



BELGRADE LAKES ASSOCIATION

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

Summer 2018



Great Pond looking north over Pine Island

(Photo courtesy of Ben Beatie)

PROGRESS ON ALL FRONTS

A Message from our President

2018 is off to a great start. Progress is being made on several important initiatives in the Belgrades. Here's an update.

Clean Lakes

We've been talking about the looming phosphorus problem in Great Pond and Long Pond for some time now. You've read about it in this newsletter and heard reports from Dr. Whitney King and limnologist Dr. Ken Wagner at our annual meetings.

Here's the latest. Decades of monitoring clearly indicate declining water quality in both the BLA Ponds. In fact, we are approaching the tipping point where the excess phosphorus levels could trigger a massive algae bloom. The good news is that our most recent research suggests our water quality has plateaued the last couple of years, possibly giving us a little more time to refine our research model and prepare for an alum treatment of Great Pond.



Lynn Matson, BLA President



The alum treatment barge on East Pond

Great Pond Watershed Survey

The survey is the first big step in the actual treatment of Great Pond. It will start on the 10th of September and will last several days. Many volunteers will be needed to complete this undertaking in a timely manner. **If you can possibly volunteer, please contact Carol Johnson at (603) 828-1252.** Volunteer training will take place on Saturday, September 8th from 9:00 am to noon at the Maine Lakes Resource Center. Please step up to help out with this important work.

East Pond Treatment

The first alum treatment for excess phosphorus in the Belgrades is already underway. Work began on East Pond on June 4th and will be conducted in two phases ending early this fall. The treatment will not only alleviate the late summer algae blooms that have plagued East Pond for years but also should have a positive impact on property values in that area. A special thanks to Jerry Tipper, who led the effort to raise over \$1M from generous donors and East Pond camp owners and made this remediation work possible. Well done, Jerry.

STOP MILFOIL

Work is also underway right now to remove invasive milfoil from Great Meadow Stream and North Bay of Great Pond. The STOP MILFOIL crew is surveying all the shorelines of Great Pond and Long Pond for new outbreaks. New England Milfoil will soon be joining the effort and work here for 7 or 8 weeks this summer. We've been fortunate to control this problem so far, but we can't lose sight of the very real threat that invasive milfoil poses to our lakes and this whole community. Thanks so much to all the STOP MILFOIL donors for your ongoing support.

Belgrade Village Road Construction

I suspect this summer will long be remembered for what's happening right in the heart of the village. The necessary trees are already down, and the power poles have been moved to the other side of the street. Beginning September 1st, the road and storm drainage system will be totally rebuilt from the Catholic Church on the south end to the dam on the north. Next spring, the final road paving will be completed, the pedestrian lighting and a brick sidewalk will be installed, and new

Even with this good news, we are moving ahead with plans to treat Great Pond, and the BLA is leading the way. Several steps are required before the actual treatment can begin. The first is a survey of the Great Pond watershed, led and funded by the BLA. Results from this survey will be used to write a Great Pond Watershed-Based Management Plan needed to apply for federal and Maine DEP grants and to secure the required Maine DEP permits.



The alum treatment, being conducted on East Pond this summer, will alleviate the algae bloom that has plagued that lake for years and will help protect local property values.



Visible alum trail behind the barge on its way into the depths to do its work

trees planted. When all jobs are finished, the town will see great improvements.

One major concern is the effect all this work could have on our lakes. The good news is that Maine DOT fully recognizes the close proximity and vulnerability of our lakes to the construction. The BLA has already had multiple meetings with Peter Newkirk, the Maine DOT environmental engineer, to review the state's plans to prevent any environmental damage from this project. We also have met with Ann Lowe, the DOT Resident Inspector, who will be on site for the duration of the work to oversee the job for the state.

Here's how you can help. If you see any potential or actual incidents

of pollution caused by this work, such as runoff of construction materials or leaking fuel, immediately contact Carol Johnson at (603) 828-1252 so that we can alert the authorities and correct the problem. The more eyes on this project the better.

New 7 Lakes Alliance

Here's some more good news. Two of our local conservation groups have merged to form one new entity. The new organization has been named the "7 Lakes Alliance." It was formed by the consolidation of the Belgrade Regional Conservation Alliance (BRCA) and the Maine Lakes Resource Center (MLRC). The 7 Lakes Alliance will have more resources and capacity to deal with our major challenges of protecting our water quality and undeveloped land. It recently announced the hiring of a new CEO to lead the organization who can be met at our Annual Meeting on July 29th.

New Leadership

Beginning September 14th, Carol Johnson will be the new president of the BLA. She just may be the most qualified person ever to run your lake association. Carol grew up in Belgrade Lakes and has life-long ties to the region. Her mother, Lydia, owned the Brass Knocker gift shop that is now occupied by Hello Good Pie. Carol is a graduate of Colby College and a very successful business owner and just-retired. She recently renovated her home on Main Street in the village that has frontage on both Long Pond and Great Pond. Carol can keep an eye on both lakes and the Main Street road construction right from her front door. Congratulations, Carol. The future is bright. We're all behind you 100%.



The BLA is in good hands with Carol Johnson taking over the presidency this August.

Special Thanks

I also want to recognize a proven leader who has done more than any of us will ever know to help protect and improve our lakes. Charlie Baeder has been the Executive Director of the Belgrade Regional Conservation Alliance for the last 8 years. In that capacity he has been a true partner with the BLA in many of our endeavors, especially the STOP MILFOIL program. Charlie is now transitioning into the 7 Lakes Alliance group where he will continue to work closely with the BLA and the other lake associations in the Belgrade watershed. Thank you, Charlie.

As always, thanks so much to you, our members, for your strong backing of the BLA. Your support and generous donation have helped us make great progress on several important fronts in the last few years. Turning to the future, we know the BLA will play an even bigger role in the many challenges ahead that we face to keep our lakes clean and our lands unspoiled.

Have a great summer. See you at the BLA Annual Meeting on Sunday, July 29th.

Lynn Matson,
President.



A beautiful view of the village stream

BLA WILL CONDUCT A WATERSHED SURVEY OF GREAT POND THIS YEAR

By Jennifer Jespersen of Ecological Instincts and Maggie Shannon, BLA Water Quality Co-Chair

The Belgrade Lakes Association will conduct a survey of the Great Pond Watershed between September 10 and September 21, 2018. The survey will identify and prioritize sources of pollution, particularly soil erosion and stormwater runoff, on developed land in the watershed. This includes shoreline properties, state, local and private roads and stream crossings, as well as agricultural, forestry, and commercial properties. Locally-led shoreline surveys like this one are the accepted standard for correcting the pollution sources that load algae-promoting nutrients and other pollutants into lake water.

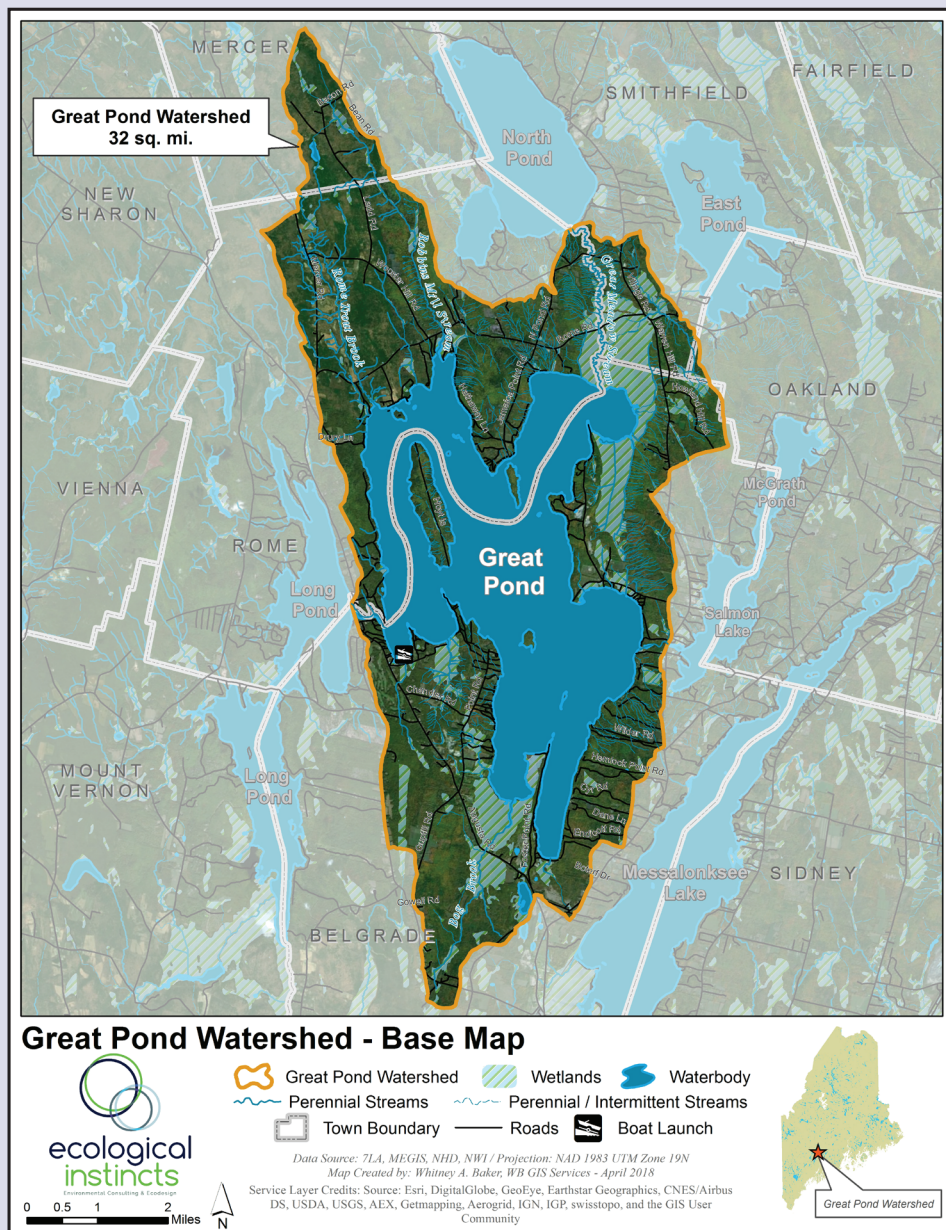
The spirit of this survey is to work cooperatively with landowners, road associations, and towns toward the common goal of improving and protecting water quality. The Survey is an ambitious task since Great Pond's watershed spans 32 square miles in the towns of Belgrade, Rome, Smithfield, Mercer, and Oakland. Great Pond was last surveyed in 1999. Now we need new data to create a comprehensive management plan that will effectively protect the health and beauty of Great Pond.

Here's what you need to know:

- All landowners in the watershed will receive a letter from BLA in mid-August requesting permission to survey their property. Information gathered during the survey is not for enforcement or to require homeowners to make improvements. Participation in the survey is voluntary, and you do not need to be present at the time of the survey. Any landowners that do not wish to participate can opt-out of the survey by calling or emailing the BLA, but obviously the BLA hopes that everyone will help improve and protect the lake by participating.

- The survey will be led by a team of technical experts assisted by local volunteers. Training for Survey Volunteers will take place on Saturday, September 8th from 9am - 12pm. If you would like to help with the Survey, please contact Carol Johnson at (603) 828-1252.
- Results of the watershed survey will be integrated in a Watershed Survey Report summarizing the survey findings. No landowner names will be used in the report. The report will be available on the BLA website in January, 2019, and presented at the 2019 BLA Annual Meeting.
- The Watershed Survey will be used to develop a Watershed-Based Management Plan for Great Pond in 2019. Both the survey and plan are necessary steps for acquiring state and federal Clean Water Act grants to improve water quality. The BLA's purpose in conducting the Survey is to obtain these funds.

The survey is being led by Jennifer Jespersen of Ecological Instincts who is serving as the technical consultant to BLA. The BLA project partners include Lake Stewards of Maine, 7 Lakes Alliance, Kennebec County Soil & Water Conservation District, watershed towns, and the Maine Department of Environmental Protection. For more information, or to volunteer for the survey, contact the BLA at (207) 512-5150, or email: info@BLAmaine.org.



CHALLENGE FUND DRIVE FOR WATERSHED SURVEY

By Lynn C. Matson

Alex and Kathi Wall are very concerned about the declining water quality of our lakes. Please read their letter, reprinted below, in which they share their feelings.

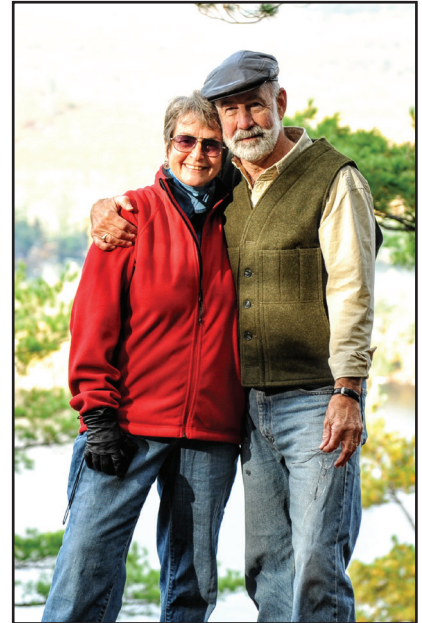
Because of their concern, Alex and Kathi are taking a big step to help solve the problem. They have put \$14,000 on the table and are challenging us to match it, dollar-for-dollar, to pay for the Great Pond Survey and Management Plan.

The survey and plan are prerequisites for us to receive federal funding, state funding, and the state permits needed to treat Great Pond for excess phosphorus. The BLA is leading and funding this survey work. See accompanying story on the page opposite.

How You Can Help

Send a check made out to "BLA –Clean Lakes" to the BLA office at P.O. Box 551, Belgrade Lakes, ME 04918, or make a donation directly online at www.belgradelakesassociation.org. Every dollar you donate will be doubled thanks to this matching gift program from the Walls. All donations will be used to help fund the Great Pond Survey and Great Pond Management Plan.

The BLA thanks Alex and Kathi for their very generous gift and for their leadership in protecting and improving our lakes. Thanks as well to all who respond to this challenge with a Clean Lakes donation. Your help is greatly appreciated and will make a real difference in the future of our lakes.



Kathi and Alex Wall

It was moving day in the Spring of 1978 when Kathi and I, with our daughter and toddler son, opened the door of our ancient farmhouse in Belgrade. There was great excitement and curiosity as we explored our newly acquired house, barns, fields and woodland. There was a history of lives lived, animals cared for, and fields harvested.

As time passed and our children grew older, we purchased property on Long Pond. We were astounded by the clarity of the water. I spent much of my childhood on a lake in Massachusetts where we routinely measured water clarity with a Secchi disc and there was little comparison to the pristine waters of Long Pond. We eventually built a small, three season camp, taking care not to disturb the natural buffer of the rocky wooded shore.

Early on, Kathi and I became members of the Belgrade Lakes Association. The Association has over a hundred years of dedication to the preservation of the waters and watershed of Great and Long Ponds. As members, we have learned a great deal about the Lakes and the mounting threats to water quality and, as a consequence, to the economy of the region.

The hidden culprit is phosphorus, a critical nutritional requirement for algae. It lurks unseen in the sediment of the lakes and enters the waters via runoff from camp roads and human activities. Our lakes are close to reaching the tipping point when algae will suddenly turn the waters green. This has already occurred on East Pond where remediation with phosphorus-binding alum is planned and permitted for this Spring.

We must be ready to initiate the process for Great Pond. Much of the scientific research has been completed. The next step required is to complete a State-mandated, exhaustive survey of Great Pond. Kathi and I encourage you to join us in providing the funding necessary to complete this survey and conserve our lakes.

Kathi and Alex Wall

WHO GETS THE FAMILY CAMP?

By Bert Languet, CFP

As the days warm and you return to your favorite place to relax, your thoughts may turn to “what happens when I am gone?” That place might be your cottage, summer home, cabin, or camp. If you want to pass the property onto family members there are several questions that you should ask. It is important to have a clear plan to help avoid chaos, hurt feelings, and family disputes.

Putting a plan together should involve the entire family, and you should have a conversation with each perspective future owner to see if they have an interest in retaining the cottage. Some may not want to keep the property and would rather have the money from the sale of the asset. Some may not be able to afford their share of the costs to maintain the cottage. Others want to keep the cottage and pass it on to their own children. Take inventory of each potential beneficiary’s feelings and concerns about the cottage and that will help guide you in your planning.

If the cottage is passed on, then how is it owned? Who decides when and how members get to use the property? Who takes care of maintenance and improvements? Does the cottage stay in the family for a limited time or does it continue into perpetuity? How well do your children get along? A good plan requires answers to all these questions and more.

There are several ways for a family to share ownership. For example:

Direct Ownership

Tenants in Common - Two or more people have ownership interests in the property. The interests do not have to be equal, and the owner is free to dispose of their share to a new owner unless prohibited by a legal document. Their share can be passed onto their children or anyone they choose (even a non-family member). If an owner gets divorced or dies, the spouse could end up being the new owner of the camp along with your other children. Tenants can also force a partition of the property, which usually means the property is sold. Tenancy in Common is probably the most widely used ownership due to it being the default of having no plan other than leaving it through the will.

Joint Tenancy with Rights of Survivorship - Two or more people have equal ownership in the property with the share of one going to the other(s) at death. The last one standing gets the property outright.

Retained Life Estate – The owner of the life estate retains ownership during their lifetime and at death the property passes to the remaining interest holder or holders.

Trusts

A trust is a vehicle that is established by a trust agreement. The grantor (the owner of the asset) transfers the property to the trust and a trustee manages the property to the benefit of the beneficiaries. A trust can be revocable (being able to change) or irrevocable (not able to change). The trustee can be a family member or a professional trustee. The trust document spells out how the property is to be used and for how long the property stays with the family. In most states, trusts are limited to 90 years. Some drawbacks can be the inflexibility in making changes once the trust is established. Funds can be placed in the trust to pay for future expenses such as property taxes and repairs.

Business Entity

The ownership of a camp can be transferred to a partnership, limited liability company (LLC), or family limited liability company. The advantage of a limited liability company is that it has a perpetual existence and can be more flexible in altering the ownership structure as family dynamics change. Management of the property is controlled by an operating agreement that directs the payment of operating expenses, regular maintenance, use and scheduling, and dispute resolutions. An operating agreement can allow for rental of the property if so desired to help offset some of



A family gathering at a local camp

the costs. The LLC usually will have provisions for a buy-sell agreement as to how and to whom shares in the LLC can be sold. An LLC has creditor protections as well. If a property is to be retained in the family for an extended time, then many planners see the LLC as the best solution.

An Example:

Ted and Alice leave their property to their three children through their wills. When Alice passes after Ted, the property goes to Bob, Sue, and Jane as Tenants in Common. Ted and Alice never discussed the cottage with their children during their lifetimes and assumed they could “figure it out” once they had left it to them. Ted and Alice had hoped that the cottage would stay in the family and be a way for the three children to stay connected. Unfortunately, the three siblings each had different feelings about the cottage as well as different financial situations.

Bob lives in Belgrade where the cottage is located and has been taking care of the maintenance for his parents for the last fifteen years. He moved to the area shortly after graduating high school in Connecticut and has worked construction locally since. He has a limited income and spends a lot of time at the property. He would like to keep the property, but worries about how to pay the taxes and maintenance costs.

Sue is a physician in New York and spends a few weeks each summer at the cottage. She enjoys her time there and would like to keep it in the family so that her children can continue to use the property well into the future. Her concern is being able to use the property during the limited time she has available each summer. There are only two bedrooms in the cottage with limited extra space which allows for only one family to use the cottage at a time.

Jane lives in California with her family and has not been to the cabin in twenty years. She and her husband do not intend to spend any time at the cottage and would rather use the funds from the cottage sale to pay for a summer home in Idaho. As a Tenant in Common Jane can force the sale of the property and that is her intention.

If Jane forces the sale of the property, then the other two would need to come up with the funds to buy Jane’s interest or sell the property on the open market. Bob has limited means and cannot afford his share of the cost of Jane’s interest. Sue has the means to purchase Jane’s complete interest in the cottage, but has concerns about how the cottage will be shared with Bob. In the end, the three siblings decide to sell the property and a piece of family history is lost.

What could Ted and Alice have done differently? The first thing should have been a conversation with each child to gauge their interest in the property. If they knew that Jane had no interest, then they possibly could have used other assets to offset the value of Jane’s share in the cottage. They could also have set up either a trust or limited liability company at their death to control how the property is held going forward and used a portion of their assets to create a fund to help offset the property taxes and maintenance costs that the property would incur for the distant future. A properly constructed plan would assist the siblings in sharing the property and keeping it in the family.

If you don’t have a plan for your ‘special place,’ then now is the time to start thinking about it. Avoiding the discussion with your children does not make the potential future problem go away. Speaking with them and developing a clear plan with your financial advisor can ensure that your place is available for many generations to share and create their own memories.

Content in this material is for general information only and is not intended to be a substitute for individualized legal advice. Please consult your legal advisor regarding your specific situation. Golden Pond Wealth Management and LPL Financial do not provide legal advice or services.



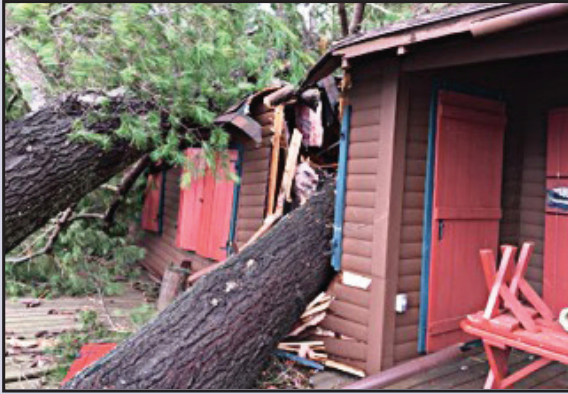
We hope you and your loved ones enjoy the beauty of our lakes for generations to come.

ARE YOU PROTECTED FROM STORM DAMAGE?

By Lynn C. Matson

Last October 30th, the Belgrades were clobbered by a violent late-season storm. Wind gusts of 80 mph were reported at about 4:00 AM that morning.

Several camps sustained major damage when they were crushed by falling trees, as is clearly evident in these photos taken the next morning on the north end of Great Pond. Fortunately, no one was killed or even injured.



WHAT?!

What made this storm so destructive is that the storm winds came out of the east-southeast. This is very unusual. Our storms normally come out of the west-northwest.

Our trees develop root systems and buffers to withstand the prevailing west-northwest winds. But those defenses didn't hold up when the winds came from the opposite direction last October. Many large pines were literally pushed over, their root balls coming right out of the ground.

There is nothing we can do to change the course of Mother Nature. In fact, some experts predict that, due to global warming, we can expect even more extreme weather conditions in the future.

So what can we do? The first thing is to protect yourself and your family. Then do what you can to protect your property.

Here are some tips that we may all want to consider before the next violent storm hits the Belgrades:

1. Listen to Weather Reports – Modern technology has given meteorologists amazing tools to track and forecast our weather. They accurately predicted the storm last October. So keep an ear tuned to our local weather reports.

2. Identify a Safe Place – Figure out the safest place to go in your home when violent weather strikes. For me, it's our basement under the workbench with a cell phone and flashlight. If you don't have a safe harbor in your home, it may be the time to go to relatives or friends or check into a motel.

3. Visit Your Insurance Agent – Check your homeowner's insurance coverage ... before the next storm hits. Do you have replacement coverage? What are the limits? Has your insurance kept up with the cost to repair or replace your home? It's very likely that you can significantly raise your coverage for a relatively small increase in your premiums.

4. Inventory your home and possessions – If your home is destroyed by a falling tree or fire, one of the biggest problems you will face is remembering everything you lost to make an insurance claim. There is a simple way to solve this problem. Walk around your camp and photograph or video everything. Go in every room and closet. Pull out your dresser drawers and look on every shelf. Then send that inventory report up to the cloud or put it in your safe deposit box. You'll also want to safeguard receipts or appraisals for expensive or rare items like furniture, jewelry, art, and antiques.

5. Check the Health of Your Trees – Have a certified arborist examine any trees on your property that could hit your camp. Then remove trees that are diseased or damaged before they are blown down in our next storm. Be sure to check the shoreland zoning regulations.

Hopefully the Belgrades will not see another destructive storm such as the one we had last October for many more years, but we know another storm will come. So take the time now to safeguard your family and your property...before it arrives.



Are you kidding?!



Oh boy....

THE GREAT POND YACHT CLUB

By Dick Greenan, Commodore, Great Pond Yacht Club

The Great Pond Yacht Club, <https://www.greatpondyachtclub.com>, just had their 8th Annual Summer Kick-off Meeting to set the 2018 Race Schedule and to welcome new members at the Maine Lakes Resource Center here in the Village.

For 2018, there are 7 races beginning with the June 2nd Milfoil Cup hosted by our very own Matti and Chris Bradley at their beautiful home in Echo Cove. The wind gods could have been more cooperative, but it didn't damper the spirit of those eight captains and their faithful crews. Another incredibly



The flotilla docked on the village stream

beautiful day was enjoyed on Great Pond and provided a photographer's dream!

The GPYC is also into its 4th year of its Youth Sailing Program, and there are a few openings left, so don't hesitate to register a youngster or two – it's a wonderful opportunity for future sailors!



Don Peterson's Committee Boat and Crew

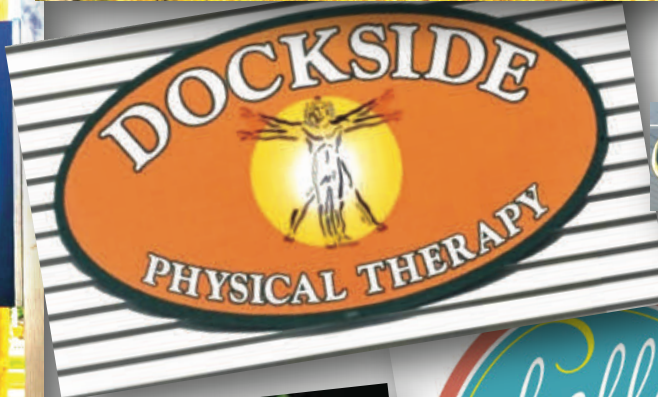
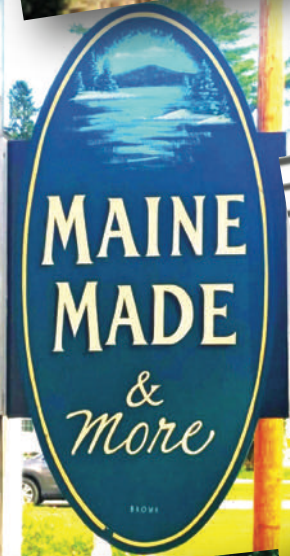
The Great Pond Yacht Club is open to all with just a \$50 membership, and you do not have to have a sailboat or reside on Great Pond. If you presently do not sail but would like to explore the waters of Great Pond, most of the boats would welcome additional "crew." It is supposed to be another beautiful summer, so we'll see you on the lake!



The 2018 Milfoil Cup



The Village is Open for Business!



**No road
construction until
after Labor Day.
Business as usual
in the Village!**



**Congratulations To
Day's Store
On Their 60th Anniversary!**



(Compiled by Marcel Schnee)

INVASIVE MILFOIL BATTLE WAGES ON

By Lynn C. Matson

We have been battling invasive milfoil in Great Meadow Stream and Great Pond for 8 years. Many people now feel it's a problem that has been solved - a threat that has been stopped. To some extent that is true. The milfoil infestation has been largely confined to the stream and North Bay of Great Pond. Thankfully, it hasn't spread to other parts of the lake or into Long Pond.

The campaign to halt and eradicate milfoil has been a very successful collaboration between



If you see a plant that looks like this in our lakes, please mark the location and contact the STOP MILFOIL office at (207) 495-6039.

very low water levels in 2016 gave the plants a strong head start last year, and they took off. What is very clear is that this fight is not over.

This summer we will undertake another very aggressive milfoil remediation plan. New England Milfoil, the professional dive company, will be here pulling the plants for six weeks this summer, with an option for two additional weeks. They will be on the water for two weeks each in July, August, and September and will come back for two more weeks in October if there is still more milfoil to be removed.

The 7 Lakes Alliance STOP MILFOIL crew will conduct extensive searches of the shorelines for both Great Pond and Long Pond, looking for new outbreaks. Searches will be conducted during the day using divers and at night using the light boat.

What You Can Do to Help

If you love our lakes and want to see them preserved in their beautiful clean natural state, here's what you can do to help:



In the summer of 2016, milfoil infestation choked off large sections around the public boat launch and beach at Lake Iroquois, made worse by a dry summer that lowered the lake level.

the Belgrade Lakes Association (BLA) and the 7 Lakes Alliance. The BLA raises much of the funding and spearheads the communications while the 7 Lakes Alliance conducts the actual field work, including removal of the milfoil plants and searches for new outbreaks. It's a great partnership.

However, the milfoil hasn't given up, not by a long shot. In fact, last year it made a big comeback.

For five years we made great headway reducing the size of the infestation. In 2012 we removed nearly 50,000 gallons of milfoil. By 2016 that number was all the way down to 3,500 gallons, but last year it jumped nearly five-fold to over 17,000 gallons.

What happened? The best thinking is that the abundant sunshine and



An outboard lower unit completely entangled with milfoil

1. **Learn** – Become familiar with invasive milfoil and learn to identify it. Then be on the look out for it when you are on the water.

2. **Inspect** – This is really important. Check your watercraft, trailers, anchors, mooring lines, oars and paddles for plant fragments, both before you launch and after you pull your boat out of the water. Prevention is still the best way to contain the further spread of the milfoil threat.

3. **Sign Up** – Volunteer to become an Adopt-A-Shoreline volunteer, and patrol your shoreline for new outbreaks. Call the 7 Lakes Alliance office at (207) 495-6039 for details and to sign up.

4. **Give** – Make a donation to the 2018 STOP MILFOIL Capital Campaign. Send a check made out to "BLA – STOP MILFOIL" to BLA, PO Box 551, Belgrade Lakes, ME 04918, please. Thank you.

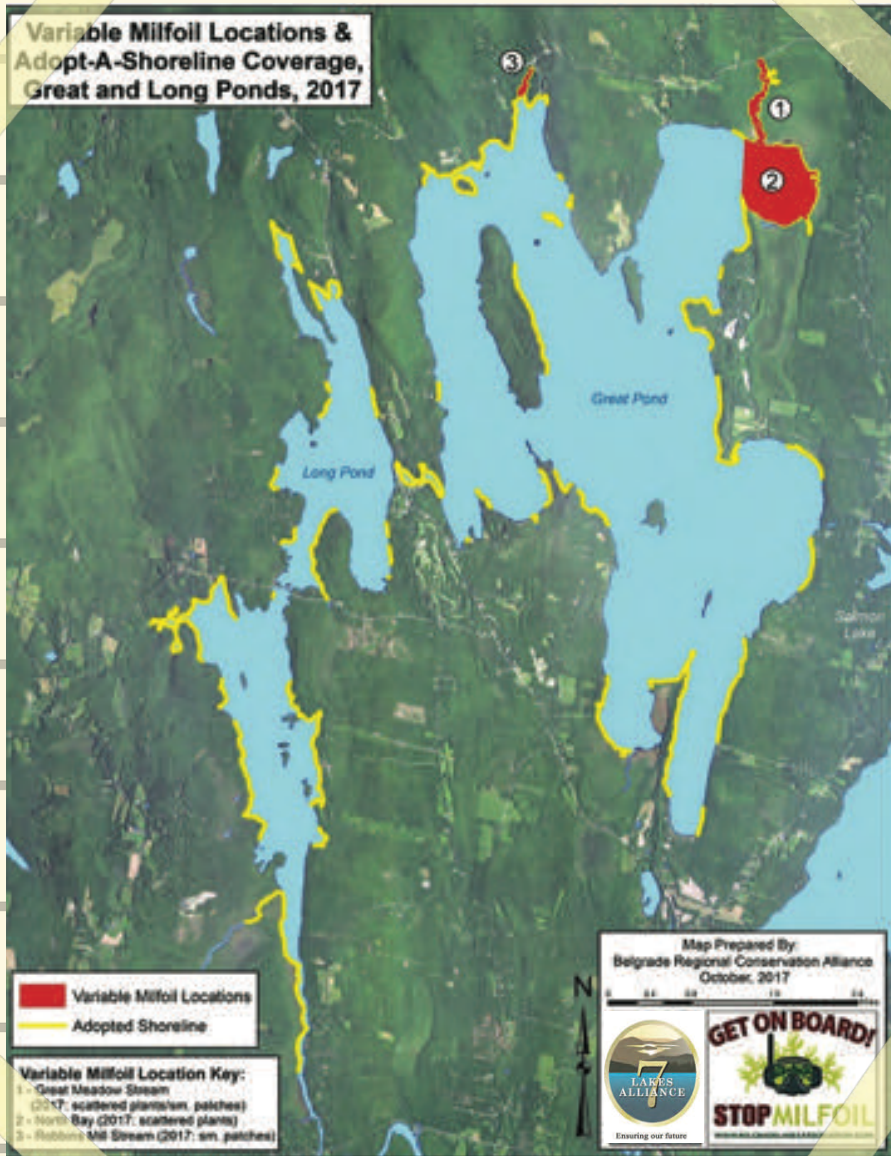
Thanks for your vigilance and donations. With your ongoing support this is a battle we will keep on winning ... because this is a battle we clearly cannot afford to lose.

SUMMER 2018

HAS YOUR SHORELINE BEEN ADOPTED?

STOP MILFOIL

54% of our shorelines need to be adopted.
Sign up and help
STOP MILFOIL



Variable Leaf Milfoil



Greetings from,
Belgrade Lakes, ME

THE 2018 BLA ANNUAL SUMMER RAFFLE HAS BEGUN!

By Dick Greenan

The Belgrade Lakes Association's Summer Raffle is one of the most important fundraisers we have in supporting our mission, "To protect and improve the watershed of Great Pond and Long Pond through Preservation, Education and Action." The successful "LakeSmart" program and the "Stop Milfoil Campaign" are just two of our ongoing projects that your BLA dollars and volunteer efforts continue to expand – and as always, we will never rest on our laurels!



For the 2018 Summer Raffle, we are pleased to report that all of our valued local supporters are back again – with even more prizes!

Hamlin's Marine has raised the bar once again by donating a brand new, 18-ft. Premium Bennington Pontoon boat with all of the bells and whistles. It's just perfect for the Belgrade Lakes!

Hammond Lumber is also back with their 3 sections of ShoreMaster Dock and again this year, raised the ante with a 4,000-lb ShoreMaster Boat Lift. Hammond's ongoing support of the Belgrade Lakes Association and its dedicated programs is sincerely appreciated by us all!

Our faithful volunteers started selling



BELGRADE LAKES ASSOCIATION 2018 ANNUAL RAFFLE

GRAND PRIZE!



2018 BENNINGTON 18SLXP Cruise Premium Boat, 40hp Yamaha.
EZ Loader Trailer. Retail Value \$34,390. Donated by HAMLIN'S MARINE
Actual boat not available at press time. Accessories may vary.

*Donated by Hamlin's Marine
Waterville, Maine*

**Hamlin's
Marine**

GREAT NEW PRIZES . . . and everybody wins because every dollar donated and ticket(s) purchased goes to protecting and improving our lakes.

Tickets: \$5.00 each or 6 for \$25.00.

Buy \$100.00 of tickets and you'll automatically be entered into the BLA Bonus Raffle.

Raffle Drawing will take place at the Belgrade Lakes Village Farmers Market on Sunday, August 5, 2018 at 12pm. You do not need to be present to win.

Raffle Tickets Memorial Day weekend in both the Village Post Office parking lot and the Farmers Market at the Maine Lakes Resource Center. For convenience in the off hours, you can always purchase your Tickets along with your supplies at Days Store. So, if you're in the Village, please drop by, say Hello, and purchase YOUR winning Raffle Tickets. The drawing will take place at the Belgrade Lakes Village Farmers Market on Sunday, August 5, 2018, at 12 PM.

AROUND THE LAKES



Happy tourists ready for some good times!



Belgrade brotherly love

What makes a place? It's not a red X on a map. It's not a trailhead marker or a roadside sign. It's memory and emotion, embedded in us all long after we leave. It's stories told around tables. It's happiness; it's longing. But most of all, place is the history we make together.



*Ready for epic squirt gun battle.
Seriously ready!*



The Belgrade Lakes region is one great place.

PREPARING FOR LAKESMART 2018

By Barbara Barrett

Summer will be here before we know it! The LakeSmart program will be underway starting May 15th.

If you are not already signed up, we will be accepting new requests. The Lakesmart program helps a property owner better understand their own property and identify any risks for runoff which add pollutants, especially phosphorous, into the water. We also have many resources available for suggested "Better Management Practices" to solve any problem areas you may encounter.

I know you understand the issue of water quality being threatened in the Belgrade Lakes. Run-off from shore-front properties adds pollutants, particularly phosphorous, into the water. LakeSmart provides a way for the property owner to mitigate this run-off and extend the life of the expected Great Pond deep water treatment.



A well-mulched path



Blueberry bush buffering

As road associations are planning their summer meetings, consider having the available BLA and LakeSmart program volunteers speak about LakeSmart and water quality at your road or condo association meetings on Great and Long Ponds. Our talk usually takes about 15 minutes with questions and provides your members with information about LakeSmart and how it can help them make their property lake-friendly. Many whole Road/Condo Associations are joining together to have their entire waterfront neighborhoods evaluated. We would love to work with you on solutions. If you are the person to contact, please let us know. I would like to have your email, phone, and lake address for the BLA Association Master List. For those road association groups who do not have time for a speaker but would like some educational material, just give us a call.

Our volunteers are all property owners on Great or Long Pond. We want to share what we have learned about protecting our lakes. We would love to have you join us as a Volunteer evaluator. We do provide training and frequently perform evaluations as a team.



Sabine Fontaine

Please contact our new LakeSmart Director, Sabine Fontaine, at lakesmart@blamaine.org or (207) 512-5150 to sign up for an evaluation, join our volunteer team, or to ask any questions about our program.

Thanks for your interest in LakeSmart.



CRAIG FAMILY LEADS MEMBERSHIP DRIVE

Last year BLA members Matt and Missy Craig responded to the BLA Membership Drive by signing up 8 new members and making a very generous donation. They also sent a heartfelt letter in which they told how much the Belgrade Lakes mean to their whole family. Their letter was reprinted in the membership renewal mailing you received last January.

Thanks to the Craigs and many other BLA members, we signed up 53 new members last year and finished with a total of 545 members. This is good, but there are over 1,200 shorefront property owners on Great and Long Ponds. They should all be BLA members. We have a long way to go to sign them all up. This is a job we are asking all BLA members to undertake.

It's for this reason the Board decided to repeat the Membership Challenge this year. The deal is simple. Sign up three new members and receive a free BLA gift!

The results are even better so far this year. We've already signed up 55 new members, and guess who's leading the way? The Craigs. They've already signed up 8 new members. Thank you, Matt and Missy!

Your help is important, too. If you have family members or lake neighbors who are not in the BLA, encourage them to join or sign them up like Matt and Missy are doing. Please invite them to join you at the BLA Member Reception and Annual Meeting on July 29th. Just call the BLA office at (207) 512-5515 or sign them up on the BLA website: www.belgradelakesassociation.org. It is especially important to have our children and grandchildren join the BLA since they are the future stewards of our lakes.



The Craig Family. Matt says they have just as much fun in the lake today as they did when the kids were small.

Recipes

EMILY'S FAMILY FAVORITES

Stuffed Tomatoes

- > 6 med fresh tomatoes, cored
- > 2-3 tbl parmesan cheese, grated
- > 1 box of your favorite stuffing mix. (I use Bell's)
- > *You can always add a few extra ingredients to the make your stuffing. Some possibilities include:
 - > 1 fresh jalapeno, chopped
 - > 1 sm-med onion, chopped
 - > 1-2 tbl garlic, minced
 - > 1 stalk celery, chopped
 - > Leftover tomato cores, chopped. I put all these "extra" ingredients in a pan with a ½-inch of water and a tbl of butter, and cook until soft. Then add the stuffing mix and cook according to instructions

Directions:

- > Preheat oven to 350*
- > Core tomatoes by cutting a medium sized circle from top towards bottom of tomato. Leave between a 1/4-1/2 inch of "meat" at bottom of tomatoes. Fill with your stuffing of choice. Bake in oven dish for 30min (or until tomato skin starts to wrinkle), pull out of oven and sprinkle with Grated Parmesan cheese. Bake for 10min or until the cheese forms a crust.

> *If you're not a tomato person, you can also follow these steps with your favorite type of pepper. My favorite peppers are jalapenos.

Marinated Chicken

- > 1lb Chicken Breast, raw (I use organic)
- > 1container (9oz) of Greek Dressing. I use Yasou brand (found at Hannaford)
- > 2-3 med Zucchini sliced in half. (I use organic)
- > 1sm onion, peeled and sliced
- > Directions
 - > I put all ingredients in a large baking dish and marinate thoroughly (stirring and flipping) for at least 2hrs, if not overnight.
 - > Cooking, you can choose to bake or grill.
 - > If baking, then 350* for 45min (or until cooked thoroughly, meat should be white and tender at its thickest point)
 - > If grilling, then cook meat for 10-15min on each side (meat should be tender

and white at its thickest point). Veggies can either be placed directly on the grill or wrapped in aluminum foil.

Baked Brie Camembert with Fresh Fruit

Cut away the cheese's outer wrapping so you are left with just the creamy cheese. Cube cheese and place in small oven safe container (I use Pyrex). Bake at 350* until it bubbles (20min or so) and then turn the oven off. Keep the baked cheese inside until ready to serve. While the cheese is baking slice your favorite fruits. Pears, green apples, strawberries, fresh figs, oranges, kiwi and grapes are delicious possibilities. When your fruits are sliced and ready, take the baked brie Camembert out of the oven and dig in!



Aerial view over Pine Island Camp



Kayakers improving their skills



John Atkinson

JOHN ATKINSON Our most formidable treasurer is actually a man of many interests and accomplishments which should not surprise his many friends, but just might. John grew up in Hingham, MA, near Boston, and attended Colby '72 and Boston University, MBA 1976. He retired from Morgan Stanley and Dean Witter in 2009 where he was Senior VP, International Wealth Specialist. His 30 years of work provided banks, individuals, and institutions with advice for their investment portfolios in an array of countries: Chile, Peru, Brazil, Venezuela, Uruguay, Indonesia, Malaysia, Thailand, and Turkey.

I noticed Peru plays an important part in his life. He married Flor, who grew up in Peru, and now has the delightful privilege of visiting her family and vacationing in February and March on its sunny beaches while the snow covers his home in Maine.

From 2001 to the present, many boards had his invaluable advice: our BLA, the Maine Economic Forecasting Commission, the Maine Educational Loan Authority, and my favorite, Colby College. While he is not on the board (yet?), he is Colby's Visiting Assistant Professor of Economics, January Program.

Retirement is full of surprises. You can find John selling BLA raffle tickets, playing golf after a 25-year hiatus, earthbox gardening, in Boston at the Celtics home games, with side trips to his favorite place for Italian bread and Mike's Pastries, or hunting with friends and his English Pointer. A most unusual fact is that he is a trophy winner. He won, placed second, and third, in four years of competition as head chef of a team of eleven folks, including Dick Greenan, at the Big Green Egg New England Festival held in Brentwood, NH.

I admire John and am more than a tad bit jealous of his travels. It is our luck that he found the BLA and has been our board treasurer. He will continue to serve on our board and at meetings, except for February and March, of course. Thank you, John.



Bert Languet

BERT LANGUET was born (technically in Waterville at Thayer Hospital) and raised in Belgrade. He attended Belgrade Central School, William's Junior High, Messalonskee High School, and graduated from Colby College. Later he received his MBA from Thomas College. He is one of the owners of Golden Pond Wealth Management which started in the Belgrade Lakes Village and is now on Silver Street in Waterville. As a child and teenager, he spent most of his free time on Great Pond boating, fishing, and waterskiing with his friends. After Colby, he spent a few years in Boston before moving home to start a rental company for his brother and study at Thomas for his MBA. At Thomas, he met his wife, Sara, and shortly after being married they moved to Michigan State where she was getting her masters and he continued his career in financial services. In 1996, Bert and Sara were able to return home to raise their family. He has been able to pass along his love of the lakes to their children who now spend time on Great Pond with their own friends. The cycle continues.

ROUTE 27 RE-CONSTRUCTION



An artist's conceptual view of the Belgrade Village Green

Our Village Under Construction.....

Route 27, through Belgrade Lakes Village, has not been reconstructed in more than 60 years. In 2016, the Belgrade Select Board and MaineDOT signed the agreement to rebuild the road.

Knowing this project would forever change the feel of the Village (the contract called for a 35-foot asphalt roadway bordered by asphalt sidewalks), the Friends of Belgrade Lakes Village formed to identify and fund enhancements to maintain the charm of our rural New England Village.

Spring 2018: The removal of trees (some required by the construction project and others requested by homeowners) and moving the utilities to the Great Pond side of the road is underway. The hoped-for completion date is June 30th.

Summer 2018: Work will be suspended during July and August which will allow us to enjoy our summer.

Fall 2018: Road construction begins right after Labor Day and includes sidewalks on the Long Pond side of the road and a new sidewalk on the Great Pond side from before the Union Church south to a bit beyond St. Helena's Church.

The contractor will work as late in the fall as weather permits --- finishing up in spring 2019.

The Friends' Efforts for the Village:

With the support of many generous donors, we have raised over \$700,000 and paid the Town of Belgrade to change the sidewalk material from asphalt to brick and install pedestrian lighting with night-friendly lampposts.

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Tom Sidar

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Alex Wall

2018 ANNUAL MEETING - JULY 29TH!

The BLA Member Reception and Annual Meeting will be held on Sunday, July 29, 2018, from 4:00 to 6:00 pm at the Belgrade Lakes Golf Club. This is always a fun and information-packed meeting. Here's what's in store:

Mouth-watering hors d'oeuvres will be served by Shari Hamilton and her staff from Hello Good Pie, and a cash bar will be provided by the golf course staff.

Our special guest will be Laura Rose Day, the new Chief Executive Officer of the 7 Lakes Alliance. This will be a great opportunity for you to meet Laura and understand why we are very excited about the experience and leadership she brings to our Belgrade conservation efforts.

You will also receive the very latest news on our water quality work. Dr. Whitney King will update us on the most recent research results and what they mean for Great Pond and Long Pond, and he will report on the alum treatment of East Pond. Progress reports on our STOP MILFOIL campaign and the LakeSmart and Youth Conservation Corps programs will also be given.

The Kid's Program is back and is a great way to begin teaching your children and grandchildren what it means to become lake stewards. The program is for ages 4 to 12 and runs concurrently with the meeting.

Please make reservations by calling the BLA office at (207) 512-5150, or email info@BLAMaine.org no later than July 20, 2018, and invite your lake neighbors and friends to join us. See you there!



Lynn Matson, out-going President. Thank you for all your hard work and your inspirational leadership. You are greatly appreciated by many!