

Little Ossipee Lake Association

2009 Annual Newsletter



LOLA the loon

ANNUAL MEETING

Saturday, August 8th.
Camp Laughing Loon

Meeting 9:00AM
Cookout/Social 11:30-2:30PM
(lunch will be served 12-2)

FREE food for members!

Bring your own beverage

Message from the President... by Mike Taflas

In a moment of reflection, I realized that I have been a part of Little Ossipee Lake for thirty seven years. I was thirteen years old when my parents decided that Waterboro/Little Ossipee Lake would be the place my sister and I would spend our summer vacations. Over the years, I have formed friendships here that are like family and my childhood memories on Little Ossipee Lake are special memories for me. Memories of racing through Turtle Cove on my 7.5 Mercury with Terry Hackett, bouncing on the waves perched on the back of John Cyr's boat called "The Red Baron" with an eight track of "BOSTON" blaring through waterlogged speakers, riding through the night with Dave Toothaker on his jet boat, waterskiing, fishing, scouting for girls at Camp Laughing Loon and on the lake took up my days during my early teens. As I grew older, my circle of friends grew and other traditions came into play on the lake... Wiffle ball (trophy) games and bragging rights for the victor, over at Paul Kussmann's camp. Paul and I also challenge each other and others with a swim from the dam to the boat launch, which has now expanded to swim, run and bike around the lake. My wife Donna and I cherish every moment on this lake and it is funny how our weekends are focused on coming to Waterboro, to our little part of heaven, on Webber Road. Our children are friends with our friend's children and the cycle continues... Watching my children, niece and nephew grow up on this lake; I realized Little Ossipee

Lake roots are deeply embedded in me and decided six years ago to get involved with the Little Ossipee Lake Association, aka **LOLA**.

This involvement over the last six years has morphed into now accepting the challenge of President for the 2009 season. I would like to take this opportunity to say "Thank You" to the Officers, Directors and members of **LOLA** for allowing me the honor to serve in this role. For 37 years I have heard the statement, "What a great time to be on the lake!" and now I know exactly what that means for me. *Does this statement resonate with you? If so, tell us about it; we at LOLA would love to hear your lake stories.*

Speaking of LOLA, with the momentum from past members and energized by some new members, your Lake Association continues to make a positive impact around the lake. During the start of the 2009 season, the **LOLA** team of Directors and Officers modified the Mission Statement, created a lake mascot, "**LOLA the Loon**", and acquired safety buoys that will be strategically placed around the lake. In addition we have relocated the August annual meeting to Camp Laughing Loon, begun compiling a Little Ossipee Lake Cookbook, and started building an "Erosion Control Program" that will help us maintain the water quality around the lake for this and future generations to come. These are some of the challenges that we have decided to focus on during the 2009 season, hoping that several of them, like the Erosion Control Program, will be carried into 2010.

The newly modified Mission Statement fits well into what we are looking to do in 2009 and beyond. This mission statement keeps the organization focused and has a rather catchy punch line: "**E**³, Preserve and Protect Little Ossipee Lake through Education, Eradication, and Erosion Control." Over time, many of you will be seeing the "E cubed" mission statement on our website, on future mailings, our hope is that you embrace this mission and in doing so, each individual will be doing his/her part to help preserve the lake. I encourage you to incorporate this theme during this year's boat parade.

Our new mascot "**LOLA the Loon**" can be heard when you open the website: www.littleossipeelake.org. This has been therapeutic for those us who live for summer. The loons seen around Little Ossipee are evidence that the lake is healthy and alive. Their presence is a constant reminder of the work we must continue to do to keep the lake pristine.

This season, **LOLA** Officers and Directors wish to reach out to members on a more personal level. . We selected a new venue for the August annual meeting. Instead of the Waterboro Fire station, the meeting will be held at Camp Laughing Loon. Following the business meeting, we invite all members and their families to stay and join us for the first **LOLA Cookout**. This is our special thank you for continued membership and support for **LOLA's** efforts to protect the lake. . Please come and enjoy the day with us!

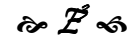
Through the (much appreciated) volunteer effort of Ellen Orcutt, we are very excited to announce the making of the "**Little Ossipee Lake Cookbook**". This cookbook will be unique in that it will reflect recipes around the lake starting with appetizers, "Boat Launch Beginnings", covering the entire lake, ending with desserts at "Over the Dam Desserts". All are welcome to send in your favorite recipe with a catchy name for your favorite part of the lake.

LOLA continues significant efforts this year with "The Erosion Control Program" which is vital to the health of the lake now and in the future. This program is designed to combat shoreline erosion issues that negatively impact water quality and habitats in and around Little Ossipee Lake. To insure success, we are incorporating the expertise of the York County Soil and Water Conservation District. Our goal for 2010 is to develop a youth organization of college and high school students to repair damaged shore/land property around the lake. We are planning to work on our first "test case" shoreline effort this July to understand the effort involved for 2010. Anyone interested in volunteering for this effort please contact me ... this will be great opportunity to understand what a proper shoreline needs to have to keep the lake alive and well.

Our decision to be involved in a bigger role around the lake unfortunately has an additional cost attributed to everything we do. The **LOLA** Officers and Directors voted to increase our yearly dues from \$10.00 to \$15.00. The \$5.00 increase alone will not fund all of our efforts, so please support us in any way you can, volunteering , attending our meetings,

our annual dance, being part of our 4th of July Boat Parade ...you will see us around, if not check our website for what we are doing during the month.

Wouldn't it be great if 100 years from now our kids' kids, say..."What a great time to be on the lake!"



2008-2009 Dam Report by Don Holden

This past year (2008,) the start of winter draw down began on October 15. Because of heavy rains in November the winter level of 4'6" was not reached until January 23, 2009. The lake this past year became completely frozen on January 9, 2009. For the most part, the activity at the dam was pretty normal through the winter and into this spring.



I know many of you are interested as to when the ice goes out. There has been data being collected for many years, first by Doug Graves and then by myself. This "**Ice-In**" and "**Ice-Out**" data is collected and sent to a professor at the University of Buffalo, who collects the same data from many lakes all over the United States. We now have 19 years of record keeping.

Ice-Out - Little Ossipee Lake starting 1991

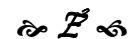
| | | | |
|------|-----------|-------------|----------------|
| 1991 | 4/2/91 | 2002 | 3/24/02* |
| 1992 | 4/7/92 | 2003 | 4/21/03 |
| 1993 | 4/21/93 | 2004 | 4/10/04 |
| 1994 | 4/13/94 | 2005 | 4/13/05 |
| 1995 | 3/30/95 | 2006 | 3/24/06 * |
| 1996 | 4/4/96 | 2007 | 4/18/07 |
| 1997 | 4/15/97 | 2008 | 4/20/08 |
| 1998 | 3/31/98 | 2009 | 4/09/09 |
| 1999 | 4/3/99 | | |
| 2000 | 3/29/00 | | |
| 2001 | 4/26/01 # | | |

latest, *earliest

From the earliest to the latest, is a span of 34 days. Look at the difference between 2001 and 2002. WOOOO!!!! I will share with you the **Ice-On** dates in the next newsletter.

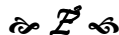
- Don Holden

Lake drawdown begins October 15th



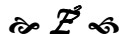
Ice-Out Contest Winners

The 2009 Ice-Out Contest Winners are Frank Holmes, Mike Woods (Apr 8th), & Paul Cummings, Rick Savoy (Apr 10th). The Official Ice-Out was on April 9th. All winners receive a free LOLA T-Shirt.



Little Ossipee Lake Cookbook

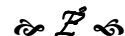
Starting with *Boat Launch Beginnings* (appetizers) and ending with *Over the Dam Desserts*, our new fundraiser will bring a smile to your face as well as your palette, while getting to know more people around the lake! Commemorate a special person, occasion, or yourself by submitting a favorite recipe with a lake-themed twist ("Black Cove Forest Cake", "Pickle Frog Pesto Dip", etc). Thanks to the efforts of Ellen Orcutt, chef extraordinaire, the compilation of recipes is already underway. Be on the lookout over the summer for tempting entries and keep them coming in! Recipes may be emailed to cookbook@littleossipeelake.org, or mailed to: Little Ossipee Lake Association, P.O.Box 204, E. Waterboro, ME 04030



Youth Conservation Corps: The future for our watershed by Melissa Brandt, YCSWCD [York County Soil & Water Conservation District] All around the country this summer, high school students will take on the challenge of working in a YCC program. Programs are sponsored by land trusts, lake associations, and other conservation groups & involve HS age students in projects that improve their communities. They spend up to 8 weeks building walkways & steps, planting buffers, mulching soils & learning how we all impact our watersheds. This unique program empowers youth to take responsibility for their natural resources. YCSWCD approached LOLA to discuss the idea of creating a local YCC program to tackle erosion problems within the LOL watershed. A YCC program consists of a Director who is responsible for finding projects, hiring crew members, creating a plan & getting the project done. Staff also includes a crew leader & 5-8 crew members. LOLA would appoint a member to directly oversee the YCC, be the go

between for the board & staff, & for raising the funds to support this program. Many YCC programs are funded through the communities they work in & often a grant can help get a YCC up & running. Examples of funding sources are town government, lake associations, land trusts, conservation commissions, parks & rec, grants & more. Acton-Shapleigh has formed a YCC with great benefit to Moussam & Square Ponds.

Learn more about YCC at the annual meeting!



Water Quality Report By Bob Labelle

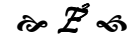
Since 1977 our association has collected valuable water monitoring data in conjunction with the Volunteer Lake Monitoring Program (VLMP) and the Maine Department of Environmental Protection. Water samples are drawn from the deepest part of the lake every 2 weeks from April through October. During this period, 25 years of Secchi Disc Transparencies (SDT) and 11 years of basic chemical information have been collected.

Secchi Disc Transparencies are a direct measure of the water clarity and an indirect measure of algal growth. Unless a lake is highly colored or turbid from suspended sediment, transparency readings of 2 meters or less generally indicate a severe algal bloom according to the 2006 Maine Lakes Report. Little Ossipee Lake transparency readings are typically between 6.0 and 7.9 with occasional readings above 9.0 meters.

Basic chemical information includes water temperature and dissolved oxygen measurements at every meter down to 20 meters. Water samples are also submitted for Total Phosphorus and Chlorophyll-a monitoring.

Test results continue to show the water quality of Little Ossipee Lake to be excellent and the potential for nuisance algal blooms is considered to be very low. For additional information contact Maine DEP at (207) 287-3901 or the VLMP at (207) 783-7733, or on the Internet at

<http://www.mainevolunteerlakemonitors.org/waterquality/> and/or <http://www.pearl.maine.edu>



July 4th Boat Parade

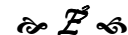
The annual **Terry Hackett Memorial Boat Parade** begins at the dam at 11AM on July 4th. The **theme for 2009** is the **LOLA mission statement**, abbreviated as “**E³**”, read “**E cubed**”. All participating boats pick up their numbers in advance (from 10AM) at Salvos' dock - the Red Boat House near the Dam.

There are **2 classes**: 1 for boats (non-pontoon), and 1 for barges (pontoon). In each category, up to 3 prizes for each class will be awarded at the discretion of the judges, members of the LOLA Board, who watch the parade from Weymouth Point. For 2008, the prizes were awarded as follows:



1st-\$75.00, 2nd-\$50.00, 3rd-\$25.00

Best-in-Show is a trophy awarded to a boat in either class which exhibits the best environmental message/display. The winner holds the trophy until the next boat parade.



2009 LOLA Scholarships by Frank Salvo

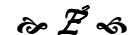
The Board of Directors for the Little Ossipee Lake Association has chosen Corinne Carland, of Shapleigh as this year's Guy L'Italien scholarship recipient, offered in conjunction with LOLA and the Guy L'Italien Scholarship fund. The LOLA scholarship is awarded to a senior at Massabesic High School who plans to attend college majoring in Environmental Science or a related field. Corinne plans to attend the Massachusetts Institution of Technology (MIT) and major in Pharmacology and how natural chemicals are found in micro-organisms. She has been awarded a \$500.00 scholarship to be paid to the book store upon matriculation. We wish Corinne much success as she embarks on her next educational journey.

The scholarship recipients have been invited to attend our annual meeting in August.

Frank P. Salvo
Scholarship Committee Chairperson

About our mission statement: *Preserve and Protect Little Ossipee Lake through **E**ducation, **E**radication, and **E**rosion Control*

Please join the 2009 LOLA Board of Directors as we aggressively work to enhance the environment that we all so love. As stated in the mission statement, the goal of this board is to have a lasting, positive impact on the lake. Our dream is to get rid of, or eradicate, as much as humanly possible, erosion of the quality of our lake water. Through the continuous process of education and exhibited commitment to the task at hand, we are hopeful that our passion will become contagious! So catch the fever! Join us in our quest to Educate, Eradicate and prevent further Erosion on Little Ossipee Lake so that we can Preserve and Protect this treasured environment for generations to come! **E³!!** - Donna Taflas



LOLA Officers:

*Mike Taflas, President
Stan Goff, Vice-President
Karen Cummings, Secretary/Webmaster
Ed Doggett, Treasurer*

Directors:

*Bob Cyr, Ross Dindio, Mariann Goff,
Barbara Hamor, Pam L'Heureux,
Bob Labelle, Sandy Labelle, Frank Salvo, Donna
Taflas, John Tufts*

Alternates:

Elaine Dindio, Stu Lamont, Barbara Lamont

Have a great summer!

Membership



LOLA the loon

If you have already sent your dues, THANK YOU! If not, please send the completed form with your dues by July 25th. Don't forget to include your favorite recipe for the new cookbook!

Membership Dues 2009

Mail to: Little Ossipee Lake Association, P.O.Box 204, E. Waterboro, ME 04030

Name: _____

Mailing Address: _____

Lake Address: _____ Map/Lot #(If Known) _____

Phone: #1 _____ #2 _____

Email: _____

Dues per cottage/household : **\$ 15.00**

Scholarship Donation \$ _____

Please make payable to *Little Ossipee Lake Association*.