

FRIENDS OF LAKE WINNECOOK

WINTER, 2004

BY; PAMELA DYER

Max Gillette informed association that he would not be doing secchi-disk readings for much longer and that the association would have to find someone to replace him sometime soon. Vice President, Micah Thurston indicated that he would take over the task from Max and would make arrangements to get himself certified. Thank you Max, for giving us plenty of advance notice.

There was a rather lengthy discussion at annual as to when annual membership dues are payable. It was pointed out that dues are payable at the time of the annual meeting and payment in August would keep members current and in good standing until the next annual meeting

Chip Edgecomb, Joseph Foley and Pamela Dyer attended Outreach Workshop for Lake Groups sponsored by the Univ. of Maine Cooperative Extension on Nov. 3rd and 10th. As a result of attendance at workshop we were rewarded with an application to apply for a small funding grant, which we hope to be able to apply for soon.

At last count the Lake Association had a total membership for year 2004 of 148. That is an increase of approximately 50 members over 2003. Thank you all.

We have been busy with updating our membership rolls and

setting up a new web site. Mark Huard offered to set up new web site for association as he had prior knowledge and experience in doing so. We gladly accepted his offer and are very pleased with the end result. The web site contains a vast variety of information regarding association, the lake, links to various state sites, pictures, data, membership form, etc. Please check it out at <http://www.lakewinnecook.com> and let us know what you think, keeping in mind that this is still a work in progress. If anyone has any photos of lake you would like to share with us please forward to us via e-mail or U.S. Mail, as we would like to post new and different ones for you to view periodically.

Commencing with our next newsletter we plan to forward to all of our members who have provided us with their e-mail addresses copies of the newsletters via e-mail. We, therefore, would appreciate it if everyone would keep us up to date should you have any changes in current address as provided to the association. You may inform us of those changes via e-mail or via membership form which you can print off the new web site. By communicating with you electronically we should be able to offset cost of web site by savings from publishing and postage expenses.

We have included in this newsletter a general overview of what took place at our annual meeting in August. We had a fairly good gathering but hope our next meeting will draw more interest from the membership.

OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS FOR 2004-2005

Officers

Pamela Dyer, President
Micah Thurston, Vice Pres.
Adriana Bellerose, Sec.
Joseph Foley, Treas.

Directors

Chip Edgecomb, Burnham
Rae Jean Miville, Troy
Anni Roming, Unity
Rick Kersbergen, At Large
Joseph Lourey, At Large

The 18th Annual Meeting was held at the Unity Community Center on August 4, 2004. Approximately 50 people were in attendance. Materials and displays were plentiful for membership perusal and FOLW hats and visors were for sale. Refreshments were served during a short intermission by Rae Jean Miville.

Reports were given by:

- The President reported on some of the many accomplishments made during the year which included hiring of Harry Watson for boat and trailer inspections at Unity Boat Launch site as well as his attendance at several classes along with Dave Potter to perform those inspections as well as monitor for invasive plants. Harry did a superb job on behalf of all and he was properly thanked and commended by all those present.
- Shawn Biello gave us an overview of progress on her work as Project Coordinator on Unity Pond Watershed Restoration Project.
- Mark Huard presented a slide show and talk on bathometry project he displayed at meeting. Mark also recruited some volunteers to assist him with removing and setting up lake buoys in spring and fall.
- Dave Potter gave us his report on various testing done by him and his team during the year as well as his working

with Harry Watson to become certified IPP inspectors. Both Dave and Harry had been presented with t-shirts and hats purchased by FOLW from the Maine Volunteer IPP Org., in appreciation for their time and attendance at workshops. Dave indicated that he had set up an IPP workshop at the college to be presented in September and invited membership to sign up if any were interested in attending. Shawn Biello, Francis Kimball and Pamela Dyer attended that workshop on Sept. 23rd at Unity College.)

- Max Gillette gave the results from the Secchi-disk transparencies taken during the year.
- Fred Dillon from the DEP presented the recently completed TMDL Study for Unity Pond.
- Adriana Bellerose presented and reviewed proposed by-law amendments and discussion followed. A vote was then taken and it was unanimously approved. It was agreed however that more work needed to be done on those amendments and a committee was formed to work on those amendments for discussion at next annual meeting.

New Website

A new website has been created by the association with a wealth of information pertaining to our lake from various sources as it describes our lake through its history, its present and future by what is being done as well as other useful information for lake residents and visitors that enjoys this lake.

Check It Out!! New FOLW Web Address
<http://www.lakewinnecook.com>

Navigational Program-LakeWinnecook

By: Mark A. Huard

In October 16, 2004, six individuals with their boats traveled throughout the lake to pull 36 navigational buoys to mark the unofficial end of the boating season. With strong backs, boats covered with rust and algae, and a willingness to help, the job was complete in a mere 1 hour compared to the 2 days it took last year. Hopefully in the spring this “navigational team” can help place buoys back to their respective locations and help monitor these buoys throughout the year. Special thanks to everyone to include:

- Joe Bellerose
- Jason Bartlett
- Joe Foley
- Leon Huard
- Rick Kersbergen
- Micah Thurston
- Peter Tozier



The 2004 season was a busy year installing 12 more additional buoys throughout the lake region. These include 4 shallow area buoys, 2 hazard area markers, 2 red & green channel markers and 4 black & white striped buoys to make a grand total 36 buoys that mark our lake. While these 12 additional buoys were purchased to complete this project, there may be others needed to mark new locations that are not identified yet. If you know of any areas that need to be looked at please

contact me at 948-5310 and we can make arrangements to investigate these areas.

The Unity Pond Watershed Restoration: Phase 1

The Unity Pond Watershed Restoration: Phase 1, sponsored by Waldo County Soil and Water Conservation District would like to thank local organizations, businesses and shoreline property owners that volunteered to participate in the restoration project this summer and those scheduled to participate in the near future. The project’s success is dependent on your cooperation and participation as individuals and as a community. The following summarizes the work completed this summer and anticipated projects supported through watershed partnerships.

The project’s Steering Committee initially identified and targeted 2 high priority sites for immediate installation of conservation practices designed to reduce significant concentrations of sediment and phosphorus loading to Unity Pond. These 2 sites, Decoster’s Poultry Farm, operating on Carlton Stream and the “Field of Dreams” Recreation Center in downtown Unity have cooperated with all aspects of restoration/conservation management design recommendations potentially impacting local water quality

The “Field of Dreams” management has implemented a sod management plan using a phosphorus-free fertilizer, and eliminated the use of pesticides on the recreation fields. They have discontinued mowing vegetation near the covered bridge, providing a swale to trap and filter storm water runoff. In July 2004 an Ameri-Corps student and Conservation Corps team

installed a vegetated buffer of low growing shrubs and perennials along the Field of Dreams shoreline and a walking path for beach/shoreline access was defined. The Conservation District will continue to work with the “Field of Dreams” management to further reduce the site’s potential for sediment and phosphorus loading to Unity Pond.

The poultry farm at the north end of the lake on the Carlton Stream inlet was targeted as a high priority site and scheduled for installation of a manure storage facility for this summer. Prior to construction Decoster’s sold the property and barn. The site is no longer active and is expected to be utilized for boat/equipment storage in the future. Funds targeted for the Decoster’s poultry farm site will be redirected to other sites in the Unity Pond watershed.

The project coordinator for the restoration project has assessed 17 private residences and provided property owners with recommendations and educational materials needed to implement conservation practices. During this reporting period there were 400’ of vegetated buffer and 8 rain gardens installed at private and public owned shoreline properties. The project coordinator has met with 3 camp road associations and provided 1 camp road design to date. Conservation/restoration designs have been submitted to UBR (Unity Barn Raisers) for the former Marina site, now known as Bartlett Shores and to the town of Burnham for the Burnham Public Boat Launch located on the Horseback Rd. in Burnham.

In addition to the *Unity Pond Watershed Restoration Project: Phase 1*, the Waldo County SWCD had secured funding

through other sources to monitor water quality at 3 Unity Pond and 4 stream sites within the Unity Pond watershed. The data collected during the summer of 2004 will contribute to future NPS (nonpoint pollution sources) surveys and watershed studies.

In July of 2004, the Waldo County SWCD was awarded a 319 NPS grant through MDEP (Maine Department of Environmental Protection). The *Unity Pond Watershed Survey: Phase 2* project will focus on identifying high priority sites on the lower Sandy Stream drainage for remedial action at a later time. The NPS watershed survey project is scheduled to begin in spring 2005.

If you have any questions, suggestions or would like to participate in this project, as a willing landowner for a site assessment, or as a volunteer please contact Shawn Biello at: P.O. Box 94, Unity, ME, at sbiello@unity.edu, or at 948-3744

The Unity Pond Watershed Restoration Project: Phase I is sponsored by Waldo County Soil and Water Conservation District in association with Friends of Lake Winnecook (FOLW), Unity Barn Raisers (UBR), University of Maine Extension (UMCE), and Unity College. The Unity Pond Watershed Restoration Project: Phase I is funded in part by Maine Department of Agriculture and Maine DEP through a USEPA Nonpoint Source Grant under Section 319 of the federal Clean Water Act.

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

M Membership Dues:

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

Donation \$ _____

Total \$ _____

Friends of Lake Winnecook

*Mission Statement:
To
Preserve, Enhance
and Protect the
Beauty of Lake Winnecook
and it's
Adjacent Areas.*