

# Laurel Lake Ledger



Dresser-Friedman Memorial Regatta 1999



Vol. 13, No.1 March 2000

## President's Corner

By Rob Prunier

The winter's now half over, and I hope you all have survived this rather mild winter, in good spirits. Spring is around the corner. One sure sign of spring is when members open their mailboxes, and find the most recent edition of the Laurel Lake Ledger. Enclosed in this edition of the Ledger, members will find several articles about the proposal for a boat ramp. I would like all to know that your Board of Directors tried very hard to make the State Department of Fish and Games re-think their position on this issue. All open meetings were well attended by your Board representatives. The more we objected, the more resolve the State seemed to have for a State maintained boat ramp on Laurel Lake.

I am sure that the Town of Fitzwilliam's Selectman did not envision the resulting scenario when they requested the State to take over the boat ramp. I recommend that all members of the Association watch for the time and date of the proposed "Open House" written about in Jack Aukstikalnis article. The State must be made aware that if they take over the boat ramp and the adjacent parking, that they must keep their promise of maintaining all of its services there. Many sets of eyes will be watching.

I look forward to a great year of activities. The Board is looking into helping out with some type of fund-raiser for the town of Fitzwilliam Library Fund. Details are incomplete at this time.

For all of you fishing people out there, the state of New Hampshire has made it illegal to use lead weights or sinkers on all lakes in New Hampshire. Seems as though some wind up in the mouths of birds and fish. The sinkers cause them much harm.

One more quick thought or request, please become active in the association. Your participation is needed now more than ever. Let us all work to protect our beautiful lake. Run for office, help at activities. All will be appreciated.

Last but not least, I would like to thank Jack and Margie Aukstikalnis for taking over the responsibilities of putting out the Ledger. It is a great undertaking and requires much patience. I am sure that our great friend Larry Friedman is smiling on you both right now!

I look forward to seeing you all real soon, up at the "Lake"!

## Slate of Officers 2000

President	Robert Prunier
Vice President	Perry Nadeau
Treasurer	Donald Austin
Secretaries	Liz Young and Anne Korjeff

## Board of Directors

Marguerite Albertini	Barbara Green
Arnold Anderson	Craig Heatley
Jack Aukstikalnis	Bruce Knight
James Baldwin	Calvin Linkenhoker
Charley Brackett	Jay McNamara
Jack Dumont	Donald Treat
George Graf	Susan Wood

## Committee Chairs

Ann. Meeting/	
Family Picnic	Jack and Barbara Dumont
Canoe/Kayak Race	Charlie Brackett
Dresser/Friedman	
Sunfish Regatta	Jay McNamara
Laurel Lake Ledger	Jack and Margery Aukstikalnis
Membership	Perry Nadeau
Nominating	Arnold Anderson
Parade of Boats	Perry Nadeau
Rules/Navigation	Perry Nadeau
T & Sweat shirts	Rob Prunier & Jack Dumont
Water Control	Jim Baldwin
Water Testing	Don Treat
July 4th Concert	Don Austin/Jim Baldwin

## What a CREW!!!!

*And a special thanks goes to Jack Dumont for his grand leadership as President of our Association for the past two years.*

Congratulations to Rob Prunier who, unanimously, was elected as President at the annual meeting. Too bad you weren't there, Rob. Bet you won't miss another meeting!

## Calendar of Events

2000

- |                             |                        |
|-----------------------------|------------------------|
| • 6/3 Board Meeting         | 8/5 Canoe Race         |
| • 7/3 Band Concert          | 9/3 Regatta            |
| • 7/8 <b>ANNUAL MEETING</b> | 9/9 Board Meeting      |
| • 7/22 Boat Parade          | See inside for details |





**Yours Truly ... (Thanks Jim!)**



**The Lion's Cage**



**How about a Luau?**



**Everyone loves a lollipop!**



## **What's Inside?**

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## **The Canoe and Kayak Races**



**Paddle boats at the canoe race**

## **MORE PICTURES TO SEE!**

**COME TO THE ANNUAL MEETING,  
JULY 8<sup>th</sup> TO SEE THEM ALL!**

# Mark your Calendars!

**June 3: Board of Directors**  
Spring Meeting at the home of Jack Aukstikalnis at 9:30 AM.

**September 9: Board of Directors**  
Fall Meeting will be at the Fleur de Lis Camp at 9:30 AM.

## July 3: Celebration -

**STRIKE UP THE BAND!** Yes the Nelson Town Band will be furnishing music for our July 4<sup>th</sup> celebration, which is planned this year for **MONDAY JULY 3<sup>rd</sup>**! Pontoon boats will move the musicians around the lake for our enjoyable listening. The music will begin at 7 P.M. and continue until 8:30 PM.

At 930 P.M., the lighting of the flares will take place. This is an Independence Day tradition at Laurel Lake and is an impressive conclusion to our celebration.

Please circle **July 3<sup>rd</sup>** on your calendar instead of our usual date, July 4<sup>th</sup>. Because many people will need to be at work on Wednesday, July 5<sup>th</sup>, the Laurel Lake Association wanted to make it more convenient for those people who will be leaving the lake July 4<sup>th</sup> evening, hence the date change.

**Don and Marion Austin**

*Editors note: Flares may be obtained before the event at the Depot General Store, at the Fleur de Lis Camp, or from any member of the Board of Directors. Your \$5.00 donation will help support the running of the Association.*

## July 8: Annual Meeting

All members of the Lake Association are invited to attend the Annual Meeting at White's Field. The business meeting starts at **10:00 AM**, with old and new business, committee reports, financial report, and election of officers. The speaker this year has not been announced as of press time. Hot dogs, hamburgers and soft drinks will be available (free to members) after the program. Rob and Jack have selected a whole new array of Laurel Lake T-Shirts, and Sweatshirts, which will be on sale the day of the event. The supply of each size is limited, so *first come; first served!*

Anyone who might be interested in running for office should contact Arnold Anderson, chairman of the nominating committee, to express desire to be considered. The current, fine slate of officers has worked enthusiastically to make this a well-organized association. Some may wish to continue serving, and some may appreciate a break. The election is open and will be held at the annual meeting.

Bring a lawn chair, sit deep and enjoy the day!

**July 22: Parade of Boats** This year's theme letter is "B".  
**Laurel Lake Association's Sixth Annual Boat Parade and Concert**

## Beautiful Boat Bash

Board the bandwagon, bedeck your bateau with bangles or build a bizarre barge, but be a bit of the ballyhoo at the Beautiful Boat Bash. Beg for balmy breezes and blank blue skies because the basic business begins at 3:30 by Sunrise Rock. Bystanders (on boats, banks and beaches) will behold a brilliant brigade of brightly bedazzled brigs as they bob by, bounding about the bay.

Between 5:00 and 7:00 our boisterous balladeer, Rich Kumpu, will be bellowing biggies from the Beatles to Buffett. So beat back your bashful blush and boldly boogie by for benign banter or ballistic bliss. Beside your best babe or bilge buddy, bail the ballast and bring your barnacled bottom to the big blast.

I may be biased, but I believe this will be the best bash by far. Have a ball.

**Saturday, July 22nd**

Parade 3:30 - 4:30      Concert 5:00 - 7:00

In the event of rain the parade will be cancelled and the concert will be held in the barn at Fleur De Lis Camp

For further information contact Perry Nadeau (603) 673-6414 or (603) 585-3058 - [pnadeau@earthlink.net](mailto:pnadeau@earthlink.net)

## August 5: 10<sup>th</sup> Annual Canoe Race 1991-2000

Featuring the "Largest Children's Race in New England", a Tug 'O' War, and Race and Rec. Classes, this year's event will be held on the Lake on August 5<sup>th</sup>. Registration is at 9:30 at Sandy Beach. The children's race will start at 11:00; the paddle boat race at 11:30, the 5-mile race at 12:20, and the 2.5-mile race at 12:30. (Note: Bentshaft paddles and race hulls prohibited in the 2.5-mile race.) Awards will be presented following the event to the top three in each class: Recreational, Kayak, and Racing.

Anyone wishing more information can call Charlie Brackett at 603-585-7167.

## September 3: Dresser Friedman Memorial Regatta

"Yes," says Jay McNamara, "I will run the Labor Day Regatta this year on Sept 3rd, with the rain-date of the 4<sup>th</sup>."

The 4<sup>th</sup> annual Dresser Friedman Memorial Regatta is scheduled to begin at 10:30 AM at the South end of the Lake. Anyone interested in participating in the sunfish race should register with Jay (585-2275). Other sailboats are welcome to sail with the sunfish and join in the fellowship after the race. All should meet just north of the boat ramp by 10:15 AM.

Don't forget: there must be one life jacket for each person. All boating rules apply.

A get together for fellowship and presentation of awards will follow the race at the Samuels'.



# \*\*\*\*\*1999 in Review\*\*\*\*\*

## 4<sup>th</sup> Annual 4<sup>th</sup> of July Celebration

The Great Blue Heron delighted the crowd as he soared across the lake just ahead of the floating band. A few guests accompanied the eleven members of the Nelson, NH Town Band as they made three half-hour tours of the lake. The sounds of brass and tympani, playing Big Band Parade Marches, resounded across the water. Jim Baldwin set the pace ahead of the flotilla and several watercrafts followed behind, their passengers capturing the full impact of the music. Bruce Knight and Bob Delesky generously gave of their time and use of their pontoons to create the flotilla, which was secured with bungee cords, and ropes. Even Velcro-closed life vests were used to steady the canopies together. Bernie Feldman was also on hand, again, with his pontoon, but was not needed this year, as the band group was a little smaller.

The event was co-chaired by Jim Baldwin and Don Austin (who credits his wife for much of his share of the work). As the band retired to the Baldwin's for refreshments, the Marine Patrol and the Fitzwilliam Police toured the lake, their presence leaving a silent reminder that caution and consideration often prevents regrets.

The flares illuminated the shoreline by 9:30 PM as multiple private displays of fireworks glistened in the sky. The booms and whistles of the fireworks were tempered by the sweet, enthusiastic voices from Fleur de Lis, as 98 girls and their counselors sang campfire songs around the "campfire" made up of scores of sparklers.

Grand Finale boomed at both ends of the lake and a myriad of final shots of fireworks streamed out until 10:15 PM, when the serene calling of "Taps" settled the girls down for the night and sent the neighborhood home with smiles.



## And the winners were

Jay McNamara

As the end of the summer of '99 comes to Laurel Lake, the 3<sup>rd</sup> annual Dresser - Friedman Labor Day Regatta took place on Sunday, the 5<sup>th</sup> of September. With the start at the South end of the lake, Sunfish sailed by, Tom Dumont, David Prunier, Bill Samuels, Patrick McNamara, Matt Poulin and a crewed Sunfish. Also, a Snipe joined the fleet who took the start at the South end of the lake in the shifty breeze.

With the fleet heading to Sunken Island, Patrick took the lead and held it rounding the island with Matt, Bill and Tom vying for the next three positions. As the breeze started to swirl, Patrick headed to the center of the lake, and was becalmed, while the rest of the fleet sailed down the East Side of the lake in a favorable breeze. Matt, Bill, the Snipe, and Tom led the fleet to the finish.

At the finish it was Bill Samuels in a well-deserved first place, the Snipe, Tom Dumont in Second, Matt Poulin in Third, and David Prunier the Top Junior.

*Editor's Note: What a treat to watch the annual Sunfish Race as we skirted the sidelines in our canoe. The colors were spectacular, the weather, cooperative, and the turnout great! Most of the motorboats paused, or at least slowed, while the sailboats silently raced from the south end of the lake to the north and back. The participants all got together at Poulin's after the race. Matt inherited the host position, as he was last year's winner.*



## Parade of Boats

Scores of spectators - count 'em! - sat or stood along the shores of Laurel Lake as the parade of boats toured the perimeter displaying an arcade of the letter "L" (Easy one for us, our first year as the Laurel Lake Ledger publishers.) The other boats, decorated by their owners and/or guests, portrayed such themes as; a crew of caged Lions; the Laurel Lake Loonies, complete with loons nest in tow; lovely lick-um Lollypops; and a laughing, lighthearted Luau. Too few participants, perhaps, but the crowds cheered as if it were a huge parade.

## Annual Meeting

After the routine business, the topics of discussion focused on lake issues.

There had been some misplaced or miscolored spars, which George Graf was working with officials to correct.

The new marine Patrol Officer, Jessica Heglin, can be contacted through Mutual Aid for emergency problems, or by calling NH Marine Patrol 603-293-2037.

It was reported that the lake rose 10" in the recent storms.

The water quality report, (the full, annual report is included in this issue) was based on testing from June. Dr Treat alerted us of ways to control increase in phosphorous, such as ongoing education of the inhabitants regarding controlled use of washing liquid to nonphosphorous types, having one's septic pumped every one to two years, leaving shrubs and trees at shorelines, and implementation of public sewer systems.

The BOD formed a committee under the chairmanship of Perry Nadeau to review boating rules for revision. Lake rules are enforced by the Lake Association. Marine Patrol enforces state laws. Speed limits, as set by the lake association, can be made into law by petitioning the Director of Safety in the State Department. Mr. Nadeau will make arrangements for the Association to form such a petition. (See page 8, "New Water Safety Rules") We are reminded that it is important to get the Bow Number when calling Marine Patrol to report breaking State laws.

Discussions were held on topics such as the boat ramp, T-shirts, the sewer study, and the concept of an annual ice cream social.

Our guest speakers, Sue Massin and Joan Knight, related plans for the expansion of the town Library. Many fund drives are planned to help raise money for the project.

# Water Testing Committee Report 1999

## SIX MONITORED PARAMETERS\*

	'89-94	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999
Turbidity			0.29	0.25	0.24	
Clarity	21	20.5	19	20	20.25	20.5
PH	6.4	6.48	6.47	6.5	6.49	6.6
Acid,Neutralizing Capacity	2.1	2.5	2.0	2.3	2.1	2.5
Chrophyll-a	5.2	2.29	3.47	2.61	2.13	4.07
Total Phosphorus	6	7	6	9	6	4

\*The results are the average of three samples taken a month apart during the summer from the upper level of the lake. An exception is the chlorophyll-a sample; a composite sample collected by tube from the surface to a depth of six feet. Results from years 1989 to 1994 have been averaged.

The TURBIDITY measurement of our lake water indicates a little improvement over the past three years. The median value of N.H. lakes is 1.0 NTU, with a range of 0.1 to 22.0.

Our lake's CLARITY remains stable and very good for N.H. lakes. Clarity is measured by slowly lowering into the water a 20-centimeter disk with alternating black and white quadrants to the maximum depth at which the disk remains visible. Median clarity for N.H. lakes is 11 feet.

The pH of the lake's upper layer, 6.61, is the best recorded in several years. A pH below 5.5 severely limits growth and reproduction of fish. A pH of 6.5 to 7.0 is ideal. The median for N.H. lakes is 6.7.

The Acid Neutralizing Capacity measures the ability of the lake to buffer additional acid. While the ANC remains quite stable, it is low compared to 4.9, the median for N.H. lakes.

The CHLOROPHYLL-a measurement is an indicator of algae abundance. Algae are plants that contain chlorophyll but do not have leaves, stems, or roots. Chlorophyll-a levels greater than 10 mg/M<sup>3</sup> usually indicate excessive production of algae. Our level rose to 4.07 this year. The median chlorophyll-a level for N.H. lakes is 4.45.

The TOTAL PHOSPHORUS is the most important parameter measured because phosphorus is the limiting factor in algae production and plant growth. This year's results are very encouraging. Lake shore residents and those living within the lake's watershed can help reduce further the amount of phosphorus entering the lake by taking timely care of septic systems, by not using phosphorus containing detergents or fertilizers, by not washing in the lake, by not feeding waterfowl, and by planting and preserving trees and shrubs near the shore.

Tests for E. Coli surprised us this year. For ten years the results at all locations tested ranged from 0 to 2 E. Coli bacteria per 100 ml. In June we found 30 at the Swim Club area, 19 at the south (Town) beach, and 6 at the north beach area. Repeated tests in July and August showed 0 to 2 at all locations. N.H. standards for designated beach areas are 88 E. Coli/100ml in any one sample or 47 E. Coli/100ml as an average of three samples over 60 days.

There were no reports of exotic weeds or Zebra mussels.

Participating Water Committee members this year were George Graf, Barbara Green, and Don Treat.

*Submitted by Don Treat.*

## ISSUES:

### Exotic Weeds

Under the guidance of, and in cooperation with the New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services (NHDES), a committee of three makes up a team of volunteers who perform several periodic and controlled tests of the water in the Lake. The chemical and bacterial analyses described by Dr. Treat have been performed three times a year for many years.

In addition, George Graf and Barbara Green conducted an exotic weed survey of the lake last summer. Using a Plant Identification Guide provided by NHEDS, they searched for any unwanted exotic weeds, and estimated the quantity of other non-exotic weeds that they observed around the shores of the lake. The study in 1999 revealed presence of pipewort, floating heart and lobelia, none of which present a problem to the environment. No exotic aquatic plants were found.

Why are we interested in exotic weeds? Since the mid-1960's, a number of lakes around the state have had a problem with nuisance aquatic plants such as milfoil and fanwort. There are currently 41 waterbodies in New Hampshire with known aquatic plant infestations. Exotic plants are not native to a particular area, and once they are introduced, they can spread unchecked because they have no natural predators. These plants are thought to have been introduced into the state's waterbodies from a discarded home aquarium. From there, they spread to other lakes in the state, primarily through boating activities. (NHDES Environmental Fact Sheet WD-BB-40)

Besides milfoil and fanwort, there are more than 15 species of potentially destructive weeds. Despite thousands of dollars worth of chemical and mechanical treatments and thousands of man-hours spent removing the weeds, the situation seems to be a losing battle. At this point there really is no effective long-term cure. The only answer is to prevent introducing the weeds. This means the boats that are used in more than one lake must be washed with warm water before they go in the lake. Boats should be washed away from the boat launch or any shoreline. Care should be taken to clean fishing lure and bait buckets of any aquatic plant material that might be carried over from another water body.

"Milfoil", according to an article by Bob Sanders of the Granite News Service, published in the Monadnock Shopper News, "can grow nearly an inch a day, from the lake bottom to the surface, crowding out other plants. The fish love it at first, but soon it grows so thick it crowds even them out. The complicated ecology of the natural growth gives way to monoculture. --Dead milfoil that washes up on the shore stinks. The living milfoil can get tangled into propellers and sucked into a boat's intake. Sometimes pieces get in and ruin an engine. Swimming in it is like swimming in spaghetti."

We give grateful thanks to the team who volunteers their time to monitoring our lake. We plead that all boaters help keep this lake available for our children and grandchildren to enjoy as much as we do. It only takes one introduction of the weed to make a lake completely disappear into a marshy, boggy field.

*Contributions by Barbara Green*

# The Boat Landing:

## The Selectmen say:

"We have had a lot of questions recently on the status of the boat landing located on Laurel Lake. You may recall, at the 1997 Annual town Meeting the residents voted to grant an easement to the State of New Hampshire for the boat landing. Our intention was for the State to assume responsibility for the maintenance and care of this facility basically as it existed. State of New Hampshire Department of Fish and Game, while investigating the property in anticipation of accepting it, discovered that the Town of Fitzwilliam never owned the property. Apparently, the town assumed ownership but never received any deeded ownership to the property. To the best of our knowledge, the property is owned by heirs of the Whipple family. The State of New Hampshire has conducted a search of other potential sites better meeting their criteria for a state boat landing. At this time it appears that, with no better site available, they wish to proceed with the current site. One of their criteria, however, is the establishment of off road parking for those people using the landing.

This year there was a warrant article at the Annual Town Meeting to quit claim deed the boat landing to the State of New Hampshire. It was amended on the floor of the meeting. 'To see if the town will retain ownership and control of the boat landing Tax Map 21 Lot 05 of the tax maps of the Town of Fitzwilliam' and passed. Unfortunately, since the town never owned the boat ramp, we are unable to 'retain ownership' as the article states. We have continued to exercise the same degree of control that we have historically done, cognizant of the fact that although we have 59 years of usage of this property, we do not have ownership.

It is our understanding that the State of New Hampshire has an obligation to provide public access to all state bodies of water and they have the authority to take property by eminent domain. They are proceeding with buying the land across the street from the boat landing in order to provide off street parking and plan to have sanitary and trash facilities available as well. They have indicated that they are planning to take the boat landing using their eminent domain authority. It appears that even if the residents appropriated money and authorized the Selectmen to purchase the land and boat ramp from the current owners, the State would still seize the property by eminent domain. The obvious advantage to the State owning the property is that the boat ramp would be repaired and maintained by them and sanitation and trash would be taken care of. Traffic problems and congestion on the road would also be relieved. These are all areas that we have had numerous complaints about over the past several years.

Residents who live on or near the lake are concerned about increased boat traffic and the impact to the water quality. We don't believe these problems will be increased under the State's plan to take over the boat landing.

We have received criticism from residents that the Board of Selectmen is not taking proactive action. Quite frankly, we do not know what kind of proactive action is appropriate. We acted on the wishes of the residents in 1997 to approach the State concerning repairs to the boat ramp but we are unable to 'retain ownership' as requested at the 1999 annual meeting for the reasons we have just explained. We remain open to suggestions.

It is our hope that this article will broaden your understanding of the 'boat ramp issue'."

*Reprinted from the Fitzwilliam newsletter October 1999*

## The follow-up:

**Jack Aukstikalnis**

On January 25, 2000, I called William Carpenter, Land Agent for the Fish and Game Department, to get a recent progress report on the boat landing. On September 22, 1999 the State of New Hampshire purchased the Edith Holmes property on East Lake Road. This property (Map 21, Lot 35-01) will be the parking area for the boat landing. The property is across the street from the boat landing and is 1.5 acres in size, which, Mr. Carpenter said would be enough for parking with a sufficient buffer zone. The construction schedule is for sometime in 2001, possibly later. Prior to construction, a survey, DEP application and site plan has to be done. These proposed actions, when completed, will be presented to the public at an Open House at the Fitzwilliam Town Hall for questions and comments. No date has been scheduled at this time.

Regarding the boat landing property (Map 21, Lot 05), Mr. Carpenter said that in 1956 a three-man New Hampshire State Commission worked with the Town Selectmen to declare the property public domain. According to Mr. Carpenter, a Nashua law firm did the legal paper work. When he contacted the firm he was told it would take some time to find the file as "filing was not as good back then as it is today". His request was made last fall. He is still waiting for results as of January 25.

Mr. Carpenter said he has a file "which is quite large" on the project that is open to the public. He has sent a copy of this file to the Town of Fitzwilliam via Selectman Tom Parker.



## From the 1888 History of Fitzwilliam NH from 1752 to 1887 by Rev. John F Norton A.M.

P 18-19 "The Town is noted for the superabundance of its stones, rocks, boulders, and ledges. Respecting this feature of the Town, Rev. John Sabin gives this testimony in the historical lectures delivered by him in 1836 and 1842, the three lectures of 1842 having been rewritten and enlarged from the single lecture of 1836:

*Besides what appears to be so near a solid rock below, the rock and stone abound at the surface; there is a heavy top-dressing of them. Few travelers for the first time passing the Town but will notice and speak of this as the roughest place they have ever seen, and will almost wonder where our stone walls came from, because it must be all are now on the ground that ever could be made there. Those are rather frightful to the stranger, but peaceable things let alone. And the fact is, as we become acquainted with them they lose much of the frightful. It is seldom you hear a piece of land spoken against here because it is rocky. And really the land does not produce fewer or smaller trees or less grass for the rocks. Much use is made of them, and not every man will allow you to go on his farm and take them away, especially the best of them. And young men who go out from this to look them a situation are very apt to name the want of stone an objection."*

## **The Sewer Study:**      *Barbara Green*

### **Status of the Fitzwilliam Sewer Feasibility Study Project**

*The following is a summary of various documents prepared by the Fitzwilliam Board of Selectmen, the Sewer Planning Committee and Woodard & Curran.*

**Background:** The Town of Fitzwilliam currently has no sewage treatment facility. Each building in the community has its own individual system for treating wastewater. Some of these systems are adequate and others are not. The Town is interested in investigating the possibility of installing a system(s) to both solve the problems that exist today, provide for the future of the community and protect our natural resources including wetlands, groundwater, watersheds and surface water bodies.

At the Annual Town Meeting in March 1999, the Fitzwilliam voters approved a warrant article to begin the study of the water/sewer needs in the town. The Board of Selectmen hired the engineering firm of Woodard & Curran to perform a sewer feasibility study. The Selectmen also formed a Sewer Planning Committee consisting of interested town residents to assist. Several members of the Laurel Lake Association participated on this Committee.

Three areas within the Town were evaluated that had been identified as being most likely to have wastewater disposal problems: the Village, the Depot, and Laurel Lake. The Village and the east side of Laurel Lake had documented problems with wastewater disposal and environmental impact that could be improved with the development of community wastewater treatment systems.

The conclusion of the Wastewater Facilities Plan report was that some type of de-centralized on-site treatment is an appropriate solution to Fitzwilliam's problems. This could be in the form of local treatment in small scale package treatment plants with subsurface disposal, that could possibly be combined with on-site septic tank systems.

**Current Situation at Laurel Lake:** On the east side of Laurel Lake, there are many lots that are smaller than 10,000 square feet, so adequate on-site disposal is not possible on these lots. In recent years, a number of systems have been improved by the construction of holding tanks that can be emptied as needed. It was concluded by Woodard & Curran that this is a reasonable solution to deal with the constraint of small lot size, especially for seasonal dwellings.

Another issue in this area is that it is difficult to determine environmental impact related to inadequate septic systems near the lake. Contamination is not necessarily very obvious, and there is a relatively small amount of test data available from which to draw conclusions. Lake Association data indicate that phosphorous concentration may be increasing over the years. This could be caused by poorly operating sewage disposal systems, as well as non-point source development or other human activities, such as use of fertilizer.

**Recommendation:** Woodard & Curran advised that the current State and Federal funding programs are not available to fund substantial improvements in the Laurel Lake area. Federal support is not available for projects with more than 50% seasonal users. It

was suggested that other less expensive solutions be considered for the Laurel Lake area. Recommendations for how to improve the existing situation were made. These involve educating property owners about septic system maintenance, better enforcement of current state and local regulations, or a more proactive approach that would involve regulation with inspections or higher standards.

The feasibility portion of the study has been completed, and all the information will be presented to the March 2000 Town Meeting. The residents will be asked to vote on whether to proceed with applying for grant funds to support development of wastewater treatment in the Village area. The Sewer Planning Committee will continue the discussion about how to improve the situation on the east side of Laurel Lake.

## **Personal watercraft makers agree to limits**

*Keene Sentinel 11/17/99 By Joe Haberstrom Newsday*

In an informal agreement reached after almost a year of negotiations, the nation's manufacturers of personal watercraft have agreed to cap the speed of their controversial but highly popular products at 65 mph.

The craft continue to be involved in a disproportionate number of accidents, and the U.S Coast Guard has pressed since last January for an industry wide speed limit on all new models. The agency hinted it might hold up regulatory approval of some model designs if the industry did not agree.

The manufacturers have several motivations for agreeing to the pact. They include burnishing an industry image tarred by the accident rate - even if most authorities agree rider error causes most of the problems - and avoiding the costly investments required to make faster machines. For every additional mile per hour, one company executive said, it costs \$1 million in research and development.

"We felt it was time to stop the speed war and start focusing on education," said Jan Hall, manager of government relations and public affairs for industry leader Bombardier Recreational Products, which makes the Sea-Doo watercraft.

Nationally, personal watercraft make up 10 percent of registered boats, but are involved in 40 percent of accidents, according to Capt. Michael Holmes, chief of boating safety for the Coast Guard. "We just want to reel that in a little bit and make sure it doesn't get any worse," he said.

Like Holmes, other safety officials emphasize that rider mistakes, rather than raw speed, probably play the largest role in accidents. As proof, they point to decreasing number of accidents in states that mandate operator education.

Some in the industry have tried to address the operator issue with technology. Bombardier this fall introduced a device that caps the speed of a machine at 35 mph. When riders become more seasoned at the controls, they can remove the device and go faster.

The speed cap, for the 2001 model year, would affect only stock production models that typical consumers buy. Racing watercraft, equipped with speed-enhancing devices, would be exempt. Models for 1999 and 2000 that in some tests have exceeded the cap also are not affected.

The agreement comes as the personal watercraft industry continues to shrink. In 1995, 200,000 of the boats were sold; this year, about 110,000 are expected to be sold.



## 1999 Membership Report

The Laurel Lake Association had 255 members living in 136 households. This was down slightly from 1998 when the numbers were 262 and 138 respectively. The membership categories break down as follows: Adult 226; Youth 18; and Child 11.

Sixteen people have already paid their dues for 2000 as of this writing. If the rest of you would please fill out the form included with this paper and send it along with your dues as soon as possible it would be very much appreciated. If you know of anyone who does not already belong to the association but has an interest in Laurel Lake, please make a copy of the application for them or refer them to our website at <http://home.earthlink.net/~pnadeau/LaurelLakeAssn/>

Don't forget to include your Email address on the application if you have one.



**Lemonade, anyone?**

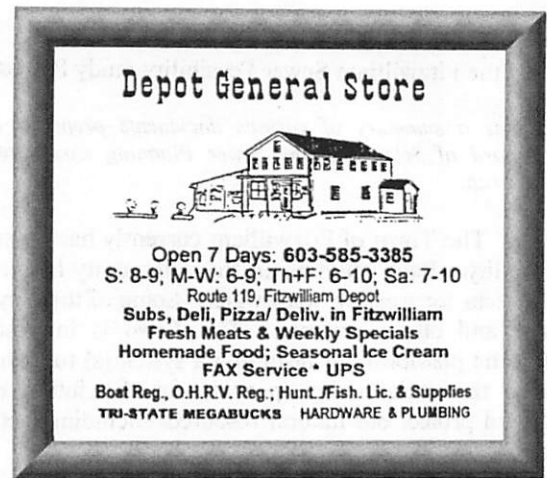
Jack and Barbara worked so hard and under adverse conditions (*very little sleep*) to make our cookout at the 1999 annual meeting a huge success! Their energetic contributions and the help of Jim Baldwin, Craig Heatley and a few other volunteers helped to make the day a success. Thank you all!!!

### Notes from the year past:

- "Thanks" from the Fleur de Lis to all who made contributions towards the fireworks.
- A letter of appreciation was received from the Board of Trustees of the Fitzwilliam Town Library for the gift from the Laurel Lake Association.

### New Water Safety Rules

The diligent efforts of Perry Nadeau, on behalf of the Board of Directors, have paid off, as the State of New Hampshire accepted the Lake Association's petition to limit the speed on the lake. "No person shall operate a powerboat at a speed in excess of **40 MPH** at any time." By making this a State law, rather than a Local Rule, the Marine Patrol can help enforce it. A posting of State Laws and Local Rules will be available at the annual meeting for those who want a copy. They are also posted on the Laurel Lake website (see back page) with links to several government offices.



A special thanks to Norman and Kristen Berube for their generosity of time and effort to sell about \$400 worth of flares for our annual Independence Day Celebration. The Association voted at the last annual meeting to grant the family honorary membership in recognition of their contribution to the Laurel Lake Association.

**Notes from the Editors:** We have been chosen by the Board of Directors to publish the annual newsletter for you. In this, our first edition, we are seeking to get to know you and introduce ourselves. We need your help to make this *your* newsletter. Please send us your ideas, news articles, suggestions pictures, drawings, comments or memories of the lake. We will try to incorporate all we can in our annual publication in March. One of the things we would like to add next year is a "Kid's Page". What we need from the kids are jokes and cartoons, ideas for kids-oriented programs on or at the lake, articles about the Lake through a kid's point of view, and perhaps, a volunteer junior editor to help us select the best contributions. Please send all contributions by 12/1/00 for consideration to : Jack & Margery Aukstikalnis

161 Howeville Road  
Fitzwilliam, NH 03447  
[jamea@top.monad.net](mailto:jamea@top.monad.net)

Or Email:

The Laurel Lake Ledger is the official Newsletter of the Laurel Lake Association, Fitzwilliam, NH. Every effort is made to report accurately, however, the Ledger and its editors are not responsible for errors that might occur. Corrections will appear in the following issue.

### In Memory:

Friends of the Lake Association that have passed on this past year:

Elizabeth Devin (Mrs. Robert)  
Doris Townsend (Mrs. James)  
Adrienne (Penny) Heatley (Mrs. Craig)

### Officers

On the next page is a list of officers and board of directors since 1988. Take a minute to see how many names recur, year after year. The strength of the few and the support of the many have developed a strong, well-organized association.



	1988	1989	1990	1991	1992	1993
Pres.	Donald Garland	Donald Garland	Bruce Knight	Bruce Knight	Bruce Knight	Bruce Knight
V. P.	(None)	(None)	Cal Perry	Cal Perry	Phyllis Chase	Phyllis Chase
Treas.	John Dumont	John Dumont	Don Austin	Don Austin	Don Austin	Don Austin
Sec.	John Dumont	John Dumont	John Dumont	John Dumont	John Dumont	John Dumont
BOD	Bill Hoag	Bill Hoag	Bill Hoag	Tom White	Tom White	Arnold Anderson
BOD	Midge Deyo	Midge Deyo	Midge Deyo	Midge Deyo	Midge Deyo	Anne Korjeff
BOD	Virginia Nevins	Virginia Nevins	Virginia Nevins	Virginia Nevins	Virginia Nevins	Barbara Green
BOD	Karl Anderson	Karl Anderson	Karl Anderson	Karl Anderson	Karl Anderson	Karl Anderson
BOD	Margarite Albertini	Margarite Albertini	Margarite Albertini	Margarite Albertini	Margarite Albertini	Margarite Albertini
BOD	Shirley Quinn	Shirley Quinn	Shirley Quinn	Shirley Quinn	Shirley Quinn	Liz Young
BOD	Horace Daub	George Graf, Jr.	George Graf	George Graf	George Graf	George Graf
BOD	Jim Baab	Jim Baab	Jim Baab	Larry Friedman	Larry Friedman	Larry Friedman
BOD	Art Rousseau	Tracy Januskiewicz	Tracy Januskiewicz	Phyllis Chase	Jim Baldwin	Jim Baldwin
BOD	Robert Prunier	Robert Prunier	Robert Prunier	Robert Prunier	Robert Prunier	Charles Brackett
BOD	Warren Furey	Gus Hoyland	Gus Hoyland	Gus Hoyland	Gus Hoyland	*
BOD	Laura Whitmore	Laura Whitmore	Laura Whitmore	Don Treat	Don Treat	Don Treat
BOD	Milton Provosky	Milton Provosky	Milton Provosky	Milton Provosky	Milton Provosky	Milton Provosky
	1994	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998
Pres.	Phyllis Chase	Phyllis Chase	Phyllis Chase	Jack Dumont	Jack Dumont	Jack Dumont
V. P.	Jim Baldwin	Jim Baldwin	Jim Baldwin	Jim Baldwin	Jim Baldwin	Perry Nadeau
Treas.	Don Austin	Don Austin	Don Austin	Don Austin	Don Austin	Don Austin
Sec.	Jack Dumont	Jack Dumont	Jack Dumont	Susan Wood	Susan Wood	Liz Young /
BOD	Arnold Anderson	Arnold Anderson	Arnold Anderson	Cal Linkenhoker	Cal Linkenhoker	Ann Korjeff
BOD	Anne Korjeff	Anne Korjeff	Anne Korjeff	Anne Korjeff	Anne Korjeff	Cal Linkenhoker
BOD	Barbara Green	Barbara Green	Barbara Green	Barbara Green	Barbara Green	Anne Korjeff
BOD	Karl Anderson	Karl Anderson	Dana Mullett	Dana Mullett	Dana Mullett	Barbara Green
BOD	Margarite Albertini	Margarite Albertini	Margarite Albertini	Margarite Albertini	Margarite Albertini	Dana Mullett
BOD	Liz Young	Liz Young	Liz Young	Liz Young	Liz Young	Margarite Albertini
BOD	George Graf	George Graf	George Graf	George Graf	George Graf	Jim Baldwin
BOD	Larry Friedman	Larry Friedman	Larry Friedman	Larry Friedman	Rob Prunier	George Graf
BOD	Bruce Knight	Bruce Knight	Bruce Knight	Bruce Knight	Bruce Knight	Rob Prunier
BOD	Charles Brackett	Charles Brackett	Charles Brackett	Charles Brackett	Charles Brackett	Bruce Knight
BOD	*	Don Garland	Sue Wood	Phyllis Chase	Phyllis Chase	Charles Brackett
BOD	Don Treat	Don Treat	Don Treat	Don Treat	Don Treat	Phyllis Chase
BOD	Milton Provosky	Milton Provosky	Milton Provosky	Milton Provosky	Craig Heatley	Don Treat
	1999			2000		Craig Heatley
Pres.	Jack Dumont			Rob Prunier		
V. P.	Perry Nadeau			Perry Nadeau		
Treas.	Don Austin			Don Austin		
Sec.	Liz Young / Ann Korjeff			Liz Young/ Anne Korjeff		
BOD	Cal Linkenhoker	01 Rob Prunier	01	Cal Linkenhoker	01 Bruce Knight	01
BOD	Arnold Anderson	01 Bruce Knight	01	Arnold Anderson	01 Charles Brackett	03
BOD	Barbara Green	00 Charles Brackett	99	Barbara Green	00 Jack Dumont	02
BOD	Jack Aukstikalnis	01 Susan Wood	01	Jack Aukstikalnis	01 Susan Wood	01
BOD	Margarite Albertini	99 Don Treat	01	Margarite Albertini	03 Don Treat	01
BOD	Jim Baldwin	00 Craig Heatley	99	Jim Baldwin	00 Craig Heatley	03
BOD	George Graf	00 Jay McNamara	01	George Graf	00 Jay McNamara	01

## Seasonal Dock Permits

Most of us know that before we install a *new seasonal* dock we must obtain a permit from the State of New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services (DES). As of 1/1/2000, there is a new, streamlined way of permitting most seasonal docks. We no longer have to provide tax maps, topographical maps, photographs, or notifications to abutters.

The criterion for permitting includes the following: The property must have at least 75 feet of shoreline frontage and no structures present. The proposed dock must be located at least 20 feet from abutting property lines or the imaginary extension of those lines into the water. The seasonal dock may be 6 feet by 30 feet on waterbodies smaller than 1000 acres, and 6 feet by 40 feet on waterbodies 1000 acres or larger. No impact to wetlands along the shore is permitted. As with all seasonal docks, these docks must be removed from the water during the non-boating season for a minimum of four months.

Please note these new rules do not require any action if a landowner already had a legal dock (permitted or grand fathered) on his or her property.

Notification forms are available at the Town Clerk's Office, on the Internet at <http://www.des.state.nh.us/wetlands> or by calling the NH DES Wetlands Bureau at (603) 271-2147. A single copy of the notification form will be available at the Annual meeting for observation.

A permanent dock, which remains in the bank or water throughout the non-boating season, still requires a standard permit from DES.

## Hemlock-eating adelgids

So far, these tiny insects haven't been reported in New Hampshire, but from Virginia to Massachusetts, thousands of hemlock trees have succumbed to their attack. The insects look like tiny white scales along the needles and twigs of the trees. "*The adelgid has been killing hemlocks in Connecticut since the 1980's*", according to a report in the Hartford Courant written by Steve Grant "*especially in the lower Connecticut River Valley where damage is substantial.*" Once infested, a tree would usually be dead within 3 to 5 years.

The foremost problem with this attack is the risk of danger from dead hemlocks falling on inhabited property. Other concerns are fire hazard from thousands of dead trees, possible erosion when dead trees toppled, and the possible release of massive amounts of nitrogen into water supplies when dead trees decomposed. Experts do not recommend removal of healthy trees, but, rather, close monitoring once the insect is identified in an area. There are costly horticultural oils and pesticides available to keep smaller trees healthy, but these cannot be used on a large scale.

In keeping with the preservation of New Hampshire forests, it makes sense to be aware of such predators and report any findings. These are not the only concerns to the hemlock; a family of porcupines can eat heartily and strip several trees in one winter! But they won't destroy a whole 20-acre lot like the adelgid can.

# Recipe Column

Margery Aukstikalis

When I was growing up, just across the field from Brigham Pond, I best knew the water as a source of food. We all pitched in to help clean the pail full pout that Mom and Dad caught the evening before. We ate perch, pickerel, frogs legs, and even "kivvers" that the kids brought home, having caught on the bamboo poles. Some were bonier than others, but that just meant we ate more carefully. It all tasted good.

Oh, sure, we skated all winter, usually with hand-me-down skates that had to be stuffed with extra socks until we grew into them. And we boated! We rowed around the islands, sailed from south to north and called home for someone to tow us back, and even as we got older, would occasionally take the 1 ½ HP motor out for an exciting spin! (Am I telling my age, here?) We even swam on exceptionally hot days, and then ran home to have Mom pour salt on the bloodsuckers and pick them off our legs.

But mostly, the pond meant fish. So, now living again, "across the field from the water", I can't help but turn to my favorite recipes to share a few.

Feel free to contribute to future issues!

## Pan Brownd Trout with Shiitake Mushrooms and Scallions

¼ cup low salt soy sauce	1 Tbsp peanut oil
1 clove garlic, minced	1 cup sliced fresh shiitake
1 tsp sesame oil	1 cup scallion pieces

1 pound trout filets

Marinate fish in soy sauce, garlic and sesame oil in refrigerator for at least 30 minutes. Heat peanut oil on high for 2 minutes. Lay filet flat in hot oil, cook three minutes each side. Transfer to warm platter. Add mushrooms and scallions to the fry pan and stir fry about 2 minutes. Spoon over fish.

## Poaching Bouillon

2 quarts water	12 peppercorns
¼ cup wine vinegar	1 tsp mustard seed
3 bay leaves	6 slices lemon
12 sprigs parsley	

Bring to a boil in a large saucepan. Simmer about 15 minutes. Let stand another 15 minutes, then strain and reserve the liquid.

When cooking fish, allow only enough time for the fish to be cooked through. Overcooking, even in liquid will dry out the fish!

Both of these recipes are found in the wonderful cookbook *Super Seafood* by Tom Ney, published by the Rodale Press.





# 2000 Laurel Lake Association Membership Form

Membership Dues are \$5.00 for Adult Memberships and \$2.00 for children under 18

Each Household of paid-up members will be  
mailed a copy of the Laurel Lake Ledger

## Members

Last Name	First Name	Membership Type	Amount
		A=Adult Y=Young Adult 13-18 C=Child under 13	A/\$5.00 Y/\$2.00 C/\$2.00
		A Y C	
		A Y C	
		A Y C	
		A Y C	
		A Y C	
		A Y C	
		A Y C	
			Total

## Permanent Address

Street \_\_\_\_\_  
City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_  
Telephone Number \_\_\_\_\_ E-Mail Address \_\_\_\_\_

## Summer Address

☐ Same as above  
Street \_\_\_\_\_  
City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_  
Telephone Number \_\_\_\_\_

All Applications and checks should be mailed to:

Laurel Lake Association  
Perry Nadeau  
7 Vine Street  
Milford, NH 03055

Solicitor Laurel Lake Ledger Canoe Race Other \_\_\_\_\_

Thank you for your contribution

Visit us on the world wide web at <http://home.earthlink.net/~pnadeau/LaurelLakeAssn/>