

# Waukewan Shore Owners Association Newsletter

Vol. 16, No.2

December 2005 issue

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## Waukewan Watershed Study Update

*as excerpted from  
the Laconia Daily  
Sun, and the  
Meredith News*

Septic systems, site development and motor boating have been identified as the three top areas of concern for Waukewan in a 100-page report. The report was authored by the 16-member Waukewan Watershed

Advisory Committee, meeting 2 or 3 times a month for the past 16 months.

The Committee was authorized by the Meredith Selectboard to develop a management plan for the source of the town's public drinking water supply, Waukewan. The 13-mile square watershed includes:

**Meredith, Center Harbor, New Hampton,  
Holderness and Ashland.**

The bodies of water being reviewed are:  
**Waukewan, Winona, Hawkins Pond,  
Bear Pond, Otter Pond and  
the Snake River.**

The public can view the report on the Town's website, [www.meredithnh.org](http://www.meredithnh.org) or obtain CD copies from Town Hall Annex.

Technical writing in the report was done by Jennifer Palmiotto of the NH Rural Water Assoc. In addition, for all of its efforts, the Waukewan Advisory Committee has been awarded DES's first **"Source Water Protection Award"**

The committee stopped short of recommending that a central sewer system be installed around Waukewan in order to protect the quality of water from its biggest threat. They called for implementation of a septic system inspection program for every property within 250' of shorelines. Chair Bruce Bond and his committee are pushing for a 1.5 -mile extension of the current system covering much of the development of the west

shore of Lake Waukewan, including Wall St, Winona Shores and Winona Forest. Ideally the line would follow the railroad right-of-way.

Chair Bruce Bond said there are currently 102 boats housed on Waukewan. Personal watercraft of one or two seats are not permitted on the lake.

They are also recommending a plan to phaseout all two-cycle engines from Waukewan. John Edgar, Meredith Town Planner, said that some 30% of fuel used in two-stroke engines goes into the water and the federal government has banned their manufacture after January 1 of 2006.

Randy Eifert of the Committee said the lake has probably slipped down from a **"Oligotrophic"** state — low level of nutrients, few plants, low algae, good clarity and a high oxygen concentration to a **"Mesotrophic"** state — with a mid-range level of nutrients, increased plant growth, moderate clarity and 'good' oxygen concentrations. It now supports cold and warm-water fish. In 1994 it was a cold water fishery. Subsequently, the state has confirmed that the lake is still considered **"Oligotrophic"**.

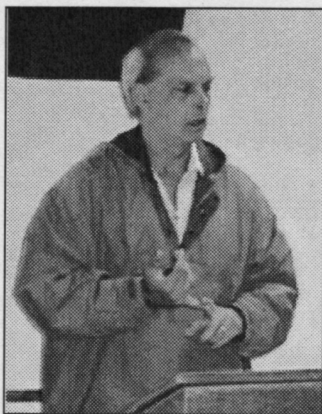
Eifert said the state has found that the water in Waukewan "turns over" only once every 1 1/2 years, far less than the state average of three times, flushing pollutants out at the time of each "turn over". Paugus Bay, source of Laconia's drinking water, turns over 13 times a year.

In addition to reducing pollution in the watershed, the Advisory Committee's major goals include increasing the understanding of the watershed through research, monitoring and raising awareness about problems facing the watershed.



# Minutes of WSOA Annual meeting of July 9th, 2005 *as submitted by Nancy Curran*

The meeting was opened at 10:10, by President Tom Swaim. He introduced board members, Jeff Moody to the right, and thanked Janis Roberts and Paula Wanzer for the newsletter mailings, Doris Atkinson for her work on the Lake Host Program, and Bobby Smyth for newsletter design.



Jeff Moody, former president

Deb Corr gave a report on the Weed Watcher program. She and others have been trained to identify exotic weeds in the lake. They paddle canoes around the shore, taking samples of weeds, etc. Jeff reported that anyone seeing a 'bloom' of algae in the water should call Bob Hill at the Water Department, 279- 3046 and also asked everyone to collect samples of suspicious weeds or aquatic life found in the water or on a boat.

Tom reported that the lake level was down, but it was normal, and leveling off. He also reported that the state had listed Waukegan as having milfoil, but that is a holdover from several years ago. The lake is now free of exotic plants. The listing will change.

Anne Sayers reported that Lake Host volunteers are needed to match time given by paid employees. We have two new paid hosts to cover weekends now, but help will be needed in August. Zebra mussels were found on a boat trying to enter Winnepesaukee, which is something to be very carefully monitored. Suspected boats and trailers should be washed down with a 10% bleach solution.

Linda Kosinski reported on the conflict regarding the lake classification. The state based the classification on some incorrect information, and listed it as Class B instead of A, but the situation will be resolved within two weeks.

It was reported that the rowing club will be installing a new dock next to the public dock at the boat ramp.

Attendees were told to be sure to take the Boat Safety Course according to the schedule of ages, as required by the state.

Deb Corr reported that dues for the year are \$35, and she would be collecting them after the meeting. There are also envelopes in the latest newsletter for dues

payment.

Kiosk maintenance will be done by Anne Sayers, Jim James and volunteers.

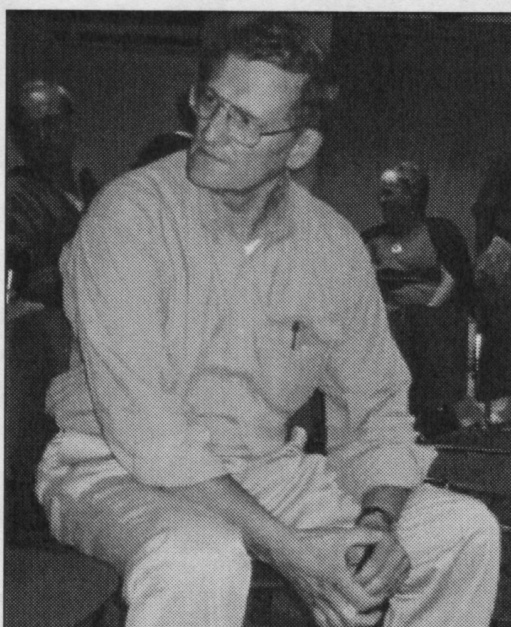
Tom Swaim announced that WSOA had donated \$1000 toward the purchase by the Lake Winona Association. of a 20-acre tract of land on Winona Road on Fogg Hill. The land is in Current Use. It abuts the Kodiak property to the south.

Jeff gave a detailed report on the work of the Watershed Study Committee. He stated that the main goals of the study are to analyze the data received from the survey taken last year of the property around the lakes and rivers, deciding what are the risks, what can be done, and educating the public regarding all of the problems. A written report will be available on the town's web site at: [www.meredithnh.org](http://www.meredithnh.org).

Tom reported that all work done so far by the Kodiak camp has had the proper permits. Their progress has been monitored by aerial photography, which will continue.

Nominations for a slate of Board officers for 2006 were submitted and approved:

President/Tom Swaim;  
V P & Corresponding Sec./Anne Sayers;  
Treasurer/Deb Corr;  
Recording Secretary/Nancy Curran.



WSOA officers, from left to right, Nancy Curran, Recording Secretary, Tom Swaim, President, and Deborah Corr, Treasurer.

The WSOA Board and members would like to thank Paula Wanzer and Janis Roberts for their efforts in helping to get this Waukegan Shore Owners' Association newsletter out. Paula is letting us use her bulk postal permit number (with the permission of the Post Master), and Janis Roberts has entered onto her computer an alphabetized list of members' names and addresses so that they can be converted to mailing labels. Therefore, all the WSOA mailing team now has to do is to fold, and affix stamps and tape. Paula and Janis, without your help it would not only have been ever so much more costly to WSOA, but time consuming to set up all the computer logistics. Thank you both!



## Minutes of WSOA Board meeting of Oct. 15th, 2005 as submitted by Nancy Curran

The WSOA Board Meeting was opened at 9:05 by President Tom Swaim. Present were Tom Swaim, Anne Sayers, Deb Corr, Nancy Curran, and Bobby Smyth.

Introductions were made of the three guests, Bill Hoffmeier, Bob Normandy and Bob Wenstrup.

The secretary's report was amended to add Fogg Hill to the description of the property on Winona Road which was purchased by the Winona Lake Association, and that it abutted the Kodiak property to the south. The minutes of the Annual Meeting held on July 9, 2005, were accepted as amended.

Deb Corr gave a financial report that showed receipts of \$3290.65, and disbursements of \$1653.00, for a balance of \$4980.66. She also commented that paid memberships were down this year from 115 paid members in 2004 to 90 paid members in 2005. This is possibly a result of not enough envelope inserts in the last newsletter, and an incorrect post office box number.

Anne reported on the Lake Host program. The purpose of the program is to inspect boats entering the lake for exotic weeds and zebra mussels. If the lake becomes infested with these, they are difficult and expensive to eradicate. Lake Waukegan had one infestation of milfoil in the canal a few years ago which was successfully eradicated, and has had none since. Boo Gershun was

our point person this year to do the paper work, and it is hoped she will do the same next year. Our first paid employee worked only two weekends, and we had to hire two more people to cover weekends. Volunteers cover weekdays whenever possible. Janan Hays has volunteered to make up a schedule of volunteers for next year.

Tom reported that the Watershed Committee has submitted its report to the selectmen, and it is now on the town's web site: [www.meredithnh.org](http://www.meredithnh.org). He strongly encourages everyone to read and become familiar with it.

*The board elected three new members, Bill Hoffmeier, Bob Normandy and Barbara Smyth. Bill is a retired forester from Bristol. Bob is the CFO with a software company in Nashua, and Bobby is the newsletter designer, formerly with Fortune magazine.*

Our other guest, Bob Wenstrup, introduced himself as a physicist who has a long-time interest in environmental issues. The board stated that they hoped he would maintain his interest in WSOA, and continue to attend meetings.

The board reviewed a first draft of the upcoming newsletter, and asked for contributions of articles of interest to residents to add.

Nancy Curran will check with Jim James regarding maintenance of the kiosk, and Anne will check with the

Loon Society to see if the fledgling loons seen on the lake in late summer were hatched here or had come from another lake.

Tom reported that he had been in contact with a lawyer dealing with environmental issues to see if Kodiak is in conformance with state and federal laws regarding their continued expansion of facilities. The question is whether they can develop small portions of their property at a time without getting permits to disturb over 100,000 square feet of land. He will report at the next meeting.

Tom is also working to update our by-laws to conform with tax-exempt status. He will make recommendations and present them to the board at the next meeting. Once application is made for no-tax status, the usual waiting period is 8-10 months.

There has been no response from DES regarding the Brookside Lane property and clear cutting done there.

A discussion was held regarding the clear cutting on Waukegan Street. Bob Wenstrup, an abutter, reported that the property is purportedly being restored to its original fields. Therefore only a logging tax filing was required.

The 2006 WSOA board meetings will be held on Saturday, May 13th at 9:00 am, and July 8th at 1:00 pm. at Tom Swaim's at 86 Red Gate Lane. The annual meeting will be held on July 15th at the Meredith Library.

Meeting was adjourned at 10:50 am

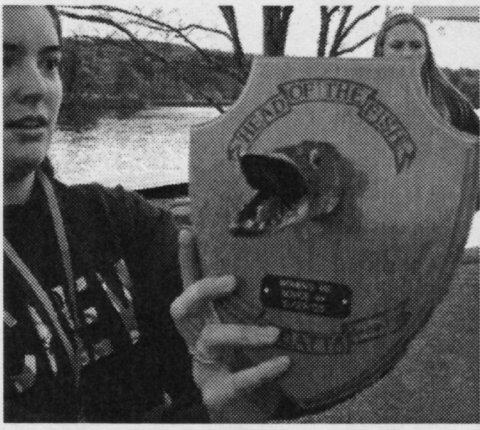
—Respectfully submitted, Nancy Curran

According to Bob Hill, Superintendent of the Meredith Water and Sewer Department, Rusty McLear, president of Hampshire Hospitality Holdings, was able to have the "penstock" stone box culvert, built in the 1800s inspected this past spring. They did it without lowering the lake level. The culvert drains Waukegan into Winnepesaukee and lies beneath Main Street. They sent down a specialized professional diver from *Underwater Solutions* into the culvert. DES and the town were looking for stress fractures, debris, etc., anything that could contribute to the weakness of the structure or interfere with the water flow. According to videos taken, it looks to be clean. A final report is forthcoming.

At the time the lake level was already quite low, and further taking it down had been of concern to shore owners.

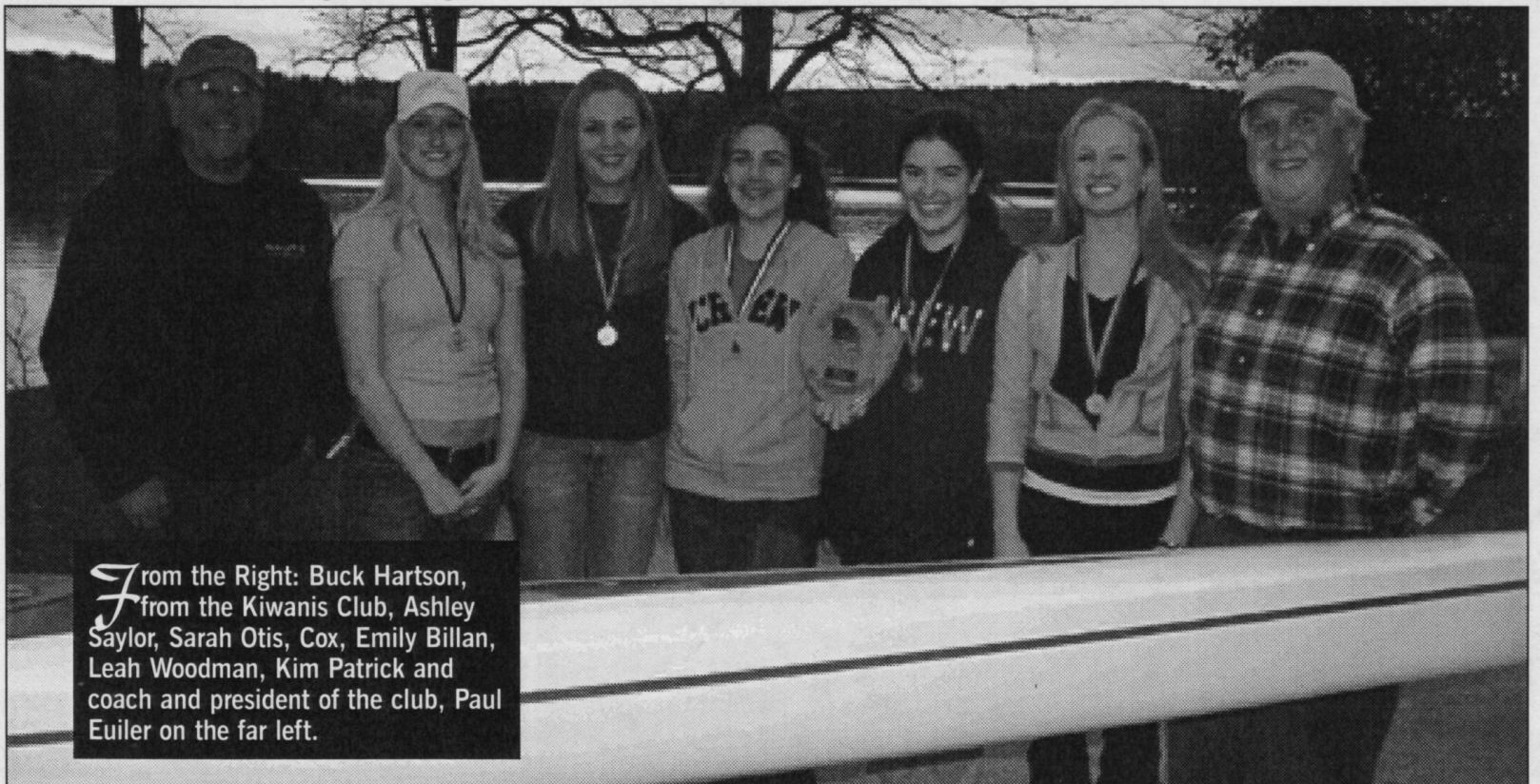


## Waukegan Welcomes the New Rowing Club Dock, and some Big Wins



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Girlly whoops, hollers and hugs of surprise and delight were heard and witnessed by all in the vicinity of the *Winnepesaukee Rowing Club's* beautiful new Wintech boat, cradled near the Fish River in Saratoga Springs, NY on Sat. Oct. 29th. The crew team of 5 Inter-Lakes high school girls had just discovered how well they'd performed in the culminating regatta of their season, and what a finish it was, indeed! Coach Paul Euiler had expected them to come in the top 10 in their division of 21 boats, but even he was surprised at the first place result. Very accomplished co-rower and motivator, Liz Euiler (on the far left) had set them up for success in that brand new boat purchased with the help of funds donated by the Kiwanis Club. Kiwanis Member Buck Hartson is shown bottom right of the lower photo. Top photo, from the right, Ashley Saylor, Leah Woodman, Emily Billan, Kim Patrick. Cox is Sarah Otis, background on right.



From the Right: Buck Hartson, from the Kiwanis Club, Ashley Saylor, Sarah Otis, Cox, Emily Billan, Leah Woodman, Kim Patrick and coach and president of the club, Paul Euiler on the far left.



## Notes from the Selectmen's Meeting as Concerning Runoff into Waukewan

At the regular meeting of the Meredith Selectmen held on Mon. Nov. 21st, a major issue about siltation problems during the heavy rains this summer and fall were confronted. There were two properties deemed to have caused these problems, the Knisley property being clear cut on Waukewan St. and the Waukewan Village condominium project further up the same road.

First of all, no one had expected the approximately 15 inches of rain which categorized the situation as between a 100 and 200 year flooding event.

Several letters from concerned abutters were read aloud and the audience was asked for their input. The Knisleys defended their project saying none of the soil entering the lake came from their property as they could prove their soil types. Two abutters claimed that much of the water and silt came from the Habitat house under construction across the street. The Waukewan Village developer said he knew some siltation came from his land, but that he had now greatly improved their barriers and holding pond, added temporary seeding (broadcast in mulch over exposed ground) and set up a diversionary system to keep uphill water from flowing onto their project.

Bill Edney, Code Enforcement Officer for Meredith, has been working very closely with people on both projects and feels everyone is working very hard to comply with the latest standards of erosion control, to the end that the siltation will not occur again.

Bob Wenstrup, an abutter of the Knisleys, and member of WSOA, pointed out that for many years storm water runoff has been coming down from Cotton Hill (the land that goes all the way up to route.

104), under Waukewan St (or over it in case of flooding) and down a brook on the north side of the Kneisley property and into the lake.

The storm water runoff has carried large amounts of debris with it including old tires and an empty 100 pound liquid propane gas tank.

He felt this event should provide a strong motivation for Meredith's comprehensive review of drainage and development for this sensitive area of the Waukewan watershed, especially in light of the ongoing Waukewan Watershed Study.

The selectmen agreed. In the best interests of Waukewan, they are planning a meeting with Bill Edney, Carol Granfield (Town Manager) and Mike Faller (head of Department of Public Works) to further identify and manage this problem.

They will also address the need to tighten up guidelines for better control of erosion situations before issuing permits. Hopefully we won't see the rain that created this situation again for many years.



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The two photos to the left were taken by Randy Eifert, a Waukewan Watershed Advisory Committee member, in October of this year. As he notes in his letter to the Meredith Selectmen on November 21st, ... "Irony is that I was walking the tracks to see how the Waukewan Street clear cut property was holding up (top photo illustrating the Pollard Shores runoff) and I stumbled upon an even greater immediate concern with the 75 foot plume of silt streaming into Waukewan from the Waukewan Village retention pond, a half-mile away from the Lake."

(This is illustrated in the lower photo. The actual plume did not translate into black and white from color. What you see is murky silt water going under RR tracks and out into Lake Waukewan.)



## Waukewan's Lake Host Program Update

This April WSOA applied for and once again received a grant from the New Hampshire Lakes Association to run the Lake Host Program over the summer. This grant pays for a person to be at the public ramp on weekends to educate boat launchers to the dangers of introducing exotic weeds (and in the future zebra mussels) into the lake.

Boo Gershun, our program coordinator, hired two girls, Hilary Keller, a college student from Meredith attending school in Kansas and Margaret Zmrazek,

also of Meredith, who goes to school in Ohio. Both girls put in a total of 111 hours.

*The Lake Host Program is probably the best tool we have to keep exotic weeds and other foreign aquatic life from entering Lake Waukewan.*

Ten different volunteers donated a total of 120 hours, more than meeting the 50% time-match required for the program grant. We had hoped to cover

the ramp for 240 paid weekend hours, but some glitches prevented our reaching that goal. We really need as many volunteers as possible to take the one time training program (to be announced in the spring newsletter and held at several location at either evening or afternoon sessions) so that the volunteer commitment isn't a burden for just a few shoreowners.

Please consider signing up this spring, it's your lake too, and if we fail to meet the volunteer goals, we will lose any future chance of receiving the grant.

—submitted by Anne Sayers

## Lake Host Program needs Help!

### ATTENTION: SHOREOWNERS AND SENIORS!

#### PAID, Part-time Position Available May through September, 2006

The Waukewan Shore Owner's Association is looking for one or two responsible seniors to work as Lake Hosts on weekends and holidays at the public boat ramp in Meredith from Memorial Day to Labor Day, 2006.

The job involves educating boaters about exotic weeds--teaching them to check their boats and trailers upon entering and leaving bodies of water. Requirement: three-hour training session to be given in Concord next spring (all expenses reimbursed). The position pays \$10 per hour. If interested, please send your information to WSOA, P.O. Box 91, Meredith, NH 03253 and someone will get back to you.

## WSOA Treasurer's Report by Deb Corr

### CASH RECEIPTS AND DISBURSEMENTS REPORT for July 1st, 2005 — September 30th, 2005 is as follows:

CASH ON HAND AS OF JULY 1, 2005.....\$3,343.01

#### RECEIPTS

Membership Dues .....	3,110.00
Additional Gifts .....	180.00
Interest on checking .....	.65
<b>TOTAL RECEIPTS .....</b>	<b>3,290.65</b>

#### DISBURSEMENTS

##### DONATIONS:

Loon Preservation Committee .....	250.00
NH Lakes Association .....	500.00
<b>SUB TOTAL DONATIONS .....</b>	<b>750.00</b>

##### "OTHER"

Lake Host/Water Monitoring Program .....	280.00
Uniforms for Lake Hosts .....	35.00
Newsletter printing and postage .....	560.00
Newspaper Advertising .....	28.00
<b>TOTAL OTHER EXPENSES .....</b>	<b>903.00</b>

**TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS .....** **1,653.00**

**RECEIPTS OVER DISBURSEMENTS .....** **1,637.65**

**CASH ON HAND MVS,9/30/05 .....** **\$4,980.66**



## WSOA Board Meeting Dates for - 2006 and the Public is certainly welcome

- ☐ Sat. May 13th at 9:00 a.m.; Tom Swaims', 86 Red Gate Lane.
- ☐ Short, working Board meeting on Sat. July 8th (prior to the Annual Meeting), 1:00 p.m.  
Tom Swaims', 86 Red Gate Lane.
- ☐ **THE 2006 ANNUAL MEETING**, Sat. July 15th, 10:00 a.m. **MEREDITH PUBLIC LIBRARY**

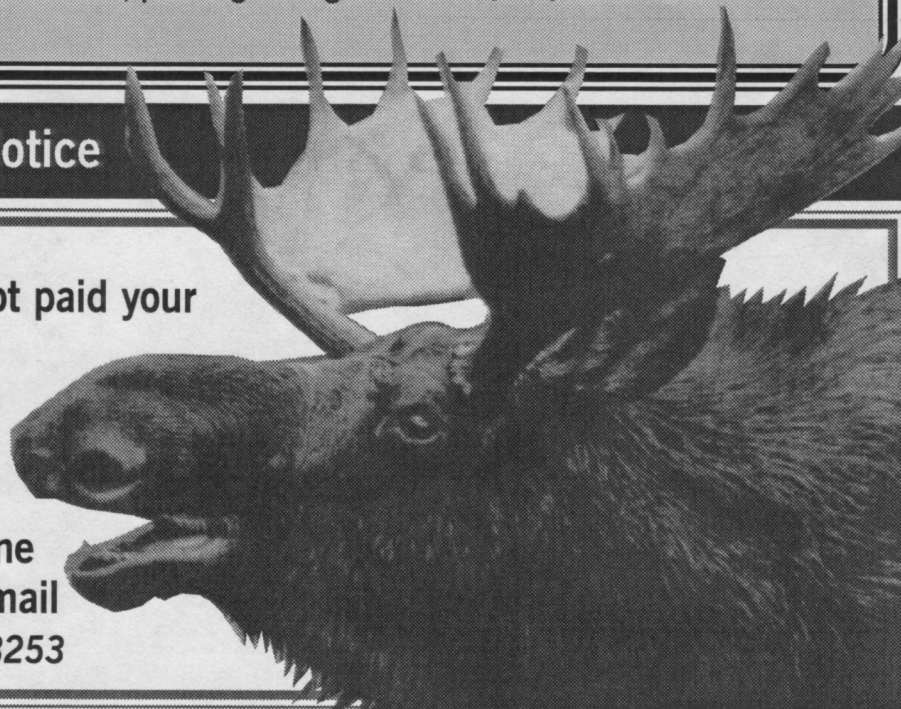
## Don't Forget Newly Required Boater Safety Course Requirement by 2008

**B**OATER SAFETY COURSES WILL BE GIVEN IN CONCORD, LACONIA AND MEREDITH — Boaters of all ages are required to have a boating safety certificate by January 1st, 2008. This summer, anyone born on or after Jan. 1st, 1967 needs to have completed the course or passed the on-line exam to operate a vessel with a motor of greater than 25 horsepower. Next summer, boaters born after Jan. 1st '63 must have the certificate to operate, and one is required for all those born on or after 1957 to be able to ply waters in the summer of 2007. Call the marine patrol at 1-888-254-2125 for a list of courses. You may either take the course in two 3 1/2 - hour sessions or one seven-hour session. One may also take the computer on-line exam without the course. Contact [www.nhlakes.org/boating\\_safety.htm](http://www.nhlakes.org/boating_safety.htm)

**R**oger Hogan, working for the Belknap County Conservation District, is attempting to ascertain which residents might be interested in protecting their land by putting into an easement agreement (land over 10 acres) with a conservation group of your choice. If qualifying, there are income and property tax savings, and the land will be protected from development. Also monitored for boundary markings, and any encroachments on a yearly basis. If any Belknap county residents are interested, please give Roger a call at (603) 527-5880.

## Dues Notice

If our records indicated you have not paid your dues, there will be a return pre-addressed envelope included in this newsletter for the July, 2005 through June, 2006 membership. Therefore, if you haven't already done so, please enclose your check and mail to: WSOA, P.O. Box 91, Meredith NH ,03253





## Loons on Lake Waukewan This Year *submitted by Wayne Bredvick*

**D**id you hear that? "That is the sound of a loon calling its mate!" The plaintive, melancholy sound or "wail", "is a coyote-like call, which sounds like "Wheeeere-aaaare-yooou?" according to Jeff Fair in his pamphlet:

### *A Conversational Guide to Learning About Loons.*

It is a call often heard when a loon is looking for its mate (or family) on the lake.

My wife, Carol, and I were sitting on our dock in Jenness Cove on Lake Waukewan one evening in late October while watching the sunset with visitors new to the area when we heard the male loon call in the distance and then a response from a loon nearby. Then, we spotted the loon about two hundred feet away when it responded to the call from its mate.

The loon calls to each other continued every few minutes, each time the male loon calls getting louder, until we actually saw the other loon swimming into the cove, frequently diving and then reappearing ahead of its last position. Finally, the two loons were in close proximity to each other, still diving and then reappearing together, moving toward a secluded area at the north end of the cove.

During this past October and early November, a pair of loons were seen frequently in our cove, swimming back and forth from one end to the other or out into the main lake, calling to each other with those beautifully unique sounds that identify the loons.

We are frequently privileged to be able to hear, see, and observe loons and their habits from the shore of our lakeside home in Jenness Cove. Their variety of calls, hoots, mews, and tremolos, and even an occasional "yodel" by a male during the spring mating season, never ceases to bring smiles to our faces. We are fascinated by the large, beautiful birds and their remarkable ability to swim long distances under water while looking for fish, often staying below the surface for a minute or more.

I personally saw a loon swim underwater right past the end of my dock one day while I was looking down into the water after seeing one submerge closeby, coming in my direction. Its wings were straight back and feet straight out behind, moving very fast, only about a foot beneath the surface in 5 feet of water.

When flying, "loons are built only for fast flight and have reportedly been clocked by pilots at (speeds) up to 90 mph", according to writer Jeff Fair.

In winter, loons migrate to open water free of ice, along the coastal areas where they can float and continue to fish.

Loons need approximately 500 acres of water per pair to sustain them with enough fish, according to the Loon Preservation Society.

In the past, Waukewan has often been home to two nesting pairs. The lake, just under 1,000 acres in size, with one large island and 5 smaller islands, attracts loons. Jenness Cove has usually been home to one nesting pair at the south end, affording us an opportunity to observe them from our kitchen window or our dock, and report observations to the Loon Preservation Society.

**L**arge fluctuations in water levels, however, can have a detrimental effect on the loon's ability to nest because of their difficulty in getting back onto the nest if the water level has dropped considerably. During the past two years when the nesting areas were underwater, loon rafts were floated to provide an alternative nesting area, but without success.

We love these unique birds, and we plan to continue working with the Loon Preservation Society in hopes of keeping loons on Waukewan. With everyone's cooperation, it will happen.



According to John Cooly, Staff Biologist for the Loon Preservation Society there were no documented loon chick births on Waukewan in 2005.



**An Aerial Photo** *submitted by Randy Eifert of the Waukegan Watershed Advisory Committee*



A photo by Randy Eifert taken Thanksgiving week....Southern end of Waukegan in forefront with Meredith Bay in middle and Center Harbor Bay in distant left...Ossipees in the distance...also a good shot of the clear cutting in the lower right corner along Waukegan Street and some of the visible erosion.





You think it couldn't be done? even in your own back yard? Well think again, and monitor those feeders before Ms. bear fills up.