

# LAKE ARMINGTON ASSOCIATION

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Sunday July 24, 2016

Sam and Steve Rounds's house

Attendees: Approximately 35 people

Polly Tafrate called the meeting to order at 12:28 pm.

Polly welcomed members, announced that there would be only one meeting this year because of the change in leadership. "We are muddling through," said Polly. Polly thanked the host and hostess for the paper goods, the grounds and for hosting the picnic and meeting.

CAMP WALT WHITMAN, Director: Jed Dorfman explained that there had been an ecoli outbreak at the Camp early in the season. Seven campers and one staff member were afflicted, but all were fine now. The Camp worked with the USDA and the State to try to identify the source, but had not. It is not the lake, the pool, or the drinking water. It was concluded that maybe some meat was undercooked or some vegetables improperly washed. It is not contagious and will not spread. There are no worries about swimming in the lake.

BERNIE MARVIN, Piermont Emergency Management Director: Bernie explained some addresses in Piermont, especially Cottage Road, Echo Lane, Davis Drive, Musty Lane and Sirecho Shores may have be renumbered to comply with E-911 regulations. Emergency responders need to find people. For example, there are three 1000s on Cape Moonshine Road and several duplicate numbers on Musty Lane. In his work of doing this, he received several kind offers, such as, being told where the boat key was if a boat needed to be used in an emergency across the lake. In another case, he was told to go in and use the phone for an emergency. Once the job is finished, he advised people to put their numbers on their houses so they are visible.

Armington Access Road is going to get a new sign. Despite some people being averse to the idea, the road should be identified because fire and tanker trucks can use it to get water when necessary.

Polly asked about an emergency alert system. Bernie explained Code Red. You sign up online to receive phone, land or cell or email warnings of stormy weather, missing persons, forest fires, etc. Bernie notifies Grafton County Sheriff if there is a local emergency and it is entered into the Code Red warning system. (Go to:

<https://public.coderedweb.com/cne/en-US/BFC2664C2B92> to sign up)

Carlos asked where the Town is on the ambulance issue for this area. Bernie reported that the Selectboard had it under consideration. Colin had taken it on as did Bob Lang, but he did not know the status. Sam suggested Carlos attend the Selectboard meeting Tuesday and raise the question.

TREASURER'S REPORT: 2015 the Association was slightly over budget in income and below budget in expenses, due largely to a credit with New Hampshire Lakes Association for the Lake Host program. 2016 Budget will maintain roughly the same levels as the 2015 budget.

The Board has agreed to open a contingency fund in a money market account to cover potential invasive species eradication expense, a more proactive approach than seeking funds when a crisis situation is discovered.

Kate reminded members that there are two purposes for the Association: Keep the lake healthy and have money to take care of invasive species' attacks. She suggested that next year's Lake Host cost will be higher because we should cover the week of July 4, a Tuesday, and possibly more around Memorial and Labor Days.

Richard Demerchant asked if there is an insurance fund that could cover invasive species attacks. No one knew of one, but Richard agreed to look into it. Kate also thinks the Association should post the budget online. No decision was made on this.

**LAKE HOST PROGRAM:** Evie Conroy. Polly said Evie needs an assistant. This summer's Lake Host is Carleigh Sullivan, a Goddard College graduate. While Camp is in session, the CITs help out from 2-5 on Saturdays and Sundays.

The CITs were praised. Lake Host coverage has not been perfect because Carleigh has had to work at Lake Tarleton on some occasions. There are three days coming that need coverage. Discussion was had about having a sub list.

There were three questionable specimens sent to DES this year. A snail brought in by a boater was harmless. Carleigh sent that one in and the Association reimbursed her mailing costs. Carleigh found another that she photographed and sent the photo to DES. It was determined to be harmless as was the "green slime," that is found near Brad's island. Evie photographed a jar of the slime and sent it in. Weed watchers continue to be vigilant and were thanked.

Evie noted that the Association would need new Lake Hosts next year. She would like a list of people, who can cover, when necessary. Evie mentioned that there were new copies of the Boating booklet that people could take.

Someone asked if there would be more lake traffic when the Access Road sign is replaced. No one really knows.

**RENTERS:** Ann Soloway then asked what about renters? Renters put boats in at the rental property. Polly pointed out that the LIVING AT THE LAKE document clearly describes cleaning boats and keeping invasives out of the lake. Renters are slipping through the cracks.

Lynn Demerchant pointed out that JJ Ludman puts information in his online contract with tenants about keeping weeds out of the lake. Berk Nicol asked if we could put signs on sticks in the lake warning about leaving loons alone and about the weed issue. No one seems to know to whom the Association would go to learn about the possibility of putting signs in the lake. Stan Soloway suggested that renters should be told to put boats in at the Lake Access point.

Brad suggested that LAA should be in constant contact with rental owners about keeping the lake clean and that weed watchers should look more often and more carefully around rental properties.

Linda asked if we could do a laminated sheet showing and explaining the weeds about which there is concern. Linda is happy to help with creating this, but will need a list of those who rent their cabins. Linda thought the Camp would like to help too. Jed said that the Camp would be the designated laminator.

Richard Demerchant suggested that the Association ask those renting to put information about the weeds on their websites. Brad concurred that this was an excellent idea.

**PHRAGMITES:** Brad reported that there is no new phragmites at Palmucci's. Wendy said there is none on the land between them and Donovan's.

MERCHANDISE: Board decided there would be no new merchandise this year. We will sell what we have.

WATER TESTING: The water report is all-good. Mike Poole tested in June and has the report. He tested again two weeks ago and does not have results. At the end of last year Lake Armington was well above state averages in all categories.

ICE OUT—Thanks to Todd for placing the clock and organizing the details. Thanks to Carlos for tallying the results. Instead of gift certificates, the Board decided to award medals.

There were 68 entries. The actual ice out time was March 20, 2016 9:46 am.

1<sup>st</sup> Place—Gold Medal Wendy Cahill (3/20/16 4 pm)

2<sup>nd</sup> Place—Silver medal Sam Rounds (3/19/16 5:45 am)

3<sup>rd</sup> Place—Bronze medal Alice Wellington (3/21/16 10:50 am)

DAM RECONSTRUCTION: Bob Dennison has been in touch with NH DES, Tim Carney, the engineer for the dam. Dave Gwin, the designer, is 85% finished with the design. There are “seeps” that need to be addressed. The work will not be done until 2018-19 because they are involved with projects in Southern NH. Mr. Carney stressed that the government understands and is taking into consideration that there is a camp business on the lake. They will be lowering the lake level, not emptying it as they did at Mountain Lakes.

DIRECTORY: Any changes should be given to Lynn Dennison, who will update the database. We will not have a printed directory this year.

WEBSITE: Alice Wellington will continue to be the webmaster.

OPERATION SANTA CLAUS: The Board voted to again give \$200 to Operation Santa Claus that is run by the Piermont Volunteer Fire Department.

LAA BOARD: all members of the board agreed to serve in 2017, they are:

President—Polly Tafrate

Vice President—Shirley Nicol

Treasurer—Kate Merritt

Corresponding Secretary—Lynn Dennison

Recording Secretary—Sam Rounds

Member—Lynn Demerchant

Member—Carlos Manrique

Member—Ann Soloway

Member—Alice Wellington (past president in 2016)

Member—Evie Conroy

Member—Ken Settel

Sam suggested that the Association needs to find some young friends to be on the Board.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

Fire trucks have been visible as they try to locate access to every dwelling on the lake.

**MEMORIAL GIFT:** The Board acknowledged that there have been donations in Kelly Fitzpatrick's name. Barbara was asked what she would like to have done with the memorial funds. She said she felt that Kelly would like to see a real buoy marking the rocky areas between the two parts of the lake near Brad's camp. Barbara will look into this.

**PEAKED MOON FARM:** Ken Settel informed all that Peaked Moon Farm on Friday and Saturday nights does carry out food that is very good. On Fridays, the meal is a farm dinner using locally sourced vegetables and meat. Saturday night one of Hal Kovert's Mexican employees makes an authentic Mexican dinner for carry out. Two dinners cost \$25. One should call ahead so they know how much to prepare.

Kimberly is a new baker at Peaked Mountain and she does fine bread. One can get on Peaked Mountain Farm's mailing list.

**LAKE TARLETON ASSOCIATION MEETING:** Joyce Tompkins invited all in attendance to go to the Lake Tarleton annual meeting on August 21, 2016 at Peter and Robin Ascher's house at 10 am.

**LAKE ARMINGTON ACCESS ROAD:** Sam reported that the Access Road, in addition to regaining its sign, is going to be upgraded to "Emergency Lane" status. Fire trucks need to be able to get to the lake to get water in case of fire. Evie added that Frank Rodiman, the Road Agent, is aware of the drainage issues.

**REMEMBRANCES:**

Arnie Soloway--Stan told a story about his father's love for this area since he first came in 1947—the only place he found real peace.

Kelly Fitzpatrick—Barb and Fitzie both told stories about Kelly. Fitz, as a youth asked his father to comment on some aspect of American history on a climb up Mt. Cube. Kelly spoke the entire time up and down. Barb told of Kelly's walking from Warren up to Camp Kingswood when he first came up here. Polly added that Kelly was instrumental in getting National Forest status for the area around us.

Bill Simpson—Barb Fitzpatrick told of what a wonderful neighbor Bill was and that he had been a decorated military person. She also told of how he added on to his cabin and eventually removed the original, now inner cabin, after he had completed the additions. He then burned the original cabin.

**ADJOURNMENT:** Carlos motioned and Linda seconded that the meeting be adjourned so we could eat the pot luck meal that awaited the group.

Respectfully submitted,  
Sam Rounds  
Recording Secretary