

# PARTRIDGE LAKE PROPERTY OWNERS ASSOCIATION

*A Lake Preservation Group*

Spring 2013



## DES Report Praises Efforts by Partridge Lake Association

A thumbs up from DES is welcome news, even if the report on Partridge Lake water quality refers to us as "Partridge Pond."

The New Hampshire Volunteer Lake Assessment report on Partridge Lake water quality, based on data collected by Dayton Goudie and Mark Meau, can now be found on a Department of Environmental Services website: [http://des.nh.gov/organization/divisions/water/wmb/vlap/annual\\_reports/2012/index.htm](http://des.nh.gov/organization/divisions/water/wmb/vlap/annual_reports/2012/index.htm). Follow the prompts to Individual lakes, White Mountain Region, then to "Partridge Pond." (To borrow from Daniel Webster's remark about Dartmouth College: "It's a small lake, sir, but there are those of us who love it.")

The new data from 2012 give reason to be encouraged by trends in several categories, with the report concluding: "The improved phosphorous and chlorophyll levels are a result of watershed management efforts by the lake association...**Keep up the great work!**"

Phosphorous levels are actually improving at shallow depths of water, but deep in the lake the "hot spot" of sediments containing phosphorous is of continued, real concern. Chlorophyll levels were low—less than the NH lake median—and improving. Further findings: Chloride levels were elevated and warrant further study; e. coli levels were "much less than state standards for public beaches and surface waters"; and transparency levels have remained relatively stable since monitoring began. Cyanobacteria levels were "slightly bad." All in all, a mixed but encouraging review.

"The cooperative efforts to protect and preserve Partridge Lake over the years have shown that we can make a difference. Let's continue to embrace best management practices and work together to resolve the sensitive issue of septic runoff, so that we further reduce pollutant loading into the lake. We've already demonstrated that we can work well together to make change happen," says president Mark Meau.

## Its good, clean... dangerous... fun!

Tubing behind a fast speedboat is increasingly popular, especially with young children, not only at Partridge Lake but nationwide... and accident rates are going up.

The New Hampshire legislature, responding to enthusiasm at large lakes like Squam, last year changed the law regulating the activity, making it easier to drag many tubers at the same time on larger numbers of tubes. The New Hampshire Marine Patrol, whose duty it is to enforce the laws, had little to say about the changes. They foresee problems, especially at smaller lakes such as our own. According to studies reported in the *Journal of Sports Science and Medicine*, increasing the number of tubers increases the danger.

"While tubing is generally considered a safer alternative to wake boarding and water-skiing, the results of the current study suggest otherwise," the journal says. "Tubing-related injuries, compared to water-skiing related injuries, were more likely to be severe."

The Emergency Room at Littleton Regional Hospital has not had any patients injured in boat-tubing accidents, but the national figures



are of concern. In 2009, 65 tubing-related injuries were treated each summer day in U.S. hospital emergency rooms.

According to the Center for Injury Research and Policy in Columbus, Ohio, children and teens are more likely than adults to have serious injuries to the head and upper body and to be injured as a result of contact with another person. In 2010, a 12-year-old boy tubing with another on a small lake near Moultonborough, NH, struck a moored boat and suffered serious head injuries. The police noted the obvious: the rider is unable to steer and is at the mercy of the person driving the boat. A driver involved in an accident faces potential legal liability if recklessness, inattention, or alcohol are observed by witnesses.

The new NH law says that a boat can tow up to 6 tubers on as many as 6 different tubes (hard to imagine, but legal even on a small lake). There must be one spotter for one or two tubers, two spotters for three to six. The 150-foot law applies to both boat and tubers. Spotters must be at least 13 years old and presumably able to swim and rescue a tuber who needs help. What he or she could do with multiple distressed tubers is anyone's guess.

At Partridge Lake, the safety of tubing is enhanced by the informal rule that guides boats around the lake in a counter-clockwise direction. When drivers begin to swerve and make tight circles to give tubers more challenges, the possibilities of collisions and "toss-offs" increase dramatically. Speed is the other major factor in boating accidents. Hitting the water awkwardly at high speed results in serious arm, leg, and neck injuries. Several studies recommend—in addition to lowering boat speed—that young children use safety helmets.

"Taking turns" is important. The more boats on the lake at one time, the more at risk are the children happily careening behind them.

## That Old Boat Written By: Burt Bechtel

I was looking for a quick "project" to occupy the final weeks of our 1996 summer vacation at Partridge Lake and decided to drag the dusty old rowboat out of our barn to see if it was worth restoring. By my calculations, the boat had been in storage for over 44 years. Although it still looked intact and had an interesting shape, it was not a pretty sight: most of the paint had peeled off and there were inches of grime. I took some photos and dragged her back into the barn. "Maybe next year," I decided.

That fall I sent pictures and inquiries around to those I thought would know about old wood rowboats: Mystic Seaport, The Traditional Small Boat Association, *Wooden Boat* magazine, and some historical societies. I also contacted relatives on my mother's side to see what they might remember about the boat.

The responses were surprisingly consistent: the boat was a late-Victorian lapstrake rowing boat, technically a "double sculling skiff" that was built for use by two rowers in amateur competition. She (boats are always "she") was exactly 16 feet long, as required by the rules, and was built very narrow and lightweight for speed. Constructed of old-growth Northern white cedar wood planking and supported by 37 steam-bent white oak ribs, she had nickel-plated bronze hardware and copper fastenings—signs, the experts said, of a custom boat built to a high standard. My family always called her "the Rangeley Lake Boat," and both Mystic and *Wooden Boat* agreed she had all the characteristics of being built in central Maine in the last decades of the 19th century. When Mystic offered to buy her, I concluded she was worth restoring.



"Ossili" out of the barn after 44 years of storage—  
Summer 1996

I vastly underestimated the time the restoration would take. As the paint came off the planking, I realized that she had originally been varnished. That was not good news. It made the work stretch out over three summers and required the removal of every speck of white paint—including individually removing paint from the heads of over 1,100 copper "clinch nails" that fastened the wood planking.

As the white paint was removed from the bow, the name "Ossili Club" became visible. In correspondence with the Illinois Historical Society I was able to confirm that the Ossili "social club," located near Chicago, was involved in amateur athletics and (gasp) even allowed women to participate in competition. (In fact, the foot stretchers and oarlock positions are installed for rowers shorter than 5' 5" tall.) Later research indicated that a rowing boat had been commissioned by the club in the fall of 1890 and delivered by rail in the spring of 1891.

Although my great grandparents, grandparents and my mother had owned the camp in New Hampshire since 1906, they lived near Chicago. My 89-year-old uncle said the family history was that his grandfather—an attorney for the Chicago and North Western railroad—had purchased the boat at an insurance sale after the boat had been slightly damaged while being transported, and he had it shipped by rail to Partridge Lake around 1906.

There are more details to the story—like finding the right woods for restoration—but we can leave that for later. Let me just say that "Ossili" is an absolute joy to row and a tribute to the boat builder's art. *Wooden Boat* magazine published a photo of her in their 25th anniversary edition. They called her "an elegant example of a late 19th century pulling boat." She is indeed.



Back on the Water at Partridge Lake—August, 2000

## Summer at Partridge Lake Kicks Off with the Annual Volunteer Day Saturday, June 1, 2013



Neighbors come together to clean the roads of sandy residue, to help elderly residents with annual repairs, and to clean up the shoreline.

Summer chores, done with camaraderie and cooperation, bring results that mean much to the lake community. The roads are a mess after the winter; dust flies, so clean-up is needed, even after the town road-sweeping is completed. New volunteers are needed; all volunteers are appreciated.

If you or a neighbor might profit from some extra help this year, contact Dave Ernsberger with your suggestions for a project. It need not be limited to Volunteer Day itself.

Contact **Dave Ernsberger** at [dave@ePartnerships.net](mailto:dave@ePartnerships.net) or call him at (603) 444-7269 or cell (210) 387-4627 if you want to be part of the Volunteer Crew... or just show up at 10:00 am Saturday morning at the Ernsberger camp.

*And don't forget to thank your neighbors, if you can't make it.*

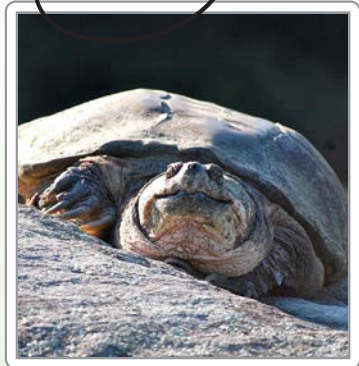
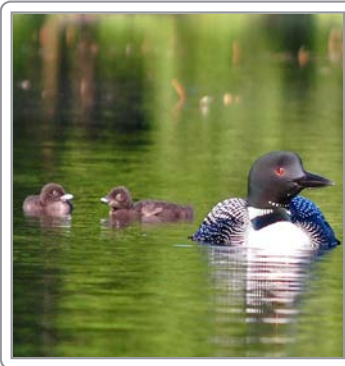


**WEED WATCHERS** The Partridge Lake Weed Watchers Group will join other volunteers in cleaning up the shoreline on Volunteer Day. Also, the official kickoff breakfast for this summer's Weed Watchers Group will be held on June 22nd at the Ernsberger Camp (more details to follow). Contact **Nancy Ernsberger** at [nancyernsberger@gmail.com](mailto:nancyernsberger@gmail.com) or call (603) 444-7269 if you would like to join up for Shoreline Cleanup on Volunteer Day or want to join the elite Weed Watchers Team!

# Remembering

*A year in the life of Partridge Lake Residents*

2012



Mother Loon showing off her new babies.  
 Thanks to Paul and Eileen Goodrich for hosting our Annual Lake Association Picnic and Olympic Competition this past summer.  
 Treasurer, Judy Warden (L)  
 Secretary, Jeanne Burdette (R)

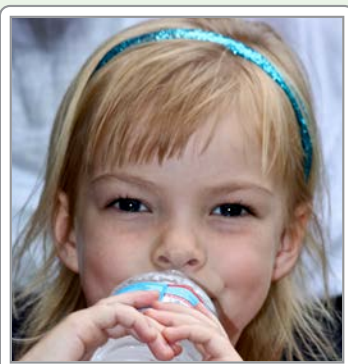
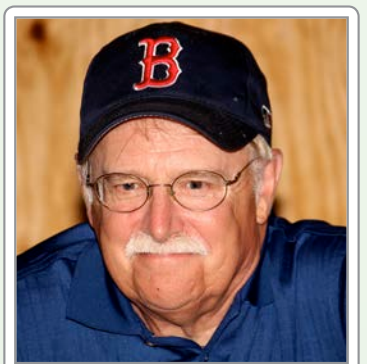
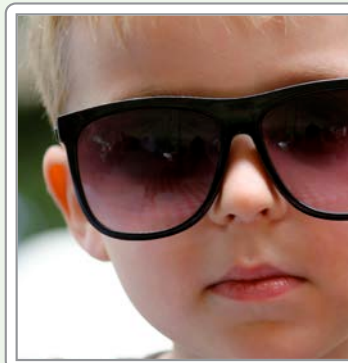


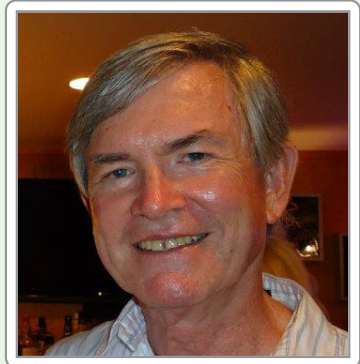
Long time residents Jeff and Jill Corey  
 President, Mark Meau man of many talents.  
 Albert Howes and Lyn Riel enjoy visiting with friends at the Partridge Lake Annual Picnic.



Vice President, Dave Ernsberger and wife Nancy enjoying a day of sunshine.  
 John Aja and Dawna Clifford  
 Blue Heron often seen visiting residents around the lake



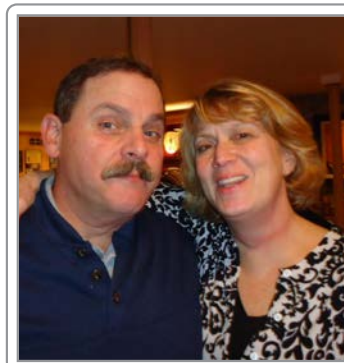
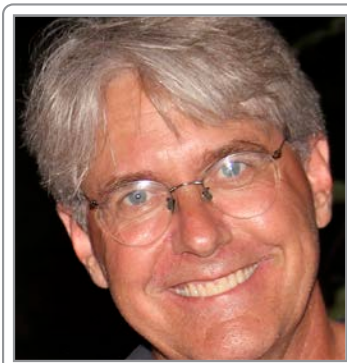






It was a challenge for the Winterfest Planning Committee of 2013 to come up with events that would rival the novelty of Winterfest 2012 but I think all would agree they did a pretty good job. There were some events that just had to be included again this year such as curling (BIG thanks to the Howe's), martini relay, turkey bowling (ok, we downgraded to chickens), Superbowl party at "The Best Man Cave on the Lake" (Ernsbergers) and of course, fireworks. New events this year included a microbrew tasting competition and dinnerfest, small potluck dinners at various host homes around the lake. Of course, we did attempt snow sculpting again this year but the only one on the lake that is proficient in this medium with such a dearth of snow was our own personal lake biologist, Dayton Goudie, who created a triad of penguins that put Stonehenge to shame.

The Winterfest Planning Committee greatly appreciates ALL those who contributed and participated throughout the week. Without you, it wouldn't have happened. Most importantly however, this is what childhood memories are made of and what makes Partridge Lake such a unique and special place for all.



## Corey's Chum Bucket



**The 2nd Annual Partridge Lake Winterfest Festivities saw the addition of the "Corey Chum Bucket."**

What's a Chum Bucket, you ask?

It is a cozy warming shelter located next to the Partridge Lake Pond Hockey Ice Rink, where chilly skaters and Winterfest revelers could gather for warmth and lively conversation.

Jeff Corey and several other lake residents donated much time and materials to design and construct the Chumbucket facility.

Peter Gauthier provided the impressive signage as well as the much-coveted Winterfest 2013 medals awarded to victors of the many competitive winter games.

The 10' x 20' Chumbucket sits atop, and is safely secured, to two 12' x 12' wooden platforms (which will serve as floating docks during the summer months). During the week long Winterfest celebration you could find a crackling fire pit outside the Chumbucket, while inside, propane heaters provided warmth for families and friends, as new memories were added to the charm and beauty of Partridge Lake in winter.

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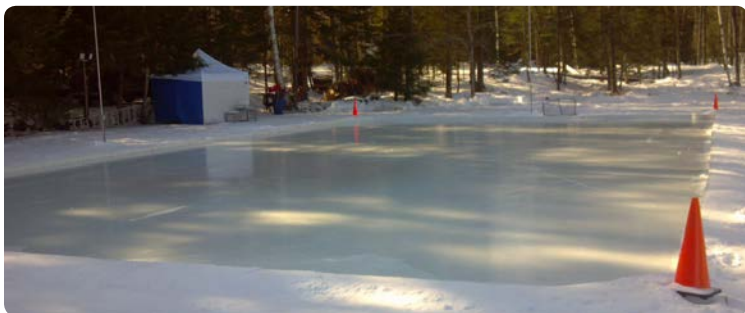
## Partridge Lake Hockey Ice Rink

Written By: Megan Carman

The Partridge Lake Hockey Ice Rink was again front and center during the Winterfest 2013 celebration, playing host to many of the Winterfest activities. The ice rink was designed and developed by Jeff Corey several years ago; it has since expanded to its present size of 46' x 80' and boasts 4 high-powered poled lights to illuminate the weekly Wednesday night pond hockey games.

Many families enjoyed the rink both day and night, as Winterfest 2013 included family skating times, broom hockey, \*turkey bowling, and plenty of pond hockey.

*\*Winterfest 2013 saw the substitution of large chickens for the more traditional turkeys. Last year, turkeys had proved to be a bit too heavy and unwieldy for some bowling competitors. The Winterfest Planning Committee determined there was no fowl in making the substitution.*



## Looking for Mayflowers

Written By: Dayton Goudie

Summer residents typically arrive at the lake late in June or July, so they always miss the blooming season of Mayflowers—late April to early May. For others, a casual walk around the lake on the last day of April this year turned up at least fifteen sites where Mayflowers were well established and flowering profusely. Trailing Arbutus, another name for the plant, is quite common here. (The original owners of the Ernsberger camp probably didn't just casually name their property *Arbutus Lodge*.)

Look, enjoy, but do not touch! Attempting to pick the flowers often disrupts their trailing stems and roots and can easily decimate a clump in a few years. Treat the plants carefully.

Look for Mayflowers growing low to the ground on drier soils, both in the woods and out in the open, often in association with Checkerberry plants. On a sunny spring afternoon, where there is bee activity, there probably are Mayflower blossoms nearby, perhaps hidden under dry leaves. Down on your knees, you may be able to smell their sweet, perfumey aroma.



Along with ice-out and the return of the loons, the flowering of the Mayflowers is another welcome assurance that summer at the lake is not far off.



## Spotlight on Volunteers

Current officers and board members are listed below. New board of directors and officers will be elected at the annual meeting from a slate offered by the board. Nominations should be forwarded to nominating committee members Kate Vaughan, Judy Warden, or Dave Ernsberger before the first board meeting, June 22, 2013.

### Board of Directors

Mark Meau	President
Dave Ernsberger	Vice President
Jeanne Burdette	Secretary
Judy Warden	Treasurer
Tom Allen	Albert Howes
Jill Corey	Jayne Johns
Tonya Eastman	David Merrill
Florence Fogelin	Pam Parker
Eileen Goodrich	Kate Vaughan
Glen Hadwen	

Welcome New Lake Residents  
John and Kerry Schultz

Thanks to our 2012 Annual Lake Association Picnic Hosts: Paul and Eileen Goodrich

Thanks to everyone who provided photos and articles for this issue of the PLPOA newsletter and insert. We greatly appreciate all your help.

Florence Fogelin Editor  
Jeanne Burdette Graphic Designer

Connect with us: 

## Treasurer's Report

This year 58 camps paid dues out of 75. We would love to see more participation because that is our only source of revenue.

### Balances for 3/31/2013

General Checking Account:	\$1,625.28
Lake Fund Savings	\$30,338.73
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$31,964.01</b>

# Kids Korner



## Partridge Lake Memories

Written By: Emma Straw

As school ends and summer begins, I look forward to my trip to Partridge Lake. Coming to the lake is a pleasant change from the commotion and heat of a Pennsylvania summer. The lake, with its familiar surroundings and friendly faces, makes for a much-anticipated vacation. Since I was a baby, I have been traveling to Partridge Lake, and from year to year continue to make new friends and create many memories.

When I was 11 years old, I decided I didn't want to go to summer camp any longer. That summer, I ventured on the 8-hour car ride from Pennsylvania to New Hampshire with my dad, grandmother, and her dog, Phoebe. Once we arrived at Loghaven, my grandma's camp along the lake, we unpacked and prepared for months of family, friends, and exciting summer days. During the month of July, my Aunt Alison and cousin Sarah joined us at the lake. Our days were spent swimming, reading, and spending time with all of our friends. Eventually, my whole family journeyed up north to partake in the summertime adventures.

That was my first time spending the whole summer in New Hampshire, but I was determined that it was not going to be my last. Since then, it has become an annual tradition to make the long trip up to New Hampshire with my grandma and spend my summer on Partridge Lake. One thing is for sure; the fun never stops. With so many things to do, it's hard to fit it all into the summer season.



Cousins Sarah Keffer (Left) and Emma Straw (Right) enjoy a day of tubing on Partridge Lake.

Some of the many activities I look forward to are: tubing with the Wardens, celebrating with the Ernsbergers, eating Jo-Jo cookies with the Hadwens, diving off the Aja's boat, dining in town at the Oasis, swimming with the Eastmans and watching a movie at Jax Jrs. Long bike rides, dog walking, babysitting, selecting candy at Chutters, breakfast at the Coffee Pot and jumping off the trampoline are just a few more fun ways I like to spend my summer. Whether it's a picnic or party, or just tubing the afternoon away, when you're at Partridge Lake, the excitement never ends.

The lake has definitely become my summer home, with its loon family and starry nights. From that first adventurous summer, I have continued to take the long journey to New Hampshire every year since. As we drive around the corner and approach Loghaven, you can feel the excitement in the air. It has become a tradition and all of the memories I have created at Partridge Lake will stay with me forever.

## 2013 Schedule of Events

### Saturday, June 1, 2013

Volunteer Day  
Ernsberger Camp 10:00 am

### Saturday, June 22, 2013

Spring Board of Directors Meeting  
Warden Camp 9:00 am

### Saturday, July 6, 2013

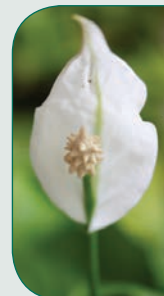
Annual Lake Association Picnic  
Hadwen Camp 11:30 am

### Saturday, July 27, 2013

PLPOA Annual Meeting  
Ernsberger Camp 9:00 am

### Saturday, August 24, 2013

End of Summer Board of Directors Meeting  
Meau Camp 9:00 am



We note the loss of Marcia Ellingwood and Marilyn Varrill, who spent decades at the lake. With deepest sympathy, our condolences go to their families and friends.

**We have two local septic tank service companies:**

**Schofields Septic Tank Service  
Lisbon (603) 838-6028**

**White's Septic Service  
Dalton (603) 837-2728**