



REGION ASSOCIATION

Mousam Lake Region Association

60th Anniversary 1956-2016

P.O. BOX 333 SPRINGVALE, ME 04083

WWW.MOUSAMLAKE.ORG

Summer 2016 Newsletter

Welcome David Landry to the MLRA Board of Directors

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Our condolences go out to the family and friends of Jeff Beattie. He was involved in a tragic boating accident over Memorial Day weekend.

Please practice boater safety when you are out enjoying the Lake this Summer.

The MLRA Board of Directors would like to welcome Dr. David Landry. He has graciously volunteered to fill one of the two vacancies we currently have. Dave has extensive experience serving in several lake associations and conservation groups and will be a great addition to our Board.

"I look forward to serving as a board member of the MLRA. Interesting, my parents were founding members of the association and I remember going to the first Mousam Lake Region Association annual meeting as a young child.

I have had a long history working with lake associations and think in some modest way I may be able to bring some of my experience to the Mousam Lake Region Association.

The recent concerns regarding lake water levels in Mousam Lake is common to almost any lake with a dam on it and was something I dealt with during my tenure with the China Lake Association. One China Lake residents shared a letter with me several years ago written to town selectmen where the author bitterly complained about the very low water levels in China Lake and the conspiracy he felt was the cause of the low water. The letter was dated 1894! I look forward to seeing you at the next directors meeting.

Sincerely,
David Landry, MD

Overview of Lake based work

Co-founder and board member McGrath Pond-Salmon Lake Association 1984-1990

China Lake Association, President 1992-2014
Maine Lake Association of the year 2000

China Region Lakes Alliance, 1995-2015
Co-Founder, Director, President
Involved in starting Maine's first Youth Conservation Corp *Maine Conservation Organization of the Year 2009*
Awarded/managed \$500,000+ in federal grants Director, *Courtesy Boat Inspection Program* 2008-2014

If you see Dave around the area, please thank him for Volunteering to Join the MLRA Board!

Welcome New Members

If any of your lake neighbors are not MLRA members, please encourage them to join!

| Directors | Contact Number | Position |
|----------------------|----------------|----------------|
| Rich Eagleston | (978) 985-3243 | President |
| Skip Bartosch | (207) 636-2751 | Vice President |
| James (Jamie) Verity | (617) 901-5212 | Treasurer |
| Jane Carmichael | (207) 636-1724 | Secretary |
| Glenn Baxter | (207) 636-1751 | Director |
| Jack Kelley | (207) 636-3252 | Director |
| Elaine Beck | (207) 636-2166 | Director |
| Mark Rousseau | (978) 374-3771 | Director |
| Gary Thibodeaux | (207) 353-0614 | Director |
| David Landry | | Director |

MLRA 2016 Schedule of Events

Be sure to include these great MLRA activities when planning your Summer activities at the Lake. There is something for everyone!

| | |
|--|---|
| Annual Meeting | June 25th, 9AM-Acton Fairgrounds |
| Light Up the Lake | July 3rd, Sunset |
| Boat Parade | July 4th, Meet in Carpenter's Cove at 9am. Proceed down Shapleigh side. |
| Kids' Fishing Derby | July 16, Registration at 8:30am at the Baxter Dock (near the entrance to Ham's Cove) |
| 60th Anniversary Ice Cream Social | August 13, 6:30pm on the water near the Baxter Dock (access via watercraft, look for the marked pontoon boats!) Rain Date : August 20 |
| ASYCC Annual Golf Tournament | August 5, Province Lake CC in Parsonsfield. Registration at 8:00am http://www.asycc.com/golf.html |

Clearance Marker Installed and Call for Volunteers!



A Big THANK YOU goes out to Mark Rousseau, Glenn Baxter and Skip Bartosch for creating and installing our new clearance marker on the RTE 109 bridge. This is an idea that the MLRA board has been pondering for a while to help navigate the bridge and keep better track of the Lake waterlevels.

We have a serious need for some volunteers to step forward to assist the MLRA. Opportunities exist in many areas with time commitments ranging from a few hours per summer to monthly participation. Opportunities exist for teenagers looking for volunteer hours to participate in the plant patrol. We are also open to any other volunteer position suggestions for the next generation and the MLRA will sign off on any forms needed to document said volunteer work. Existing openings are as follows:

Article writers for the Newsletter, Facebook and Website (as often as one would like to write and submit articles/blurbs)

- Website Maintenance (Monthly position using already existing website)

- Plant Patrollers and coordinators (Summer positions, a few hours every other week or so)
- Director (1 opening, preference is a member from Lower Mousam, but not required, full year position)
- Membership database (this is a full year position includes maintaining and updating the membership database in Access and mailing out acknowledgement letters and stickers to Members upon payment of dues, also other mailings as needed)

If you would like more information on any of these positions, please email us at:

info@mousamlake.org

ASYCC Update

Save the date: The 12th Annual ASYCC Benefit Golf Tournament is August 5, 2016 @ Province Lake Golf Course. Highlights will include the Air-cannon, prizes for Hole in One on all par 3's including a \$5000 grand prize; Closest to the Pin and Longest Drive contests. Prizes will be awarded for the top 3 teams gross and net. We will also have the "Yellow Ball Challenge", a Skins Game, and a Putting contest with a chance for a \$2500 putt. In addition, there will be plenty of Raffle Prizes, a Big Prize Raffle, a 50/50, and a Silent/Live Auction. We do have a limited number of spots, determined by the number of carts available, so sign up and pay for your foursomes NOW. We can add a few additional walking foursomes.....so let me know if you would enjoy walking. Since we did sell out last year,

foursomes will ONLY be reserved once payment in full is received. Please see our website at www.ASYCC.com for more information and sign-up forms. Come support The Acton Shapleigh Youth Conservation Corps and all the important work they do to protect our lakes! For more information please contact Mark Rautenberg, ASYCC 2016 Benefit Golf Tournament Chairman at terri-mark@earthlink.net or (207) 636-4145.

The Courtesy Boat Inspectors have now begun coverage on Fridays, Saturday and Sundays through June 20th, after which they will cover seven days a week. If you are hoping to have some erosion control work done this season, please call or email as soon as possible as the schedule is almost completely booked. We will also begin a list for the 2017 season. Contact Betty Smith at programdirector@asycc.com or 207-693-8080.



Tubing Tips

The next time you or your family decide to go out boat tubing, keep these boating safety and water sports tubing tips in mind to make sure your experience is safe and enjoyable:

- **Always wear a PFD** While it's always a good idea to wear a PFD (personal flotation device) when onboard, it should go without saying that you should wear a life jacket when water tubing. This is especially important in the event that the rider should become separated from the boat.
- **Know your equipment** Be familiar with the capabilities of your water sports tubing equipment. It's important to follow to the manufacturer's recommendations for water tubing capacity in terms of size and weight, number of riders, age limits, and maximum towing speed.
- **Know your rider** It's also important to use common sense when it comes to the capability of your rider, especially when water sports tubing with small children. While sharp turns, high speeds, and big waves can be fun, these should never come at the expense of rider safety.
- **Use a spotter** Designate one person onboard as a "spotter", who can keep a lookout for water tubing accidents or see if anyone has fallen off the tube, while the boat driver concentrates on oncoming obstacles.
- **Be aware of water regulations** Make sure you are familiar with the specific regulations governing the body of water you're boat tubing on, in particular towing speeds.
- **Drive Responsibly** While enjoying a day of water tubing, the driver should be alert, sober, and have a solid grasp of boating rules and regulations. Be respectful of and keep your distance from other boats in the area when water tubing, and always keep an eye out for additional water hazards such as rocks, docks, and buoys.
- **Use a secure tow line** Another important safety aspect of water tubing, it's important when water tubing to always make sure that the tow line is securely tied before take off. Also be sure to check for signs of wear, tear, and fraying, and replace as needed. Be sure to only use rope that is specifically designated for towing inflatables.
- **Check before you start** Never start the boat without first making sure that your rider is ready to go. This means that they have a firm grip on the line, are properly positioned on the tube, and that the line is properly and safely positioned. When water tubing with multiple passengers, riders should understand how to balance their weight correctly and work together to safely stay on the tube.
- **Handle wakes with care** Slow the boat speed when crossing wakes. Bouncing off wakes at extremely high speeds has been known to cause back injury, especially with riders who are water tubing stomach-down.
- **Exercise caution when pulling more than one tube** It's especially important to keep an extra careful eye out if you are tubing with more than one tube. Dual water sports tubing can often result in large crashes and serious accidents, should the tubes happen to collide.

Protecting Our Lakes

The mild winter and early ice-out have put our lake at its highest risk ever!

Each year as lake surfaces become warmer, the upper warmer water and lower colder water separate into layers, a normal lake process called stratification. This stratification will remain until the air temperature cools the surface layer in the fall and the layers remix. All season the warmer upper layer will continue to receive oxygen from wind and wave activity. However, in the colder lower water the oxygen level has been fixed. It will not increase until the lake stratification changes when the weather cools again.

Early ice-out enables lake surfaces to warm faster, which results in a lake's earlier stratification into warmer and colder layers. The lower colder level's oxygen is fixed earlier, too. When this happens, all the fish and other organisms living in the colder level have a finite supply of oxygen that now is needed to last for a longer than usual period. If the cold water lake life consume all the oxygen before the upper level cools in the fall and the layers remix, they will die.

As if a fish kill weren't bad enough, there's another problem. The lake bed contains chemicals that are bound to other elements there. Oxygen depletion in the lower level of the lake causes some of these bonds to change, so some chemicals are freed and move into the water. One of the worst of these is phosphate, a salt that contains phosphorus. Unbound, it will travel through the colder layer and then throughout the entire lake when the water remixes. Phosphorus will feed naturally-occurring algae everywhere in the lake and tremendously raise the likelihood of algal blooms. We all know, or should know, how

devastating an algal bloom can be to lake life, human and pet safety, water quality, recreation, and even property values. All our New England lakes are at increased risk this year, and there will be algal blooms for certain. Some may be toxic and hazardous. This year, more than ever, we all must be mindful of our impact on the lake and the ways phosphorus enters the water. In various ways we're responsible for nearly all of it. We even introduce trace amounts to the lake every time we go swimming.

As you read the following, please, please do or keep doing as many of these as you can. Please encourage your visiting family, friends and renters to as well.

First, read labels and make certain you are purchasing/using cleaning products, soaps, and detergents that are phosphorus-free. Be willing to scrub a bit longer than usual and really help the lake.

Follow maintenance guidelines for your septic system. Understand that the lake extends under the ground to the areas of many of our leach fields, so be mindful of what you flush "just to be rid of it."

Phosphorus adheres to soil particles. To minimize its entry into the lake:

- Plant trees, shrubs and grasses down-slope from your septic system to increase absorbency.
- Plant trees and shrubs in the shore area and place mulch to reduce run-off.
- Water lawns or other plantings in the morning and do not overwater. All living things contain phosphorus and release it through decay. Never, ever empty grass clippings, pulled weeds, raked leaves or other yard waste into the lake. If you see a mass of it floating in the lake, please pull it out.

If you must have a lawn:

- Use zero P fertilizer. Our glaciated New England soils have plenty already, so you don't need to add it, and our lake will be better for it.
 - Apply fertilizer in the fall, when the lawn will use it for healthy root development.
 - Allow your grass to grow taller between mowings, then leave the clippings as natural fertilizer.
 - Consider not having a lawn. Lawns are dense and allow more run-off into the lake than bushes, shrubs, other plantings or mulch. Bodily waste is high in phosphorus, so please:
 - Insist your family and guests do not urinate in the lake.
 - Be mindful of pet urine. Try to keep it as far from the lake as possible.
 - Pick up solid pet waste and flush or dispose of it in the trash.
 - Do not encourage the presence and increase of waterfowl by feeding them. Their excrement introduces more phosphorus to the lake.
- If we all do our part, we can lessen the already increased risk of algal blooms in our lake. We also will be making changes that will be needed from now on. Our lake and ocean temperatures have been rising for years. Regardless of anyone's position on climate change, this temperature rise and the increased threats from algal blooms are being assessed by countries worldwide. Last year NOAA and NASA united in a continued effort to monitor our oceans and lakes in order to predict increased risks and likely occurrences of harmful algal blooms (HABs) that can affect human health, agriculture, air quality, safety, and more. The threats are serious, and we all need to be mindful and do what we should be doing to help.
- ~Marsha Letourneau~

Going Retro- Anniversary Edition!

To help celebrate MLRA' s 60th Anniversary, we hope you enjoy reading some of MLRA' s founding ideas & documents. Here is a Newsletter from August 1963.

Mousam Lake Region Assn.

144 MAIN STREET - SANFORD, MAINE

REPORT TO THE MOUSAM LAKE CAMP OWNERS

The officers of the Mousam Lake Region Association for 1963 are as follows:

| | | | |
|------------|----------------------|------------------|-------------------|
| Pres. | Richard Lamb | 7 Joy Street | Springvale, Maine |
| Vice Pres. | Lorenzo Legere | 45 Berwick St. | Sanford, Maine |
| Secretary | Paul Baldwin | Beaver Hill Rd. | Springvale, Me. |
| Treasurer | Ernest N. Kostis | 144 Main St. | Sanford, Maine |
| Director | Andrew Rivers | 464 Central Ave. | Dover, N. H. |
| Director | Raymond Leblanc | 2 Verona St. | Springvale, Me. |
| Director | Mrs. Mildred Richard | 576 Central Ave. | Dover, N. H. |

As per the voting at our annual meeting held July 20, 1963 your Board of Directors has been active in seeing that the requests are followed through. The dangerous bridge situation has been magnified by two accidents this year. The State Police, Game Warden, Town of Acton, Town of Shapleigh, State Highway Dept., all claim no jurisdiction. To sum it up, there is no law readily available to stop swimming off the bridge. The towns will have to pass an ordinance preventing swimming off the bridge in order for officers to have any power of arrest.

The repairs and replacement of street signs have been made and will be continually tended as long as the needless destruction continues.

The emergency numbers requested are enclosed. They were prepared according to the vote of the directors Aug. 12, 1963.

State biologist Stuart Deroche has been contacted and he will have the commissioner of Inland Fisheries and Game put in writing what specific species of fish Mousam Lake will be stocked with and what requirements will have to be met relative to the dam, fish screen.

Three members of the Board of Directors attended the Square Pond Assoc. meeting July 28, Much discussion was held relative to pollution and a report from the Sate of Maine Dept. of Health and Welfare will be forthcoming. The Board of Directors feel that the selectmen of Acton and Shapleigh do seem concerned about this and have gone about it in the proper manner.

The fire protection on the Acton Side of Mousam Lake has been clarified. The Springvale Fire Dept. is authorized as of this date to answer calls in the town. The selectmen still stress that campers call only when needed.

The directors voted Aug 12, 1963 to have an audit made by an outside accountant. It was their feeling that they should not preform an audit covering such a long period. It was discussed that once things are up to date our own audit committee could take over. Our by-Laws carried no provisions for auditing prior to our annual meeting this year. This has been clarified and a yearly audit report will be mailed out to all members. A report of the current Audit and Treasurers report will be mailed to members later this fall.

I will close this report by saying that no Association can be influential without strong membership. Even with a strong membership no miracles will happen, but progress can be made toward keeping Mousam Lake what we want it to be. Membership dues are \$5.00 per year payable to the treasurer Mr. Ernest Kostis, You may mail it to him at the above address.

Richard G. Lamb, pres.

Here are the Annual Meeting minutes from 1966

Mousam Lake Region Assoc.

1/16

114 MAIN STREET - SANFORD, MAINE

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE:

The most important discussion at our annual meeting, was the concern for property protection during the non-occupied months in the spring and fall. Your directors and myself, have discussed this with the local Warden and the Sheriffs Dept.. In order to get increased surveillance, we have got to buy it. Qualified officers with the proper authority are available on a part time basis for this work. The point we must consider here is how long our cash reserve will last if we hire this extra surveillance. In fact, we know that we can not afford the surveillance we need, on the dues of the present membership. If we want to do a good job we must have the support of a larger membership.

The above is a matter of concern which the organization should act upon. Acts of looting and vandalism of camps has happened at other lakes around the State, and such acts are kept at a minimum by systematic checks and cooperative action. We will keep working on this problem, and will go as far as our resources will let us, then we will have to stop.

NEWS:

FOULD. . . . One pair gray steps by Mr. Page at camp #2910
One pair red steps by M. Richard at camp #41.3

The Board of Directors elected at our annual meeting July 19th (organized July 28) the following officers, whose names and addresses are listed below. Please cut these names out and save them for future reference.

| | | |
|-------------|------------------|------------------------------------|
| President | Richard G. Lamb | 7 Joy Street, Springvale, Maine |
| Vice.-Pres. | Francis Legere | Star Route, Springvale, Maine |
| Secretary | Muriel Tasker | 41 Atkinson Street, Dover, N. H. |
| Treasurer | Ernest M. Kostis | Box 489, Sanford, Maine |
| Director | Mildred Richard | 576 Central Ave., Dover, N. H. |
| Director | Lorenzo Legere | 45 Berwick Street, Sanford, Maine |
| Director | Raymond LeBlanc | 2 Verona Street, Springvale, Maine |

The new Board of Directors voted to replace the buoys which have been damaged. It seems the red flags attract people and the flags soon disappear.

Also voted was the following: That all members will be entitled to a free map, including those who join now for the first time. The maps are available at three locations right now.

- Springvale Hardware Co. -- Springvale Square
- York County Realty - Main Street, Sanford
- S-Curve Store - Route 109 Springvale, Maine

One of our new directors is going to act as our information agent, Mr. Francis Legere, at the S-Curve store. Mr. Legere is going to paint a sign to that effect and place it in front of his store. He already has maps, boat laws, etc.. Also, if you have any pertinent information, you may leave it with him.

Your president (for the second year) is appreciative of the efforts of assistance for the coming year. It is hoped that the mailings can be of interest and our accomplishments for the good of the lake area will be worthwhile.

Permit to place a slalom course from 1975

STATE OF MAINE DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION
BUREAU OF PARKS AND RECREATION
State Office Building
Augusta, Maine
04330

Phone #207-289-3821

PERMIT
TO
PLACE BUOYS, MARKERS OR STRUCTURES ON THE WATERS OF THE STATE

ISSUED TO:

APPLICANT CLIFFORD E. HERMANN DATE MARCH 11, 1975

ORGANIZATION MOUSAM LAKE REGION ASSOCIATION

21st Street, Mousam Lake
ADDRESS Shapleigh, Maine 04076 PERMIT NO. ME-95

NAME OF LAKE MOUSAM TOWN SHAPLEIGH COUNTY YORK

PERMIT ISSUED FOR:

- Navigation Aid
- Hazard or Obstruction Marker
- Ski Jump
- Slalom Ski (14) Course Markers
- Organized Swim Area
- Mooring Buoy
- Swim Float
- Race Course Markers
- Anchorage Area (5 or more moorings) Number of moorings
- ENTRANCE (2)
- EXIT (2)
- Organized camp Perimeter Buoy
- Beacon

BUOY NO. ME-95

This number to be placed on Buoy, Marker or Structure. If more than one Buoy, Marker or Structure is authorized, the numbers for each are indicated below:

Entrance Markers: ME-95-A and ME-95-B (2)

Slalom Course Markers: ME-95-C through ME-95-P(14)

Exit Markers: ME-95-Q and ME-95-R (2)

THIS PERMIT EXPIRES ON: December 31, 1975

Edward Beach
WATERWAYS SECTION

Board of Directors Roll Call Over the Years-1976

President:

Bob Ramsdell

Vice-President:

Bill Phipps

Secretary:

Pat Baldwin

Treasurer:

Dick Griggs

Members:

**Cliff Hermann
Mildred Richard
Bob Weaver**

Please be sure to attend the MLRA Annual Meeting June, 25 at 9 am. Members who attend will receive a free Mousam Lake Region Association coffee mug! (While supplies last)

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

Look for the Summer Newsletter in June!

**Thank You for your contributions to the
MLRA!**

**MOUSAM LAKE REGION
ASSOCIATION**

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



REGION ASSOCIATION