2024 Shadow Lake Association Newsletter

Letter from President of the SLA Board:

Hello friends of Shadow Lake,
Now that we have turned the calendar to the Spring months, we can all start thinking about the lake and greeting old friends and newcomers. The ice is out, the sun returns so let the fun begin. This winter has seen lots of activity for the SLA Board.

- New rule to regulate wake boats and wake sports for the state of Vermont. Wake boats, in wake sport mode, must operate in at least 20 feet of water, in at least 50 contiguous acres, and at least 500 feet from shore. Unfortunately, this leaves Shadow available as a wake sport lake. (See wake sport zone map). Because of this new rule, the SLA Board and volunteers have submitted a petition to the Department of Environmental Conservation to prohibit wake sports on Shadow. These petitions most likely will not be acted upon in time for the 2024 summer season. Please educate yourself on the dangers associated with enhanced wakes. Be aware when these boats are on the water and take special precautions for older folks and children.
- Our boat wash has been deemed a state sanctioned decontamination site for wake boats. The SLA Board and the Town of Glover is trying to encourage the state to delete Shadow Lake from this list as it will tax both the water heater and the Greeters ability to service traditional, normal users of the lake.
- For many years, the dam at the outlet has been deemed in poor condition. This has resulted in substantial flooding that disrupts the shoreline. The SLA Board, the State of Vermont and the Town of Glover are discussing how to address these issues.
- The Lake Watershed Action Plan (LWAP) has been finished. This plan will further protect Shadows water quality from runoff. You may have received a letter last fall from me and if you did, please contact me for guidance. If you are interested in getting your property assessed for free, be sure to contact Linda Gilman, a board member, and she will get you on the list.
- The Greeter Station/Decontamination Station (boat wash) has been awarded a larger grant this year. This was due to a huge effort by many lake associations, in conjunction with FOVLAP, to pressure the legislature to put more money in the state budget for water quality and to combat Aquatic Invasive Species. The Town of Glover has once again contributed monies for its support as well. For this, we are very grateful! As a property owner on Shadow Lake, please consider donating to support the Greeter Station (details on SLA website).
- The Glover Road Crew has been hard at work replacing culverts, grading berms, and digging ditches. Last year, they assisted us with adding some more gravel at the rain garden near the public beach. We continue to await word as to the specific date of repaving.

As you can see, the SLA Board has kept busy this winter. We added meeting dates throughout the Winter months. We attended FOVLAP meetings, are involved in legislative actions, and communicated with other lake associations to stay connected and plan and carry out activities

around the lake. Also, please look over our new website at https://shadowlakeassociation.org/ for more information about Shadow Lake!!
If you are interested in joining us (whether to join us as a board member or not), be sure to contact one of us so we can welcome you to a board meeting. There are lots of ways to help!...Jenifer

2024 Events

July 4, Thursday at 11 – Public Beach Games

Come and join us in fun and games at the beach! Sand castle building, group volleyball, limbo and other interactive activities for young and old. Waterproof attire is recommended. If you need more information, please contact Martha DeGraaf (Camp #16) at 802-525-4363.

July 13, Saturday at 6:00 pm – Dessert and Beverages
6:30 pm – SLA Annual Meeting
The annual meeting will be held at the Town of Glover Town Hall. Due to the new location, food preparation will be limited so dessert and a variety of beverages will be served. Refreshments are on us! This meeting is both social and informative. Meet your neighbors and learn about Shadow Lake.
Most important, please see the downable remittance form at the end of this newsletter or go to our website, https://shadowlakeassociation.org/ to pay dues online. **Also consider making a donation to our boat wash- as we were the first hot water boat wash in the state of Vermont.**

July 20, Saturday at 3 pm – Boat Parade followed by the Ice Cream Social hosted by Lillian Conley and crew (Camp #53).
The boat parade will start at the Conley's camp. The Parage boats gather in front of the Conley's dock. At kickoff time, they will follow each other cruising all around the lake. Decorate your boat, if you wish, and join with your canoe or kayak. Afterwards, gather on the front lawn of Conley's camp to enjoy refreshing treats, socialize with neighbors and check out information on our display tables.

Meet the Shadow Lake Association (SLA) Board:

Board Members:
Jen Andrews
I am a retired Kindergarten school teacher committed to life-long learning. I have lived in Vermont most of my life. My husband Mark and I have had a cottage on Shadow Lake for 17 years. I have been SLA president for 8 years and get to work with some pretty wonderful board members. We are all working towards excellent water quality for Shadow Lake now and in the future.

Kurt Muller

I was an officer on four nuclear submarines then became an Engineering Duty Officer retiring as a Commander. I was manager of Quality engineering for Disneyland before my retirement in 2014. As an SLA board member, I am the diving director responsible of being in charge of aquatic invasive species(AIS) surveillance. Responsibilities includes coordinating surveillance dive including scheduling the dives and coordination of volunteers and paid divers. Orchestrating the surveillance plan as well as mitigation as required. Responsible for payment and administration of the contracts for the divers. Stay up to date with the latest invasive species warnings.

Linda Gilman

My name is Linda Gillman and I live on Stone Shore Road. I worked at Weidmann Electrical for 39 years in the accounting department. I was part of the original start up team for the boat wash. As one of the Directors on the SLA board, my function this year is to work on the Lake Wise program around the lake.

Howard Robinson

I am a native Vermonter, having grown up in St Johnsbury. In 2001, while visiting Vermont, I happened upon a tiny fishing cabin on the water's edge of Shadow Lake. The simple beauty of the lake, the mountains, the reflections of the clouds & sky on the lake, and the community of people who have also been drawn to this place make me feel grateful. As a board member, I do what I can to preserve the lake for those who follow.

Stephen Walcott

As a lifelong Vermonter, I provide a unique outlook on life. In a fast world when opportunity knocks and I'm not home, opportunity waits. My legend precedes myself like lightning precedes thunder. My reputation is expanding faster than the universe. My charm is so contagious that vaccines have been made for it. My beard is listed on my donor card. If I were to give you directions, you'd never get lost and you'd arrive at least five minutes early. I can speak French in Russian. I found the fountain of youth but did not drink from it because I was not thirsty. I challenged my reflection to a staring contest, on the fourth day I won. I am the life of parties I've never attended. Mosquitos don't bite me out of respect. I cheated death and death was OK with it. I am only the second person ever to receive a perfect score on a Rorschach Test. By the way, as a board member, I am responsible for protecting Shadow Lake's shoreline by gathering information about the dam and its subsequent value to our lake.

Bill Koch

My dental practice keeps me pretty busy in Barre, and I cherish the clean, clear water of our beloved Shadow Lake. My role as Treasurer is to act as steward of Association funds with an ambition to continue the Association's stewardship of the Lake. My two children spent summer weekends at the Lake, and I hope to pass Camelot along to them and their children one day. We camp owners are so blessed.

Denise Sawan Caruso
Although I am a native Ohioan, the beauty that my husband Tony and I found in the NEK was overwhelming. We settled in on our little camp every summer since 1998. It is now the 'little heaven' that many dream of but never obtain. I am the current secretary on the board of SLA and hope to preserve the safety and quality of Shadow Lake.

Corinne Dudley
I have been coming to Shadow Lake since I was a baby to visit Lib & Dick Dudley, who were special friends of my mother's. Brad & I bought his grandparents, Clem & Nettie Pike's camp, in 2003, from his aunt, Avis Harper. I have been a board Member for 5 years and serve as the Boat Wash Coordinator. I love the lake!

David Prince
I am a retired master electrician and worked for the Essex school system for 46 years. I spend 4 summer months living at the lake at 589 Stone Shore Road. A camp I have enjoyed since 1965. I am the current Vice President of the SLA board.

SLA Financial for 2023/2024:

- The Association ended 2023 with a strong financial position. The balance sheet and P&L are provided for review, and there will be time to discuss specifics at the annual July meeting.
    - This coming year will be giving the SLA some financial challenges. Although the State grant was generous, the wash station has also been designated by the State for decontamination of boats headed to other Vermont lakes that lack decontamination facilities. This is likely to increase boat wash volume and associated expenses.
    - The second challenge is to increase the number of camp owners who pay dues and support the boat wash. Membership has seen a decline over the past ten years, and this trend is troubling. The SLA does not exist without members, and your Treasurer politely asks that every camp owner pay the rather modest dues of $35. Boat wash donations are at campers' discretion, but the suggested average donation is $50. For a summer of fun at one of Vermont's cleanest lakes, this is a huge bargain.

The SLA board meets on the following dates:

- June 1, 9 to 10 at Howards Cottage
- June 29, 9 to 10 at Howards Cottage
- July 13 – Annual Meeting – Glover Town Hall
- July 14, 9 to 10 (location TBD)
- August 3, 9 to 10 (location TBD)
- September 7, 9 to 10 (location TBD)

Notes on Shadow Lake

Water Quality – Lay Monitoring/LaRosa Water Testing/Cyanobacteria testing

- Shadow Lake water quality is monitored by volunteers, Shari Walcott, Sara Gluckman, and Jenifer Andrews bi-weekly, June through August. Water is tested for phosphorous, chlorophyll-a and caffeine and is also tested for water clarity.

Lakewise:

- The Lake Wise program is in full swing at Shadow Lake. Many properties have been assessed (for free!) and some have already received their award. You will notice the signs on their property around the lake. The Board encourages everyone to participate so we can better control the runoff from driveways, private roads and slopes. The sediment that gets washed into the lake carries with it unwanted phosphorus which we are trying to control. This occurs during rain events that seem to come fast and furious these days. **Linda Gilman** is the Shadow Lake Coordinator for this program. She will be happy to collect your information to add you to the growing list of participants. Please give her a call at 802-745-7184 or send an email at lindagilman@myfairpoint.net. It would be wonderful to have everyone be on board!

Greeter Station/Boat Wash

- The Greeters Boatwash Station is in its 24th year. At Shadow Lake, we wash all boats going in and out of the lake because many invasive aquatic species are not visible. We are all very proud of the commitment of the Shadow Lake Association and the Town of Glover, along with the state of Vermont, that we now have no invasive species in Shadow Lake. **Please remember to Clean, Dry, Drain your boats.**
- As a reminder, please collect your soda, seltzer, beer can etc. tabs before dropping them off at Boat Wash. Due to health & safety reasons tabs are not taken off cans for donation. We collect these & give them to the Shriners. The Shriners use these tabs to raise money for the Shriners Hospital for Children. They can be dropped off directly to Winston Harper, or the Dudley's.

Loon Raft 2024

- The Loon Raft was secured in April of 2024 in accordance Vermont Ecostudies Guidelines. The Loon Raft is located on the western side of Shadow Lake**. Please remember to stay at least 300' from the Loon Raft, using no wake.**

Wake Boats

- The Agency of Natural Resources and the Department of Environmental Conservation has approved a new use of public waters rule that regulates wakesports. Shadow Lake is on the list to accept wakesports. In response to the new state regulations, the Shadow Lake Association board and the Town of Glover have submitted a petition to prohibit wakesports on Shadow Lake. Since action on this petition will not be enacted on until 2025, please be aware of the wake zone that can be found on the DEC website https://dec.vermont.gov/watershed/lakes-ponds/vermont-use-public-waters-rules/wakeboats

Dam:

- The Shadow Lake Dam is currently in a state of disrepair and is poorly designed for its intended use. The Vermont Dam Safety has classified it as a significant hazard. Consequently, Shadow Lake experiences prolonged periods of high water and shoreline damage, particularly during the spring melt.
- To address this issue, the Shadow Lake Association plans to seek support from the community in petitioning the State of Vermont. Their goal is to request a fluctuation of winter lake water levels to accommodate the additional water from the spring melt. This approach aims to reduce the duration of flooding and minimize damage caused by ice movement.
- It is important to address dam safety concerns and take appropriate measures to protect the surrounding area. The involvement and support of the Shadow Lake community in this petition will be crucial in advocating for a solution.

For more in-depth information about Shadow Lake and the Shadow Lake Association, please go to our recently updated website https://shadowlakeassociation.org/

In Memoriam:

Dolly Fournier

Dolly Fournier (Aug. 15, 1940 - July 29, 2023). Shadow Lake fondly remembers Dolly for her 3 years of dedicated service to Shadow Lake's Greeter/Boat Wash Station. She and her husband Andy, were super boat wash staff and whom became dear friends to many around the lake. Sometimes, she even sold her homemade donuts - if you were lucky enough to get them before they sold out!

Don Brown

Don Brown (11-9-36 to 10-2-23) "Camp Ohio" - Don passed away unexpectedly a few weeks shy of his 87th birthday. Don and his wife, Nancy, enjoyed 38 wonderful summers together at Shadow. They loved spending time with family and friends, enjoying all of the summer activities in Vermont. Don loved golfing with his friends at Orleans Country Club. He was often seen walking their golden retrievers down the road, sailing his Sunfish (cigar in hand) or catching up on work while sitting in the driveway. Don was a wonderful man and a good friend. Camp Ohio will continue to be enjoyed by Nancy's daughters, Dayl and Denise, and all of the grandchildren, along with plenty of dogs.

Anthony J. Caruso

Anthony J. Caruso, PhD, (March 1, 1954 – January 22, 2024), passed away from complications due to Parkinson's disease. He fought this disease for 28 years with tenacity, grace, and humor. For those who knew Tony, they enjoyed his wit, sense of humor, and his intellect. Before his retirement, his professional contribution to help those who stuttered was a passion he pursued for many years while working at Kent State University. He spent his youth in upstate New York in, on and under the water. As an adult, his love for swimming, boating and fishing was spent in his cottage here on Shadow Lake. There, he enjoyed not only all water activities but the camaraderie of life-long friendships.

Please attach the dues and boat donation remittance form