

FRIENDS OF LAKE WINNECOOK 2008 SPRING NEWSLETTER

MISSION STATEMENT: TO PRESERVE, ENHANCE AND PROTECT THE
BEAUTY OF LAKE WINNECOOK AND ITS ADJACENT AREAS.

FRIENDS OF LAKE WINNECOOK
P.O. BOX 73
UNITY, ME 04988



Friends of Lake Winnecook

P. O. Box 73, Unity, ME 04988
www.lakewinnecook.com



Membership Form

Please complete the membership form and mail it with your check to the above address.

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Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Check Appropriate Boxes:

New Membership       Membership renewal       New/Changed Address

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Check here if you **do not** permit FOLW to share information with other lake organizations

Permanent/Mailing Address

Seasonal/Camp Address

|                              |                              |
|------------------------------|------------------------------|
| Street: _____                | Street: _____                |
| City: _____                  | City: _____                  |
| State: _____ Zip Code: _____ | State: _____ Zip Code: _____ |
| Phone #: _____               | Phone #: _____               |
| e-mail: _____                | e-mail: _____                |

**Donations are accepted and can be designated to support the following activities/efforts:**

General Donation       Boating Safety/Buoys       Wildlife/Fisheries  
 Education/Research       Watershed Restoration/Water Quality

### Membership Dues:

Number of members joining \_\_\_ x \$10.00 per member = \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
(under 18 years no membership fee.)

Donation \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**TOTAL ENCLOSED** \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Friends of Lake Winnecook  
Annual Meeting Minutes  
August, 4, 2007

This year's meeting was called to order at 10:00 am in the Field of Dreams. The weather cooperated and we had plenty of volunteers to help us set up. (Thank you)

The minutes from last year's meeting were passed out to all attendees and a motion was made to accept them as written, it was then seconded and approved by all.

Eve Foley gave the Treasurer's report to the group and it was also motioned to accept and seconded and finally approved.

She also reported that we had about \$1300 in membership dues; \$962 in donations, \$528 was spent on merchandise, and \$213 for replenishing for this meeting and maps.

President, Joe Foley, updated the group on the Septic System Replacement Incentive Program. There is a link on the website that details the rules and regulations and he noted that we gave the first recipient their check for \$500. We are in hopes this idea will spread and more people will apply to obtain a helping hand from FOLW and help us all out by preserving our waters.

We approved the monies required to have regular Phosphorus Monitoring. There will be five tests throughout the year at a cost of \$25 each. We also approved the funding needed to continue our Ice-Out Contest.

Joe gave many thanks to the efforts of Mark Huard for placing the navigational buoys in the lake for our safety. He installed six new buoys this year for areas that are now exposed that were not previously a problem. Mark mentioned that if someone has a new location they would like to recommend for marking, please go to the website and report them there.

Arlene Schaeffer gave us the Loon report as written by Melissa Bastien. Although there were no new tenants at the loon nest put out by our organization, we should not be too concerned. She explained how it took a few years for the site to be established and for a family to move in and raise their young. The loon count produced the following statistics; 18 adults, 2 chicks, 3 nests marking an increase of 4 loons.

CJ Kersberger gave the group a water quality review. July was the highest Secchi Disk reading compared to 2006/2007 readings. He also gathered phosphorus samples, but the results had yet to be returned by this meeting. He said he will get them to Mark and they will be posted on the website.

At this time we handed out the ballots and announced/introduced the people who were listed. No new members came forward to be added to the list, so the group voted on the ballot as listed and it was passed. The Officers are; Joe Foley, President, Shawn Biello, Vice President, Anni Roming, Secretary, Eve Foley, Treasurer. The Directors are; Rick Kersbergen for Burnham, Arlene Schaefer for Unity, and Mark Huard, Jennifer Brockway, and Rodney Bradeen are Directors at Large. Thanks to all of you who volunteer your time and efforts to this great cause.

Before we moved on to the guest speaker, Joe gave special thanks to Pam Dyer who has tirelessly given her time to the "Friends" and who single handedly started, mentored and monitored the CBI Program (Courtesy Boat Inspection). Without her hard work we may very well be in

the same boat as other lakes and have invasive water species overtaking the lake. Pam has decided to take some time off from the association but will promise to stay in touch and help out when she can. We also presented Pam with a bouquet of local wild flowers purchased from the Farmers Market in town. Pam will be missed and we should all give thanks every time we enjoy our clean lake. One way for people to give thanks would be to donate some time and volunteer to inspect boats coming into the lake. We are in desperate need of people to carry on this worthy project. We will be working this winter on ways to enhance this program and continue its success in 2008.

Rich Baker, of the Maine Dept of Environmental Protection, was our speaker and he started by explaining the Shoreland Zoning in Maine. He explained how some new rules have been passed that includes the building of permanent structures around the lakes. The Natural Resources Protection Act states that activities such as land fill and housing construction require permits in order to occur. A person who wishes to make additions or upgrades to camps or cottages will be required to complete a permit and send to the state. If the state doesn't send back any written document detailing why a person can not build or fill, they are then granted a "Permit by Rule". They can proceed with their construction by posting the carbon copy in a location where the state or town officials can view. He explained how any soil disturbance that is performed by a backhoe or tractor is required to be at least 25 feet from the shore line and would require a permit. New housing will need to be placed at least 100 feet from the shoreline and a buffer strip will be required for soil conservation. If anyone views a person conducting work that looks suspicious, anyone can contact the DEP anonymously and ask for proof that compliance is being followed. He also mentioned that you can go to your local town officials and they would be able to assist in the necessary paperwork or reporting processes. Rich spoke about the removal of tress around lakes and ponds. Most trees that cause a hazard and dead trees can be removed without prior approval but in the even that they are removed illegally; the town or state may require the landowner to plant replacement trees of similar size and species and face some hefty fines. Most of what Rich spoke about was just plain old common sense to those of us who want to preserve the quality of the waters in Maine and we should go the DEP website to obtain additional information for their specific project or concern. We all appreciated Rich coming to our meeting and informing us of all the rules and regulations we all need to be aware of and hope that he enjoyed our setting and will come back to visit the lake in the future.

Then Arlene read off the winners of the raffle. The winners received a gift certificate, shirt, hat and a map of the lake, then a motion was made to end the meeting and get on with the real reason we all attended... LOBSTER!

### **FOLW Sponsors Tree at the Unity Station**

Amidst all the hustle and bustle of the 2007 holiday celebrations, the Friends of Lake Winnecook made time to decorate and promote a Christmas tree at the Belfast and Moosehead Lake Railroad station in Unity this past season. The idea, started by the railroad, was to gather the local businesses and associations and have them show off their associations and teach the community a little bit more about what they do and what they stand for. The trees, donated by the Belfast Moosehead Lake Railroad Association, were proudly sponsored by some local societies, scouting troupes, and community food pantries. All in all, there were about a dozen trees in the main station and the depot building representing the organizations in the local area that work to sustain community and business in Unity and the surrounding areas.

The FOLW theme was all things fishing and lakeside related. Our tree was donned with real antique lures and hooks (modified so that no one could get "hooked") as well as bobbers, plastic worms, and handmade ornaments. We set out some informational brochures for those interested in the association and hope that we will see some new faces in 2008 to join our cause – to preserve, enhance, and protect the beauty of Lake Winnecook and its adjacent area. Sadly, this tradition was short lived at the station, but we are in hopes that another business location in the area will pick up the idea and offer a new location where interested organizations can publicize their



### **FREE DOWNLOADS:**

Gardening to Conserve Maine's Native Landscape  
<http://www.umext.edu/onlinepubs/2500.htm>

And Native Plants: A 2002 Native Source List  
<http://www.umext.edu/onlinepubs/2502.htm>

The Buffer Handbook  
<http://www.state.me.us/dep/blwq/docwatershed/bufa.htm>

And Buffer Plant List  
<http://www.state.me.us/dep/blwq/docwatershed/bufhand.htm>

## **Friends of Lake Winnecook Septic System Upgrade Program**

Friends of Lake Winnecook (FLOW) has recently awarded two \$500.00 checks to Friends of Lake Winnecook members who have completed approved replacements or upgrades to their septic systems. The program hopes to offer an incentive to shore front land owners, on Lake Winnecook (Unity Pond), to make needed septic system improvements. Source point studies have shown that inadequate septic systems contribute to the phosphorus levels in the lake that affect water quality. Pictured are Jean Bourg and Melissa Bastien receiving a check for \$500.00 from Annie Roming, FOLW secretary, at a recent Friends of Lake Winnecook board meeting.

The second recipient of a rebate is Richard Thompson Sr. whose lake property is in Burnham. Information about the requirements for application can be found on the Friends of Lake Winnecook website: [www.lakewinnecook.com](http://www.lakewinnecook.com).



## **COURTESY BOAT INSPECTIONS**

One of our primary concerns is to prevent an infestation of invasive plants into our lake. We hope to be able to continue to fund courtesy boat inspections at Kanokolus boat launch for 2008. Last year F.O.L.W. spent about \$1,600 with a matching grant from the Lakes Environmental Association to pay two part time courtesy boat inspectors.

We are currently looking to hire someone, in conjunction with the town of Unity, to inspect boats and to perform other tasks for the town at Kanokolus boat launch. Included in this newsletter is an application for this position. Please share this with anyone you think may be interested.

As always, we will be counting on volunteers to help with coverage especially during fishing tournaments. Please consider donating an hour or two of your time this summer to this important cause.

# 2008 - ICE OUT CONTEST ENTRY FORM

DEADLINE FOR ENTRIES ~ MARCH 22, 2008

Mail completed form to: Friends of Lake Winnecook, P.O. Box 73, Unity, ME 04988

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Your ICE OUT Prediction: \_\_\_\_\_  
Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Day of the Week: \_\_\_\_\_  
City: \_\_\_\_\_ Month and Day \_\_\_\_\_  
State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_ \*Time: \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone #: \_\_\_\_\_ \*Make sure to designate AM or PM

**THE WINNER WILL RECEIVE A \$40.00 VISA GIFT CARD**

## 2008 MAINE LAKES CONFERENCE

June 21, 2008, 7:30am to 3 pm

Colby College, Waterville, Maine

### REGISTRATION FORM

EARLY BIRD! \$30 per person between now and March 31! \$35 per person between April 1 and June 14, \$40 at the door  
Registration Includes Breakfast, Lunch, Snacks, Beverages and a chance to win Raffle Prizes!

Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Lake or Association: \_\_\_\_\_  
Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
City/State/Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_  
E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

#### General Registration Information:

I am enclosing \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
For \_\_\_\_\_ Registrations to the Maine Lakes Conference  
For the following attendees:

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

#### Friday Night Dorm Room at Colby College

Single occupancy @ \$ 43 \_\_\_\_\_

Double Occupancy @\$ 86 \_\_\_\_\_

If Double Occupancy, please list roommate's name:

I am enclosing \$ \_\_\_\_\_ for overnight accommodations.

MAIL TO: Maine COLA  
PO Box 426  
Belgrade, ME 04917

You may also register online at [www.mainecola.org](http://www.mainecola.org)

## ~CBI Summer Job Position~

The Town of Unity, in partnership with the Friends of Lake Winnecook (FOLW), are seeking a part-time summer employee to assume some maintenance responsibilities and to conduct courtesy boat inspections at the Kanokolus boat launch site in Unity Maine. The town and FOLW is taking a pro-active role in educating the public in order to prevent an infestation of invasive aquatic plants into Unity Pond and to provide a safe and pleasant area where local residents may access the Unity Pond resource for boating, swimming and other water related recreational activities. A paid inspector will be expected to monitor the Kanokolus boat launch approximately 20-30 hours/week. Hours are flexible with the exception of scheduled fishing tournament days on Unity Pond. Position responsibilities include tasks such as site maintenance duties, mowing the lawn area and collecting boat launch fees for the Town of Unity. The employee will also perform courtesy boat inspections on behalf of the FOLW. Weekend work is required. The duration of the position is from mid-June through late August. The Town of Unity and the FOLW will provide a minimum combined stipend of \$2500.00 and will give special consideration to paid inspector/site monitor applicants based on their ability to work independently and as a team, their educational background, references and a strong interest in pursuing a future in an environmental science related field. There is potential for additional lake related projects and funding through this position.

Other job related responsibilities will include:

For FOLW:

Attending required workshops for Courtesy Boat Inspection (CBI) certification and invasive plant identification.

Completing daily boat inspection forms required by project for copying and filing in coordination with the FOLW project coordinator as well as collecting and processing any plant samples collected during inspection process.

Working with volunteer CB Inspectors.

Will report data/findings at FOLW Annual Meeting in August 2008

For The Town of Unity:

Kanokolus boat launch site maintenance including trash collection and lawn upkeep.

Collect and track boat launch fees and turn accounting of funds into the Town of Unity weekly.

Interested applicants are required to submit a letter of intent to:

**Friends of Lake Winnecook  
P.O. Box 73  
Unity, Maine 04988**

References may be requested