

Little Ossipee Lake Association

2010 Annual Newsletter



LOLA the loon

ANNUAL MEETING

**Saturday, August 14th, a day at
Camp Laughing Loon**

YOGA 7:30am
Meeting 9:30am

*Cookout/Social 11:30-2:30pm
(lunch will be served 12-2)
FREE Food for Current Members

*DANCE 6-10pm

**Bring your own beverage*

Message from the President... Michael Taflas

The 2009 season proved to be a huge success for your Little Ossipee Lake Association as demonstrated by the many accomplishments that this team had; accomplishments such as modifying the Mission Statement, creating the lake mascot "LOLA the Loon", acquiring safety buoys, relocating the annual lake meeting, hosting the first LOLA cookout, and most important, creating the Erosion Control Program. I am very proud of what this association has been able to accomplish in such a short period of time and I am sure that you are too. The one accomplishment that I am most proud of is the board's drive and desire to establish and support the Erosion Control Program; as it is through this program that we will be able to work toward our Mission Statement of protecting the quality of our lake through Education, Eradication and Erosion Control. These three ingredients are the "heart" of our association and it is because of this mission that I am proud to serve on the board as your President.

As we move into another exciting, fun season, our collective goal for 2010 is to continue strengthening our posture on what we established in 2009. The 2010 season will show a continuation of some of the 2009 efforts with some new adjustments; such as: re-invigorating the July 4th boat parade, completing the LOLA Cookbook and continuing our efforts on the Erosion Control Program.

Our goals for 2010 are voluminous which begs the question of whether or not your Board of Directors can accomplish these items on their own. Recognizing that they are a strong, zealous group of individuals, I am confident that they will do their absolute best to meet the goals of the Association. However, if folks like you were willing to get involved in some small way, their chances of accomplishing their goals would be greatly improved. For those of you who attended our 2009 Annual Meeting, you may remember hearing Melissa Brandt, from the York County Soil and Water Department, talk about the establishment of a Youth Association Group. This group would be dedicated to supporting our initiatives to keeping our lake clean. However, the establishment of such an association costs money; more money than what our association can afford at this point in time. Therefore, the responsibility of carrying out our Mission Statement rests solely on the shoulders of your Board of Directors which they have graciously accepted and through their excitement have affectionately called themselves "The Senior Association Group" and after looking at last year's pictures taken during the execution of their first Erosion Control Project, one can quickly conclude as to why they have called themselves "The Senior Association Group"; gray was the predominate color in the picture!

This brings me to the point of this message: *Volunteerism*. Volunteers like you, will be the difference between success and failure of our Association's goals for 2010 and beyond. We, your Lake Association Officers and Directors, are discovering that our lake health relies on all involved. Little Ossipee Lake and its success is more about our ability as a community of caring individuals to come together for a common goal. I am sure that each and every one of you have done your part over the years to protect the quality of our lake otherwise, we would not have the water quality that we do today. However, it is an effort that needs to continue throughout the years in order to ensure that our lake remains pristine. Erosion is probably our number one concern and as the saying goes, there is strength in numbers. I am hopeful that what I am saying resonates with you! If so, and you would like to become an active part of your Lake Association,

please check out our website and contact any member of the Board. We have so much to do, as it relates to maintaining the quality of our lake, and any assistance, no matter how small, is always welcomed.

For 2010 we need to reach out to our members, come and join us be a part of an association that wants to preserve this lake for generations to come. I challenge you to catch the Fever! I can assure you that you will feel as exhilarated as I do when you take part in one of our events. There is no better feeling in the world than knowing that you have done some small part to maintain the health of our lake!

See you on the Lake,
- Michael Taflas



2009-2010 Dam Report

- Don Holden, "The Dam Man"

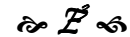
Summer level is 6' 6" and Winter level is 4' 6"
This report starts in August 2009 and is a continuation of the report I gave at the 2009 Annual Lake Association meeting.

It was a wet fall with hurricane Danielle coming up the coast in late August. The gates were opened 3 days ahead of the storm and 3 ½ inches was taken out before the storm arrived. Lucky for us, we did not get all of the 4 inches of rain predicted. Once again the gates were closed so to finish out the season. All 3 gates were opened 100% to start the winter draw down on October 15, 2009. There was very heavy rain on October 24th and November 15, and then again on the 28th of November, that prevented the lake from reaching winter level until December 25th. On December 28th a very heavy rain storm raised the lake 5 inches above winter level. The lake became completely frozen on January 8th which is considered late. An unusual heavy rain storm on January 26th raised the lake again another 6 inches, given us a water level 12 inches above winter level with all the 3 gates open. Again extremely heavy rain on February 6th brought the lake up to summer level with all gates open, "WOW". On March 14th heavy rain again took the level to 4 inches above summer level and ICE OUT took place on March 18th the earliest in the last 20 years of record keeping. Guess what?? It's not over. A major rain fall on March 29th took the lake level to 10 ½ inches above summer level. This is the first year ever, since I have been adjusting the gates, that at ice out, I had to wait for the lake to come down to summer level, and not have to close the gates, and wait for the lake to come up. The lake finally came down, and reached summer level on April 16th nearly

a month after Ice-Out. Sounds like Mother Nature is pretty much in charge.

Thanks for you continued support .

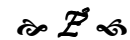
Special Notice: Remember, this year Winter Draw Down will start this year on Oct. 1, 2010. We will attempt to lower the lake an additional foot. This is done every 5 years to allow residents to do shoreline repairs. Apply for your permits at the Code Enforcement Office, if you have work that needs to be done on your shoreline.



Little Ossipee Morning Yoga!

- Lindsay Taflas

All are welcome to attend an early morning yoga class with certified yoga teacher, Lindsay Taflas, for a class that is sure to help you begin your day right. This will be a **FREE** class, starting at **7:30 AM on the morning of the Lake Association Annual Meeting.** Weather permitting the class will take place outside, overlooking the beautiful lake at Camp Laughing Loon. If you're an experienced yogi or a beginner, join us for some early morning serenity. Please wear comfortable clothes, and bring a yoga mat or towel.



Little Ossipee Lake Deserves Better

- Ross Dindio

Summer swimming or winter ice fishing, water skiing or snowmobiling – we all share a desire to enjoy the outdoor recreation and beautiful views Little Ossipee Lake offers us.

Over the past 60 years I have seen many changes to this wonderful body of water, some positive and some not. The fishing derbies, especially the winter one, have seen a large volume of trash, litter and debris left behind that is harmful to the environment of Little Ossipee. In addition, this year there were snowmobiles which plunged through the ice, releasing gas and oil residue into the water. Ice out came early and there were at least two ice shacks which were not removed from the lake – as of April 1st, still partially submerged near the shore.

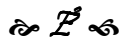
Our Association's mission is to preserve and protect Little Ossipee Lake through Education Eradication, and Erosion control. It is up to each and every one of us to insure the beauty and health of the water for our children, grandchildren, and beyond. To that end we are proposing a clean-up day, led by all LOLA members, to pick up any objects floating or in shallow water along the shore line that don't belong in the Lake. The **Clean-up Day is Saturday, July 3rd.** We selected this day to ensure that Little Ossipee will

look its best for the Annual LOLA Boat Parade on the 4th.

As you take that leisure ride in your pontoon boat, paddle in your kayak or canoe, or fly by on a tube or on skies, take a few seconds to make an effort to retrieve any litter encountered. That can, styrofoam cup, plastic bag, etc. is not only harmful to the environment but to you as well.

To enjoy the lake for many years to come, we all must be good stewards of Little Ossipee. Please help protect against pollution, and debris in the lake. By working together and not putting anything into Little Ossipee Lake that does not belong, and by removing all items from the ice before before melting, we will preserve its pristine quality forever. Each of us cares deeply about Little Ossipee Lake, we all want to maintain this beautiful treasure.

Little Ossipee Lake Association's (LOLA) mission is to preserve and protect Little Ossipee Lake through Education Eradication, and Erosion control. PLEASE DO YOUR PART.



Water Quality Report

by Bob & Sandy Labelle

Data collected by volunteer water quality monitors provide valuable information to lake scientists at the Maine DEP, the EPA, the University of Maine, public water utilities and other agencies and institutions throughout Maine in order to help characterize and protect Maine lakes. State and town planners, conservation groups, economists, lake associations, businesses, and individuals also use the data. VLMP lake data, and data obtained through a collaborative effort with the Maine DEP and other agencies and organizations, are the primary sources of water quality information for Maine lakes.

The Little Ossipee Lake Association in conjunction with the Volunteer Lake Monitoring Program (VLMP) and the Maine Department of Environmental Protection has collected valuable water quality monitoring data since 1977. The testing is done every two weeks from April through October. During this period, 32 years of Secchi Disc Transparencies (SDT) and basic chemical information were collected.

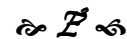
Secchi Disc Transparencies are a direct measure of the water clarity and an indirect measure of algal growth. Unless a lake is highly colored or turbid from suspended sediment, transparency readings of 2 meters or less generally indicate a severe algal bloom according to the 2009 Maine Lakes Report. Little Ossipee Lake transparency readings are typically between 5.9 and 11.9 with an average reading of 8.9 meters.

The basic chemical information includes water temperature and dissolved oxygen measurements at every meter down to twenty meters in the deepest part of the lake. Additionally, water samples are submitted to the state for Total Phosphorus and Chlorophyll-a monitoring. As a direct result of this testing, the water quality of Little Ossipee Lake is considered to be excellent and the potential for nuisance algal blooms is also very low.

On behalf of the Little Ossipee Lake Association, and myself I would like to thank all of you for your support. It is through your membership that this important monitoring is possible. With everyone's help, our future generations may be able to enjoy our beautiful lake as we have.

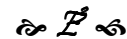
NOTE: Information provided by the 2009 Maine Lakes Report, the annual report of the Maine Volunteer Lake Monitoring Program

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>



Invasive Plant Inspection

Having served many years on the Board of Directors, former president, Wayne Gautreau, continues to serve the lake and community by conducting periodic inspections for invasive aquatic plants. In recent years, he has been monitoring the spread of Metaphyton, a green, "Cotton Candy"-like algae. As we know more about its cause and extent, we will update you via our website. More inspectors are needed. To learn about Metaphyton, visit: <http://www.mainevolunteerlakemonitors.org/WCWinter2009/Metaphyton.php>

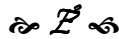


Thanks to Pam L'Heureux for 25+ years w/LOLA!

Pam was one of the original members to get LOLA re-established in the summer of 1984 and has been an active member of the Board ever since. She served as president for a number of years, was one of the first people trained to use the Secchi disk,

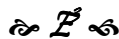
helped start the scholarship program at Massabesic, and maintained the "No Wake" signs. Pam has always cared deeply about the lake and was frequently seen paddling her blue boat early on Sunday mornings, stopping at docks along the way for a coffee or a quick visit.

Due to her busy schedule this year as a National President (International Association of Emergency Managers), Pam recently resigned from the LOLA Board of Directors. We are grateful for her many years of service, and will miss her personally and professionally. We wish Pam the very best always!



2010 Scholarships

Sandy Labelle has just recently accepted the role of Scholarship Chairperson in addition to her current water testing responsibilities. At the beginning of June, an announcement about the 2010 scholarship recipients will be made available on our website: www.littleossipeelake.org



July 4th Boat Parade

The July 4th Boat Parade is an event that many of us look forward to each and every year! It always amazes the judges at the creativity that exists within the LOLA community. It is that creativity that folks on the shoreline thirst to experience and take in...it is an opportunity for them to share the sights and sounds with their family and friends who have joined them for this most spectacular holiday! However, during last year's Annual Meeting, it was brought to the Board's attention that many of our lake friends are missing out on the fun and excitement because the parade route no longer takes the participants around the entire lake.

So, you have spoken and we have heard you! Please read the details carefully as a new game plan has been put into play for this year's event.

Day and Time:

Sunday, July 4th at 11:00am



Theme:

"Cookbook" - Decorate your boat into your favorite recipe; pictures will be taken and incorporated into the Little Ossipee Cookbook.

Before 11:00am -

Pick up your number at Frank Salvo's dock down by the dam; this is the usually location. When Frank hands you your number, surprise him with a recipe

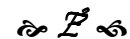
that you would like to have incorporated into the LOLA cookbook. Your recipe(s) can be as creative as you would like, be it a favorite desert, boat snack, family recipe, or maybe even a recipe on how to decorate your boat.

11:00 Parade Route -

As mentioned above, the path of the boat parade commences at Frank Salvo dock where you pick up your number. Once you have secured your number, your tour of the lake will take you to Bear Island (which is the largest Island on the lake) where you will see a barge anchored with a big Red Star. When you approach the badge, show them your entry number and in turn, they will hand you a Red Star. Continue your ride to Camp Laughing Loon and just past Camp Laughing Loon, you will see a Big Blue Star at the end of a dock. Again, show them your entry number and the Red Star and they will give you a Blue Star. You will need both stars (Red and Blue) and your entry number to be considered for a prize. Once your Blue Star has been secured, continue your journey along the shoreline to the judge's station at Weymouth Point where the judges will be waiting to select the winners. Remember that once you approach the judge's station, you want to dazzle them with song and entertainment which, by the way, you may want to do throughout your journey around the lake as many of the residents on shore will be cheering you on!

Throughout your journey, please remember to respect the boating laws and to give ample room to the boats or barges in front of you.

Remember, think Safety First and Good Luck!



Have a great summer!

from the LOLA Board of Directors

Officers:

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

Directors:

Bob Cyr, John Cyr, Ross Dindio, Mariann Goff, Barbara Hamor, Bob Labelle, Sandy Labelle, Barbara Lamont, Stu Lamont, Donna Taflas,

Alternates:

Rob Thomas

Membership



LOLA the loon

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

Membership Dues 2010

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*.