

PPA Mission Statement

- To care for the natural resources and beauties of Parker Pond
- *To own, maintain and operate the dam at the Parker Pond outlet stream* [emphasis added]



Looking north from the dam, photo courtesy of Dave Markovchick (October, 2017)

PARKER POND ASSOCIATION BOARD RECOMMENDS LAND PURCHASE

President's Message

Maintaining the dam at the southeast end of the Pond is one of the two major elements of the Parker Pond Association's (PPA's) mission. Last spring, the State of Maine's Dam Inspector made us aware of significant inadequacies in our ability to maintain and repair the dam and its spillway. Since then, the PPA Board of Directors has met numerous times and deliberated on how best to fulfill those obligations. Last month, the Board decided to take advantage of a rare opportunity to purchase a parcel of land with established access to the spillway and dam. [See Steve Linder's article, following, for details on the location of the property and the access routes.] The land purchase will give PPA:

1. Permanent access to the spillway that can handle heavy equipment;
2. Ownership of land next to the dam and spillway from which we can perform earth moving activities in the event of an emergency; and,
3. The ability to comply with the State's required Emergency Action Plan.

The Town of Mt. Vernon appraised the parcel at \$209,000 and it had been on the market for \$175,000. The owner offered it to us for \$95,000 if we acted quickly. With closing costs, we need a total of \$97,000 to acquire the parcel. The Board has arranged for a one-year note for up to \$61,750 at 5.25% to finance the purchase price, with a down payment of at least \$33,250. If financing is needed beyond one-year, the note will be converted to a term loan.



I am now asking that you make a contribution to help us meet or exceed the minimum down payment requirement and reduce the size of the note. The Board has designated \$15,000 of PPA reserves toward the total \$97,000 acquisition cost, so we need to raise another \$82,000. Board members and a few other members have already pledged \$15,000 toward that goal. Please

note your contribution for this purchase in the space marked "Land" on the enclosed remittance envelope. We are a 501(c)(3) organization, so your contribution is tax deductible to the full extent allowed by law and every dollar you contribute will reduce the amount we borrow.

Thank you for making Parker Pond the jewel that it is! This is an important acquisition for PPA. It will affect our ability to accomplish our Mission for generations to come. I know how special the lake is to all of you. Parker pond is in good hands with great stewards. Please contact any Board Member if you have questions.

Respectfully yours,

Gerry Tinguely, PPA President

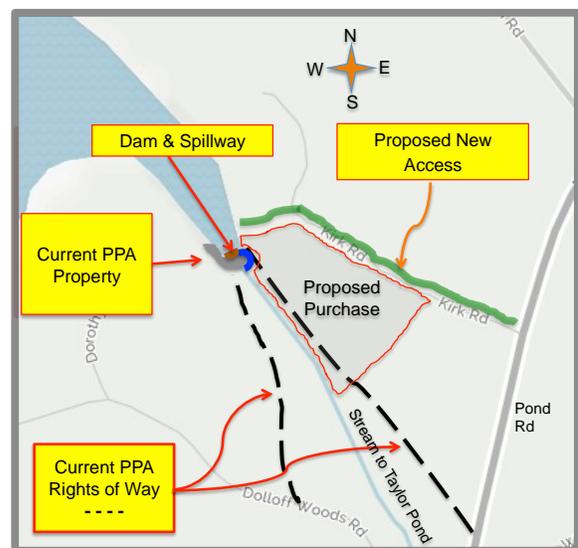
PPA to Purchase Land Adjacent to Dam for Long Term Safety

In the last issue of this Newsletter, we reported significant work performed by the 30 Mile River Watershed Association's Youth Conservation Corps on the earthen dam and spillway at the southeast corner of the Pond (see maps to right). We remediated the "most serious defect" identified in the State Dam Inspector's report, degradation of the spillway and other issues and prepared a required maintenance plan.

Even though we were told that the dam is in good shape, it is over 200 years old and requires ongoing maintenance for which PPA is legally responsible. In addition, the dam is classified by the State as a "significant potential hazard dam" due to the impact in the event of a failure. The first recommendations in the State's report were: "The dam owner must have control of the access gate to the dam and the Right of Way for inspection and emergency purposes...and the *access road to the dam must be maintained to a standard sufficient to carry earth moving equipment.*" [Emphasis added]. The entire Dam Inspection Report is available at: <http://www.parkerpond.org/>

One of the lessons learned during the summer remediation projects was that our current rights of way to the dam (see dashed lines in the Detail of Dam Location exhibit) are not adequate to carry earth-moving equipment, particularly in the event of an emergency.

A very attractive opportunity arose in September for the PPA to purchase land adjacent to Kirk Road and an old logging road that can carry heavy equipment (see "Proposed New Access Road" in the Detail of Dam Location). More importantly,



Detail of Dam Location

acquisition of that route will ensure long-term access to the dam and spillway and provide space for storage of materials and working room on that end of the dam. As the dam ages and the environment continues to change, maintenance of the dam will require better access and ongoing careful monitoring.

--Stephen Linder, Dam Committee



News from the 30 Mile River Watershed Association

Invasive Plant Report

Last August, the invasive aquatic plant variable leaf milfoil was found in one more lake in Maine: Long Lake in Naples. Maintaining a strong invasive plant prevention program continues to be one of the most important things we can do to protect Parker Pond, which is still free of invasive aquatic plants.

It takes constant vigilance to prevent these invaders from being introduced in the first place and to catch any infestations early. PPA continues to partner with the 30 Mile River Watershed Association (30MRWA) to achieve these goals. This past season, 30MRWA Courtesy Boat Inspectors (CBIs), both paid staff and volunteers, conducted 616 inspections at Parker Pond, over 353 hours, the most ever!

Thank you to the seven volunteers who gave 71 hours of your time: Murray Campbell, Maggie Chadwick, Gary Dubord, Erika Penczer, Patricia Rosenberg, Bob Weimont, and our volunteer of the year, Julie Hanlon!

Thank you also to the 13 invasive plant patrollers (IPPs) who supported the effort to protect our lake by volunteering a total of 40 hours to survey the lake for infestations: Deb Cayer, Steve and Sarah Cowperthwaite, Bill Dunham, Ted and Margaret Elliott, Sue Knorr, John Linton, Susan Onion, Lidie Robbins, Karen Rogers, and Alecia and Mark Tenney. Fortunately, we didn't find any invasive plants growing in Parker Pond. And thank

you to our donors. We continue to rely on your financial contributions from PPA members to make this possible.

- Lidie Robbins, Invasive Plants/Courtesy Boat Inspections Committee

Water Quality

The 30 Mile River Watershed Association (30MRWA) has done a marvelous job with their new water quality program throughout the watershed. All of the data can be viewed at: www.30mileriver.org.

The data is in depth and well done and information is provided about what each indicator means. Parker has good water quality; above average for lakes of its size and depth. To maintain good water quality on Parker, it will take everyone to be super vigilant about run off into the lake and the use of fertilizers. Be sure that no soil and nutrients are running off your property into the lake. Solutions can be as simple as mowing less lawn and letting shrubs and trees take over naturally.

The PPA would like to thank 30 Mile River for the work they do with camp roads and shorefront owners to maintain a healthy lake. We would also like to thank Sebastian Dumont, Program Coordinator of 30MRWA, and Bob Weimont, PPA volunteer, for the great job they did this summer collecting data on Parker.

--Deb Cayer, Water Quality Committee

Loon Count		2016	2017
	Adults	20	21
	Chicks	2	2
<p>One nest by the dam was taken over by ducks last summer and no other nests were reported. Thanks to Marty Arnold for managing the count!</p>			

Seventh Annual Classic Meets Pop Concert & Fireworks Display



Photo courtesy of Josh Robbins

On July 2, Mount Vernon ramped up the 4th of July weekend with the 7th annual Classic Meets Pop concert and fireworks display. Thank you to Jerry Slavet not only for hosting the talented NPR *From the Top* alumni musicians, but also for the fabulous fireworks.

Funds from this concert support lake conservation programs at both 30Mile River Watershed Association and the Parker Pond Association

FELLOWS COVE (Parker Lake Shores) LAUNCH 2017

Each year the Parker Pond Association works with the Parker Lake Shores Assoc. (PLSA) to provide six launch/takeout dates at the PLSA launch on Fellows Cove Rd. PLSA members include owners of the original lots developed in the 1960's on Fellows Cove Rd, Fellows Farm Rd and Rocky Lane on David Pond. For non-PLSA members, \$30 is charged for each launch/take out. Boats are inspected for invasive plants and current boat registration. The fees collected go towards maintaining the launch. PLSA members use the launch for free. Dan Onion, Bob Weimont, Murry Campbell, and Gary

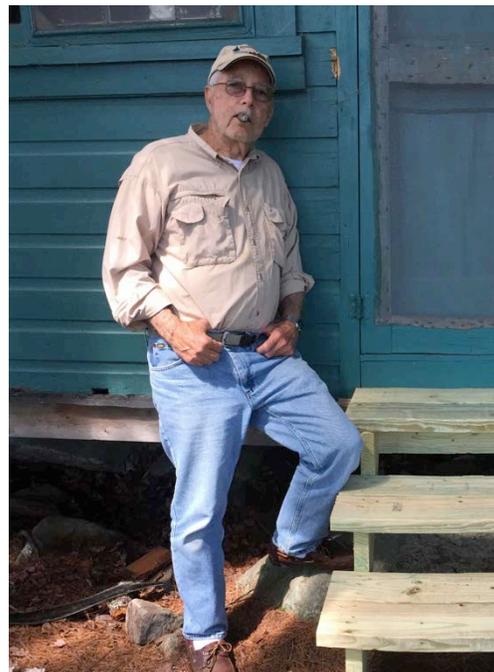
Dubord assisted with these efforts. We had 11 boats launch this spring and 10 take out this fall. A large thanks to all who helped provide this valuable service! Dates for 2018 will be announced sometime next spring.

-- Bob Weimont, Lake Usage Committee

Loon Island Update

In our last issue, we reported that 78% of survey respondents stated a preference for replacing the sill and gradually renovating the rest of the Loon Island cabin. The Board appointed an ad hoc Committee led by Karen Swan to undertake such a project (see the draft July 1, 2017 Annual Meeting minutes for additional information about the work to be done). Karen has contacted the Maine National Guard regarding potential assistance.

In the meantime, Marty Arnold and Bill Rosenberg added steps to the east side of the Loon Island cabin to replace the rickety steps on the south side. Below, Marty celebrates a job well done!



--Karen Swan, Ad Hoc Committee/Loon Island

**Parker Pond Association Annual Meeting
July 1, 2017
Draft minutes**

President Gerry Tinguely called the meeting to order and welcomed everyone. Gerry thanked Millie Whittier for leading up the organization and clean-up of the annual meeting and Gerry Slavet for organizing the pops concert. Gerry noted that a new board secretary was needed and to contact him if interested.

There was a **motion** (Waine/George) to accept the 2016 minutes, which passed unanimously.

Membership information on PPA website

There was a discussion about putting PPA member names on the PPA website. There was a general consensus that it would be a good idea to get to know other people around the lake and beyond but that some people may be concerned with privacy. There was a **motion** to include a membership list on the PPA website and that notice of this will appear in the next newsletter with the ability to opt out by contacting Bill (Dan/Bob); passed unanimously.

Water quality—Bob Weimont

Bob reported that water quality tests (Secchi disk for water quality, dissolved oxygen, temperature) for this summer have been the typical very good values for Parker Pond. This data can be viewed on the 30-mile Watershed website.

Communications—Susan Onion

Susan reported that the newsletter is out. Susan is leaving this position and Gerry thanked her for doing a great job that put PPA in a very good light.

Membership—Marty Arnold

Marty reported strong membership numbers (about 135) and being on track for a little higher than last year. Marty is moving on after many years of service to PPA and Gerry thanked him for all his incredible work over the years.

Dam—Steve Linder

Steve reported that the dam is still there and has thus successfully completed another year. Steve Cowperthwaite has played an important role in maintaining the dam over the years. There was an exercise with first responders and planners related to the emergency action plan for the dam, for unlikely case of a dam break. The spillway is to be reinforced with some rip rap (angular stone) where needed, in cooperation with 30-mile Watershed. The State dam inspector pointed out a few minor things to improve on the dam, such as additional loam on top of the dam. A draft operation and maintenance plan is currently being worked on. The Kings Cove inlet culvert will be fixed this fall (September 11th) and will allow better fish passage, which should benefit the smelt run. Sandy River Road will be closed.

Lidie Robbins—Invasive plants and 30 Mile River Watershed Association

Lidie reported that invasive-plant boat inspectors started on Memorial Day weekend and they are out weekends and holidays. More volunteers are needed, see Lidie for details. The invasive plant patrol around the lake will start soon and more volunteers are also needed for this. Currently 47 lakes in the State have invasive aquatic plants. The 1st 30-Mile cleanup day will be Saturday, August 5th; organized groups will help clean up lake shore, streams and watershed lands. PPA is offering a \$50 discount for the (reasonable) cost of planting lakeshore native vegetation by 30-Mile Watershed; please see Lidie for details. 30-Mile is also starting a camp road inventory and assistance program; some Parker Pond roads were looked at in April. 30-Mile is partnering with UMaine Farmington and Kennebec County Soil and Water for this. The project will continue for a year and a half.

Dan Onion—Lake Usage

Dan discussed the launches on Quimby Lane that can be made for a charge by PPA members. Invasive plants are also looked for at the launches. PPA helps the State with stewardship on the Parker islands. Birch, Spruce, Loon, and Bills Islands have fire pits and toilets. All camping is first come first serve. People typically stay for a weekend or a little longer. The cabin on Loon Island is in need of repairs, which must be approved by the State. They provide supplies and sometimes help with labor. One wall, the sill, and the porch currently need attention. Karen Swan is leading efforts on cabin updating. She has contacted the National Guard about helping with repairs and they think this project would be a good project for this fall.

This is Dan's last year in charge of lake usage. Gerry thanked him on behalf of PPA for all his years of great service.

Gerry Tinguely—Secretary

Gerry thanked Glenn Hodgkins for his work as Secretary. The position is now vacant and any interested people are encouraged to contact Gerry.

Waine Whittier—Treasurer

Waine summarized PPA finances. Last year incoming funds were about \$9500 and outgoing funds were about \$7000. Please contact Waine for a detailed report. This year there will be increased support for work combating invasive plants and for lake water quality.

Marty Arnold—Annual Loon Count

Marty reported that the annual loon count will be on July 15th this year. This is Maine Audubon's 35th year of loon counts. A photographer would like to meet and photograph long-time and new loon counters for a video; see Marty if you're interested.

Waine—Honoring Marty

Marty Arnold was honored for his 40+ years of dedicated work for Parker and PPA. Among his many contributions have been researching the Parker islands which helped preserve them, the first computer-based membership, president multiple times, promoting the Parker fishery including advocating in Augusta, the loon count, and doing invasive-plant patrols. There was a **motion** (Waine/Maggie) to honor Marty with a lifetime membership in PPA for all of his amazing efforts. The motion passed unanimously.

Gerry—Slate of officers

Gerry presented a proposed slate of officers for this year:

President - Gerry Tinguely

Vice President - David Markovchick

Treasurer - Waine Whittier

Water Quality - Deborah Cayer

Membership/Communications - Bill Rosenberg

Dam - Stephen Linder

Invasive Plants/Courtesy Boat Inspections - Lidie Robbins

30 Mile River Watershed Area Representative - Dan Onion

Lake Usage - Bob Weimont

Stewardship - Amanda Smith

Ad Hoc Committee/Loon Island - Karen Swan

Past President - Marty Arnold

Secretary – open

A **motion** was made (Waine/Dan) to approve nominations for 2016; motion passed unanimously.

MEET YOUR 2017 FELLOW PPA MEMBERS
(and encourage your neighbors not on the list to join)

Joan Anderson	Ona Fast	Roger Larsen	Whitey Schultz
Fiora Arnold	Gary Fitzgerald	Sandra Larsen	John Sebelius
Martin Arnold	Scott Forbes	Edward F Libby	Melissa Sentman
James Aylward	Nancy Fournier	Bonnie Linder	Gerald Slavet
Alexander Beal	Tom Fournier	Stephen Linder	Susan Slavet
Constance Beal	Kevin Garvey	John Linton	Amanda J Dow Smith
Eliot Beal	Lisa Garvey	Lauren Linton	Marie Smith
Joan Beal	David Gideon	Byron Lockhart	Richard H Smith
Eleanor Benner	Kathleen Gideon	Susan Lockhart	Shaun Smith
Fred Benner	Gregory Giffin	David Markovchick	Amy Smucker
Kevin Blake	Lorraine Giffin	Kathryn Markovchick	James Smucker
Joy Bonnefond	Leslie Grenier	Betsy Marsteller	David Snow
Rist Bonnefond	Robert Grenier	Thomas Marsteller	Kitsey Snow
Barbara Boutin	Holly Groom	Edwin Martin	Lori Snow
Donald Boutin	Robert Groom	Nancy Martin	Rick Snow
Douglas Boyink	David Guerard	Paul McAdam	Sandra Snow
Nona Boyink	Kathleen Guerard	Addie Michaud	Ernest Soper
Donna Bradley	Allan Harville	Alfie Michaud	Judith Soper
Jay Bradley	Libby Harville	Irma Miller	Tom Spears
Lynne C. Bray	Morgan Henika	Robert Miller	Cynthia Stancioff
Frederick W. Bray, Jr.	Nancy Henika	Althea Neal	Paul Stancioff
George Breault	Glenn Hodgkins	Jane Nelson	George W. St. Clair, Jr.
Julia Breault	Sara Hodgkins	Peter Nelson	Kimberly Sutherland
Craig Bunch	Kerry Holloran	David Newman	Anastasia Taylor
Linda Bunch	Thomas Holloran, Jr.	Tim Nuland	R. William Taylor, Jr.
Michael Burke	Daniel Huettner	Pat O'Donnell	Andrea Thon
Janet Z. Burson	Jere Hughes	Amanda Onion	Greg Thon
Deborah Cayer	Polly Hughes	Dan Onion	Gerald Tinguely
Margaret Chadwick	David Hunt	Pat Onion	Susan Tinguely
Mary Conrad	Nancy Hunt	Fritz Onion	Francis Torrington
Paul Conrad	Kenneth Johnson	Susan Onion	Judy Torrington
Stephen Cowperthwaite	Robert Juris	Stephanie Paine	Andrea Trefethen
Cheryl Dalton	Robin Juris	Edwin Parry	Henry Trefethen
Laurette Darling	Susan Kaluzynski	Karen Parry	Leonid Tsvetkov
Richard Darling	Arthur Kelly	Lois Peterson	Bruce Verrill
Erika Diller	Elizabeth Kelly	John Pier	Patricia Verrill
Deborah Dubord	Sally Kelly	Helen Reid	John Volante
Gary Dubord	Lee Knorr	Josh Robbins	Kathleen Volante
Barbara Duguay	Sue Knorr	Lidie Robbins	Robert Weimont
Lee Duguay	Jennifer Knust	Karen Rogers	Dean Wells
William Dunham	Henry Kobik	William Rogers	Jeannine Wells
Alton Earle	Marilyn Kobik	Patricia Rosenberg	Jill Wheadon
Betty Earle	Joe Kozak	William Rosenberg	Mildred Whittier
Margaret Elliott	Vicki Kozak	Jane Salgals	Waine Whittier
Ted Elliott	David Landis	Klavs Salgals	Charles Yoos
	Elizabeth Landis	Thomas Sawyer	Phyllis York

Please e-mail william.h.rosenberg@gmail.com to correct errors and omissions

It's Time to Renew Your Membership for 2018!

If you are currently a member, this is a reminder that it is time to renew your annual membership for 2018. If you are not currently a member, please consider joining us to help PPA continue the work of protecting beautiful Parker Pond. **And don't forget to contribute to the Land purchase to help maintain the dam!**

Return the enclosed Donation/Membership form with your donation today! THANKS!



PARKER POND ASSOCIATION, INC.
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parkerpond.org