



----- The Annual Report from ----- THE WASHINGTON LAKES ASSOCIATION

NEWSLETTER NO. 19

WASHINGTON, MAINE

SUMMER 2007

2007 Annual Meeting at Crystal Lake Park

The **16th Annual Meeting** of the **Washington Lakes Association** will be held at on **Sunday, August 12, 2007** at Nelson-Butterfield Park [Lake Access area] on Crystal Pond (also called Crystal Lake) in Washington from 12 noon until 3 p.m..

Everyone is welcome to attend.

Several canoes and kayaks will be available for guests to take a look at the park from the water and enjoy a paddle.

The lakes association will provide **hotdogs, hamburgers**, condiments and rolls for our guests. Guests are invited to **bring a salad or dessert to share** with others and drinks of their preference. [Nelson-/Butterfield Park rules prohibit alcoholic beverages on the premises.]

Starting around 2:15'clock, Don Austin, an Americorps Volunteer working with the Alewife Restoration Project will present an overview of the goals and achievements of the program. Project. Don has photographs and printed information to share (no PowerPoint at the park) and is an entertaining speaker who will answer questions about the efforts of alewife conservationists.

**WASHINGTON DAYS BOAT
RIDES FROM NOON TO 2 P.M.
Saturday**

More Washington Days News on Page 2

President's Message

In my three years as your president, we have seen several positive things occur. We repaired the spillway at the outlet which stopped the leak underneath it. Last summer the lake water on Washington Pond remained at the traditional late season level.

Thanks to Ron and Linda Luce and to Andy and Susan Mendelson, we have provided boat tours of Washington Pond during Washington Days. This has allowed many citizens to see the pond as they never have before.

We have updated the listing of lakefront owners which had not been reviewed for several years. Should you know of anyone who does not receive a copy of this newsletter, be sure to let me know so we can add them to the list.

One of the major complaints in the past has been the vandalism, rowdiness, and public drinking at Nelson-Butterfield Park on Crystal Lake. Nelson-Butterfield Park is a public area belonging to the town and its citizens. WLA took the complaints to the Board of Selectmen who developed a trial plan to make all of us more comfortable using our park.

The symbol on the masthead of this newsletter is from a brochure printed by the Maine Dept. of Environmental Protection.

Message - continued

At the annual town meeting the citizens of Washington voted overwhelmingly to contract with the Knox County Sheriff's Office for an additional dedicated patrol during the summer months. One area of focus during this additional patrol is Nelson-Butterfield Park. So far, comments have been very positive and it appears that the additional patrol is making a difference.

It has been my pleasure to serve as your president for the past three years. I wish to thank the other officers and the board of directors for making my job easy, and I look forward to working with your new president. *Don Grinnell*



Kayakers enjoy a lakeside picnic

Washington Lakes Association
E. Grinnell, Treasurer
74 Liberty Road
Washington, ME 04574

Washington Day – July 28

Washington Lakes Association will offer boat rides on Washington Pond as part of the town celebration on July 28 and 29.

Ron Luce and Sue Mendleson will captain their party boats from 12 o'clock noon until 2 p.m. WLA will staff an **information booth** in the village park to provide general information and assist people in finding the various activities.

The Village Park is also the location to catch the **shuttle to the boat launch site**.

Bottled water will be sold at the information booth with proceeds going to the Association. If you would like to **volunteer for a shift at the booth**, please call Liz Grinnell at 845-2377.

*Support Your Lakes
Be A Member*

Washington's Lakes are everyone's concern. **Please renew your membership or join as a member.** You may pay your dues at the Annual Meeting or mail them to WLA Treasurer, Liz Grinnell, 74 Liberty Road, Washington, ME 04574. Please use the renewal **form** on the back of this newsletter to help us keep our records current and remit by **Sept. 1, 2007** so that you get all of WLA's messages. **Thanks!**

Our paid membership was down this past year. If you are a previous member, please re-join us. If you are someone interested in joining for the first time, I ask that you please complete **the annual membership form** return it as soon as possible. Members are our only means of support.

Board Nominees 2007-2008

The **Nominating Committee** offers the following candidates to serve on the 2007-2008 WLA Board of Directors and officers:

David Allen
David Cichowski
Marlene Cohn
Larry Esancy
Don Grinnell
Liz Grinnell
Charlotte Henderson
Pete Melgard

Nominations can also be made from the floor at the annual meeting.

All Association members in good standing are eligible for election to the Board. Officers will be elected by members present at the Annual Meeting.

WLA Seeks Board Members and Advisory Group

As more and more challenges face the environment in general and our special lakes in particular, there is more and more reason to build our association and keep a good pulse on the condition of the lakes and on the issues that affect them.

The Washington Lakes Association board meets four times a year and is responsible for the business of the Association. One important responsibility is to underwrite and initiate a lake water testing every three years. The three year period was decided because the conditions are good enough that more frequent monitoring has been unnecessary – so far.

When chemical changes are revealed by the testing, WLA is advised by professionals as to whether more frequent testing is needed and whether some kind of remedy should be undertaken. Tests are due this year will be done by Scott Williams, who has served WLA in the past.

We are fortunate that our lakes, Washington Pond and Crystal Lake, are in good shape and remain free of disastrous invasives or dangerous bacteria. WLA works to assure that all land owners and users of the lakes are aware of good practices to help keep our lakes healthy. We are grateful for the good cooperation and respect for our lakes that so many people demonstrate.

If you want to know more about joining us or serving on the board or a committee, please make a note on your membership form or give one of us a call.

But it could be, couldn't it?

Not True News ...

A chemical industry lobbying group defends its stand against strict water pollution laws. Spokeswoman Flo Brown elaborates: "The chemicals in the water act as a preservative, which extends the freshness period of the water by several decades. We think that's a good deal for consumers."



Oh, nooooo !

Washington Lakes Association Membership Form

Name _____

Individual - \$10

Address _____

Family - \$15

Student - \$5

Phone _____

Sustainer - \$100

E-Mail _____

Business Supporter - \$25

Please complete the form and return it with your membership donation.
This is how we keep our records up to date.

Add'l Gift for Water Test Fund

Make checks payable to Washington Lakes Association and mail to: WLA - E. Grinnell
74 Liberty Road
Washington, ME 04574