

Lake Carmi Association News

August 2024

In loving memory of our late editor and dear friend, Larry Myott.

Volume 18 No. 4

Brought to you by the Lake Carmi Campers Association, Inc., and other fine sponsors.



Trophies, Food, Friends at Annual Meeting

On Saturday August 10th, the Lake Carmi Campers Association held its annual meeting. With well over 60 campers in attendance, our members had the chance to share some wonderful food, meet new friends and learn about current initiatives and work being done by the association. In addition, certificates were awarded to the winners of the Light up Lake Carmi contest and John Costa from the Vic's Crossing Vipers/winner of the 2023 pontoon boat race got to hand over the long-coveted pontoon boat race trophy to the 2024 winners, the Hammond Shore Hammer Heads. Congrats to Team Hammer Head for a great win and enjoy the trophy until next year!

See ANNUAL MEETING page 5



Top left: Peter Benevento holds the fish bowl as Hila Hendrickson draws a winning door prize ticket at the LCCA Annual Meeting. Above: John Costa awards the prestigious Pontoon Boat Race Trophy to Jason Paquette, captain of the winning team, the Hammond Shore HammerHeads at the LCCA Annual Meeting. Photographs by Michael Tansy

First Impression Less Than Stellar For Lake

By Peter Benevento, LCCA President



Recently our friends from Wisconsin visited us at camp. They were traveling from Maine to Niagara Falls. This was the first time they had visited northern New England and Vermont. Naturally we had previously spoken to them of the beauty of VT and in particular the Town and the lake. When they arrived the town certainly fit our descriptions, but the lake did not. The hot & humid weather the last week of July had provoked a particularly harsh algae

President's Report

bloom. It was not only unsightly, but it also smelled terribly. We could not sit on our deck and enjoy what I believe is an unparalleled view of lake, pasture and mountains. The odor was sickening. I found myself apologizing for the lake. I was embarrassed and frustrated. This was our friend's first impression of Vermont, and it was unfortunately not a good one. I must imagine that this

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PRESIDENT'S REPORT from page 1

has happened at other camps as well. It is a totally unacceptable situation for any stakeholder of this lake. It must stop and not happen again. Fortunately, we are now officially on a path to end the blooms.

In late July the Town of Franklin submitted a letter requesting to be placed on the Project Priority List of the Intended Use Plan for the Lake Carmi Alum Treatment. This was followed up by a Request for Qualification (RFQ) for the permitting, design and construction of an alum treatment for the lake. The intent of the RFQ is to identify a contractor to do the work. In layman's terms we have gotten to first base. We have a long road and much work ahead, but we are on our way. A more detailed explanation of the process was contained in a letter recently sent out to the community. A copy of the letter appears in the newsletter.

One of the questions frequently asked is how are we going to pay for the alum treatment. Presently there is \$750,000. earmarked in the FY 25 Clean Water Board Budget for a Lake Carmi alum treatment. The lion share of the remaining funds needed for the treatment will be requested through the Clean Water State Revolving Fund. Moreover, your LCCA Board has authorized up to \$50,000. to be used as a bridge loan if needed to speed up the process. If all goes well there should be no cost to the Town. A lot must be done before we reach home plate, but the course has been set and the plan placed in motion. We will keep you posted.

I know you have all seen the UVM Research Platform in the middle of the lake but recently I had an opportunity to see it up close and in action. I received a call from a UVM scientist asking if I could ferry him out to the buoy to perform repair and maintenance. Several of the sensors were not operating properly. After an hour of work the buoy was functioning fully with each sensor being periodically lowered to the predetermined depth with precision accuracy. Data is being collected hourly 24/7. The historic data generated by the buoy was critical to the Alum Feasibility Study which started us on our road to the Alum Treatment. We are fortunate to have the buoy. It has become an important tool in our quest for improved water quality.

A welcome distraction to lake business was the performance of the musical Annie at the Enosburgh Opera House. It was a terrific production that brought the community together. It was especially nice to see the many children enjoying the play. Congratulations to Suzi Hull Casavant and the many others who were responsible for bringing us such a stellar event! You hit a home run! Your efforts were greatly appreciated.

Another nice distraction was the summer Olympics. Thank you Elle St. Pierre. It was with much admiration and excitement that we watched her Olympic quest. A world class athlete from Berkshire, VT! Thank you for a heck of a ride. Hope to see you in LA in '28!

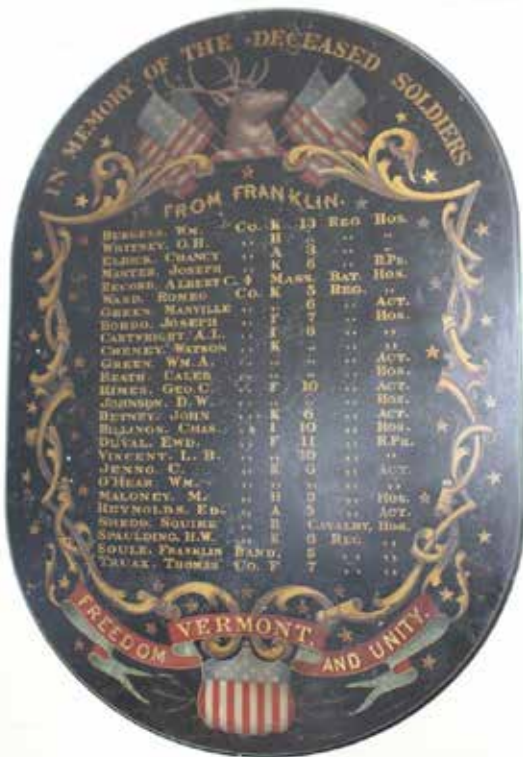
That's all I have for now. Enjoy the last month of summer. Its hard to believe we are entering the ninth inning of the camping season. Any updates on the alum treatment will be on the LCCA website bulk email listing and on the Lake Carmi Life Facebook page. See you around the lake! —Pete

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History



Franklin's Memorial Tablets

On the walls of Franklin's Town Hall, one will find five marbleized slate tablets. These tablets are a memorial to the men of Franklin who fought in the Civil War.

The largest tablet lists the names, Company, Regiment, and place of death, of the twenty-six men who gave their lives in that conflict. The tablet reads: In Memory of the Deceased Soldiers From Franklin.

The tablets were unveiled on Memorial Day, May 30th, 1878, during a Memorial Day exercise which included appropriate music, and speeches by dignitaries.

The four smaller tablets list the Company, Regiment, and Rank of the one hundred and four Franklin men who fought so valiantly and were part of the Vermont effort that is considered to have "turned the tide" of the Union's effort.

Want to join the Franklin Historical Society? Email us at: historical@franklinvt.net.

Not from the Franklin area but still interested in Franklin History? We can add you to our Friends of Franklin Historical email list. Just email us at: historical@franklinvt.net.

A History of Franklin, 1789-1989 is available for sale for \$20.00 at the Haston Library or the Franklin Town Clerk.

Check out our website at: <http://www.franklinvthistorical.com>.



Lake Carmi Association News

The Lake Carmi Association Newsletter is published monthly from May through September by the Lake Carmi Campers Association. The Lake Carmi Association Newsletter is available in print and online at lakecarmivt.com.

Editors: Peter Benevento, Polly Gadbois, Suzi Hull-Casavant
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Design and Production: Zoe Dubilier and Alison Dezotelle

Submission to the Lake Carmi Association Newsletter are always welcome at editors@lakecarmivt.com.

Lake Carmi Campers Association Mission Statement
 The Lake Carmi Campers Association, Inc., is dedicated to conserving our unique natural resources, improving and enhancing the quality of life and the environment for all Lake Carmi residents and visitors. In cooperation with local and state authorities, the association shall provide educational, cultural, and recreational activities, as well as water quality management and safety education initiatives. Further, the association will provide a medium through which information and educational programs and materials may be distributed throughout the community.



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ANNUAL MEETING from page 1

Following the meal, Peter Berger, the town manager for Fairlee, provided a wonderful summary of the work that went into the alum application that was conducted at Lake Morey this summer. Lake Morey was the first lake in the state to have an alum treatment some thirty years ago and until this last year, had enjoyed wonderful water quality. In 2023, Lake Morey experienced another season of blue green algae and poor water quality and quickly applied for, received funding and conducted their treatment in June/July. Almost immediately, the water quality of the lake has improved and the lake is blue green algae free!

Peter gave some good insight into how they collaborated with their water quality partners to ensure the success of this application. He conveyed the importance of transparent communication with community members, partnerships with state agencies and the value of providing current data and research around the use of alum as a methodology to manage our current water quality crisis.

After Peter's presentation, the association conducted our business meeting which involved the election of new board member Chad Spooner and the renewal of some standing members Ruth Ann Krayesky, David Krayesky, David Pratt and Peter Benevento. If you have not considered being a board member or participating in a leadership role with many of our lake activities, we encourage you to do so. There is no better way to serve your community, meet new neighbors and enjoy all that our lake community has to offer.

Rob Evans, VP, LCCA



John Costa and Peter Benevento award Dustin Lang of Wescott Shore with the winning certificate for the most creative "Light Up Lake Carmi" display at the Lang Camp. Photograph by Michael Tansy

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Feasibility Study: Alum Treatment Is The Best Option

Lake Carmi Community,

As many of you know, last fall the state of Vermont conducted an alum feasibility study to determine if an alum treatment or other potential solutions could be applied to the lake to help our community manage the damaging impacts of blue green algae. In short, the study found that an alum treatment is the best possible option to positively impact water quality at our lake. The results of the study can be found on the Department of Environmental Conservation's (DEC) website, here: <https://dec.vermont.gov/watershed/restoring/carmi>. We strongly encourage all community members to read this study to gain a better understanding of the depth of research and analysis that took place while conducting the study along with the recommendations provided in the report.

After reviewing the results of the study and following consultation with our partners at the DEC, late last week the Town publicly announced the Request for Qualifications (RFQ) for the permitting, design and construction of an alum treatment for the lake. The intent of this RFQ is to gather information about potential subject matter experts who possess the requisite expertise and experience with conducting these types applications. The RFQ will be open for thirty days. Following the public announcement and based on guidance from DEC, the town will then review the RFQ's received and evaluate/select a firm whose background and experience can meet the needs of the Franklin community.

Once selected, the firm will have to develop an Engineering Services Agreement for the design and permitting for the treatment that will need to be submitted and approved by DEC. During the permitting process, we intend to collaborate with the town to provide a variety of opportunities for community members to learn more about this potential alum treatment and for the communities voices to be heard.

It is our belief that if approved, this treatment will be fully funded by the state through a variety of different funding streams. We anticipate that if all goes well, we could see this treatment take place in the spring or fall of the coming year. While we are very excited about the possibility for this potential treatment, we know that many of you will have lots of questions. We are committed to transparency and will continue to provide opportunities for dialogue as we move forward through this process.

We want to take this opportunity to thank the town of Franklin for their partnership in our clean water work. We also want to thank all our state and local partners, campers, community members and all those who enjoy our beautiful lake for their commitment to improving the health of our lake.

Thank you,

Rob Evans, President, Franklin Watershed Committee
Pete Benevento, President, Lake Carmi Campers Association

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Franklin Watershed Update

By Julia Crocker, Coordinator Franklin Watershed Committee



Hello Folks,

I hope you all have been able to enjoy your time at the lake as much as possible this summer! Unfortunately the time has come again when our luck runs out and the lake turns green. Between the unsightly blooms and the foul stench it is easy to become discouraged.

However, there is still hope to be had! Plans are in the works for an alum treatment at Lake Carmi as early as next year. The same treatment was done at Lake Morey in Fairlee, VT in 1990 and they experience approximately 30 years free of cyanobacteria blooms!

In order to make these results last as long as possible, it is important for use to continue to decrease phosphorus input to the lake. This is especially important during the large rain storms that continue to increase in frequency and intensity. Luckily, there are steps that can be taken on any lakefront property to mitigate the impacts that these rain events can cause. The mantra that everyone should learn when it comes to controlling runoff is Slow it, Spread it, Sink it.

Slow it! The first thing you should keep in mind when preventing runoff on your property is slowing down water as it flows. Fast-moving water causes more erosion than slow-moving water and carries more sediment with it. The best and often easiest way to slow down water is to add more plants! Not only will they slow down runoff, but they will also filter the water before it reaches that lake. One option for increasing vegetation is adding a rain garden with native species in areas where water tends to gravitate towards when it rains. Gardening isn't your thing? Try raising the blade on your mower to 3 inches or letting an unused section of your lawn grow out naturally!

Spread it! The next thing to think about is how the water is flowing over the land. Is it flowing in channels down the driveway or in a spread out in a sheet? The goal is to minimize the amount of channelization (think of a dirt road with deep rivulets). One "Spread it" method is to make sure your driveway is properly crowned with drainage ditches on either side to catch runoff. You can also redirect the runoff with a water bar or open-top culvert across your driveway. Having more vegetation on a shoreline will also help spread out runoff.

Sink it! This tip is all about minimizing impermeable surfaces

on your property (buildings, pavement, and compacted gravel are some examples). Sinking the water into the ground before it reaches a body of water is another great way to decrease the amount of nutrients (like phosphorus) from entering a water body. You might consider replacing a concrete path with permeable pavers or installing an infiltration trench along your house's drip-line!

You can find all of these tips in greater detail and more on the Vermont DEC Lake Wise website at <https://dec.vermont.gov/watershed/lakes-ponds/lakeshores-lake-wise/shoreland-best-management-practices>. As always, if you are interested in having a free, voluntary, and non-regulatory Lake Wise or Stream Wise Assessment done on your property please contact me, Julia Crocker, FWC watershed coordinator at jcrocker5@une.edu!



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KEVIN LOTHIAN
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Angling With Ernie August 2024

Two weeks ago I went fishing with my grandson who was visiting Lake Carmi. We fished for four hours over two days and he caught nine fish and I caught none. He caught three walleyes and one was even over 19 inches! We had it for supper. I caught NO FISH. Not even a bite. Same line. Same lures. Same boat. It was just one of those days!

Despite the fishes' lack of interest in my lure, I had a marvelous day spending time with my grandson fishing on our beautiful lake creating memories, and that's what it is all about.

When checking on the progress of the fishing contest, I was happy to see that there were twenty entries in the youth category, so that's wonderful news for the sport. As of August 8, there were entries for four

species. Luke Lumbrá has the largest walleye at 3.83 lbs. Mason Bisette has a northern pike weighing a whopping 5.19 lbs.

Adult leader for walleye is Jaden Rivers-Irens with one at 6.55 lbs. David Bisette has a smallmouth bass weighing 4.47 lbs. Chad Rivers leads with a northern pike weighing 10.75 lbs. Wendyb Peyrat has a largemouth bass weighing 2.92 lbs. Matt Sanders caught a 1.00 lb. perch.

This is excellent news so early in the season. The contest continues until September 2. Last year 17 trophies were awarded out of a possible twenty. If you haven't picked up your last year's trophy yet, it is available at the Franklin Town Clerk's Office.

There are lots of fish left in the lake! Here's hoping you catch some.



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Goings On

AUGUST 19

SUMMER SOUNDS

Featuring The Maple Grove Band, Lincoln Park, Enosburg Falls, 5:30-8 pm. Rain Date August 21.

SEPTEMBER 19

CHICKEN PIE DINNER

Binghamville United Methodist Church – servings begin at 5 pm. Check our Facebook page for more details.

ONGOING

STORY TIME

Every Friday 10-11 am, Haston Library. Info, 802-285-6505.

SUMMER POP UP

Vendors in Taylor Park, St. Albans, 10:30 am-4:30 pm 8/25, 9/8, 9/29.

NORTHWEST FARMERS MARKET

Saturdays 9am-2pm through October 26, Taylor Park, St. Albans.

ENOSBURG TOWN BAND

Through Aug 20, 7-8 pm. Variety of musical selections, arts and



UNCLE JOHN'S BAND CONCERT

A delightful time was had by all on the evening of August 3 as Uncle John's Band performed two lively sets on the town green. The music flowed for two hours, was upbeat and thoroughly enjoyable. Free popcorn was also served to add to the festivities. Kudos to Uncle John's Band. We hope to see you again next year!

crafts activities, popcorn and drinks for sale. (Weather permitting).

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2024 GOLF TOURNAMENT RESULTS



Lorraine Mercy and Diane Larose at the registration table for the golf tournament at Enosburg Falls Country Club this year.

On July 26, 2024 we held our 2nd Biennial LCCF Golf Tournament at the Enosburg Falls Country Club. It was the perfect day for our 26 teams, 104 Golfers.

At the end of the day our tournament winners were as follows: LOW GROSS: Jolley Team: Adam Mayer, Dave Hartnett, Peter Merila and Jimmy Merila. Second and third place winners were determined by random draw: Johnson Duffers & 2: Les Johnson, Nancy Johnson, Susan Rand and Doc Seubert AND Rock Benoit Team: Rock Benoit, Sean Bayan, John Elliott and Mark Maskell.

Winners of our special games were: Don Wells, Hugh Gates, Felicia Forsyth, Diane Larose, Dave Hartnett and Ann Marie Fortin. Our 50/50 winner was Debby Larose. Congratulations to each of you.

We would like to thank our sponsors for their generosity: WALL-EYE: Mullen Insurance Agency, Green Mountain Transportation, LLC; NORTHERN PIKE: Champlain Valley Equipment, Jolley Associates/Clarence Brown, GW Tatro Construction, Maplefields, BASS: Community National Bank, Mylan Technologies (a Viatrix Company), Perrigo, PICKEREL: The Abbey, Union Bank, Our Lady of the Meadows, Vaughn Comeau, Esquire, Blade Shumway Excavating & Hardscape; PERCH: Belisle Viens, Ace Hardware; BULLPOUT: Handy Toyota, Peoples Trust Company, Handy Buick GMC Cadillac, LLC, Pleasant Valley Farms of Berkshire, LLC and Riverview Dairy, LLC.

Thanks also go out to the following who provided donations: Jay Peak Golf Club, Williston Golf Club, Neshobe Golf Club, Bakersfield Golf Club, Essex Country Club, Links At Lang Farm, Champlain Country Club, Deuso Family Maple, St Albans Recreation, Sticks & Stuff, Collins Perley Sports Center, Vermont Teddy Bear Company, Boston Post Dairy, Hull Insurance, Smugglers Notch, The Alpine Shop, Boat Headquarters, David Pratt, Friends of the Opera House, Jeff's Maine Seafood, Work Dog Septic, Dukes Fitness Center, All American Walls & Pavers, Sandra Guthre, Green Country Corners, Green's Ace Hardware, Flowers By Jenny, Mike Tansey, Coca Cola Company Northeast, Gosselin's Traditions Grocery of Frelighsburg, PQ; Hannaford, M&R Guns & Ammo, Ben & Jerrys, Garala Family, Shelburne Museum and McCuins.

Special thanks to the Enosburg Falls Country Club who hosted this event and Nester's Restaurant for our meal. Please support the above businesses whenever you can and give them a personal "THANK YOU" for their generosity and support of this event. It takes a Village and an awesome committee. Thanks to those who worked tirelessly since January to make this event happen: Nancy Johnson, Rhonda Fletcher, Sheryl Garala, John Costa, Suzi Hull Cassavant, Diane Larose and Peter Benevento. Day of the event Les Johnson, Lorraine Mercy, David Larose and Ruth Ann Krayesky.

Finally, mark your calendars for the following dates: Friends of the Opera House Golf Tournament, July 25, 2025 AND LCCF Golf Tournament, July 24, 2026. WE HOPE TO SEE YOU ALL THEN.

The Lake Carmi Community Foundation is a 501(c)(3) organization with a mission of improving water quality at Lake Carmi. This is the second golf tournament which members of the Lake Carmi Camper's Association have organized for the Foundation raising over \$27,000 with these two events. We are proud of our efforts and hope that if you or anyone you know might be interested in joining the Lake Carmi Community Foundation that you'd contact Pete Benevento at (802) 285-6744. Many hands make light work and we're hopeful others will join us in our efforts to save our beautiful lake. Thank you all.



Above: Teams listen to final announcements at the start of the biennial golf tournament at the Enosburg Falls Country Club last month. Bottom pic: Lots of prizes for the silent auction filled tables at the country club in Enosburg Falls, to raise money for the Lake Carmi Community Foundation.

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Classifieds

DEUSO FAMILY MAPLES: Maple Syrup, \$40/gal, \$22/1/2 gal. Maple BBQ Sauce, \$8/12 oz bottle. Maple Teriyaki Marinade, \$8/12 oz bottle. Call Howard or Pam Deuso, 802-752-0081.

COTTAGE FOR RENT: Patton Shore Rd, newly renovated, fully furnished. Can sleep up to 8 guests; two bedrooms, loft and sun room. Private fenced in backyard on the water w/dock. Includes plenty of outdoor seating, grill, kayak and paddle boat. For more details: greenmountainstays.com.

FOR SALE: 2001 18 ft Sylvan pontoon boat with trailer. Mercury 4 stroke engine, new battery. \$7800. Call 802-285-6855.

RESPITE WANTED: 51-year-old male looking for someone to take him to the occasional sporting event or fishing. This can be a paid position. License and background check required. Info, James 802-933-3035.

HOME FOR SALE: On beautiful Lake Carmi, 22 Vics Crossing - Stunning 6 bedroom, 4 bath year-round home on owned land with rustic charm, modern amenities, beautiful landscaping and breathtaking views. Being offered at \$649,000. Contact Shannon at (802) 363-0607 or check our website at maplehousemedia.hd.pics/22-Vics-Crossing-Rd for more information

FOR SALE: AMF minifish sailboat. Nice boat for a solo sailor. \$600. Call 802-285-2220

FREE: O'Day sailboat 16'-ish. Can seat 4. Needs a new captain and home. Free. Call 802-285-2220

COTTAGE FOR RENT: Hammond Shore Rd., fully furnished. Bring your own linens. (802)285-6737.

COTTAGE FOR SALE: Lovingly cared for, renovated, furnished cottage for sale. 52 Harrison Drive. 1BR 1BA cottage with sleeping loft. 120' lake frontage, drilled well, 1000 gal. traditional septic system, woodshed, workshop, and additional 2BR park model camper. 84 years left on lease. asking \$425,000. 802-285-6503

Want to put a classified in the newsletter?

It's free for paid members! Email your classified to: editors@lakecarmivt.com



Become a member of the Lake Carmi Campers Association

Name: _____

Renewal _____ New _____ Gift Membership _____

Attached is my check for 2024 dues, in the amount of \$50.00 made payable to LCCA, Inc., PO Box 1, Franklin, VT 05457

Cottage 911 mailing address, if applicable _____

Summer mailing address: _____

Winter (off season) address: _____

Cottage telephone: _____ Off-Season telephone: _____

Email address: _____

You'll get the season's LCCA newsletters (May-Sept) by email, as well as other useful information with no spam or advertising.

Additionally, I would like to contribute to the LCCA Water Quality Fund \$ _____

Additionally, I would like to contribute to the Lake Carmi Community Foundation \$ _____

LCCA members are committed to Lake Carmi. Some volunteer to help out, some enjoy a week or more in our pristine setting. Please become a member and do what you can. Become an official LCCA member by sending your membership form and annual dues check today. If your information hasn't changed in the past year, just send your dues check. Comments are always welcome. Enjoy!



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