2026 Shadow Lake Association Newsletter

GREETINGS FROM THE PRESIDENT

Here I am writing again this year as acting president of the SLA Board. Because we had no one step forward to be president, I became acting president in order to sign official documents. However, as of the Annual Meeting, I will indeed step down as even the acting president. I will continue to serve in my capacity as legislative liaison, LaRosa partner, Greeter Station Coordinator, one of the Cyanobacteria testers, and board member. I do hope that someone around this most beautiful little lake will seriously consider the role of president. You will have a whole group of stellar board members to assist you. Please come find me if you'd like to ask about this important job.....Jenifer

2026 Events

July 4, Saturday - 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 or volunteer, please contact Martha DeGraaf (Camp #16) at 802-525-4363.

SLA Annual Meeting - July 11, Saturday

Social time to sit with your neighbors from 9 to 9:30
Meeting starts at 9:30

We will be having a brunch at the Town of Glover Town Hall. Breakfast items and refreshments will be provided by the Board. This meeting is both social and informative. Meet your neighbors and learn about Shadow Lake.

Most important, please see the downloadable 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 18, Saturday at 3 pm – Boat Parade followed by the Ice Cream Social hosted by the Conley 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 school teacher spending most of my career at Jericho Elementary School. I have been part of the water quality team here at the lake for 18 years. I also have had the honor of being president of the Shadow Lake Association for the last 10 years.

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

I am a native Vermonter and grew up at Shadow Lake. I am retired and spend the entire summer here at Camp #20 1902 Shadow Lake road. My primary focus is to monitor the lake level, understand the issues of the dam and convey accurately the information to the SLA community. I also assist the president as needed on special projects as required. Feel free to ask questions and I will answer or find the answer.

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 is the NEK was overwhelming. I have been on Shadow Lake since 1998 and always look forward to my summer days in Vermont. I am the current secretary on the board of SLA and hope to preserve the safety and quality of Shadow 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.

Kat Hall
I am a retired physical therapist. I reside in Saint Johnsbury and Shadow Lake in the summer months with my fiancé Steve Adler.
I enjoy nature and outdoor activities. What a joy to be fortunate to be on Shadow Lake with its pristine waters, flora and fauna. I love to ski, snowshoe, kayak, and mountain bike ride. I am an advocate of some non-traditional healing arts and a long-time yoga practitioner. I completed teacher training in 2019 along with Reiki training. Looking forward to my time at the lake and meeting other camp owners.

Volunteers:
Kurt Muller – Diving Coordinator
Shari Walcott – Lay Monitor/Mailchimp Coordinator
Martha Degraaf – July 4th Beach activities Coordinator
Conley Family – Coordinator of Ice Cream Social
Sara Gluckman – LaRosa Coordinator
Christine Cano – Cyanobacteria Coordinator
Cori Dudley – Bottle Collection Coordinator
Karen Stewart – Grant Writer
Lisa Cermak – Fundraising Committee
Cheri Safford – Fundraising Committee

SLA Financial for 2025/2026 – Bill update

- The Shadow Lake Association ended 2024 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.
    - We encourage all Shadow Lake members to pay $35 dues to support our greeter station and lake community. 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 2026 dates:

- **Annual Meeting – July 11 - Social gathering from 8:30 to 9 followed by the meeting from 9 to 11**
- **June 15, July 13, August 10, September 14 from 9 to 11.**
- **October 13 (ZOOM) from 5 t0 7**

Notes on Shadow Lake

PLEASE BE SURE TO SIGN UP FOR MAILCHIMP ON THE SLA WEBSITE!

VERMONT INVASIVE PATROLLER- VIP

VERMONT INVASIVE PATROLLER ANIMALS- VIPA

You can become an underwater citizen scientist! Do you enjoy paddling the shoreline? Do you like to snorkel? Do you want to assist in keeping Shadow Lake invasive-free? This might be the volunteer job for you!
This important job is observing, identifying and cataloguing aquatic plants and animals. But first, you will have to attend an in-person training session planned just for this purpose. These Training Sessions will be announced soon so get in touch with Jenifer Andrews at camp #62, Haytoleevit or call 535-4809 to sign up.

LAKE WATERSHED ACTION PLAN LWAP

As you may know, Shadow Lake's LWAP has been conducted and is complete. This document is an assessment of the Shadow Lake watershed in an effort to curb runoff that carries nutrient pollution - phosphorus, salt, sediment and others. Please be sure that you have done your part and sign for a free assessment of your property. This assessment will identify areas that are contributing to runoff into the lake. You will be given suggestions that will help Shadow Lake's water quality. Many of your neighbors have already done this and have won awards for their efforts. Please see Linda Gilman (charronlkg@gmail.com) on Stone Shore Road or Jenifer Andrews (slgvtpresident@gmail.com) on Shadow Lake Road for more information and to sign up.

Will Marlier, Orleans County Natural Resources Conservation Lake Watershed Program Specialist, hosted a workshop to showcase practical and manageable projects that lake association members and lakeshore landowners could implement independently. There were three stations provided at the workshop:

- Riparian Buffer Planting
- Culvert Installation and Driveway Drainage
- Lakeshore Erosion

For further information, contact Will Marlier at will.marlier@orleanscountynrcd.org

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 charronlkg@gmail.com It would be wonderful to have everyone be on board!

Greeter Station/Boat Wash:

- The Greeters Boatwash Station is in its 25th 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 2025:

- Our loon nesting raft sustained minor damage during ice out. We plan to repair and deploy the raft, along with the protective nest warning signs between now and early May to the small, quiet cove just past Danforth Rd. To ensure a successful nesting season, all lake users are asked to help provide a quiet environment for the loons. Because they are highly sensitive to human presence during nesting and chick-rearing, your cooperation is vital. Please follow these simple "best practices" to minimize human disturbance:
    - **How You Can Help: • Please obey the VT Use of Public Waters Rules for the Protection of Loon Nesting Sites 300-Foot Distance Rule (p9 sec. 3.6):** *"Between May 1 and July 31 all persons and vessels are prohibited from public waters within 300 feet of any loon nesting site that the Secretary or the Secretary's authorized representative has identified by signs and buoys or other clear on-site markings".* (**Note:** You may see loon biologists or authorized volunteers briefly approaching the raft area for official maintenance or health checks. Unless authorized, please keep your distance.) •
    - **Slow Down & Watch Your Wake:** High-speed waves—even from 300 feet away—can flood nests or drown chicks. Please stay alert to loons on the lake to avoid boat strikes or swamping chicks. •
    - **Give Plenty of Space:** Even quiet kayaks and paddleboards can scare loons off their nests, leaving eggs cold and vulnerable to predators. • **Read the Signs of Loon Stress:** Learn to spot loon stress and when it's time to back away quietly by checking out Maine Audubon's *"How Close Is Too Close?"* guide. •
    - **Keep it Quiet:** Avoid using drones or making loud noises near the nest site; they can cause extreme stress for loons. Fireworks also cause stress to wildlife and many pets. Watch using binoculars. •
    - **Fish Lead-Free:** Lead poisoning is a leading cause of loon deaths. Clean out your tackle box this spring and drop lead gear or fishing line in the collection tube at the boat wash kiosk. •

- **Report Issues:** If you observe loons fighting or see a sick, injured, beached, or deceased loon, contact loon monitors Christine Cano or Christine Rainer. If needed, they will take appropriate action and notify the proper officials**.** •
- **Stay Informed:** Visit the Vermont Center for Ecostudies (VCE) for the latest news on the VT Loon Conservation Project. Consider a donation to support the loon project. •
- **Spread the Word:** help educate others about these simple actions they can take to protect loons.

Wake Boats:

- At the time of this newsletter, the Legislative Committee of Administrative Rules is in receipt of the new draft UPW rules. They will review to be sure all is in compliance with the law and hopefully when I see you next, I can tell you that both Parker and Shadow are off the list for wake sports. This has been a 5-year project and has taken many people many hours to see this through. Hoping for a positive outcome! 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. In the past, Shadow Lake experienced prolonged periods of high water and shoreline damage, particularly during the spring melt. This has exacerbated the deterioration of the dam.
- To address this issue, the State of Vermont has recommended that the Town of Glover, owners of the dam, lower the lake level.
- Because of lowering the lake level, the shoreline has been altered radically. Please take care of your shoreline. Also be aware of staying at least 200' from the shore if you are throwing a wake. It is important to address dam safety concerns and take appropriate measures to protect the surrounding area. The involvement and support of the Town of Glover and the Shadow Lake community will be critical as we fundraise for the dam project.

For more in-depth information about the dam, go to the Town of Glover website (townofglover@gmail.com)

In Memoriam:

Connie Ashe -

- Connie's Happy Place was Shadow Lake. Friends and family gathered for summer fun on the water and holiday celebrations throughout the year. Connie proudest contribution to the Glover community was her multiyear deep dive researching efforts with her co-authors Joan Alexander & Jack Sumberg of the *Slab City/South Glover, Vermont—A Busy Hamlet Now Vanished* historical research book. She helped organized the 2024 Slab City stone marker design and carving and then organized a Slab City Monument Dedication unveiling ceremony. She is missed by all that knew her.

Please go to the Shadow Lake Association website to access the dues and boat donation remittance form.
Membership Form – Shadow Lake Association