

# Lake Carmi Association News

July 2024

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

Volume 18 No. 3

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



*A bird's-eye view of Lake Carmi*

*Photograph by Gina LeClair*

## President's Report Here

*By Peter Benevento, LCCA President*



It was a sensational moment. A flicker in time when you just say wow! You wish it would last longer but an F35 Fighter jet is not a slow-moving object. After all speed is part of the thrill. You voice your approval by hooting and hollering but at the same time you are awe struck. Four F35s flying over Lake Carmi two at a time. The first pair passed setting the stage for the second pass that included a dip

### President's Report

of the wing as if to say "I got you covered from above". In addition to being sensational it was truly an Independence Day moment. It was the sound and sight of freedom. A more than fitting salute to the 4th of July. It gave me goosebumps. We thank the 148th Fighter Wing of the Vermont Air National Guard and a Patton Shore

*See PRESIDENT'S REPORT page 8*

# Fishing Tales



*Can you beat this? 21.5 inch, 3.30 lbs, Walleye*

I hope you can. I was lucky enough to catch this July 7, only my second time out to fish this summer. When I took it to the Franklin General Store to enter it into the LCCA fishing contest, I was surprised it was only the second fish entered for adults and there were NO ENTRIES for the youth category.

This column will

keep you informed about the leaders of the fishing contest which runs all summer and is open to anyone entering a fish caught in Lake Carmi.

Join the fun and perhaps win a 1st or 2nd place trophy or certificate of honorable mention.

I have had the opportunity to exchange fishing stories with other anglers over the years and have enjoyed the discussions. Questions I have - where do the largemouth bass and white crappies hang out? I have been fishing in the lake for about 45 years without success in either species.

Please send me any stories you would like to share with others through this column. Pictures are great.

*Ernie Englehardt at editors@lakecarmivt.com*



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# Franklin's Schools

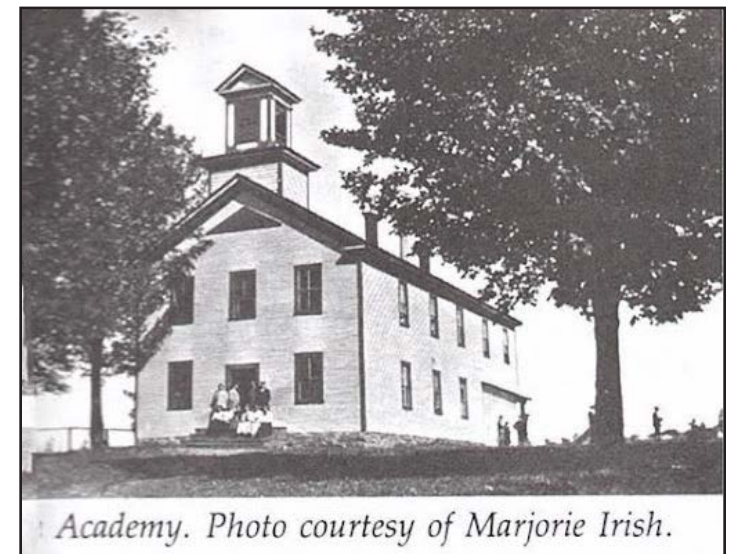
## History

**The Beginnings:** (Text in italics is taken from A History of Franklin 1789 – 1989) *The first settlers of our small town, then called Huntsburgh, being intelligent men and realizing the great importance of education, had foresight in the establishment of schools. In the charter of the town there were made three grants of land for educational purposes—one for the University of Vermont, one for the first County Grammar School, and one for the schools of the town.*

*At the early date of 1795, six years after the first man, Samuel Hubbard, had settled here in Huntsburgh, the first school was taught by Josiah Allen, in a log house. It was a small school situated near Hubbard's. Schools were taught then in log buildings or in homes. The few schools were supported by contributions, Squire Hubbard paying half.*

*The district system started with two districts, the north and the south, with a school in each. These multiplied until in 1860 there were fourteen buildings accommodating five hundred twenty-five pupils. Both our schools and our schoolhouses compared favorably with those of other towns.*

*The first high school was an academy, a brick building comfortably situated.*



*Academy. Photo courtesy of Marjorie Irish.*

*Later a wooden school building was built on the park by the Congregational Church. Franklin Academy was incorporated in 1849 and went into successful operation the next year with Mr. Smith as the first preceptor. Some of the principals following him were ex-Governor Roswell Farnham, Professor A.M. Butler, Miss M.A. Pomeroy, and Charles W. Gates. This school was very popular for a while. When the academy started there were, besides the principal and his assistant, four teachers, one of French, two of music, one teaching piano, and piano and seraphine, which was an early keyboard reed instrument of which the melodeon is a portable variety. There was also a teacher of painting and drawing.*

*The total enrollment for the first year was one hundred ninety pu-*

*pils. Of these sixty per cent were from out-of-town. They came in great numbers from Franklin County, from other counties, and a few from other states.*

*Some of the subjects taught then which are no longer offered were: mental philosophy, botany, geology, surveying, Greek, and later, German.*

*There were two literary societies, the Debating Society in charge of the principal, and the Literary Association which had weekly lectures.*

*Tuition was charged for each subject. Board could be had at \$1.25 a week, and rooms at reasonable rates.*

Want to join the Franklin Historical Society? Email us at: [historical@franklinvt.net](mailto: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](mailto: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>.



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The Pontoon Race Yellow Team Boats

## Annual Pontoon Boat Relay Race

By Polly Gadbois

The annual Lake Carmi Pontoon Boat Relay Race was held on Saturday, July 6th. Four shore teams (5 boats on each team) met near North Beach at 1:30 for pre-race instructions. The teams were as follows: ORANGE: "Vic's Crossing Vipers", David Larose - Captain, John Costa, David Perry, ; YELLOW: "Westcott Shore Bobcats", Scott Choiniere - Captain, Ellen Read, Luke/Gina LeClair, Justin Rainville, Hilda Hendrickson, Marty Fletcher, and Hilary Kane; RED: "Black Woods Pirates", Jim Pivrotto - Captain, Gary Sylvester, Rock Benoit, Ron Klein, and Jeff Lamos; and BLUE: "Hammond Shore Hammerheads", Jason Paquette - Captain, Charlie Magnant, Harold Howrigan, Jess Commo, and Polly Gadbois.

assignments were at the discretion of each team's captain.

Under beautiful skies and over clear blue waters, the teams navigated the course while observers on the sidelines cheered them on. In the end it was the Blue Team, (Hammerheads), whose anchor, Charlie Magnant, crossed the finish line first, followed by the Orange Team (Vipers); the Yellow Team (Bobcats) and the Red Team (Pirates). The Awards for this year's race will be presented at our annual meeting on August 10th at the Franklin United Church.

Prior to the race each team submitted their team's total horsepower to Joe Commo, who calculated staggered start times. Start times from the #1 barrel on North Beach were as follows: Red started first; then 3 minutes later the Blue team started; 30 seconds after the Blue team took off the Yellow team started and finally, 45 seconds after the Yellow team took off the Orange team started. The race was run in a clockwise direction. Each boat was required to first navigate 2 course barrels placed along Dewing Shore before heading to the first relay point on Hammond Shore (Barrel #2) where once they passed that barrel the course Marshall sounded a horn and the next member of the relay team took off. That member proceeded southerly toward the State Park keeping close to the shore but away from the hazard barrel placed near the main State Park beach then to the next relay point just south of the main beach to the next check point (Barrel #3); where once they passed that barrel the course Marshall sounded a horn and the next member of the relay team took off. That member proceeded southerly toward "B" section of the State Park and navigated around a course barrel and then headed westerly toward Westcott Shore and around the course barrel placed near the end of that shoreline then turning northerly the boat headed for the next relay point on Mullen Shore (Barrel #4) and once it passed that barrel the course Marshall sounded a horn and the next member of the relay team took off. That team member then raced toward yet another course barrel on Patton Shore before crossing the last relay point (Barrel #5) where the course Marshall sounded a horn and the next member of the relay team took off. This continued until the pace boat (which displayed the flags of all 4 teams), captained by Nancy Johnson of Black Woods, rounded the course a total of 3 times. Given the number of boats participating in the race, 3 members each team did 2 legs and 2 members of each team did 3 legs. These member



Blue Team Boat

We've had a lot of folks tell us it's hard to determine from their shoreline who's ahead in this race, and we agree. In years past everyone lined up along North Beach and could see for themselves who crossed the finish line first but that hasn't happened since Covid. We hope that next year we can do a "live feed" from the finish line to keep everyone informed but at the very least we hope that all teams will line up in order of finish and take a Final Lap around the lake at the end of the race. If anyone has a better idea, we welcome your suggestions.

This event would not be possible without a lot of hard work from a lot of people and following are the individuals we need to thank: Pete Benevento and John Costa who secured our required permits; Joe Commo, Starter; Nancy Johnson, Captain of our Pace Boat; members of the 4 relay teams who readied their boats and spent a fun afternoon on the lake participating in this event; Ryan Larose, Ben Larivee and Dylan Wright, our Marshalls, who were on jet ski-



Flag hanging from a lift by Lake Carmi's shore.

Have a cool photo of the lake?

Email editors@lakecarmivt.com

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## Franklin's 5th Annual

### CHASE AROUND THE LAKE TRIATHLON

## Chase Around The Lake Results

The 5th annual Chase Around the Lake Triathlon was held Saturday morning June 29th. The race consisted of a 3 mile run, a 13 mile bike ride and a 2.5 mile kayak paddle.

Congratulations to the following!

The individual winner with the best time was **Chris Bedell** who completed the run, bike and kayak in 3hrs. 18 minutes.

The winning team was **Porter Hurteau and Ian Mackenzie of the Gingers** who had a relay time of 2hrs. 32 minutes.

The best individual times in each category were:

**Run:** John Viens with a time of 16.34 min

**Bicycle:** Ian Mackenzie with a time of 59.16 min

**Kayak:** Porter Hurteau with a time of 1 hr 33 min

### Franklin Watershed Update

By Julia Crocker, Coordinator Franklin Watershed Committee



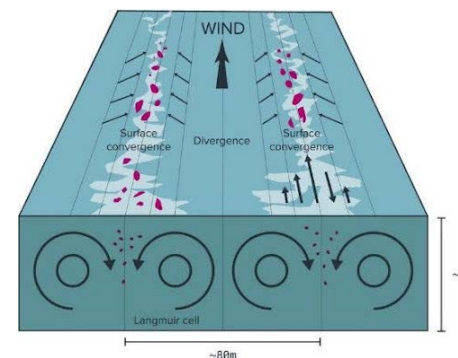
Hello Folks,

I hope you are all having a great summer season and enjoyed the holiday festivities! I know I am happy to be back up to camp yet again. I will start off with usual reminders: We are looking for folks who are interested in Lake Wise and/or Stream Wise evaluations! Please email [jcrocker5@une.edu](mailto:jcrocker5@une.edu) if you or your neighbor are interested. Also, the Franklin Watershed Committee offers a **\$75.00 rebate for any septic pump outs** and a **\$25.00 rebate for any port-o-let rentals** for campers. Simply submit a receipt and mailing address to the Franklin Watershed Committee at PO Box 79 Franklin, VT 05457 to receive payment.

Today we find ourselves asking the question, "Foam? Or foe?" As of late, we have had an apparent increase in the amount of foam accumulating on the surface of the lake, and many have wondered whether or not this is cause for concern. With all of the other problems we continue to face at Lake Carmi it is no wonder that this has raised suspicion. However, there is likely no need to worry as foam on the surface of a lake is a naturally occurring phenomenon.

The most likely cause for this foam is the wind. This type of foam can be found on lakes year round and most often happens during windy conditions. This is because the wind breaks the surface tension of the water, allowing for oxygen to mix in and create bubbles. It can also be created when aquatic plants die and start to decompose. When this happens, the natural oils contained within plant cells rise to the surface and create foam when agitated. This is usually the thick, white foam near the shore. This foam can have higher concentrations of pollutants and bacteria than the water around it so it is definitely best to avoid swallowing it or recreating directly in the foam (but I hope you aren't drinking lake water anyway!)

The foam also left us with the question: Why is it in parallel lines? The short answer to this is Langmuir Circulation! This is a phenomenon that occurs on all bodies of water under the right conditions. When wind blows across the surface of the water, it moves the surface water to the side, causing the bottom water to rise up in its place. Also known as "upwelling." At the same time, a "downwelling" occurs as the surface water runs into the water next to it and causes some of it to sink. (Are you still with me?) These two motions create a spinning "tube" of water. When these tubes line up next to each other, spinning in opposite directions, anything at the surface gets stuck in parallel lines, including the foam. (For my fellow visual learners, please enjoy the diagram to the right).



It is possible for the foam to occur at the same time as cyanobacteria blooms but rest assured that the two phenomena are unrelated. It is also possible for the foam to contain cyanotoxins but if so that would likely be because there are already toxins in the water after a bloom. Rest assured that the lines of foam that appeared after some recent rain and wind are nothing to get agitated about!

Julia Crocker, FWC Coordinator

Enjoy a great game of golf at Enosburg Falls Country Club 802-933-2296

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PRESIDENT'S REPORT from page 1



© Ellen Richards Photography

Flyover

Fighter Pilot who grew up on this lake and obviously has a close connection to it. Lake Carmi is certainly a special place.

The holiday week began with the annual Light Up Lake Carmi. This year's theme was the upcoming Summer Olympics and to cheer on local speedster and phenom Elle St. Pierre as she races for the Gold Medal in the 1500m and possibly the 5000m track events in Paris. A local person from Montgomery and now Berkshire, Elle has family ties to our lake and was here visiting last week. She is running for our country on the world's biggest stage. Her race(s) will be televised to the entire planet! I'm getting goose bumps again. Go for the gold Elle! Lake Carmi is rooting for you!



Ice cream social at the town park with music by St. Albans' Citizen's band

The 4th of July holiday week had other activities that began with the 5th Annual Chase Around the Lake Triathlon. The event drew competitors from around the area who ran the Dewing and Ham-

mond shores; cycled around the lake; and kayaked the Patton and Black Woods Shores. The early Saturday morning weather was dry but windy creating especially challenging conditions for the kayakers. All competitors prevailed however and had nothing but good comments about the race. The Chase Around the Lake is a great way to enjoy the lake and showcase it to people not familiar with Lake Carmi. This event is presented by both the Town of Franklin Recreation Committee and the LCCA.

Dessert for dinner preceded our first concert of the season that was held midway through the week. An Ice Cream Social to benefit the East Franklin Union Church and the Franklin United Church was followed by musical medleys and other songs performed by the Citizens Band of St. Albans. The event was held on the Town Park Green under a beautiful summer evening sky. It

was well attended by village, town and lake residents alike. The second of the concert series will be held the evening of August 3rd again on the Town Green this time featuring Uncle John's Band. Concert will begin 6:30 p.m.



Ice cream social at the town park with music by St. Albans' Citizen's band

The holiday week of events concluded with the Great Pontoon Boat Relay Race. This annual, one-of-a-kind extravaganza featured the lake's elite Pontoonists competing for bragging rights and eternal recognition by inscription on the Carmi Cup. An exciting, fun and most importantly safe race was completed in what I believe was a record time. More details on the race and the winners appear elsewhere in the newsletter.

Another event that is also described in detail elsewhere in the newsletter is Senior Day. This is a day where the LCCA provides lunch and a boat tour of Lake Carmi to residents of the Franklin Homestead and Carriage House. I would like to thank David and

continued on next page

continued from previous page

Diane Larose for hosting the event and the LCCA Directors and their spouses for making this happen. It is our most favorite and satisfying event of the season.

Speaking of the Franklin Homestead and Carriage House, they are sponsoring a fundraiser called, "Franklin Arts Fest" on Sunday, July 21st from 11:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. Entrance will be by donation. Music, Art and Photography will be on display. Raffles, food and a silent auction will also be offered.

The lake was certainly ablaze with fireworks this 4th of July week. The displays were terrific. They greatly enhanced the spirit of celebration surrounding our Independence Day. A heartfelt thanks to all the camps that lit up the nights! Your efforts were appreciated.

With the Alum Feasibility Study completed we have directed our efforts to having the required permit application prepared. Conversations with the Town, VT DEC Watershed Management, and Watershed Investment Divisions as well as the DEC Lakes and Ponds Section are ongoing. We also reached out to officials at Lake Morey in Fairlee, VT. Alum was applied to Lake Morey earlier this spring.

The plan at Lake Carmi remains to have the Alum permit application submitted by the end of the year with an anticipated Alum application by Fall 2025. Efforts to remove the Aeration equipment from the lake by this Fall are on schedule. We will keep you posted.



"Old Glory" Photograph by Peter Benevento

I know that I have commented much on the celebrations around the lake, but the spirit was also very evident throughout the Town. I leave you with a favorite photo I took recently. A similar picture appeared in last year's newsletter. A dated tractor in a pretty grassland field with old glory flying above. It says a lot about rural America. Patriotism, dedication and hard work immediately come to mind. Things that make America great and independent! There go those goose bumps again.

See you around the lake!  
Pete

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# Light Up The Lake

By Peter Benevento



Photo by Ellen Punken Magnant

Our annual Light Up the Lake event officially concluded on Sunday, July 7th when a band of intrepid judges undauntingly faced the darkness of night and relentless fireworks to find those creative campers who picked up the gauntlet to help celebrate, not only our country's birth, but also to recognize Elle St. Pierre for her amazing talent and determination as she qualified to represent the United States in two events in this year's upcoming summer Olympics. Congratulations Elle and our best wishes as you endeavor to bring back the gold.

The theme for this year's event was, "Go for the Gold", in honor of Elle's accomplishments and to show our support for her and all the other Olympian's hard work and dedication.

The judges, using new judging documents created by Nathan Engehardt, managed to circumvent the entire lake in record time. The new format prevented the threat from the boat captain that they would sit in the middle of the lake until all categories were chosen. Thank you, Nathan.

And the awards go to:

- Overall: Abbey Group (Underwood Camps) on Wescott Shore Rd
- Most Creative: Lang Camp on Westcott Shore Rd
- Most Inviting: Garala Camps on Dewing Rd
- Most Patriotic: Magnant Camp on Hammond Shore Rd

Honorable Mentions:

- Costa Camp on Shore Rd
- Larose Camp on Vic's Crossing Rd
- Johnson Camp on Black Woods
- Gadbois Camp on Hammond Shore Rd

On behalf of our dedicated judges, our cantankerous boat captain and the entire association, we'd like to thank all who participated in making our 4th of July and Elle's quest for the gold brighter and just a little bit more exciting.

On a personal note, I would like to also thank the judges who took time away from their families to help close out this year's 4th of July Festivities.



As always, the names of the judges are being withheld to avoid any possible retaliation.



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Goings On

**JUNE 29**

LIGHT UP LAKE CARMi  
June 29 - July 6. Theme:  
Going for the gold.

**JULY 3**

BAND CONCERT & ICE  
CREAM SOCIAL  
East Franklin Union Church  
and the Franklin United  
Church will host an Ice  
Cream Social.

**JULY 6**

PONTOON BOAT RELAY  
RACE  
2 pm.

**JULY 7**

FIREWORKS  
Fireworks presented by  
Charlie Magnant on Ham-  
mond Shore.

**JULY 13**

FIREWORKS  
Fireworks presented by Katie Thompson on Mullen Shore.

**JULY 15**

SUMMER SOUNDS  
Featuring The Stragglers, Lincoln Park, Enosburg Falls, 5:30-8  
pm. Rain Date July 17.

**JULY 21**

FRANKLIN ARTS FEST  
A fundraiser to benefit the Franklin Homestead & Carriage  
House and to celebrate Franklin artists. 11am-2pm at Franklin  
Town Hall

**JULY 26**

GOLF TOURNAMENT  
Benefits the Lake Carmi Community Foundation. 9 am shotgun  
start. Info Nancy Johnson 802-233-9207.

**AUGUST 1**

Franklin County Fair and Field Days, through Aug 4. Opens 10  
am Aug 1; 7 am Fri-Sun. Airport Rd., Highgate. Franklincoun-  
tyfielddays.org.

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**AUGUST 3**

LCCA CONCERT SERIES  
Uncle John's Band at the Franklin Town Park, Main Street.

BREWSTER RIVER BLUEGRASS FESTIVAL  
Music from noon 'til 11pm. Martell's at the Red Fox, Jefferson-  
ville. Info, Facebook

**AUGUST 8-11**

ANNIE THE MUSICAL  
The Opera House at Enosburg Falls presents Annie. Info, enos-  
burgoperahouse.com

**AUGUST 10**

LCCA ANNUAL MEETING  
And potluck, 5 pm, Franklin United Church, Main Street.

**AUGUST 19**

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

**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 6/9, 6/30,  
7/14, 7/28, 8/11, 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  
crafts activities, popcorn and drinks for sale. (Weather permit-  
ting).

**COLD HOLLOW SCULPTURE PARK**

4280 Boston Post Rd., Enosburg. Open through Oct 14, Thurs-  
Sun 11 am - 5pm. Info, coldhollowsculpturepark.com.



**3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Picnic & Pontoon Boat Ride for Franklin Homestead & Carriage House Residents**

*By Peter Benevento*

The Lake Carmi Camper's Association hosted their annual lake-  
front luncheon and pontoon boat ride around the lake for residents  
of the Franklin Homestead and Carriage House. It was held at the  
Vic's Crossing cottage of David and Diane Larose, where there is  
plenty of parking and good access to embark and disembark on the  
pontoon boats. We had quite a time scheduling it this year due to  
inclement weather, but finally Mother Nature cooperated on Fri-  
day, June 28th. It was a bit chilly at the onset, but we were prepared  
with blankets and throws for those that wanted them. Once the sun  
came out, the blankets were put aside and everyone basked in the  
sun while sitting in comfortable lawn chairs, sipping lemonade and  
enjoying a snack while engaged in lively conversation on the shores  
of our beautiful Lake Carmi.

There were 30+ guests and helpers in attendance this year. Special  
guests included Imogene Rainville, a lifelong resident of Franklin  
who was formerly on the Homestead/Carriage House board; Diane

Rooney, wife of our beloved LCCA board member, Larry Myott  
that passed 3 years ago and 92 year old Ruth Hayes, summer resi-  
dent on Vic's Crossing that has been coming to Lake Carmi every  
year since 1937! Peter Benevento, LCCA President, welcomed ev-  
eryone and thanked them for attending as well as those that made  
this special day possible.

A sit-down luncheon followed, consisting of hamburgers, hot  
dogs, home baked beans, and multiple salads made by LCCA  
members. The Coca Cola Company generously donated bottled  
water, canned lemonade, Sprite and Coca Cola. Dessert choices in-  
cluded delicious homemade Hawaiian Dream Cake and chocolate  
chip cookies. Ernie and Andrea Engleheart provided lovely flower  
arrangements from their garden for the tables.

Choosing the date for this event is especially tricky because we

*See SENIOR DAY page 22*

PONTOON RACE from page 5

is at every checkpoint ensuring the relays were done correctly; and finally, and most importantly, Ann Delaney and Jason Paquette. To say they did "everything else" to make this race possible is an understatement. They secured the teams; met with team captains; gathered forms, delivered the flags and banners to each team; painted the barrels and put them out; replaced the barrels the next day after they'd moved in the wind; participated in the race on their own boat, and finally gathered up all the flags, banners and barrels at the end of the day and placed them in storage for yet another year. The LCCA Board of Directors extends a most sincere "Thank You" to both Ann and Jason for a job well done. This event would not have been possible without all their hard work.



Orange Team Boat



Red Team Boat

We hope to have five teams (the original number participating) in next year's LCCA Pontoon Boat Relay Race. If you know of anyone who'd like to participate (maximum of 150 HP), please get them onboard. Thank you to everyone who participated in any way and we look forward to even more fun next year.....will it be the Hammerheads again or perhaps the Vipers will take the trophy back OR perhaps the Pirates or Bobcats will come up with the winning combination. No matter who wins, the most important part of this event is to have fun and enjoy our beautiful lake.

See you all next year.

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**SUMMER SOUNDS ON LINCOLN PARK 2024**

<b>June 17<sup>th</sup></b> (rain date 19 <sup>th</sup> ) <b>The Old Man Garage Band</b>	<b>5:30pm – 8:00pm</b> Lincoln Park, Main Street; Enosburg Falls
<b>July 15<sup>th</sup></b> (rain date 17 <sup>th</sup> ) <b>The Stragglers</b>	<b>Music and Food Trucks On Site</b> <b>No Outside Alcohol On Premises</b>
<b>August 19<sup>th</sup></b> (rain date 21 <sup>st</sup> ) <b>The Maple Grove Band</b>	<b>Farmers Market Vendors</b> <b>4:00pm - Till</b>

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# Eaglet Drama!



We had a little eagle drama on Wescott Mullen shore.

One of the three eaglets tumbled down aways in the big tree trying to take flight. He hung out there all day and the next day was not seen. As the days passed I think we all felt he probably didn't make it.

However, that was not the case, and he was spotted on the ground a couple camps over from the nest. He flew-hopped away and appeared to be in good health and size.

A flurry of calls to VINs, Vermont Fish & Game, and ultimately an eagle rehab person gave us the information that eagles are very good parents!

This expert would have been very, very surprised if they were not still feeding this eaglet. Barring a severe and apparent injury, the best course of action was to leave it to the parents.

We also learned that the eggs hatch incrementally and they don't all develop at the same speed, perhaps this Eaglet was egg number three. As of the writing of this article, the Eaglet was progressing to short flights and higher tree perches which I am sure kept it safe at night. Hoping he can join his siblings in flight over our happy lake soon.

Suzi Hull-Casavant

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# The Use of Alum for Lake Management From the North American Lake Management Society



Article written by the North American Lake Management Society (NALMS)

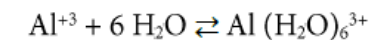
Aluminum sulfate, called alum, when added to lake water removes phosphates through precipitation, forming a heavier than water particular known as a floc. This floc then settles to the lake bottom to create a barrier that retards sediment phosphorus release. There are two policy-related issues with the use of alum:

1. Whether alum is safe for humans and aquatic life, and
2. Balancing the use of alum as it is used to mitigate eutrophication of symptoms versus the more tedious, but more direct approach of mitigating the causes of eutrophication.

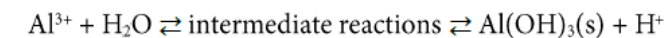
There has also been recent discussion about whether alum is considered an algaecide in the context of NPDES rules. The concern is, if a product makes a claim that it controls algae, then it is presumed to be an algaecide and there can be regulated under NPDES. For purposes here, alum is not considered an algaecide for the simple reason that any algae control effects following an alum application are the result of phosphorus reduction rather than any direct toxic effects on algae control.

### How Safe is Alum?

Alum is applied to lake water as aluminum sulfate, or  $Al_2(SO_4)_3 + 14 H_2O$ . As aluminum sulfate is added to water, it forms aluminum ions, which are hydrated (combined with water):



In a series of chemical hydrolysis steps, hydrogen ions are liberated, which may lower the water pH, and ultimately forms aluminum hydroxide ( $Al(OH)_3$ ), which is a solid precipitate:



The solid precipitate forms a flocculent material, referred to as a floc, that has a high capacity to absorb phosphates. The aluminum hydroxide blanket, when applied appropriately, separates the sediment from the water column, which reduces the internally supplied phosphorus.

Free aluminum may persist at pH less than 6 or other hydroxides may form at pH greater than 9; although toxicity may occur at  $pH > 8$  in some conditions. Both forms may be toxic to aquatic life. As a practical matter, the use of buffered alum has mitigated this concern by controlling the pH to acceptable ranges. Indeed, there has been only one reported case in the United States in recent years where toxicity has been a problem.

Human health concern are largely avoided simply because people do not drink untreated lake water. However, even if they did, aluminum concentration in lake water are normally within EPA

drinking water standards very shortly after bulk applications.

There is an obvious concern with lake or reservoirs used as drinking water supplies. However, the water treatment process at many, if not most, water utilities uses alum as a clarifier before filtration anyway. Again, the raw water supply does not exceed drinking water standards shortly after an alum application.

There have been reports that aluminum is a cause of Alzheimer's disease. However, recent epidemiological studies have found no association. In fact, the form of aluminum in lake water after an alum application, aluminum hydroxide, is the active ingredient in over-the-counter antacids. The issue here is the form of aluminum. While it is true that "free" aluminum has toxic properties, it is also very reactive and does not persist in this form. Where applied, the trade-off of short-term toxicity risk against phosphorus control is implicitly accepted.

### When is Alum Appropriate?

This question may be as much a question of lake management philosophy as one of lake management policy. We know alum can control internal phosphorus release, and we know alum can also control phosphorus inputs when applied directly to inflowing water. Most often, the question to ask is, "when is the use of alum appropriate in terms of balancing the management of the cause of excess phosphorus versus simply neutralizing excess phosphorus in the lake?"

There are a number of ways to consider this question. Managing the cause of excess phosphorus is the preferred approach. This view is widely held by lake management practitioners. Why keep treating symptoms without addressing the underlying causes? This watershed approach is advocated by the US EPA, NALMS, and many others.

In light of the watershed approach espoused above, there are many cases where using the watershed approach exclusively may neither mitigate excess phosphorus in lakes nor even be feasible. Thus, the use of alum may be the only practical way to accomplish meaningful and timely water quality improve-

See ALUM USE page 21

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# Lake Appreciation Month

*Editor Note: We want everyone to know that Governor Scott has declared the month of July as Lakes Appreciation Month. Please read the proclamation and know that the LCCA & FWC are working very closely with the State*

*to improve water quality in Lake Carmi. The State's assistance is invaluable. We will continue this relationship to ensure the words of the proclamation ring true and that they translate into a better Lake Carmi.*

### State of Vermont Executive Department A Proclamation

**WHEREAS,** lake and ponds are among Vermont's most valuable natural resources; and

**WHEREAS,** lakes and ponds contribute to the Vermont landscape by providing irreplaceable fish and wildlife habitat, stormwater storage capacity, groundwater replenishment, and other biotic and abiotic ecosystem services; and

**WHEREAS,** they provide drinking water, transportation, recreation, tourism, and scenic beauty for the residents and visitors of Vermont; and

**WHEREAS,** these beneficial uses are of fundamental importance to Vermont's history, culture, and economic vitality; and

**WHEREAS,** our lakes and ponds improve the quality of life for all Vermont residents, and their importance should not go unnoticed; and

**WHEREAS,** Vermont recognizes the need to protect the ecological integrity and natural resiliency of these lakes and ponds for future generations, particularly as climate change creates new challenges for ecosystems.

**NOW, THEREFORE,** I, Philip B. Scott, Governor, hereby proclaim July 2024 as

### LAKES APPRECIATION MONTH in Vermont.



Given under my hand and the Great Seal of the State of Vermont, on this 1st day of July, A.D. 2024.

*Philip B. Scott*  
Philip B. Scott  
Governor

*Brittney J. Wilson*  
Brittney Wilson  
Secretary of Civil and Military Affairs

# Golf Tournament to Benefit Lake Carmi

We are planning a sunny day for our Biennial Golf Tournament to benefit the Lake Carmi Community Foundation. The tournament will be held Friday, July 26, at Enosburgh Falls Country Club, 9 am shotgun start. You will want to get your team together, \$300 per foursome. This includes Fun, Golf, Golf Cart, Goodie Bag, and a nice meal.

We are excited about the support we get from our sponsors. If your business wishes to be a sponsor, please contact us right away so that we can create a banner or sign indicating your sponsorship.

We are also accepting donations for silent auction items and monetary donations as well. The Lake Carmi Community Foundation was founded to improve, maintain and preserve the wonderful natural resource that is Lake Carmi. Your support as a player, sponsor or donor will be greatly appreciated. For more information please contact Nancy Johnson 802-233-9207, [nancyagor@gmail.com](mailto:nancyagor@gmail.com).

## Lake Carmi Community Foundation Golf Tournament

**Enosburg Falls  
Country Club  
Friday, July 26, 2024  
Scramble Format  
9 a.m. Shotgun Start**

- \$300/team of 4 includes green fees, cart, gift bag & lunch
- Checks payable to: Lake Carmi Community Foundation, Attn: Golf, PO Box 1, Franklin, VT 05457





**LAKE  
CARMİ  
COMMUNITY  
FOUNDATION**

*The Lake Carmi Community Foundation is dedicated to conserving one of Vermont's most unique natural resources, Lake Carmi, for all to enjoy today and for generations to come.*

Lake Carmi Community Foundation is a 501(c)(3) organization.

ALUM USE from page 17

ments. Using alum as an element of a comprehensive watershed and lake management program will often be needed to achieve meaningful results in a timely and cost-effective manner.

Considering that alum applications may be effective for 5 to 15 years, as well as the fact that watershed phosphorus control seldom goes far enough, repeated applications have been proposed.

Increased water clarity following alum applications can have the unintended effect of increasing light availability and therefore increasing the area of rooted plant growth in lakes.

### Issues & Concerns

Alum is a safe and effective method to mitigate excess phosphorus in lakes and reservoirs. Note, there are many other methods and approaches to consider in managing lakes. The concerns with using alum cited here can be managed or balanced.

### NALMS Positions

1. Alum is a safe and effective lake management tool.
2. Alum applications should be designed and controlled to avoid concerns with toxicity to aquatic life.
3. Watershed management is an essential element of protecting and managing lakes. In cases where watershed phosphorus reductions are neither adequate nor timely, alum is an appropriate tool to accomplish meaningful water quality objectives.

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### 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](http://lakecarmivt.com).

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

Submission to the Lake Carmi Association Newsletter are always welcome at [editors@lakecarmivt.com](mailto: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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SENIOR DAY from page 13

must not only have good weather but also calm waters in order to take our guests on a pontoon boat ride around the lake. Once again, Mother Nature did not disappoint and following the luncheon, all the guests went for a pontoon boat ride with Captain Dave Larose or Captain John Costa. Many of the folks have history on the lake, either having owned cottages or having spent time here over their lifetimes. Reminiscing and sharing those memories makes this ride extra special. In addition, 3 eagles and one loon were spotted!

The afternoon ended with smiles and expressions of gratitude. One resident in speaking to the hosts said, "I look forward to this day every year. It is my most favorite day of the year!" And someone else said, "Do we HAVE to leave now?" To hear those words makes you realize how simple acts can make such a difference in peoples' lives. It makes this event so worthwhile and rewarding. It also reminds us of how fortunate we are and how much we often take for granted in life. We should all feel proud that we are making this event a reality through our Lake Association.

Thank you to the cooks, helpers and folks that played a part in this wonderful event. They include: Kathryn Gates, Sheryl Garala, Marion Benevento, Donna Deuso, Ron and Pauline Jackson, Ruth Ann Krayesky, Hilda Hendrickson, Ernie and Andrea Engleheart, John and Carol Costa, Polly Gadbois, Ryan Larose, and David and Diane Larose. Until next year...



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.

RESPIRE 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 \$669,900. Contact Shannon at (802) 363-0607 or check our website at maplehousemedia.hd.pics/22-Vics-Crossing-Rd for more information

Want to put a classified in the newsletter? It's free for paid members! Email your classified to: editors@lakecarmivt.com

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

Obituaries



Frances Hammond (June 26, 1933 – June 19, 2024) Frances J. Hammond, 90, formerly of Hammond Shore. For a full obituary visit gossfs.com.

LCCA Annual Meeting

The LCCA Annual Meeting & Potluck Supper will be held Saturday evening August 10th at the Franklin United Church on Main Street in Franklin. Doors will open at 5:00pm with the Potluck Supper beginning at 5:30pm. The supper will include the election of Directors & Officers. Hope to see you there! It is a great opportunity to visit and share a meal with your fellow campers



Become a member of the Lake Carmi Campers Association

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

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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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