

PARKER POND ASSOCIATION

MAY 2016



Annual Meeting

July 16, 2016
Vienna Grange Hall

Potluck: 5:15pm
Meeting: 6:00pm

www.parkerpond.org

Lake Stewardship

Days are getting longer and warmer. Those of us who live on Parker Pond (sometimes known as year round summer people) look forward to the sights and sounds of seasonal camps being opened, screen doors slapping, and children jumping into too cold water.

We are welcoming everyone back to the pond with the opportunity to join Glenn Hodgkins on a **spring bird walk** on Saturday, **June 18th** at the new KLT property. Meeting time is **8am** at the corner of Sandy River Road and Fellows Farm Road in Fayette. We will be traveling together to the property. There are no trails on the property, so be prepared for a little bushwhacking.

Be sure to look for a new trail head at the Headland this year. After many years of good use, erosion is taking its toll. We'll be sure to clearly mark the new entry. Hope to see you all on the trail!

-Maggie Chadwick (Stewardship Committee)

Culvert Replacement Project to Improve Smelt Habitat

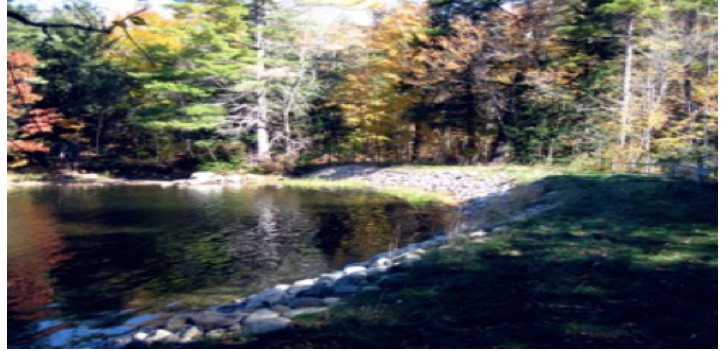
Smelt habitat improvement heard the hopeful news that Fayette received a \$65,000 grant to install a wide, deep culvert for King/Cranberry Brook where it crosses the Sandy River Road. Although a significant award, engineers estimate that it will cost almost twice as much as the funding that has been awarded. Karen Swan, PPA past president, is pursuing and may recommend a fund-raising effort to fully fund the project. More information on this project to come.

Member Boat Launch Opportunity at Quimby Lane

The Lake Usage Committee has set 3 dates for spring launches at the Quimby Lane boat launch:

May 8, May 29, June 26

All launches will take place Sunday morning, beginning at 8:30am. The fee is \$30, plus current PPA membership. Boats and trailers will be inspected for invasive plants, with special attention to commercial trailers. Murray Campbell, Dan Onion and Gary Dubord will be assisting. To schedule a launch time, call Dan Onion at 293-2076.



Dam Report

The Parker Pond dam remains sound, due in large measure to the superior efforts of the previous committee chairman, Mr. Steve Cowperthwaite. In the late fall the dam's crown was cleared of brush and two small invasive plant infestations were addressed. The invasives appearing on the dam were Japanese Knotweed and Barberry. The dam committee chairman will continue to monitor the dam crown for re-emergence of these plants as well as watching the dam and spillway for other issues that require attention.

-Stephen Linder, Dam Committee Chair

Lake Usage Committee Meeting to Organize Island Stewardship

The Lake Usage Committee will be holding an organizing meeting of the island stewards group, on **Sunday, May 15th** at the Onion's Flying Pond House, 19 Klir Beck Rd, Vienna at **6:30 pm**. The purpose of the meeting is to organize repairs of the deck on the Loon Island cottage, and to discuss general island maintenance. Current and interested new committee members are invited.



News from the 30 Mile River Watershed Association

Expanded Water Quality Monitoring

This summer, the 30 Mile River Watershed Association (30MRWA) will be implementing a newly expanded water quality monitoring program by working alongside trained volunteer monitors. Funded in part by grants from the Maine Outdoor Heritage Fund and the Norcross Wildlife Foundation, the goal of this program is to provide more extensive and thorough monitoring of lakes throughout the watershed. By tracking changes in water quality factors, we will better be able to identify and prioritize problem areas in our lakes **before** they reach a tipping point.

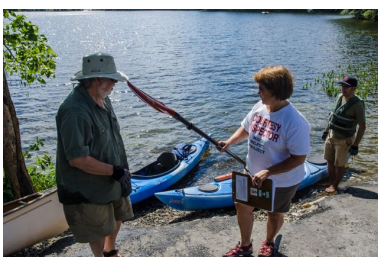
Factors that we will be routinely measuring include water clarity, temperature, dissolved oxygen, and phosphorous, all of which are indicative of a lake's health. We will also be sampling for gloeotrichia (a troublesome algae), chlorophyll and other chemical factors. 30MRWA has designed this program with input from the Maine Department of Environmental Protection, the Maine Volunteer Lake Monitoring Program, University of Maine at Farmington and the Lakes Environmental Association, all of which are leading authorities on water quality monitoring in the State of Maine.

Currently, 30MRWA is in the process of contacting the volunteer monitors throughout the watershed to determine what their needs are and how we can best support them. By conducting a thorough needs assessment, we will be better able to address any of the existing gaps in water quality data. We have hired a college intern who will play an important role by assisting volunteers as needed and sampling lakes that may be missing regular data collectors.

This program marks an exciting shift from many individual monitoring efforts to a cohesive, unified effort towards conserving our lakes. By serving as a point of contact and support for the volunteer monitors, we hope to make stronger connections between lakes, which will lead to comprehensive protection of the whole watershed.

For more information, please contact the 30 Mile River Watershed Association at (207) 860-4043 or katie@30mileriver.org.

Volunteers Needed for Courtesy Boat Inspecting



Each summer, volunteer Courtesy Boat Inspectors (CBIs) and Invasive Plant Patrollers (IPPs) play an important role in protecting Parker Pond from invasive aquatic plants. If you are interested in giving back to your lake in fun, flexible ways with little time commitment, contact katie@30mileriver.org or (207)860-4043.



Youth Conservation Corps

Now Accepting Project Requests for Summer 2016

Now that spring is here, take a look at your property. Is water channeling down to a lake or stream? Flowing into the lake without going through any substantial vegetation? Not sure? Sign up for a **free** site visit by the technical advisor of our Youth Conservation Corps (YCC).

Our YCC provides erosion control practices and sustainable landscaping to local landowners on a cost-share basis. For more information or to sign up for a site visit, go to <http://www.30mileriver.org/>.

Treasurer's Report – Calendar Year 2015

The Association's finances in 2015 were good but not as strong as in 2014. There was a net gain of \$930, as compared to \$3,112 in 2014. Major categories of revenues and expenses are shown below. Contributions continued to exceed revenues from dues but total revenues were down almost \$1,300 from 2014. Nevertheless, we were able to increase expenditures on invasive plants and water quality by \$2,000 over 2014. The total balance at the end of 2015 was \$40,438. Of this, \$10,980 was in accounts to support conservation easements. Please continue your generosity so that we can do even more. If you would like more details about the finances, send me a message at wpwhittier@aol.com. Thank you everyone for your support.

Dues	\$ 2,900	Invasive Plants	\$ 2,000
Other Contributions	\$5,473	Water Quality	\$4,350
Interest	\$132	Other	\$1,225
Total Revenues	\$ 8,505	Total Expenses	\$ 7,575

6th Annual Classic Meets Pops Concert

The 6th Annual Classical Meets Pops Concert will be held at the Mt. Vernon Community Center on July 3rd. Hosted by Jerry Slavet and featuring talented musicians from NPR's *From the Top*, funds from this concert support lake conservation programs at both 30Mile River Watershed Association and the Parker Pond Association. New this year: Tickets will be on sale before the concert and at the door until sold out.

Thank you to Jerry for bringing this wonderful cultural opportunity to Mt. Vernon for another year! Information about fireworks display TBA.



Parker Pond Association Annual Meeting Minutes July 11, 2015

Following a delightful pot luck dinner and an hour of socializing, the annual meeting of the Parker Pond Association opened at 6:30 pm at Mill Stream Grange, Vienna, Maine with Gerry Tinguely presiding. Approximately 45 people were in attendance.

Gerry welcomed all to the meeting and thanked past president, Karen Swan for her leadership, past secretary, Libby Harville for her work and Jerry Slavet for bringing his accomplished musicians for a "From the Top" fund raiser. Funds raised at the concert benefit both PPA and 30 Mile River.

Minutes of the 2014 annual meeting were unanimously accepted by show of hands.

The slate of officers for the coming year were elected with no changes. Officers are:

Marty Arnold - President	Stephen Linder - Dam
Gerry Tinguely - VP	Lidie Robbins - Invasive Plants
Glenn Hodgkins - Secretary	Susan Onion - Communication
Waine Whittier - Treasurer	Dan Onion - Lake Usage and 30 Mile Rep
Water Quality - Deb Cayer	Maggie Chadwick - Stewardship
Marty Arnold - Membership	Karen Swan - Past President

Proposed change to bylaws. The membership agreed that a secret ballot was not needed and show of hands would suffice for this vote. A brief discussion of proposed changes to the PPA By-Laws regarding membership pointed out that Friends of the Pond can become voting members when they are sponsored by a voting member. They continue to be voting members until their membership lapses. Membership was expanded to include anyone 18 years or older who owns land within 1000 feet of the pond or holds a deeded right of way or leases property on the waterfront. Three proxy votes were received that voted against the proposed change. Those in the hall unanimously approved the change.

Game Warden Monitoring of Boating Law Compliance – A proposal to hire an off duty game warden to monitor the pond with a boat for \$840 was returned to the executive committee for further consideration. During the discussion some brought up that paying game wardens for what they should be doing as part of their normal duties set a bad precedent. Others pointed out that with a small number of hours, the intervention was unlikely to have the desired result and might have unintended consequences. There seemed to be general agreement that when a water craft is being used in an unlawful manner, it is best to document via photography then inform game wardens. Getting a photo of the registration number will help.

Steve Cowperthwaite spoke of our loss when Margaret and David Barrow moved to Oregon to be with their daughter. He then read his poem, *The Winter of '98* to the great appreciation of the membership.

Respectfully submitted
Maggie Chadwick

Dates to Note

May 8, May 29, June 26 Boat Launches @ Quimby Lane

May 15 Island Stewards Group Meeting

June 18 Bird Walk

July 3 Classical Meets Pop Concert

July 16 Parker Pond Association Annual Meeting

***REMEMBER
TO RENEW
YOUR
MEMBERSHIP
TODAY!***



Parker Pond Association, INC.

321 Tower Road
Vienna, ME 04360