



REGION ASSOCIATION

Mousam Lake Region Association

P.O. BOX 333 SPRINGVALE, ME 04083

Inside this issue:

Welcome Back!	1
Mousam Lake Watershed Grant	2
Emery Mills Dam Project	3
Mousam Lake History	4
Ice Fishing Derby	5
Be Safe on the Lake	6
Meet Your Board of Directors	7
A Note from Membership	8
Spring Clean up	9

Greetings MLRA members,

Normally, receiving the spring MLRA newsletter is a sign that summer is right around the corner. This is the time of year when members are getting ready to open their camps, the smell of spring is in the air, and the MLRA Board is finalizing plans for our scheduled summer activities. As of this writing, we are in the midst of the COVID-19 pandemic that is affecting every aspect of our daily lives. The future of several 2020 MLRA activities, events, and services remains uncertain. By now you should have received a mailing containing your 2020 membership stickers and a letter explaining the decision to waive all member dues requirements for the year. This was not an easy decision, but in the end the Board felt it was the right one. We will continue many of the services and programs using funds from the Association's emergency reserve account. The situation is evolving daily. We will utilize all available information channels to keep you informed. Please visit the MLRA Facebook and MLRA website (www.mousamlake.org) regularly for updates. We ask for your patience and understanding as we try to navigate through this.

OUR MEMBERS are the Association's greatest asset, and the MLRA Board wishes to extend our sincerest appreciation for your continued support. Try to think and act positively during these trying times. Enjoy the extra time with your family. Anticipate that first boat ride or swim in the lake this summer. Use this as an opportunity to do something good to help others. Remember, this is temporary and better days are ahead.

Please take good care of yourselves! Thank you and stay well.

Mark Rousseau,
on behalf of MLRA Board of Directors

December 26, 2019: The beauty of Mousam Lake



Funding Available for Mousam Lake Watershed Projects by David Landry

The Mousam Lake watershed has been the beneficiary of a federal grant awarded through the Maine Department of Environmental Protection and Administered by the York County Soil and Water Conservation District. Work began in the Mousam Lake watershed in 2019 and is continuing this summer. There is still money still available for Mousam Lake shore-front and watershed property owners to have erosion control work done during the Summer of 2020.

Individual property owners would be eligible to receive up to \$200 to offset project material costs. Additionally, labor for these erosion control projects is provided free of charge by the Acton Shapleigh Youth Conservation Corp (ASYCC). Projects that would ideally fit this program might be storm water runoff across patios, stairs, or driveways that runs down and into the lake. Additionally, retaining wall issues, walkway, and driveway issues might be eligible for grant money. Solutions are available through this grant for erosion issues around the lake. It should be remembered that storm water runoff into Mousam Lake can be a serious threat to future water quality. There is no better way to protect property values and enhance the public's enjoyment of the lake than by protecting water quality. By taking advantage of available grant money and the free labor by the ASYCC, property owners can do projects that will help protect the lake for a fraction of the cost that a private contractor might charge.

In 2017 as part of the ongoing effort to protect water quality in Mousam Lake the watershed was surveyed and erosion problems noted. The results of the watershed survey were documented in the publication, *Mousam Lake Watershed Survey*. Watershed residents can review this document by going to MRLA Facebook page and search under the Resource tab.

By searching in Addendum B and also checking the watershed map included in the survey, lakefront residents can see if their property was one on which a concerning amount of erosion was noted. If shorefront property owners have noted ongoing erosion or note their property listed in the watershed survey, help and in many cases money is available to address the storm water erosion issues.

Mousam Lake watershed residents can obtain more information by contacting:
 -Mark Phelps, ASYCC Project Coordinator: 207-432-7821 email: eccleader@asycc.com
 -Jennifer Harris, grant administrator: 207-324-0888 Ext 208 email: jharris@yorkswcd.org
 -David Landry MLRA Director: 207-692-3361 email: david.landry@yahoo.com

Funding for the Mousam Lake grant is provided by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) under Section 319(h) of the Clean Water Act. The funding is administered by the Maine DEP in partnership with the EPA. The EPA does not endorse any commercial products or services. The grant encourages local organizations, primarily volunteer groups, to work collaboratively in addressing watershed issues.

Resources:

Watershed Report:

<https://mousamlake.org/images/uploads/files/2017MousamLakeWatershedSurveyFinalReport.pdf>

Watershed Maps:

<https://mousamlake.org/images/uploads/files/2017MousamLakeWatershedSurveyMaps.pdf>

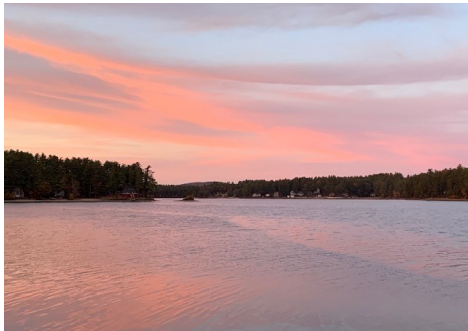
Addendum B:

<https://mousamlake.org/images/uploads/files/2017MousamLakeWatershedSurveySiteList.pdf>

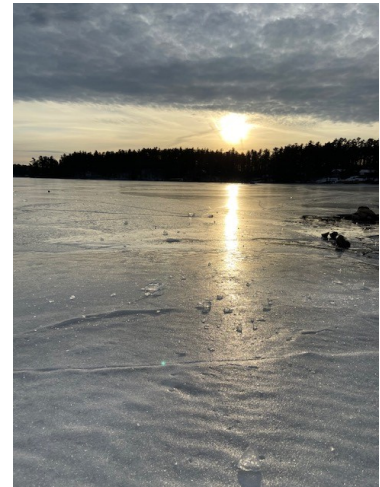
Emery Mills Dam Project

The work at the dam was essentially completed on December 11 and the water has been restored to the normal winter level. In total, about 2,150 gallons of grout were pumped into 26 bore locations. As reported earlier, one bore location received 1,072 gallons of grout. The next two largest grout deposits were between 125 – 150 gallons, and all of the remaining locations received less than 100 gallons. With the large amount of grout that has been pumped into the dam, I'm fairly confident that the major voids have been filled, that the dam is much more solid than before the work was done, and I'm hopeful that the leaks will be minimal when we raise the level again in the late spring.

After the grouting process was completed, the remainder of the rip rap work, capping of the dam, and road work were completed. There were some areas that were loamed and seeded in December, and we'll have to be sure that the seed germinates and grows in the spring.



Fall and Winter on the Lake



Mousam Lake History: The Old Hotel By: Chris Leupold

Do you know there was once a hotel midway up the Shapleigh shore of Mousam Lake? The hotel was a thriving enterprise at the turn of the last century up until the 1930's with guests arriving in Sanford by rail from points south and then taking a horse drawn wagon to the remote "Long Way Inn" to rusticate and relax on the pristine shores of Mousam Lake. In the days before air conditioning, the cool summer evenings and refreshing waters of Mousam Lake must have been a welcome respite from the oppressive heat of the cities. There is some speculation by longtime Mousam Lake residents that hotel guests could even obtain a "fortified drink" during the prohibition era.

The original Long Way Inn Cottage was a dark brown camp which is still standing next door to what was the Long Way Inn (hotel) on the eastern shore of Mousam Lake. The Long Way Inn Cottage was built in the early 1890's by Walter Lowell. The Long Way Inn Cottage had a barn for horses next door, and a boat house. The Long Way Inn cottage was purchased by John Comey of Melrose, Mass in 1903 from Hodgson and Albee Bros. John Comey drafted plans for a three story hotel to be built somewhere on the east side of Mousam Lake. Feb 5, 1904 – "William Garvin of Sanford has contracted to build the new Hotel Hunter at Mousam Lake and finish it all in the spring. John H. Comey will have another cottage built (The Roost) at Mousam Lake on his lot close by his brown colored one". The hotel was built on a point of land surrounded by the lake, a beach on one side and the small Kimball's Cove on the other. The hotel was three stories tall with changing stalls on the ground level for changing into bathing wear. The Hotel Hunter's dedication exercises and grand opening were May 30, 1904 with a rush of people from Massachusetts visiting. The inside was painted, the exterior painting would have to wait until after the opening. There was a large rustic fireplace in the large public room. The hotel had a bowling alley and a short golf driving range on the main floor. There was a large dining room and the front desk was in a large room near the main entrance. The hotel could accommodate 50 guests.

By late August 1904 Comey and Mitchell had dissolved partnership with Mr. Comey purchasing the interests of Mr. Mitchell. By the spring of 1905 John Comey had changed the name of the Hotel Hunter to Long Way Inn and Mr. Howard A. Stanley had charge of the hotel for the spring, which also had cottages and boats to rent. A June 9, 1906 newspaper ad reads as follows: "Open for Business Long Way Inn formerly Hotel Hunter J. H. Comey Proprietor". By July 1906 telephone had been added to the Long Way Inn as well as the Shapleigh Corner Post Office and the GAR Camps. An-

other improvement added to Long Way Inn was gas lighting throughout the building. Long Way Inn opened June 1, 1916 under the management of Frederick T. Keefe; there will be improved cuisine and dancing throughout the summer. In August of 1918 Dr. H. C. Clifton of Hartford Connecticut purchased the Long Way Inn cottage from John Comey. John Comey sold the Long Way Inn (hotel) in June of 1920 to Arthur Webster of Milford, Mass and Henry Milne of Springvale. It was opened for the season on Sunday June 6, when a roast turkey dinner at \$1.50 a plate was served. The hotel's interior was remodeled this season. The Webster Brothers were now proprietors of Long Way Inn. The Webster Brothers took an ad out in the Springvale Advocate on July 15, 1921 listing the Long Way Inn, a three story structure on Mousam Lake for sale. By 1931 the Long Way Inn (hotel) was owned by Mrs. E. Carissimi of Lynn, Mass. Mrs. Carissimi used the hotel as her camp and it was no longer open as a hotel. In 1961 The Long Way Inn was purchased by Robert Vachon from the Carissimi estate. Both the Long Way Inn hotel and Long Way Inn cottage were eventually owned by attorney Bob and Charlotte Pelletier of Sanford. During this time Bob Pelletier auctioned off the contents of the Long Way Inn hotel and had the building torn down. The land was eventually sold and a modern camp today owned by the Gaudet Family was built in its place. While many people have come and gone, John Comey still has heirs on Mousam Lake, almost 120 years after he purchased the cottage.

A number of Mousam Lake residents who were kids in the 1960's remember diving for the hundreds of golf balls that littered the lake bottom off the shore of "old hotel." One can only image hotel guests, on warm summer evenings, bringing their golf clubs outside and partaking in a friendly driving contests while other guests assembled on the hotel's large lakefront veranda to watch golf balls sail into the lake.



Springvale Fish and Game Club Annual Ice Fishing Derby by Gary Brown

The Springvale Fish and Game Club held its annual Ice Fishing Derby on Mousam Lake on January 26, 2020. Money raised from the Derby supports the Club goal to send four kids to Bryant Pond Conservation Camps each summer. In past years, this derby encompassed all inland waters within York County, but this year it was limited exclusively to our lake.

We are grateful to the Mousam Region Lake Association Board of Directors for allowing us to use the Foot of the Lake Beach for our base camp and weigh station again this year. We were happy to welcome Patti and Glen Baxter of the MRLA to our event. Thanks to them for taking the time to pay us a visit and for buying a few chances to our 50/50 drawing. Sorry, but you did not win.

This year, 134 adults and 32 children entered the derby. The weather cooperated and the ice finally set up enough to support our enthusiastic entrants with all their various modes of travel on the ice. There were several nice fish registered, with the grand prize being awarded to an angler who landed a 6.1 lbs.

Lake Trout. Many other prizes were awarded to lucky anglers in various categories for both adults and children. All children went home with items that were donated to the club by our very generous sponsors, like ice fishing traps, hats etc. There were many smiling faces as people were leaving the beach at the end of the day.

I am lucky enough to be a member of both the MRLA BOD and the SF&G Club, so my day started on the beach with other club members at dawn and ended at dusk after cleaning up after the derby. It may seem like a long day, but it is well worth the time and effort that we all put into this event. If you know a child that may be interested in a week at Bryant Pond, at our expense, you may seek more information at <http://springvalefishandgame.org> or on our Facebook page.

We hope to hold this derby again next year so look for our banners and advertisements next Winter and we will hope to see you at the beach.



Stay Safe on the Lake: Boating Rules and Regulations

Meaning of Lake Marker Symbols

White marker with orange identifications:

- Hazard Area, Shallow Area, Rocks.
- Headway Speed Only.
- Headway speed is defined as the minimum speed required to maintain navigation – NO WAKE.

Black & White Vertical Stripe:

- Boats should not pass between marker and nearest shore/land.

Maine Boating Rules and Regulations

Motor Boats:

- Headway speed only within 200 feet (2/3 of a football field) from shore, rafts, other boats or swimmers.
- Must be 12 years or older to operate a boat with more than 10 hp, unless supervised by someone at least 16 years of age.
- Imprudent operation, including prolonged circling, racing and wake jumping is prohibited.

Personal Watercraft (Jet Ski or similar type)

- Must be 16 years or older to operate.
- Headway speed only within 200 feet (2/3 of a football field) from shore and from specially marked buoy areas.
- No operation between sunset and sunrise.
- Imprudent operation, including prolonged circling, racing and wake jumping is prohibited.

Keep in mind these basic rules:

- Before launching your boat, please make sure that it has been washed clean of any possible plant material that could endanger the lake.
- Be careful of spills when refueling or mixing gas.
- Keep a container aboard your watercraft for trash and take it with you when you leave.
- Always use headway speed only in channels or as otherwise indicated by markers.
- Use the toilet facilities provided at the public boat launch ramp or the public beach at the foot of the lake.
- Be aware of water skiers and tubers who may cross your path when boating.
- Remember to turn on your anchor and navigating lights at dusk.
- Please respect the rights and privacy of waterfront property owners by not abusing their property.
- Keep a safe distance (100 feet) away from wildlife such as loons and their chicks to prevent injury.

2019– 2020 MLRA Board of Directors

Directors	Contact Number	Position
Mark Rousseau	(978) 374-3771	President
Gary Thibodeaux	(207) 841-1575	Vice President
James (Jamie) Verity	(617) 901-5212	Treasurer Secretary
Dick Jagger	(207) 636– 2751	Director
Rich Eagleston	(978) 985-3243	Director
Glenn Baxter	(617) 285-3111	Director
Gary Brown		Director
David Landry	(207) 692-3361	Director
James Gilbert		Director
Rebecca Talley		Director
Roger Gutner		Director
Amy Chartrain		Director



August 2019 Board Meeting

Meet a BOD Member

Gary Thibodeaux
MLRA Vice President

I have been a member of the MLRA since 2012 when we bought our camp and joined the MLRA BOD in 2014. I took over as Newsletter Editor then and continued as the Editor until recently when I was nominated to become Vice President.

I have been spending time on Mousam since 2005 when I met my wife Tracy, whose Father has rented on Mousam since she was 3 months old! We had the opportunity to get our own place and are glad we did! Our girls love spending Summer at our little piece of heaven and hope they continue to enjoy all the lake has throughout their lives.

Our place is on upper Mousam near Kato's nose and you can find me most weekends there where if there's a boating activity I'll usually be in on it. I am an avid supporter of boater safety and strongly recommend anyone who is going to be piloting a craft to take a boater safety course and get familiar with navigation aids and rules of the road!



Welcome New Members!

Support the MLRA when you shop at Amazon.com! Use this [Amazon Smile](https://smile.amazon.com/ch/22-2510524) link to select MLRA as your charity to support, 0.5% of each eligible purchase will be donated to the MLRA when you use smile.amazon.com. If you receive your newsletter via US Mail, the link is: <https://smile.amazon.com/ch/22-2510524>

If you are interested in submitting a historical article, story, or anything of interest for future newsletters, email: mlrnewsletter@gmail.com

Look for the Summer Newsletter in October!

PO BOX 333
SPRINGVALE, ME 04083
WWW.MOUSAMLAKE.ORG

Tom & Rebecca Bennett 93 24th St., Shapleigh
John Bellegarde & Donna Preot 17th St., Shapleigh
Alfred & Donna Geaudreau 17th St., Shapleigh
Patrick Demers 10th St., Acton
Denise & Richard Langfield 13th St., Acton
Doug Spinney 30th St., Shapleigh
Harland & Said Eastman Portside, Shapleigh
Liz Milne & Bud McIntyre Long Pond Rd., Shapleigh
David Walles 3rd St., Shapleigh
Ann Pierce 30th St, Shapleigh

MLRA Summer 2020 Proposed Activities

Events may be subject to cancellation or change due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Please check the MLRA Facebook and Website frequently for scheduled event updates

June 27: Annual Meeting

- 9:00 am to 12:00 pm at Acton Fairgrounds

July 3: Light up the lake

- Add lights to your dock– be creative!

July 4: Annual Boat Parade

- Registration begins at 11:00 am in Carpenter's Cove
- Parade starts at 11:30 am and proceeds down the Shapleigh side to the Foot of the Lake
- Prizes for best big and small boat decorations

July 18: Kid's Fishing Derby

- Registration begins at 8:30 am at Baxter's Dock (near The Foot)

August 7: ASYCC Golf Tournament

- Province Lake Golf Club

A Message From Membership

2020 MLRA Membership Update: The Mousam Lake Board of Directors has made the decision to waive all membership dues for this year. 2020 membership stickers will be mailed by the end of April to all 2019 paid members. Please help us keep our members database current by contacting membership of any changes to mailing address, email, and/or phone number or if you are no longer on the lake.

Thank you!
Patti Baxter/ MLRA Membership
membership@mousamlake.org



Spring Cleanup From economical.com

There is something magical about the first drive the lake to start the summer season. But inevitably, you will be greeted by the charms of a cottage that has been locked up for months, musty furniture, ants in the sink and perhaps evidence of critters. Below are a few quick ways to get you up and running for the season, provided by Stephanie Fereiro.

Arrange to have your utilities turned back on or inspected.

Walk the perimeter. Before going inside your cottage, walk around the outer perimeter and look for any broken windows, damage caused by pests, downed power lines or anything else that looks different than how you left it last fall.

Inspect your roof. Harsh winter weather conditions can do a number on your roof, so you should carefully inspect your roof and replace any missing shingles. If you notice that part of your roof has caved in or sustained significant damage, have it repaired by a professional and look for any water damage that may have occurred as a result.

Replace the batteries in your smoke alarms and carbon monoxide detectors. One of the first things you should do when you get inside your cottage is test your carbon monoxide and smoke detectors, and replace the batteries if they've stopped working or if they've reached the expiration date recommended by the manufacturer.

Air it out and look for mold and mildew. If your cottage has been closed up for months, the air inside is likely pretty stale and there could even be mold or mildew you'll need to take care of before spending an extended period of time inside. Open all of your windows and doors, and if your cottage has an air conditioning system, change the filter before starting it up. You could also consider using a dehumidifier to help get rid of any excess moisture in the air.

Turn on your water. If you turned off the pipes when you closed up your cottage last fall, it's time to turn them back on. Before you do so, open one faucet and leave it open when you turn on the main valve. Once your main valve is turned back on, let water run from the opened faucet for a few minutes, then close it.

Check for damage caused by rodents or other pests. Look for holes in your walls and flooring, as well as any debris or waste left behind by pests. If you notice any damage or waste, you may need to contact a pest-control professional to prevent further damage.