



## **P. R. P. Association, Inc.**

**P.O. Box 98, E. Wakefield, NH 03830**

**Associated Website: [www.pineriverpond.org](http://www.pineriverpond.org)**

“Dedicated to promoting the welfare  
of Pine River Pond and its environs.”

President	Peter Congdon	522-3676
1 <sup>st</sup> Vice President	John Creighton	522-6428
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### **DECEMBER 2011 NEWSLETTER**

**RECAP OF THE SUMMER:** Pretty nice summer all things considered. Early in the season we had a delay in the water level going to “full” due to a leak in an underground fuel tank. Fortunately this was fixed and nature gave us a good dollop of rain to fill the lake up. We did not have many hot days and most nights were quite comfortable. August was cooler this year resulting in cooler water temps. In spite of that, I took my last dip on October 8 - it was quick however!

**ANNUAL MEETING:** Held on Sat. July 9 in Mary Richard’s and Goldsmith’s back yard on Olde Pine Rd. Once again we thank them for this use. It was a nice day with 65-70 attending. Major topics covered were:

Our Officers have all agreed to serve again for the 2011-12 season. However the position of Corresponding Sec’y was eliminated. Our officers do a great and much appreciated job in upholding the mission: “Dedicated to promoting the welfare of Pine River Pond and its environs.” The Assn. welcomes ideas, input and participation from all throughout the year – not just at meetings. Future leaders – don’t be shy!

Bob Lundgren announced the winner of the Jim McRobbie Memorial Ice-Out Contest. Barbara Pinch of Anglin Drive won the \$100 prize by guessing the closest to ice-out. Her guess was April 19 at 3:30 PM which was within a half hour of the actual time.

Donations of \$200 each were approved for the Loon Preservation Committee and the NH Lakes Assn.

**MEMBERSHIP:** We now have 317 paid memberships, down from 337 last year. However, it would be helpful to know who has moved onto the lake so we can offer to put them in the loop. Talk it up! The website [www.pineriverpond.org](http://www.pineriverpond.org) has information and the application to join.

### **ROAD ASSOCIATION INFORMATION NEEDED:**

The PRP Association would like to know the names and contact information for all the various road association leaders on the lake. Even though you THINK we know who you are, please confirm this by contacting Howie Knight. (603-522-3097 -- [xcaliber@roadrunner.com](mailto:xcaliber@roadrunner.com)). There are two meetings a year (April and October) that these folks have the option to attend so we want to be able to notify them.

### **PRP CLOTHING :**

We had a better year sales-wise, being higher by about \$600 than last year though the cost of restocking made the net lower. Anyway we thank Deb Dunn for once again managing the store

with the assistance of Linda Orosky and my wife Carol. Deb had a different summer with husband Tim working overseas so she wasn’t up as much but managed to come up nearly every Sunday anyway.

Also, the power outage due to “Irene” melted the remaining ice cream stock but fortunately that was at the end of the summer. Thanks to all who purchased clothing, and be sure to check out the new items when the store re-opens next summer.

**FIREWORKS SHOW July 9:** Once again, a great show and a beautiful evening. As mentioned in the previous newsletter, we had a new fireworks company....Pyrotechnico. They did a fine job even though we were limited to smaller shells due to new NH rules about fireworks.

We thank Michawanic Village Assn for the use of their beach again. This is the ONLY suitable place on the lake for a fireworks display. Pete Congdon, the Fireworks Chairman, asked me to express his appreciation to the cleanup crew. Several folks showed up the next morning, went to work and cleaned up the debris. Pete, thanks for coordinating this great event once again! Pete announced that this would be his last year as fireworks chairman. Fortunately Doug Stewart stepped forward to fill the gap which we all appreciate. Doug has deep roots at PRP since his grandparents (my aunt and uncle) first came here in 1943.

Contributions were up this year and we made our goal of \$7,000 for the show. Thanks to all who donated to make this a success.

### **WEED WATCH:**

Due to lack of participation in the past we again did not have an official Weed Watch day. In lieu of this, based on a suggestion originally offered by Pam Knight and formalized this year by Jim Fitzpatrick, we now have a program to make this work even better. It was suggested that the many kayakers or anyone that plies PRP waters be observant and report any unusual weed growth. If you take a sample, put it in a plastic bag with water and contact one of the officers for proper procedure to have it checked.

### **WEEDS . . . continued:**

There was just a very minor “bladderwort eruption” this summer. It’s still a mystery why this does or doesn’t occur. We did learn that bladderwort is an “enemy” of milfoil. Apparently its density helps to keep potential milfoil from taking root.

### **LAKE HOST PROGRAM:**

Report from the "Lake Host Program" aka The Weed Block submitted by **Jim Fitzpatrick**. Jim was the prime mover on this effort to screen as many boats and trailers as possible as they are launched.

“Before getting to the report I would like to thank the following people for their work and support: Rosemary Stewart, Jack Lemery, Roger Gauthier, Shirley and Jack Dunham, Monique Roy (community integrator) Without the spirit of volunteerism of these folks the program would not have been as successful as it was. We started on Aug. 7 at the Lord Rd launch site, had 14 days of inspections on a total of 115 boats. No invasive aquatic plants were found either entering or leaving our pond. The Lake Host Program will continue next year with the support of PRP Assoc. and hopefully grants and other agencies.

It is PRP's good fortune that water entering the pond is from springs and water sheds and NOT from contaminated ponds and lakes. However we are surrounded by contaminated bodies of water, i.e. Winnepesaukee, Balch, Belleau, Ossipee, Crescent, Wentworth,, Sunrise, Melendy, Potanipo, Mountain and Pickerel. All it takes is a plant fragment hitching a ride on a boat, trailer ,fishing gear or bait bucket to take hold in our pond.

Next year we will be juggling and expanding our schedule to include the busiest boat-in and boat-out days. We have learned that these include one and two weeks before Memorial Day and after Labor Day. Many boats are put in or taken out by busy boat yards that are using boat yard trailers that may have come from contaminated waters. Because many of our Hosts are still in college we desperately need volunteers. We are also looking for Hosts for the 2012 season. This is a great opportunity for the next stewards of the lake to learn about its health and well being while making a few bucks. Pay is \$10/hr and minimum age is 18.

Let's all help to keep our lake weed free and maintain our property values! An ounce of prevention is worth a whole boat load of cure! For more information, Lake Host sign up and volunteering, Jim Fitzpatrick 522 8404".

### **WATER QUALITY:**

Simply put, the water quality of Pine River Pond continues to be very good. Based on a report from Robert Craycraft from the UNH Coop Extension, the water quality in PRP is good. In terms of a lake's life, we're in the mid-range. (*Mesotrophic* I believe) He emphasized that the presence of phosphorus greatly increases the likelihood of algae blooms and reduced clarity. Phosphorus increases due to runoff as well as the use of lawn fertilizer. He did mention that, short of lime alone, phosphorus-free lawn fertilizer is the next best option. As well as being marked as such, fertilizer has three numbers indicating Nitrogen, Phosphorus and Potash. Look for "0" for the middle number. I know it is available at most "big box" home improvement stores. If you have a lawn by the lake don't use anything with phosphorus.

**PARTY BOAT PARADE:** The Labor Day weekend Sunday resulted in a small party boat parade but loaded with enthusiastic participants. There were still many creative and colorful themes to entertain both the spectators and participants. I understand that Don and Nancy Gray stepped in for Jen Golini who was unable, at the last moment, to organize it this year.

**WINTER SPORTS:** Here's my annual pitch for the Seven Lakes Snowmobile Club. A core of dedicated area snowmobilers work hard to get permission for, maintain and groom about 50 miles of trail in Greater Wakefield. With construction and road development in the area it's getting harder to keep trails open, so we appreciate the cooperation of the many landowners who permit this use. The trails are also used by walkers and cross country skiers, so it's important to use caution and common sense when traveling the trails. To learn more about the Seven Lakes Snowmobile Club, please see their website: [www.sevenlakesnowmobileclub.com](http://www.sevenlakesnowmobileclub.com).

**LAKE E-MAIL TREE:** Contact administrator Dave Lee Sr. and he will broadcast important lake-related information to our on-line group. Dave does *not* compose a message for you so you should e-mail it to him so he can forward it. In the "for sale" category, please keep it to lake-related items. Dave also keeps us in the loop about town government via e-mail. In order to get onto the group e-mail list, simply e-mail him at [prpassociation@roadrunner.com](mailto:prpassociation@roadrunner.com). We thank Dave for his dedication

**LAKE DRAWDOWN INFO:** Lake drawdown began around Columbus Day. It was a FAST drawdown year with the level declining to the maximum 7'-8' by late November or early December. Of course heavy rain can affect this schedule. I just spoke with the NH Dam Bureau to clarify the slow vs fast drawdown schedule. As the result of a public hearing in 1983 it was decided that a "fast" drawdown would occur every three years, 2011 being a "fast" year. In a normal drawdown year the lake would not be down until mid-December. I also inquired what the procedure would be if lake residents desired a fast drawdown every year. The process is cumbersome in that the Dam Bureau would have to contact every shorefront property owner for an opinion. Therefore they want to keep things as is.

### **2010 GOLF TOURNAMENT:**

We thank Don Cormier for once again organizing a successful golf tournament accompanied by great weather. Results are:

**A Flight Winners:** Alvaro Hernandez, Pat Albert, Ken Forrence Maurice Roichaud

**B Flight Winners:** George Gaillardetz, Ed Gillespie Gary Frank Greg Eldridge

**C Flight Winners:** Debbie Collamore Fred Mapplebeck Judy Haberman Doug Haberman

**Putting Contest:** Dave Mills, Fran Small, Pat Small, John Sanzi  
**Closest to the Pin #5:** Pat Albert (Men), Barb Goldsmith (Women)  
**Closest to the Pin #11:** Greg Eldridge (Men), Jen Berube (Women)  
**Closest to the Pin #14:** Don Cormier (Men) Debbie Collamore (Women)

**Longest Drive #2:** Keith Cormier (Men) Carol Porter (Women)

**Longest Drive #6:** Richard Racicot (Sr Men) Nancy Goldsmith (Sr Women)

**Longest Drive #15:** Pat Albert (Men) Carol Porter (Women)

**ICE OUT CONTEST:** The response was initially very poor for the 2011 ice-out contest and the entry process was never easier but I'll try again. Winner gets \$100!!

- 1) There is no formal application form this year.
- 2) In lieu of an application, simply e-mail me your best guess by including your name, address, phone #, as well as the ice-out month, date and time in on the hr or ½ hr..
- 3) For those of you without e-mail, simply mail me a note with the same information.
- 4) My e-mail is [robertlundgren1@roadrunner.com](mailto:robertlundgren1@roadrunner.com) and mail address is 94 Grenier Rd, Sanbornville, NH 03872
- 5) Ice out will be defined by the point when the lake is essentially free of ice. My call! In the 2011 season I call it as I can.
- 6) If I am not here, I'll have to rely on volunteers to determine ice out.
- 7) The winner will be the closest guess either before or after the announced time. As respects this contest the ice never goes out after dark!
- 8) The guesses must be received no later than January 31. They will be filed and not looked at until after the ice out time is announced. Winner's name is announced at the annual meeting. **WHY NOT ENTER NOW?**

**PASSAGES:** Our sincere condolences to the families of the following members of the PRP lake community I learned passed away during 2011:

**Bill Stalnaker** of Ocala FL and Windy Pt Road  
**Ed Pouliot** of Portsmouth, NH and Windy Pt Road So  
**George Richburg** of Seabrook, NH and Windy Pt. Road.  
**Philip Hunt** of No. Andover, MA and Camp Road  
**Grace Bitomski** of Merrimac, MA and Black Cove Road.

**LOON REPORT:** No chicks this year either, though the loons did nest on Ramalu Island but no chick emerged. Last year brush was cleared from the "original" loon island nesting site to provide easier access and freedom from wakes. This is a small island on the East side of the lake in the vicinity of the ends of Lord Rd and Virginia Lane. Unfortunately the loons passed this up in favor of struggling over the boards on Ramalu. Maybe the "no trespassing" sign on the original island scared them off.

**PROPERTY TAX BLUES:** If you own shorefront property you were likely shocked to see a whopping increase in your land assessment. (perhaps 15%) As of this writing we're still trying to find out more about the reasons for this unexpected bite. There are indications that this "adjustment" is due to a handful of recent sales including some high end homes. Considering the soft real estate market and the number of unsold properties the increase seems unfair especially in light of the town services we do not receive.

Following is information you may or may not know: 1) Each of the lakes in Wakefield have a different per-foot base rate. PRP's is \$2,600 a foot for the first hundred feet and 30% of that (\$780.) for each additional foot. 2) This is adjusted by a modifier based on the nature of your shorefront (steep, weedy, sandy, etc) 3) In addition to the shorefront assessment there is an acreage assessment. 4) Much information can be obtained on-line at the Wakefield NH internet homepage by clicking on the link at the bottom. "[Wakefield Maps Query Manager](#)". You may have to allow "Silverlight" to be downloaded to view the information. 5) The on-line information while quite comprehensive is NOT as detailed as what can be obtained at the town hall by having your "property card" printed out.

*Bob Lundgren, Newsletter Editor*

P.S. Don't forget to check out our website: [www.pineriverpond.org](http://www.pineriverpond.org). Thanks to Dave Lee Jr. for maintaining the site. Updated photos of lake life in all seasons are most welcome.