

# Little Ossipee Lake Association

2021 newsletter





## Your Dues in Action

Your annual membership dues are more important now than ever. **New this year, your dues will help to fund a partnership between the Town of Waterboro and the Little Ossipee Lake Association to underwrite a boat inspector program.** This collaboration has an immediate impact on the health of the lake by preventing invasive plant and animal species from entering the water. *(For more information on the new boat inspector program, please read the president's message.)*

In addition, your dues help to...

- test water quality on an on-going basis,
- conduct invasive plant patrol surveys, and,
- build reserve funds should an invasive species be found.

**Please send your \$50 dues membership today and feel proud of protecting the lake that gives us all so much joy.**

### 2021 Annual Dues

To help LOLA meet its financial obligations, **please pay your dues by 7/17/2021.**

To give today, use the enclosed envelope or go online to [www.littleossipeelake.org](http://www.littleossipeelake.org)

Thank you to all our members past and current!



Roland Gendron

*"So come to the pond, or the river of your imagination, or the harbor of your longing, and put your lips to the world.*

*And live your life."* - Mary Oliver

# Collaboration is the Best Defense

A message from the Little Ossipee Lake Association board president

Dear Friends of Little Ossipee Lake,

Exciting news! The Little Ossipee Lake Association (LOLA), in partnership with the Town of Waterboro, have come together to underwrite the town's boat inspector program.

The boat inspector program enables the hiring of boat inspectors who will be stationed at the town boat launch. These inspectors will monitor boats and trailers for plant and animal life, removing anything they see. By removing all plant and animal matter we reduce the chance of an invasive species entering the lake. This preventative program is the lake's greatest defense against stopping unwanted and invasive species.

While the boat inspector program is run and managed by the town, the cost is substantial, and too great for the town to bear alone. LOLA proudly decided to donate funds to expand the program, allowing for monitoring at the boat launch from 6 a.m. to 5 p.m. every day throughout the summer season.

**Membership dues make this collaboration possible.** Thanks to our members, the Association was able to work quickly to pay for the expansion of the boat inspector program. However, this partnership is also the reason dues have increased this year to \$50 per household. With additional funds we can support this program in future years, while also keeping pace with previous Association activities, such as invasive plant surveys, water testing, and erosion control projects.

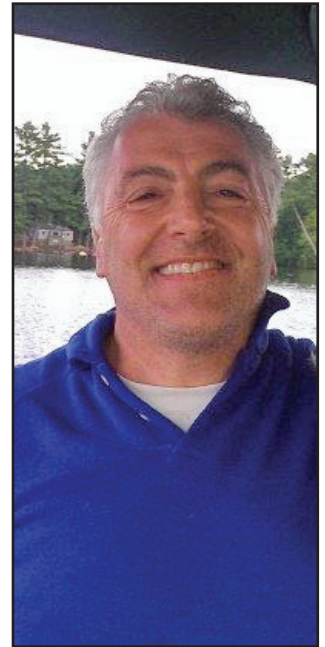
Thank you for renewing your membership or becoming a new member! I am grateful to have your support. Without you, the lake would not have the protection it needs for current and future generations. If you have questions about the boat inspector program or any of LOLA's activities, you can connect with me and the entire board of directors by commenting on the Little Ossipee Lake Association Facebook group, or by sending us an email at [directors@littleossipeelake.org](mailto:directors@littleossipeelake.org).

See you on the lake,



Mike Taflas

P.S. I look forward to seeing you **in person** at our Annual Meeting on August 14th, 2021!



## Invasive Plant Patrol

While 2020 was an unpredictable year, one thing remained true: invasive plants and animals continue to be the number one threat to the health of Little Ossipee Lake.

Why?

- As the climate changes so do the plants and animals that migrate north, many of them not native to southern Maine.
- Little Ossipee is very close to route 5, where traffic could inadvertently aid in an invasive plant's journey to the water.
- Lake Arrowhead, just across the road, does have variable leaf milfoil which could easily be brought into Little Ossipee.

The good news?

- Little Ossipee is deep, giving invasive species like milfoil a challenge as it tries to root and grow toward the sun.
- The town boat launch is now monitored for most of the summer season, through the boat inspector program.
- LOLA has a dedicated invasive plant patrol (IPP) team of volunteers who monitor shallow areas for unwanted species. To date, no invasive species have been found.
- Waterfront homeowners are being proactive, taking it upon themselves to monitor their shorelines.

LOLA remains committed to the fight against invasive species, but your help is always needed. The more eyes on the water the better chance we have of early detection. **You're invited to paddle with us on August 21**, where a formal survey of the lake in partnership with the Lake Stewards of Maine, will be completed. In the meantime, please remember to clean, drain, and dry your boats and equipment. Should you have a question about a plant in the water, you can reach out to Deidre via email at [DDonovan89753@gmail.com](mailto:DDonovan89753@gmail.com).

### Lake Survey, August 21, 2021

On Saturday, August 21, a full survey of the lake will be conducted. We need YOU to help! No experience necessary. To register, please email LOLA Director, Deidre Donovan, at [DDonovan89753@gmail.com](mailto:DDonovan89753@gmail.com), or send us a message on our Facebook page.

## Congratulations Seniors

LOLA is pleased to announce that Brandon Mills of North Waterboro, has received the Little Ossipee Lake Association scholarship. Brandon plans to study at Plymouth State College to be a game warden. Emily Baker of Limerick, has received the Guy L'Atalien scholarship to study biology at the University of Maine. We look forward to seeing how they shape the natural world through their education!



## LOLA Partners

LOLA is an all-volunteer led organization. It takes tremendous effort to care for the lake, and we couldn't do it alone. LOLA works closely with the following partners. Please consider supporting them or visiting their websites for more information.

- **Lake Stewards of Maine**, [www.lakestewardsofmaine.org](http://www.lakestewardsofmaine.org), help with educating our IPP team and surveying the lake
- **Maine Department of Inland Fisheries & Wildlife**, [maine.gov/ifw](http://maine.gov/ifw), implement state boating laws and regulations as well as provide game wardens who are responsible for patrolling the lake
- **Town of Waterboro**, [waterboro-me.net](http://waterboro-me.net), maintains the public boat launch and owns the dam
- **Town of Waterboro Parks and Rec Department**, [waterboro-me.net/departments/recreation\\_dept/index.php](http://waterboro-me.net/departments/recreation_dept/index.php), facilitate the boat inspector program (of which LOLA is a co-sponsor)
- And, of course our friends at **Lakeside Market**, who continue to be reliable, generous supporters of our events and programs

## What's biting?





## 2021 Annual Boat Parade

The Fourth of July Terry Hackett Memorial Boat Parade will take place on Sunday July 4th at 11:00 a.m.

The judges look forward to seeing your best red, white and blue pride!

- The parade begins on the small pond, near the dam.
- Follow the lead boat (a pontoon boat with the Statue of Liberty mounted to the front) to be sure you drive by all areas of the lake.
- The winning boat will be announced immediately following the parade in front of Weymouth's Point. Only the Best of Show trophy will be awarded.
- **Please drive safely and maintain proper space in between boats, move at headway speed, and watch for swimmers.** Please also ensure that none of your boat decorations accidentally fly into the water.
- Questions? Ask us on the LOLA Facebook page.





## Lake Cleanup, June 19, 2021

Join the Association for a lake cleanup day on Saturday, June 19. **Your help is needed** as many hands make light work.

- Meet at the town boat launch at 10 a.m.
- Trash bags will be distributed
- Paddle, boat, or float your way to a section of the lake to clean
- Remove trash, cans, and any other materials that could be harmful to the lake
- Take a picture of what you've collected and post it to the LOLA Facebook page

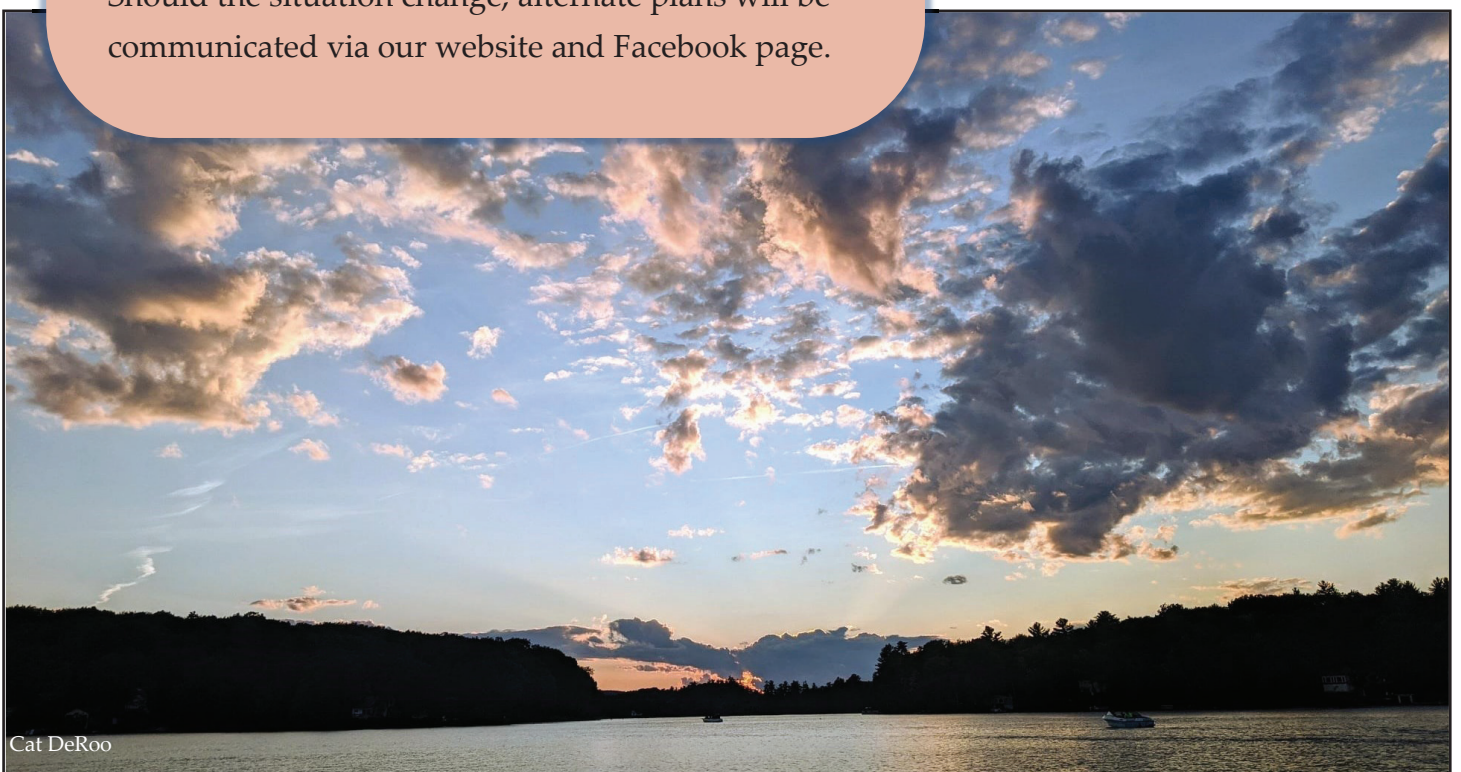
## Annual Meeting, August 14, 2021

The Board of Directors are cautiously optimistic that an in-person Annual Meeting event can be planned.

Please save the date to come together **at Camp Laughing Loon on Saturday, August 14, at 11 a.m.**

The tradition continues! A BBQ lunch will follow the meeting and the LOLA Dance (a LOLA fundraising event) will take place later that evening.

Should the situation change, alternate plans will be communicated via our website and Facebook page.



Little Ossipee Lake Association

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