



The Kingston Lake Association Newsletter

MAY 2017

SUMMER 2017

**Attention Boaters
New State Law
Effective 1/1/2017
When transporting
boats between
waterbodies: All
hitchhiking
fragments of
vegetation and
animals must be
removed before
leaving the launch
area. All drain plugs
must be removed or
in the open position.**

Is NH's weather changing? In the past few years, we have seen milder winters with less snow and ice cover. Our summers are hotter. How will these changes affect our lakes? Visit the NH Lakes website www.nhlakes.org. Their spring quarterly report answers these questions and more.

These are KLA spring and summer dates.

**May 20, 2017
Kingston State
Park Clean up**

**June 10 Shoreline
Clean Up**

**June 28
Membership
Meeting**

**July 30 Bruce
Anderson Regatta
at Camp Lincoln**

KLA Celebrates 10 years

At our January Board of Directors meeting, our Board members had a goal setting session in which we identified educating our community about healthy water quality as our number one goal for the 2017 season and our 10th anniversary year. There are many resources available to us through NH DES, the NH Lakes Association and NH Fish and Game. We have also found a partner in Marianne Klemarczyk, enrichment teacher at Bakie School. Our plan is to work with the NH Science Curriculum frameworks to identify tasks and hands on field experiences for students in grade 5. Bakie School and KLA will host a showcase day where students will demonstrate their learning to the community. This is an exciting new adventure for KLA. More details will be available as the program progresses.

Loons on the Lake

Have you heard the calls of the loons on Kingston Lake? Have you ever wondered what those calls mean? Why loons' eyes are red? Why loon chicks ride on their parents backs? Join us on June 28 with biologist Harry Vogel as he talks about this unique symbol of NH's wild lakes and their special place in the hearts of NH residents. Harry will talk about loons, the special challenges facing loons, and the work of the Loon Preservation Committee. Kingston Lake residents have reported seeing up to 5 loons on our lake. Join us for this special presentation. More details in this newsletter on page 4.

Lake Host Program

The 2016 Lake Host program was very effective. Our Lake Hosts inspected 837 boats at the state ramp and 51 boats at the town ramp. The 2017 Lake Host Program will begin on Saturday July 1. The Lake Host Program is sponsored by the NH Lakes Association. This is a courtesy boat inspection to avoid transporting exotic milfoil to and from the lakes. So far Kingston Lake is free of exotic milfoil and we want to keep it that way. Our volunteers and paid hosts are helpful and friendly. They are the ambassadors of the lake. They will look at your boat and trailer to be sure it is free of weeds. Any suspicious weeds are sent to NH Lakes for verification. It is against the law to transport exotic milfoil. Help us help you to keep our lake clean.

Are you interested in participating in our lake programs? We have something for everyone.

Lake Hosting

Weed watching

Join us for the Regatta on Sunday, July 30.

KLA has a table on Saturday morning August 5 at Kingston Days. We use this opportunity to talk to our friends and neighbors about our programs and our mission. Our mission is to protect healthy water quality in Kingston Lake and the greater watershed area.

Protect

Preserve

Participate.

KLA Officers:

Muriel Ingalls, Pres
Steve White, V Pres
Susan Palmeter, Sec
Ben Bixby, Treas.

Board of Directors:
Betty Wright, Bill Bixby, Betsey Bixby, Larry Smith, Bryan Clark, Skip Clark, Richard Coleman, Stan Hicks, Sumner Kalman, Ted Holcombe, Jim Edwards, John Halloran, John Knudson, and Megan Loosigian, web master.

Paddle Board Raffle

This year's town election was a storm event. Despite the weather Kingstonians turned out as usual to vote on the town and school budgets and warrant articles. Many of you contributed generously to our Paddle Board raffle. Thank you. If you didn't get your raffle tickets on election day you still can purchase tickets from the following folks: Muriel Ingalls 642-3156, or Betsey Bixby 642-5579 or Jim Voss 702-1627. Tickets can also be purchased at The Right Cut, 146 Main Street, and all KLA events including the Regatta on July 30. We will draw the winning ticket at the end of the Regatta. Tickets are 1 for \$5.00, 3 for \$10 and 7 for \$20. Raffle proceeds support the endeavors of the Kingston Lake Association including: the Lake Host Program, the Weed Fund, scholarships to campers at Camp Lincoln, and our education programs.

The Volunteer Lakes Assessment Program Summary by John Halloran

Every summer the Volunteer Lakes Assessment Program conducts monthly tests at participating lakes. Before considering Kingston Lake's result, it is important to consider what the lake is and what it is not. Lakes are classified into trophic categories based on their biological production. They are placed into categories using four indicators including dissolved oxygen, chlorophyll production, transparency (how deep light penetrates) and vascular plant growth. The highest classification, oligotrophic, include bigger and deeper lakes with rocky or sandy shorelines. They have low phosphorus enrichment, little algal growth and adequate dissolved oxygen throughout. This is not Kingston Lake.

Mesotrophic waters are an intermediate stage with characteristics between oligotrophic and eutrophic where Kingston Lake has been classified since 2009.

Eutrophic are smaller, shallower ponds with mucky bottoms, extensive rooted plant growth and depleted dissolved oxygen in deeper waters (like our deep spot). Water is often tea colored and sometimes murky from planktonic algal growth. Having said all that, eutrophic water bodies like Kingston Lake can remain stable and healthy for plant and animal life in its mid to upper waters. So, even if our lake will never look like New Hampshire's pristine gems, it can still be readily enjoyed by all with some minimal care.

The results of this year's testing were:

Chlorophyll- Results were average to low average in June, increasing to average over the season and becoming stable.

Conductivity: Conductivity measures the ability of the water to carry an electrical current through charged ions. The deep water spot, and the inlets at Thayer and Ball Rd. initially were elevated and higher than State medians. The epilimnetic layer (upper water layer) has been increasing since monitoring began and the historical trend indicates this will continue.

Total Phosphorous: This was stable in the upper levels and below the State average from June to August. Phosphorous levels decreased from 2015.

Weeds are not all bad. They are a natural part of a water body and they provide food and habitat for fish. However, too many weeds are a nuisance. You can help to stop the spread of weeds by avoiding stormwater runoff, and pump your septic system every two years.

A family or individual membership to KLA is \$40. Our budget includes: dues to NH Lakes, and Loon Preservation Society, \$500 scholarship to a YMCA Camper, support for our activities, and printing and postage for our newsletter. Each year we set money aside in the budget for the "weed fund".

Thank you for your support.

**Kingston Lake Association
Inc. 642-3156**

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Kingston, NH
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Turbidity: Turbidity is the amount of sediment in the water which scatters light and limits plant growth. In 2016, levels were low until mid summer and increased as summer progressed but were close to average levels.

Transparency: Transparency increased as the summer progressed and has increased from 2015 and since monitoring began.

PH: Upper water ranges were within state guidelines but just by a hair. The deep spot which has traditionally fluctuated was steadily below desired guidelines.

What does it all mean? The lake's water quality has improved since 2014 with lower levels of phosphorous and algal growth while having increased clarity. Similar to 2015, the drought this past season probably increased clarity and helped decrease phosphorous and algal growth due to a lack of stormwater runoff carrying sediment and colored water from wetland systems. Dissolved oxygen levels remained stable in the upper waters of the lake and did not impact recreational activities. The one area of concern is the rising level of conductivity. New Hampshire's soft water has generally shown low conductivity rates. High conductivity levels usually indicate pollution from sources such as road salting, faulty septic systems and agricultural or lawn runoff. The Lakes Association, lake homeowners, and the Town should continue to monitor this and take remedial action when necessary.

Check Out Our Spring and Summer Schedule

The Adopt- a- Park Program is in its seventh season. On Saturday May 20, 2017 volunteers will sweep into the Park with rakes, tarps, trucks and tractors to spruce it up for another summer season. Please join us from 9-1. Lunch provided. Rain date May 21.

Spring Lake Clean-Up is Saturday June 10th from 1:00 - 3:00. KLA boaters will navigate the lake picking up sticks, logs and other winter debris that could be hazardous to boating and swimming.

June 28, 2015 Annual Membership Meeting 7-8:30 at the Kingston Community Library. We will have a social time with refreshments from 7:00 – 7:30. The 45 minute presentation will begin at 7:30 and there will be time for your questions. Our guest speaker this year will be Harry Vogel from the Loon Preservation Committee.

The Bruce Anderson Kayak/Canoe/Paddle Board Regatta is scheduled for Sunday July 30, 2017. This fun family event, named after its founder, continues to grow. The three mile course is around the perimeter of the lake beginning at Camp Lincoln. Kayaks and PFDs are available at Camp Lincoln. We will have a new category for paddle boards. Paddle board course will be around the island. Registration begins at 9:30 and the starting bell is at 10:30. Refreshments are available before and after the race. The registration fee is \$10.00 per person, which will include a KLA 10th anniversary T- shirt. Prizes are awarded in several categories.

Please clip and return to KLA. Enclosed is my check for membership renewal/donation.

Name_____

Address_____

Phone_____

email_____

I would like to help with

____Please contact me.

I think this family/couple/individual would like to join the Association.

Name

Address_____

Your feedback is welcome.

How did you do during the drought of 2016? By Jim Voss

Jim interviewed a number of families and these were their responses.

Our well was dry for 8 weeks. We were able to fill water containers at the library and only used what we had to. We took showers at the YMCA and did our laundry at the Laundromat.

We got our water from the Exeter spring. We did short laundry and took fewer short showers.

We used paper plates, plastic silverware, plastic cups. We got antiseptic wipes for the bathroom and put a pail out to catch rain water and used it to flush. Used spray cleaners to clean.

Zero outside watering. Took short showers, did laundry only when we needed to, wore the same clothes longer. Cooked on the grill most of the time. Used bottle water for drinking and coffee. Bought bagged ice.

If we ran the clothes washer and the dish washer in the same hour, the pump could not pull the water. We had to give it a 24 hour rest and then could get the pump primed the next day.

I was out of water for 80 days. I will conserve now. We don't realize how much being without water affects us. I am so thankful to have it back.

We got our water back after 8 weeks and 2 days without it. We plan to conserve like crazy now.



Now it is your turn!

We hope you will continue to support us. You can do this in several ways.

- Renew your annual membership of \$40.00. If you have already done this, thank you.
- Help us grow our membership. Tell your friends and neighbors about us or give us their names so we can contact them.
- Participate. Pick an activity or event to participate in so we can grow our active membership.
- Come to our **annual membership meeting on June 28** at 7:00 at the Kingston Community Library.
- Consider joining the Board of Directors.

There are so many organizations and worthy causes that compete for our resources of time, money and energy. We say a great big THANK YOU for choosing to share with Kingston Lake Association.

