

See  
Summary  
of Information for  
Renters and Guests  
Insert

# PARTRIDGE LAKE PROPERTY OWNERS ASSOCIATION

*A Lake Preservation Group*

Spring 2014

## Let's Talk About Septics...Again

An important discussion and vote will be taken Saturday, July 26 at 9:00 a.m. at the PLPOA Annual Meeting to discuss added inducements for replacement of aging septic systems.

Currently the association offers up to \$2500 for design of a septic system. Rarely does design cost that much, and the inducement has not yet attracted any camp owners. As many as 25-30 camps have septic systems past their useful life, according to NH DES. Older camps closest to the lake without updated systems are of greatest concern.

The PLPOA Board discussed the matter at its meeting August 24, 2013, and voted to ask members of the association to recommend reconstituting the incentive to allow up to \$2500—including design and septic replacement. According to Association by-laws, expenditures above \$2000 must be approved by the general membership.

Board members hope for a lively discussion of the merits and helpfulness of the program and adding to its possible costs. The overriding facts are as follows: The largest single source of water quality problems is septic system management. The primary focus of the association is the betterment of water quality. We need to keep a major focus on upgrading and maintaining our septic systems on the lake, and we are hoping this new inducement will help.

### What are the costs?

Typical costs for septic service are:

Dye trace test .....	\$75 - \$100
Sludge/scum test.....	\$75 - \$100
Pump out tank .....	\$150 - \$300

*Depending on tank size.*

Once an owner decides his/her septic system may well need replacing, what next? There are system design considerations and contractors to be hired. First, talk to Albert Howes or neighbors who have gone through the process. Lynn Mayo (603-787-6458), a DES-approved septic designer, has designed many systems around the lake. One could hire Lynn directly to discuss their needs. In most cases, she is retained by a full-service septic system installer, who also needs to be DES-approved.

The health of the lake depends on actions taken by the association. It is vital to the health of our membership that as many members as possible take part in decisions affecting its future. Let any of the Board members know of suggestions you might have on this issue. We will discuss your thoughts at the June Board Meeting and then will review it at the Annual Meeting July 26.

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

**Schofields Septic Tank Service Lisbon (603) 838-6028 • White's Septic Service Dalton (603) 837-2728**

## Bats Welcomed Back to the Lake

New apartment houses have appeared around Partridge Lake since last summer. Residents are expected to move in in May.

You may have seen the bat houses on poles—maternity roosts—at properties belonging to the Vaughans, Parkers, and Schultzes. Purchased by the Association and erected and installed by volunteers last fall, they are hoped to attract brown bats in their reproductive season.

The Bat Committee, co-chaired by Lyne Riel and Pam Parker was created last spring to study problems confronting the bats and to find ways to help with repopulation. They have also helped residents install small bat houses on trees and homes around the lake and have studied best practices for bat restoration: obtaining and placing new small houses and cleansing existing houses, and inviting bats out of your house and into theirs.

To be successful, the small bat houses need to be installed high up in trees or high on a building, with sunshine a few hours per day.

If you already have a bat house on your property, a small amount of diluted bleach should kill the fungus in it (if any) and a pressure wash should rinse out the bleach and remove wasps or spider nests.



**Bats will not fly into your hair.**

### AT NIGHT

If a bat finds its way into your house, turn off the lights and open the door.

### IN THE DAY

Wait until nighttime (See above). Or, trap it with big plastic or cardboard container, slide the cover on and release the bat outside. Please use gloves as a very small percentage of bats (0.5%) may carry rabies.



The fatal White Nose Syndrome has resulted in a devastating loss of our best friends in mosquito control. Nationwide almost 5 million bats died from 2006 to 2012. Cave-dwelling bats in NH are all but gone; those who migrate have a better chance of survival.

It is estimated that the local bat can eat 50% of its body weight in insects every evening. That is 1000 bugs an hour per bat! Bringing them back would help all of us enjoy a better summer.



## Off Limits: Speed is Illegal in the Cove

Some call it Tilton Cove, others Loon Cove. Some, just “the cove.” It remains the one nature reserve on Partridge Lake, where lawns and docks give way to natural vegetation, downed trees, a large submerged rock, and what’s left of a beaver lodge and a loon nesting platform.

It’s where children have their first solo venture to try out their skills at kayaking and canoeing. It’s where they catch frogs and watch turtles sunning on trees that slant into the water. Long ago it had a rope swing that many adults on the lake still remember as their first great adventure.

*It is a special place, open to all ——except speeding boats.*

New Hampshire law requires speeding boats to keep 150 feet from shore. The cove is far too narrow to satisfy the law. And it is dangerous.

Dangerous for the boat. Especially dangerous for children swinging behind them on tubes. And dangerous for canoers, kayakers, and rowers who think they are safe in the quiet cove at the end of the lake.

Don’t hesitate to remind those who violate the law that they are endangering the safety of themselves and others. Leave Tilton Cove as our special nature reserve.



## Summer at Partridge Lake Kicks Off with the Annual Volunteer Day Saturday, June 7, 2014



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. We ask that anytime this summer, if anyone sees something growing in the lake that does not look like it belongs, please contact **Nancy Dayton** or another Weed Watcher. We all can help protect our beautiful lake from invasive species. Anyone who would like to join the **Elite Weed Watchers group**, please contact **Nancy Ernsberger** at [nancyernsberger@gmail.com](mailto:nancyernsberger@gmail.com) or call (603) 444-7269.

## NEW State of NH Replacement Bouys

*The new replacement bouys will remain in the lake year round.*



## 2014 Schedule of Events

### Saturday, June 7, 2014

Volunteer Day  
TBA 9:00 am

### Saturday, June 21, 2014

Spring Board of Directors Meeting  
Berry Camp 9:00 am

### Saturday, July 5, 2014

Annual Lake Association Picnic  
Hadwen Camp 11:30 am

### Saturday, July 26, 2014

PLPOA Annual Meeting  
*Open to all members! Please join us!*  
Ernsberger Camp 9:00 am

### Saturday, August 23, 2014

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



# PARTRIDGE LAKE

## PROPERTY OWNERS ASSOCIATION

Welcome to Partridge Lake!



### Summary of Information for Renters and Guests

The Partridge Lake Property Owners Association has prepared this information about issues important to the well-being of residents and to the long-term health of the lake. As a guest, you should be aware of some of its most important recommendations.

#### Fire. CALL 911 FIRST!!

- Keeps lids nearby for pots, and know how to use the fire extinguisher.
- No fireworks! It's against the law!
- Hot ashes should be covered and kept 3-4 days before dumping.
- Gas or charcoal grills raised off the ground do not need a permit, but fire permits are required for any other outdoor fire. Small fires must be 25 feet from a structure; larger fires 50 feet away. Keep a hose or bucket nearby.



#### Safety and Courtesy

##### Drive slowly...very slowly...around the lake.

- Have fun, but remember those not on vacation: jobs and babies may get them up earlier than you.
- When it gets late, move inside the house; voices and music broadcast from the deck, dock, or porch.



#### Cut Detergent Use

Residents are doing everything possible to reduce phosphorous levels in the lake.

- No phosphates! Read labels on all cleansers.
- Cut in half your use of all detergents!
- Baby the septic system! Take fewer, and briefer, showers. Never put paper towels, diapers, tampons, harsh cleaning agents, paints, etc. down the toilet; no coffee grounds down the sink.



#### Garbage and Recycling

The Littleton transfer recycling facility takes bagged garbage and recycles cans, bottles, plastics, glass, paper, etc. Garbage must be in a special plastic bag available at grocery and hardware stores. The station is open every afternoon except Sundays and Mondays. For a complete schedule and directions, call (603) 444-1447.



#### Boating Safety and Exotic Weeds

If you are bringing a boat, check it carefully for weeds, and dispose of them away from the lake. A suspicious plant should be put in a plastic bag: Call (603) 271-2248.



#### Tubing/Waterskiing

NH law says there must be one spotter for one or two tubers/skiers, two spotters for three to six. The 150-foot law applies to both boat and tubers/skiers. Spotters must be at least 13 years old and able to swim and rescue a tuber/skier who needs help.

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

#### Partridge Lake Association recommendations for motorboats:

- Use common sense.
- Traffic goes **COUNTER-CLOCKWISE** around the lake.
- Stay out of the coves.
- Take turns and be courteous to other boaters.

The lake is small; it has rocks and shallows; the area 150 feet from shore is not large; it has a dangerous "bottleneck" that allows only one fast boat to pass through at a time —and only then if there is no kayak, canoe, swimmer, or other motorboat.



TWO spotters needed.



# PLPOA

*Partridge Lake Memories*



WE LOVE OUR LAKE



# *Memories*



2013



X O X O X O X O X O

# Kids Korner



## Growing Up at Partridge Lake

### Summer at PARTRIDGE LAKE

Gray pavement, blasting air conditioning and Espanglish, the hybrid language of Spanish and English, were everywhere to be found in Miami.

While I do love Miami, I'd have to cross my fingers if telling you that I am

less than eager for the violently green vegetation, humming fans and wonderfully

lilted English of New Hampshire when the time comes to make the trip. Every July I have the extreme pleasure of miraculously cramming a single suitcase with all that would be needed over the course of a month and hopping into a plane to find the beauty, friends and family of Partridge Lake on the other side.

Comparing Miami and Partridge Lake is frankly quite similar to comparing apples and oranges. While Miami has an extraordinary amount of pavement and rolling ocean, Partridge Lake has a variety of plants proudly fanning out green and a still, quiet lake. I take great joy in the change of scenery that comes with my annual trip up North.

Bike rides with my grandfather are particularly enjoyable, especially when the time comes to ride into town, which has become a yearly tradition. Admirably, he continues to mostly keep up with me as we whizz past the lovely Partridge Lake.



**Sofia Hadwen, Rochelle Eastman, Rebecca Hadwen and Brianna Olson**



**Sara Keffer, Sofia Hadwen, Emma Straw, Rebecca Hadwen**

With all the time that I have spent at Partridge Lake, I have also come to make countless friends. I have enjoyed innumerable sessions of party boat jumping with the Ajas, along with tubing with the Hadlocks each summer. I also look forward to pleasantly competitive Capture the Flag with the Hadlocks. Many sunny afternoons have been

passed at Log Haven and I eagerly await seeing my friends at Partridge Lake each summer.

Lastly, but by no means least, Partridge Lake has become a place for me to see my family. While a couple quick visits do occur throughout the school year, none of them can compare to the month long visit in the summer. During this time, we take part in a wide variety of activities including playing cards, watching movies, swimming and playing croquet, all of which happen with the captivating Partridge Lake as a backdrop.

I am ineffably lucky to spend a month at Partridge Lake each summer. Over the years it has become a welcome change of scenery, as well as a place for friends and family. Every time I'm told of or trip or activity that may take place in the summer, I quickly work out whether I can still fit my Partridge Lake visits into the schedule. I hope it is something that can always be part of my summer vacation.

**Rebecca Hadwen (age 14)**

*Sharon and Glen's granddaughter from Miami FL*

## "Are you going to the SOCK HOP? It's going to be a blast!"

The children enjoyed dancing at John and Dawnna Aja's Sock Hop last summer.



## Camp AMAZING

During my time up at camp, there is fun all around in both summer and winter. In the winter, there is TONS to do up there. There is Jeff Corey's AMAZING ice rink that he has done for the past several years. This year it has the new and improved Corey's Chum Bucket. Now the warming hut has a door and a TV! What else can make this any better? This year there are also higher back boards so we don't have to chase the puck off the rink all the time.

The hockey at the rink is the best. I know I could play it all weekend. This year I was lucky enough to be promoted to be in the men's skate each Sunday morning. And let me tell you, the way they play during their hour is amazing. When one of them is making a sharp turn, I'm surprised the ice doesn't break. The sound of them turning sounds like all of the ice is going to crack on the lake. But, it stays together somehow and they play on.

Another thing we do during the winter up at the lake is go ice fishing. This year was my first time going ice fishing and it was a fun time. We went 3 different times, but only caught one medium sized perch. What is up with that?! The last time I went ice fishing, Jeff Corey was very nice and let us borrow one of his snowmobiles. So while we were waiting for the fish to bite, we were cruising around on the snowmobile. That was my first time going on a snowmobile and it was a fun one.

The summer up at camp is even more fun. In the summer, I fish on the lake with my brother, my friends Cole and Grady Hadlock and the Aja's grandsons - Justin, Dylan and Ryan. Every year we have a fishing competition with my brother, Justin, Dylan, Ryan and me. The goal is to either catch the biggest fish or the most fish or both in one hour. And somehow every year, little Ryan finds a way to get the most fish and the biggest fish in one hour. For the past two years that we have done it, I have come in second and Ryan has found a way to beat me.

Another fun thing we do during the summer at camp is we have sleep overs at the Aja's bunk house. They made this little house just for their grandchildren. This bunk house is so awesome that it's even got air conditioning. What else do



you need? But the best part is waking up and seeing what yummy food the Aja's made for us. The best is Donna's doughnuts that she makes. Nothing can get better than those. Then after we have stuffed ourselves with doughnuts and other goodies, we go fishing off the party boat.

When it gets too hot out to fish, we jump off the Aja's party boat in the middle of the lake where the water is nice and cool.

Have you ever gone water skiing? I just learned two years ago and now I'm skiing on one ski! Imagine that! But, I couldn't have gotten that far along without the help and guidance of Casey Hadlock. He first taught me how to water ski on two skis and, then how to drop a ski. I'm hoping to be able to get up on one ski this year. The best time to water ski is when the water is like glass and the sun is just about to set. You are just gliding smoothly across

the water and you can see the sun setting off in the distance.

One of the best parts of the summer is the annual lake picnic and Dave Ernsberger's Caribbean party. I remember one year at the lake picnic, there was purple sand for the kids to play in. It is also fun to see and sample all the different food that people bring. At Dave's party, we have virgin Pina Colodas which are really good. Last year was one of the best parties though. We got to ride the Ernsberger's water bikes while we waited for the food. Let me tell you, those things are fun!

But, none of this would have been possible if I didn't have my camp.

Thanks a lot Grandpa & ShaSha Hadwen!

**Keegan Demers, 17**

*Glen & Sharon Hadwen's grandson*



## Camp FREEDOM

Camp and the lake are very special to me because I have freedom to do whatever I want and it's relaxing. I always feel happy when I'm there because I love to watch the wildlife and spend time with my family and my special lake friends. There are lots of things to do like fishing, watching and catching animals, swimming, water sports and going to parties.



My brother and I go fishing in our little fishing boat that our grandparents bought us and each try to catch a bigger fish than the other. We love to fish with our friends too; going in the Hadlock's fishing boat and the Aja's party boat.

I love to catch turtles with Cole and Grady Hadlock and my brother, Keegan. Each summer, I catch a baby snapping turtle no bigger than a quarter. I keep it, take care of it and feed it for a week, then sadly let it go. The Aja's let us jump off their party boat in the middle of the lake with their grandchildren. Then, we go tubing, waterskiing and knee boarding with the Hadlock's.

And, that is why I love the lake. It's a special place with friendly, happy and kind people. Thank you Sharon Sweet Hadwen for sharing the lake with us!

**Canaan Demers, 11**

*Glen & Sharon Hadwen's grandson*

*Camp and the lake are very special to me because I have freedom to do whatever I want and it's relaxing. I always feel happy when I'm there because I love to watch the wildlife and spend time with my family and my special lake friends.*

**Canaan Demers**



## Go Out and Play

**Over the years, a number of children around the lake have had a place to call their own: a playhouse, a tree house, often just a favorite spot out in the woods.**

The playhouse at the Stowell's camp is perhaps the oldest. It was where Jackie Armstrong invited her best friend, Winnie Savage, to come and play when they were kids on the lake. It was moved across the street to keep children from crossing traffic. Last summer, a large tree fell and gave it a near miss. In fact, branches came to rest on its roof, which remained intact—as if someone wanted to save it for future generations.

The Burdette's playhouse was built by Paul for his son Troy 29 years ago, and will soon be used by their grandchildren, Owen, Melody, and Charlotte. Meanwhile, Jeanne has improved, updated and outfitted the playhouse with books, games, art supplies, and toys. It has become a favorite getaway spot for the Murphy children, Quinn, Eilish, and Devlin from the Red Sails Camp.



**(L-R) Quinn, Devlin, and Eilish Murphy**

The Eames playhouse overlooks the lake and could pass for an adult getaway.

The Howes camp does have an adult tree house getaway nestled high up in the trees.

The Ajas have a "Bunk House" that is mentioned in the article "Camp Amazing" by Keegan Demers on the inside page.

Something about life at Partridge Lake encourages children to make and to find their own secret places—away from computers, television, and.... adults.

***A hideaway! Home alone!  
Grown-ups Stay Out!***



**Stowell Playhouse**



**Burdette Playhouse**



**Eames Playhouse**



**Howes Tree house**



**Ajas "Bunk House"**

# Lake Volunteers Support River District Redevelopment Efforts in Littleton



The generosity of Partridge Lake neighbors came to the River District along the Ammonoosuc River in downtown Littleton last September. A cool fall day turned into a beautiful sunny day as Partridge Lake Association Members responded to a call for volunteer help in the area being revitalized along the river front near the downtown area. Responding to a call for volunteers to spend a Saturday clearing the brush and debris along Saranac Street, twenty-two residents of Partridge Lake spent a weekend morning committing their time, energies and equipment to clearing debris and brush in two key areas of the River District. The first area of focus was a stretch of Saranac Street leading up to a dangerous intersection at Saranac and Meadow Streets. The area had been overgrown with brush and weeds over the years to the point where there was no room for pedestrians except along the edges of the street. The lake volunteer team cleared a ten foot area along the side of the street and made a nice walking path for people to safely navigate. In the same general area was a large

lot where a mill building had been destroyed by fire a few years ago. The lot was covered with debris and the riverfront along the lot was completely covered with debris, brush and dead foliage. The lake volunteer team cleaned the big lot of all of the debris and opened a beautiful view of the river along the front of the lot.

Dave Ernberger, a River District Redevelopment Commission member, put out a call to his lake neighbors the week before the event requesting their help. The response was amazing! Steve Hight generously committed his time, leadership, and great equipment to the effort. Jack Eames also brought a few of his cherished landscaping toys to support the effort. With their help the team of volunteers took a huge project and completed the work in one long satisfying morning. It was another example of why we are so fortunate to live on such a beautiful lake with family, friends and neighbors who truly care for one another and their community. Thank you to all of the volunteers for their generosity and responsiveness to our town!





## 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 21, 2014.

### Board of Directors

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

Thanks to our 2013 Annual Lake Association Picnic Hosts: Jeff and Jill Corey

Welcome New Lake Residents  
Mr. and Mrs. Scott Manning

Welcome Back Stan and Cathy Parker!

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

We would love to see more participation because that is our only source of revenue.

**Balances as of 3/31/2014**

**Regular Checking Account: \$1,200.53**

**Savings Account \$31,076.26**

This balance is made up of all memorials and lake fund donations.

## Heavy Water

Written By: Burt Bechtel

We had been waiting almost all summer for perfect weather at Partridge Lake: 25- mile-an-hour winds gusting to 40, rain blown sideways, and the lake turning gunmetal blue with a frosting of white caps. Perfect weather for sailing our 18-foot Old Town HW canoe.

Built in Maine in the 1920s, the HW sailing canoe was their strongest model, designed to handle all the extreme weather and water conditions that nature could concoct. Old Town never fully explained what "HW" stood for, but everyone who owned one knew that it stood for "heavy water." At age 10, I would take my first canoe sail in really severe weather.

In my family, you had to "qualify" first. That involved swimming across the lake and back at the widest point. Wearing a life jacket and accompanied by a rowboat, my qualifying swim started as "a piece of cake," and ended 42 minutes later with me gasping, "This lake is bigger than I thought." Certification complete, the canoe remained inverted on our shore waiting for just the right weather.

When that day finally came, the canoe was quickly rigged with its wooden mast, lateen sail, and mahogany lee boards. My family had a lot of experience with racing Lightning, Star, and 210 sailboats in Connecticut, but this boat was different. It was sailing in its most primitive form. The HW was light and wickedly narrow—with far too much sail area. Steering with a paddle required both hands and relegated control of the sail rope to the skipper's foot. As my father pointed the canoe toward the center of the lake, he gave me a very serious look and reminded me to "stay with the canoe when it tips over." With that advice and a mighty shove, my mother and I were off!

"...when it tips over?" Didn't he mean "if"?

As we cleared the wind shadow created by trees on the shore, the full force of the wind smacked us. I slid along the bottom of the canoe as the wind instantly tried to capsize it. The mast bent in an arc and the leeward rail was immediately submerged in the water. I had never felt a sailboat accelerate like that; we were going so fast that the hull made a hissing sound in the water. Luckily, my mother knew exactly what was coming; she was already fighting with the steering paddle and hiking out over the high side. She was



focused on the on-coming wind gusts with the unblinking intensity of a pointer about to flush a quail. We were instantly soaked to the bone, and the wind was blowing spray so hard it felt like someone was throwing sand. I could see my mother's mouth moving but I couldn't make out what she was shouting. Finally I got it: "BAIL!" Oops. I was already sitting in 4 inches of water sloshing around the bottom of the canoe. I grabbed the bucket and began frantically throwing water overboard. With each wind gust and wave the boat was pushed further down and more cold green water gushed in.

By that point we were already across the lake. With a skillful flick of the steering paddle the canoe carved a wild pivot of 180 degrees, the sail careened to the other side, the canoe heeled over, and we blasted off again towards the other shore. I was fighting to bail fast enough to keep the boat from entirely filling with water, but it was a losing battle. At times we were flying along with 8 inches of water inside the canoe. Strangely, this increasing load of water didn't seem to slow us down much. Occasionally the wind and sail conspired to violently pull the front of the canoe skyward until just a few feet of the hull remained in the water. That helped slosh the water toward the stern and back into the lake, and it allowed us to keep from swamping completely.

In all, we made six frantic dashes across the lake that day before the inevitable capsized. Although we were then swimming inside an underwater canoe, the sail remained upright. The canoe still wanted more. By that time my mother and I were laughing convulsively at how much crazy fun we were having. This wasn't sailing; this was having a fist fight with a rain storm.

I remember the canoe and the wild ride. But, most of all, I remember being impressed with my mother. Fun and tough and fearless she certainly knew what she was doing when it came to extreme sailing. A lot more sailing was in both of our futures, but I'll never forget that first encounter with "heavy water" sailing.

