TLIA News

Tripp Lake Improvement Association is a not-for-profit organization whose mission is the well-being of Tripp Lake and its surrounding watershed in Poland, Maine.

www.tripplake.com

Tripp Lake Improvement Association

Winter 2014

MILFOIL: IDENTIFYING AND FIGHTING

(Taken in part from the Summer, 2013 Lakes Environmental Association News) by Babs Shapiro

The Lakes Environmental Association, based in Bridgton, has long been in the forefront of scientific research in testing lakes, identifying invasive plants and developing methods of eradication. LEA comprises lakes & water bodies in the Bridgton area. It raises funds and develops innovative programs to combat variable leaf milfoil in Sebago, Brandy Pond and the Songo River.

If you had variable leaf milfoil growing beside your dock, would you be able to recognize it? How to tell the difference between invasive milfoil and the milfoils that are native to our waters? What other invasive plants are out there, waiting to hitch a ride in with an unsuspecting boater? Educating ourselves is a big part of that fight. What can we do about it?

When classes are offered in the summer, we need more people to attend them. They will be publicized in upcoming Newsletters and online. Preventing the spread of invasives such as milfoil and hydrilla is the first line of defense. LEA has classes as well as Scott Williams, Roberta Hill and their group, LWRMA, based in Auburn. Linda Laskey has waterproof booklets available with pictures and descriptions of invasives vs. native look-alikes. They can be stashed in your boat on near the dock for quick identification.

Benthic barriers are one method used by LEA and other lakes to kill milfoil. These are large tarps anchored to the bottom of a lake, covering an area of milfoil. When the tarp is later removed, the milfoil is dead. It is labor intensive and requires divers to examine the lake bottom prior to laying the barriers.

Another method to remove milfoil near barriers is the use of a harvester. Divers handle a four-inch hose which suctions the plants onto a pontoon boat, where they are pumped into bags. Site surveys are taken prior to this action to assess the problem spots. The bags are later emptied onto a compost pile far from the water body.

A new control method is being tried this coming summer with burlap barriers that decompose in place, eliminating the need for removal. If this works, it will be an experiment turned into reality.

Most infestations start in shallow waters near boat ramps and must be monitored closely. A few years ago, Tripp was the site of a milfoil search by divers who carefully examined the whole lake. We were lucky...the suspected plants were non-existent. However, we must remain vigilant. Education is the first step.

A Seagull Concern

By John Laskey

In late October we again noticed a few seagulls swimming on the south side of the island on Tripp. As time went on, the number grew from a few to 200+!

For anyone who might not be aware, seagull feces are extremely toxic. There have been U.S. beaches closed because of this problem (Jack Quinn showed me published copies of such results. This is why we have been concerned whenever we have seen them swimming in the Lake.

Tripp Lake froze this year just before Thanksgiving. A flock of gulls were still here although in lower numbers. Fortunately by late November 2013, they left unlike 2 years ago when the large group wintered on the ice! We observed that they came from and returned to a farm on Rte. 11, near the Poland/Casco Line having found a food source.

Hopefully since that winter their winter food has diminished and they will not return.

I spoke with Scott Williams, our go-to-guy about all lake questions. He explained that Lake Auburn, the water source for Lewiston-Auburn, had a large seagull problem. The City secured a special permit and hired a person to shoot the gulls. Of course we all hope this will never happen at Tripp Lake.



WINTER IN MAINE

This mid-winter edition of TLIA is published courtesy of a few volunteer writers, as a way of connecting with each other during the off-season. We've received dues and news from many members and want to keep both coming in. Tripp Lake is thickly frozen and has been covered with lots of snow...great for snowmobiling, cross-country skiing and ice-fishing. If you haven't visited our area in the winter, you should. However, after days of endless cold, snow and no electricity we're getting icy, freezing rain. Ah, the joys of Maine in winter! It can all change in a minute...just wait. Happy New Year to all!

Babs Shapiro



Cabin Head Aches

by Judy King

As most of us know, our cabins are old and seem to have one problem after another whether it's the roof, plumbing, underground springs, whatever... Well our latest issue was that both the front and back of the cabin started bowing-out. We talked to many friends, neighbors, and professionals as to how to correct the issue. If not repaired, the roof would not be able to handle snow and could very easily collapse. Just what we needed!

Finally our neighbor, Bill Bentley, figured out how to repair the problem without breaking the bank. We hired Bill and his band of handy-men. They installed a beam across the width of the cabin, reinforced our ceiling, and then made the whole place look beautiful—in a rustic "camp" manner.

Another camp problem solved with Mainer know-how. I'd love to hear how other lake dwellers have attacked their camp problems. Does anyone have ideas on how to channel water from underground springs/below ground water flow that can make a yard muddy throughout the summer? Any ideas are welcomed.



Dell sitting under new beam, lights, and, ceiling

Buying A Watch In 1880

by Sue Barry

Where would you get one? Why, a train station, of course. And, you ask, why at a train station? Well, I'm going to tell you.....of course. The railroad company wasn't selling watches, not at all. The telegraph operator was. Most of the time the telegraph operator was located in the railroad station because the telegraph lines followed the railroad tracks from town to town. It was usually the shortest distance and the right-of-ways had already been secured for the rail lines.

Most of the station agents were also skilled telegraph operators and that was the primary way they communicated with the railroad. They would know when trains left the previous station and when they were due at their next station. And it was the telegraph operator who had the watches. As a matter of fact, they sold more of them than almost all the stores combined for a period of about 9 years.

"Richard," who was a telegraph operator himself, arranged all this. He was on duty in the North Redwood, Minnesota train station one day when a load of watches arrived from the East. It was a huge crate of pocket watches. No one ever came to claim them. So Richard sent a telegram to the manufacturer and asked them what they wanted to do with the watches. The manufacturer didn't want to pay the freight back, so they wired Richard to see if he could sell them. So Richard did. He sent a wire to every agent in the system asking them if they wanted a cheap, but good, pocket watch. He sold the entire case in less than two days and at a handsome profit.

That started it all. He ordered more watches from the watch company and encouraged the telegraph operators to set up a display case in the station offering high quality watches for a cheap price to all the travelers. It worked! It didn't take long for the word to spread and before long people other than travelers came to the train station to buy watches.

Richard became so busy that he had to hire a professional watchmaker to help him with the orders. That was Alvah. And the rest is history, as they say. The business took off and soon expanded to many other lines of dry goods. Richard and Alvah left the train station business and moved their company to Chicago....and it's still there.

Yes. It's a little known fact that for a while in the 1880's the biggest watch retailer in the country was at the train station. It all started with a telegraph operator: Richard Sears and his partner, Alvah Roebuck!

TLIA MERCHANDISE AVAILABLE FOR GIFT GIVING

Sweatshirts, tee's, caps, all bearing the TLIA sailboat logo are available for gifts or just to enjoy yourself. They come in all sizes, in several colors, for adults and children. Cotton-knit throws designed with lake activities are available for \$35 each. They're great for snoozing, warming up on a chilly morning or evening or just displaying. Richard Smith is the person to contact: his numbers are (207) 998-4408 or (207) 402-2228. His address is 35 Garland Swamp Rd., Poland, ME 04274. email: rsmith@roadrunner.com

Tee's for adults and children are \$12.50-\$13.50, Sweatshirts, warm and cozy, are \$21. XX sizes are \$1 more. Caps, tan with navy-suede brims are adjustable and cost \$16.

Thanks for your support.

We thank Wolf Cove Inn, Marie and her substitute inn-keeper Helen, for providing space to sell our merchandise. They were very helpful and took no commission on sales. We are indeed fortunate to have them as good neighbors.

On the Water

Fall 2013 by Rick Lundstedt

This past summer was sparse for us at the lake. We had our cruise to Alaska in July then Anna's knee operation later that month. Anna and I trolled for Salmon out of Ketchikan with another couple from our cruise group. Non-stop action for the full 4 hours...awesome! As she couldn't do any wading I did some stream fly fishing for Dolly Varden trout and various salmon. Hooked up with a cruise buddy for the Icy Strait Point trip and soloed on a fly-in trip from Juneau. Can't wait to go back! Stop by the camp some time and I'll show you some great pictures.

Did manage to get back on the Tripp track by September and the fishing was terrific! Each outing yielded lots of small fish, a few medium and a couple of goons. A healthy fishery has a balance of species and size. It appears that Tripp has this covered. Looking for a solid season next year.

There were two families that submitted pictures and background for the "Kid's fish" program. Both really good stories and pictures. It's good the see the youngsters enjoying a sport that will last a lifetime. These kids practice catch and release which will protect our renewable resource!



Breck

From Nancy Morin:

"Grandson Breck Langevin...Age 5 ...with his Bass catch in May and another in July! Caught right off our dock!! He has been fishing since he was 3 years old and absolutely loves it!! Goes out with his dad and grandfather every chance he gets."

We are Greg & Nancy Morin and live at 59 Jordan Shore Drive.



Breck's 1st Bass of the year May 19th 2013



From Roderick (Rod) Bouchard:

Grandson Jared Morrissev

"This wasn't my Grandson's fish, but it was his first Trout. A nice Brown which was 18 1/2" long and weight 2 lbs, 4 oz. It was caught on May 28, 2011.

He had just turned 11 on the 7th. of May.

We were taking a pontoon ride and he decided to throw in a line and within a couple of minutes, a hit and there is was, a big beautiful Brown."

We are located at 62 Klondike Road. Have been here for 21 years and love it.

Jared

Also from Rod:

"My youngest grandson, (Sam-11 years old) loves to fish but has a hard time catching anything. Around 7 P.M. Sat. Night (Aug 3), I asked if he wanted to go out and do some trolling before we went for ice cream. Of course he said yes. We were not more than 20' from the dock and he hooked on to a 15 1/2" small mouth.



Within another 20 minutes he had caught 3 more fish (total 4: 2 small mouth & 2 white perch). Talk about a happy kid with stories to tell at ice cream time.

The next morning (Sun) when he got up and with everybody around, he said to me, Pere (Short for Pepere) I don't want to go fishing today because I don't want to forget the memories of all the fish I caught last night."

I guess he'll be talking about this when he goes back to school.

If anyone has kid's pictures and stories, send them to me @ lundstedt.rick@gmail.com . Catch you in the Spring....On the Water!

Congratulations!!!

On August 24th, 2013 Joanne & Everett Parhiala, the parents of Kate, and Sue and Dick Barry, parents of Nick, gleefully celebrated the marriage of Nick and Kate on a beautiful day in St. Johnsbury, Vermont at the Alerin Barn. The bride was beautiful, the groom was handsome and they gifted all of us with a wonderful two day event, which we will not forget.

By Sue Barry

Wolf Cove Inn Has New Owners

Wolf Cove Inn, a venerable B&B on the shores of Tripp Lake, has been purchased by Roy and Suzanne Forsberg from Marie Struble, who owned the Inn for several years. It is currently being renovated and is closed for the winter. It will have a grand re-opening on May 1, 2014. For more information, visit its website, wolfcoveinn.com/wordpress

We wish the Forsbergs much success in their new venture.

Please support TLIA with your dues or donation of \$15.00 or more, P.O. Box 33, Poland, ME 04274.

WITH DEEPEST SYMPATHY

We extend our deepest sympathy to families who recently lost loved ones: the Marquis', Sauer's, Smith's and Desjardins'.

Rita Marquis, 86, passed away Nov. 4, 2013. Her family camp was on Fernald Road where she entertained family and friends for many years. She's survived by children Richard and his wife Claire, Diane and her husband John, Russell and his wife Rosanne, Robert and his wife Jacqueline, nine grandchildren and eight great-grandchildren.

Herb Sauer died Oct 25th, 2013 at his home in Falmouth. He and his wife Tommye had lived on Jordan Shore Drive for many years, where they shared the family home with their six children, 14 grandchildren and one great-grandchild. Surviving besides Tommye are his daughters Connie, Jeanne, Ann, Mary, Dorothy and son Bob.

Tommye, a published poet, had written a poem during his illness which we print in part here. They had been married for almost 70 years.

"Who could envision you caring for me for almost three-score years? For cooking for me when I broke my bones or knotted my veins? For watching the kids so I could relax, play bridge, or writing time alone? Who could imagine the respect you'd earn? The sharpness of your intellect? The soundness of your advice? The kindness of your deeds?"

Pierre "Bob" Desjardins of Palm Harbor, Fl. and Tripp Lake, husband of Ruth, passed away on Dec. 25th. He was a long-time resident of the lake and member of TLIA. His daughter Patty Hutchins is currently co-President of the Association. He also leaves a son Pierre, two other daughters, Carol and Kathy, seven grandchildren and six great-grand-children.

Kathlyn Smith died Dec. 15 at a hospice in Newburyport, MA after living a good life. She's survived by her son Richard, currently a Board Member of TLIA, and three other children, Richard, Sally and Susan.

We shall miss them.

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