



The sun sets on another season on Parker Pond  
Photo courtesy of Geoff Haines-Stiles

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Hi everyone,

My wife , Susan, and I are now full time residents of Parker Pond! Winter on Parker will be very different from winter in the town of Farmington.

What a glorious summer it was. On one of my long swims to Goose Neck Island I met a family of swimmers in the lake with an escort boat. One of the swimmers going the distance from east to west was Mr. Wells. He had an exhilarating look on his face as he was making his way to his family camp. At "80 years young" it was inspirational to me to witness his joy of being in the water with his family.

I want to thank the members of the board and all of our many other volunteers for their service and dedication to the mission of PPA. It is a joy to work with passionate people who want to make a difference on our lake. There is much going on in the Association and I want to highlight a few key items. First, the 30 Mile River Watershed Association has been awarded more grant money totaling around \$180,000 to fix the significant soil erosion problems that occur on the Sandy River Road where David Pond drains into Parker. The culvert needs to be replaced and the solution will involve a joint venture with the Town of Chesterville and 30 MRWA. Great work by Lidie and her team!

Speaking of soil erosion, more good news is that LakeSmart on Parker Pond is growing. It is a great learning experience on how to decrease soil erosion pollution on our lake. See Deb Cayer's article in this newsletter. I have been a citizen scientist for years trying to figure out what makes Gloeotrichia (algae) show up in our lake. We saw very little of it this year until we had two torrential rainstorms in August. Gloeotrichia was present the next day. This presence of Gloeotrichia is one result of the soil erosion that Lake Smart is focused on decreasing. I encourage ALL to take part in this FREE program for the health of our lake.

I want to draw your attention to more news from 30MRWA. Invasive Plants are our most immediate threat to Parker Pond. We need to be vigilant and inspect the boats that enter Parker Pond. The Inspection Program is funded in part by our contribution to the 30 MRWA. We are in need of more money to fund this program. See Wayne Whittier's Treasurers Report in the newsletter.

We are grateful for your support in the past and we need continued contributions to pay off the loan for the spillway land as well as support for Water Quality and Invasive Plants Programs. We are thankful to an anonymous donor who will match \$5000 of contributions. So, when you receive a letter from us, please respond with your membership dues and any contribution you can make for our debt retirement and stewardship programs.

My final note is one of gratitude to Dan Onion, who is retiring from the Board as the PPA representative to the 30 MRWA. Dan has been instrumental in making a huge difference in the success of PPA as well as being the guiding force behind the formation of 30 MRWA. His forward thinking and fundraising abilities have helped to position us in a place that we as a community can continue to work towards our goal of keeping our lake pristine. Thank you, Dan, from all of us who love Parker Pond.

Gratefully,

*Gerry Tinguely, President*

**WE NEED \$10,000**  
**Treasurer's Report - 2019 Through October**

Major categories of revenues and expenses are shown below.

Income		Expenses	
Dues	\$2,500	Invasive Plants	\$2,750
Other Contributions	2,635	Water Quality	4,250
Interest	38	Other	1,719
<u>Subtotal Revenues</u>	<u>\$5,173</u>	<u>Subtotal Expenses</u>	<u>\$8,719</u>
Land Contributions	\$15,505	Loan Principal & Int.	\$16,583
<u>Total Revenues</u>	<u>\$20,678</u>	<u>Total Expenses</u>	<u>\$25,302</u>

Our total savings balance at the end of October was \$14,385 compared to \$19,009 at the end of last year. Our loan balance for the purchase of land adjacent to the dam was \$10,645 at the end of October. The good news is that our assets exceed our liabilities. Other good news is that we have a \$5,000 matching contribution to help pay off the loan. So, if we can raise another \$5,645 towards the land purchase we can retire the loan. Excluding the land campaign, revenues were \$5,173. This was \$3,546 short of our expenses. So, to pay off the loan and bring our savings balance back to where it was at the end of last year we need to raise about \$10,000. Please do everything you can to help so that we can maintain our stewardship efforts. If we raise less, we may need to start cutting back some of our programs. If you would like more details about the finances, send me a message at [wpwhittier@aol.com](mailto:wpwhittier@aol.com). Thank you everyone for your support.

--Waine Whittier

**LOON COUNT**



	2016	2017	2018	2019
Adults	20	21	16	22
Chicks	2	2	1	2

The loon count was held on July 20, 2019 from 7:00 am to 7:30 am. Ten groups/people went out on Parker Pond on a mostly sunny morning with generally smooth water conditions. 22

adult loons and 2 loon chicks were spotted. This is in line with 2016 and 2017 but up from last year. Several loons were seen flying, which made the loon count more difficult than usual. Weeks after the loon count an additional small chick was reported.

--Addie Michaud

**Did you know where you can:**

- ✓ Find out about the origins of the Parker Pond Association?
- ✓ Find photos of artifacts found during the Loon Island renovation?
- ✓ Download copies of past PPA newsletters
- ✓ And much, much more?

Check out [www.parkerpond.org](http://www.parkerpond.org)

**Thank you, Susan Onion, PPA webmaster**



French tennis star riding in high heels -- From a 1929 Newspaper found during Loon Island Cabin renovation; see more photos at [www.parkerpond.org](http://www.parkerpond.org)



**LOON ISLAND CABIN UPDATE**

The crews led by Mike Wells have been terrific all summer. Just a few more things to do next spring, mainly paint and a bit more siding we want to replace. The Dept of Conservation contributed a Hammond Lumber \$1,000 drawing account, now mostly used up. We'll have to get rid of the construction material either in a fire this winter (awaiting DOC guidance) or by boat next spring. As Mike observed, it's a lot of work but this may allow the cabin to survive another 100 years. Should we be thinking of a plaque to thank all and/or remind future generations of our work? If so, suggest wording please.

-- Dan Onion

**Thanks to all volunteers, especially Mike Wells!**

Mike Wells (50+hrs)	Doug Boyink (20+)	Charles Field (20+)
Steve Linder (20+)	Leo Tsvetkov (20+)	Mary Wells (20+)
<b>All Other Volunteers through September</b>		
Kevin Blake	Don Boutin	Murray Campbell
Deb Cayer	Amanda Dow-Smith	Patrick Kaltner
Latré Sibi Lawson-Owanda	John Linton	Ron Milliken
	Jim Moran	Dan Onion
Tom Piccirillo	Bill Rosenberg	Rich Smith
Paul Stanicoff	Andrea Thon	Greg Thon
Gerry Tinguely	Bob Weimont	



Mike Wells and the "Rock"



Sept. 30 Victory over the Rock

And then a new porch:



May crew starts demolition



New dock will speed future work



## News from the 30 Mile River Watershed Association

### The Fight Against Invasive Plants

Every boating season, we work hard to keep Parker Pond free from invasive aquatic plants like variable milfoil and hydrilla, which could devastate our lake. In recent years, new infestations just “next door” on Great Pond, Annabessacook Lake and Cobbossee Lake have heightened our fears. This fall, two more Maine waterbodies have been added to the list of those infested: The Kennebec River (above the Shawmut dam in Clinton and Fairfield) and Big Lake (Washington County).

As bleak as it may seem, the situation is not hopeless. Catching an infestation early and attacking it aggressively give a lake its best chance. That’s why the work of the volunteer Invasive Plant Patrollers is so critical.

#### Thank you to the 15 volunteers who surveyed Parker Pond this summer

- Deb Cayer
- Sarah Cowperthwaite
- Bill Dunham
- Ted and Margaret Elliott
- Sue Knorr
- John Linton
- Linda and Greg Nelson
- Susan Onion
- Lidie Robbins
- Karen Rogers
- Alecia Tenney
- Susan Tinguely
- Leonid Tsvetkov

Boat inspections are the first line of defense against invasives, and this summer at the public boat launch on Tower Rd, our paid inspectors worked 279 hours, performing 449 inspections, supported in large part by your contributions to PPA. But inspectors are only at the launch Friday to Sunday during the summer and this is not the only place that boats are entering the lake. Road association and other private launch sites on the lake provide access, typically for boats and trailers that have not been inspected. How many of

these uninspected boats had just come from a lake infested with invasive plants? During our inspections conducted at public launches this summer, that number was a frightening 10%.

Does this concern you? Do you think that the State of Maine should be doing more to control this threat? Do you want to help, with funding or volunteer time? If so, contact Lidie Robbins at [lidie@30mileriver.org](mailto:lidie@30mileriver.org) or 860-4043.



*I think the clean water is this way*

#### Erosion Control Projects Protect the Lake

The 30MRWA Youth Conservation Corps completed 11 projects in the watershed this summer, with three of them being on Parker Pond. Our YCC provides erosion control landscaping for lakefront property owners, and we are looking for interested landowners to sign up for projects next year. It may not seem like the small problem spot on your property is a big deal, but collectively these small individual issues around the lake all add up and hurt water quality. If your property has a sloped driveway, patches of bare soil, or an eroding pathway, then our program offers an easy and quick solution to help the lake. Projects may include shoreline plantings, rain gardens, infiltration dripline trenches, open-top culverts and more. Planting buffer vegetation along the shoreline is an easy and effective way to help protect water quality, and our YCC can help make it happen. To learn more or to submit a site visit request, see the YCC page on our website, [www.30mileriver.org](http://www.30mileriver.org).



## Monitoring Water Quality to Track Lake Health

This summer marked the fourth year that 30MRWA has been consistently collecting water quality data on Parker Pond. With the help of some fantastic volunteers on the pond – Sue Knorr, Bob Weimont, Maggie Chadwick and Bill Rosenberg – we were able to sample the lake 10 times from June through October. We collect data on water clarity, temperature, dissolved oxygen, phosphorus, chlorophyll, pH, color, conductivity, and alkalinity to better understand the environment in Parker Pond and direct management decisions. To help you keep up to date with what is going on, we post clarity, temperature, and dissolved oxygen data to our website immediately after getting back from monitoring. Phosphorus and chlorophyll samples have to be sent to a lab for analysis, so keep an eye out for the annual monitoring report to see this information and further analysis of the last four years of data that we've collected.

The last four years' clarity (Secchi Depth) readings on Parker Pond have remained between 7M and 10M throughout the summer, which is a good indicator of clean water. The chart below shows that 2019 was no exception.

As more data are collected, we will begin looking for patterns that occur each year and trends over time that can give us more information about what is happening in the lake. If you would like to take part in monitoring with us next season, or just have questions, call Will Jeffries, 30MRWA's Water Resources Manager, at 860-4043 or email [william@30milerive.org](mailto:william@30milerive.org).



Additional information about water quality is also available on the 30MRWA website, <http://30mileriver.org/programs/water-quality-monitoring/>

--Lidie Robbins



## Be LakeSmart!

This spring, Parker volunteers trained by the Maine Lakes Society formed a new LakeSmart team for Parker and David Ponds. In our first year, we have completed 12 evaluations, five of which received LakeSmart awards. This program is all about keeping runoff from entering the lake. The program is educational, non-regulatory, and voluntary. If you would like a free evaluation by a trained LakeSmart volunteer, we are doing a few more this fall and hope to do many more next season.

### Join These 2019 LakeSmart Participants

Alice Adams & Liz Winfeld  
Murray Campbell  
Maggie Chadwick & Bob Weimont  
Amanda Dow-Smith & Richard Smith  
Deborah & Gary Dubord  
Scott & Pam Harvey  
Nancy Henika & Kevin Blake  
Jenny Knust & Leonid Tsvetkov  
Vicki & Joe Kozak  
John & Lauren Linton  
William & Patricia Rosenberg  
Gerry & Susan Tinguely

As part of a LakeSmart property evaluation, the team will offer recommendations for how to make your property more lake-friendly and direct you to many resources, including the Youth Conservation Corps of the 30 Mile River Watershed Association, which provides low-cost erosion control practices. Lidie Robbins, Executive Director of the 30 Mile River Watershed Association, is this watershed's regional LakeSmart director and Deb Cayer is the coordinator of the Parker-David Team. By becoming part of this very worthwhile program you can enhance the beauty and value

of your property while helping to protect water quality in our beloved lake. To learn more, please contact Deb at ([debbiecayer@gmail.com](mailto:debbiecayer@gmail.com)).

--Deb Cayer

## FLOAT STORY

**"A great story that emphasizes the value of PPA membership"**

--Dan Onion

**10/25 9:00am:** PPA Communications Chair gets a call from Dan: "my float's gone – please send email"

**10/25 9:30am:** e-mail to PPA

**10/25 10:17am:** e-mail from David Newman: - I don't think this is it, but I saw this small dock heading southbound when we were there over Columbus Day weekend.

*[Although two weeks old, the photo gave a down-wind direction in which to search.]*



**10/26 5:00pm: e-mail to PPA:** The good news is that Dan Onion's float has been located (Thank you, David Newman!). The bad news is that Dan's recently winterized motor won't start -- he could use some help tracking down and towing his float from near the headlands over to his camp

**10/26/ 9:26PM: e-mail to PPA:** Bob can help at 10:30, his boat is still in the water – *Maggie Chadwick*

**10/27/19 8:27 AM: e-mail to PPA:** HI Bill, If you don't find anyone with a boat, I bet a group of kayakers could haul that baby home – *Deb Cayer*

**Sun Oct 27:** From Dan: Tom Piccirillo retrieved

my float and dragged it the length of the lake north, looking for our camp. Meanwhile Bob Weimont and I searched the south end of the lake to no avail in the coldest wettest rain I've been in for a long time. Glad we didn't find it; too cold to drag it. Anyway Tom thought we were north of Bearstow, so tied it to a nice aluminum dock when his engine died. He paddled back to Baxter's Cove. I went and guessed right that it was your dock, where it now resides. I plan to row it back to my place tomorrow morning or whenever it stops raining. If a strong wind comes up, I'd better untie it from your dock asap so it doesn't pull it over. Call me if you hear wind. Quite an adventure for many! I knocked and shouted but clearly you were away at noon, so I walked down to your dock and found it.



10/28/2019 12:00: All's well that ends well.

## Thank You, Dan Onion!

In October, Dan Onion retired from his role as the PPA representative on the 30MRWA Board. Dan was 30MRWA's founding Board President and served on the Board for nearly 12 years. Back in 2007, when 30MRWA was just an idea, Dan was the one who made it happen, organizing meetings, recruiting supporters, and completing all the necessary paperwork to form the organization. Without Dan's work and passion, chances are 30MRWA wouldn't be here today. During his years on the Board, Dan continued to be one of its most dedicated and hard-working members. We will miss you, Dan.

Susan Tinguely is now the PPA representative on the Board and we look forward to working with her.

## Membership Update

Membership growth has been strong since the 2018 Annual meeting, a testament to the Board and the many volunteers from among your ranks.

**PPA Membership Trend**

Membership Category	July, 2018	October, 2019	Change
# Families	60	86	+26 (+43%)
# Individuals	107	156	+49 (+46%)

The counts of ‘Individual’ members above reflects the total number of people who can vote on PPA matters and the count of ‘Families,’ the number of families with one or more individual member.

-- *Bill Rosenberg*



Cormorants Taking Flight, 8-24-2019 Photo courtesy of Geoff Haines-Stiles



Fall Kayaking, photo by Patricia Rosenberg

## Benefits of PPA Membership

- Support
  - clean water and vigilance against invasive plants
  - dam maintenance
  - stewardship of island campsites
- E-mail communication network for lost and found and other unexpected needs on the lake
- Access to private boat launch for Spring “put in” and Fall “take out”
- See old and new friends at Annual Meeting and Potluck

### **REMEMBER TO PAY YOUR DUES AND GIVE SOMETHING EXTRA**

Use the remittance envelope you’ll receive soon or send dues (\$20 per member) and your contribution made out to PPA to:

Parker Pond Association  
321 Tower Road  
Vienna, ME 04360

**Parker Pond Association, INC.**  
321 Tower Road  
Vienna, ME 04360

