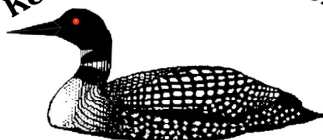


# Keoka Lake Association



Waterford, Maine

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Fall, 2013

## **President's Message:**

The mission of the Keoka Lake Association is to preserve and protect Keoka Lake and its environs. In order to carry out this mission, we inspect boats for invasive aquatic plants; we educate lake users about best practices; we strive to prevent runoff and erosion by working with property owners; we promote safety and proper use of watercraft; we maintain the dam and we generally work to make Keoka Lake a

better place. We do all this guided by our mission.

Won't you please join us, support our efforts with your dues/donations and volunteer your time. We are a stronger lake association and a better lake when all property owners are members and everyone finds a way to contribute. Membership is open to all who love and appreciate Keoka Lake.

Thank you,

Charlie Tarbell, President

## **Educational Initiative :**

The KLA Education and Outreach program is in the process of planning a Keoka Lake community event to be held at Keoka Beach Campground in 2014. Early plans include group training on Invasive Plant Boat Inspections, a youth program demonstration of the "Sebago to Waterford Watershed Run-off" children's workshop, a Loon Safety and Educational Awareness Workshop and a Boating Safety Workshop. Stay tuned to the Spring 2014 KLA newsletter for additional information.

## **CBI :**

Thanks to the support of the Town of Waterford and a grant from Maine DEP, the Courtesy Boat Inspection (CBI) program operates with paid inspectors each weekend beginning Memorial Day as well as the week of the 4<sup>th</sup> of July. When the paid inspectors return to college in mid-to late August, the KLA board and other volunteers attempt to cover weekends through mid-September. Despite another wet spring/early summer, CBIs inspected for a total of 417.5 hours in 2013, an increase of 5% over 2012. If you would like to be trained as a CBI or would

like to attend the 2014 Milfoil Summit (scheduled for early March 2014), please let a board member know or watch the website for further information on sign-ups.

## **LakeSmart:**

Due to budget reductions, the Maine Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) was no longer able to support the LakeSmart program this year. The program was transferred to the Maine Lakes Society, a non-profit lakes umbrella organization that selected Keoka as a pilot lake. During the summer of 2013, five inspections were conducted and three LakeSmart designations were awarded. Keoka continues to strive toward our goal of having over 30% of the lakefront properties inspected. If you would like your property reviewed in 2014, please contact Charlie Tarbell.

## **Plant Patrol:**

In an effort to create greater awareness as well as providing a consistent survey of the plant life in Keoka Lake, this year, the lake was divided into sections. Currently, there are 11 volunteer plant patrollers who monthly 'inspect' their assigned section of

the lake for any changes in flora (pondweed, duck weed, etc) and fauna (fish, Chinese Mystery Snails, etc). Arthur Jacobson attended the Invasive Plant Workshop put on by the VLMP and became a certified patroller. Currently, two patrollers are monitoring two sections and one patroller is monitoring the section from the boat ramp to the east end of Keoka Beach Campground. In 2014, KLA is looking for additional volunteers to help with this ongoing project. Monthly monitoring can easily be done while enjoying a relaxing morning or afternoon on the lake. In addition, at the 2014 Annual Meeting, KLA will be making laminated Plant Identification cards available to members expressing an interest. Watch the Spring 2014 newsletter for sign-up information.

### **Volunteering**

For over 42 years, KLA has been doing what it does with a committed group of volunteers. Volunteers serve on the Board of Trustees of KLA; they serve as plant inspectors that check a section of the lake on a regular basis to assess unusual flora or fauna activity; they monitor water quality; they maintain and set up/store the loon nest; they assist with merchandising and spreading the KLA word at Community Breakfasts, the 4<sup>th</sup> of July parade & the Fall Foliage Race; they serve as volunteer Courtesy Boat Inspectors and they serve as liaisons to the Town of Waterford, LEA and other state organizations through direct contact or through service as a committee or board member. KLA would not be what it is without those who volunteer. Would you like to join us?

KLA's Board of Trustees is interested in talking to anyone interested in lending a hand. Volunteering for KLA is a great way to get to know others who treasure Keoka Lake and as more people volunteer, the work is shared and everyone gets to spend more time enjoying all Keoka and the area has to offer. Lend a hand! Check one of the boxes on the Fall Dues Form and you will be contacted! Our thanks to all who volunteer

now and welcome to those who wish to join us!

### **1st Annual BL Memorial Regatta:**

Were you at Keoka the weekend of August 10-11? Did you happen to notice the array of sailboats on the lake that Saturday afternoon? Furthermore, if you saw them, did you get the feeling that they were all going (sort of) in the same direction back and forth across the lake?

If so, you were witness to the 1<sup>st</sup> Annual Bud Lazott Memorial Regatta. Sixteen boats were 'officially' registered and traversed the triangular course in the stiff breeze that afternoon. What a beautiful site to see the collection of Razars, sunfish, and sailboats giving it a go! For pictures of the Regatta, check out the website (Gallery loon) for a Picassa link to over 100 pictures!

The Regatta began with an onshore rigging class given by Razor guru, Stan Nickerson, who was the ultimate winner of the Razor class (but not before dunking a couple of times before crossing the finish line). Ryan Jacobson was the winner of the "Open Class" that included all but the Razor boats! It was a wonderful sailing day with strong winds, beautiful blue sky and sunshine! Our thanks to Al Struck who organized the event and provided the handmade individual trophies. A permanent plaque with the winner's names engraved upon it will be passed along to each year's winners. Stay tuned for the date of the 2014 Bud Lazott Memorial Regatta!

### **Photos**

Everyone seems to be taking 'selfies' on their cellphones these days to post on-line. Whether you take a photo on your cellphone, a disposable camera or something fancy, we'd like to see what you've taken! It is now possible to directly upload your photos (of Keoka Lake, the 4<sup>th</sup> of July parade, the Fall Foliage weekend, the Regatta, and/or photos of the surrounding area in any season) directly to the website. We're looking for new photos

for note cards and postcards as well as a website slide show. Do you have some pictures you'd like to share with us? It's just a click away! If you have physical pictures (some people still use real film and/or print pictures out rather than store them on their computer), we'd love to see them as well. Real pix can be mailed to KLA, Box 97, Waterford, ME 04088. Please include your name and address and we'll mail them back to you if you wish.

### **Social Media:**

Do you 'tweet' (no, it's not just for the birds)? How about Instagram? (it's not anything close to a 21<sup>st</sup> century version of the dot/dash telegram) Vine? (nope, not a trailing weed that you can't remove from the shoreline because it's protected) YouTube? (no, that's not a personal inner tube pulled behind a boat). How about 'google'? (did you know it's now a legitimate word in Webster's dictionary!) Do you have a Facebook page? (now, that's something most folks have heard of!)

The world of social media is changing before our eyes but rest assured, Keoka Lake is taking it slowly. Yes, KLA has a website (<http://www.keokalake.org>) and KLA has a Facebook page. If you have a Facebook page too, you can 'Like' us on Facebook and any updates and/or posts to the KLA page will show up on your Timeline – It's as easy as that. Coming soon (we hope), we can alert you to updates on our website by posting a notice on our Facebook page. So for those long winters not spent on the waters or shores of Keoka Lake, you can be 'in the know'!

### **Fall Dues Notice:**

The final page of this newsletter is the Fall Dues Notice. Our thanks to those listed who have paid their 2013 dues by Oct. 15<sup>th</sup>. If you have not paid your 2013 dues, please note that you can pay both the 2013 and the 2014 dues with this notice (and save yourself a stamp!).

Please consider a gift in excess of your membership either as an unrestricted donation or directed to the Milfoil Reserve or Educational Initiative. KLA is a volunteer organization that relies on donations to continue its mission to maintain the health and safety of Keoka Lake, especially in the face of the threat of invasives, both flora and fauna, and naturally occurring and man-made environmental threats. KLA is also committed to protecting the waters of Keoka Lake for future generations by educating its membership about environmental threats, environmentally conscious and proactive best practices and safe boating practices to protect those who enjoy its waters.

### **Gift Memberships**

Many of the 'camps' that border Keoka Lake are multi-generational camps with long histories on the lake. Childhood friendships are renewed at Keoka when those who spent their summers in the '60's, '70's and '80's return to Keoka with their families to share those same experiences. Family reunions are what it's all about!

But the work of KLA is supported largely through dues payments. Please consider encouraging your children and grandchildren to take a direct interest in the lake by becoming independent members of KLA. To jumpstart the transition from one generation to another, consider giving a KLA GIFT MEMBERSHIP to children, grandchildren and/or nieces/nephews. On the enclosed Dues Notice, just fill out the form for your gift recipient, check the "Gift Membership" box and give us **your** name & address. KLA will do the rest and send you a **GIFT MEMBERSHIP CERTIFICATE** that you can gift-wrap and/or deliver as you wish. Passing the torch to the next generation ensures the continued enjoyment of the lake by all. A KLA Gift Membership is a gift that keeps on giving (and doesn't need batteries, doesn't take up space, doesn't need a charger and doesn't collect dust!). KLA Gift Memberships make great stocking stuffers or Hannukah gifts!

### **Merchandising:**

In 2013, KLA continued to present articles for sale at the Wilkens House Community Breakfasts as well as at the Fourth of July Parade and the Fall Foliage Weekend. Our organization regularly nets upwards of \$500 from these sales opportunities and we thank each of you who support KLA in this way.

This year, we introduced several new lines, including the highly coveted, hard to come by, "This is Waterford" designs, featuring the iconic Waterford Village motto from the 1960's. Please continue to support our efforts with your clothing purchases.

### **Memorials**

In the last couple of years, KLA has lost a number of long-term members: Phyllis Hammett, Aldie Johnson, Bud Lazott, and Jim Tabor, to name a few. Our thanks to their families who included KLA in their list for memorial contributions and to those who contributed to KLA in their memory. Memorial donations can be earmarked for

specific programs or for general activities that support the mission of KLA.

### **New for 2014**

Coming in 2014, KLA is preparing two aids for any KLA member who would like to know more about Invasives and/or the points to remember when doing your own boat inspection. Both 'cards' will be laminated so as to be impervious to water and designed to fit easily into a small space within your boat – be it a motorboat, a sailboat, a kayak, canoe or jetski. In order to have these ready for distribution to as many members as possible at the 2014 Annual Meeting, we need to hear from you that you'd like one or both. Please use the Feedback link (to the Board) on the KLA website to send us a message with the number of boats you have/the number of cards of each type you would like. As soon as the prototypes are worked up, we'll try to get pictures posted on the website. Watch our Facebook page to be notified of website updates.

*We wish each of you a Happy Holiday season  
and a very Happy New Year!*

### **KLA BOARD OF TRUSTEES**

Charlie Tarbell, President  
Joanne Eaton, Vice President  
Dave Abbiati, Secretary  
Chip Mason, Treasurer

Ginger Eaton  
Tom Hammett  
Dan Johnson  
David Johnson

Jo Lynne Johnson  
Arne Klepinger  
Peter Morse  
Richard Orr

Ginny Raymond  
Don Rung  
Tom Stockwell  
Andy Tabor

<http://www.keokalake.org>