

# Friends of Lake Winnecook

Spring 2004

National Trails Day will be celebrated nation wide on Saturday June 5th. Volunteers will be joining together on the morning of June 5th with the Unity Barn Raisers' CommUnity Trails Committee, Boy Scout Troop #233, UniKids Care Club, and the Unity Area Rotary to work on improvements to existing trails in the Town of Unity.

**At noon Friends of Lake Winnecook will sponsor a Community Cookout at the Unity Community Center. We will have displays of information about the lake, and maps, caps and visors for sale.**

If you want to volunteer for trail work, call Tess Woods at 948-9005.

If you can help with the preparation and serving of the meal, call Melissa Bastien at 948-3270.

Workshops on Invasive Plant Patrol are being offered throughout the summer in a variety of locations by the Maine Volunteer Lake Monitoring Program. Check their website ([www.mainevolunteerlakemonitors.org](http://www.mainevolunteerlakemonitors.org)) for times and places.

In Unity, the town's boat landing manager ("the Inland Harbor Master"), Harry Waters, has agreed to attend training and to monitor boats for invasive plants. FOLW is contributing \$500 toward his compensation this summer.

Over 40 people had a guess at Ice Out Day 2004 with predictions ranging from March 29 to May 12. The ice in the North end of the lake goes out last, so when our members on that end of the lake can look out and not see ice, that's ice out day. It usually happens pretty fast once it starts. This year a sunny wind blew most of the ice out on April 15, and finished the job on April 16. Congratulations to **Kate Serotkin** who had the winning guess of April 16.

**More Road Reps needed!** Check the list of Road Reps at our website. If your road does have a rep listed, please consider volunteering. Road Reps distribute information (like this newsletter) to residents on their road. To volunteer, call Pam Dyer at 872-8854.



[www.unitymaine.org/orgs/folw](http://www.unitymaine.org/orgs/folw)

email: [folw@unitymaine.org](mailto:folw@unitymaine.org)

## Notes from President Pam

As a result of Newsletter survey forwarded to our membership in February, 2004 requesting a vote and our members various viewpoints on whether or not we should submit a request to the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife to deny a permit application to directly stock alewives into Lake Winnecook for the foreseeable future, such a request was forwarded in writing on March 4, 2004. Our membership voted approximately 30 to 3 in favor of supporting this request. That request was turned over to the Dept. of Marine Resources for their consideration by the DIF&W and on May 20 two members of the association met with Deputy Comm. David Etnier and other personnel from the Dept. of Marine Resources in Augusta to once again argue and present our case. Under letter dated May 21, 2004 the DMR declined to grant our request to not stock alewives into Lake Winnecook for the foreseeable future based on the fact that the information presented contained no new information that would cause that agency to reconsider its approval for the restocking. They will continue to stock as they have in the past at the level of six per acre.

We were disappointed in that decision but feel that our best efforts were put forth and the association will continue to make every effort to find solutions for our lake and surrounding wetland areas. We appreciate your support on this effort as well as your strong support in the area of new and renewed memberships, donations etc. which we have received recently.

The Board has had a very busy and productive winter attending to Lake business. Various committees have been at work planning fund raising events, working with Waldo County Soil and Water Conservation District Project Coordinator, Shawn Biello, in facili-

tating the Unity Pond Watershed Restoration Project, encouraging our towns to apply for a state grant to digitize their tax maps to help manage our projects, sponsoring a site visit of DEP and other agencies to review the Sandry Stream blockage, finalizing an update to by-laws of Association, and recruiting new members. We are happy to report that as a result of latest Newsletter we have increased our membership rolls and received several donations for various lake association endeavors, all of which are greatly appreciated.

We have had a reprint done of laminated maps both in large format as well as waterproof & tear resistant tri-fold format which you will find available at local town offices and businesses in Burnham, Troy and Unity at a cost of \$12.00 each.

The Association is also still actively recruiting Road Reps to assist us in distribution of our newsletters as well as actively recruiting new members and becoming involved in association meetings and representing those members from around the lake. Please contact any one of our officers and/or board members if you are interested. We would also like to hear from anyone who might be interested in running for an office with the FOLW as either an officer or director. If interested please contact us in order that we might get your name on ballot for annual meeting. Contact information and membership forms are available on line at [www.unitymaine.org/orgs.folw](http://www.unitymaine.org/orgs.folw). Be sure and check out this web site!

Hope to see you all at the FOLW Community Meal on June 5th. It would be great if you would bring new membership recruits along for the fun and great food as well as the opportunity to meet the Board of Directors and Officers of FOLW and talk with Shawn Biello, Project Coordinator for the Unity Pond Watershed Restoration Project and become actively involved in our efforts to improve water quality in Unity Pond.

# Friends of Lake Winnecook Membership Form

Name(s): \_\_\_\_\_

**Permanent home address**

Street: \_\_\_\_\_

Town: \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone \_\_\_\_\_

**Seasonal lake address**

Street \_\_\_\_\_

Town: \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone \_\_\_\_\_

**Email** \_\_\_\_\_

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

Additional donations encouraged:

- |  |                                       |  |
|--|---------------------------------------|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> General donation    | <input type="checkbox"/> Eagles       | <input type="checkbox"/> Other lake associations |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Loon preservation   | <input type="checkbox"/> Publications | <input type="checkbox"/> Research or monitoring  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Youth and education | <input type="checkbox"/> Acquisitions | <input type="checkbox"/> College Work Study      |

Hello FOLW members.

My name is Shawn Biello and I have been hired by Waldo County Soil and Water Conservation District as the Project Coordinator for the two-year Unity Pond Watershed Restoration Project: Phase I.

I have lived in the Unity area for more than twenty years and have worked extensively on water quality concerns affecting Unity Pond. I graduated from Unity College in 1993 with a B.S. in Environmental Sciences and from Vermont College in 1998 with an M.A. in Environmental Studies. I have worked in private and public sectors of education at both High School and College levels. I also served as a Water Quality Monitor for the "Twenty-Five Mile Stream Water Quality Project," sponsored by Waldo County Soil and Water Conservation District, and in March of 2003 I completed a contract with Maine Department of Environmental Protection and Unity College to assist in completing a final draft of the Unity Pond TMDL. I believe that environmental awareness and successful resource management is dependent on community involvement, educational outreach, technical support and local stewardship.

The Unity Pond Watershed Restoration Project targets several NPS sites identified by studies conducted over the last three years. The project also allows for additional site assessments and BMP implementations throughout the term of the project. I will be working with NRCS to provide technical and financial assistance at agricultural sites and with UMCE to develop and implement nutrient management plans at recreational sites. I will also be assisting local towns in applying for financial assistance to replace malfunctioning septic systems. In addition I will be coordinating hands-on workshops and will meet with willing landowners on their property to provide technical and educational assistance with site specific recommendations on low cost conservation practices. I look forward to working with your association and believe that the cooperative efforts of all involved agencies, organizations and individuals will be effective in reducing the pollutant runoffs adversely affecting the water quality in Unity Pond. If you have any questions, suggestions or would like to participate as a willing landowner for a site assessment please contact me at: P.O. Box 94, Unity, ME, at sbiello@unity.edu, or at 948-3744

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

## 2004 Spring Newsletter

FOLW sponsors a Community Meal Saturday June 5, 12 Noon at the Unity Community Center. Details inside.

FOLW Annual Meeting set for Tuesday August 3 at 6:30 pm.

Who won the Ice Out Contest?

Friends of Lake Winnecook  
P. O. Box 73  
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