



BELGRADE LAKES ASSOCIATION

*To protect and improve the watershed of Great Pond and
Long Pond through Preservation, Education and Action.*

Winter 2014 / 2015



Full moon at twilight on the Mill Stream, Great Pond.

A MESSAGE FROM OUR PRESIDENT

Dear Members of the Belgrade Lakes Association,

On behalf of the Belgrade Lakes Association I want to thank you for your support given to the BLA in 2014. As you read through this newsletter, you will see many of our reports from our busy season. We have had many accomplishments. However, BLA is already gearing up for the 2015 Season. 106 years of Protecting and Preserving Great and Long Pond, through preservation, education and action plans, cannot be done by ourselves which is why your membership and involvement is so important to our mission statement and to the BLA programs that we sponsor.



I have challenged each of the BLA Board of Directors to recruit 10 new members. Could I ask all of you to find one new member for the BLA organization? Would you ask your neighbors if they are members, and, if not, could you ask them to join to help protect our Lakes? Your action would be very helpful!

My wish to you all is to have a healthy and a Happy New Year. I hope to see many of you this summer, 2015.

We would love to hear your stories about growing up on the Lakes. Please tell us how you feel about our amazing lakes. Write an article for the newsletter?!

I am looking forward to serving you as your President and working together with your outstanding Board of Directors. Anytime you have any questions on any of our activities, please call or email me. I would love to hear from you.

Gail

Gail Rizzo

207-242-8119 or gail@gailrizzo.com

EMILY'S WINTER RECIPES

Garlic Herb Cous Cous with Pine Nuts and Dried Cranberries:

1 1/2 cups Plain Cous-Cous
3 cups Water
2 Tablespoons Olive Oil
3-4 Cloves of Garlic, minced
1/4 cup Dried Cranberries
1/3 cup Pine Nuts
1 Tablespoon of Parsley, finely chopped
1 Tablespoon of Basil, finely chopped
Salt, pinch
Pepper, pinch
Directions: Medium saucepan. Add Olive Oil, Water and Garlic. Boil. When water/oil/garlic are boiling, Add Cous-Cous. Cook covered 20-30 min or until soft. Strain. Add Parsley, Basil, Dried Cranberries, Pine Nuts, Salt & Pepper. Mix in Large Serving Bowl. Enjoy! :)

Honey Balsamic Salad Dressing:

2/3 cup Balsamic Vinegar
1/4 cup Local Honey
1 Tsp. Ground Nutmeg
Directions: Mix Balsamic, Honey and Nutmeg in bowl and whisk. Place in serving container. Enjoy!

Salad: Spinach w/ Ricotta, Dried Cranberries & Pecans

One 8 oz bag of Organic Spinach, chopped
1/3 cup Ricotta Cheese
1/4 cup Dried Cranberries
1/4 cup Crushed Pecans
Directions: Chop Spinach, Crush Pecans, Toss All Ingredients. Enjoy!

Ginger and Strawberry Champagne:

1 Bottle of Prosecco (or your favorite champagne)

1/4 cup Ginger Beer (non-alcoholic)
1 Washcloth
6 Champagne Flutes
1/4 cup Large-Grain Natural Sugar
1/2 tsp. Nutmeg
6 Thin Slices of Fresh Ginger
3 Large Strawberries, cut in half length-wise

Directions: Mix Natural Sugar and Nutmeg, place in small bowl. Dip Top of Champagne Flutes in Ginger Beer and then in Spiced Natural Sugar. Add one piece of Strawberry and one slice of Ginger. Pour Prosecco into Flutes. Let sit for 2 minutes. Enjoy!

Dessert: Chocolate Filled Creme Puffs:

Preheat Oven 400*
2 Sticks of Butter
1 cup Flour
4 Eggs
8-10 oz Chocolate (I prefer dark)
1 cup Whipping Cream
1.5 tsp Vanilla Extract
1 cup Water
Wax Paper

Directions: Puffs- In medium sauce pan boil Water and 1 stick of Butter. Add Flour, stirring constantly (1-2min.) until dough forms into a ball. Transfer to Large Mixing Bowl. Add Eggs, one at a time. Beat. Add 1/2 cup Whipping Cream. Beat Constantly, or until batter is creamy. Drop by Teaspoon (or by small melon baller, if you have one) onto a Wax Papered Cookie Sheet. Bake 375* for 45-50 min. or until Puffs are Golden Brown. Let Puffs COOL COMPLETELY. Use a knife to cut a small circle in the top of the Puffs. Scoop out moist dough using your finger until just a "shell" remains. Chocolate Filling- In Mixing Bowl add Vanilla and the rest of your Whipping Cream. Using a Blender, whip until stiff peaks form. In saucepan over medium heat, melt Chocolate and remaining Stick of Butter. Stir Constantly, or until Creamy. COOL COMPLETELY. Add to Whipped Cream and Beat. *Filling should be thick with Stiff Peaks. Fill each Shell and Cover with cut-out circular "tops." Sprinkle with Powdered Sugar or Drizzle with Chocolate sauce. Enjoy!

ANOTHER DAM COMMITTEE

by Dick Greenan, Rome delegate and Secretary

Believe it or not, there is actually a Dam(s) Committee! And I am not referring to the fictitious yet gripping comic-mystery novel “The Dam Committee” and its sequel “More Dam Trouble” by Belgrade’s very own noted author, Earl H. Smith.

The actual Dam Committee is an inter-local Agreement for the management of all of the Belgrade area dams to control those waters within our watershed, specifically the spillway dam in the Belgrade Lakes Village, the Wings Mill Dam at the lower end of Long Pond, the dam at Salmon Lake and lastly, the Oakland dam for our neighbors on Messalonskee/Snow Pond. This Agreement was adopted back on October 16, 1987 by the Towns of Belgrade, Rome and Oakland, all of which make available volunteer delegates.



Belgrade Village Spillway Dam with water flowing over the Spillway

As you can well imagine, managing the water levels of the seven lakes in the Belgrade chain is no easy task and must be based on the many unpredictable snow and rain events, the variations in watershed slopes, the needs of our State Departments of Environmental Protection and Inland Fisheries and Wildlife, and also those of Essex Hydro who generate local power with the Oakland dam.

To make matters worse, one inch of rain falling on Great Pond actually results in a 1.5-2” increase in Great Pond’s water level. Due to the relative mountainous and steep slopes of the Long Pond watershed, that increase is approximately 3” for every inch of rainfall – and it may take two to three days to see that increase. In addition, with such a runoff and due to the hydrology involved of a lake with a gate open, it is not uncommon to see a 6” difference between the dam at Wings Mill and upper Long Pond 9 miles away, from just 2 inches of rain! It is the reason why your dock on upper Long Pond maybe under water, yet the dam at Wings Mill registers only 1” or so above full pond.



Salmon Lake Dam

The Spring objective this year was to open the gates to allow for the inevitable Spring melt and run-off without flooding our friends at Castle Island Camps, in particular! This summer, the Dams Committee wisely chose to keep all of the ponds ideally 3” above full pond in the event we encountered another dry summer – which fortunately was not the case. Full pond incidentally is when water levels are right at the top of the respective spillways without running over.

For the official Fall Lake Drawdown, the DEP mandates that by October 31st, the lakes are drawn down to their winter levels, 1.0-1.5’ below full for Salmon Lake and 1.5-2’ below full for both Long and Great Ponds. Of course this is an ideal and dependent on the whims of Mother Nature!

So please be considerate and understanding of the hours put in by your local and, did I forget to mention, “volunteer” Dams Committee members as they try in all earnest to protect our beautiful Belgrade Lakes watershed! See you next summer!



Wings Mill (Long Pond) Dam

GROWING UP IN THE BELGRADE LAKES:

by Gail Rizzo

Rod Johnson may be the Luckiest Boy, but Gail Downing Rizzo is the Luckiest Girl to have grown up in Belgrade Lakes. I went to a two room school house (which was located on School Street) from Kindergarten to Eighth Grade. Not only did we learn our own lessons but all of the other class lessons as well. Mrs. Fuller and Miss Stevens were my teachers and believe me there was no such thing as talking back, or you would have had to sit up front in the corner (I was never that child who would talk back. No way was I going to sit in the corner for behaving badly). Walking to school was a given; I did not get bused to school. I either walked on the Red Oaks Lodge Road or through the woods in the rain or snow. We did not have snow days.



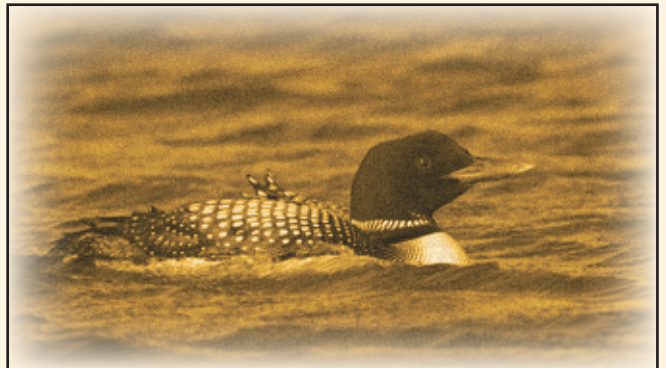
Going to The Rec Center (which is no longer standing) was so much fun, especially to meet all of the friends who came for the summer. I could not wait to become a teenager so I could go to the Teen Dances with live music every Friday night. Of course, there were Preteen night dances, too - not quite the same, yet still lots of fun. A ritual every summer were the hay rides around the Lakes on a horse drawn hay wagon driven by Albert Johnson and then going to Sahagian Beach to swim in the night. Every July all of the kids in the Village were piled into the back of a big flat bed truck, driven by Karl Johnson, to go to the Skowhegan State Fair. We felt like the coolest kids to arrive like this in style.

Swimming down the Mill Stream with my friends Carol Johnson, Leigh Webster, Ruthie Johnson and Candy Johnson to Bartlett's Store, now Day's Store, to get a milk shake, a burger and french fries was more than you could want. Of course, back in those

days, you could water ski through the stream to the Johnson Marina, now the post office. Can you imagine skiing in and around the buoys as you travel through the stream? I bet I water skied every day of each summer. We used to ski behind Paul and Priscilla Provandie's wooden Chriscraft boat. I want you to know that I skied slalom with four others at the same time (5 slalom skiers) behind their boat presenting shows on Long Pond. It was fun, and we were really good. We, girls and guys, would ski all day and be wait staff at night at the Lobster Pot (now Sunset Grille) and then onto the Village Inn when we were older. Carol and I drove a tin boat with a 10hp Johnson motor to the other side of Great Pond. We didn't mind as we were on our way to Sunshine Beach, or to camp out on Hoyt Island, Oak Island or Crooked Island. The rope swing on the stream at the Pentlarge Cottage swung half way into the stream where we would wet people as they went by in their boats. I also was very proud to be a member of the Mile Long Swim Club, meaning that I swam across Long Pond and back when I was 11 or 12.

Playing in the sawdust from the wooden boats that were built on Main Street in Belgrade Lakes by Harold Webster and delivering mail to people on Great Pond in the original mail boat, driven by John Webster and David Webster, was pretty cool. Pulling up to the docks and handing people their mail is a tradition that still exists today.

Did I mention that I used to race cars on the ice in the winter months? My parents, Esther and Fay Downing, had no idea I was racing on the lake with my two brothers, Myron and Howard, and our friends. We used to travel all around Great Pond by car; we could also ice skate on it for miles and had many wonderful bonfires. Snow skiing off roof tops or jumping into the snow from the roof tops was heavenly. Imagine taking your Radio flyer runner sled, that you could steer, up to the old water tower on the West Road and slide on the crust all the way to Long Pond. We did that for hours. If you fell off, oh, well, a few scrapes; we were having a great time.



Today, I think how lucky I am to have lived here as a child and as an adult. I married a summer boy from New York City (Frank Rizzo, whose grandfather John J. Casale was a Belgrade Lakes Association Board member in the 1940's) and we have been fortunate to have lived here in Belgrade Lakes, raising two sons, Eric and Todd, who have children of their own. Now, as grandparents, Gigi (Gail) and Poppy (Frank) are teaching our 5 grandchildren (George, Haley, Lanny, Ryan and Casale) all of those things that I did growing up on the lakes as well as the importance of being

BECOME LAKESMART: PRESERVE WATER QUALITY BY FOLLOWING NATURE'S MODEL

by Logan Parker, BLA LakeSmart Coordinator

The Belgrade Lakes region is a treasured place in the hearts of many, iconic for its picturesque natural landscapes and its close-knit lakeside community. Each summer, the lakes experience a great migration. Visitors from all over the country join the year-round residents in enjoying all that the lakes have to offer. Whether it's teaching young ones to swim off of the old family dock, taking the boat in to the farmer's market each Sunday, or fishing under the shadow of soaring Ospreys, there is no doubt that these lakes provide a bounty of joyful experiences.



And yet, there is so much we stand to lose should we fail to do our part to minimize our impact on these fragile waters. The threat posed by storm water runoff, soil erosion, and water pollution is serious. The damage caused by human activity can be seen in lakes not 30 miles from our watershed. We are fortunate, however, that the water quality issues of our lakes are not beyond remediation. We can right our wrongs with simple solutions. With nature as our guide, we can maintain our properties in the least impactful ways possible. All of this can be accomplished by becoming "LakeSmart."

LakeSmart is an education program which offers shoreline property owners the opportunity to learn ways of minimizing their impact on the lake. To be "LakeSmart," one must simply maintain their



properties in a manner which mirrors nature and prevents harmful mineral pollutants from entering the water. The program is facilitated by volunteer screeners who are members of the community and who are trained to recognize signs of erosion. Once a property is screened, property owners are then provided with information and recommendations so that they might work towards lake-friendly futures. Properties that meet the program's criteria are issued a LakeSmart award in recognition for their commitment to living lightly on the lake. The program is free, signing up is simple, and the payoff is immense.

In his presentation at the Belgrade Lakes Association's Annual Meeting, Colby College Chemistry professor Whitney King warned attendees of the dangers of allowing phosphorous to enter these lakes carelessly. He pointed out that the solution to the influx of contaminants lies in the hands of those who reside along the water's edge. He stated that LakeSmart was an effective method of mitigating the threats to water quality. Studies conducted over the past two summers by Biology Professor Cathy Bevier (also of Colby) and her student researchers further support Professor King's suggestions as she discovered "that humans can develop shoreline areas into residential properties in ways that mimic nature." Furthermore, "buffered properties (like those maintained to LakeSmart standards) have many characteristics in common with undeveloped areas." This summer the BLA's LakeSmart program coordinated with Colby College to study and validate the core principles of our program. As part of this study, the coordinates of every LakeSmart Award and Commendation property on Great and Long Pond was plotted on a map using GIS-software by Colby students. This project will give the program a more comprehensive view of the concentration of lake-friendly properties around our lakes and highlight priority areas to focus on as we continue to advocate for LakeSmart.

The Belgrade Lakes Association, whose goal is to preserve the water quality of Great and Long Pond, has been championing LakeSmart for ten years now. Over the past decade, more than 200 properties have been screened on our lakes. 26 properties were recommended for LakeSmart awards on Great and Long Pond just this year alone. If you want to join the effort to preserve this beautiful region for generations to come, the time to act is now. If you are interested in participating or just want to learn more about this conservation program, please contact Logan Parker for more information (email: lparker.minelakes@gmail.com) or visit BLA at the Maine Lakes Resource Center for more information.

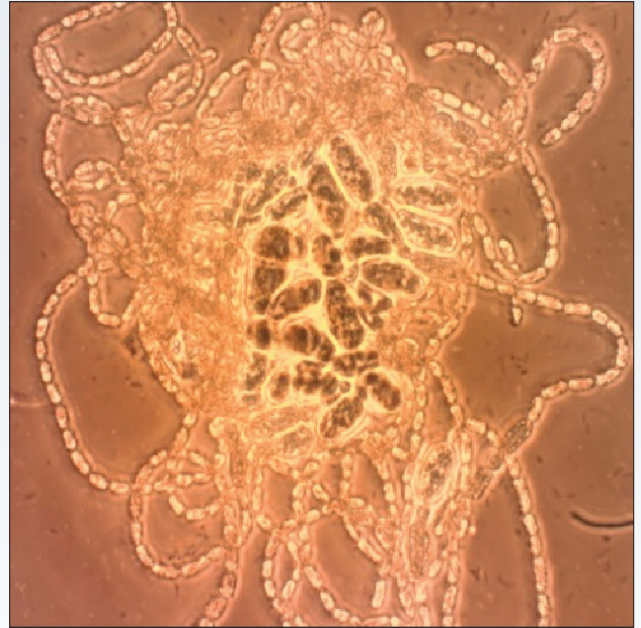


STALKING THE SLIME: ALGAE IN YOUR LAKE

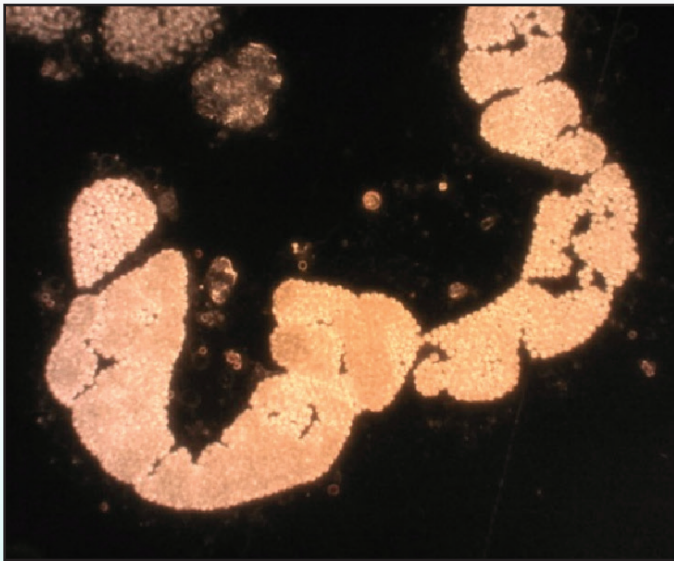
by Ken Wagner, Ph.D., CLM

Algae are everywhere! No, it's not a second rate horror movie, but an ecological fact. On land, algae form a coating on many surfaces, but do not exhibit the bulk biomass we see in trees. In streams algae form coatings on just about any surface and may produce tufts or trailing growths on rocks. Algae can also be found growing on many surfaces in lakes, including docks, buoys, ropes and the lake bottom. However, the lake algae we often notice most are those that discolor the water and form surface scums and mats; nuisance algae are often members of the phytoplankton, or free-floating algae.

Phytoplankton form an essential part of lake ecology. A lake without phytoplankton is not likely to be very productive. This may suit swimmers just fine, but fisherman and birdwatchers would be very disappointed. It is only when the phytoplankton produced by the lake are not consumed by the next level in the food web that they build up and impair both recreation and habitat value. Some types of algae are more likely to do this than others, but a wide variety of algae can form blooms or mats. It is important to know something about both the amount and type of phytoplankton when developing a lake management plan.



Dolichospermum



Microcystis

Phytoplankton can be quantified in a number of ways, the simplest being by Secchi transparency, but this may not actually measure phytoplankton when substantial amounts of suspended sediment are present. Most often professionals and volunteers use chlorophyll a as a surrogate for algal quantity. Chlorophyll a is a green pigment found in all plants capable of photosynthesis, the process by which plants convert the sun's energy into biomass. However, not all types of algae have similar ratios of chlorophyll a to biomass, and each major algal group has its own set of pigments that include other forms of green chlorophyll as well as other pigments that produce red, yellow and blue colors. Consequently, while chlorophyll a is a very

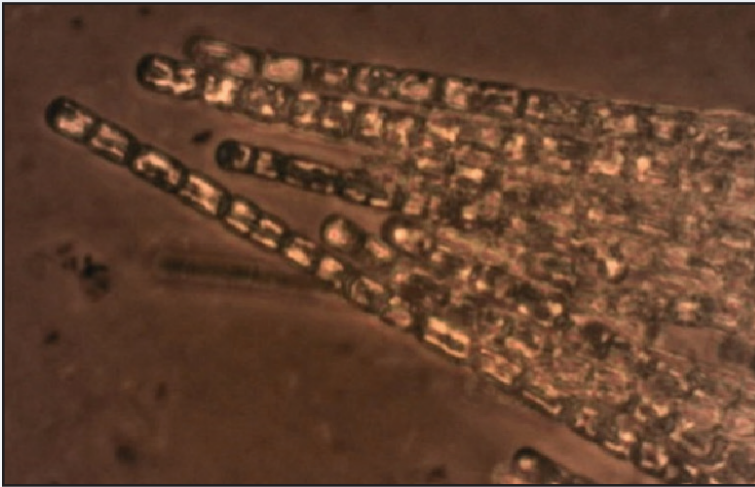
useful measurement, it tells only part of the story and does not provide a lot of information that could be very important in choosing a management strategy. While other quantitative measures are also potentially useful, it makes a lot of sense to simply look at the algae – under great magnification – to see what types are present. This is what phycologists (people who study algae) and their microscopes do.

At the very least, lake managers need to know which algae can dominant as bloom formers to take appropriate action. The most common bloom-forming algal groups are the blue-greens (Cyanophyta, actually cyanobacteria), green algae (Chlorophyta), and diatoms (Bacillariophyta), although the four other common algal groups include bloom-forming algae too. Knowing the composition of a bloom can make a real difference in which algicide to apply at what dose for



Planktothrix

short-term control, and matters in determining what caused the bloom and how to stop it from happening again (long-term control). Within the blue-green group, there are several major types that are commonly associated with blooms and each has its own properties and requirements that may lead to different impacts on recreation and habitat. It may actually be necessary to identify the alga to the species level to determine what the best course of action will be.



Aphanizomenon

Knowing the types of algae present will also shed light on the effective level of nutrients in the lake. Nutrient levels can be measured directly, but how they affect lake uses can often be best discerned through phytoplankton analysis. The actual quantity of algae will be determined by available phosphorus levels in most lakes, but the ratio of available forms of multiple nutrients often determines which algae will dominate. Diatoms require high silica, and many green algae require high nitrogen as ammonium or nitrate. Yet some blue-greens can fix abundant gaseous nitrogen (Figure 2), freeing them from any nitrogen limits and allowing severe bloom formation if enough phosphorus is available. Consequently, phosphorus control is the preferred method of algae control; there can't be blooms if phosphorus availability is low.

There is a catch, however. Just because phosphorus in the water column is low does not mean that phosphorus is not available. Phosphorus in surficial sediments may be taken up by algae growing right on the sediment, and those algae may store up extra phosphorus before rising in the water column. When they get up into the lighted upper water layer, they can continue to grow and bloom using the phosphorus they brought with them, sort of an algal picnic! Eventually the bloom will subside if there is not enough phosphorus in the water column to support it, but some portion of the phosphorus brought up with the algae will remain and may support other algae, possibly at bloom levels. Rising algae are therefore vectors of fertilization, not just a symptom.

Control of phosphorus can be accomplished by multiple methods, and the first stop is always the watershed. If there is too much phosphorus in runoff, there may be too much phosphorus in the lake. Eventually, however, the input phosphorus either leaves the lake or winds up in the surficial sediments. When oxygen is low, reactions allow some of that phosphorus to come back out of the water column and be recycled. Consequently, even the best watershed management program will not prevent blooms if enough phosphorus has accumulated. This internal load must be removed or neutralized. Dredging is the ideal technical solution, but is often infeasible due to engineering difficulties, disposal limitations, and overall cost. Oxygenation can keep most of the phosphorus in the sediment, and makes better fish habitat in deep water, but must be repeated each summer at considerable cost. If affordable, however, this is a great option. Phosphorus inactivation, most often with aluminum compounds, will bind up the phosphorus in forms that do not become available under fluctuating oxygen levels, and has enjoyed considerable success throughout the USA in lakes where the internal load is the dominant source of phosphorus, including multiple lakes in Maine. Oxygenation and phosphorus inactivation are being evaluated for the Belgrade Lakes to supplement watershed management.



A lake suffering from an algae bloom:

Editor's Note: The BLA has invited Ken to speak to our community at the Maine Lakes Resource Center on Jan. 29th at 6:00 PM.

BOOK REVIEW – “THE SECRET LIFE OF A LAKE”

AUTHOR: PETER TOBIESSEN

by Lynn Matson

I just finished reading “The Secret Life of a Lake” by Peter Tobiesen. I think it should be required reading for every BLA member and everyone who shares a love of our lakes. Here’s why.

The book begins with a quote by Senegalese environmentalist Baba Dioum. It reads, “In the end we will conserve only what we love, we will love only what we understand and we understand only what we are taught.”

This book has a lot to teach us, and unlike many science books, this one is written for a general audience and is very readable.

Peter Tobiesen is a scientist and professor of Aquatic Biology at Union College in Schenectady, New York. He also owns a camp on Sacandaga Lake just outside Speculator, New York, in the Adirondack Mountains.

In the preface, Mr. Tobiesen writes that when he joined his local lake association, he soon realized that the members were very intelligent people who loved their lakes, but they knew very little about them. He was motivated to write this book with the thought in mind that the more we understand about our lakes, the better chance we have of dealing with the many challenges they face including pollution, invasive species and over development.

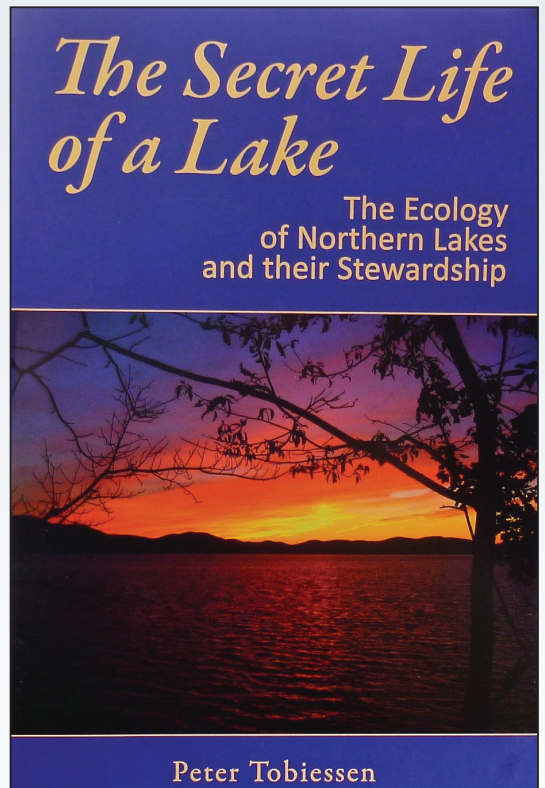
“The Secret Life of a Lake” reveals the workings of a typical temperate lake, like Great Pond and Long Pond. The author opens up our eyes to what goes on under the surface of these complex eco systems. He explains their geological origin, their seasonal cycles, their chemical makeup, their critical nutrient capacity.

Tobiesen explains the reason for algae formation like blue green algae and gloeotrichia. He writes about the various weeds in our lakes, such as invasive milfoil, and explains the food chain from microscopic protozoa to our fish, lake mammals, and birds.

The author also writes about the human impact on our lakes in the forms of acid rain, phosphorus loading and global warming. From beginning to end, his goal is to help us gain a clearer understanding and deeper appreciation of our lakes to help us make wise decisions regarding their preservation.

If you love our lakes, this is a book you’ll want to read. It’s also a book that you’ll want to share with your family and have on your shelf as a handy reference.

“The Secret Life of a Lake” was published in 2012 and is available from Amazon in paperback for \$15.52.



If you love our lakes, read this book!

Thank you to The Tasmanian Department of Primary Industries, Water Environment for much of the information found in the front page story of the Summer 2014 newsletter.

Please note:

The editors would like to thank all of our wonderful contributors for the past several years who have made the newsletter a success!

Gift Memberships:

A Belgrade Lakes Association membership is the perfect gift for a neighbor or a family member – especially those who love and want to preserve our lakes. Contact the BLA office at 207-512-5150 or email info@blamaine.org

INVASIVE MILFOIL – A PERSISTENT FOE

by Lynn Matson

If you were out on Great Pond this summer and spent some time in North Bay you probably saw the STOP MILFOIL team at work. This was Year III in our very aggressive fight against the invasive milfoil growing in Great Meadow Stream and Great Pond.

We actually stepped up the effort this year with the addition of our own DASH boat (Diver Assisted Suction Harvester), yet the milfoil is proving to be a very resilient enemy. This battle is a long way from over.



Members of the STOP MILFOIL team at work in their new DASH boat (Diver Assisted Suction Harvester) removing invasive milfoil from North Bay in Great Pond last July. Photo courtesy of Dr. Alex Wall.

The good news is that the basic plan for fighting the milfoil seems to be working. This year we followed our proven strategy of 1. restricting access to the infestation area, 2. removing the milfoil plants, 3. surveying Great Pond and Long Pond for new outbreaks and 4. building public awareness of the threat.

Right from the start we said one of our goals was to undertake a program of intensive hand pulling for a few years to significantly reduce the size of the infestation in Great Meadow Stream and North Bay and to help decrease the chance of it spreading to other parts of the lake and into Long Pond. Once the milfoil population is small enough, the plan calls for controlling it with a more modest program of maintenance pulling.

So How Are We Doing? In 2012 we removed 48,648 gallons of milfoil and estimated that we had taken out 90% of the milfoil plants. In 2013 we removed 28,939 gallons and again estimated a 90% success rate. This year we removed 12,900 gallons. By the end of the season it was difficult to find any milfoil in the original infestation area.

How Was This Accomplished? New England Milfoil, the professional dive company that has worked for us the last two seasons, was back for 8 weeks this summer with their divers and DASH boat. The 8-person STOP MILFOIL crew, headed by BRCA Milfoil Program Director Toni Pied, was also out on the water surveying Great and Long Pond and hand pulling plants. This year Toni's team had the big advantage of operating its own DASH boat which really improved their productivity.

How Much Survey Work Was Done? Just as we have the last two seasons, a dedicated STOP MILFOIL team surveyed the shorelines of Great Pond and Long Pond and repeatedly searched the high-risk areas on both lakes for new outbreaks. No new invasive milfoil infestations were found in Long Pond or in Great Pond outside of North Bay. That's the good news.

Here's the concern. In October scuba divers from the Maine Department of Environmental Protection and New England Milfoil surveyed all of North Bay while being pulled behind slow moving watercraft. This is the first time this technique of searching with divers below the surface has been used in our survey work. The divers did discover several individual milfoil plants growing in North Bay outside of the original restricted work zone. All of the plants that were discovered by the divers were removed, a total of about 200 gallons. No plants were found growing outside of North Bay when those waters were searched.

How Does This Discovery Change The Plan For Next Year? The milfoil discovered in North Bay this fall very likely got its start from fragments that broke off plants growing in the original infestation area. This fragmentation trait is one of the reasons that milfoil is so difficult to contain. What it means is that next year and in future years we will be putting a much greater emphasis on searching for milfoil plants growing outside the original work area.

These searches will entail surveying shoreline and high-risk areas on Great Pond and Long Pond, just as we have done the last three summers, but they'll also now include much more underwater work with divers being pulled behind watercraft in search grid patterns, especially in and around North Bay.

Next summer we'll also equip our DASH boat with floodlights to conduct night searches. This is a technique that was pioneered by the Lake Environmental Association in the Sebago watershed. It has proven to be very effective at spotting the milfoil plants while at the same time covering large areas, like North Bay, much more quickly and also means that large portions of Great Pond and Long Pond can be surveyed more often.

NEW LONG POND REBAITS® DISPENSER!

by Dick Greenan

ReBaits® is the brainchild of Florida B.A.S.S. Federation National Conservation Director Eamon Bolten and is designed to keep potentially discarded soft plastic baits out of the water, out of the stomachs of our precious fisheries resource, and into recycling, not landfills.



In September, 2011, B.A.S.S. Times Senior Writer Robert Montgomery brought to light the story of Joe Ford, an angler who had caught a 10-pound bass that died. The bass' stomach contents revealed that the bass had eaten 12 large soft plastic lures which had created a mass in the bass' belly.

"Too many anglers tear worn baits off their hooks and toss them over the side," said Montgomery in his monthly conservation column. "Either they do so without thinking about it, or they believe that a little bit of plastic can't hurt anything. They are wrong."

Our Belgrade Lakes Association wholeheartedly supports the efforts of ReBaits® and the B.A.S.S. Federation in this national effort to encourage all anglers to recycle their old plastic baits.

The ReBaits® dispenser at the Long Pond boat ramp has been provided by a local bass fishing club for your convenience. Let's recycle all of our plastic baits to help our fisheries and to clean up the lakes. Thank you!



News From the BLA Office

Don't Be Left Out!

Would you like to receive BLA mail at your summertime mailing address? If you provide us with your local postal address, we will use it for all Belgrade Lakes Association mailings during June, July and August. Email your summer address to the office at info@blamaine.org, or leave a message on our office answering machine, **207-512-5150**.

Membership Renewal

All dues memberships are up for renewal as of January 1, 2015. You will be receiving a renewal packet in the mail in late January. If you prefer, renew online at belgradelakesassociation.org

Not a Member?

Call, email or leave your address online and a membership packet will be on its way.

INVASIVE MILFOIL, CONT.

What About The Other Parts Of The STOP MILFOIL Plan?

The Adopt-A-Shoreline program more than doubled in size this summer. Twelve new miles of lakefront were added to the program. Adopt-A-Shoreline volunteers are now regularly searching a total of 23 miles of Great Pond and Long Pond shoreline for new outbreaks of milfoil. Thank you to all our Adopt-A-Shoreline participants.

The public education campaign also had a boost this summer. In addition to our public information meetings, STOP MILFOIL team members visited 122 lakeside camps to answer questions and report on the progress being made in the fight against milfoil.

How Much Money Was Donated? The BLA STOP MILFOIL Capital Campaign had another great year. Thanks to your generous support, a total of \$122,945 has been raised to date this year, including \$20,000 from the town of Belgrade and \$10,000 from Rome. This means that the BLA will receive \$100,000 in matching grants funds in 2014. Thank you very much to all our donors for making this possible.

What's The Bottom Line? As a BLA member you should feel very encouraged that the basic strategy for controlling the milfoil infestation in Great Pond is working. In just three years almost all of the milfoil infestation in Great Meadow Stream and in North Bay at the mouth of the stream has been removed.

However, the reality is that the milfoil will likely never be fully eradicated. The discovery of the scattered plants in North Bay underscores our need to be ever more vigilant in our search for new outbreaks. Early detection and fast action is still the best way to prevent further infestations.

Success is going to mean more hand pulling plants every summer. It's going to mean a stepped up surveillance program involving divers and night survey work. It's going to mean our lake community continuing to support this program just as it has the last three years.

As we look ahead, here's how you can help:

1. Learn to identify milfoil and be on the lookout for it when you are on or near the water next summer.
2. Inspect your watercraft, trailers, boating gear, anchors and paddles, every time you launch and pull them from the water.
3. Check fishing and hunting gear, such as lures, decoys, decoy anchors and blinds for plant fragments.
4. Sign up for Adopt-A-Shoreline and patrol your shoreline for new outbreaks. Call Toni Pied, BRCA Milfoil Program Director, at 207 215-2685 for more information.
5. Support the STOP MILFOIL Capital Campaign. Make a donation by writing a check to "BLA – STOP MILFOIL" and mailing it to: BLA, PO Box 551, Belgrade Lakes, Maine 04918. Or go to: www.belgradelakesassociation.org. Every dollar donated goes into a dedicated STOP MILFOIL bank account and will be used only for fighting milfoil on Great Pond and Long Pond.

Fighting the milfoil on Great Pond is a battle we can win. It's a battle we have to win. With your ongoing support it's a battle we will win.

Thank you for your concern, vigilance and your generous donations to the STOP MILFOIL Capital Campaign.



GROWING UP, CONT.

good to the lakes for the generations to come and continuing a lake legacy that has been here for hundreds of years. As I look back over the years, I realize that Belgrade Lakes has not changed very much. It is just the people who have changed. It still is a quaint village with unique people from all over the world. It took a Village to raise all of us. I would like to remember and honor the Ladies of the Lake whom I admired as I grew up: my mother – Esther Downing; my mother-in-law – Lucille Rizzo; my grandmothers – Rebecca Tracey and Doris Downing; my aunts – Annette Willey, Beverly Beale and Maple Tracy; Lydia Johnson; Elsie Johnson; Florence Johnson; Gloria Webster; Erma Clement; Betty Grant; Irene Johnson; Ruth Wyman; Flossi and Becky Webster; Sadie Yeaton; Margaret Damren; Marie Pulsifer; and Ethel Pray.

As I drive past the Fire Station and see the Village, I am always so happy to be home!

E.B. WHITE, ESSAYIST AND STYLIST, DIES

By HERBERT MITGANG, *New York Times*, Oct. 2, 1985



E. B. White, the essayist and stylist who was one of the nation's most precious literary resources, died yesterday at his home in North Brooklin, Me., where he had lived for half a century. He had Alzheimer's disease and was 86 years old.

Mr. White's writing was appreciated by generations of readers of every age.

His classic children's books, "Stuart Little," "Charlotte's Web" and "The Trumpet of the Swan," continue to sell in the hundreds of thousands every year.

His importance to students is immeasurable because of "The Elements of Style," the slim work on English usage he revised and expanded, based on Prof. William Strunk Jr.'s textbook. The book is used today in high schools and colleges across the country.

His comments, pieces and poems in *The New Yorker* helped to set the tone of sophisticated wit, irreverence and necessary candor almost since the magazine's beginnings in the 1920's.

And his independent stands in the "Talk of the Town" column of *The New Yorker* and elsewhere brooked no nonsense about excesses in American corporate and political life.

'His Writing Was Timeless'

William Shawn, editor of *The New Yorker*, said yesterday:

"E. B. White was a great essayist, a supreme stylist. His literary style was as pure as any in our language. It was singular, colloquial, clear, unforced, thoroughly American and utterly beautiful. Because of his quiet influence, several generations of this country's writers write better than they might have done. He never wrote a mean or careless sentence. He was impervious to literary, intellectual and political fashion. He was ageless, and his writing was timeless.

"Watched over and inspired by *The New Yorker's* founding editor, Harold Ross, he and James Thurber were the writers who did most to determine the magazine's shape, tone and direction. Even though White lived much of his life on a farm in Maine, remote from the clatter of publicity and celebrity, fame overtook him, fortunately leaving him untouched. His connections with nature were intimate and ardent. He loved his farm, his farm animals, his neighbors, his family and words."

Mr. White's score of books - essays, poems, sketches, letters - include "The Points of My Compass," "The Second Tree From the Corner," "Here Is New York," "One Man's Meat" and (with James Thurber) "Is Sex Necessary?"

He could be outspoken and passionate on subjects that were especially close to his heart - the freedom and integrity of the press, personal privacy and liberty, the intrusion of advertising, market surveys and commercialism into everyday living, the conservation of nature, the need for some form of world government. His opponents often succumbed before the force of his purity, ridicule, regret and common sense.

Respect for Audiences

Mr. White's strength as a writer was rooted in his respect for his audiences - children, adolescents and adults - regardless of what the pollsters and market surveys declared as scientific truth. "No one can write decently who is distrustful of the reader's intelligence," he said. "Television has taken a big bite out of the written word. But words still count with me."

His "Elements of Style," which he updated from the privately printed notes made in 1918 by Mr. Strunk, his former professor at Cornell, and revised several times since for new editions, has sold millions of copies. The White-Strunk book was ignored at peril by students ever since it first appeared some three decades ago. It is considered one of the most enduring and most readable books on American English usage.

The wisdom in the book is both analytical and practical. In it he says: "Vigorous writing is concise. A sentence should contain no unnecessary words, a paragraph no unnecessary sentences, for the same reason that a

drawing should have no unnecessary lines and a machine no unnecessary part. This requires not that the writer make all his sentences short, or that he avoid all detail and treat his subjects only in outline, but that every word tell."

Clarity and Grace

In the latest edition, more than before, words tell. For example, Mr. White called "offputting" and "ongoing" newfound adjectives to be avoided because they are inexact and clumsy:

"Ongoing is a mix of continuing and active and is usually superfluous, and offputting might mean objectionable, disconcerting or distasteful. Instead, select a word whose meaning is clear. As a simple test, transform the participles to verbs. It is possible to upset something. But to offput? To ongo?"

Some of the memorable advice in his "Approach to Style" section goes:

"Place yourself in the background; write in a way that comes naturally; work from a suitable design; write with nouns and verbs; do not overwrite; do not overstate; avoid the use of qualifiers; do not affect a breezy style; use orthodox spelling; do not explain too much; avoid fancy words; do not take shortcuts at the cost of clarity; prefer the standard to the offbeat; make sure the reader knows who is speaking; do not use dialect; revise and rewrite."



View at Bear Springs Camps, Belgrade Lakes, Maine

Talking about the surprising acceptance of "The Elements of Style," he said: "It's a funny little book, and it keeps going on. Occasionally I get irate letters from people who find a boo-boo in it, but many more from people who find it useful. The book is used not only in institutions of learning, but also in business places. Bosses give it to their secretaries. I guess someone in the office has to know how to write English."

About the only one who had the ability to uphold that good advice was E(lwyn) B(rooks) White himself.

'She'd Run Out of Names'

Of his name, Mr. White said: "I never liked Elwyn. My mother just hung it on me because she'd run out of names. I was her sixth child." From college on, to his relief, he was called Andy. He acquired the name at Cornell, after its first president, Andrew D. White. The nickname was bestowed there on students named White.

Mr. White was born in Mount Vernon, N.Y., on July 11, 1899. His parents had moved there from Brooklyn, he later surmised, "because Mount Vernon sounded tonier." After serving as editor in chief of The Cornell Sun, he worked for the United Press in New York for a year, became a reporter for The Seattle Times for two years, tried his hand in an advertising agency as a production assistant and copywriter, and then found his niche as a contributor to The New Yorker in 1927.

Recalling his early tenure at the magazine, he said, "The cast of characters in those days was as shifty as the characters in a floating poker game. Every week the magazine teetered on the edge of financial ruin. It was chaos but it was enjoyable. James Thurber and I shared a sort of elongated closet. Harold Ross fought with Raoul Fleischmann and erected an impenetrable barrier between the advertising department and the editorial department. It was known as the Ross Barrier."

Disguising North Brooklin

A friend who visited Mr. White at home in Maine several years ago found him in good spirits. He looked like his sentences: straightforward, yet elegant.

"Don't say I live exactly in North Brooklin or buses will show up - a few have already - loaded with schoolchildren and their teachers looking for 'Stuart Little,' 'Charlotte's Web' and 'The Trumpet of the Swan,' " he said. "Maybe you can say 'somewhere on the Atlantic Coast.' If you must, make the location the way the property appears on

nautical maps - Allen Cove. That way no one will be able to find it except by sailboat and using a chart."

So many letters from children are addressed to Mr. White (as well as to Stuart Little and Charlotte, his fictional creations) that Harper & Row, his publisher, has a printed reply of thanks and explanation from Mr. White. Part of his form letter goes:

"Are my stories true, you ask? No, they are imaginary tales, containing fantastic characters and events. In real life, a family doesn't have a child who looks like a mouse; in real life, a spider doesn't spin words in her web. In real life, a swan doesn't blow a trumpet. But real life is only one kind of life -there is also the life of the imagination. And although my stories are imaginary, I like to think that there is some truth in them, too - truth about the way people and animals feel and think and act."



Sought Privacy in Maine

After having lived in Manhattan in the 1920's and 1930's, Mr. White and his wife, Katharine, sought privacy in Maine. They bought the roomy old farmhouse in 1933 and lived in it almost continuously beginning in 1938.

Their lives were linked with The New Yorker, where they first met in 1926. He said that Katharine Sergeant Angell was considered "the intellectual soul" of the magazine, serving as fiction editor and encouraging many gifted writers.

They were married in 1929. Mr. White later said, "I soon realized that I had made no mistake in my choice of a wife. I was helping her pack an overnight bag one afternoon when she said, 'Put in some tooth twine.' I knew then that a girl who called dental floss tooth twine was the girl for me."

They were married for 48 years, and Mr. White never quite got over her death in 1977. When her book, "Onward and Upward in the Garden," based on her New Yorker pieces, came out in 1978, with an introduction by him, he wrote, "Life without Katharine is no good for me."

Until illness slowed him down, Mr. White usually rose at 6 in the morning, started the wood fire in the black four-lidded kitchen stove, checked the action in the birdfeeder dangling outside the living-room window of the 19th-century farmhouse and peered with a Maineman's eyes at the broken clouds.

Prose Produced by Hand

When the sun broke through without advance notice, the pencils, pens and typewriters (the portable one down at the boathouse, the upright Underwood in the workroom) went into action. Mr. White turned out some of the most moral, living prose produced by hand in the country.

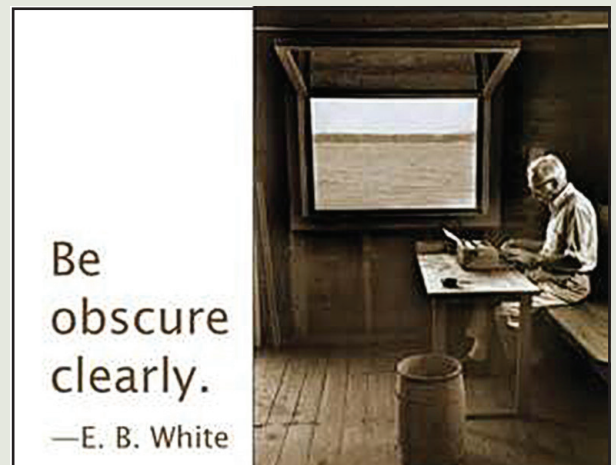
Even in speaking, Mr. White seemed to have the right phrase at hand. Fiddling with a thick log in the fireplace, he made it flare up quickly - more a countryman's than an author's fire.

Mr. White liked to sip a vermouth cassis before lunch. "It's a French taxi-driver's drink," he said.

Walking with a visitor over to the general store, he took a bottle of orange juice to the counter. "Hi, Al," he said to the proprietor. "Hi, Andy," the proprietor replied, and at the same time handed him a copy of the local paper, The Ellsworth American, published by his longtime friend J. Russell Wiggins. Now and then, he would contribute a letter or essay to the paper.

Driving on a few miles, he stopped at the boatyard run by his son, Joel, a naval architect from M.I.T., and studied the small boats jiggling on the windy waters. In a cavernous boatshed, he climbed aboard the 19-foot sloop Martha, named after his granddaughter, which his son built for him. He sailed these waters, with friends and family, most of his life.

He pointed to the carved dolphins, four on each side of the bow, that he designed and decorated in gold. Like Louis the trumpeter swan in his book "who thought how lucky he was to inhabit such a beautiful earth," E. B.



White was on the side of good luck and the angels.

Fondness for Geese

Back at Allen Cove, he spotted the geese on the pond below the farmhouse and barn. He picked up some apples and waved them aloft, inviting the geese to have a snack before dinner. "Geese are the greatest clowns in the world," he said. "I wouldn't be without them."

To followers of Mr. White's work, his Maine home was historic literary territory. The barn inspired many of the characters in his stories for children. In a corner of a cellar window a spider spun a web but, he said, it was a different species from the large gray spider that lived here with Wilbur the pig in "Charlotte's Web."

In his small gray boathouse facing the cove, he wrote "One Man's Meat," most of "Charlotte's Web" and, he said, "10,000 newsbreaks."

These are the satirical and humorous observations that round off the columns in almost every issue of The New Yorker. Although uncredited, they bore the White imprint for many years. Their headings became part of the

language: "Neatest Trick of the Week"; "Go Climb a Tree Department"; "Letters We Never Finished Reading"; "Our Forgetful Authors"; "Funny Coincidence Department"; "Wind on Capitol Hill."

'Holding Down a Job'

Until recently, The New Yorker sent him a package of news items every week. "I like doing the breaks because it gives me a feeling of holding down a job and affords me a glimpse of newspapers all over the country," Mr. White said. "I turned in my first one 50 years ago. Everybody in the shop used to do them. One day I got a call from Harold Ross asking where I was. I said I was home with the chicken pox. And he said, 'I finally get someone who can do these breaks, and he gets the chicken pox.' "



Cabin Bear Springs Camps, Belgrade Lakes, Maine

For his contribution to American letters, Mr. White was awarded the National Medal for Literature in 1971. In 1963, President Kennedy presented him with a Presidential Medal of Freedom. He was elected to the 50-member American Academy of Arts and Letters and, in 1973, received its gold medal for essays and criticism. In 1978, he received a special Pulitzer Prize for the body of his work.

Two years ago, after he had begun to slow down, he typed, with his usual good humor, a long letter to a friend: "I have a first degree heart block, have lost the sight in my right eye because of a degenerated retina, can't wind my wrist watch because my fingers have knuckled under to arthritis, can't tie my shoelaces, am dependent on seven different pills to stay alive, can't remember whether I took the pills or didn't.

"On the other hand, I am camped alone, here at Bert Mosher's Camps on the shore of Great Pond which I first visited in 1904; I have my 15-foot green Old Town canoe with me, which I brought over on the top of my car; I sat out a New England boiled dinner this noon by anticipating it with martinis and cheese-and-crackers before walking up to the farmhouse, and after dinner (or lack of same) went fishing for bass in my canoe.

"There is a certain serenity here that heals my spirit, and I can still buy Moxie in a tiny supermarket six miles away. Moxie contains gentian root, which is the path to the good life. This was known in the second century before Christ, and it is a boon to me today."

In addition to his son, Joel, of Brooklin, Me., Mr. White is survived by two stepchildren, Roger Angell of Manhattan and Nancy Stableford of Easton, Pa.; nine grandchildren, and 12 great-grandchildren.





BELGRADE LAKES ASSOCIATION

137 Main Street
P.O. Box 551
Belgrade Lakes, ME 04918

PHONE:
207.512.5150

EMAIL:
info@blamaine.org

WEB:
belgradelakesassociation.org

BLA Board of Directors

Gail Rizzo
President

Lynn Matson
Vice President

John Atkinson
Treasurer

Liz Fontaine/
Stephanie Gardner
Secretary

Polly Parkhill Beatie
Jad Dieterle
Pat Donahue
Adam Gardner
John Gibbs
Shawn Grant
Dick Greenan
Carol Johnson
Bert Languet
Maureen Maslak
Rhoads Miller
Jack Schultz
Maggie Shannon
Bill Shontell
Steve Smith
Bill Witkin

2014 BLA Bonus and Annual Raffle *Winners*

Prize	Description	Winner's Name
Bonus #1	Four Rounds of Golf at the Belgrade Lakes Golf Club	Dan Szatkowski
Bonus #2	Dinner for four at the Village Inn	Sheri Smith
Bonus #3	10' Stand up Paddle Board	Stephanie Rothschild
Annual #1	Pontoon Boat, Trailer & Motor	Dave Porter
Annual #2	Three Sections of Shoremaster Dock	G. Reen
Annual #3	Kayak and Paddle	Van Schenkov
Annual #4	Camp on Snake Point, Great Pond	April Dieterle
Annual #5	Camp on Tearnann Loch, Great Pond	Marcia Pecina
Annual #6	Airlink Float Plane Tour	Dick & Reta King
Annual #7	Day's Picnic Basket	Jason Diaz