

LAKE CARMi ASSOCIATION NEWS

June, 2015.....One Happy Lake....Volume 9, Number 2

Brought to you by the Lake Carmi Camper's Association, Inc. and other fine sponsors.

Larry Myott, Editor.....Larry.Myott@uvm.edu.....www.lakecarmi.org

Ice-Out on April 18, 2015

Lake Carmi Camper's Association, Inc.
2015 Ice-Out Contest, 8th Annual

Name Bruce McGurk
Address 143 Meadow View Rd
City Orinda
State CA Zip 94563
Phone 925-253-1958
Email brucemcgurk@comcast.net

Please Print Carefully
Date 4/18 Time 8:30 am/pm
Sold by _____

Congratulations to Bruce McGurk of Orinda, California and the Westcott Shore at Lake Carmi! Bruce received his check for \$550 from Treasurer Bob Baran. McGurk guessed the time within 5 minutes of the actual time the device disappeared from the surface of the lake. About a day later your editor received word that the ice had disappeared from all over Lake Carmi.

Joe Craig set up a device about 200 feet off shore, it is connected to a clock on shore. When the clock gets disconnected, because the device fell through, it's ice out time. Twenty eight other tickets had the April 18 date, some only a few minutes off the winning time. Thank you Joe!

A Big Win in the Legislature-Larry Myott

The water quality bill in this legislative session, H-35, passed with a big margin. The Governor is expected to sign it rather quickly. This bill could certainly be a lot more powerful, but the compromises in it give us a good start for future years.

There are new rules for runoff targeting pollution from dairy farms, city streets, construction sites and more. Most of the policy changes to be made in the Agency of Agriculture and the Agency of Natural Resources rules are yet to be made, however, the legislation presents a guideline for them to be finalized and take effect next year.

H-35, as yet not named, is the beginning of

what I hope will be a great start to clean up our bodies of water, from Lake Carmi, the Missisquoi River basin and all of Lake Champlain. Of course there is pollution in most Vermont streams, ponds and lakes. The \$7.5 million dollars will only provide a very small start to the necessary work needed. The bill does not raise nearly enough money, previous estimates have been as high as \$150 million in each year for the next ten years. My personal opinion is this number is way too small. Thinking about this, we don't really know what we'll have to do to stop the pollution. The obvious problems are the places to start, but not the solution.

We have to face the facts. The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) tells us agricultural runoff from farms accounts for 40% of the phosphorus pollution in Lake Champlain. At Lake



Carmi that percentage is more than double. Excess manure that is stored and applied to fields as fertilizer seeps into waterways when it rains.

That pollution leads to summertime toxic algae blooms. These figures are readily available in the TMDL for both Lake Champlain and Lake Carmi, both available on various websites. VT Digger, in a recent column says, "Many new pollution control measures, including standards for livestock exclusion from waterways, will not take effect until after 2016," the rules are not yet in place. "The Agency of Agriculture still has the discretion to enforce water pollution laws, which is a fundamental concern for environmental groups that say the agency has been understaffed or unwilling to take action." The funding from this years legislature provides many new positions for the Agency of Agriculture and the Agency of

Natural Resources. We'll be looking for more boots on the ground to assist in solving pollution problems throughout the state. However, having boots on the ground, and money in the agencies, will not solve the problems if the same old practices are being tolerated by our state agencies and residents of our effected communities. Pollution control means a very big commitment making food production a safe and economically feasible practice.

At some point, our politicians, citizens and farmers, have to understand that not every piece of property is made for large dairy farms. The infrastructure of large dairy farms in Vermont requires the acreage to handle the manure that comes with cows. As James Ehlers of Lake Champlain International says, "There is still no recognition that some areas are not suitable for intensive, industrial agriculture." Now the answer is, not assuming that every piece of land is suitable. Expanding the farm is not just a matter of money, it is making sure is suitable for this farming operation.

An opinion piece by Larry Myott, Editor

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In Memorium

Nancy Jean Everest of Westcott Shore passed away on January 29, 2015 in Yardley, PA. We never received any details or information on services. Condolences should be sent to her husband Bob at 6 Central Dr., Yardley, PA 19067.

Another good friend and long-time resident of Lake Carmi passed away at the age of 80, April 12, 2015. **Betty Colburn** of Shore Road passed at the Vermont Respite House in Williston. Betty taught school in St. Albans for over 30 years. She loved gardening, sewing and knitting. She is survived by her daughter Cindy Peace and her husband Bill of Lake Carmi and Indiana. Also, survivors include: daughter Karen Merrill of Miami, FL; Michael Colburn and Nancy of Indianapolis, IN; and Amy Trahan Keven of Swanton and several grandchildren. Services were held at the Franklin United Church on April 17. Contributions in Betty's memory should be made to: Haston Library, P.O. Box 82, Franklin, VT 05457 or the Franklin United Church, P.O. Box 84, Franklin, VT 05457. Condolences to the family may be sent thru www.spearsfuneralhome.com.

Bird Watching with Debbie Bushey

If you are a "birder" or just beginning this



outdoor activity; you may hear words you're not used to. Even if you haven't yet learned to imitate the song of the Spotted Towhee, you'll sound like you know what you're talking about in the field if you master a little lingo. The

following words are a good start:

Life List – A list of all the bird species seen in one's life. There are many possible variations such as year lists, state, county, or backyard lists. Perhaps even heard only list, and even a list of birds seen on television.

Nocturnal-Birds that are active at night, such as owls or night jays.

Twitching-this British term means the seeking of rare species to tick off your list.

Warbler Neck-A sore neck that you get from staring in the tops of trees for hours, ie. looking warblers.

Lifer-The first sighting of a particular species in a birders life.

Diurnal-Birds that are active during the day.

Adapted from (Bird Words a Glossary) by Jennifer Ushlar, July 2006. Reprinted in the AARP Magazine.

Birders get excited about the annual Loon Watch Day, Saturday, July 18. Birders, wherever there are loons, count and track the loons. There are several at Lake Carmi now, hopefully they will stay with us and perhaps become permanent summer residents.

President Benevento Writes:

That long cold winter is behind us and the 2015 season at Lake Carmi is here. You've opened camp, cleaned out the cobwebs, got the docks and hoists in place and the boat ready to go. Your LCCA board and committees have been busy all winter getting ready for summer 2015.



A major project worked over the winter was the purchase of a new weed harvester. LCCA

director Polly Gadbois worked with the Board of Selectmen to help secure funding and fine tune the details of obtaining the new Town of Franklin weed harvester.

The third major endeavor of the winter months was the work of the LCCA to advocate for and get enactment of a new water quality law, H-35. The LCCA and FWC along with a private citizen funded the hiring of an intern to be working in Montpelier and keeping us informed of the legislative happenings. This enabled us to have timely communications to the right people who could make a difference in getting the clean water bill passed. Sincere thanks to all the volunteers who participated in this process. Your efforts have borne fruit, the Water Quality Act isn't yet law, but close. It is not a panacea to our water quality problems here at Lake Carmi but it is a step in the right direction. The lesson learned here is that activism brings results. We must continue our quest for a cleaner Lake Carmi. We must respect and protect our watershed, it is the legacy we leave to the next generations.

The Lake Carmi Watershed starts at our shorelines. If we expect practices to improve and change in the corn in the corn and hay fields, we must maintain proper shoreline buffers and much more. Also, we all must make sure our septic systems are working properly. The Vermont DEC is conducting a septic outreach program at Lake Carmi this summer. Details of the programs will be in the July issue.

We cannot mention water quality without mentioning the efforts of the Franklin Watershed Committee. They were responsible for getting our intern in the state capital. FWC coordinator Alisha Sawyer spent a lot of time in Montpelier as well. Unfortunately, for us, Alisha has accepted a new position and is leaving us at the end of May. The LCCA again thanks Alisha for her dedication and work to make progress in water quality issues of the watershed. The FWC is seeking a new coordinator, details are on their website, www.franklinwatershedvt.org.

Safety is a big issue at Lake Carmi, Please respect the 15 mph speed limit on all camp roads. This help us to save the roads we have and avoid a lot of erosion. Avoid those potholes. At the North Beach

area please slow down, There's lots of traffic during the busy summer months, this area can be very dangerous.

I remind you that articles are always welcome for the L.C.C.A. newsletters. Send email ideas and articles to larry.myott@uvm.edu. The next issue will be July 2015, deadline June 20.

Peter Benevento

President

LCCA Board Meetings, 2015

The LCCA Board has set their schedule of board meetings for the summer months. They meet in the FELCO Room of the Franklin Home stead at 8:30 a.m., May through September. Of course, members are always welcome to attend. They will meet on June 20, July 25, August 22 and September 19.

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Let go of any doubt, stand tall, above the clouds, towards the sun

Haston Library Events

- Sat. June 6, story hour for young folks, 10 a.m. also songs and playtime.
- Sat. June 20, 10 a.m. at Franklin Elementary School, The Back Pack Theater will perform *Wild Things* and *Sleeping Beauty*.
- Sat. June 27 at Franklin Town Hall. *Fantastic Physicists*. Come do some cool experiments with balloons, electricity and more.
- July 20 - 24, 10 a.m. - 2 p.m. Nature Camp at the Town Hall for ages 6 - 12. Tuition is \$130. Pre-register at the library.
- July 27 - 30, 9 am - 1 pm. Art Camp at the Town Hall, tuition, \$140. Pre-register at the library.

For Sale, For Rent or Wanted

Paid members are permitted a free classified ad in the four issues of the season. Merchandise ads are only for two issues, unless renewed. Camp rental ads can run for the whole season. However, if you have no more availability, please notify the editor.

Cottage Rentals for the 2015 Season

Cottage for Rent, Westcott Shore, 3 bdrm, fully equipped, May – October. \$750.wk. 414.220.7079 days, 450.359.9138 nights. Email: sjones@erbgroupp.com.

Cottage for Rent, May – Oct, AC/Heat, TV, Wifi, spring water, recently renovated. Plenty parking, picnic area, 180' waterfront, Westcott Shore. Bob & Nancy Lumnah, 603.231.0716.

Cottage for Rent, Hammond Shore Road, 2 bdrm, right on the water. \$800/month. Call 802.848.3393.

Cottage for Rent, Hammond Shore Road, fully furnished, bring your own linens. 802.285.6737.

Cottage for Rent, 1950's era lakefront family camp on Westcott Shore. Sleeps six, two bdrm, plus beds on porch. Woodland setting. \$600/week. Contact Kim Gates 802.285.9911 or email vera@franklinvt.net.

Cottage for Rent, right on the lake, Patton Shore Road, 2 story, sleeps nine, 3 bedrooms, 2 bath. Second story loft, fully furnished. Call 802- 879-7517, www.cyberrentals.com/rental/p129401

Cottage for Rent. Patton Shore; 3 bdrms; Sleeps up to 15; full kitchen. New England style rustic, by the week. Includes rowboat and canoe. Pets & children welcome. Contact James Hearne at 215.205.7855 or: lakecarmicamp@gmail.com.

Cottage for Rent, 1930's era vintage lakefront camp on Vic's Crossing. Sleeps 10, 4 bdrm, with canoe & Kayaks. 802.285.2250 or email: blackbarn@franklinvt.net.

Cottage for Rent, Three bdrms. Dock, rowboat, kayaks. Westcott Shore. \$600/week, including VT Tax. Contact Jan Cushman, 925.253.1958 or jancushman@comcast.net.

For Sale:

For Sale, aluminum boat rack on wheels. Asking \$1200. Located at Kings Court. Contact Jeff Richards, 802.272.3054 or email: alljobssmall@hotmail.com.

For Sale, 14 ft. aluminum rowboat/oars. \$450. Contact Bob Mongeur, 802.496.8186 or nmongeur@gmavt.net.

Camp Lot for Sale, Patton Shore. 89 ft frontage, 60ft deep. Lease. \$55,000. Darlene Greenwood Cooper, 802.285.6870.

Camp for Sale, 41 Camp Road. Call 802.782.9665 or 951.639.3400.

Home for Sale, Blackwoods, year around, owned land, lake access. 3 bdrm, 2 bath, open & bright. Over 1,700 sq.ft. Large wrapping deck, great views. Asking \$275,000, call 802.285.6528 or 802.999.7026.

For Sale, Pontoon Boat Lift, 3600 lb. excellent condition. Asking \$2,600. Call Bob at 802.793.7153 or Nancy at 802.793.9808.

For Sale, New Eccotemp propane hot water heater, Model FV112. Asking \$225. Call Guy or Pat Roberge at 285.2113, email: homestead206@franklinvt.net.

Avery's

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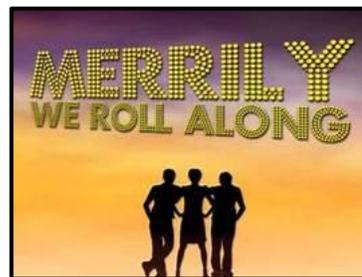
Call Avery & Megan Stanley, 802.309.5203

Enosburg Opera House Events

There are so many things to do in Franklin County during the summer. The Enosburg Opera House is one of those places for great entertainment for the adults and programs for the summer campers too. This facility has been an important cultural center for the area since 1892. The Friends of the Opera House owns and operates the facility as a non-profit organization dedicated to maintaining and preserving the Opera House.

Special Events in June include a Theatre Camp for youth thespians. June 22-26. The camp will end with a performance of *Waking Sleepy Beauty* at 7 pm on the last day. Call 802.933.6171 for details on the camp.

The Friends of the Opera House will present a great show with local actors in July. They held



auditions in May and are preparing for the July 24, 25 & 26 performances. This show tells a tale of friendship and ambition set to the beautiful music of Stephen Sondheim.

Further information and tickets are available on the website or above office number.

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WE NEED YOU AS A MEMBER OF THE LCCA, INC.:

Become an LCCA member for the 2015 season. The dues are just \$35.00 per year. LCCA members are committed to our wonderful lake in many ways. Some are volunteers who help out wherever and whenever they are able; some are simply here to enjoy a week or more in this pristine setting. We only ask that you become a member of your association and do what you can. Your comments are always welcome, contact any of the directors, or send the editor your thoughts for sharing at your director's board meetings. Become an official member of the Lake Carmi community, send your membership form and dues check, payable to LCCA, Inc. to: LCCA, Inc. P.O. Box 1, Franklin, VT 05457.

Attached is my check for 2015 dues in the amount of \$35.00, made payable to LCCA, Inc.

Name _____ Renewal New Gift Membership

Cottage 911 Address _____

Winter (Off-season Address) _____

Cottage Telephone _____ Off-Season Telephone _____

Please register your Email address, you'll get the season's Newsletters by email and other useful information, but no spam or advertising: (Please Print) _____

Notes or Comments: _____

LCCA Use Only, Date Received _____

It's Time to Renew Membership

More than a third of the 2014 record breaking membership has already rejoined the LCCA. The kick-off is going well. Please take a few minutes to fill out the form above and send it off with your check for \$35.00 annual dues. Members get their new membership card and window card for identification. The new 2015 directory comes out in July.

Membership Chair Marion Benevento is organizing the new campaign and getting volunteers to solicit memberships soon. You can save the team some time, but sending in your check and form now. Then the volunteers will only have to deliver your materials.

LCCA members are proud of our successes in the last couple years. Our lake community has more activities than ever before. Our success in the past year is building great momentum for water quality improvement in the future. Becoming a member means you are becoming an official member of our community, send in your membership, new or renewal.

Of course you can please a friend of Lake Carmi with a surprise gift certificate membership. If you change your address or email, please notify LCCA. We try to have the directory as accurate as possible, only you can make it perfect.

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Shoreline Foot Injuries, Play Safe



What should I do when I cut myself in the lake? Might I need a tetanus shot? Foot wounds should raise concerns. The source of the injury may be contaminated, so a tetanus shot is a good precaution if you are over the time for having one. If you have medical problems such as

diabetes or vascular disease, special care should be taken for foot injuries, medical attention should be sought early.

Washing the cut with lots of soapy clean water is the first step. The more water the better, wash it again. Apply antibiotic ointment and keep the wound covered. If you think the wound might need stitches, seek treatment right away. Any delay can increase the chances of infection. Any redness, swelling, increased pain, fever, or pus draining from the wound may indicate an infection that requires medical care.

***** JULY 3rd - DETAILED SCHEDULE OF EVENTS *****

- **6:00 p.m. – INVASION OF THE PIRATES**

Watch your loved ones; hold onto your valuables and have your Pontoon Boat Race ticket stubs in hand - THE PIRATES ARE COMING!! Watch while 30 pontoon boats arrive to secure the waterfront. The pirate ship will approach North Beach around 6:00 pm from the South End with guns a blazing. These dastardly Pirates are on a mission to find the Treasure Chest and will be relentless in their search, taking hostages along the way until they can find their lost Treasure. You will be safe if you have a Pontoon Boat Race ticket stub in hand; so buy early; buy lots in support of your favorite team and your guarantee that you won't be captured! So, keep an eye to the South and an ear tuned around 6:00 pm for the Pirate Ship approach. This event will be fun for young and old alike. Come early, (suggest before 4:00 pm) bring your favorite chair, stake out a spot and enjoy the evening. Starting at 5:00 pm, Chef Marc Laroche and his traveling smoker/broiler will be offering a feast of pulled pork, smoked ribs or charbroiled burgers, etc, with all the fixings for your dining pleasure.

- **7:00 p.m. - PONTOON BOAT RELAY RACE**

Five (5) teams will participate; six (6) boats per team or 30 pontoon boats.

Note: Following is a list of each team, Shore represented and the team's Captain/Admiral.

RED TEAM: Pirates - Patton/Blackwoods; Jim Pivirotto/Bob Baran

BLUE TEAM: Hammerheads - Hammond Shore; Bob Larose/Tim Abbott

GREEN TEAM: Dueling Dolphins -Dewing/Camp Rd; Richard Mercy/Lorraine Mercy

YELLOW TEAM: Wildcats - Westcott/Mullen Shore; Joe Craig/Cynthia Forsyth

ORANGE TEAM: Carmi Vipers - Vic's Crossing/Shore Rd/King's Ct; Bill Spears/Lee Abernethy

Each team will fly their team colors so sit back, cheer on your favorite team, enjoy the race. The start/finish line is at North Beach; start times are based on total team horsepower so you will see participants taking off at staggered times. Teams are required to navigate around buoys placed at different areas on the lake and must complete three (3) laps around the lake. There will be five checkpoints where participants will hand off a baton to their teammates who will run the next leg of the race. Updates by LCCA Staff monitoring the hand-offs at these five checkpoints will be radioed to our Emcee on the North Beach who will then announce the team standings to the anxious onshore crowd. This is always a fun filled event. The winner will be announced at the end of the race and will take a victory lap around the lake. There will be \$1,250 awarded in prize money so have your tickets ready: 1st Place gets \$500; 2nd Place gets \$300; 3rd Place gets \$200; 4th Place gets \$150 and 5th Place gets \$100. The rotating trophy will be awarded at the annual LCCA Pot Luck Dinner on August 8th.

- **9:30 p.m. - FIREWORKS at North Beach - Presented by NorthStar.**

***** CELEBRATE LAKE CARMi *****

2015 Summer Schedule of Events

- **June 29th thru July 4th - Light UP Lake Carmi** - - Campers light up their premises with theme of their choosing; details to follow. Judging will take place all week with the winner announced at 2:00 pm on July 5th. The winning camp owners or renters will join us for the Parade of Champions with the Enosburg Town Band at 4:00 pm.
NOTE: You are asked to UNPLUG your lights at 9:30 pm on July 3rd for the fireworks.
- **July 3rd - Pirate Ship, Pontoon Boat Race, Fireworks** - Can Larry Myott, our MC for the evening, keep everything under control?? Be sure to buy your Pontoon Boat Race Tickets which are available at Boat Headquarters, Parkside Cafe, Tammy's Family Hair Care and the Franklin General Store.
- **July 4th - Franklin Fire Department's Chicken BBQ** -- Enjoy the best BBQ around while supporting a great cause. Tickets are \$10 each and may be purchased from any member of the FFD, at the Franklin General Store or at the Franklin Telephone Company.

***** HAPPY BIRTHDAY AMERICA *****

- **July 5th - Parade of Champions** - Kevin Lothian of Boat Headquarters, Captain of the Pirate Ship, will lead the Parade around the lake, followed by the Enosburg Town Band and the winners of the Pontoon Boat Race. The winners of the ***Light UP Lake Carmi Contest*** and other boating enthusiasts are invited to participate. This parade will start at 4:00 pm from the South End and will proceed around the lake. We encourage everyone on shore to join in and cheer on our parade participants.
- **July 11th - SailFest** - Begins at 10:00 am - Voluntary SailFest for any and all sail boats. Additional details to appear July LCCA newsletter.
- **August 8th - Kayak Race** - Signup at North Beach at 1:30 pm, race at 2:00 pm. Open to all ages; must have your own kayak and life preservers. The afternoon begins with the blindfold short course race followed by the Youth (under 16) race and the Grand Marathon to the island and back while another shorter version will also be available. Awards will be made to the following categories:

SINGLES: - Youth (under 16); Male & Female (over 16); and Male & Female (over 50).

DOUBLES: - Youth (under 16); Male & Female (over 16); Male & Female (over 50) and Coed.

- **August 8th - LCCA Annual Meeting & Pot Luck Dinner** - Begins at 5:00 pm at the Franklin United Church Fellowship Hall. Watch your newsletter for further details, Celebrate Lake Carmi Awards to be presented.

***** ONE HAPPY LAKE *****



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Enosburg Falls, VT 05450
Phone (802) 933-5831
Mon. and Tue., 7:30am-5pm
Wed. and Thu., 7:30am-7pm
Fri., 8am-5pm

NOTCH Dental Clinic
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Swanton, VT 05488
Phone (802) 888-5551
Mon., Tue., Wed., 8am-5pm
Thu., 8am-4pm
Fri., 7am-3:30pm

NOTCH Pharmacy
44 Main Street, Suite 201
Richford, VT 05476
Phone (802) 255-5530
Mon., 9am-7pm
Tue., Wed., Thu., Fri., 9a-5:30pm
Sat., 9a-12pm

Richford Dental Clinic
44 Main Street, Suite 400
Richford, VT 05476
Phone (802) 255-5520
Mon., Tue., Wed., Thu., 8am-5pm
Fri., 7am-5:30pm

Richford Health Center
44 Main Street, Suite 200
Richford, VT 05476
Phone (802) 255-5500
Mon., 8am-7pm
Tue., Wed., Thu., Fri., 8am-5pm

St. Albans Health Center
48 Lower Newton Street
St. Albans, VT 05478
Phone (802) 524-4554
Mon., Thu., Fri., 8am-5pm
Tue., Wed., 8am-7pm

Swanton Health Center
45 Church Street
Swanton, VT 05488
Phone (802) 868-2454
Mon., Wed., Thu., Fri., 8a-5p
Tue., 8a-7p

Rocks in a Ditch Katherine Lord

Last fall, I spent quite a bit of time in Franklin, Vermont, a small town in the north-western part of the state. Franklin is home to Lake Carmi, the fourth largest natural lake in the state. With my AmeriCorps term beginning in the fall season, I was lucky enough to witness Carmi and its surrounding landscape undergo the revered autumn transformation. As the green of summer gave way to the pallet of colors for which New England is famous, I spent hours familiarizing myself with the rural landscape that would be the focus of my work for the year to come. As you drive from Franklin's quiet center toward the lake, the pastures are freckled with Holsteins and gambrel-roofed barns. Lake Carmi sits within this bucolic panorama as if posing for a postcard.

Despite the stunning landscape, Lake Carmi garners attention for another reason. It is one of only two lakes in the state that are subject to a Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) analysis, a regulation created by the EPA that identifies the maximum amount of a pollutant that a body of water can receive while still meeting water quality standards. The TMDL is like a prescription for a sick patient. Lake Carmi is indeed, sick, polluted with extremely high levels

of phosphorus, mobilized in runoff from its agriculture-dominated watershed. While all plants require nutrients such as phosphorus and nitrogen to survive, excessive amounts of nutrients in the water can offset the balance of the aquatic ecosystem. A history of toxic blue-green algae blooms, a result of this nutrient overloading, has plagued the lake for years. These putrid-smelling blooms form in a green scum over the water, inhibiting recreational use of the lake for months at a time. Water samples taken every two weeks throughout the spring, summer, and fall reveal that



the lake and its tributaries are far from reaching the healthy phosphorus levels called for by the TMDL. It is in response to

this that I find myself, along with Sarah L'Homme and my supervisor at Franklin Watershed Committee, Alisha Sawyer, putting rocks in a ditch. With our gloved hands, we struggle to grasp a few oddly shaped pieces of limestone rip-rap at a time and place them in the two-foot wide channel, which runs from a culvert under the main road to the lake,

passing between two seasonal camps on its way. The project takes all of three hours to complete, and on this mild, sunny day, is enjoyable work. Meanwhile, an independent filmmaker captures our laboring on film, for use in a documentary on water quality in Franklin County.

‘Why rocks in a ditch?’ you might ask.

Local camp owners have complained of dirty, sediment-laden water flowing through this ditch on a fast-track to the lake. By placing rip-rap in the channel, we are creating physical barriers that slow the water on its trajectory, allowing it to seep into the earth before reaching the lake with nutrients and sediment pollution in tow. Weeks later, Alisha and I return to the site and observe water pooled between rocks, evidence that this simple method is working.

I wanted to share this story because I feel that it conveys an important lesson about problem solving and personal responsibility. Lake Carmi’s pollution problem is severe, and the damage will likely take decades to reverse. Like many problems facing the modern world, the solution seems out of reach. It can often be difficult to justify the value in small, isolated measures when the challenges we face are so vast, complex, and often deeply rooted in sensitive social, economic, or political issues.

At Lake Carmi, public response to the degradation of the once-clear lake has been one of indignation and finger-pointing. Unfortunately, efforts to place blame within the community often surpass efforts made to remediate the problem. I feel lucky to be working with an organization that is working to defuse this culture of blame, and replace it with one of personal responsibility. Although placing rocks in a ditch cannot solve the whole problem, it was an opportunity, and a valuable one, to fulfill our obligations as stewards of the natural world. Each and every one of us has an opportunity such as this every day. When we capitalize on these opportunities and take personal responsibility for the problems we see around us, we will see great change in the world. It may be a cliché, but it’s true.

For more good information on the FWC, please go to: www.franklinwatershed.org.

This wonderful article was written by Katy Lord our Franklin Watershed Committee AmeriCorps Volunteer. It was prepared for the April issue, unfortunately we ran out of space. LM

Fireworks at Lake Carmi

It won’t be long now, July 3rd isn’t far away. Mark your calendar for the 9:30 pm show at



the North Beach. The 8th annual fireworks display is being produced by the LCCA for 2015. Mostly financed by donations from area businesses and residents, it is a big event that draws the largest crowd of spectators for any one evening. *Photo by Bob Tansey*

Your help is also needed. You can

come and participate and of course you can help to pay for the show. All donations are very welcome, the range of donations ranges from about \$20 all the way up to \$300 or \$400.

Your donation checks should be payable to LCCA and mailed to LCCA, P O Box 1, Franklin, VT 05457.

This annual show brings the whole community together, a big topic for the beginning of summer celebration. Of course you can come early, have dinner then participate in the pirate invasion. Don’t forget your raffle tickets for Pontoon Boat Relay Race at 7:00 pm.

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Camp Roads?

Question: Why are folks so concerned about camp roads?

Answer: Pollution from stormwater runoff and soil erosion is one of the most significant problems contributing to the decline in water quality. Soil erosion is the single largest polluting factor (by volume) to our surface waters; many of the problems come from the lack proper construction and maintenance.

Question: How does a camp road affect stormwater drainage to our lake?

Answer: Camps roads change the natural stormwater drainage patterns. Most of these changes increase the potential soil erosion and change the way, the quality, and how fast water gets to the lake and its streams. These changes include: 1. Stripping away the protective vegetative cover. 2. Creating a highly erodible pathway of exposed soils in the watershed. 3. Collecting runoff in ditches (and on the road), which increases the speed of surface water runoff, and; 4. If the road or ditch cuts below the water table, increasing the amount of water that is now surface runoff that has to be dealt with. This cool, clean groundwater brought to the surface often becomes warm and sediment laden.

Question: How does camp road erosion harm our lake?

Answer: The most obvious effect of erosion is the brown color that results from suspended soil particles in the water. These algae blooms result from excess phosphorus in the suspended soil particles. Also, those soil particles are harmful to fish, especially during spawning and in feeding grounds. Further, the gradual filling of the shoreline areas is destroying the shoreline that is necessary for spawning. This also greatly affects the recreational and aesthetic values of the lake because of the decline of water quality; and the decreased value of the property.

Our New Lake Weed Harvester?

The LCCA, and the Franklin Selectboard, worked this winter to secure quotes for a new weed harvester. Our 1985 model, while serving us well for many years, had seen better days. As many of you have experienced, fragments were floating away from this harvester and drifting to shore. One of the many improvements on the newer models is a better collection system which should alleviate much of that problem.

I'm happy to announce that a new H5 200 Aquamarine harvester will be delivered in mid-late June, just in time for the harvesting season. This harvester was purchased from the same company as the 1985 model and since we were able to utilize the same trailer/conveyor, there was a \$35,000 savings on this project.



The other good news is this purchase will not affect your town taxes. With funds from the former Franklin Rescue Service (\$25,000) and an award from the State of Vermont, ANR, Aquatic Nuisance Control Grant-In Aid, (\$27,990), this purchase did not increase your local taxes. That is great news for all of us. I'd also like to take this opportunity to thank Arthur St. Onge, whose family has a cottage on the Patton Shore, for donating his crane to unload this new harvester when delivered. Thank You, Arthur.

I know the argument for not using a mechanical weed harvester, i.e. it merely cuts the weeds (cut the lawn is a common analogy) allowing fragments to float to shore and re-root. I agree with this argument. But the fact of the matter is that the harvester is the only viable option available to us. For the last five years the LCCA has advocated for the use of herbicides to manage our milfoil problem. A five year herbicide application program would cost more than ten times the cost of the weed harvester. In addition to the overwhelming cost of this treatment, we would need the support of the Town and Selectboard for both the funding and permitting process. Currently we have neither.

Lastly, the new harvester will be on the lake working as much as possible during the mid-late June to early September timeframe when the weeds are most prolific. We're hopeful that with a team of operators available, during daytime and evening hours, we can stay ahead of the infestation that has clogged many of your propellers.

Hopefully many of you have already opened camp and are enjoying the lake. If you have any questions regarding the new harvester please get back to me: peterben@gmail.com. Thank you and see you at the lake!

The annual Franklin Garage Sale is being scheduled for July 11 at the Town Hall and green. Ruth Ann Krayesky is heading up the Lake Carmi portion. This is a great fund raiser for the LCCA. Donate your items to the LCCA, the money goes to LCCA programs. Bring your donations to Carolyn Rhodes cottage at 23 Camp Road, beginning June 11. No electronics, books, big appliances, large furniture or clothing.

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A Lake Carmi Member Owned Business



Memorial Day weekend Photos include (above) Franklin Elementary School band playing in the parade on Main Street. At least two Lake Carmi kids are in the band, Charlie Gates (Patton Shore) and Maddy Giroux (Vic's Crossing) are both playing the saxophone. (Photo by Lisa Magnant)

Below is a photo at Sandy Bay of lake kids having fun in the cool weekend water. Left to right, Violette Martin, Grace Phillips, Saige Martin and Sydney Phillips. The Martin children are grandkids of Les & Nancy Johnson. The Phillips children are grandkids of Bob and Sue Baran.



Check out this issue of the Lake Carmi News for lots of ideas for summer fun at the lake. The centerfold has all the details on the "Celebrate Lake Carmi" week in early July. Lots of activities for kids and grownups alike, from kayak racing to lighting up the lake for a friendly lighting competition.

"If you change the way you look at things, the things you look at will change." Wayne Dyer

"Life is like a garden – you have to find time to plant the seeds for beautiful flowers to grow." Oscar de la Renta.

Nine years of the Lake Carmi News, that's what keeps the LCCA going, ever growing and useful, to not only campers but other Franklin residents. Nearly 400 folks subscribe to this newsletter on email. Feel free to forward it to friends around the world. Let them know what a great place we live in. Yes, we have problems but we are working on those issues.

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