



Dexter Lakes Association

Dexter Lakes Association

Annual Newsletter—June 2005

Annual Meeting

K of C
Legion Hall

Wednesday, July
13th

7:00 PM

Board Members

President, Edward
Graham—924-5182

Vice President, Jack
Brown—924-1098

Treasurer, Peg
Kaufman—924-6610

Secretary, Steve
Wintle—924-0003

Director, Bob
Crawford—924-5549

Director, George
Sampson—924-6626

Director, Lois
Richmond—924-5964

Director, Dennis
Bodwell—924-7017

Director, Robert
Tilson—924-5578

Director, Neil Crane
924-7582

Presidents Message

The concept of a lake association originated with the "Quality of Life Committee" and was first discussed at a July 12, 2001 meeting that was held at the Millside Pharmacy. Since that time, the lake association has been increased to over one hundred members.

We believe the DLA is useful in establishing a connection with a variety of organizations that provide information and help for taking care of our lakes. For example, there are two projects underway this season concerning water quality in Lake Wassookeag.

The first involves a study being conducted by Susan Breau, a professional hydrogeologist and manager of the Source Water Association. A committee, composed of town code officers, Dexter Lakes Association members and water board personnel has been formed to review water quality issues at the lake in order to formulate a plan that will insure the continual maintenance of the good water quality we have at Lake Wassookeag. The state will soon require lake communities that provide town drinking water to have this type of plan.

The second project is being conducted by the Penobscot Soil and Water Department. They

have received federal grant money that will be used to conduct a survey of camp roads and property around the lake to determine any sources of pollution. This will include evaluation of camp roads, which according to a recent article in the Congress of Lake Associations Newsletter states that "experts estimate that camp roads contribute between 60% and 85% of all nutrient loading in our watersheds", which results in oxygen depletion that adversely effects water quality. The grant money will be used to help repair these problems, if they exist. In addition, property owners may permit volunteers to assess their property for any sources of pollution.

We hope you plan to attend our annual meeting on Wednesday, July 13, at the K of C Hall for a further discussion of these projects.

Edward Graham, President



Lake Learning



During last summers Wild West Weekend, the Dexter Lakes Association sponsored an environmental education experience for Dexter young people. The event was provided by the Maine Lakes Conservancy Institute, whose instructors brought a 30 foot pontoon boat that was equipped with scientific lake testing equipment. The boat took three tours around little Wassookeag during the day. The youngsters were involved in many hands on scientific activities.

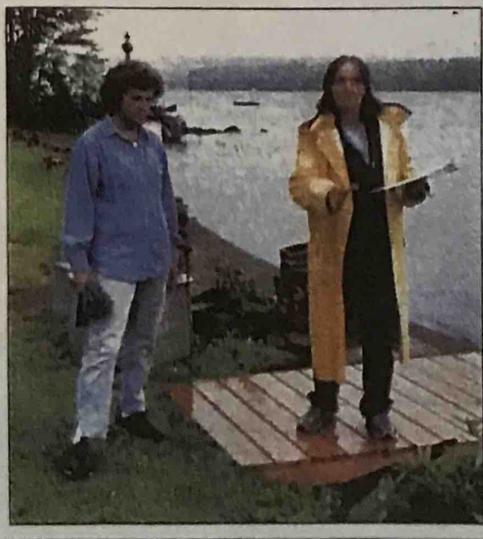
Busy Beavers

Wassookeag Lake is the home of some beavers, as well as other residents. Beavers spend their days sleeping and become active about sunset. In a 15 or 20 minute period beavers can cut down a 4 or 5 inch thick tree.

Alders are the most common trees used for building dams. Baby beavers are called kits and are born in April or May. They can weigh as much as 25lbs in the first year. Beavers can carry stones weighing up to 10 lbs for dam building.

Dams can be just a few feet across or as much as a hundred feet wide. They can be 8 or 10 feet high, but usually are between 1 and 4 feet.

The inside of their lodge is about 5 feet wide and 3 feet high. The floor is above water level and a vent is open through the roof for air. In the first sign of danger, the beaver will loudly slap his wide flat tail. The tail also serves as a rudder for swimming.



Site Surveys

Last season, Christine Smith, an officer from the Department of environmental Conservations Lake Smart program, conducted several on-site surveys of lake front properties.

These visits were entirely voluntary and took place in a non threatening atmosphere. Emphasis was placed on what to plant in buffer zones and how to deal with run-off problems.

The tours were very positive and informative. The DLA would like to encourage lake property owners to take advantage of this volunteer program. If you would like more information on arrangements or to talk to a person who has had this survey call one of our Board members.

[Pictured are Christine Smith from the DEC and Peg Kaufman DLA secretary]

Puffers Pond

Several times this past year, the Maine Fish & Wildlife Department stocked Puffers Pond with fish.

In the fall

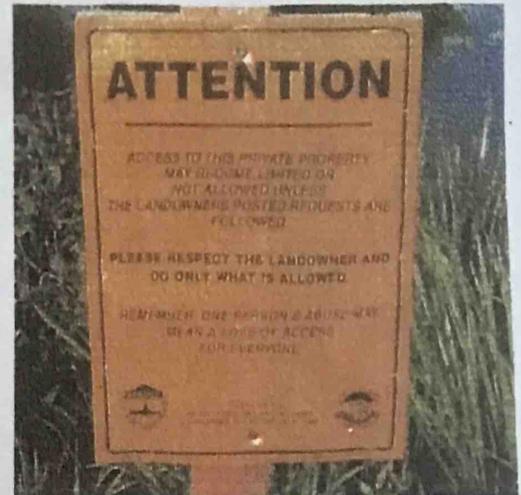
- Nov 16; 500 14-16" yearling brown trout
- Nov 24; 300 additional brown trout and 1000 6-8" yearling

The access for fisherman to the pond is through private property owned by Mr. T. Dyer. In the past, this privilege from the owner has been abused by some fisherman littering the entrance area. In addition, there has been road damage resulting from the backing in of trailers, this has been a concern for town road maintenance work and a problem for Mr.

Dyer.

This season, Mr. Dyer will again generously allow access through his property on a "carry-in" only basis. We would hope that people who fish here will show their appreciation by taking care of the property. The state would not stock the pond if there was no access.

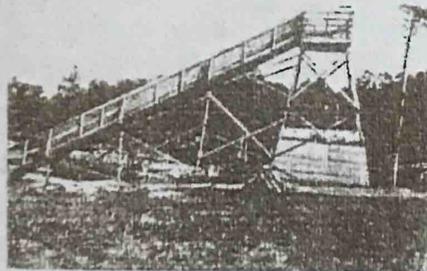
In addition to stocking Puffers Pond last year, Lake Was-sookeag was stocked throughout the year with over 6000 Brook Trout, 1500 Salmon and was recently stocked again this spring.



From the Past.....

The wooden structure in this (circa 1930's) photo was built at the edge of the lake as a toboggan, or sled slide.

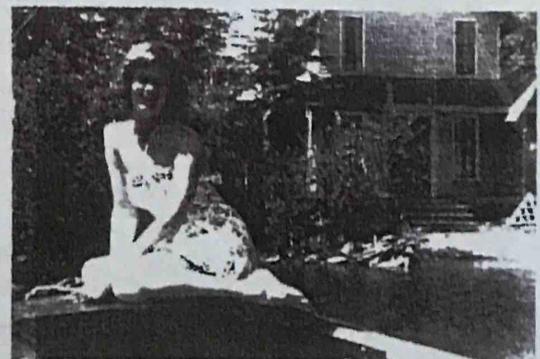
Rumor has it that Kip Landry may have been the first to "initiate" the slide the night before it was officially opened when he rode his bicycle down the ramp and reportedly broke some bones.



We would appreciate any historic lake pictures for future newsletters

"Old Lonesome George"

The arrival of "Old Lonesome George", the solitary loon, was first observed on April 14, 2005. According to year round lake residents he is the last loon to leave in the fall and the first to return in the spring. He lost his mate years ago, and is usually first seen under the bridge where the ice melts earliest. This year he was forced to "hang out" at Fyre Cove when the water under the bridge refroze during the cold nights.



This picture was submitted by Mary Gildersleeve Roehl. The sun bathing is taking place in front of the families summer cottage on the island in the big lake. The cottage was converted from the old dance hall that was on the island and later burned down in the 1950's.



MAILING ADDRESS

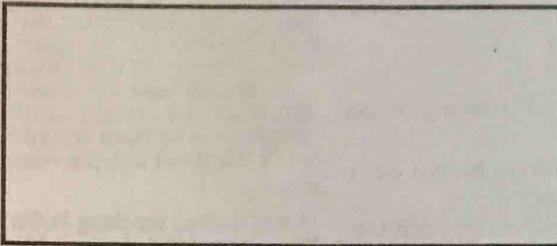
Dexter Lakes Association
c/o Peggy Kaufman—Treasurer
22 Turn In Lane
Dexter, Maine 04930



**We are on the web
Dexterlakesassociation.
org**

If you have questions or
would like to submit
information for the website,
please email
Judy@DexterMaine.com

Dexter Lakes Association



Dexter Lakes Association Membership Form

Please complete only if not submitted when annual dues notices were sent.

The membership dues are \$10.00 per year/per member

Name: _____

Summer Mailing Address: _____

Winter Mailing Address: _____

Fire Lane: _____

E-Mail Address: _____

Telephone: _____

Mail Checks to:
Dexter Lakes Association

c/o Peggy Kaufman
22 Turn In Lane