



McGRATH POND & SALMON LAKE ASSOCIATION

SUMMER 2008

Dear Neighbors,

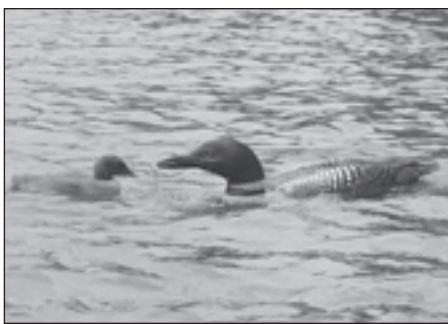
Waterskiing – Loons – Trolling for Fish – Swimming – Kayaking – Barbecues

Regardless of your favorite pastimes, this summer has lived up to the Maine reputation as a vacationland. We are truly fortunate to be in the McGrath Pond/Salmon Lake Watershed, enjoying the lakes and comfortable weather.

As we approach the middle of summer, its time to prepare for our annual meeting, take stock of our water quality and plan our continued stewardship of the Belgrade Lakes. You, as an association, have met the challenge by joining the association and pledging to conserve our lakes for future generations. To date we are 70% toward our goal in an expanded membership drive. We have enrolled over 100 members and raised \$3500. We are in hopes that our annual meeting sign-up will push us to the \$5000 goal. All membership dues are invested in our lakes through courtesy boat inspections, the conservation corps and education.

At our August 7th meeting, the board will share their accomplishments of the year, many of which are outlined in this newsletter.

- Volunteers saved the association \$650 this spring at the Salmon Lake boat landing
- Association By-laws were reviewed and revised to meet current conditions
- A budget plan was adopted, emphasizing fundraising, volunteers, and efficiencies-- allowing us to maintain a comfortable surplus for unforeseen expenses
- A membership drive to grow the association and spread financial support
- An emphasis on education through the newsletter, advocacies and collaboration with BRCA programming
- Increased monitoring of water quality through phosphorous testing
- A safer narrows crossing with more buoys



Loon Sightings

Loons typically return to the same lake on "ice out". They mate for life. Chicks ride on their mothers' back until they can travel on their own. The male loon is usually in the area, fishing and on-guard. Because they hunt primarily by sight, the water clarity we are experiencing on McGrath and Salmon will certainly help young chicks as they practice short hunting dives with their parents.

THANK YOU Courtesy Boat Inspections (CBI)

Our association board of directors volunteered to man the Salmon Lake Boat Landing this spring to save money and meet boaters. Because the inspection process is more educational than enforcement, the volunteers were able to spread good practices while sharing the work of our association. The Association contracts with the Belgrade Regional Conservation Alliance (BRCA) for CBI during the busy months of July and August, and provides volunteer coverage during the spring and fall. This spring, volunteers Bob Meyers, Mal Dawson, John Loomis, Jay Wietecha, Mark Gray, Don and Terry Borman, and Rick Swanson saved the association roughly \$650 providing inspections.



Double the fun on the lakes

If you haven't already done so, mark your calendars. August 7th at the All seasons center in Belgrade for our annual meeting at 6:30 and August 29th and 30th for the Belgrade Lakes Aquafest, scheduled for Labor Day Weekend. This will be fun-filled family program that will be a great celebration of our lakes.

Our lakes are a reflection of us. If we are good lake stewards, McGrath Pond and Salmon Lake will remain pristine for our children and grandchildren. Join the association, volunteer, and be proactive in keeping our lakes clean and clear.

Respectfully submitted,

Don Borman
President – MPSLA

Save the Date
August 7 • 6:00 pm
ANNUAL MEETING
Center for All Seasons
Belgrade



Courtesy Boat Inspections Proving Effective

The MPSLA allocates significant resources to provide courtesy boat inspections at the Spaulding Point boat landing. Alan Brackett heads up the BRCA corps, who along with our volunteer inspectors have inspected about 150 boats through July 22. Alan reports that 90% of boaters self inspect their boats and are knowledgeable of milfoil and invasive plants.

While no plant life has been found on boats exiting Salmon Lake, inspectors on Messalonskee have discovered and cleaned 12 boats that had milfoil entangled in the boat and/or trailer. Our inspectors report that roughly 15% of the boats entering Salmon were last used on Messalonskee Lake. None of these boats were found to have plant life attached when entering our boat landing. About half of the boats entering our lakes were last used on Salmon Lake and none of the boats entering our boat landing, regardless of origin, had any plants attached.

Inspectors not only provide safeguards against invasive plants, but also do a tremendous job educating boaters about maintaining our lakes and the quality of the water. Your association volunteer inspectors have also found the hours at the landing to be relaxing and a great way to meet people. Thanks to our volunteers and all of our association members, whose dues help pay for the courtesy boat inspections.



Conservation Corps Still Accepting Projects

While the summer schedule of projects is on a down hill slide for this summer, our young conservation corps workers are looking for projects to close out this season or kick off the summer of '09. Only two projects were requested on McGrath Pond/Salmon Lake this summer. A buffer and infiltration trench was installed for Karl Broekheizen and replacement rubber "razor blades" were installed for Robyn Deveney.

A highlight of corps work this year was the development of a rain garden at Day's store in Belgrade. This is a model project which demonstrates lake friendly landscaping and planting. All MPSL residents are welcome to visit this site and submit applications to the Conservation Corps for future projects.



Day's Rain Garden –
Belgrade Lakes Village

Center for All Seasons to host MPSLA Annual Meeting

While we await confirmation of our dam committee panel presentation, the annual meeting agenda is otherwise set. Your Board is cooking up sweets and will be preparing both cold beverages and hot coffee for attendees. This will be our first meeting at the Center for All Seasons in Belgrade and we invite you all to join us for this educational and social get together.

The meeting will start at 6:30 with refreshments and social time starting at 6:00 PM. As in the past, our treasurer, John Loomis will accept dues and sign up members who traditionally contribute at the annual meeting. There will be door prizes throughout the meeting. Our plan is to have members of the Belgrade Dam Committee discuss their "charge" and the procedures they use to satisfy their DEP mandates.

The business part of the meeting will feature the newly revised by-laws and current budget, both of which must be ratified by membership. Additionally, the nominating committee will recommend board members and officers for next year. All committees will present reports and provide time for Association input.

The board thanks you for your support and encourages your attendance at the annual meeting.

McGrath Pond/Salmon Lake Association

2008 Budget Adopted April 8, 2008



Expenditures

BRCA Conservation Corps	\$1750
Milfoil Inspections	\$4500
Newsletters	\$ 900
Educational Programming	\$ 500
Insurance	\$ 800
Annual Meeting	\$ 100
Miscellaneous COLA/Fees/Buoys	\$ 200
Totals	\$8750

Revenue

Membership Drive	\$5000
Education Donation	\$ 250
Milfoil Inspection Donations	\$ 250
Fundraising (Aquafest)	\$1000
Town of Oakland	\$1000
Carryover & Interest	\$1250
Totals	\$8750

The above budget was approved by the Board of Directors at our April meeting. The membership will be asked to ratify expenses and revenues at our annual meeting.

Budget Reflects More Dollars for Education and Water Quality

- The funding of the Conservation Corps is based on lake size and residency.
- Milfoil Inspection expenditures are down as the board and other volunteers are providing inspections in June, September and October.
- Insurance is budgeted to protect the association from liability. It has not yet been expended to date.
- The budgeted amounts for the newsletter and education have been increased, but significant savings could be realized as these amounts are currently lower than anticipated.
- The budgeted amounts for the annual meeting and miscellaneous items are maintained at a low level and could be supplemented from other budgeted lines
- The town of Oakland contributed \$1000 with its first such appropriation – Hopefully Belgrade will follow suit next year

Strong Membership Supports Programming

- Our major source of revenue continues to be a strong membership. Through our year long membership drive, we are anticipating an increase in funding.
- As part of our involvement with the BRCA the association will receive a pro rated share of the Aquafest revenues.
- A first time request from the town of Oakland has realized a \$1000 contribution. A similar amount will be requested from Belgrade in the fall.
- Grant funding, donations and interest provide funding to balance the budget.

Treasurer's Report – Balancing Water Quality & Finances

Member donations have been coming in steadily since the spring newsletter, and so far \$3600 has been raised toward our budget of \$5,000. Additionally, specific donations earmarked for boat inspections stand at \$175. Over \$300 has been directed to the Frances Fox Sandmel Education Fund. The town of Oakland has pledged to donate another \$1000, and next year we hope that Belgrade will make a similar donation.

Your Board authorized \$4500 for boat inspections this year, with paid CB

Is working daily during July and August. Volunteers, mostly board members, performed inspections on weekends in May and June, and plan the same in September and October.

The board supported a contribution of \$1750 to the BRCA's Conservation Corps this year, as well monies to support insurance, education, the newsletter, water testing, a \$100 donation to COLA, and \$68 for new buoys for the narrows.

Respectfully submitted,

John Loomis, Treasurer

Notices and Announcements

The Board is considering allowing interested parties to place notices and/or announcements for a small fee to help offset the cost of the newsletter. The following is an example that is sponsored by Whisperwood Camps.

Whisperwood Lodge & Cottages at the south end of Salmon Lake is now excepting reservations for dining.

Lake dwellers may now jump into their boats and stop by for a meal. Call ahead 465-3983 for a reservation for Breakfast from 8 until 9 am or Dinner at 5 pm each day from now until October 5th.

A full detailed expenditure report will be presented at the annual meeting

Our Dam

“The narrows are too shallow” - “Water levels are too high”, “run off streams are dry”, “the ice is cracking “ - “draw down is too early” - “draw down is too late”



Docks make great water level gauges

Historical Perspective

For decades the dams on Salmon Lake, Long Pond and Great Pond were owned and operated by Central Maine Power. In 1980, as CMP was reorganized, the dams were sold to the Belgrade Development Corp and subsequently acquired by the towns of Belgrade and Rome. The three dams were being operated under the protocol of the Soil and Water Conservation guidelines. In 1985, the select persons of the town of Belgrade petitioned the Department of Environmental Protection to establish a new water level regime for these lakes. After public hearings and a thorough review of criteria, the Belgrade Area Dams Committee was developed with representation and costs prorated to Oakland, Belgrade and Rome based on lake size and town frontage. A water level management plan was established by the DEP, taking into consideration the following Findings of Fact in 1985:



Spillway Level measure at dam site

Findings of Fact;

1. Access to McGrath Pond is from Salmon Lake – Water Levels lower than 1 foot below spillway interfere with passage between the two ponds.
2. Fish & Wildlife Habitat and Water Quality – Maintenance of stable water levels is important in the spring (ice out) through early summer for both fish and fowl. Fall draw down should occur to achieve stable water levels several weeks prior to ice cover. Extreme high water leads to increased shoreline erosion with greater movement of nutrients into the lakes
3. Accommodation of precipitation and run-off: To prevent flooding during the winter and spring a maximum draw down level of 1.5 feet below spillway was established for Salmon Lake.
4. Water Supplies and Hydropower Considerations: Minimal effect on Salmon Dam
5. Downstream Flow: Salmon Lake is connected to Great Pond by Hatchery Brook, a small outlet stream approximately ½ mile in length. In order to maintain aquatic life in the stream, a minimum of instantaneous flow of 1 CFS is required at all times.

Therefore;

1. The dam owner shall drawdown the lake following Labor Day to achieve a water level of between 1 and 1.5 feet below spillway crest by November 1st.
2. Between November 1st and April 1st, the dam shall be managed to maintain the water level between 1 and 1.5 feet below spillway.
3. Following April 1st, the lake level shall be gradually raised to a target level of between 0.0 and 0.2
4. Between June 1 and Labor Day, the lake shall be maintained as close to spillway crest as possible
5. A minimum instantaneous flow of 1 cfs shall be maintained in the outlet stream at all times

Summary: The dams of Great Pond, Long Pond and Salmon Lake are owned and operated by the legal entity, The Belgrade Area Dam Committee. The water level management plan was developed in 1985 by the DEP to take into consideration all stakeholders. While everyone has their personal rationale for water levels and draw downs, the dam operator, Roger Pelletier is obligated to follow the written protocol. While there is allowable deviation, it must be based on pre established guidelines. Copies of various documents will be available for interested association members at the annual meeting.

Who is the Dam committee?

- | | |
|-----------|-----------------------------|
| Belgrade: | Richard MacKenzie, chairman |
| | Dennis Purrington |
| | Roger Pelletier, Operator |
| | Percy Ackerman |
| | George Hoy |
| Rome: | Timothy Comeford |
| | Jack Schultz |
| | John Mulville |
| Oakland | Mark Fisher |



Spillway feeds Hatchery Brook

McGrath Pond ~ Salmon Lake Association Bylaws

ARTICLE I. NAME.

The name of this non-profit organization shall be the McGrath Pond--Salmon Lake Association Inc. The lakes and the Association are located in Oakland and Belgrade, Maine.

ARTICLE II. PURPOSE.

The purpose of the Association is to preserve and protect the natural character, enhance the water quality, and promote responsible use of the lakes for the benefit of all.

ARTICLE III. MEMBERSHIP.

Membership is open to any person or organization concerned with the well-being of the lakes and interested in the purposes of the Association.

ARTICLE IV. BOARD OF DIRECTORS.

SECTION A. There shall be a Board of Directors to govern the Association, consisting of eleven members elected from among the general membership.

SECTION B. Directors shall be elected at the Association's annual meeting to serve three-year terms.

SECTION C. The Board of Directors' meetings shall be open to the Association members.

SECTION D. A Director who will be absent from a Directors meeting may appoint another Association member to act as an alternate on his/her behalf at that meeting.

SECTION E. Six Directors and/or alternates will constitute a Board of Directors' meeting quorum.

ARTICLE V. OFFICERS.

SECTION A. The officers of the Association shall be the President, Vice President, Secretary, and Treasurer. The offices of Secretary and Treasurer may be held by the same person.

SECTION B. The officers shall serve terms of one year. With two consecutive terms permitted for the President and Vice President. The Secretary and Treasurer may serve unlimited numbers of terms.

SECTION C. The officers shall be elected by the general membership of the Association from among the members of the Board of Directors.

ARTICLE VI. DUTIES OF THE OFFICERS.

SECTION A. The President shall preside at general membership and Board of Directors meetings, supervise all Association affairs, and appoint committee chairs.

SECTION B. The President shall sign and make all contracts and agreements on behalf of the Association, or may empower a specific director of the Association to act on the Association's behalf.

- A clerk will be appointed to file the appropriate report with the State of Maine
- A buoy tender will be appointed to purchase, place; on or before May 15th, remove; on or after October 15th, maintain and file reports on navigational aids consistent with State of Maine Department of Conservation, Bureau of Parks and Lands, Boating Facilities Division

SECTION C. The President's actions are subject to the approval of a majority of the Directors of the Association.

SECTION D. The Vice President shall have, in the absence or inability of the President to perform his/her duties, the same powers and limitations as the President.

SECTION E. The Vice President shall normally chair one of the Association's standing committees and be an ex officio member of the others. (See Article XI.)

SECTION F. The Secretary shall keep a record of Association business transacted at all meetings, take roll of Association members at meetings, keep a registry of members, and issue notice of meetings.

SECTION G. The Treasurer shall receive all monies due the Association, make disbursements, maintain appropriate records, and file appropriate reports, including an annual report to the general membership on the financial condition of the Association.



ARTICLE VII. NOMINATIONS.

SECTION A. A nominating committee appointed by the Board of Directors shall present a slate of Directors and Officers for vote at the annual meeting of the Association.

SECTION B. Nominations shall be open for additional candidates before votes are taken at the annual meeting.

SECTION C. Directors shall be elected before officers so that a person may be elected to the Board of Directors and nominated to serve as an Officer at the same annual meeting.

SECTION D. Vacancies in the Board and/or among the Officers occurring between annual meetings shall be filled through election by the remaining Directors.

ARTICLE VIII. MEETINGS.

SECTION A. The Association's annual meeting will be held in late July or early August on a rotating basis. Notices will be mailed to all members separately or as part of a newsletter.

SECTION B. The President or Directors, by majority vote, may call a special meeting of the membership by written notice at least one week in advance of the meeting.

SECTION C. Board meetings shall be held at least three times per year. Special meetings of the Board may be held as business necessitates with adequate notice given to ensure quorum requirements are met.

SECTION D. Motions shall be decided by a majority vote at all Association meetings with the exception of amendments to the Bylaws.

SECTION E. "Roberts' Rules of Order" shall be used to provide for the orderly discussion of business at all Association meetings.

ARTICLE IX. DUES.

SECTION A. Dues will be set at the Association's annual meeting after consideration of budget needs for the upcoming fiscal year, which begins January first.

SECTION B. Dues will not be prorated for those who pay late in the year.

ARTICLE X. VOTING RIGHTS

SECTION A. Each member whose dues are paid before the start of business at the annual meeting will secure one vote in Association affairs.

SECTION B. Organizations that are members will have one vote.

ARTICLE XI. COMMITTEES.

SECTION A. Committees may be formed and chairs appointed by the President as needs of the Association require.

SECTION B. Membership on committees is open to the Association's membership and to interested nonmembers who may possess special expertise beneficial to the Association's purposes.

SECTION C. Standing committees will include:

1. Shore land and Watershed Development/Town Affairs 2. Water Quality and Education 3. Membership 4. Newsletter

ARTICLE XII. AMENDMENTS.

SECTION A. The Bylaws may be amended by a two-thirds majority vote of members present at an annual or special meeting or by the vote of eight or more Directors.

SECTION B. Bylaws amendments not made at an annual meeting shall be reviewed at the next annual meeting and subject to two-thirds majority approval.

ARTICLE XIII. COMPENSATION.

The Officers and Directors of the Association will serve without pay but may be reimbursed actual expenses while conducting Association business.

MPSLA Board Committees

Education/Water Quality

Ron Purnell
John Loomis
Robyn Deveney

Membership

Jay Wietecha
Andrea Rhoda
Bill Pullen
Gina Murphy

Town Relations

Doug McCafferty
Mark Gray
Rick Swanson

Newsletter

Neil Amalfitano
Don Borman

BELGRADE LAKES WATERSHED AQUAFEST



Meet Nona Purnell and Hearing Service Dog, Gemini, who registered to race in the kayak race at the AQUAFEST.

Saturday, August 30th

- | | | |
|-------------------|--|----------------------------------|
| 6:30 to 7:45 am | Registration: 5K RACE FOR THE LAKES | Camp Runoia, Belgrade |
| 8:00 to 8:40 am | 5K RACE FOR THE LAKES
Official, Timed Road Race, Out and Back, Safe, Rolling Course | |
| 8:45 to 9:00 am | 5K AWARD CEREMONY | Camp Runoia |
| 8:30 to 10:45 am | Registration: FUN RUN, WALK, CRAWL OR CREEP | Center for All Seasons, Belgrade |
| 9:30 to 11:00 am | KIDS' CORNER CHALLENGE | Center for All Seasons, Belgrade |
| 11:00 to 11:30 am | FUN RUN – WALK – CRAWL - CREEP
Center for All Seasons to Village Triangle and Back | |
| 11:30 to Noon | AWARD CEREMONY FOR KIDS EVENTS, FISHING DERBY AND FUN RUN | |
| Noon to 2:00 pm | FAMILY CHICKEN BBQ AND FREE SWIM | Center for All Seasons, Belgrade |
| 2:00 to 3:00 pm | KAYAK RACE | Center for All Seasons |
| 3:00 to 4:00 pm | DISTRIBUTED ACTIVITIES Waterski Slalom Race, Messalonskee Lake | |

Sponsored by the Belgrade Regional Conservation Alliance's Lake Trust:

Belgrade Lakes Association	East Pond Association	North Pond Association
McGrath Pond & Salmon Lake Association	Snow Pond/Messalonskee Association	

Visit www.belgradelakes.org to register or call 495-6039 for more information



John Loomis '07, Treasurer
3 Brigham St.
Waterville, ME 04901

NON-PROFIT ORG
US POSTAGE
PAID
BELGRADE, ME 04917
PERMIT No. 14



LABOR DAY WEEKEND RUN?

Aquafest = Education + Fun + Fundraiser

AQUAFEST, a family festival celebrating the seven beautiful Belgrade Lakes, kicks off with a cocktail party on Friday evening, August 29, and continues with a full day of activities on Saturday, the 30th. It will be a great opportunity to join your neighbors for a fun finale to the summer on Labor Day weekend.

AQUAFEST will have something for all ages...a timed 5K "Race for the Lakes", a Kid's Corner Challenge (ages 1 to 12), a Fun Run, Walk, Crawl or Creep (in which dogs with securely leashed owners may compete), kayak races, GPS and kayak lessons, music, art, a Farmer's Market, a yummy Family Chicken BBQ, a Wellness Pavilion, and much, much more!

The cocktail party runs from 5 to 7 p.m. at the Village Inn of the Belgrade Lakes. It will be a great way to meet new friends and catch up with old ones. Our goal is to have MPSLA well represented. We hope you will come.

The next day, you'll be off to the races at 8 a.m. when the 5K sprints out and back from Camp Runoia on Point Road in Belgrade. Then the Kid's Corner Challenge with T-shirt painting, games, prizes and a Lake Event Course runs from 9 to 11 a.m. at the Belgrade Center for All Seasons (CFAS), with the Fun Run following close behind. Awards for all events and the drawing for the Fishing Derby winners take place before the noontime Family Chicken BBQ in the CFAS picnic grove; then the Kayak and Canoe Races send off from the waterfront at 2 p.m.

If that isn't enough to occupy family and friends, your gang can take boat and float rides, visit the Farmer's Market, snag a Labor Day bargain, find a summer keepsake at village stores or the Art Mart, or munch on AQUAFEST specials at the village food emporia.

For more details, check the BRCA website www.belgradelakes.org.

Volunteers needed

Looking for an opportunity to get involved with your community? Volunteers are needed to staff Kids' Corner Challenges, race registration and marshalling, traffic control, and others. None of the volunteer positions will involve more than 1 or 2 hours of time. If you would like to volunteer, please contact the Volunteer Coordinator Saskia Grody at 397-5055 or via email at saskia0@roadrunner.com.

See you there!!