

**FRIENDS OF LAKE WINNECOOK
SPRING 2005 NEWSLETTER**

NOTES FROM THE PRESIDENT, Pamela Dyer:

- **On March 7, 2005 the Association was the recipient of a grant in the amount of \$794.00 from the University of Maine Cooperative Extension to conduct outreach activities relating to lake protection in the Lake Winnecook watershed. The grant was the direct result of three board members completing an outreach training program through UMCE. As a result, our action plan and outreach activity will be a "Vegetated Buffer & Rain Garden Demonstration Workshop" to be held on Saturday, June 4, 2005 at the American Legion Hall in Unity, Maine. This workshop will be conducted by Shawn Biello, Project Coordination for the Unity Pond Restoration Project in partnership with the FOLW Lake Association. Please review the enclosed Notice for all the details. (It is free to all current FOLW membership.) This workshop will show all of us how we can personally introduce best management practices on our lakefront properties to reduce runoff and nutrient loading to the lake. All of the plants, supplies and labor will be donated to the American Legion as our way of saying "Thank You".**

- **The board has been very busy putting together this workshop hoping to accomplish some watershed protection goals and making this a real success. We have over the years addressed deteriorating water quality through various presentations and endeavors. We presently have a unique opportunity to be working under the grant received for the Unity Pond Watershed Restoration Project: Phase I. This project has given us the opportunity to jump start an active restoration program to impede and reduce the decline in water quality by providing us with financial assistance and a project coordinator available at any time by simply giving Shawn a call and being an active member of our association by way of inclusion in our activities and outreach projects. The officers and board of directors of the association recognize that to improve the environs of the lake is a considerable challenge but will continue to try to present opportunities or techniques to improve water quality.**

Give us a call or an e-mail to sign-up ASAP. Get your neighbors to sign up as well. You can e-mail us at info@lakewinnecook.com.

- **Please let us know what you think of our new web site as well as any suggestions you might have to enhance the site. If you have some really great pictures, please pass them on to us.**

- **The winner of the ice out contest was Erin Rhoda of Washington, Me. Congratulations to Erin who will receive a gift certificate to the Homestead Restaurant from the FOLW.**
- **We are extremely grateful for the generous donations which we have received over the last several months. The association had a most generous donation from the heirs of Ella Langeluttig (Pegi Quimby and Steven Langeluttig) who have entrusted the association with the sum of \$5,000.00. We will be working closely with them in the next few months to work out details of how they wish this money to be put to work for Lake Winnecook. Thank you to all for each and every donation.**
- **Our ANNUAL MEETING AND LOBSTER BAKE has been scheduled for Saturday, August 6, 2005 at the Unity Field of Dreams. The annual meeting will take place first, with lobster bake to follow. Details and sign-up sheet for lobster bake is enclosed. Be sure to notice response date of May 20th as we do need advance reservations in order to plan accordingly. Also, please note that we are looking for volunteers to assist with setting up, cooking, selling raffle tickets, clean up etc. We are trying to do something fun and interesting for our faithful members but we need you to GET INVOLVED as well! HOPE YOU JOIN US!**
- **Please be sure to get your membership dues up to date. Dues for 2004-2005 year were due in August of 2004. Membership names and mailing addresses are kept on our mailing lists for three years and after that they are dropped. So, please make sure you are current. At last count our members who were current was up to 157.**

*******VOLUNTEERS WANTED *******

- **Just as this newsletter was on its way to the printers we received news that FOLW had received approval for a Maine DEP Courtesy Boat Inspector Cost Share grant in the amount of \$1,000.00 as a result of our application in April. The board has not had time to determine exactly how and where we will put this grant to work for us but am certain we will be looking for people who might be interested in assisting Harry and learning to become a volunteer courtesy boat inspector at the boat launch in Unity this summer. These inspections of course are to keep invasive plants from entering Unity Pond as hitchhikers on boats and trailers. With this grant we will be able to perhaps reimburse our volunteers for their expenses incurred during training etc. Please if anyone is interested in becoming a volunteer please give any board member a call or send us an e-mail at info@lakewinnecook.com.**