



Crescent Lake Chronicles

Issue 8

Unity / Acworth, NH

Spring 2001

Association Notes

By Fred Yates, Secretary-Treasurer

As usual, the **Crescent Lake Association Annual Meeting** will be held at the **Unity Fire Station** the first Saturday after the 4th of July. This year that means the meeting will be held **July 7, 2001**, from 10:00 a.m. until noon.

At our 1997 annual meeting, Lake Association members voted unanimously to add \$10.00 per year to our dues for repairs to the dam at the eastern end of the lake. After we have raised the necessary repair cost this extra fee will be discontinued.

Annual dues of \$20.00 are due and payable **BEFORE** the annual meeting or can be mailed. Checks should be made out to *Crescent Lake Association* and mailed to:

Fred W. Yates, CLA Sec'y/Treas
P.O. Box 56
Bellows Falls, VT 05101-0056

KaYAKKING: What a Success!

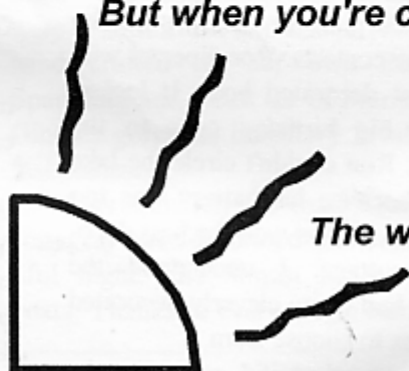
What started off as a simple raffle of one canoe ended up with over \$2150, four kayaks, and three \$50 gift certificates! Many thanks to everyone who helped, and especially to all of you who purchased a raffle ticket.

This year we'll hold another kayak raffle, with tickets for sale at the annual meeting and the picnic. The only change is that I am not going to solicit donations from several individuals as I did last year.

Year 2001 T-Shirt Contest

The T-shirt contest was won this year by Camp 79, by Heidi

*When you're smiling, keep on smiling
The whole world smiles with you
And when you're laughing, keep on laughing
The sun comes shining through
But when you're crying, you bring on the rain
So stop your sighing
Be happy again!
'Cause when you're smiling
Keep on smiling
The whole world smiles with you.
In fond memory of Sam Calkins*



Hammell. The new T-shirt is called "A Place for Generations to Enjoy." The shirts will go on sale at our Annual Crescent Lake Meeting and thereafter at Marie Boyle's camp.

If you wish to purchase T-shirts and other items at the meeting, please come by 9:30 a.m.

Sickness and Distress

Members of the Association, if you know of any Camp that has had a serious sickness or distress in their family this past year, please notify me, Secretary Yates, as soon as possible. I need this information for our Annual Meeting report. I can't be everywhere, know everything, so I need your help. Drop me a note in your dues payment. It would be greatly appreciated.

Fish Fund Donations

Thank you, thank you, thank you to everyone who made donations in 2000. We collected \$550. With matching funds from the CLA, we now have \$1496 in the

Fish Fund. Thank you Leo and Ruby Bray, camp 33, for a \$100 donation.

No fish donations this year. Again, thank you! REMEMBER: Catch and release to promote our bass population! Also please answer our fishing survey on page 7.

Fireworks July 6th!

This year's gala is scheduled for Friday, July 6 (rain date Saturday, July 7). **Thanks as always to the Desbiens.** This is an expensive show and a lot of hard work to prepare. If not for the Desbiens

brothers, it would cost us four times as much for the great professional display we see each year at Crescent Lake.

So when you send in your dues, consider adding a **donation for fireworks.**

Last year we collected over \$1025.



2000 Thank You's

By Marie Boyle, map site 80

[Editor's note: Marie has officially retired after years of chairing the picnic and race committee. Her unstinting efforts and infectious leadership have created an annual celebration that people will look forward to for years to come. So the first of the "2000 thank you's" goes to Marie herself! Now back to her report.]

A very sincere Thank You to the Canoe Race & Picnic Committee for the beautiful set of blueberry dishes made for me by Marion Ginter. I shall cherish them all the days of my life as a reminder of the love and support given to me by all of you while I was Chairman of the committee. Crescent Lake is a very special place in all our lives - How fortunate we are!

Our Y2K Celebration

It is September 5th, 2000. Crescent Lake is very quiet. Many docks are out and the boats put away.

Our Y2K Celebration is over. The lights are out and the decorations down, fireworks over, but what a celebration we had!

It is difficult to get a true count of how many were at the picnic, we're saying at least 350 cottage owners, family and friends. The food was wonderful, the hamburgers, hotdogs and corn, plus all of your dishes. Truly a feast!!

The raffles were a huge success, as always. The Y2K kayaks raffle was so much fun, it probably will be repeated next year. There were 50 items in our "basket raffle." We made over \$1400 and had so much fun doing it.

The evening was one of the nicest weather we have had all summer. It's so interesting listening to the conversation and laughter on the lake as we waited for Charley's cannon to go off, the signal to light

our flares. There were so many fireworks this year, it was hard to know "when."

There was such excitement in the air as the boat parade circled the lake, fireworks going off here and there, cottage decorations gleaming out across the lake. In fact, I think Crescent Lake Y2K Celebration was far superior to the world at large. So it is all over, except for the re-telling.

Our committee did not have a real good plan for telling you who won the contests. Ron Sperzel won the best decorated boat. It looked like a big birthday cake to the judges. Ron couldn't circle the lake again because his battery was too low. The Patons won the best decorated cottage. I understand the judges had many cleverly decorated cottages to choose from.

I was asked if I could list the names of all the people who helped, so here goes:

Janet Albright
Arlene Bates
Kevin & Diane Brenker
Dick Brown
The Caravan Family
Bethany Coursen
Dick & Jane Desbiens
Dave Diotalevi
Charley & Marion Ginter
Trina Janeczek & friends
David & Terri Levin
Jane Lisankie & family
Liz & John Marshall
Tim & Greta Perry
Mary Ellen Rousseau
David & Gail Sloan
Patti Terrell
Karla Underwood
Fred & Lorraine Yates
Mike & Beth Boyle
Marie Boyle

To all of the people who made the baskets, donated to the baskets, or donated some unique raffle gifts..... and to anyone I missed, a

very, very heartfelt thank you. It couldn't be done without your help and support.

Our new chairman for 2001 is Liz Marshall, camp 5. Please give her all the support you gave me.

Wouldn't it be wonderful if we could bottle all the wonderful feelings from the day & evening and be able to uncork it when things get hectic back in the real world?

Warmest regards,
Marie Boyle

Crescent Lake History

Only about 20 people have returned the history of their cottage, camp or home.

We did not meet our goal for the Crescent Lake history for the Year 2000. Instead of just giving up, we are re-thinking the whole project. Our new goal is 2002 when Crescent Lake Association will be 70 years old.

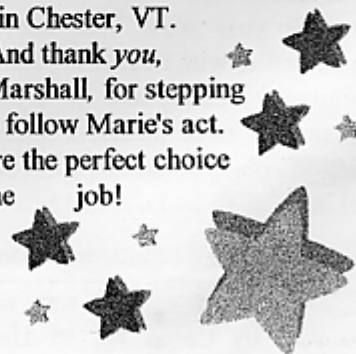
Many cottage owners have returned their histories and pictures. What I hear from others is, "I don't have any pictures," or "I don't know much about the lake, camp, etc." Well, *try!!* Remember, if you don't give us what you have, you'll only be a name in the book.

So come spring and our return to Crescent Lake, we will be expecting your history and pictures!!

The Chronicles Salutes Other Stars

We also wish to express our continued gratitude to Mike Walker, map site 1, who has graciously printed every single issue of the *Chronicles* at Newsbank, Inc., in Chester, VT.

And thank you,
Liz Marshall, for stepping up to follow Marie's act. You're the perfect choice for the job!



Labor Day Magic

By Gail Sloan, map site 11A

Crystal clear Crescent Lake boasted vessels aglow with shimmering lights as cottages lit their way. It was an amazing sight which celebrated two fun-filled days.

Early Saturday morning, seventeen balloon-decorated kayaks started the fun by circling the lake as the canoe competitors prepared by drinking coffee. The Desbiens' beach was filled with wellwishers, their enthusiasm undiminished under the increasingly cloudy sky.

After a night of rest, over 350 friends gathered to feast at a picnic planned and executed to perfection. Background music filled the air as our friends purchased raffle tickets

which made our association \$1400 richer. Four five-hundred dollar kayak/canoe certificates and three \$50 gift certificates made seven people very happy.

David Sloan, our resident MC, delighted another 50 raffle-prize winners, who chose from a record-breaking array of gift baskets. The most taxing task of the weekend was determining the winners of the boat and cottage decorating contests. The highly-coveted prizes were a beautiful Adirondack chair hand crafted by our own Bob Spaulding and a full set of Marion Ginter's gorgeous blueberry breakfast dishes.

Approximately 32 camps (aka cottages) were decorated that beautiful night, and almost as many boats. Thanks to every single camp

(aka cottage) owner who made this weekend marvelous.

David also announced the winners and awarded plaques for the First Annual Golf Outing held at John Cain Golf Course in Newport, N.H. In July eleven golfers turned out for the right to brag for the next year. Fred Yates was the low scorer with an 84. Paul Hallee was the winner of closest to the pin and longest drive. Hopefully we will have a larger turnout this year. The event is planned for the second weekend after our annual meeting.

Men's Night was another success. Forty-two men attended on the evening of the golf tournament.



A World of Winners

Our Labor Day 2000 blowout proved that *everybody wins* when the Crescent Lake Association throws its annual party. Fred Yates's brainchild, the Y2Kayak raffle, was such a resounding success that it brought at least four new boats to the lake and added to

CLA coffers. (Thank you, Fred!) 50 other raffle winners had their pick of particularly generous gift baskets put together by the picnic committee. And the house- and boat-decorating contests created the best season finale ever. Let's hope they become a tradition like the picnic and the race!

We'll start with the canoe race results:

Men's Division--Long Course

1. Bill Gamache and Bob Mumford - 25:38 (12 seconds off last year's time!)
2. Sean Tanner and Adam Sanford - 26:58

Mixed--Women and Men--Long Course

1. Bethany Coursen and Scott Coursen - 27:36
2. Lauren Seward and Hank Seward - 28:28
3. Ron Sperzel and Chris David - 34:22

Women's Division --Short Course

1. Kristin Brush and Megan Luteran - 20:24
2. Helen Sirkin and Judy Rastallis - 21:41
3. Sarah Mockler and Katie Maghini - 23:35

Adult with Child Under 12--Short Course

1. Michael Grinaski and Tim Grinaski - 18:53

2. Ron Mador and Kara Mador - 19:38
3. Ian Grinaski and Randal Gallmeyer - 23:20

Children Under 14--Short Course

1. Caroline Lisankie and Matt Lisankie - 27:54
2. Ben Abrahamovich and Hage Carter - 29:34

Kayak Raffle Winners--\$500 Gift Certificates

- ♦ William Gamache
- ♦ Colleen Kaftan
- ♦ David and Terri Levin
- ♦ Jay and Kathy Taylor

Kayak Raffle Winners--\$50 Gift Certificates

- ♦ Karla Underwood
- ♦ Christine Landon
- ♦ Fred Yates

Best House Decoration--Blueberry Breakfast Set

- ♦ Sue and Bill Paton (Thanks to Marion Ginter for donating her handmade ceramic dishes!)

Best Boat Decoration--Adirondack Chair

- ♦ Betty and Ron Sperzel (Thanks to Bob Spaulding for the handcrafted chair!)

Golf Outing Winners--See above article

Chronicles Puzzler Winners--See page 7

Ink Down Under! "Lake Crescent" Reaches Readers From The Outback!

Charlie Clauss, map site 27A, sent what must be the most distant press our lake has ever had: two stunning full-color spreads (with front-page intros) in the Travel Section of the *Melbourne Herald Sun*. We'll save the "leafpeepers" article for a future *Chronicles* and print "Have An Ice Day" below. Both articles are by Peter Freeland, a frequent visitor to the lake since he is the father of Charlie's son-in-law, Grant Freeland (map site 27B).

Charlie says that Pete is a retired financial planner who loves photography and writing. He and his wife, Val, live in beautiful Melbourne. Pete loves to drive his small red convertible. They also travel in Australia and create illustrated B&B descriptions for travel guides. They have five grown children. All except Grant live in Australia.

Unfortunately, we can't reproduce Pete's great photos here. But wait 'till we get a web site! (See p. 7, "CLA Online?")
'We know Melbourne's not the Outback, but doesn't it sound cool in a headline?'



Life on a Frozen Lake

Or How I Learned To Walk on Water! By Peter Freeland

As we walked over the lake we suddenly stopped.



An ominous thunderous cracking sound echoed from shore and back again. "It's only the lake breathing" a local said, "It's a living thing and moves all the time."

Enough was enough for me. I slipped and slid to the lakeside some 100 metres away and happily scrambled to the safety of terra firma.

Crescent Lake is one of the innumerable bodies of water dotting New Hampshire, and indeed the whole New England countryside of north-east USA, and most are frozen from December to February.

It is near the quaint township of Unity.

Far from bringing life to a standstill, the locals see the depths of winter as a time to play, under clear blue skies.

The temperatures can be frightening to lil' Aussies, as 10 to 20 degrees below freezing can be normal. Add the wind-chill and you are talking of effectively 20 to 30 degrees below.

The really hardy types pursue their fishing passion throughout the season by fishing through holes in the ice.

All you need is an auger, preferably motorized, to cut a 15cm hole in the ice. And let down a line a few metres and wait patiently for the perch, bass or pickerel that are lurking hungrily below the frozen surface.

"Perch eyes are the perfect bait," says Roger Hunt, who has fished the lake for many years, "sometimes you can land up to 30 or 40 fish on a good day."

"You need a good measure of patience when you ice-fish, as you can't read the lake like you can in summer."

Roger is using a special short rod in his main hole, one of just six he has bored into the ice. The others are fitted with 'trip-ups,' neat little devices that signal that a catch is on the line by a bright pink flag popping up. Several types of 'trip-ups' are made, some you can buy, others crafted by enthusiasts.

On many lakes portable cabins are towed out over the ice *a la* that famous film starring Jack Lemmon and Walter Mathau in 'Grumpy Old Men.' These serve as fishing retreats with all manner of equipment stored inside, including television sets and portable heaters. Ample reserves of liquid refreshments are always on hand to succor the needs of the long-patient fisherman.

Even temporary villages and streets are created on the ice. The huts are pulled out onto the ice by trucks. Every now and then one becomes too adventurous and that spells the end of the vehicle, hut and sometimes the intrepid fisherman!

Some, not content with the simple pleasures of fishing, find other pursuits. The ice provides a natural venue for ice-skating and ice hockey. While the petrol heads turn to racing their snowmobiles at speeds up to 180kph making sure they dodge the fishermen.

The rubber traction belts are

fitted with spikes to achieve exceptional grip and traction.

Normally the snowmobiles ride on the specially prepared trails in the mountains. But where there is none the lakes make a great alternative.

Travelers Checks: What To Wear

You must dress with great care, layers of wind-proof clothing are vital complete with lined boots (mine were rated to minus 30 degrees), parkas, fur hats and gloves essential.

You also need boots equipped with special non-slip soles, a local told me, showing me his which were equipped with low-cost slip on cleats. Some people buy boots already studded with spikes and studs to avoid the highly tricky and indeed the dangerous icy surface, especially when the temperatures are a bit above freezing and the top few millimeters have turned to water. It's called 'hot ice' and not without reason!

Home Comforts

The locals at Crescent Lake certainly know how to keep their houses, and themselves, warm and cozy even in sub-zero temperatures. Here are some of the things they have learned to do to survive when winter hits this frozen part of the United States:



Lake People *By Clark Moore, map site 22*

Most of us rarely talk to each other about our non-lake lives. We came here to get away from all that, didn't we? Think what we have missed! I have decided to help remedy that by presenting a series of articles on the interesting "non-lake" lives of our Lake residents. Let me know if you can suggest people for such articles.

I want to start with Lutz Ruhe. First, the pronunciation of his name (Lootz Rooee), camp #24. What a career he had! Exotic (not native) animals were his thing.

Lutz was born south of Hannover, Germany, and grew up learning the zoo business from a stern father and employer who was Director of the Hannover Zoo for 41 years. His family had been in the exotic animal business since 1843.



Sometimes Lutz learned the hard way. We often think of pythons as squeezing their victims. Lutz learned they can bite (he has the scars on his hand and arm to show for it). A Zoo employee was trying to restrain the python as Lutz grabbed for the snake's head. Both hands ended up in the python's mouth. Lutz stood very still and yelled for someone to insert a broomstick to pry open the mouth.

As a young man, Lutz accompanied and cared for African animals on long, harrowing boat trips to New York. He alone was responsible for their care. They all made it, including Lutz (barely). The family's firm sold animals to zoos all over the world.

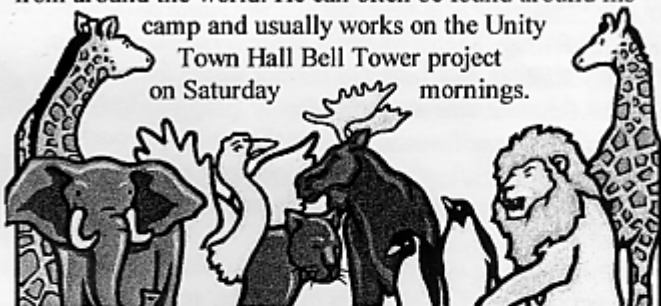
In the 1960s, Lutz and his brother left the family business and founded Baby Zoo, Inc. which was a mobile children's zoo that could be set up at different zoos or other locations. They eventually went to California and built: Jungle Land in Thousand Oaks, CA, the children's zoo at the San Francisco Zoo, the Oakland Baby Zoo, and the San Jose Children's Zoo. Lutz and his brother also provided non-domestic (meaning no dogs or cats) animals for movies and television. He had enough experiences with that business to fill a book. What would you do to train a tiger to jump through a burning hoop—and do it in very few weeks? Do you know how they made "Mr. Ed," the horse, talk? Lutz

got to work with the famous people in TV and movies. "Rampage" was one of the movies. Green Acres, Beverly Hillbillies—lots of TV shows. Do you remember the old ones? They are reruns these days. Look for the animals performing and you'll likely see one of Lutz's star performers.

In 1968, Lutz obtained a general contractor's license and singlehandedly built a drive-through 300 acre safari park in Oakhurst, CA. Cars would drive through a jungle-like setting and the occupants would get a close up view of wild animals roaming free. Problems would arise such as baboons who liked cars with vinyl tops. The baboons would jump on the roof and peel it off, layer by layer. They also had a lion who liked to bite car tires. Apparently, it enjoyed hearing the hissing sound as the tire went flat.

After his brother's death in 1974, Lutz handled the business alone and eventually became a Zoo Director. What a job! Trying to appease city officials, politicians, boards of directors, the general public, animal rights groups, children and their parents, educators, the media, his employees and, of course, the animals. Neither people nor animals would behave like they should. Since Lutz had early experience in catching, handling and shipping animals, purchasing new animals was his responsibility. Can you imagine how Lutz transported a giraffe from Salt Lake City, Utah to the Fresno, CA Zoo? At night and very carefully. He had to stop his truck every few hours and open the roof to allow the giraffe to stretch its neck. The giraffe made it fine but Lutz was more than exhausted. Remember the earthquake in the San Francisco area in 1989? Lutz was then Director of the San Jose Zoo. Imagine what happened. Lutz wondered if the animals got hurt or escaped.

I have barely scratched the surface with Lutz. You've gotta meet him—ask him to tell you about his career. Takes a little prodding, but what a wealth of interesting stories from around the world. He can often be found around his



- ◆ House windows are double-paned to provide extra insulation with many having 'mud rooms' built at the entrance to keep out the icy winds and help you off-load your gear before you enter the main living area.
- ◆ Special wind-proof clothing and footwear is essential to help cope with the minus 30 degree temperatures with boots actually rated according to their temperature effectiveness.

- ◆ Homes are heated with huge furnaces and many are now fitted with remote phone-in facilities, which allow you to call up your house and turn up the temperature before you arrive!

- ◆ There are strict rules for hunting the local game, with deer, snipe, wild turkey, muskrat and beaver all on quota and a limit of one if the local brown bear takes your fancy.

- ◆ Pick-up trucks and four wheel

drives are bought, not just for their appearance, but are essential for navigating snow drifts and muddy roads in this back-woods country.

- ◆ Ice fishermen periodically fall into the frigid waters of these frozen lakes, causing considerable effort and cost in their extraction, with no less than 421 people being rescued by the Coast Guard over the last five years in the Great Lakes region alone.

It's blinking!

Dave Diotalevi

July 2000 Lighthouse Report
Unabridged Transcript
(Thank you, Dave,
for all you do for the lake!)

Good Neighbors

By Helen Fullerton, map site 93

Okay Tim and Greta Perry, I know this is going to embarrass you but I think it's time to let our neighbors know what you're *really* doing when you're out for a walk with a sack.

Many probably think you're carrying a flask or something. The truth is... they are picking up trash along the road.

This behavior has brought deep conviction to Cal and me, especially when I see litter. I plan to start carrying my own bag on walks. Cal jogs too fast to be of much help.

We Recycle

By Charlie Clauss, map site 27A

Did you ever wonder what happens to old lighthouses? They don't fade away, they float away.

At least on Crescent Lake that's what they do. And where do they float to (noting that a preposition is something you should never end a sentence with)?

They float to the end of the proverbial "cove."

To make a long story short, parts of our previous lighthouse found their way into the woods between #27B (Freeland) and #28 (Leone/Kirvin).

These parts were discovered last summer and the soundest of them were nailed together to make a bridge that keeps feet dry when going between cottages (or is it camps?) for happy hours and the like.

Voices Carry (Part 2)

By Colleen Kaftan, map site 103

In a previous issue, Clark Moore listed a number of funny things he's heard across the water over the years. He cautioned us to keep our voices down when making less-than-kind observations about boaters we see passing our decks and shorelines.

Here's a shocker: the voices carry just as well from the boats back to the shore! I'm still struggling to understand a remark I overheard last summer, from a canoe that had just rounded the bend in front of my house. The woman in front gestured vaguely in my direction, and said to her male companion, "There it is! Who could ever think *that* was a good idea?" I have yet to figure out what she didn't like. It's a tiny bit disconcerting, I must admit.

Friends have since offered other examples. One contributor heard someone shout, "You're just an impossible person!" (The informant points out that the remark could probably fit just about anybody on the lake, at one time or another.)

Someone else heard this comment from a participant in the Labor Day kayak flotilla: "Everyone who's anyone on this lake is in this flotilla."

When I mentioned it to some kaYAKKERS, the universal reaction was, "Nobody in that flotilla would have said that!" So, while voices carry, remember you just might not hear everything exactly as it was meant.

Perhaps we should start a regular *Chronicles* column, *Overheard at the Lake*. Send in your cards and letters; your staff is standing by. We'll print the most amusing ones—as long as they're suitable for a family newsletter.



Perspective

By Herb Landon, map site 76

8:30 A.M. ...another beautiful day..... the rustle of distant awakenings begins to creep along a rumpled canvas, which only minutes ago, inverted all that would image before it. A distant, low muffled surge of synchronously smooth and harnessed power, signals the rapid approach of a sleek marine craft, effortlessly planing... almost above the new canvas. The lake is now fully awake, alive and vibrant.

In the blink of an eye, the craft makes a sudden & unexpected turn, as if to chase its own wake, spilling its tethered tube riders, and for a moment, all the earth goes silent. I had just witnessed an act of kindness, love, tolerance, and respect for our collective environ.

Then just as suddenly, gales of children's laughter arose from the tube littered canvas, bringing a smile to my own face, as well as that of a lone sailboater, whose presence, though well downstream, had sparked the event. The children's joyful expressions etched a smile across the surface of my mind, and for a moment, I believe, one could hear the mingled laughter of our native fathers' offspring, eons removed, learning similar, honorable lessons.....from a mica laden dugout canoe.

Musings from "The Spirit of '76"



Puzzler Winners

Who's the smartest guy on the Lake? We have reason to think it might be Ron Mador, Camp 58, who was first to find the solution to last year's brainbuster, SEND + MORE = MONEY. Ron emailed his answer on July 10. Congratulations and bravo!!

Two other winning entries were submitted by visitors. Floyd T. Higgins, of Newton, CT, cracked the puzzle while visiting Marie Boyle. We were charmed to receive Floyd's answer in a hermetically sealed sandwich bag, delivered one fine day by paddle boat!

Our third winner is Ben Reca, a friend of Liz and Charlie Clauss. Chazz claims that Ben is a brilliant mathematician, and he emailed Ben's answers while visiting the Recas in Vienna, VA, in October. Ben not only found the correct answer, he submitted a *second* solution that would have earned extra credit on an SAT Advanced Placement exam.

We print the answers below, in print so small you probably won't be able to read it even if you try. But WAIT! There's still another solution that nobody has found yet. Anybody want to try again?

ANSWERS: S=9, E=5, N=6, D=7, M=1, O=0, R=8, Y=2. (Ben Reca's second

answer was essentially -SEND + -MORE = -MONEY. Our staff mathemeticians claim that this doesn't really work if you assign unique values to each individual letter, but it's creative enough to merit honorable mention.)

Literary Puzzler

Well, the math whizzes have had their turn. This year it's time for a literary puzzle. Our shoreline stickler takes the form of an essay question: *In twenty-five words or fewer, what is the significance of a green light at the end of a dock?*

Submit your answers to the *Chronicles* editor (see page 9 for contact information). We greatly appreciate creativity, but the winner will be the *first* to send a *correct* answer. In addition to the adulation of fellow campers, all puzzler laureates receive the right to propose new brainbusters for publication in future editions of the *Chronicles*.

CLA Online?

Speaking of brainiacs, we're hoping all you computer geniuses will raise your hands and offer to help create a web site for the lake. How about it? Anybody have special expertise in this area? Contact the *Chronicles*!

Family Work Days

By Clark Moore, Damp 22

Did you ever have a family opening up or closing day? Did you get much accomplished? For a long time, I had given up getting anything done on those days and simply thought of them as nice family get togethers. Oh, I tried various things. One year, I decided to prepare a priority list. Everyone thought that was a good idea, but no one followed it. The list simply provided good ideas of things to do. Nothing got finished and only the low priority items were worked on.

This year, it was different. Idle threats and pleas for sympathy were used (you might want to remember these for your own use). Here are some examples. Mention negative consequences such as: "We won't be able to use the boat unless the dock goes in." Some forgot the dock goes in FIRST. Or, making references to obscure or feigned health problems also works. "My back has been bothering me lately" is a good one that gets action on the heavy projects.

And then there's always the big one. That's the one where you say: "It's nice to have help with these work projects—we would have to sell the place if we didn't." That should really get their attention and bring them back to Family Work Days year after year.

Crescent Lake Fishing Questionnaire 2001



Due to space limitations, we're not including a separate survey page in this year's newsletter. But please, *please* let Dick Brown (map site 4) know about your fishing habits / experience at the Lake. Some questions:

- ♦ Are you a cottage owner? Renter? Visitor? Your address?
- ♦ How often does your family fish for bass (daily/weekly/monthly/other)?
- ♦ Do most of you catch and release?
- ♦ How many do you keep and cook? What's your favorite recipe?
- ♦ How big was the largest bass you know of taken from the lake? (length, weight, and season) Did you keep a photo? Could you share a copy?
- ♦ If you come from elsewhere onto the lake to fish, how often?
- ♦ How did you hear about the fishing here? What other lakes do you fish?
- ♦ How would you rate our Crescent Lake fishing?

Please deliver your answers to camp 4 or mail to
Richard Brown, 20 Henry St., Bellows Falls VT 05101.

Thank you!



Favorite Places

We've heard great things about this lovely "new" place in Acworth.

GREEN MEADOW NATURE ESCAPE

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www.tamarackfarm.com

A FARM VACATION BED & BREAKFAST

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7:00 pm, by reservation only

\$19.95 - includes appetizer, soup, salad, main course, dessert
and non-alcoholic beverage

Check website for monthly menu.

Tim and Clare Gowen, Owners

Join us in our elegantly restored 1850s farmhouse with antique decor, modern facilities and a beautiful view of the Cold River, meadows, gardens and hills of Acworth. Six generations of men and women have worked diligently to maintain the beauty of this 400 acre farm, while developing an agribusiness, offering quality products, and providing customized farm vacations at the Green Meadow Nature Escape.



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Goshen, NH 03752
603 863-5601

Summer Hours:
Mon - Fri 7-5
Saturday 7-3
Sunday 9-1

Boating News

By Fred Yates, Ex-NH Auxiliary Marine Patrol Officer

Due to serious disagreements with the Marine Patrol Leadership, and its Marine Patrol Officer assigned to Crescent Lake, I resigned my position as Auxiliary Marine Patrol Officer at a Patrol meeting at Marine Patrol Headquarters in Glendale, NH, on May 5th.

My family problem with the Marine Patrol was finally resolved by going to court, presenting our case and being found NOT GUILTY.

I did not receive any respect from the Marine Patrol leadership regarding this situation, so after 12 years, I guess it is time to retire.

But in closing, I want to thank everyone on Crescent Lake that I came in contact with over the years for your support and cooperation in my position as a Patrol Officer, cottage owner, and as an officer of the Association all at the same time.

Interlake Canoe Contest?

Ernie Dennis, of Dennis Lumber & Supply, has often contributed to the CLA picnic and canoe race fund. (That's Ernie in the drawings to the left of this article.) He also supports our neighbors at Lempster Long Pond, who have their own annual canoe race festivities every Labor Day weekend.

So Ernie had a thought: why not create a friendly canoe competition between the two lakes?

Time permitting, Ernie might be willing to arrange and sponsor such a meet if enough paddlers show an interest.

Give a shout to Ernie or to your *Chronicles* staff if you'd like to help organize or participate in this event.

More Lake Notes

By Fred Yates

Please notify President David Sloan if you are interested in playing in this year's **Second Annual Crescent Lake Association Golf Tournament**, to be held at the John Cain Golf Course, Newport, NH, the third Saturday in July -- July 21, 2001.

More on this at the annual meeting. Cottage owners, their families and relatives are eligible.

Crescent Lake History

To date we have had a very poor showing of campers willing to research and contribute to our Lake History project. Please bring your camp history to the annual meeting. Give it to Secretary Fred Yates or Marie Boyle. We need your cooperation and support to make this project a success. Without it, we may have to cancel our lake history publication.

CLA Silent Patrol



By Fred Yates

We very much deeply regret to report that the camps were not inspected this year as they

have been in the past. Camps were inspected in December, but it snowed December 14th and it snowed, and snowed, and snowed after that. The snowbanks along the road were over six to eight feet tall all winter, with over five to six feet on everyone's property.

I did not get into my cottage until sometime in late April. Suffice it to say, no one got inspected. Even the crooks couldn't get in, and if they did, I don't believe they could have carried anything out.

With less snow next year, Dave Sloan and I promise we will do a better job. Thank you for being so understanding this year.

Welcome, New Neighbors!

This year we had at least seven camp changes! If there have been other changes, please let Secretary Fred Yates know as soon as possible before the annual meeting. Contact Fred at 863-1021 or drop by camp 86, *HATETOLEAVEIT*.

- ♦ *Camp B: Cecilia A. Flanagan, Crescent Lake*
- ♦ *Camp 8: Leo and Tawnya Courtemanche, Claremont*
- ♦ *Camp 19: Donald and Kathy Andrukaitis, Clinton, CT*
- ♦ *Camp 27: Paul and Marilyn Coombs, Carlisle, MA*
- ♦ *Camp 37: C. Rick and Karen Howard, Claremont, NH*
- ♦ *Camp 70: Michaelle Hayward, Westmoreland, NH*
- ♦ *Camp 102: Jane and Lachlan Syme, Essex, CT*

Welcome to Crescent Lake. We hope you will fall in love with the place as we all have. If there are any questions please feel free to contact your Lake Association Officers at any time. We don't get paid much, but we have a lot of fun. (P.S. Don't let the cartoon fool you. Nobody dresses like that at the Lake!)



We'll keep publishing *Crescent Lake Chronicles* as long as you keep sending material. This year's issue is our biggest ever, so let's keep up the good work, everybody! To contribute, contact:

Colleen Kaftan

Camp 103 "C-Side" -- 863-9415

or mail to

228 Harris Road, Smithfield, RI 02917

fax: 401 232-5545 / email: ckaftan@aol.com

We're looking for comments on lake life, tips on the area, for sale / wanted to buy, announcements, news, reviews, good summer puzzlers (and solutions!), pithy front-page quotes, letters to the editor... and even photos, especially if they're accompanied by witty captions or stories. Don't be shy! Send your article today!

Your Lake Association Officers

President: David Sloan, map site 11A

Secretary-Treasurer: Fred Yates, map site 86

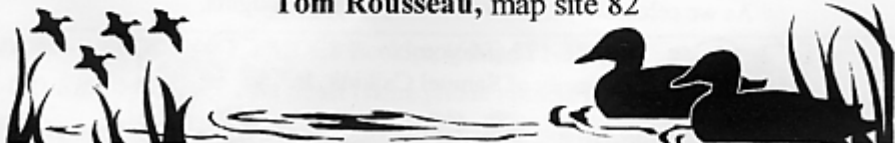
Directors:

Eino Antilla, Shorewood map site A

Dave Diotalevi, map site 14

Charlie Ginter, map site 59A

Tom Rousseau, map site 82





*So special you are to every one
The lives you've touched the hearts you've won
And as we say our goodbyes this day
In our hearts forever you will stay.*

*Life to enjoy and fun to be had
Laughter, happiness and good cheer to spread
God chose you to do all this
He knew Sam you would carry out His wish.*

*You encompass us all, not a person left out
So many lives you've changed there is no doubt
Bringing smiles to faces and many happy hearts
With a grin and quick wit, never a gloomy thought.*

*With "I'll see you later" the party boat you'd take
And off you'd go cruising around Crescent Lake
Stopping to chat and spending the day
Lots of merriment and laughter along the way.*

*We'll miss you Sam and tears will fall
But your love of life will sustain us all
You've endeared us all to your wonderful ways
And this love will be with us through out our days.*

*So when we see a smiling face
Hear a laugh and share a warm embrace
It's you Sam that we will see
And forever in our hearts you'll be.*

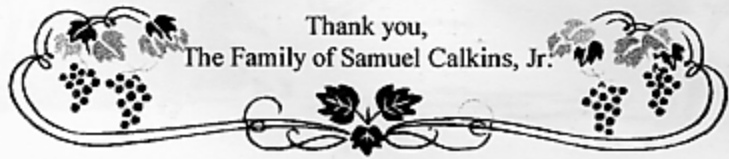
In Loving Memory
Sam Calkins
12/2/41 to 3/11/01

The kindness and sympathy shown to us by so many during this time of sorrow will always be remembered.

Your thoughtful ways mean so much
Your acts of kindness and gentle touch
You've made this time much easier to bear
And we want you to know how much we care.

Thank you dear friends for all that you do
Your comfort and support has helped us through
Sam's spirit will always remain in our hearts
As we celebrate his life with many happy thoughts.

Thank you,
The Family of Samuel Calkins, Jr.



In Sympathy

By Fred Yates, CLA Secretary

The Crescent Lake Association wishes to extend to Charles Hager and family our deepest sympathy on the passing of your wife Evelyn in 1997. We did not know. Please accept our apology for this oversight. Also we hope your recent operation came out good and you are recovering very well.

With deep regrets I must report on the passing of three other lake campers: James W. Riley (camp 115) of Tucson, AZ, last fall; Marie M. Grenier (camp 47), Claremont, NH on March 1, 2001; then a few days later on March 11, 2001, Samuel W. Calkins, Jr. (camp 10) of Crescent Lake passed away.

All of Crescent Lake extends our deepest sympathy to the Hager, Riley, Grenier and Calkins families.

Captain Big Dog

By David Sloan, CLA President

Sam Calkins did a lot for the lake. He brought people to the lake, made sure that they had a good time, kept them somewhat alert (of course he usually had the upper hand) but most importantly of all—he brought camp owners together. Sam was more than just a friend to me, he was a buddy, a pal, someone I could confide in. I will miss him terribly.

Sam would want us to continue with the good times, the jokes, the jabs that he himself was so famous for. Let's not forget the rides on the Party Barge where admission was a sixpack and you never knew when you would get home.

There will be a memorial service at the lake sometime over the summer. No doubt there will also be many fond memories of Sam.

Crescent Lake Water Test Report for Summer 2000 Submitted by Gerri Rudenfeldt, map site 73

After reviewing data collected from Crescent Lake the [DES Volunteer Lake Assessment Program] program coordinators recommend the following actions.

♦ **Chlorophyll-a concentrations.** Algae are microscopic plants that are a natural part of lake ecosystems. Algae contain chlorophyll-a, a pigment necessary for photosynthesis. A measure of chlorophyll-a can indicate the abundance of algae in a lake. The historical data show a *fairly stable, but slightly worsening*, in-lake chlorophyll-a trend. Concentrations have increased since 1995; this year's average was at the NH mean reference line. The chlorophyll-a concentration may have increased this summer due to the above normal rainfall. Increased rainfall can lead to increased runoff and phosphorous loading from the watershed. While algae are present in all lakes, an excess amount of any type is not welcomed. Concentrations can increase when there are external and internal sources of phosphorous, which is the nutrient algae depend upon for growth. It's important to continue the education process and keep residents aware of the sources of phosphorous and how it influences lake quality.

♦ **Water clarity** is measured using a Secchi disk. Clarity, or transparency, can be influenced by such things as algae, sediments from erosion, and natural colors of the water. Historical and current year data show a *slightly worsening* trend in lake transparency. The decrease in transparency in July was caused by the increase in chlorophyll-a concentrations. This year's mean transparency was below the state mean of almost 800 lakes. The 2000 sampling season was considered to be wet and, therefore, average transparency readings are expected to be slightly lower than last year's readings. Higher amounts of rainfall usually cause more eroding of sediments into the lake and streams, thus decreasing clarity.

♦ **Phosphorous** is the limiting nutrient for plants and algae in NH waters. Too much phosphorous in a lake can lead to increases in plant growth over time. These graphs show a *stable* trend for in-lake phosphorous levels. Phosphorous concentrations in the hypolimnion (the lower layer in the lake) decreased from last year and remained relatively stable throughout the summer. The epilimnetic phosphorous (in the upper layer of the lake) was slightly increased from the 1999 data. Both layers had mean phosphorous concentrations below the state median for total phosphorous. One of the most important approaches to reducing phosphorous levels is educating the public. Humans introduce phosphorous to lakes by several means: fertilizing lawns, septic system failures, and detergents containing phosphates are just a few. Keeping the public aware of ways to reduce the input of phosphorous to lakes means less productivity in the lake. Contact the Volunteer Lake Assessment Program coordinator for tips on educating your lake residents or for ideas on testing your watershed for phosphorous inputs.

Other Comments

♦ In 2000, small amounts of the blue-green alga *Anabena* were observed in the plankton sample. Blue-green algae can reach nuisance levels when sufficient nutrients and favorable environmental conditions are present. While overall algal abundance continues to be common in the lake, the presence of these indicator species should serve as a reminder of the lake's delicate balance. Continued care to protect the watershed by limiting or eliminating fertilizer use on lawns, keeping the lake shoreline natural, and properly maintaining septic systems and roads will keep algae populations in balance.

♦ In-lake and tributary conductivity levels were lower this year than in 1999. The largest reduction in conductivity in 2000 occurred at the West Inlet sites. Conductivity was particularly low this year, most likely as a result of the excess rains, which tend to remove pollutants from the surface waters. Conductivity increases often indicate the influence of human activities on surface waters. Septic system leachate, agricultural runoff, iron deposits, and road runoff can each influence conductivity readings.

♦ Several sites experienced lower total phosphorous concentrations during the 2000 sampling season, including the Northeast Inlet, West Inlet North, and West Inlet South. The West Inlet sites had the lowest mean values recorded at those stations since 1993. Again, it is likely that the rains this year helped to flush excess nutrients from the inlets and into the epilimnium.

♦ Dissolved oxygen was low at the bottom three meters of the lake in September. The process of decomposition in the sediments depletes dissolved oxygen on the bottom of thermally stratified lakes. As bacteria break down organic matter, they deplete oxygen in the water. Lower oxygen levels in the hypolimnion usually occur as the summer progresses.

♦ *E. coli* originates in the intestines of warm-blooded animals (including humans) and is an indicator of associated and potentially harmful pathogens. Bacteria concentrations were all very low at the sites tested. If residents are concerned about septic system impacts, testing when the water table is high of after rains may yield the best results.

♦ After viewing the in-lake dissolved oxygen profile, we suggest that only two samples should be collected at the deep spot instead of three. We suggest using the depths of 2- and 6-meters, with a chlorophyll-a composite beginning at 4-meters.

♦ **Monitor's Note (6/3/00):** Shorewood had low flow, shallow. W. Inlet South had shallow flow where sampling was possible. Dam Outlet sampling spot was to the side of flow as it was not possible to get close enough for a full flow catch.

♦ **Monitor's Note (9/7/00):** Notice accumulation of bottom sediment washed up on shore near N.E. Inlet (picture taken). New house built on East side near N.E. Inlet. Sluice boards on dam are set about 3 inches below cement work of dam. Shorewood inlet dry.

Useful Resources

♦ *Answers to Common Lake Questions*, NHDES-WSPCD-92-12, NHDES Booklet, (603) 271-3503

♦ *Proper Lawn Care Can Protect Waters*, WD-BB-31, NHDES Fact Sheet (same phone number).

♦ Check www.state.nh.us and go to the DES page or visit the NH Lakes Association at <http://www.nhlakes.org>

These Chronicles printed by NewsBank, Inc., Chester, VT. (802) 875-2397. Once again, Mike Walker (map site 1) and his staff have done a terrific job. Thank you again, Mike Walker and Newsbank!

Fire permits: contact George Dunn, fire warden for Unity. All outdoor fires, including camp fires, require fire permits from town fire wardens. Please be careful with anything that might cause sparks, including cigarettes and fireworks, and always get a permit for any outdoor fires.

Sugar River Canoe: Cedar Strip Canoes, Bent Shaft Paddles — those works of art you see gliding by on the lake. Call Stan Rastallis, (603) 863-8838. Lake Road, Unity / HCR 66 Box 193 / Newport, NH 03773 .

Soap Source: For your dishwasher or washing machine at the lake, you can order "Seventh Generation" non-polluting detergents from Harmony, at 1 (800) 869-3446.

CLASSIFIED NOTICES

Crescent Lake T-Shirts: Get 'em while they're current, because they can't be re-ordered. If you have "vintage" shirts you'd be willing to sell or give to a deserving neighbor (or to the Association for resale or auction), please contact Marie Boyle at 863-3778.



Lost & Found: If you find anything floating down the lake—boats, docks, skis, rafts, toys, kids, etc., please try to locate the owner. Also, be sure to secure your boats, etc., and put your name on them so they can be returned if found. Contact the Chronicles or any Lake Association officer to report either lost or found items.

Weekly Rental: Call Liz & Ron Vavra, (410) 295-9494.

Dino Zampini, logging, firewood, bark mulch, trucking, excavation. 543 1188.

Ryan Property Services: Carpentry, Yardwork, Lawn Care. Mark Ryan, Proprietor. 24 Cherry Hill, Bellows Falls, VT 05101 (802) 463-3790. Crescent Lake Camp 4, 863-3935.

Stolen: Two 55 gallon greenish plastic barrels from camp 86. Used for float. If seen, call 863-1021, Fred Yates.

Keep up with area news and events! Subscriptions to the Acworth Community Newsletter, published monthly by the Friends of Silsby Library, are \$6.50 / year. Box 88, S. Acworth, NH 03607.

Or pick up the Unity Newsletter at Will's Place in beautiful downtown Unity. Summer hours: M-F 6 am - 9 pm, Sat. 8 am - 9 pm, Sun. 8 am - 8 pm.

Dump hours. Acworth: Wed. 11-6, Sat. 9-4, Sun. 9-1. Unity: Sat. 8-4

Crescent Lake Association
P.O. Box 56
Bellows Falls, VT 05101



INSIDE: The Spring 2001 Crescent Lake Chronicles!
Lake Association Annual Meeting: 10:00 a.m.-noon, Saturday, July 7, 2001, Unity Fire Station.
\$20 Association Annual Dues are Due! Send your check to the CLA address above.