



The Lake Harvey Association



The Lake Harvey Association Newsletter | Summer 2015

President's Message | Jackie Sprague

Welcome to Summer! Finally the lake is in liquid state again. Many of us thought the ice would never melt! Days now alternate between cool spring like and hot summer. Boats are docked and ambitious neighbors are raking their lawns and restoring their gardens to get rid of all memories of snow.

The Lake Harvey Association trustees have kept busy throughout this cold winter. Steve is working with the select board about the replacement dam and continues to keep us updated on the progress. Although there were fewer Ice Out tickets sold, Jan Sherman worked with the 8th graders to sell at town meeting. That was a success. The town of Barnet once again committed to \$10,000 to go toward the Greeter Program at the boating access. Gail hosted an Ice Out Party to bring trustees and neighbors together to celebrate the renewal of spring. She also reached out to Karme Choling to expand our community awareness of each other. The trustees are working on ways to grow the association, out reach to community businesses and keep all the members informed of happenings around the area.

The trustees also made some tough decisions as well. There will not be a Chicken Barbecue on July 18th.

Instead, we are celebrating the participants of the boat parade, by having an Ice Cream Social at 4:00 to distribute awards and select the kayak winner.

Reminder: To decrease costs, only paid members will receive newsletters. The fiscal year is the calendar year – January 1 to December 31 so your dues cover that period regardless of when received.

Our Annual Meeting follows a pot luck dinner on Friday, July 17 at 5:30 at the Pavilion on the beach. In case of rain, we will be at the West Barnet Church. Remember: Voting privileges to paid members only.

Saturday, July 18th begins with the mile long yard sale, then Boat Parade at 1:00, Ice Cream Social at 4:00 and Fireworks at dusk.

Other Happenings:

- The Federation of Vermont Lakes and Ponds and Agency of Natural Resources are hosting a New England Conference on May 29 and 30 at Main Street Landing in Burlington. www.vermontlakes.org for more details
- Monday, July 27: FOVLAP Annual Meeting – Steak House on Barre-Montpelier Road

Looking forward to seeing you this summer!



Photo credit: Brady Dindia • abcdcreative.com

LHA TRUSTEES

Jackie Sprague • Environment Chair
802 633-4994
Jackie@sprague.org

Dotti Turek • Treasurer
802 633-2681 802 748-4937
dottiturek@myfairpoint.net

Don Burke • Boat Parade Chair
802 633-4941
Dburke1211@yahoo.com

Julie Murphy • Marketing/
Communications
802 633-4401
Juliemurphy802@gmail.com

Robert Dufresne • Environment
802 633-3711 802 230-6221
red@dufresnegroup.com

Gail Flynn • Events/Website
802 633-4455 617 921-4467
Gailflynn00@gmail.com

David Curtin • Environment/Public
Relations
802 633-2536
Dcurtin@wildblue.net

Karla Cornelius • Newsletter/Website
802 633-2534 561 512-2223
karlacornelius@comcast.net

Jan Sherman • Ice Out/Kayak Raffle/
Website
802 535-2832
westbarnet@hotmail.com

Steve Adler • Town Liason
802 633-4721 / 802 633-3047
adlers4@sover.net

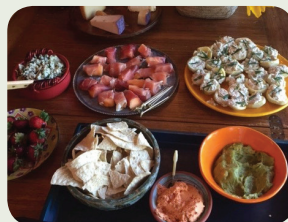
Jan Parsons • Loon Committee
802 633-2131 / 508 314-0922
jpeacham@aol.com

And The Winner Is...

Despite the long cold winter, the ice went out at its usual time - April 22nd, at 10:57 PM.

TERRY POWERS WAS OUR CONTEST WINNER!

Bernie & Gail Flynn treated members to a feast to celebrate long awaited spring!



FARM TO TABLE DINNER

On June 24th Karme Choling will host a fundraiser dinner for Harvey's Lake. The evening begins at 5:30 with cocktails, live music and a walk through the garden. It will be followed by a farm to table dinner created by Karme Choling's new gourmet chef. \$150 per person, RSVP to Gailflynn00@gmail.com.



Photo credit: Brady Dindia • abcdcreative.com

LIFE AT THE LAKE | Karla Cornelius

I've spent every summer of my life at Harvey's Lake. As a child I couldn't wait for school to end and our summer trek to camp begin. As an adult, its tug was so strong that I dragged by husband Harry off the streets of Chicago to move to Vermont year round. And now, having long since renounced winter in general in favor of Florida's warmth, once again I can't wait for the annual trek north to enjoy those few magical months of summer at our very special lake.

The openings and closings seem to come faster every year, and for some reason seem to take longer to accomplish. And how I yearn for an uneventful opening – without the need of a new water pump or hot water heater or leveling a floor or planing a door. Even buildings well constructed in 1950 still move as the frost comes and goes! Epitomizing "camp" tradition, they rest comfortably on posts, and creak and groan and give with the changing seasons. Now and then we wish for a "real" house, but the lifetime of memories prevails, and (with minor improvements) we reaffirm we wouldn't want it any other way.

Family and friends come more often and stay longer every year. New friendships have formed and deepened as we have connected with those sharing the same love of place. We sit on our deck at dawn and look out across our still pure waters, watch the sun rise and a new day begin. We raise a glass on our flote boat in the evening as we tour the lake with company, and toast the glorious day just enjoyed. We party with friends, take long walks, kayak and canoe, sun on the dock, swim and play tennis and golf, read a lot, cook huge meals and gather together to share it all. Always, it goes by too quickly, and we wish summer would never end.

We are – all of us – truly among the fortunate. Enjoy the summer of 2015.

Dam Update II

The current dam on the Harvey's Lake outlet creek was constructed in the early 1970s. Historically, a dam has been in the same location since 1879 and was originally built to supply power to the mills downstream along the Stevens Brook. In the 40 plus years since its most recent reconstruction, debris and silt have built up behind the dam. As the soils have compacted over time, vegetation has taken root and the creek bed has filled in, narrowing the opening over which water flows over the dam. From its original 100 foot width, we are now down to approximately 40 feet of usable width. Designed to allow approximately 1600 cubic feet per second of water outflow, the dam in its currently blocked state is now capable of only one quarter of that amount.

The Town of Barnet Selectboard has enlisted Robert Desrochers of Fairbanks Mill to be Project Manager for restoring the dam. This process is proceeding under the "Next Flood Protective Measure" rules, which allow for the removal of in-stream materials to return the dam to its former level of efficiency. The permit process is well underway, most recently culminating in a site meeting on May 11, 2015 attended by Patrick J. Ross, PE, of the River Management Program, along with two members of the Barnet Selectboard and several other interested citizens. Lake Harvey Association was represented by Steve Adler and Richard Downer.

This effort will not prevent all backflow into Harvey's Lake, and is only the first phase of a three part plan. The second two parts are likely some years away, will be expensive and will require jumping through some significant regulatory hoops. The good news is that the Selectboard recognizes the importance of getting the process started, after years of stalled forward motion.

Equally important is the cooperation of Mike Vereline, owner of the Harvey's Lake Cabins Condominiums, who is allowing access to the dam across his property.

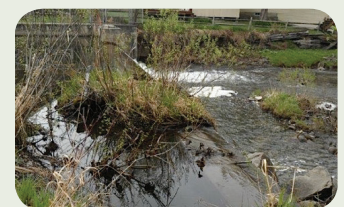
This first component of the Plan calls for excavating and cleaning out the entire dam face and removing the silt and vegetation which has clogged more than half the dam. This will involve digging out an area 400 feet long from the dam heading back toward the lake, approximately to the point where the South Peacham Brook intersects with the outlet creek from the lake. The result will be a pond area on the lake side of the dam, some 80 feet across and perhaps 6 feet deep. This should also have the effect of ameliorating some of the erosion on the West Barnet garage bank which is currently being eaten away by the fast moving water in the narrow channel.

More details on the remediation plan and the timetable for the work are currently being finalized. They will be discussed at the Lake Harvey Association annual meeting. This will be a very important informational meeting which will particularly affect all of us who camp and boat on the lake. We look forward to seeing you at the Annual Meeting which will be held on July 17th, from 5:30 - 7:00 PM at the beach pavilion.

Harvey's Lake Dam, then and now



Then (1972)



Now (May 2015)

Boat Parade | Don Burke

What is the "Shining Moment" in your life?

As the years pass us by, we sometimes look back on our lives and certain events come to mind. Sometimes they are happy times, sometimes nostalgic. Others are important and others mundane. We asked a number of people around the lake what memories surface when they look back in time. The responses were interesting. Some of them are listed below.

- Christmas morning when I was a kid
- My first day at school
- When I got my driver's license and my first car
- My first date, prom, graduation
- The day Dad (Mom, Son, Daughter) came home safely from the war
- The Easter egg hunt in Nanna's & Papa's back yard
- Just curling up with a good book, listening to a favorite song, watching a good movie/play
- Walking/jogging on the first day of Spring

So what's your "shining moment?" Now's your chance to tell the whole world what has made your life worth living.

Join us this summer for the 2015 LHA Boat Parade

Saturday, July 18th

[Rain Date: Sunday, July 19th]

Non-motorized group: 12:30 p.m.

Motorized Group: 1:00 p.m.

Boat PARADE THEME: "LIFE'S SHINING MOMENTS"

After last year's parade theme ["Scary Moments In Fiction"], we decided to lighten up this year. A number of folks never went swimming or boating in the lake after that spooky parade last summer! So get the kids together, come up with your "shining moment," decorate your boat and meet us out on the point. Have a ball!



Photo credit: Brady Dindia • abcdcreative.com

Share your stories of life at the lake by sending them to lakeharveyassociation@lakeharvey.com.

Boat Monitor Report | Kathy Wirthwein

2014 monitoring began the weekend of May 24, was ongoing 7 AM to 7 PM every day until September 10, then a few weekend hours. About 15 more boats (mostly kayaks) were monitored in addition to the listed below. Labor Day weekend was early this year. Weather totally stopped boater activity 10 days before September 10.

	2014	2013	2012	2011	2010
May 23-31	27	16	73	22	80
June	201	158	232	167	145
July	212	313	270	345	274
August	180	179	232	152	160
September	56	25	44	73	40
TOTAL	644	691*	851**	759***	699****

The 2014 676 boat total included 534 visiting cars. About a third (184) of the visitors brought kayaks. About 316 of the boats were kayaks. This is nearly one-half.

- * The 2013 691 boat total included 532 visiting cars as some visitors brought 2 or more kayaks. The kayaks totaled 317 and arrived in about 168 groups.
- ** The 2012 851 boat total included 693 visiting cars as some visitors brought 2 or more kayaks. The kayaks totaled 344 and arrived in 175 cars or groups.
- *** The 2011 759 boat total included 618 visiting cars as some visitors brought 2 or more kayaks. The kayaks totaled 327 and arrived in 186 cars or groups.
- **** The 2010 699 boat total included 597 visiting cars. The kayaks totaled 234 and arrived in 141 cars or groups.

Among our 534 visiting cars 285 were last in Harvey's Lake either this year or last. Boaters came here from 81 different bodies of water. Eight came from Lake Champlain, which contains every aquatic nuisance. Five boats came from nearby Ticklenaked Pond, which now has milfoil. Other milfoil threats included Willoughby (6), Crystal (7), Halls Pond (2), Morey (1), Fairlee(4), Elmore (1), Shadow (4), Memphremagog (4), Bomoseen (4), St. Catherine (1), Lamoille River (1). The Connecticut River was last used by 22 visitors, Moore Dam by 7, and Marshfield Dam by 9. We need to watch The Connecticut River because it connects various lakes, and who knows what we need to watch for after Irene in 2011. The not far trans-Canada Launch contains milfoil, and also some other locations. We benefit because many boaters are now washing their boats, milfoil won't latch on to kayaks (but dragging in mud might not be good), and because most boat use is not frequent (so boats dry out).

This year the "List of Vermont water bodies known to have aquatic invasive species infestations" was updated April 2014. The Eurasian Watermilfoil infested water body list is now 95 with Lake Champlain locations and Connecticut River locations counted one time in this total. This compares to 62 in 2007 and 58 in 2002.

We have our work cut out for us; prevention is key. WWe seek funds for the upcoming 2015 boating season - donations from our membership to supplement the Town of Barnet's generous \$10,000 annual appropriation at Town Meeting Day in March. THANKS!

PREVENTION IS THE ONLY CURE HELP US KEEP LAKE HARVEY PURE!

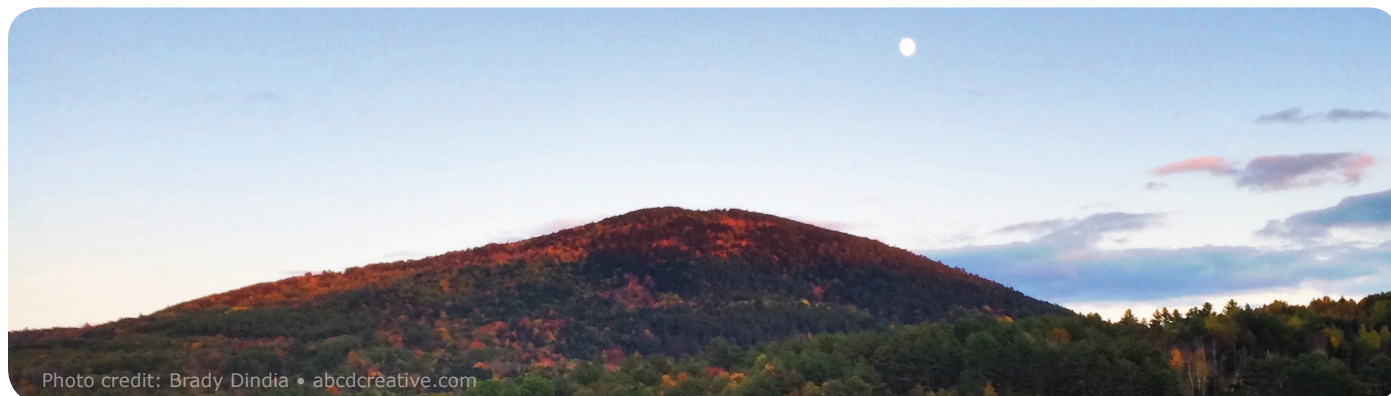


Photo credit: Brady Dindia • abcdcreative.com

Loon Report | Jan Parsons

In April, Harvey's Lake campers and residents, near and far, were waiting to learn the moment of Spring 2015 ice out. It turned out to be 10:57 PM on April 22nd. Our two resident loons were paying close attention as well. The loons were seen in some open water in the north end of the lake by Wendy Raeder, soon after ice out and by other observers as open water replaced ice on the lake over the course of the next week. By April 29th, the lake was fully open and the loons are now free to swim wherever they want and start contemplating their nesting options.

The situation for Harvey's Lake has been repeated across Vermont. Eric Hanson, the biologist for the Vermont Loon Conservation Project, reported on April 30 that loons all over the state were utilizing strips of open water on fully ice-covered lakes to get back to their home territories. Warm weather was opening lakes quickly and even after our long cold winter, loons are now able to start their nesting preparations.

People often ask how the loons find their way to open water so quickly after ice out. On the blog of the Vermont Center for Ecostudies, Eric wrote about a returning loon that he suggests had Spring Fever. On March 27th, a Common Loon crash landed at the Berlin Airport. A worker from an adjacent Department of Agriculture office picked up the loon and found it had just a few scratches. John Buck of Vermont Fish and Wildlife, took the loon to Vermont Institute of Natural Science for examination. Found to be healthy, except for making the mistake that the Berlin Airport does not have a runway for Seaplanes, VINS released the loon on the Connecticut River. Eric's explanation: "This loon was likely already performing reconnaissance flights to return to its territory. Males tend to return first, thus maybe this was the male from Berlin Pond. It may have been tired from the flight, possibly from the New England coast. Loons will fly hundreds of miles in a single migratory flight. It saw the black of the runway, and like the rest of us suffering from Spring Fever, perhaps had notions of water, sun and fish".

Eric's explanation gives us some insight into loon behavior when these birds are ready to return to their home lakes. Male loons prefer to return to their natal lakes and females tend to return to lakes within a few miles of their natal lakes.

Loons spend early spring re-establishing pair bonds and defending their territories. With more success at hatching and fledging chicks, there is increased competition for nesting territory on Vermont lakes. This means we see more intruder loons during the summer and can even see males fighting over the territory, with one losing the battle, as happened a few years ago.

At Harvey's the Loon Nest Warning Signs are being put in place by Bonnie and Don Easter at the mouth of the channel leading to the Stevens River. This will keep the area of the Channel free from canoes and kayaks, which can disrupt the nesting process. In 2014, the loons built their nest in the channel in May and began incubating eggs around May 24. The chicks were hatched about June 22 and were brought into the lake from the channel, by their parents, late that afternoon. Once both eggs hatch, the family heads for the lake where there are plentiful minnows. What will happen this year? Ice out is only a few days later than last year so there may be similar timing. We hope to see loons with a chick or two in late June.

Please remember to observe the loons from a distance and ALWAYS slow down boats in their vicinity. Nature can take a toll, as happened last year when one of the chicks disappeared on July 2nd, probably to a snapping turtle. That chick had not been thriving or taking food well, so it's loss was not surprising. But we can control the speed of our boats and control of our fishing gear so that the loons of Harvey's Lake can continue to thrive this summer.

If you would like to join the Loon Crew, a group of Harvey's Lake loon fans who keep in touch by email with observations and pictures, please let me know. All are welcome!



Photo credit: Brady Dindia • abcdcreative.com

Events

SUMMER 2015 AT HARVEY'S LAKE

DATE	TIME	EVENT	CONTACT
June 24th	5:30 pm	"Farm to Table" dinner at Karme Choling, to benefit Lake Harvey <i>\$150/person, \$300/couple</i>	gailflynn00@gmail.com
June 28th	3:00 - 8:00 pm	"Barnet's Got Talent": family friendly talent show and fundraiser for new playground, at Beach Pavilion.	Sarah Walls
July 6-8		Water ski lessons with Steve Dolgin	Catamount Arts - 802-748-5559
July 6-10 & July 13-17		Swim Lessons at the Beach, FREE to Barnet residents	Christen Emerson - 802-633-3611
July 17th	5:30-7:00 pm	Lake Harvey Association Potluck Dinner & Social at Beach Pavilion	
	7:00 pm	Lake Harvey Association Annual Meeting at Beach Pavilion (<i>Rain location - basement of West Barnet Presbyterian Church</i>)	
July 18th		LAKE HARVEY DAY	
	8:00 am	Mile long yard sale	
	12:30 pm	Boat Parade (<i>non motorized boats</i>)	
	1:00 pm	Boat Parade (<i>motorized boats</i>)	Don Burke - 633-4941
	4:00 - 5:00 pm	Ice cream social at Harvey's Lake Pavilion Boat parade awards and kayak raffle winner to be announced	
	Dusk	Fireworks over lake	
July 18th		Loon Watch Day - annual one day count throughout Vermont	Eric Hansen - 802 586-8064
July 19th	11:00 am	Hike/Walk (20-40 mins. one way) up Devil's Hill, Peacham. Meet at Beach parking lot.will carpool from there. Pack lunch/water.	Julie - 633-4401
August 4th	5:00 - 8:00 pm	"Barnet's Got Talent": family friendly talent show and fundraiser for new playground, at Beach Pavilion.	Sarah Walls
August 9th	11:00 am - 1:00 pm	9th Annual LHA Donor Reward Champagne Brunch	RSVP to hosts Karla & Harry Cornelius, Connibuck Lodge
October 2nd		FALL FOLIAGE, Barnet Day	

Be sure to check our website lakeharvey.com for more upcoming events and/or info.

Visit Our Website | www.lakeharvey.com



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TO:

The
Lake Harvey Association
P.O. Box 86
Barnet, VT 05821

