however epilimnetic pH levels have historically fluctuated below the desirable range. Historical trend analysis indicates stable epilimnetic pH levels since monitoring began. Hypolimnetic pH levels were less than desirable and slightly acidic. Keene Ave Before Lake pH level was acidic and potentially threatens aquatic life.



NH Water Quality Standards: Numeric criteria for specific parameters. Results exceeding criteria are considered a water quality violation.

Chloride: > 230 mg/L (chronic)
E. coli: > 88 cts/100 mL – public beach
E. coli: > 406 cts/100 mL – surface waters
Turbidity: > 10 NTU above natural level
pH: between 6.5-8.0 (unless naturally occurring)

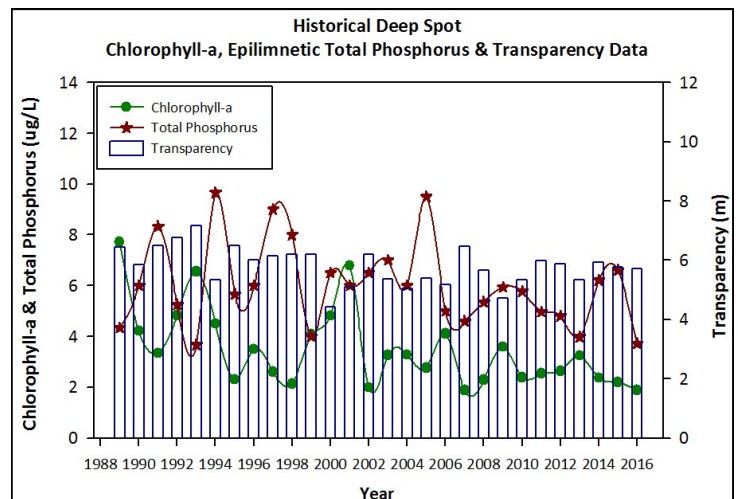
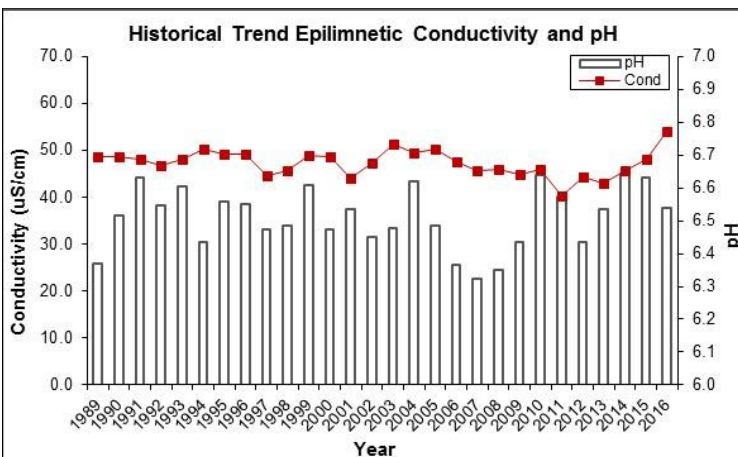
Station Name	Alk. mg/l	Chlor- a ug/l	Chlor- ide mg/l	Cond. uS/cm	E. Coli #/100m l	Total P ug/l	Trans. m		Turb. ntu	pH
							NVS	VS		
Epilimnion	3.9	1.88	8	54.0		4	5.71	6.71	0.48	6.54
Metalimnion				53.4		5			0.79	6.64
Hypolimnion				55.2		16			1.25	5.94
Hodgkins					20					
Keene Ave. Before Lake				122.3		31			1.08	4.98
North Beach					18					
Swim Club					10					

NH Medi-an Values: Median values for specific parameters generated from historic lake monitoring data.

Alkalinity: 4.9 mg/L
Chlorophyll-a: 4.58 mg/m³
Conductivity: 40.0 uS/cm
Chloride: 4 mg/L
Total Phosphorus: 12 ug/L
Transparency: 3.2 m

HISTORICAL WATER QUALITY TREND ANALYSIS

Parameter	Trend	Explanation	Parameter	Trend	Explanation
Conductivity	Stable	Trend not significant; data show low variability.	Chlorophyll-a	Improving	Data significantly decreasing.
pH (epilimnion)	Stable	Trend not significant; data show low variability.	Transparency	Worsening	Data significantly decreasing.
			Phosphorus (epilimnion)	Stable	Trend not significant; data moderately variable.



DISTINGUISHED SERVICES AWARDS

The Laurel Lake Association's By-Laws have a provision for awarding a distinguished service award to members who have performed outstanding service to the Association over a period of time. This award has only been presented twice before. In 2016 two long time Board members were presented the Distinguished Service Award: Barbara Green and Charley Brackett. A summary of their contributions is below.

Barbara Green: Barbara has been involved with our water sampling program since 1990 when she joined 4 other people in doing the sampling. She became chairperson of the water testing committee in 2002, coordinating the testing activities with volunteers and the state limnologist, maintaining and training people on the use of testing equipment, reviewing & 'translating' test results for the Association and making recommendations on actions the Association and its members should take. She also spearheaded our weed surveying program with one other person in 1999 and continues to be a weed watcher. Barbara was a lead proponent in having the Association join the Lake Host program and co-wrote a grant request to allow us to hire paid hosts starting in 2014. She continues to volunteer as a lake host. Barbara has been on the Board of the Association since 1994 and is our technical expert on Laurel Lake's water quality.



Barbara Green



Charley Brackett with
Kathy Olson

Charley Brackett: From his own love of canoe racing, Charley started the Association's annual canoe and kayak race and has run it for 26 years. The tasks associated with putting on the race are enormous and require months of planning and the coordination of many volunteers. Some of these activities include publicity; coordination of parking; getting trophies; providing food & drink for over 100 people; marking the race course; lining up race officials & safety monitors in boats; preparing all registration paperwork; getting insurance; providing boats, paddles & life vests as needed; setting up the registration & award & food services areas; coordinating the race with Camp Fleur de Lis to ensure their active participation; and training all volunteers. The canoe & kayak race has been a hugely successful and much anticipated event for 2 generations of lake families and it would not occur without the leadership of Charley. Charley has been on the Board of the Association for the past 26 years.

On behalf of the Association and its members, we thank Barbara and Charley for the many years and important value of your contributions to Laurel Lake.

Submitted by Kathy Olson



Canoe Race 2016



More Kenloch reunion pictures: Some of the same & other family members on another reunion weekend (left) and lounging on the dock (right);



Chris Briggs, 2nd place winner, with Rob Prunier, race Commodore



Regatta action;





2016 WEED SURVEY REPORT

As the 2016 hot and dry summer draws to a close, the 'weed watch' committee can report that no exotic or invasive weed types were found in Laurel Lake. The weed watchers surveyed the lake three times, about the third week in June, July and August as has been the practice for the last few years. So many of the surrounding lakes and ponds have some exotic or invasive weeds, but we are very fortunate that Laurel lake has not seen, as far as we have found, any of these weed types that are fast growing and very expensive to remedy.

The most common normal native type plants (whether emergent, submerged or floating) observed around the lake were pipewort, lobelia, bur-reed, pickerel weed, wild celery or tape grass, floating heart and white and yellow water lilies. Our committee records both type of plant as well as growth density. An exceptionally abundant amount of pipewort was seen this summer as well as a couple of new locations of yellow water lily. A much less amount of gelatinous green algae was seen, most likely due to the excessively dry summer which reduced contaminant runoff into the lake. At the very end of August and in early September, a number of bryozoans (harmless) were spotted growing on submerged branches. The small growth of purple loosestrife found in 2015 along the shoreline was removed and did not reappear in 2016.

Both Beth and Bill truly appreciate and would like to thank our group of returning weed watchers: Linda Anderson, Gail Connelly, Ken DeBlieu, Barbara Dumont, Catherine, Brad and Ned Greeley, Barbara Green, Tricia LeClaire, Phyllis Lurvey, Roberta Nadeau, Debby Nance, Steve Olson and Mary Ann Perry. Anyone interested in gaining a little more knowledge about aquatic plant growth in our lake, plus spending a few enjoyable hours surveying a section of the lake with a partner, is encouraged to join our committee. Please contact either Beth or Bill if interested or have any questions.

As a reminder, we encourage lake residents not to transplant any plant types (such as water lilies, irises, etc.) from another lake or garden shop into Laurel Lake or near the waters' edge. While such a plant may or may not be okay by itself, its root ball or surrounding soil may contact unwanted exotic or invasive seeds. Lake residents are also encouraged to report any new or different 'weed' or plant growth they find.

Submitted by Weed Watch Co-Chairs: **Beth Samuels** (evsamuels1 @yahoo.com) and **Bill Townsend** (wtownsend68@comcast.net).



2016 was a year of fabulous Laurel around Laurel Lake and elsewhere. Due to the dry weather and extended drought, we all thought it would be a lousy year. Maybe the Laurel likes dry weather.

Photo courtesy of Phyllis Lurvey





TREASURER'S REPORT YEAR ENDING NOVEMBER 25, 2016

	<u>Expenditures</u>	<u>Income</u>
T-shirts, etc.	1614.70	2219.00
Flares	0	520.00
Canoe Race	1520.02	1594.00
Membership	58.37	2680.00
Dues for Organizations	430.00	
Donations		260.00
Annual Meeting	330.77	
Ledger	879.79	
Pot luck & BoD	47.12	
Distinguished Service Awards	168.43	
Postal Fees	48.00	
Regatta	62.95	
Water Testing	340.00	
Concert on the Lake	260.00	
Lake Host Program	98.38	
Non-Profit Filing	25.00	
Refund Fitzwilliam Concerned Citizens		1967.71
Checking Account Interest		1.45
Totals	\$5883.53	\$9242.16

Closed CDs at People's Bank for \$14,552.04 and deposited it at Service Credit Union into our checking account and I added \$1447.96 from the checking account to the CD value to equal \$16,000. Then I took out four new CDs at \$4000 , with varying maturity dates, each at Service Credit Union.

Checking Account Balance currently is \$ 6,746.97
 CD Balance \$23,140.91
Total Assets \$29,887.88

Respectfully Submitted,
Jeannette Gardner, Treasurer

**2016 - 2017 OFFICERS**

Perry Nadeau - President

Kathy Olson - Vice President

Liz Young/ Steve Olson - Secretary

Jeannette Gardner - Treasurer

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Charley Brackett	2017	Bill Townsend	2018
Barbara Brooks	2017	Tom White	2018
Bill Chase	2017	Jack Dumont	2018
Jessica Pierannunzi	2107	Craig Heatley	2018
Barbara Green	2018	Jon LeClaire	2018
Bill Samuels	2018	Terry Silverman	2018

COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSONS

Kathy & Steve Olson	Editors Laurel Lake Ledger
Barbara Green	Water Testing Committee
Beth Samuels/Bill Townsend	Weed Survey Committee
Barbara Dumont	Nominating
Jack & Barbara Dumont	Annual Meeting/Family Picnic
Charley Brackett	Canoe/Kayak Race
Bruce Hill	Commodore Dresser-Friedman Sunfish Regatta
Jessica Pierannunzi	LLA Logo Products - T & Sweatshirts & Hats
Bill Chase	Membership
Barbara Brooks	Lake Host Program
Terry Silverman	4th of July Celebration Flares
Carl "Skip" Hagstrom	Swim Club Representative
Perry Nadeau	Concert on the Lake/Boat Parade

Visit our Web Site at: www.LaurelLakeAssn.com



NEW HAMPSHIRE LAKES CONGRESS

The Laurel Lake Association is a member of the New Hampshire Lakes Association which is dedicated to protecting New Hampshire lakes and their watersheds through education and advocacy. Andrea LaMoreaux is Vice President of NH Lakes and is our featured speaker at this year's annual meeting and has spoken at previous meetings. In early June NH Lakes holds an annual Congress which addresses a number of diverse topics, from water & wildlife protection, landscaping and water testing methods to association management topics such as communication, nonprofit and membership issues. Several board and committee members have attended sessions in the past and we've all found them to be very educational. In 2016, Barbara Dumont, Phyllis Lurvey and I attended the Congress. The keynote address was given by Celine Cousteau, the granddaughter of explorer Jacques Cousteau, who spoke about the impact of water on all of us and why ecosystems deserve our respect & attention. I was a speaker on a panel on lake association membership challenges and successes. The Laurel Lake Association was definitely the 'success' example. Having attended 2 previous Congresses and doing this panel, I come away thinking our association is just AWESOME! We have a large membership, robust committees & volunteers and the cheapest membership fees of any association. In addition to speaking, I attended a session on the Lead Free Fishing Tackle program & watershed based plans for lake protection. Barbara and Phyllis attended the floating classroom tour of Lake Winnepesaukee to learn about the geology & ecology of the lake. Barbara also attended a session on preventing runoff pollution and Phyllis attended a session on preventing the spread of aquatic invasive species.



Photos courtesy of Phyllis Lurvey

The 2017 Congress is June 1 & 2 in Meredith, NH and has a number of interesting topics scheduled. To learn more, go to their web site: www.nhlakes.org. We encourage attendance, as the more we know, the better we can all protect our beautiful lake.

Submitted by **Kathy Olson**



Charlie Peterson enjoying a jump into Laurel Lake, summer 2016,
Photo courtesy of Barbara Schecter.



2016 CANOE AND KAYAK RACE RESULTS

The 26th annual canoe and kayak race brought out a good number of participants: 87 people and a record number of participants in the children's race: 30, with 20 coming from Camp Fleur de Lis!! There were 47 boats, with 23 canoes, 19 kayaks, 5 paddleboards. Charley Brackett's good weather luck held again—sunny & not too hot. The 2.5 mile race had 26 participants, the 5 miler had 13 and the 1.5 mile Junior/Senior race had 2 canoes.

2016 Race Winners:

5 Mile Race

OC4 Racing Canoe—Valerie Hamlett, Pam Browning, Bill MacDonald, Tom Carey

OC2 Racing Canoe—Tom Warner, Kristen Warner

Men's Kayak—Dave MacLean

Solo Racing—John Kazimierczyk

2.5 Mile Race

Men's Canoe—Zachary Fish & Colin Fish

Women's Canoe—Pat Spicer & Gail Connelly

Jr/Sr Canoe—Mike King, Zoe King & Sam King

Women's Kayak—Mary Kay Ide

Men's Kayak—Leo Pagano

Tandem Kayak—Chad Hill & Ethan Hill

Children's Race—3/4 mile

Girl's Canoe—Carina Ramos & Ellen O'Malley

Girl's Kayak—Amelia Evans

Boy's Kayak—Gus Madore

Jr. Paddleboard—Libby Kowalski

1.5 Mile Junior/Senior Race

Jerry Whaland & Abby Rogowski

Sr. 1.5 Mile Paddle Board

Mike King

Tug 'O' War Winner:

Runners Up:

Youngest Participants:

Oldest Participant:

John Kazimierczyk & Gus Madore

Nick Murphy & Jerry Whaland

Zoe King 2 yrs., in Jr/Sr Canoe

Gary Deyo, 75 years old in Men's Canoe

Submitted by **Kathy Olson**



Young ladies & counselors from Camp Fleur de Lis in 2016 children's race.



2016 REGATTA



The Annual Dresser-Friedman Regatta had beautiful weather for a race. Under blue skies and an intermittent wind (surprise, surprise) the race welcomed six sailboats. This was a very good turnout as two mainstays of the race were unable to participate.

The race included three first time racers. They were Kyle Freeman, Mike King and Chris Briggs. This would be Kyle's third time sailing and Mike's second time. Mike enjoyed sailing so much that he ended up buying the boat he borrowed to sail. Patrick McNamara, Tom White

and Matt Poulin rounded out the race.

The race took 59 minutes for the first boat to cross the finish line. As usual, the wind died after the boats went around Sunken Island but then picked up on the approach to the middle of the Lake. The order of finish was: 1st place, Patrick McNamara; 2nd place Chris Briggs; 3rd place Tom White; 4th place Matt Poulin with 5th going to Kyle Freeman & 6th going to Mike King.

The after party was hosted by Deb and Tom White. Special thanks to Jack Dumont and Gretchen Prunier for helping with the race. We can be sure that the late Jay McNamara was sending wind into Pat's sail to get him across the finish before any one else. Jay will be forever with us for the duration of these races.

Respectfully Submitted by Rob Prunier





Elliot Institute Concerts on the Fitzwilliam Common Summer 2016

July 13th: “The Green Sisters”: Four multi-instrumentalist singers who perform folk, country, bluegrass and Irish music. ... A six piece traditional Irish music band...full of energy and nostalgia.

July 20th: “Tattoo” (with Walden Whitham): an acoustic five-piece band performing American roots Rock ‘N Roll...a repeat favorite.

July 27th: “The Stockwell Brothers”: Home-grown blue-grass, folk and country music.

Aug 3rd: TBA: Co-sponsored with the Friends of the Library Association.

Aug 10th: “Banish MisFortune”: A six piece traditional Irish music band...full of energy and nostalgia.

Aug 17th: “Studio Two” – Beatles Tribute Band: A four piece band that will perform all of your Fab Four song hits.

All concerts are 7:00-8:30 p.m. on the Common. In case of rain, concerts are held in Town Hall. Bring a chair or blanket. These concerts are made possible by the generosity of the Elliot Institute Trust Fund, established in 1927.

Also: Tree Lighting Festivity—Dec 3rd: Sunday, 5:00 pm on the Common with songs, stories and Santa...

Support Our Local Businesses!

Activities of the Laurel Lake Association have been supported over the years by donations of goods and services from many of our local merchants and families. The annual canoe/kayak race has a popular raffle with many of the prizes donated from local businesses. A special ‘Thank You’ to Camp Fleur de Lis who generously provide their dining room to us for the Pot Luck events and board meetings and to Laurel Lake Campground for use of their field and tent for the annual meeting. Say ‘thanks’ to these merchants and organizations for their support by giving them your business:

Bottoms Up

Bullock’s Farm Stand

Fitzwilliam Inn

Clearwater Pool & Spa

Ed’s Crossroad Pizza

Flip Side Grill

Twinkle Town Mini golf

Chef Allan’s Café at Covey House

Boaters, including canoeists and kayakers, can help prevent the spread of aquatic invasive species by always remembering to “**Clean, Drain & Dry**” their vessels, trailers and recreational gear before launching into and after taking out of a waterbody. Here’s how:

Clean: Before boating & before leaving the launch, remove all visible plants and other debris from your boat, trailer and other recreational gear and dispose of it in a trash container.

Drain: After boating and before leaving the launch, drain water from bilge, live wells and bait buckets.

Dry: Before boating again, dry the boat, trailer and other equipment and recreational gear that has come in contact with water. At least **five days** of drying time is recommended. And, if possible, rinse your boat and gear off after every use—the hotter and higher the pressure of the water, the better. Ensure that rinse water does not enter surface water. (Commercial hot water car washes work well.)

Courtesy of NH Lakes Association



2017 Laurel Lake Association Membership Form

Membership Dues: \$10.00 for Adult Memberships and \$5.00 for children under 18

Laurel Lake Ledger: Each Household of paid-up members will receive a copy of the Laurel Lake Ledger via US Mail Delivery or E-mail (please select delivery method below)

Members

Last Name	First Name	Membership Type		Amount
		(Adult or Child under 18)		A/\$10.00, C/\$5.00
_____	_____	Adult	Child	_____
_____	_____	Adult	Child	_____
_____	_____	Adult	Child	_____
_____	_____	Adult	Child	_____
_____	_____	Adult	Child	_____
If you wish, you may also include an additional donation to help support the Association		Donation Amount		_____
Total				_____

Permanent Address

Street: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____

Telephone Number: _____ E-mail Address: _____

Summer Address

same as above

Street: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____

Telephone Number: _____

Ledger Delivery Preference (select how you would like to receive your Laurel Lake Ledger)

I would like to receive an electronic copy of the Ledger via e-mail at the e-mail address below

E-mail address: _____

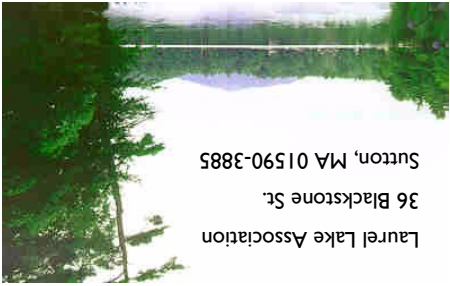
I would like to receive the Ledger via US Mail delivery

*Please make checks payable to **Laurel Lake Association**

*All applications and checks should be mailed to: Bill Chase
Laurel Lake Association
36 Blackstone Street
Sutton, MA 01590-3885

Thank you for your contribution

Visit us on the world wide web at <http://www.LaurelLakeAssn.com>



Laurel Lake Association
36 Blackstone St.
Sutton, MA 01590-3885