



REFLECTIONS

The Newsletter for the Pleasant
Lake Protective Association

Vol. 50, Issue 1, June 2019



A LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

Welcome to Pleasant Lake! As I write this letter in April, sure signs of spring are emerging at the lake. Father Loon returned on April 19 and the next day, April 20, ice out was declared. Mother Loon appeared soon afterwards. This will be the thirteenth consecutive year that the Loon family has returned to Pleasant Lake. The day after ice out, the dam was set at its normal summer water level. Surely summer can't be far away and I expect that as you read this issue of *Reflections* summer has arrived.

It was a long and cold winter starting with torrential rainfall in the fall, which prevented the planned water level drawdown to make important repairs at the dam below the normal winter water level. The Town and contractor deem these repairs to be critical and will again this fall attempt to draw down the lake. If you plan to make improvements or repairs to your waterfront, you are reminded that a permit must be obtained before commencing. If you obtained a permit for work in 2018, you should verify with the issuer that the permit is still valid.

This year is the 50th Anniversary of the Pleasant Lake Protective Association. Our membership has grown to over 215 members, who have provided critical financial support through dues, donations and volunteerism. The PLPA's focus is on maintaining the quality of life we all

enjoy at the lake through monitoring water quality, preventing the introduction of invasive aquatic plant and animal species, protecting our wildlife, and encouraging safe boating practices. You will find articles in this issue of *Reflections* about each



Peter Winship, President and John Wilson, Vice President

of these areas of interest. If you are interested in supporting the PLPA you can do it in a number of ways. First, become a member! Next, get involved! We are looking for volunteer Weed Watcher's and water quality inspectors.

The PLPA also relies on several partner organizations to fulfill our mission. The NH Lakes Association (<https://NHLakes.org>) monitors legislative initiatives that may impact our lake. They also manage the Lake Host Program statewide and provide financial support through a grant to pay Lake Host salaries. The State of NH Department of Environmental Services conducts the Volunteer Lake Assistance Program,

in which we participate. We take water samples monthly during the summer and send them to DES for analysis. Annually they provide us with a comprehensive report of the water quality of Pleasant Lake. You can view this report on their Lake Information Mapper at <http://tinyurl.com/NH-LakeMapper>. DES also analyzes samples of possible aquatic species that our Lake Hosts find during their boat inspections. Fortunately, there has been no evidence of any invasive species in Pleasant Lake. We rely on assistance from the Loon Preservation Committee in caring for our loons (<https://www.loon.org>), and from the Town of New London for financially supporting the Lake Host Program and for assisting us in monitoring a healthy watershed around Pleasant Lake. We greatly appreciate these organizations and others for their dedication and assistance.

The Annual Meeting of the Pleasant Lake Protective Association will be held on July 6 at 8:30am at the Slope 'n Shore clubhouse. At the meeting we will observe our 50th birthday. Later in the day we will hold a boat parade with the theme "Happy Birthday, USA, Happy 50th, PLPA". We will conclude this special day with our traditional flares and fireworks at 9pm. We hope you can participate in all of these events.

Sincerely,
Peter H. Winship

THE LOONS OF PLEASANT LAKE 2018 SEASON

For the twelfth year in a row our banded loon pair returned to nest. Their two chicks hatched on the nesting raft in Turtle Cove on June 17th and 19th. John Wilson was asked to name the chicks and he chose “Precious Kittie” and “Proud John”. Unfortunately, by the end of June one of the chicks became separated from the family. We don’t know what was the exact cause, but it was seen several times interacting with, but never rejoining, the family and eventually it disappeared.

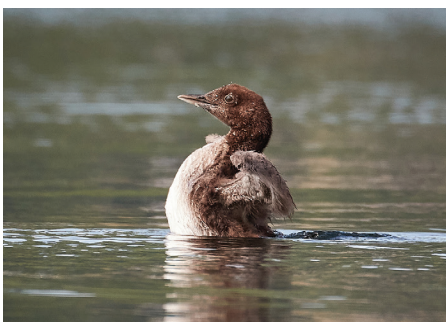
As sad as it was to lose a chick, “Precious Kittie” then had the full attention of both parents and thrived, growing into a strong and healthy young loon. This strength will help the loon survive its first winter on the cold ocean, as our loons typically spend their winters on the Gulf of Maine. We are hopeful that both parents will return for their 13th year in May.

Please remember to use lead free fishing tackle—a tiny piece of lead picked up on the floor of the lake is enough to kill any waterfowl including loons, ducks and mergansers. A loon was taken from Pleasant Lake and euthanized last spring with lead poisoning.

Jen Esten

If you see a Loon in distress or find an injured or orphaned bird or animal, call Jen Esten 781-726-2697, Jon Waage 508-463-5906 or John Wilson 526-4069

Or message us on the Pleasant Lake Protective Association facebook page



PLPA OFFICERS AND BOARD MEMBERS

OFFICERS

President: Peter Winship 848-6700

Vice President: John Wilson
526-4069

Secretary: Judy Oates 526-2173

Treasurer: Tom Stark 526-6741

BOARD

Steve Allenby 877-0043

Storm Connors 526-6024

Gena Edmunds 603-454-4111

Jen Esten (cell) 781-726-2697

Jamie Hess (cell) 802-291-3939

Marilyn Kidder 526-4250/526-4116

Will Kidder 526-4531

Fred Pierce 526-6594

Scott Reed 860-990-5391

John Ryan 526-4813

Sally Winship 848-9464

Oge Young 526-2430

Honorary Board Member

Dick Clayton

www.plpa.net email: plpa@plpa.net

Message and ‘Like’ us on our Facebook page: Pleasant Lake Protective Association

The PLPA was incorporated in 1969, by a group of far-sighted New London residents who valued the wonderful natural resource we have in Pleasant Lake and wanted to provide for its long-term protection.

Newsletter photos by Jennifer Esten and Jonathan Waage

Graphic design by Julia Pierce

Printing and distribution by Echo Communications, Inc.

Special thanks to Lee Morrill and On Track Design for our 50th Anniversary Logo

FISH LEAD FREE!

Effective June 1, 2016, the sale and freshwater use of lead fishing sinkers and lead jigs weighing one ounce or less is banned in New Hampshire. Senate Bill 89 was originally signed by Governor Hassan in 2013, but there was a three year phase-in period to allow retailers and anglers to switch to non-lead tackle. Please visit www.loon.org, the website of The Loon Preservation Committee, to learn more about the Fish Lead Free program.



THE LAKE HOST PROGRAM

During the summer of 2018, our lake hosts worked from Memorial Day weekend to Labor Day. They inspected 1,955 boats and worked a total of 980 hours. They did not find any invasive, non-native species.

We are fortunate to have lake hosts inspecting boats and educating boaters in order to prevent the introduction and spread of aquatic species; both plant and animal.

This summer of 2019, we will have 3 lake hosts returning, Don Sheffield, Sylvia Dowd and Bonnie Lewis. We also have a new lake host joining us this year, Fred Prior. Feel free to stop by the boat ramp to say, hello and thank these dedicated individuals.

If you have any questions or concerns regarding the lake hosts, don't hesitate to contact me at 603-848-9464.

Sally Heald Winship, *Lake Host Coordinator*



Lake Hosts for 2019, from left to right in photo: Fred Prior, Sylvia Dowd, Bonnie Lewis and Don Sheffield

Leaving fishing line and tackle attached to fish, in the water or bushes can injure wildlife

Many birds perish from the irresponsible management of fishing tackle. During the summer of 2018, a young common merganser was found with a fishing hook and leader embedded in its throat, probably from eating a fish with hooks and line attached as shown below.

It's rare to be able to save a wild bird entangled in fishing tackle. However, with the help of John Cooley, senior biologist at the Loon Preservation Committee, we succeeded in catching the merganser and extracting the hook. This little bird was exceedingly lucky to be found in just the right circumstances to allow a rescue. Please be careful!



This fish has hooks and line still attached

WEED WATCHERS

A group of dedicated volunteers patrol the lake-shore each month, in search of any sign of exotic-invasive weeds. They participate in training sessions and put in hours of time on and in the water. We are most thankful for all that they do to protect Pleasant Lake. Weed Watcher Captain: John Wilson-526-4069 Weed Watchers: Doug Baxter, Lynn Annicharico, Paul and Linda Messer, Debbie Perkins, George Jamieson, Bruce Johnson, Sally Winship, Judy Oates, Tom and Sandy Stark, Bruce and John Williamson, Jamie Hess, Jeff Hollinger, Oge Young, Bob Kirchberger, Dee and Storm Connors.

PLPA thanks Bruce Avery and Dick Kellom, who will be retiring this year, for their years of conscientious service. The Weed Watchers are looking for two reliable volunteers to replace them.

IN MEMORIAM

Sadly, Cathy Todd, who worked as one of our lake hosts last season, passed away on March 16, 2019 after a lengthy battle with cancer. A memorial service will be held this summer. She will be missed by all of us on Pleasant Lake.

A BRIEF HISTORY OF THE PLEASANT LAKE PROTECTIVE ASSOCIATION

During the summer of 1969, through the efforts and foresight of Charles Allen, Lee Booth, Ellis Heath, Bill Kidder, Seth Lamson, Skip Miller, Jeanne MacDonald and Rink Mann, the Pleasant Lake Protective Association was incorporated. This group astutely realized that this beautiful jewel we appropriately call Pleasant Lake needed help to correct some deficiencies and guidance for the future.

In the ensuing twenty-five years, the Association has successfully dealt with water quality, boats and boating safety, the dam and water level, and the institution of our renowned flare and fireworks festivities in celebration of Independence Day. The overall quality of the lake has greatly improved. We are very fortunate people.



The above quote was taken from the May 1994 issue of *Reflections*, PLPA's 25th birthday. This year marks the 50th birthday of PLPA, and what follows is a brief history of the Association. Of particular note is that during that time PLPA has had only three secretaries. Jeanne MacDonald was the first secretary for twenty-two years, followed by Kittie Wilson for twenty-seven years and now Judy Oates.

Also of note is the July 4th fireworks history. The first displays were put on by the Williamson family from Blueberry Island. Because of age and safety reasons the displays were moved to the beach at Kidder Point where they were put on by the Kidder family and members of the New London Fire Department. Again for safety reasons and State compliance, the fireworks were moved off shore of Kidder Point where they are presently displayed by Atlas Fireworks.

Other memorable dates in our history are:

- | | | | |
|------|--|------|---|
| 1987 | Drs. Terry and Edna Dancy begin Pleasant Lake water testing in earnest. | 2001 | Deb Perkins and Helen Tucker start the Weed Watcher program. The Weed Watcher program inspects the lake three times each summer for invasive weeds. |
| 1988 | Debbie Perkins produces a beautiful up dated logo for the Association | 2001 | The Lake Host program begins under the tutelage of our President, Dick Clayton. The Lake Host program inspects visiting boats for invasive weeds and animals. |
| 1992 | Engineer Charlie Hirshberg, after researching water level histories of Pleasant Lake, determines the nominal summer and winter water levels of the lake. | 2002 | John Wilson becomes the Weed Watcher Captain. |
| 1992 | The first issue of <i>Reflections</i> , the PLPA newsletter was produced. | 2006 | The idea of a computer controlled, mechanized dam gate is pursued by the Town which now owns the Pleasant Lake Dam. |
| 1993 | The PLPA Annual Meeting was moved to a morning time preceded by coffee and donuts at the Slope 'n Shore clubhouse | 2008 | The new dam gate is installed. |
| 1994 | The first Boat Parade was held. | 2017 | Pleasant Lake Dam is refurbished to meet State requirements. |
| 1994 | A notched area replaced a damaged section in the dam emergency spillway, allowing the spillway to engage earlier in a major storm event. | 2017 | Canary Systems installs equipment to monitor the operation of the mechanized dam gate. |
| 1997 | PLPA decides to spend up to \$10,000 to improve the board system at the dam to better control the lake level. | 2018 | Canary Systems adds rain gauge and anemometer to gate house. |
| 1998 | Chip Mathewson, a PLPA Board member, installs the new board system at the dam for \$3500. | | |

I am sure many of you longtime lake dwellers can think of many more wonderful moments in Pleasant Lake's history. I wish I could have come up with them all.

John Wilson, Vice President

PLEASANT LAKE FIREWORKS GOOD NEIGHBOR POLICY

There are about one hundred and ten homes that surround beautiful Pleasant Lake. Every person in every home loves and treasures this special place. We are a lake community. We are all neighbors, and friends, and a family of sorts...the family of Pleasant Lake. We all know that being on or near the water is good for us—science backs that up. But we are fortunate to really know the peace, the tranquility, and the wellness that comes from living here.

Over the past few years there has been a noticeable increase in fireworks and the size of fireworks displays on the lake. Pleasant Lake is at the base of a natural bowl and loud sound reverberates around the entire lake. The 4th of July celebration remains a popular fireworks evening, but fireworks on any given night and late into the evening throughout the summer has become a very unpleasant event for many in our lake community. Restful vacation weeks become stressful. Adults and children with early bedtimes have no chance of sleeping. Many domestic pets are negatively affected. Neighbors worry about the fire hazard. At least one veteran no longer feels comfortable coming to the lake, since fireworks wake him at night and cause him enormous stress. The loon family and other wildlife tolerate the 4th of July, but every fireworks night is a

stressful night for them. The peace, tranquility and wellness of the lake disappears.

We encourage everyone in this precious lake community to stop and think about what happens to the entire community when the decision is made to set off fireworks. Yes, the 4th of July celebration is an appropriate night. If you feel strong-



ly that other nights are appropriate, please consider no fireworks after 10:00 PM.

Please think about the unintended consequences of using fireworks and be a good neighbor; help us preserve and protect the treasure that is Pleasant Lake.

*The Pleasant Lake Protective
Association Board of Directors*

UPDATE ON THE PLEASANT LAKE DAM

In 2017, as the work to reface the dam was concluding, some holes in the conduit through which water exits the dam were noted. Voids in the material immediately surrounding the conduit were also noticed. A person was engaged to make the appropriate repairs in the fall of last year. To accomplish these repairs, the water level of the lake needs to be dropped to a certain level. Because of the heavy rains of last fall, this level was never attained and the work could not be completed.

The problems with the conduit and its surroundings are considered critical enough that the repair to them must not be put off. Doing so could very easily lead to an expensive major repair. For this reason, the lake level will again be lowered beginning September 13. The exact date might change slightly.

For those of you who missed out on getting waterfront work done last summer, you now have a second opportunity. Get your permits and be ready. The actual dam work should only take one to two weeks if the rain is minimal.

Many of us have come to appreciate boating and even swimming in the fall months. We will miss having those opportunities available to us for two successive years.

PLPA is 50 Years Old!

Please join us at the Slope 'n Shore clubhouse on July 6th at 8:30am for donuts and socializing, followed by the annual meeting at 9am. Don't miss the meeting because that's where the majority of our birthday celebration will happen. We have several exciting announcements of things we are doing to mark the occasion. Also, there may or may not be cake :-)

SAFE BOATING AND FISHING RULES

We hope you enjoy your day boating here on Pleasant Lake! For your safety and enjoyment as well as that of others, please follow these important boating and fishing rules:

NO WAKE ZONES

When you are within **150 feet** of any **shore, other boats, skiers, swimmers, floats, or marked swimming areas**, State law mandates that you must slow down to **NO WAKE** speed. **NO WAKE** means **no faster than 6 mph. 150 feet = the length of two ski ropes.**

TOWING SKIERS

- All skiers **must** wear life jackets.
- A maximum of two people may be towed at any time.
- An observer, 13 years or older is required.
- No skiing is allowed before sunrise and after sunset.
- Keep your boat and skier 150 feet or more away from EVERYTHING; the shore, the island, other boats, skiers, swimmers, floats, and marked swimming areas.
- Do not drop a skier within 150 feet of the shore.

ON-BOARD SAFETY

- It is illegal and dangerous to sit on the edge of the cockpit, bow or transom.
- There must be at least one appropriately-sized life jacket for every person onboard. This includes paddle boarders and kayaks. **By law**, children 12 or under must wear a life jacket at all times. On a power boat, it is recommended that you always attach a lanyard to the ignition kill switch.

BOATING CERTIFICATION

New Hampshire law requires that all

persons who operate a powerboat with a **motor greater than 25 horsepower must have a New Hampshire Safe Boater Education Certificate** and that **certificate must be carried on board**. Out-of-state boaters must have completed a National Association of State Boating Law Administrators (NASBLA) approved course and carry that certificate on board. Call 1-888-254-2125 or go to www.boat-ed.com/nh/ for more information.

WILDLIFE, LOONS

Pleasant Lake is home to many water birds, including nesting loons. The loon is a protected species and harassment is a **punishable offense**. Loon chicks are very small and cannot dive or fly to escape an oncoming boat, kayak or canoe. Please keep well away from all water birds, especially loons and their chicks.

FISHING

- Children under the age of 16 may fish without a license.
- The use of lead sinkers and jigs is strictly prohibited. Ingestion will kill a loon!
- Only smelt can be used as live bait in Pleasant Lake.
- Be sure to follow all the Fishing Rules published in the New Hampshire Freshwater Fishing Digest.
- Ask the Lake Host how to become involved in the Pleasant Lake Lead Free Rock Bass Marathon.

Copies of **A Boater's Guide to NH Boating Law** and **The New Hampshire Freshwater Fishing Digest** are available at Clarke's Ace Hardware in New London.

THE "150 FEET LAW" New Hampshire Law 270-D: 2 Section VI

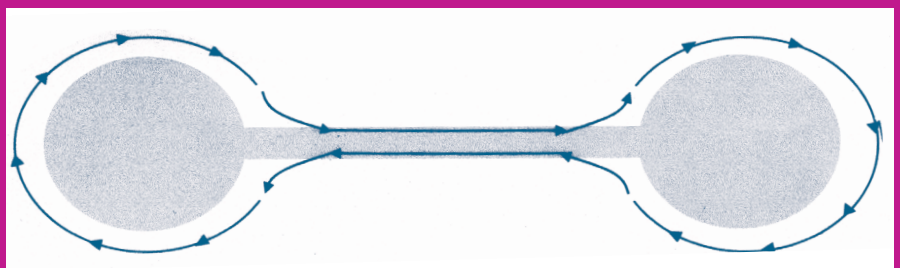
SPEED

All vessels shall maintain headway speed (only 6 mph and No Wake) when within 150 feet (the length of two ski ropes) from: the shore, the island, other boats, docks, rafts, swimmers, permitted swimming areas.

BEST PRACTICE

TOWING

Ski down the middle of the lake and Use "Best Practice" Towing: Long, straight runs, with barbell turns help keep the wake moving away from the skier.



IF YOU SEE A VIOLATION, PLEASE REPORT IT!

- Obtain the bow number of the boat.
- Call Marine Patrol at 293-2037. They appreciate our help!

THE PLEASANT LAKE BOAT PARADE

SATURDAY JULY 6TH, 2019 AT 3 PM

2019 Theme:

Happy Birthday, USA!

Happy 50th Birthday, PLPA!



Parade marshals will be
Doug Bacon and
Anne Marie McGarry

2:30 Gathering of the
Boats off Slope 'n Shore

Direction of travel
will be counter-clockwise

3:00 Parade

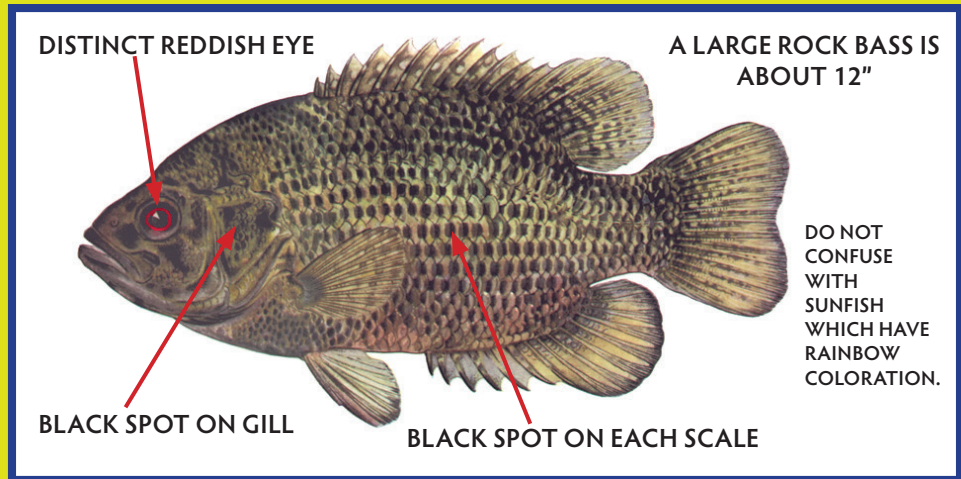
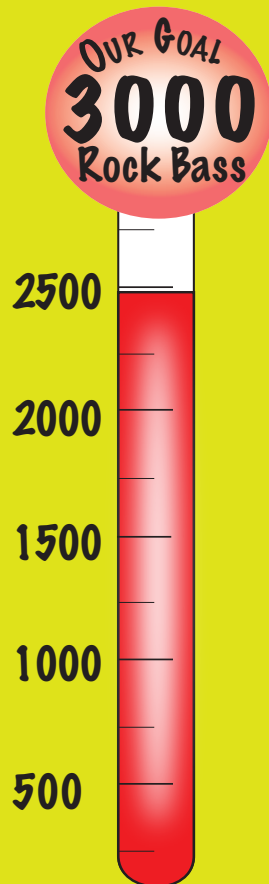
The horn will sound and
we will follow The Tortoise

2018 Boat Parade
Westward Ho!
The 2018 Grand Marshals: Janet and Dave Kidder



PLEASANT LAKE LEAD FREE ROCK BASS MARATHON

June 15 TO AUGUST 17, 2019
KIDS WIN FABULOUS PRIZES!



**ALL ANGLERS ARE ENCOURAGED TO CATCH
AND REMOVE ROCK BASS FROM PLEASANT LAKE.**

ROCK BASS ARE STILL A PROBLEM IN PLEASANT LAKE, THREATENING THE SURVIVAL OF ALL DESIRABLE GAME FISH (SALMON, TROUT AND SMALLMOUTH BASS) BY EATING THEIR EGGS, CRAWFISH AND OTHER NATURAL GAMEFISH FOOD. THEY ARE DESTRUCTIVE EATING MACHINES AND WE WANT TO DECREASE THEIR NUMBERS. CAUGHT ROCK BASS CAN BE DEPOSITED IN THE COLLECTION BUCKET AT THE ELKINS BOAT LANDING. MARATHON PARTICIPANTS, YOUNG FISHERPERSONS (UNDER SIXTEEN – NO FISHING LICENSE REQUIRED), FILL OUT AN ENTRY FORM FOR EACH DEPOSIT MADE TO HAVE YOUR NAME POSTED ON THE LEADER BOARD.

PRIZE AWARDS SATURDAY AT 12:00 NOON, AUG. 17, 2019!

**DROP A HOOKED WORM
IN A HOLE BETWEEN
THE ROCKS NEAR SHORE —
THAT'S WHERE THE
ROCK BASS LIVE.
AND PLEASE
NO LEAD SINKERS!
LEAD CAN BE FATAL
TO LOONS AND IT'S
AGAINST THE LAW!**

ON THE FINAL DAY OF THE MARATHON, AUGUST 17, 2019, THERE WILL BE A GALA AWARDS CEREMONY AT ELKINS DAM! ALL FISH CAUGHT THAT DAY, SATURDAY, AUGUST 17, MUST BE TURNED IN BY 12 NOON TO BE ADDED TO THE OTHERS RECORDED DURING THE SUMMER. VALUABLE GIFT CARDS AND BEAUTIFUL TROPHIES WILL THEN BE AWARDED FOR THE FIRST AND SECOND MOST FISH CAUGHT AND FOR THE LARGEST DURING THE MARATHON. FISHING IS A GREAT ACTIVITY FOR YOUNG PEOPLE AND CONSIDERED BY NEW HAMPSHIRE FISH AND GAME DEPARTMENT TO BE A WHOLESOME OUTDOOR EXPERIENCE — ESPECIALLY WHEN ENCOURAGED BY ENTHUSIASTIC PARENTS.

Gift cards of increasing value will be awarded to all entrants in each category.

CATEGORY	QTY OF FISH ENTERED
R	10 to 24
O	25 to 49
C	50 to 99
K	100 to 149
B	150 to 199
A	200 to 299
S	300 to 399
S*	400 to 499
S**	500+

PLEASE JOIN THE PLEASANT LAKE PROTECTIVE ASSOCIATION

\$ 40.00	Membership Fee	Name: _____
\$ _____	Protection Programs	Address: _____
\$ _____	Fireworks	_____
\$ _____	Where Needed	Town, State, Zip: _____
\$ _____	Total	E-Mail: _____
		Phone number: _____

Note: Contributions to the PLPA are fully tax-deductable. PLPA is a 501(c)(3) Non-profit organization.

I would like to learn more about becoming a volunteer in (check all that apply)

- | | | |
|--|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Membership and Communications | <input type="checkbox"/> Watershed Conservation | <input type="checkbox"/> Exotic-Invasive Weed Prevention |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Water Quality | <input type="checkbox"/> Activities | <input type="checkbox"/> Fish Conservation |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Wildlife Conservation | <input type="checkbox"/> Boating Safety | |

MAIL BY JULY 1, TO:

PLEASANT LAKE PROTECTIVE ASSOCIATION, P.O. BOX 1584, NEW LONDON, NH 03257

Many thanks!!

THE PLPA STORE



The PLPA Store offers a wide variety of logo merchandise from t-shirts, hats, sweatshirts, golf shirts, windbreakers, cups and mugs and more, all in a variety of styles and colors and sizes from youth to adult. You can purchase PLPA items by going online, at the company store or at local merchants.

- To purchase items online, go to www.PLPA.net and click on "Store" in the upper banner
- Visit the PLPA Store at 501 Lakeshore Drive. Please call ahead 603-848-6700
- Come to the PLPA Annual Meeting on July 6th and see new merchandise
- Visit the Park N' Go in Elkins and purchase select items

All major credit cards are accepted.

Peter and Sally Winship, *Managers*

LOST AND FOUND

If you lost something from your beach or waterfront, or if something unexpected comes ashore, please email will@plpa.net or send a message to the PLPA Facebook page, and we will try to help!



ELKINS FISH & GAME CLUB

7th Annual Lake-A-Thon

Saturday June 29th
Pleasant Lake Dam

Come enjoy this educational and fun event! The highlight is the Cardboard Boat Regatta, as contestants build and race their boats around a course. Any and all debris is carefully collected. The boats begin to gather at 9:00 AM and the race begins at 11:00 AM.

NH Fish & Game officers will also be on site conducting "Let's Go Fishing" classes for the kids present. Marine biologists will be there as well to talk about ecosystems and display marine life. What a great morning!

Please visit the Elkins Fish & Game Club website: www.elkinsfishandgame.net for all the details.

LIFE JACKETS REQUIRED FOR STAND UP PADDLE BOARDS (SUP)

Stand up paddle boards are considered boats by the United States Coast Guard and the State of New Hampshire. Accordingly, all persons using a Stand up paddle board are required to carry a wearable life jacket

onboard while paddling. The Marine Patrol also reminds boaters/paddlers that anyone 12 years of age and under **MUST** be wearing their life jacket at all times while aboard any type of boat, including stand up paddle boards.



WHAT'S IN YOUR TACKLE BOX?

"No idea! We only use Grandpa's tackle box when we vacation on the lake."

Grandpa's tackle box is full of toxic lead! Please dispose of the lead tackle properly.

"I only purchase lead-free tackle. I find that tungsten jigs and sinkers are superior for bass fishing. I certainly don't want my children handling lead."

Congratulations! We all need to make the switch to lead-free tackle. Ask for lead-free at your tackle shop.

"I don't know if my sinkers and jigs are lead or not."

Then they are probably toxic lead. Unpainted lead will actually write on paper.



DON'T LET THIS LOON'S MEAL BE HER LAST!

The smallest piece of lead will kill a loon. When you lose a sinker or jig in the lake, loons may pick it up as they forage for pebbles to aid in digestion, or when feeding on a fish that is attached to lead tackle. That loon will die of lead poisoning in a matter of weeks. Death by lead fishing tackle accounts for nearly half of all documented adult loon deaths in New Hampshire.

These deaths are completely preventable!

Please obey the law and use only lead free fishing tackle! Thank you for helping to keep the beautiful call of the loon echoing over New Hampshire waters!

For more information please visit www.loon.org

WATER QUALITY OF PLEASANT LAKE IS HIGH AND HOLDING

In the tradition of Dick Kellom, our water quality team consisting of John Wilson, Peter Winship, Steve Allenby and Oge Young tested the Pleasant Lake water each month, June, – September 2018. Reports on the samples come from the lab of Teriko MacConnell at Colby-Sawyer College. The data shows excellent results. When we compare these readings to results from past years, the quality of water is reassuringly stable. If we are not the cleanest and clearest lake in NH, we surely rank near the top.

Water samples are obtained every month from the deep, middle part of our lake, and then the areas where there is flow into or out of the lake—Chandler Brook, White Brook, Great Brook, Red Brook, the Dancy's brook and the Dam Outlet. Regarding concerns about "acid rain", the pH of our lake is outstanding; consistently 7.07-7.13. The only exception is Great Brook, where the pH, slightly acidic, hovers around 6.5 throughout the summer.

Interestingly, phosphorous levels at times are higher at Great Brook 16ug/L but, still well within normal limits. Other sites report very low levels 5ug/L, which is what we want to see. We suspect this happens at Great Brook because of a difference in water vegetation over this wide open shallow area.

Turbidity (NTU) readings were remarkably low! Clarity (the depth at which we can see a Secchi disk) was 7-8 meters all through the summer. No one visits Pleas-

ant Lake without commenting on how clear our granite lake appears!

The surface lake temperature warmed up to 78 degrees by late June and stayed that temperature until early September. It cooled slightly, 76 degrees with winds and a rainstorm. And, it warmed up to 80 degrees with several days of hot, dry weather. A deep lake has less fluctuation in temperature.

An aging, but still vital, group of Weed Watchers once more reported no evidence of exotic invasive weed species. A critical reason for this positive report is the vigilance of our Lake Host Program over the years. Also, having the dam outlet near the boat ramp is helpful.

In summary, we are truly blessed to have a lake with a very high quality of water. Many before us have taken care to preserve our Pleasant Lake. We must continue to be good stewards and protect this special body of water—avoiding gas and oil spills from our motor boats, not over fertilizing our lawns and gardens and using good sense not to abuse fireworks contaminating the water with debris and chemicals.

Although all of us miss Kittie, we are pleased that Pleasant Lake residents have shown high regard for her "Good Neighbor Policy" established two years ago. With you, I am looking forward to another very pleasant summer on Pleasant Lake.

Oge Young



The Pleasant Lake Water Testing Team. L to R: Oge Young, Peter Winship, John Wilson. Bruce Johnson and Steve Allenby also participated.



On Saturday, September 1st, 2018, there was a ceremony at the dam in Elkins unveiling the granite bench that PLPA had installed as a tribute to Kittie Wilson and her years of service to Pleasant Lake and our area in general. Pictured with the bench are Kittie's husband, John, and her sister, Karen. We hope you'll go down and enjoy a peaceful moment sitting on the bench and resting a minute to observe the beauty of the lake that meant so much to Kittie.

PLEASANT LAKE ICE-OUT DATES	
2009	APRIL 13
2010	APRIL 2
2011	APRIL 22
2012	MARCH 22
2013	APRIL 17
2014	APRIL 22
2015	APRIL 21
2016	MARCH 1
2017	APRIL 16
2018	APRIL 27
2019	APRIL 20

PLEASANT LAKE
PROTECTIVE
ASSOCIATION, INC.
P.O. Box 1584
NEW LONDON, NH 03257

PRESERVE AND PROTECT
PLEASANT LAKE

CELEBRATE PLEASANT LAKE THIS SUMMER!

June 29th

Saturday

9:00 AM **7th Lake-A-Thon**
Elkins Fish & Game Club
Pleasant Lake Dam

July 6th

Saturday

8:30 AM **Coffee, Juice, Pastries**
9:00 AM **PLPA Annual Meeting**
Slope 'n Shore Annex

2:30 PM **Gathering of the Boats**
Slope 'n Shore Beach

3:00 PM **Boat Parade**
Theme: "Happy Birthday, USA!
Happy 50th Birthday, PLPA!"
The Parade will go clockwise this year.

9:00 PM **Cannon Fired! Light the Flares!**
Slope 'n Shore Beach

9:30 PM **Fireworks!!!**
Followed by Illumination of the Colors
and Taps



August 17th Saturday

12 PM **Pleasant Lake Lead Free
Rock Bass Marathon**
Awards Ceremony, Elkins Dam