

# Flying Pond Improvement Association

VOL 2 NO 5

Celebrating Sixty-One Years of Protecting Our Lake

SUMMER / AUTUMN 2021

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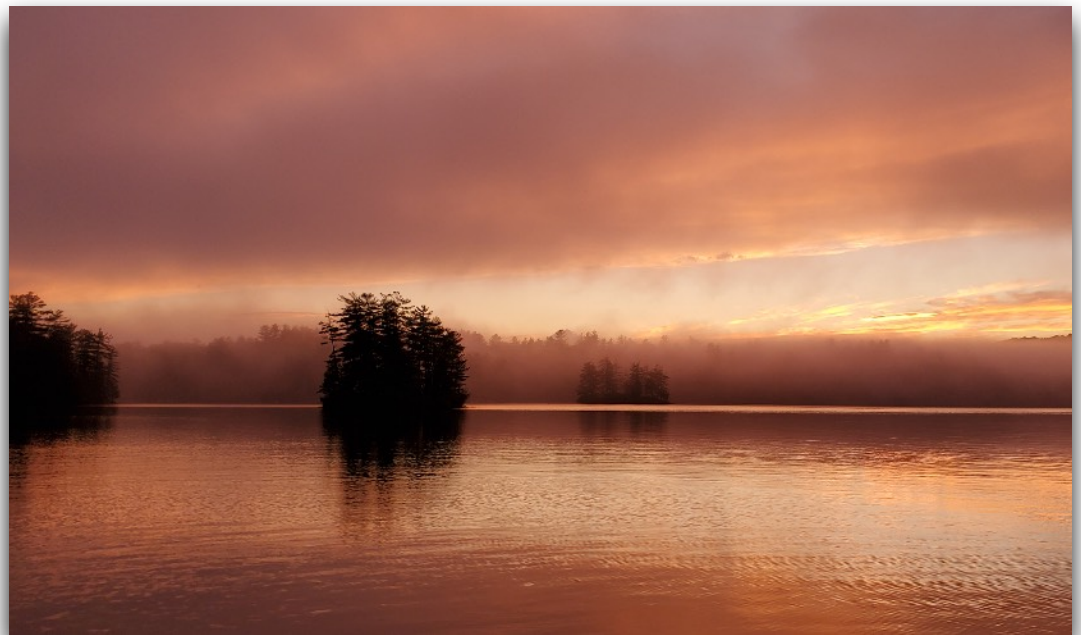
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*'After Storm Stormy Sunset' - Cover Photo Courtesy of Nancy Turner*

## A Culinary Experience In Freedom, ME The Lost Kitchen — Feature by *Bob I'Anson*

During our summer visits to Flying Pond, I often meet friends and neighbors who are unaware of the many interesting places to eat, often nearby, while staying at the lake. Maine has a lot of hidden gems that can add to your visit at the pond. You may be missing out on a culinary adventure, so do a little searching. Trip Advisor doesn't have all the answers. Sometimes your searches can lead to an amazing surprise!

Our surprise came in early June when my wife Sharon received a phone call informing her that her postcard was picked for dinner at The Lost Kitchen, located in Freedom, Maine. The Lost Kitchen is one of the most exclusive restaurants in the country, and one



A memorable dining experience at the Lost Kitchen  
Bob & Sharon I'Anson with Linda & Don Petersen

of the hardest to get a reservation. You can't just call to reserve your space. You have to submit a postcard in early April each year for a chance to dine there. It was pure luck we were among those chosen from a bin of over 20,000 postcards!

— continued pg 4

## MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

*Late fall is always a bittersweet time of the year when I help Dean pull the “board” (it’s really a skinny metal I-beam) from the dam and I drain the pipes at camp. At camp, we are always hopeful for an unexpectedly warm weekend where my mom, 3 girls, and 6 grandkids, who are all Mainers, can gather one last time. Frankly, we almost never do, so perhaps my late October draining pipes is more of an exercise in procrastination than anything else.*

*This year, I did both on October 24<sup>th</sup>. I am always worried that my friends on Minnehonk are going to be mad if their water level goes up quickly. Well, wouldn’t you know, we got rain for*

*two or three days that week. Thankfully no one on Minnehonk noticed. 😊*

*Incidentally, it’s important to lower the lake every fall to prevent damage to the fragile shore from high ice levels scraping up and down causing erosion.*

*Meanwhile, at camp, the mice are exceedingly happy that they have no more human nuisance to deal with. They do, after all, have the run of the place for more than half the year. We will miss our friends from warmer climes way more than the mice will miss us.*

*See you all in half a mouse life,  
Paul Crockett — FPIA Board President*

## THE DAM

This summer has been the wettest summer in Vienna since 2009. It has seemed especially wet to me because most of the rain has come on weekends. The lake elevation, until recently, has remained relatively stable. The reason for the stable lake elevation is the drought we experienced last winter and spring. I never wanted to admit we were having a drought because to me it always seems like it rains too much, but I have to admit I was wrong.

The drought lowered the ground water table so all the rain we received this summer soaked into the ground rather than running into the streams and then into Flying Pond. Finally in early September the ground became saturated and lake level rose quickly after a significant storm.

I have noticed from observing the Mill Pond Dam in Vienna for the past 30 years that the best way to tell if the lake level in Flying Pond is going to rise is to check the Mill Pond Dam. If the water is overtopping the Mill Pond Dam our dam on Flying Pond cannot keep up with the increased flow and the lake level will rise. So if you are ever



October 24: Dean Sciaraffa and Paul Crockett remove a board from the dam, lowering the lake six inches – Photo by Paul Fontaine

concerned if the water elevation in Flying Pond is going to rise, take a ride to Vienna and check out the Mill Pond Dam. If the water is overtopping the dam the water level is rising, if it isn’t you are safe until the next storm. — Dean Sciaraffa

## MEMBERSHIP

Thank you to all our members. We really appreciate that you have not forgotten FPIA membership and donations, especially in these challenging times!

Have you thought about giving a gift of FPIA membership? Maybe a donation in honor or memory of someone would finalize your holiday

list this season? FPIA will be happy to send a personalized e-message to you and/or a recipient on your behalf. Payments can be made online using our web site.

If you have questions regarding Flying Pond Improvement Association and membership email [flyingpond@gmail.com](mailto:flyingpond@gmail.com). — Cindy Ripley

## WATER QUALITY & COURTESY BOAT INSPECTION

2021 Water Quality Monitoring Program on Flying Pond was a Success!

Between June and September 2021, 30 Mile staff, with help from many FPIA volunteers, completed a total of ten sampling events on Flying Pond. At each sampling event, data was collected from the deepest spot in the lake (aka “Station 1” or the “deep spot”) located just north of Big Island. A special THANKS to the volunteers who made it possible: Gary Cortelyou & Family, Len & Deb Roe, David Gifford, and Randy & Wendy Oakley.

Parameters collected on Flying Pond in 2021 include secchi disk transparency (water clarity), dissolved oxygen and temperature profiles, phosphorus, and chlorophyll. 30 Mile is now in the midst of data entry and analysis, and will compile the data into an Annual Water Quality Monitoring Report over the winter months. In the meantime, be sure to check out the dissolved oxygen/temperature

profiles and water clarity readings collected on Flying Pond this season by visiting the 30 Mile water quality program webpage: <https://30mileriver.org/water-quality-monitoring/>.

Courtesy Boat Inspection Season Recap; This season our paid and volunteer inspectors conducted 372 boat inspections over 306 hours. No invasive plants were found entering or exiting the lake.

THANK YOU to volunteers Todd Hemphill, Bill Murphy, Wendy Oakley and Bob Thompson who staffed the launch a total of 74 hours this season!

To learn more about the crises on Androscoggin Lake, Flying Pond’s water quality, invasive plants, LakeSmart, and much more, visit 30 Mile’s new website: <http://30mileriver.org>.

— *Lidie Robbins & Whitney Baker*

## BUOYS

Randy Oakley and I removed the ‘no wake zone’ buoys on 10/6/21. Thank you to the Oakleys for allowing the use of their pontoon boat and putting up with the mess that removing the buoys in the fall always involves. We did not have a break this year, so we will have all 10 ready to put back out in the Spring sometime around Memorial Day. Some of the existing buoys are in rough shape, however, so we may look into purchasing a couple more from the State of Maine in the Spring just to have on hand in case one breaks down. — Chad Dwelley

## FPIA PROJECTS 20-22

LakeSmart was initiated on Flying Pond this summer and will be back next year. The Youth Conservation Corps should be back in action as well, to provide below-market price labor for environmental projects.

The Association is creating a brochure that will provide owners and renters with a lake map, as well as information about ‘no wake’ zones, loon respect, contact information for the game warden and more ways to keep our lake clean, safe and family-friendly.

Working with 30 Mile River Watershed Association, the FPIA will do an environmental assessment of several publicly owned islands in the lake. — *Nancy Hemphill*



## NEW TO THE BOARD

FPIA receives three new board members. Doris Anderman, Diane Araps, and Katie Dwelley as treasurer, joined this summer. We look forward to their contributions to the team!

This was Brian Canwell and Barbara Kennedy’s last year on the board and we would like to extend our gratitude for many their years of service!

## Culinary Experience - Lost Kitchen *cont.*

The restaurant, situated in a revitalized old grist mill next to a lovely lake, has a hidden wine cellar and a rustic dining room, seating only 45 guests. To enter, guests have to cross a steel bridge right over the top of a waterfall. We went there on July 23rd, along with my college roommate Don Petersen and his wife Linda. This was a “bucket list” experience! The five-hour, 14-course meal was topped off with a warm farewell from owner Erin French and her attentive staff. The day was a celebration of creativity and excellence in food and service, and genuine hospitality. It was an unforgettable culinary experience!

You may not be lucky enough to get a “bucket list” dining experience, but there are plenty of local choices to break from the camp and dine elsewhere. For a few examples, I’ve tried many lobster rolls at different places throughout Maine, but you can’t beat the ones served at H.J. Blakes’ food trailer at the nearby intersection of Castle Island and West roads. If you’d like to bring some fresh hot lobsters for take-out back to camp, try Augusta Seafood. Call in and they’ll steam your lobsters and provide a Styrofoam box that keeps your dinner hot for hours, ready to eat back at camp.

Sadie's Boathouse Restaurant, situated above the Belgrade Lakes marina, is another good choice for a good evening meal on a weekend (reservations suggested).

Do you enjoy a reasonably priced breakfast/brunch in a “Mom & Pop” kitchen atmosphere? Try the Brickyard in Farmington. Great grandma/comfort food!

Like Mexican food? Try El Agave. Owned by a Latino family, it is located across from the



Don Petersen, Lost Kitchen owner Erin French & Bob l'Anson

Home Depot in Augusta. They serve authentic Mexican cuisine. Another good choice for Mexican is Uno Mas in Farmington. Great food and the margaritas are outstanding!

I recently tried 18 Below in Waterville. They have a unique underground setting and a good menu with reasonable prices. Best crab-stuffed haddock I’ve ever had!

For nearby eateries, the Sunset Grill is a good choice, or a take-out pizza from Day’s Store is the best when you don’t feel like cooking. The Post Office Café in Mt. Vernon has great sandwiches, freshly made pastries, daily specials, and outside tables on a screened porch. The Homestead in Farmington always has good family-style food. There are many more locally, you just need to explore!



*The Lost Kitchen (TLK) is featured on both Discovery+ & Magnolia Network*



Getty Images

## *Did You Know?* Beaver teeth are orange!

The color comes from an iron-rich enamel layer which serves to protect their long incisors from damage. Their teeth are softer than most mammals by design for two reasons: 1. They wear down unevenly which gives them a sharp shape to cut wood easier and 2. Their teeth are always growing so this keeps them trimmed back.

[www.nationalzoo.si.edu/animals](http://www.nationalzoo.si.edu/animals)

# IPP Highlight on Meryl Araps — by *Deb Roe*

During the mid and late 60's Meryl enjoyed many vacation weeks with her husband and young family until they built their own camp on Vienna Shores. Since then she has spent over 50 full summers on Flying Pond! Due to her interest in helping protect the pond, Meryl has been an invasive plant patroller since 2010 when it was first introduced to Flying Pond.

At the age of 86, Meryl still enthusiastically gets in her kayak to hunt for invasive plants, although she says this year may be her last. Meryl became a certified patroller after receiving training through Lake Stewards of Maine and happily shares her extensive knowledge with others. This year, she is training Jane Marquart, one of several new volunteers. She is also a valuable resource to the other plant patrollers on Flying Pond when help is needed identifying one of our many native plants. Thank you Meryl, for your many years of dedicated work!



Meryl identifies specific plants for the new volunteers, at the 2021 Invasive Plant Patrol welcome meeting

Meryl Araps Kayaks on Plant Patrol

## Successful IPP Year!!!

As many of you know, variable water milfoil was found in Androscoggin Lake last fall, the first in our chain of lakes to have an invasive aquatic plant. The good news for Flying Pond is that a dedicated group of individuals surveyed our lake this summer, as we have been doing since 2010, and only found native plants. This may be the only job where you pray you never find the thing for which you are searching!

We were especially happy to have so many new volunteers as we welcome Jane Marquart, Donna Maskwa, Bill & Cindy Murphy, Pat Thompson, and John Zacker to our team. Thank you also to our returning volunteers: Meryl Araps, Nancy Brooks, Marsha Clark, Gary Fish, Ridgely Fuller, Peter Goffin, Alice Olson, Alene and Pat Onion, Cindy Ripley, Debbie Roe, and Mary Viruleg. These individuals spent a total of 67 hours on the



Rainy Day Invasive Plant Patrol Welcome Meeting

water & an additional 130 hours off the water on related activities such as plant identification, etc. for a total of 197 hours. Perhaps you saw one of us this summer in our canoe, kayak or paddle board with our bright orange vest, gazing intently into the water? We ended the season with a pizza party to celebrate another year free of invasive plants.

If you are interested in joining us next year, e-mail Debbie Roe at [lendebroe@gmail.com](mailto:lendebroe@gmail.com).

## LakeSmart Kicks Off & Wraps Up The Year — by *Diane Araps*

What a magnificent first year for LakeSmart on Flying Pond! We had requests to analyze 14 properties and 13 assessments were completed! Most of you are aware of the LakeSmart program, run by 30 Mile River, as it has been mentioned a few times in our recent newsletters.

Basically, it is an education and reward program which helps lakefront homeowners handle landscapes in ways that protect water quality. Involved homeowners receive individualized suggestions for keeping pollutants found in stormwater out of our beautiful pond.

This inaugural LakeSmart volunteer team included our coordinator Cindy Ripley, Stephen Trehu and myself. Our check list focused on driving/parking areas, outdoor structures, outdoor areas, shoreline and water access zones. We found that many participating homeowners had already established a variety of inventive solutions for many of their erosion issues!

We learned a tremendous amount regarding Best Management Practices, aka BMPs. Our recommendation letters to homeowners included some suggestions for infiltration steps, erosion control mix, open top culvert, rubber razors, shoreline riprap, rain gardens, and maintaining buffers. All of these are easy to implement and worth the effort to save our wonderful lake from pollutants which cause algae blooms and degradation of our water quality.

Additionally, we felt honored with so many invitations to walk gorgeous properties as each little slice of land has a uniqueness with terrific views of Flying Pond! We especially had a delightful time meeting our lake neighbors! It was nice to see the enthusiasm and respect so many have for the lake.

A sincere thanks to the participants this summer! We look forward to seeing your creative solutions which will ultimately benefit our environment, wildlife and neighbors!



Mt Vernon *Before*

### Town Sign Makeovers

A few volunteers spent a little time to return a brighter look and some charm to Flying Pond's sister towns!

The Mt Vernon welcome sign on Pond Road as well as the Vienna Village sign at the corner of Kimball Pond Road & Town House Road, received well needed facelifts!

Both town signs were in need of extensive sanding, base priming and new hardware. Color chips were selected to finish the signs similar to their original palette.

Thank you,  
*for making a difference!*

**Welcome to Mt. Vernon & Vienna!**



Vienna *Before*



Mt Vernon *After*



Vienna *After*

## Invasion of the...KNOTWEED? — Feature by *Cindy Ripley*

Look closely. You've probably seen it and never knew it was part of an invasion, but now you'll begin noticing it everywhere. This invader can be found at rest areas, along the highways, in ditches, near road repair....maybe even on your property. It's usually along the side of a road, especially near water. You can take a look today and find it on the shore of The Mill Stream Pond, Minnehonk and Flying Pond, too. It is often seen near culverts, streams, and waterfalls in our towns, throughout the state, and far beyond!

Japanese Knotweed (sometimes called bamboo because it's stalks are hollow) is one tough cookie...er plant... and is highly invasive. It can adapt to many soils and tolerate many conditions. Once this plant starts to grow, it's awfully hard to get rid of.

Given the opportunity, Japanese Knotweed will

grow so thick that it will shade out native plants. Like other invasive species, it takes over the role of native species. They use the resources of a native organism, making it difficult for that organism to survive in the same area. This can seriously affect the ecosystem, having an effect on other plants as well as the organisms that rely on them.

Japanese Knotweed spreads through rhizomes, which are basically horizontal underground stems. Even small fragments can create a new plant, so it can spread from soil, fill, gravel, rock and other transferred products that are used near our homes as well as on and near roads and construction sites. A ½" piece of a rhizome can remain dormant for long periods of time and then begin to grow when conditions are right.

It can grow fast in the summer - up to 8" per day!! It's better to prevent it from spreading, but if you do find it, PLEASE be sure to remove and dispose of it properly!

What to do:

- Learn how to identify it and what to do BEFORE trying to remove this highly invasive plant.
- Dispose of properly
- Call for help if you need it (resources below)



Overlooking Minnehonk from the west side on Pond Road



Shovel or heart shaped pointed tip leaves, visible segments between alternating leaves

**Maine Invasive Plants / Japanese Knotweed:** <https://www.maine.gov/dacf/php/gotpests/weeds/factsheets/jap-knotweed-me.pdf>

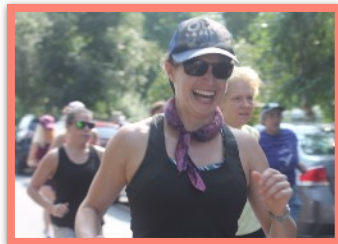
**Maine Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry:** [https://www.maine.gov/dacf/mnap/features/invasive\\_plants/invsheets.htm](https://www.maine.gov/dacf/mnap/features/invasive_plants/invsheets.htm)

**Fact Sheet Japanese Knotweed:** <https://www.maine.gov/dacf/php/gotpests/weeds/factsheets/knotweed-pca.pdf>

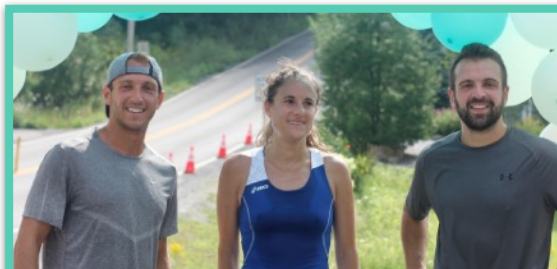
**Maine Organic Farmers and Gardeners:** <https://www.mofga.org/resources/invasives/invasives/>

## Loon Lap 5K Lands On A Bright, Beautiful August Day

The Loon Lap began in 2014 as a fundraising event for the protection of Minnehonk Lake, the surrounding natural areas, and now supports multiple community projects. The race begins at the Mt. Vernon Community Center and meanders around both Lake Minnehonk and Hopkins Pond.



Bonnie Frye Hemphill having a laugh at the start



Top 3 finishers, vacationing from West Chester, PA



August 8th – A Festive registration at the Mt Vernon Community Center where the race starts & ends

# Deposition Of A Nuisance Beaver — Story by *Matt Meredith*

I met Benedict under unfortunate circumstances as I was assigned to be his defense attorney. I was reluctant to take the case because I didn't want to defend Maine's largest rodent and aquatic pest. Being a young attorney, I cannot refuse any assignments so I had no choice but to defend him.

The first thing you should know about Benedict is he is considered a nuisance beaver under the Revised Maine Statute Title 12, § 12404 paragraph 2 subparagraph A. Benedict was reluctant to speak about his nuisance status for fear of his life. That was of course until a few days ago, when he was served a subpoena to appear for a deposition conducted by me.

The meeting was at night as these creatures are nocturnal. I launched my kayak off the shore and heard the familiar "WHAP" a few feet next to me. Benedict's smacking tail let me know of his presence and also sent a warning to his family. I proceeded to tell Benedict not to worry, be succinct, tell the truth and I promised to do everything possible to get him out of this mess.

**The following are excerpts from the deposition:**



Exhibit A: The prosecution entered this photo of Benedict & his wife building the dam & lodge as incriminating & indisputable evidence

**M: Benedict, please tell me a little bit about yourself?**

**B:** I am 6 years old so I am considered about middle aged and I weigh 50 pounds which is average. Beavers are monogamous, my wife and I have had up to four kits (children) at a time however right now we have two and they are a paw-ful. They will stay with us for two years and off they will go to find their own partners.

**M: I understand that you have run into some negative issues with your dam building, is that correct?**

**B:** Unfortunately, yes. I built a dam for myself and family. The dam ended up stopping the flow of the creek and flooded a basement. This person called the department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife (IFW) and I was marked a nuisance and have evaded capture ever since.

**M: Do you live in this dam, is it your home?**

**B:** Nope! We live in a lodge in a pool created by a dam. The lodge is built out of twigs, sticks, rocks, and mud, and has an underwater entrance. Inside our lodge, we sleep, raise our kits, stay warm in winter, and hide from predators like coyotes, wolves, otters and bears.

**M: Why are beaver dams important?**

**B:** We beavers are actually a "keystone species." Many humans do not know that we are important to the ecosystem because we modify the environment in a way that helps other animals and plants. We provide habitats for sensitive plant life and improve the water quality.

**M: What do you eat?**

**B:** We are strict vegetarians: we eat nothing with a face. Our food includes bark, twigs, and leaves from trees like willow, poplar, and birch. We also eat delicious aquatic plants like cattails and water lilies.

**M: Are there any wildlife that benefit by your presence?**

**B:** Yes, our ponds attract a wide variety of animals including fish, ducks, shorebirds, amphibians, mink, muskrat & raccoon.

**M: Anything else you would like to add in your defense?**

**B:** Yes! We beavers crossed the Bering Strait into North America about seven million years ago and have been building dams all the while since. It is seriously not fair to be called a "nuisance" for something that is instinctive and what we have been doing for generations.

Thank you Benedict, you did a terrific job! I'd like to be honest with you, at first I did not want to take this case because of the stigma surrounding the beaver community. Through this fact finding mission I have discovered that the beavers may have been wrongly scrutinized. On a personal note, it has been nice hanging out with you. Now it is my job is to prove to the Judge and jury that you are worth a dam.

**What was the verdict and where are they now?**

Due to the overwhelming evidence against Benedict, the jury unanimously found him GUILTY for causing the flood. As a side note, Benedict did not help his case by chewing up an entire box of #2 pencils and a corner of the defense table in full view of the jury. Despite Benedict's instinctual, however, unacceptable courtroom behavior, Matt successfully swayed the jury for there to be no repercussions against Benedict. The Judge decreed that Benedict and his family be allowed to stay on the lake in a remote area away from human development. What happened between Matt and Benedict you might ask? They built a rapport, and remain good friends to this day.

[nps.gov/articles/buildabeaverdam](https://nps.gov/articles/buildabeaverdam) [forestry.ca.uky.edu/beaver/benefits](https://forestry.ca.uky.edu/beaver/benefits) [encountersnorth.org/beaver-summary/2017/8/2/beaver-natural-history](https://encountersnorth.org/beaver-summary/2017/8/2/beaver-natural-history)



# FLYING POND WINTER SKY WATCH

Mark your calendars for *Lights Off, Heads Up & Binoculars out!* — by *Diane Araps*

As we head into Flying Pond's own cryosphere, be aware of several celestial events. Bundle up and venture out with hot chocolate in hand and watch our amazing universe!

**You may have noticed Venus** dazzling the twilight sky! This planet will continue to become brighter in December with spectacular light during the holidays! Try not to miss this as Venus will dip out of view in January.

**Nov. 19 Near total eclipse of the moon** can be seen just prior to dawn before the moon sets. The moon will be cast in shadow all except an approximate three percent sliver at 4:02 AM. There will be a slim amount of light that skims the Earth which will diffuse through our atmosphere and lend the moon a copper tinted glow. This mixed with the non shadowed 'yellow' sliver of the moon will create a phenomenon some call the "Japanese Lantern Effect".

**Dec. 6-8 Venus, Saturn and Jupiter** will be highly visible at twilight. Equally spaced apart the planets will each be passed over by the crescent moon.

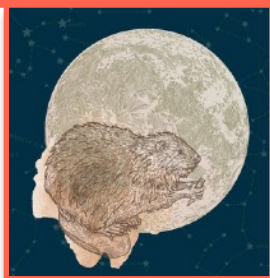
**Dec. 4-16 Geminid meteor shower** is one of the most active showers of the year. It is also one of the unusual displays that can be seen well before midnight during the peak between the 13th - 14th. Unfortunately, this year the waxing gibbous moon will inhibit decent viewing until approximately 3 AM on the 14th after the moon sets then the show will have a dark stage.

The meteors will cascade at 60 to 120 per hour until dawn from the constellation Gemini which will be directly overhead. Consider an alarm prior to dawn, a sleeping bag and a reclining chair. Sip your coffee and enjoy the view!

**Jan. 1-5 Quadrantids Meteor Shower** - There will be up to 40 meteors/hour at the peak occurring on the night of the 3rd and morning of the 4th. A young crescent moon sets early evening so there should be excellent viewing.

## Check Out The Winter Full Moon Calendar

**Nov. 19 - The Beaver Moon** brings the time of year when beavers are visibly active reinforcing their dams for safety prior to the big freeze. This ironically made them vulnerable to Native American trapping for winter furs. Also named the *Frost Moon* as this month brings the frosty mornings.



Beaver Moon - Getty Images

**Dec. 18 - The Cold Moon** is infamous for holding the northern states hostage in some single digit degrees. We find shorter days, longer nights and the moon hanging above the horizon longer, therefore known as the *Long Night Moon* as well. It is also referenced to as the *Moon before the Yule* in connection with an old northern European winter festival.

**Jan. 17 - The Wolf Moon** is dubbed by Native Americans due to the echo of howling wolves outside their villages. Shining on Sub-zero temperatures this moon is hence referred to as the *Winter Moon* as well. Also known as, *Moon After*



Wolf Moon - Getty Images

*the Yule*, occurring just after the winter solstice as it represents new beginnings. Days will now lengthen as light defeats darkness. This is truly a moon to celebrate! Say goodbye to 21 and bring on 22, it's a new year!!

**Feb. 16 - Snow Moon** obviously gets its name as we see the most snow falling this month. Additionally, hunting was challenging for northern Native American tribes, hence it is also known as the *Full Hunger Moon*.

# ANNOUNCEMENTS AROUND THE POND

## 1st Flying Pond LakeSmart Award!

We are proud to announce the first LakeSmart/LoonSmart award on Flying Pond goes to Bob and Sharon I'Anson! Bob and Sharon have owned their camp on Flying Pond for over 15 years. They have implemented creative solutions to manage stormwater to keep it from washing phosphorus and other nutrients into the pond as well as the stream running alongside their property.

From the driveway, past their home, and down the winding path to the shore there is overwhelming evidence they have paid careful attention to erosion issues. Crushed stone under drip lines, native plantings, and water diversions are among the Best Management Practices (PMPs) they have utilized. When walking I'Anson's property, it's apparent they care about our pond through the projects they have implemented. This didn't occur overnight, it was a gradual and consistent effort.



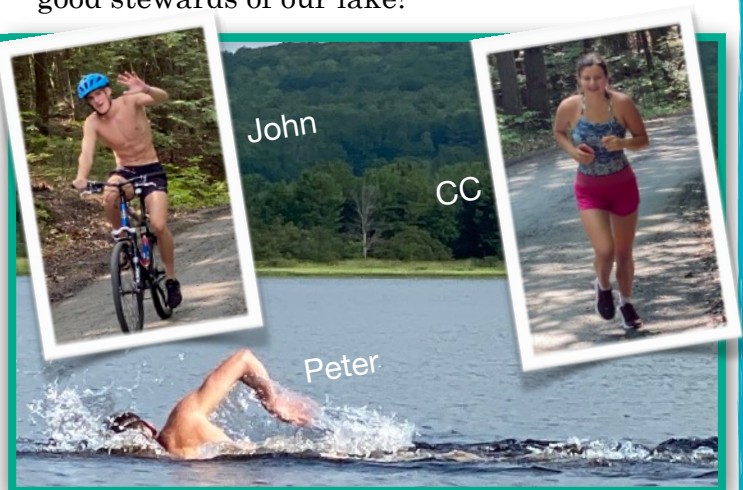
Presenting LakeSmart Award, pictured left to right - Paul Crockett, Bob & Sharon I'Anson, Cindy Ripley and Lidie Robbins, Executive Director at 30 Mile River Watershed

We are grateful for their concern to protect the water quality of Flying Pond. The new LakeSmart signs are displayed on the road as well as near their dock. Thank you for being good stewards of our lake!

## 3rd Annual Flying Man & Flying 1/2

The weather was perfect for racing on July 15th and indeed it was a competitive Annual Flying Man Triathlon. You might have seen those who participated while they swam around Big Island (or from Hetzel's to Dwelley's and back), road biked up Abbot Trail and down Vienna Shores Road, or ran the trails at high speeds towards the finish at 15 North Woods Rd.

This year John (age 17) continued the streak as the winner of the full Flying Man with a time-to-beat of 49:29. Second was Peter (age 26) and coming in third was C.C. (age 16).



John

CC

Peter

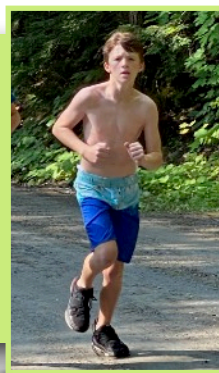
Five brave boys showed up to the dock for the Flying 1/2 Triathlon and the order of finishers was:



1st - Sam (33:00)



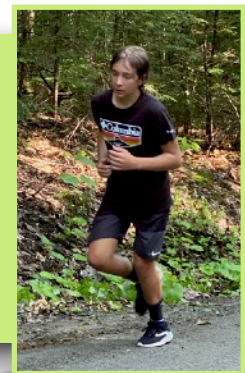
2nd - Brady



3rd - Ethan



4th - Carter



5th - Gavin

We had some wonderful support from kayakers in the water, a photographer from the newsletter, some loud road-side spectators, and neighbors who cheered on the crew to make it another fun event on Flying Pond. Hope you can join in the fun next year!

# Photo Gallery



*'I'm Up!'*



*'Nice Catch'*



*'Dock Full of Summer Fun'*

— photos by Adam Burnett

— by Vera Bryant

*It may have felt more like October than July, but that didn't stop folks from coming down to the Town Beach for a double dose of patriotic pride—the retirement of Fire Chief Dana Dunn and Independence Day.*

*First up, a well deserved tribute to Chief Dunn, honoring his 48 years of service. Firefighters from Mt. Vernon, Vienna and nearby towns turned out in uniform to honor this hometown hero.*

*As the sun set, music got under way with a rocking performance by "Middle Ground," and the night concluded with a spectacular fireworks display, eliciting a chorus of 'oohs' and 'ahhs'.*

*The free event was sponsored by the Mt. Vernon Community Partnership Corporation. Even the rain was patriotic and held off until after the grand finale. — Cindy Murphy*



*Photo by Cindy Murphy*

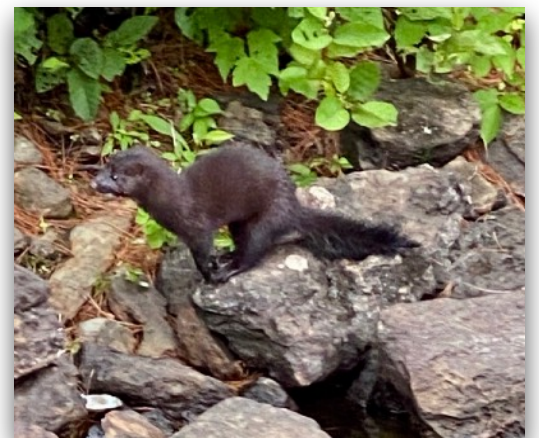
*'4th of July Fireworks'*



*'Fishing' — by Nancy Turner*



*FP Generations 3 & 4 — by Donna Maskwa*



*'Mink Sighting' — by Kate Schwab*

# Photo Gallery



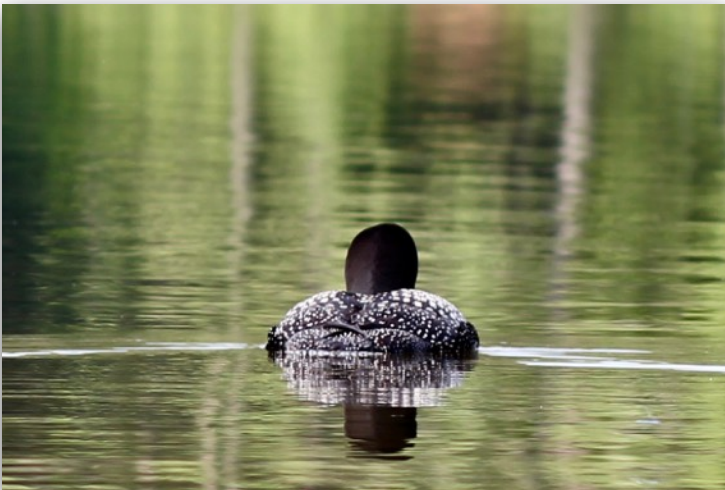
*'Autumn Heron'*  
— by Laura Furgeson



*'First Colors of Fall'*  
— by Cindy Ripley



*'Sunrise'* — by George Araps



*'Talk to the Tail'* — by Alexandra Barteldt



*Oct 11 'What? ... It's Not Cold'*  
— by Whitney Hetzel

*"The peace and stillness  
of the morning fog  
before it fades revealing  
another beautiful day."*

— Nancy Turner



*'Morning Fog'* — by Nancy Turner

**From The FPIA Newsletter Editors** We would like to thank all of the writers and photographers who participated with this summer/autumn newsletter! The winter newsletter is scheduled to come out around the end of February and we would love to hear from you! Please send photos with captions to [diane@artillusstudio.com](mailto:diane@artillusstudio.com) & stories/announcements to [flyingpond@gmail.com](mailto:flyingpond@gmail.com). — Diane Araps, Nancy Hemphill & Cindy Ripley