

# Lake Life

July 2008 Edition

## Annual Meeting Summary

On May 16<sup>th</sup> we held the annual meeting at the Amherst Town Hall. We had two guest speakers from the DES wetland bureau: Arlene Allen and Jay Aube. They came to help us better understand the new changes to the Comprehensive Shoreland Protection Act (CSPA). We viewed a PowerPoint presentation on the subject and then they fielded several questions from the membership that attended. Changes to the CSPA, have an effective date of July 1, 2008. For further info or clarification, visit the DES website at [www.des.nh.gov/cspa](http://www.des.nh.gov/cspa).

During the meeting, elections were held and the membership in attendance voted Richard Sullivan - President, Elaine Englehardt - Vice President, and Kathy Boyd - Secretary, to serve another two year term. Also voted in was Jane Wenzel to serve two years as a board member. Since that meeting, I'm sorry to report, Elaine has decided to step down as vice president for personal reasons, but will remain on as a board member. On June 11<sup>th</sup>, the board voted Greg Gendron to fill the Vice Presidency position. We thank Elaine for doing a wonderful job as VP. She put in many hours working on the Baboosic Lake Watershed Plan working with the towns of Merrimack and Amherst, and making trips to Concord. Thanks again for all you have done for the BLA.

## Lake Health Update

Geosyntec has added more information along with recommendations to the Baboosic Lake Watershed Based Plan. A link to the 56 page report, which can be downloaded to your PC, will be sent to you in a separate email to keep you informed. We won't be printing the report due to time and cost constraints. We are not going to sugar coat this for you, going to give it to you straight up. This report shows why it's so important that we change the way we do things around our lake. **The lake is not going to change for the better unless we change for the better of the lake.** This report was part of the \$30,000 grant we acquired and cost \$20,000 to produce. \$10,000 remains in the grant will be used for designing plans to start fixing some of the sites. Then we will go through the grant process again to get funds to repair more sites.

During the past year, Baboosic Lake has been included in the list of Threatened or Impaired Waters due to nuisance blooms of cyanobacteria, elevated chlorophyll -a concentrations and elevated levels of bacteria. Because of this ENSR, an environmental consulting firm is working with DES and the EPA to develop a Total Max Daily Load (TMDL) for the lake. They are going to try and figure out how much phosphorus is making it's way into the lake. As you know phosphorus is bad for water quality. In

Baboosic, the biggest culprits to this phosphorus loading are: 43% septic systems, 46% watershed runoff and 11% atmospheric deposition. Thanks go out to Geosyntec for a nice report they produced on our lake and many thanks to the BLA board members who have spent countless hours working on this and other things connected with it.

## **Getting Social On The Lake: 2007 Wrap-up**

Once again another banner summer social season was turned in for 2007. With the volleyball tournament, boat parade, cardboard boat race, 2 ice cream socials, and to top it all off, the end of summer cookout. To run all of these events is a huge undertaking for the BLA board and those who volunteer to help out. Thanks to all of you for your help. The cookout was the topper to all the events on probably the hottest and most humid day of the summer. Many of you turned out in that heat and enjoyed a very good meal and large raffle. Thanks to all who contributed items for the raffle. Also a special thank you to Camp Young Judea for letting us use their beach to hold the event and providing us with extra coolers and pop up canopies for much needed shade on that blistering hot day.

## **2008 Boat Parade**

This year's boat parade will be held on July 12<sup>th</sup> at 3:00pm. Starting point for the parade is down by Four Season's Beach. Last year's theme was the letter "D", so people decorated their boats with things that started with "D". For example; Dead Heads, Dirt, Dunkin Donuts, etc. This year, in an unprecedented move, we are skipping E and jumping to "F". There are more possibilities with this letter, but as always, please be sure to keep your theme appropriate for all ages to view.

## **2008 Social Schedule**

Here is a list of projected dates below. You will receive updates on these events in your newsletter or by email.

July 12 <sup>th</sup>	Boat Parade 3:00pm ---- Starts at Four Seasons Beach
July 12 <sup>th</sup>	Ice Cream Social 7-9pm --- Sullivan's Dock
July 26 <sup>th</sup>	Cardboard Boat Race 2pm --- Amherst Town Beach
August 9 <sup>th</sup>	Ice Cream Social 6-8pm --- Sullivan's Dock
August 23 <sup>rd</sup>	Cookout, further info to be announced

The cardboard boat race will be held at the Amherst Town Beach at 2:00pm. You will find the rules for this in the social section of our website, [www.BaboosicLake.com](http://www.BaboosicLake.com). So let's see who can sink the fastest, float the longest, or travel the most distance.

## **Check Out Your Website: BaboosicLake.com**

There is plenty to check out at the BLA website, [www.BaboosicLake.com](http://www.BaboosicLake.com). Jeff Mulligan, our webmaster, is doing a fantastic job keeping it up to date and keeping you informed via email of upcoming events and lake

issues. There is a donor page for those who donate to the BLA in amounts over the basic membership. We also have a sponsor page, which has local businesses that contribute to the BLA. Please support these businesses where appropriate. Jeff has compiled many historic photos of the lake with the help of Lenny Newell. If you have old photos in digital format and would like to share them with us, please contact Jeff ([webmaster@baboosiclake.com](mailto:webmaster@baboosiclake.com)) so he can put them on the website for all to enjoy. Remember, you can save the price of a stamp by paying your dues online. It's very simple, totally secure and fast to do.

### **Safety Tidbits & The Law: Did you know...**

...NEW! All children 12 and under must wear a lifejacket while underway in any boat. This new law went into effect in August of last year.

Test all safety equipment,

...Life jackets - check them for weak fabric, rips or other defects

...Sound warning devices - make sure you have what the law requires. Try your horn to ensure that it works.

...Fire extinguishers - make sure you have enough on board and double check all of the gauges to ensure they are charged,

...Throwable life jacket (type IV) - if your boat is 16 feet or over, you have to have at least one. Ensure it is in serviceable condition and is not damaged.

...Lights - Check them; and make sure they all work.

...Ask the N.H. Marine Patrol to perform a courtesy inspection of your vessel. There is no charge. The Marine Patrol will ask you to produce all of the required safety equipment required by law for your size vessel. If there is a deficiency, the Marine Patrol will tell you what safety equipment is needed. If your boat is in compliance with all safety requirements you will be issued a courtesy inspection sticker.

### **Please Support Our Lake Community Sponsors**

If you would like to place an ad in our newsletter and on the web site, the price is \$100 for members and \$150 for non members. This will get you an ad in our newsletter for 1 year May 1<sup>st</sup> to April 30<sup>th</sup> and also a bigger ad on the web site for 1 year. If you would like to place an ad, please contact Greg Gendron at 672 - 8473 or email him at [ggend@comcast.net](mailto:ggend@comcast.net)

This will be seen by over a hundred members, so think of the potential business this could generate. Here are some of our ads below. These sponsors have donated generously to support the BLA, in return please give them an opportunity to earn your business if it is appropriate.



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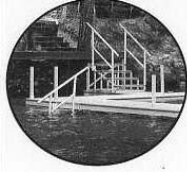
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### E-coli Water Testing



June 2008		
Location	Map Code	E-coli count
Hillside	1	3
4 Seasons	2	2
Greenwood/Lakeside	3	0
Oliver's Pipe	4	1
Carter Road	5	0
Jebb Road	6	1
Far Cove	7	0
Seagull Heaven	8	6
Washer Cove	9	6
Moonbeam	10	10
Amherst Town Beach	11	5

**\*\*Please note- counts higher than 88ppl will be retested. We'll keep you updated!\*\***  
Also, please remember not to feed the ducks and geese. Their waste contributes to higher e-coli counts!

### Secchi Disk Readings in Meters

DATE	SHARKS TOOTH	CENTER	WASHER COVE	CLARK ISLAND	WATER TEMP	AIR TEMP	SKY
5/28/08	2.8 – 3.3	3.2 – 3.8	3.2 – 3.4	3.0 – 3.6	66°	70°	CLEAR
6/5/08	3.2 – 3.9	3.0 – 3.5	3.0 – 3.4	3.3 – 3.4	68°	57°	CLOUDY

6/11/08	3.2 – 3.9	3.0 – 3.4	3.2 – 3.5	2.8 – 3.4	80°	75°	SUNNY
6/18/08	4.5 – 5.0	4.4 – 4.8	3.2 – 3.5	4.2 – 4.7	73°	63°	SUNNY
6/25/08	4.2 – 4.5	4.0 – 4.5	3.3 – 3.5	4.3 – 4.6	74°	66°	SUNNY

2.7 meters = 9 feet.

3.3 meters = 11 feet

4.3 meters = 14 feet.

### **Important Benefit for BLA members**

One of the most important things you can do to help the lake is to maintain your septic system. Dave's Septic is going to help you do that again this year with his discounted rates for septic pumping, portable toilets and other services. On septic pumping, they normally charge 22 cents per gallon, but for BLA members, it will be discounted to 15 cents per gallon. Now let's say you want to have a big party at your house, but are afraid it will tax your septic system. You can get a portable toilet from Dave's Septic for only \$60. That's half the price they normally charge. These two things alone are well worth the price of a membership. We encourage all of you to take advantage of this benefit. Not only will it save you money, but it will also benefit the lake in the long run. For all your septic needs call Dave's Septic at 1-603-668-3402.