

Flying Pond Improvement Association

VOL 4 NO 3

Celebrating Sixty-Three Years of Protecting Our Lake

SUMMER / AUTUMN 2023

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'Lucky Shot' —cover photo by Deborah Boll

Restoration of Boy Scout Island

—Feature Story by Nancy Hemphill

After decades of offering itself as a beautiful place to picnic, swim, and camp, Boy Scout Island had degraded to a place with trash, little groundcover, and fewer and fewer shrubs and trees. This summer, a major collaborative project aimed to reverse that situation when the Flying Pond Improvement Association teamed up with the 30 Mile River Watershed Association, its Youth Conservation Corps (YCC), and lake volunteers to take action.

First, 30 Mile Program Director, Whitney Baker, surveyed the island and designed a plan for installation of native trees, shrubs, and groundcovers to restore and re-establish understory vegetation. The project also included the stabilization of ~180' of walking paths to ultimately limit the amount of foot traffic throughout the island that had damaged vegetation – allowing these areas to grow up and naturalize over time. Newly planted vegetation will jump-start growth in select locations that have seen the most impact. Next, roughly five cubic yards of erosion control mulch were delivered to the home of Dean Sciaraffa, which the YCC crew and volunteers then shoveled into large fabric bags. Dean, Flying Pond's resident marine engineer, — *continued page 6*



30 Mile YCC Crew: Silas Molar (Crew Leader), Moriah Reusch, Katie Cilley & Grant Regan-Loomis

THE DAM NEWS

—by Dean Sciaraffa

This summer was certainly wet. I can't remember a summer this wet since maybe 2009. I don't think the sun came out until August that year. The problem with a wet summer is that it causes a lot of volatility with the lake level. When the ground is saturated, every time it rains most of the water ends up in the lake. The lake level goes up and then just when it starts to go down, it rains again and back up it goes. In a normal summer, the ground dries up and acts like a sponge to absorb a rain shower so the lake level stays fairly constant.

The question people ask all the time, and it is a good one, is why don't we pull a board in the dam after a big rain? The answer is more complicated than you might think. First, the board that we can pull is only 6 inches high, and pulling it would not make much difference on how fast the lake would go down. It might drain a day faster, two at the most. We also have to ask whether we really want to flood our downstream neighbors. Our neighbors on Minnehonk are already dealing with high water; do we really want to send them more? The third reason is pulling a board when the water is high is not that easy. There is a lot of water pressure against the



'The Dam, Summer 2023' —by Nancy Turner

board, making it difficult to remove. The fourth and probably the biggest reason is how to decide to pull a board. Opinions on the lake over what constitutes high water or low water vary greatly. I don't think we want to have a FPIA board meeting every time there is a rainstorm. It seems to work pretty well to put the board in late May and pull it out in late October. Let's hope for a drier summer in 2024.

INVASIVE PLANT PATROL

—by John Zacker

As part of the 30 Mile River Watershed Association and Lake Stewards of Maine, volunteers from Flying Pond annually survey the lake to identify potentially invasive plants. The Maine Department of Environmental Protection has labeled 12 invasive aquatic plants that pose a threat to Maine waters and relies on volunteers to detect potential infestations. Early detection is the key to eradicating invasive plants.

Thanks to the efforts of 22 members of the Flying Pond Invasive Plant Patrol, we successfully completed our survey of the entire lake this summer. In order to accomplish this task, each member is assigned a section of the lake to inventory. We carefully paddle the shoreline identifying native plants and searching for any signs of the 12 invasive plants. The good news is that we did not find any invasive plants in Flying Pond. Other lakes in

our watershed and nearby, however, have not been so fortunate. Eradication is very time consuming, difficult and expensive. So our IPP will be out again next summer surveying our lake in hopes that we can keep Flying Pond clean of invasive plants.

The Flying Pond IPP is comprised of these community members - when you see them paddling around the lake next summer, please say thanks!

Nancy Brooks, Marsha Clark, Gary Cortelyou,
Gary Fish, Darlene Fontaine, Paul Fontaine,
Peter Goffin, Jon Groetzinger, Donna Maskwa,
Bill Murphy, Randy Oakley, Alice Olson,
Cindy Ripley, Deb Roe, Bill Steinour,
Pat Thompson, Beth Trehu, Stephen Trehu,
Mary Viruleg, Jacque Ward, and John Zacker

BUTTONING UP FOR WINTER

The board has been removed from the dam, allowing the lake level to drop in anticipation of winter and spring precipitation. The Flying Pond sign has been taken down and has been stored safely for the winter. Thanks to Dean Sciaraffa for all his work.

THE BUOYS

Thanks to the teamwork from Chad Dwelley and Randy Oakley for taking out the buoys and replacing them with the winter place-holders.

COURTESY BOAT INSPECTION

—by *Lidie Robbins 30MRWA*

You may have heard about the invasive Variable Milfoil in Androscoggin Lake, and the invasive Swollen Bladderwort in Tilton Pond. Our critical first line of defense against harmful invasive species getting into Flying Pond is a strong Courtesy Boat Inspection (CBI) program. CBIs work at the public boat launch to educate boaters about the threat of invasives, and inspect boats and trailers for hitchhiking plants and animals.

Memorial Day weekend through September this year,

30 Mile's paid and volunteer CBIs conducted 290 inspections on Flying Pond - 265 hours of inspections in all. Many thanks to the four dedicated Flying Pond volunteers - Todd Hemphill, Bill Murphy, Wendy Oakley and Bob Thompson - who volunteered a total of 106 hours this year! All it takes is one fragment to start an infestation that could ruin a lake, so every inspection makes a difference. We couldn't do it without you!

Thank you Courtesy Boat Inspectors!

LOON REPORT

—by *Alice Olsen*

This year marked the 40th anniversary of the Maine Audubon Loon Count. The event is held the second Saturday of July each year from 7:00-7:30 am, rain or shine. On July 15, Mark Flight, Len and Deb Roe, Jim and Nancy Brooks, and Jon and I surveyed the lake from different locations, using kayaks, paddleboards and



'Glide' —by *Diane Araps*

motorized boats. We all gathered shortly after 7:30 am to report our findings. We recorded the exact time and location that we saw loons, in order not to duplicate sightings. We also noted the weather conditions, including wind and visibility on the lake. This year, we saw a total of six adult loons but no chicks. Linda Twitchell had alerted us to a nest on Peanut Island, where two eggs were laid. Unfortunately, heavy rains in May flooded the nest and forced the loon to leave. An egg remained in that nest all summer, but no loon ever returned to it. We were surprised that a turtle, eagle or other predator left that egg alone.

Following the 2022 count, Maine Audubon estimated a population of 3,057 adult Common Loons and 298 chicks in the southern half of Maine. You can search more information about the loon counts since 1983 on the various lakes in Maine by going to: maineaudubon.org/annual-loon-count.

LAKESMART

—by *Cindy Ripley*

Our LakeSmart Team had another wonderful season! We were able to visit 7 properties to provide assessments, education and recommendations. We have now assessed 28 properties on the pond in just 3 summers! LakeSmart gives homeowners individualized feedback about runoff and erosion on their property. During a site visit the team will walk around your property to identify any concerns and provide solutions. Later, you will be given a detailed report of the assessment results and suggestions that you may choose to implement. Controlling runoff, preventing water damage and stopping erosion can all be done by managing how water flows toward the pond. If we all make changes, a little at a time, we can protect Flying Pond.

The LakeSmart volunteer team includes John Zacker, Elizabeth Trehu, Steve Trehu, and Cindy Ripley. Thank you for your many volunteer hours visiting properties and writing reports! Thanks to Whitney Baker, 30 Mile Program Manager, for her leadership and support! If you would like a 2024 visit (or reevaluation) contact flyingpond@gmail.com. For more information visit 30mileriver.org/lakesmart or lakes.me/lakesmart.

Thank you for being good stewards of our lake!



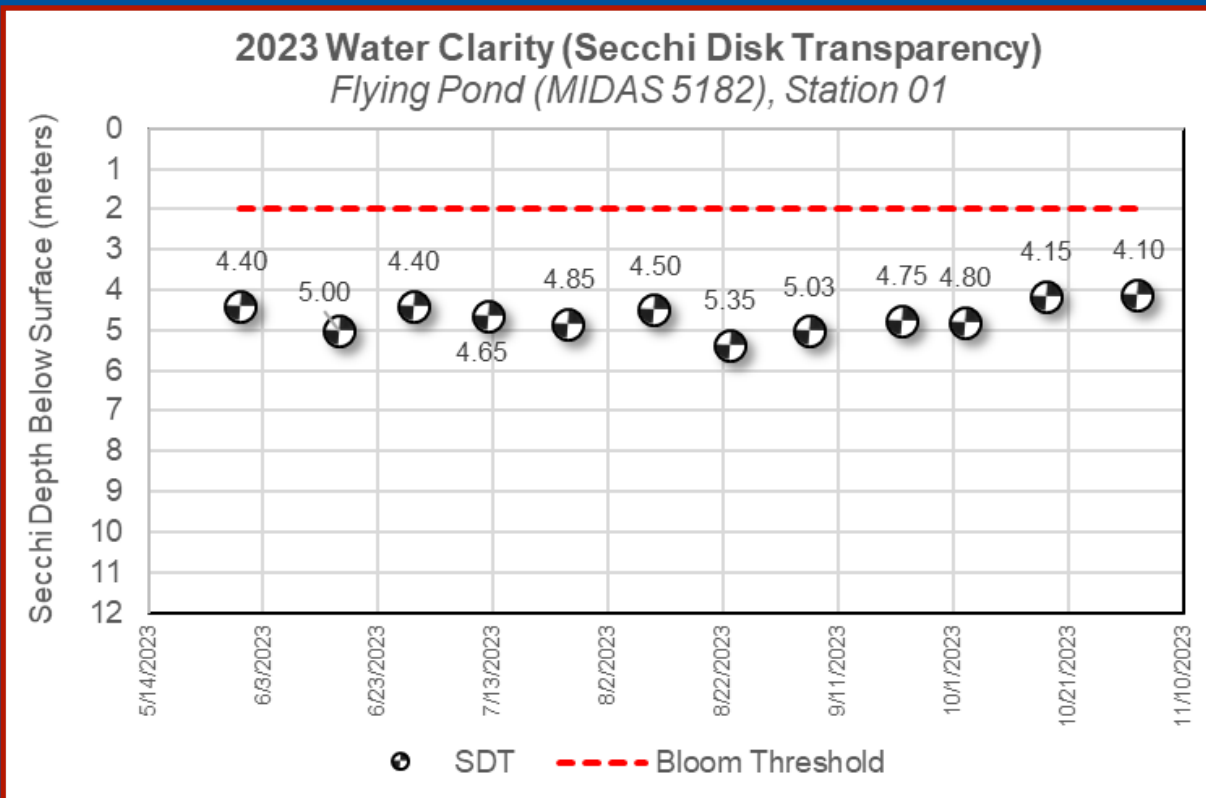
'John Zacker, Beth Trehu, Steve Trehu & Whitney Baker Conduct A LakeSmart Evaluation'

WATER QUALITY UPDATE

—by Whitney Baker 30 MRWA



30 Mile monitors Flying Pond every two weeks, between May and November (12 dates this year) with support from FPIA volunteers. Data is collected on water clarity (Secchi Disk Transparency), temperature, dissolved oxygen, phosphorus, chlorophyll, pH, alkalinity, conductivity, and color. Regular monitoring is a critical step in the development of baseline conditions, which are essential to compare data within a single year, between years, or between lakes. Additionally, consistent and repeated data collection is required to determine water quality trends.



To view near real-time data collected on Flying Pond in 2023, visit the Flying Pond water quality web page at: 30mileriver.org/flying-pond.

The full 2023 report will be available this winter. In 2023, water clarity ranged from 4.1 m to 5.4 m, with an overall average of 4.7 m. For comparison, Secchi readings collected in 2022 ranged from 5.0 m to 7.0 m with an annual average of 6.1 m. Though we saw noticeably reduced water clarity in 2023, this year's readings are still within the expected range of historical data collected in Flying Pond since 1976 that ranges from 2.1 m (1989) to 7.2 m (2017). However, looking at the previous 10 years of Secchi data, this year's readings are below average in comparison.

What could have caused this? Flying Pond has a watershed to lake surface area ratio of 22:1 - a relatively high value. Lakes with ratios greater than 10:1 more often experience water quality problems. As watershed

area increases in relation to the size of the lake, the potential volume of polluted surface runoff entering the lake is greater. For this reason, Flying Pond may be more sensitive to inputs of stormwater runoff from intense rain events like those we experienced this spring and early summer. This could explain the below average clarity we documented throughout the 2023 season.

What can be done to protect Flying Pond's water quality? There are two areas to address. First, private and public landowners should make improvements to watershed properties to reduce the amount of erosion and sediment getting into the lake in the form of polluted stormwater runoff. Second, all landowners should maintain well-functioning septic systems to treat waste and gray water from their home or camp, as old, malfunctioning, or unmaintained septic systems can also deliver algae-growing nutrients to the lake.

continued Water Quality Update... To learn more about what you can do on YOUR property to reduce erosion and better protect the lake visit Maine Lake's Lake Library: lakes.me/library. Have a gravel driveway or live on a gravel camp road? Maine's Gravel Road Maintenance Manual is the go-to resource for maintaining lake-friendly roads and driveways: maine.gov/gravel/road/manual.

Septic tanks should be pumped on a regular basis depending on tank size and use. For more about how to maintain your septic system on the lakefront visit: cdn.branchcms.com/Septic. Not sure where your system is located or when it was installed? Visit the Maine Department of Health and Human Services' septic permit search tool: maine.gov/septicplans.

If your system pre-dates Maine's septic rules and permitting system (enacted in 1974), then it should be replaced. These systems either (1) would have failed by now or (2) are polluting the lake because they were installed in sand or gravel or on top of fractured bedrock. In the latter case, the wastewater drains through the system too quickly and "short-circuits" to the groundwater table, where it can then travel to an adjacent waterbody untreated.

Thank you to the volunteers who made this year's monitoring effort possible: Len & Deb Roe, Randy & Wendy Oakley, Todd & Nancy Hemphill, Bill & Cindy Murphy, Steve Trehu, and Julie Hanlon.



30 Mile staff, Silas Mohlar & Whitney Baker, collect data from Flying Pond in 2023.
-photo by Nancy Hemphill



Volunteer Steve Trehu assists with a paddle to the monitoring station in 2023.
-photo by 30 MRWA

MAINE AUDUBON SOCIETY DONATES LOON NESTING RAFT —by Deb Roe

Who doesn't love the loons on Flying Pond? OK, I have heard a few fishermen grumble about the amount of fish they eat, but the loons truly are a huge part of the magic of Flying Pond. In recent years, the loons have struggled as parents: nests have flooded, eagles have snatched the baby with the result that no chick fledges from our lake year after year. Because of this, the Loon Restoration Project at the Maine Audubon Society has donated a cedar loon nesting raft which they will launch next spring. The goal will be to help the loon pair successfully hatch one or more chicks. We can't protect the chick from eagle or snapping turtles once born, but the raft can increase the odds of the eggs hatching. The location of the raft will be determined by the Audubon Society. It may take several years for the loons to choose the raft as a nesting site, but because it floats, it can prevent flooding of the nest as occurred this past summer. You may have seen some loon nesting rafts with covers on them. The Audubon Society has found that the loons adapt to using the raft more readily if not covered initially. Once they start using it, it could be covered the following year, providing extra protection from the sun & predators. Here's to a new baby or two in 2024!



'Loon Nesting Raft' —by Deb Roe



GRAND OPENING AT SCAPES!

Chef/owner Sarah Duda was pleased to open Scapes Cafe on July 29, after an extensive renovation of the former Olde Post Office Cafe. Mt. Vernon and the wider community are glad to have a great local restaurant that offers breakfast, lunch, baked goods and take-out food options.

NEW RESTAURANT COMING TO THE FORMER MT. VERNON COUNTRY STORE

Sharon and Scott Horne, Mt. Vernon residents, write that "we plan to introduce the community to the future "Sadie's 16 Main" restaurant on 12/8/23, having an outdoor cafe of sorts while we unveil our Christmas decorations for this year." They anticipate opening the restaurant in the fall of 2024 but want to start participating in community events.

Scout Island Restoration *continued*

transported the bags of mulch with his tractor to his swim float, which he then towed with his Boston Whaler. FPIA member Craig Turner helped by using his boat to steer the mulch barge towards the island, as well as transporting the YCC team, plants, and volunteers.

Once on the island, the YCC crew moved the mulch by carrying the bags with long 2x4s. They then planted, mulched and watered 40 small trees, shrubs, and groundcovers; created a mulched pathway to direct foot traffic; and relocated the fire pit to the rocky ledge. Throughout the summer, volunteers continued to water the new plantings. FPIA posted signage asking people to respect the island under restoration.

30 Mile YCC crew member and seasonal Flying Pond resident, Grant Regan-Loomis, said of the project: "Our work this summer on the island was uniquely challenging and equally satisfying! Restoration and protection of a staple on the Pond and an integral part of my childhood summers here made for some extremely rewarding work. Getting supplies out to the island provided some unprecedented logistical problems, but the YCC team and volunteers came together with some pretty ingenious solutions and hard work. I'm really looking forward to seeing our plants and mulch bringing back some much needed buffer to the island!"

The board's hope is these new plants will flourish and help reforest Boy Scout Island. As the plants stabilize the soil, pollution from runoff will decrease. Our lake association and 30 Mile paid for this project to benefit the water quality and beauty of the Pond for everyone who enjoys it. It will take all of us to preserve it. If you see inappropriate activities out there, especially cutting down trees, removing or damaging vegetation, setting dangerous fires, or leaving trash, please take action. Either speak to the people who are doing it or call the game warden.



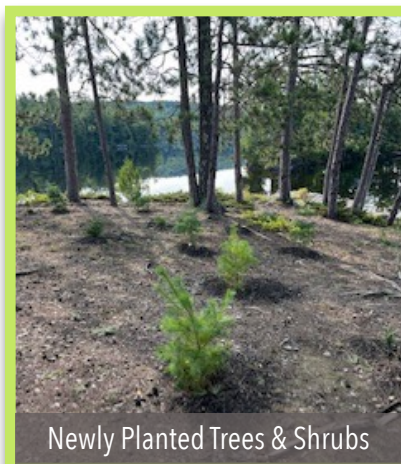
Dean Sciaraffa lifting mulch bags with his tractor. "I really like doing this stuff. A different kind of work is like a vacation for me," says Dean.



Craig Turner ferrying mulch barge to the island with Katie Cilley, Dean Sciaraffa, & Silas Molar.



Carrying Mulch Bags
Onto Scout Island



Newly Planted Trees & Shrubs



Whitney Baker With Grant, Katie, Silas, & Moriah

Scout Island rehabilitation project has been in the works for several years.

A huge thank you to Dean Sciaraffa, all the other volunteers, the staff of 30 Mile and FPIA for making this happen.

THE SECOND ANNUAL DD2D DOES IT AGAIN! —by Diane Araps

The second annual ‘Dam Dock to Dock’ circled the big ‘bowl’ on Saturday, July 22, when 26 paddlers in canoes and kayaks cruised to six themed docks in under two hours. Registration fees and donations went to the Flying Pond dam maintenance and repair fund.

The morning was still, cloudy and a little cool when we assembled at the dam, where Dean Sciaraffa gave a “dam speech” with interesting facts about our dam. Our adventure included the following docks:

1. **‘Maine Blueberries’**- Geoff and Betsy Post offered heavenly homemade blueberry muffins which was very appropriate for our first stop as it served as a yummy breakfast!

2. **‘The Sweet Life’**- Tom Marshall and Jenna, as you might guess, served up an array of scrumptious sweets including candy and chocolate! Who doesn’t like a little dessert after breakfast?

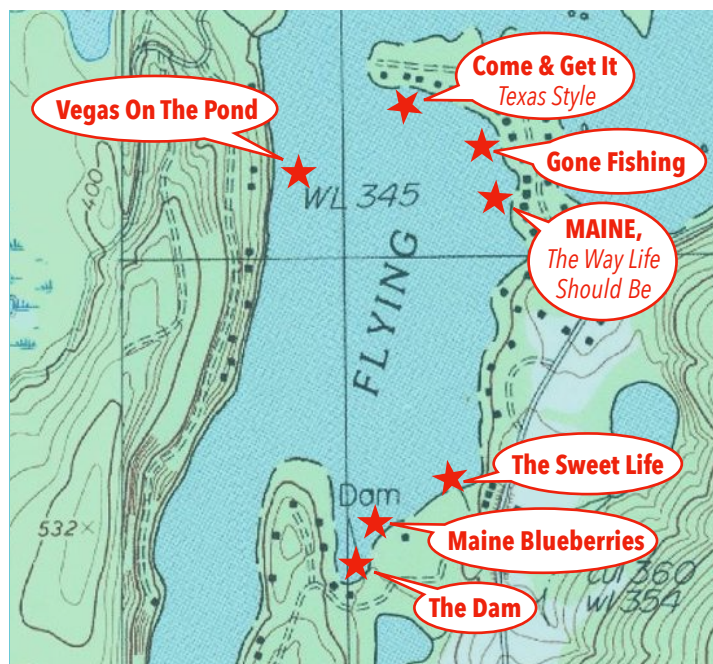
3. **‘Maine, The Way Life Should Be’**- John and Terry Zacker wore flannel shirts, bean boots, and Flying Pond hats while treating us to ‘Blue Loons’ (blueberry mimosas), Moxie soda and juicy Maine blueberries. The lucky few trivia winners received Maine Needhams, YUM!

4. **‘Gone Fishing’**- Gary & Meg Cortelyou creatively decorated their dock with fishing photos and tackle. In keeping with the fishing theme, they fed us “dirt cakes” (chocolate pudding stuffed with Oreo crumbs and gummy worms) and gummy fish swimming in cups of pale green Jello.

5. **‘Come And Get It, Texas Style’**- Jacque Howe Ward and her husband Carl greeted us under a flying Texas flag while handing each of us a homemade Texas shaped cookie topped with thick luscious icing.

6. **‘Vegas On The Pond’**- The Cunningham family created an oversized craps table for their dock and we each tested our luck by tossing the oversized pair of dice. There was great comradery cheering for each roll while we snacked on fresh fruit! Prizes were given to the winners!

The dock sponsors were tasked with conjuring trivia questions to go with their theme. Nancy Turner won a 2023 DD2D hat as our trivia winner. A big thank you goes out to Gary and Meg Cortelyou as our emergency boat escorts. Additional thanks to Katie Dwelley for her help with the registrations and t-shirts.



2023 DAM DOCK TO DOCK

In addition to raising funds, the event was a great way to meet folks and enjoy some goofy fun on the lake. Participants & observers ended happy and excited about new ways to ramp up the fun next year. We’d like to explore different sections of the lake in 2024. Maybe homeowners in the Narrows or Ministers’ Cove will host in the future?

This event is not possible without our paddlers and donors, who included lake owners, renters and guests! A HUGE THANKS goes out to:

Bill Allanach, Diane Araps, Merle Araps, Stephen Araps, Samantha Bassett, Debbie Boll, Mark Boll, Gary Cortelyou, Meg Cortelyou, Jennifer Cunningham, Tim Cunningham, Heather Dolstra, Gavin Dwelley, Katie Dwelley, Barbara Frost, Mike Frost, Christian Peseux, Nancy Hemphill, Todd Hemphill, Michelle Henry, Pete Henry, Faulkner Hereford, Anne Hetzel, Sam Hetzel, Audra Knightly, EJ Knightly, Jane Marquart, Rick Marquart, Tom Marshall, Kathy McKeown, Pat McKeown, Bill Murphy, Pam Peseux, Betsy Post, Geoff Post, Jane Rodeheffer, Richard Rodeheffer, Kathy Schwab, Sterling Schwab, Dean Sciaraffa, Craig Turner, Nancy Turner, Carl Ward, Jacque Howe Ward, Dawn Wiley, John Zacker, and Terry Zacker

Thank you to all who did not paddle but sent generous donations for the dam cause. If you missed it the first time around, there is still time to donate by sending a check made out to FPIA with Dam Dock to Dock on the memo line and mail it to:

FPIA / Attention Katie Dwelley / Post Office Box 143 / Mt. Vernon, ME 04352

WELCOMING OUR NEW FLYING POND NEIGHBORS —by Cindy Ripley

This year the 30 Mile Outreach Committee created Welcome Packets for new waterfront property owners in the watershed. FPIA shared the cost of preparing these packets for new folks on Flying Pond and several have already been delivered. What better way to greet new homeowners than with a hand-delivered packet of information about the watershed, FPIA and 30 Mile roles, and how to join us in keeping the pond clean, clear and healthy? If you know of someone who is new that has not yet received a Welcome Packet, please email Cindy flyingpond@gmail.com.

“As a new resident of Flying Pond I was very impressed with the packet of information I received about the 30 Mile Watershed. The handbook on Lake Protection and the information regarding how to be "Lake Smart" have been especially helpful as I develop a plan for increasing the amount of native vegetation along my shoreline and other "best management practices." I have met some wonderful neighbors and community members through this organization and I will continue to support the Watershed to help ensure that our lakes stay clean and healthy for future generations.” — Jane Rodeheffer



30 Mile Outreach Welcome Packet

CIRCLE OF TIME ON FLYING POND! —by Claudia Gifford



Early 70s Marion poses with wings — 40 years later her great-grands pose!

For many of our Flying Pond residents, the classic sign on Route 41 at the boat launch holds special memories. Here is one from the Roe family. Our mother, Marion Roe posed for this photo with the sign sometime in the late 60s or early 70s. Fast forward to 2022-23, my brother, Len Roe did the restoration of the original sign and it was installed this summer. The second photo is of my grandchildren (Marion's great-grandchildren) proudly displaying their "Maine wear" in front of the sign this August. This circle of time is one of the things we love about Flying Pond.

NEIGHBORS DRIVING NEIGHBORS UPDATE —by Cindy Murphy

This year has been particularly eventful for Neighbors Driving Neighbors. Our amazing volunteer drivers reached the milestone of having traveled 100,000+ miles since NDN was founded in 2015. We expanded our service area to include Readfield. Darcy Adams joined NDN as a Program Coordinator, increasing our capacity to coordinate rides and check in with people. We enjoyed the first post-pandemic Driver Appreciation Lunch and the first-ever Donor Appreciation Event, both held at the Viles Mansion in Augusta. In addition, we hosted the Readfield Launch Event, the Online Auction, and the Community Breakfast Fundraiser. It has indeed been a busy year.

While these are all important, the key statistic we have

been monitoring over the last year is ride numbers, and NDN has been working towards increasing that number significantly. By liaising with local libraries and aging-in-place committees, getting info into town newsletters, posting on community Facebook groups, attending local events, and with the help of existing riders and volunteer drivers, we have managed to get the word out that NDN is back and our numbers confirm that.

While the numbers confirm that NDN is fulfilling an important function in our towns, it is the personal interactions and stories that drive NDN: stories of companionship, purpose, and a commitment to community—among drivers, riders, and donors.

NEIGHBORS BATTLE WITH THE BEAVERS —by Peter Goffin



'Neighbors Battling Neighbors'



'Risky Reach'

Trying to beat the unbeatable foe, beavers! Marsha Clark and Kathryn Goffin of Vienna Shores recently spent several days removing sticks and small trees from the culverts in the stream along North Woods Road. The beavers keep trying to dam this stream, which flows from Black Pond to Flying Pond. Earlier in the summer, Whitney Hetzel and Ken Kokernak did the same. You can see from the size of the pile of sticks on the left that many hours have been spent doing battle with the beavers.



'Heron Taking Flight' —by Heather Marshall

Did You Know?

- They cool & warm themselves by opening their wings
- Freshwater or saltwater doesn't matter to herons, they like both
- They can see in the dark
- The bill on a heron is like a dagger which is used to stab fish
- They can eat up to 11 pounds of fish a day
- They use a special toothed-edge toenail on their middle toe to comb and clean their feathers

<https://herotheheron.com/crazy-facts-about-herons>

JOIN US IN PROTECTING OUR TREASURED LAKE

FPIA is an all-volunteer organization funded entirely by donations. The association supports volunteer programs such as Invasive Plant Patrol, Courtesy Boat Inspections, and LakeSmart, along with various environmental special projects. Your membership sponsors semimonthly water quality testing and supports 30 MRWA, Maine Lakes Society, and Lake Stewards of Maine. With the dam as a priority, FPIA routinely monitors it and conducts repairs

when needed. Please consider a donation to the dam fund for future maintenance and repair.

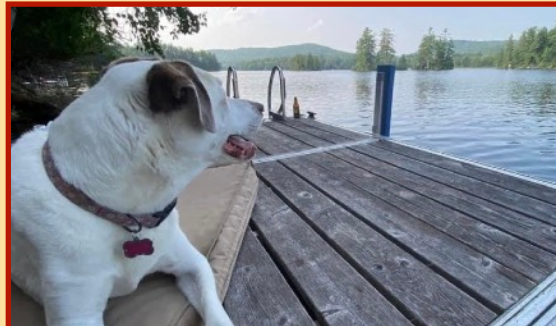
The FPIA fiscal year begins July 1 and membership dues are \$60 per year. Dues and donations can be made online by visiting fpia.weebly.com or by mailing a check to FPIA, PO Box 143, Mt. Vernon, ME 04352. For questions regarding Flying Pond Improvement Association please email flyingpond@gmail.com.

FLYING POND FAMILIES LOVE FLYING POND PETS



'Beni Safeguards The Journey'

Beni is a 4 year old Lab Mix *'He loves everything about the lake.'*
Lucy is a 13 year old Hound Mix *'She loves the dock!'*



'Lucy Guards The Camp'

'Both were adopted from the same rescue group in Maryland nine years apart'

—Debbie Boll

Mirjam is a 6 year old Long Haired Tabby
Teddy is a 7 year old Maine Coon

'Mirjam & Teddy enjoy looking out at the lake, watching all the water activity & monitoring the birds, squirrels & chipmunks.'

—Deb Roe



'Who Needs Catnip When You Have This View?'

Tugzy is a year old Chocolate Lab Mix, **Ruby** is a year old Bulldog Mix,
Mixie is a year old lab mix, **Doodlebug** is a year old Shih-Tzu



'Yup, The Lake Is Still Here'



'Yup, I'm Still Waiting'

'The TRIO are on lookout for any kind of lake action while a very deserving Doodlebug awaits a boat ride.'

—Jennifer Cunningham

FLYING POND FAMILIES LOVE FLYING POND PETS

Frances is a 3 year old Pit Bull Mix

'She is enjoying her favorite spot on the pontoon in the back on the cushion. Very much like Cleopatra being carried on her throne!'

—Cindy Murphy



'Frances Impersonates Cleopatra'



'Life Is Good'

Lucky is a 10 year old Wirehaired Terrier Mix

'She enjoys laying in the warm pine needles and going for canoe rides in her own special little chair!'

—Kathy Schwab



'Lucky Dog!'

Baxter is an 8 year old Romanian Street Dog

'Baxter's favorite Maine activities are hiking and chasing chipmunks. He's definitely not a water dog, preferring to drink out of the foot bucket instead of the lake.'

—Nancy Hemphill

'Baxter Takes A Rest With Todd While On A Hike'



'Murphy Never Misses A Paddle Board Ride'

Murphy is a 4 year old Mini Golden Doodle

'Our grandsons Taylor & Brady have been visiting Flying Pond for 13 years. This summer was grand dog's first visit and he loved it! What's not to love about Paradise?!'

—Jacque Howe Ward

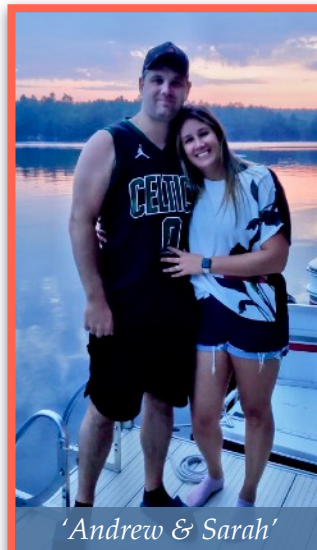
ANNOUNCEMENTS AROUND THE POND

Happy 5th Anniversary Andrew & Sarah

Andrew spent every summer of his childhood on the pond enjoying many water activities! Five years ago, Sept. 2, 2018, Andrew and Sarah Turner were married on this dock! After saying, "I do" they jumped in the lake holding hands. Now they have two handsome little boys with whom they share their love of the lake. They look forward to many more happy memories on Flying Pond!



'Andrew & Sarah Recreate Wedding Memory'



'Andrew & Sarah'



'Sunset On The Dock'

PAVED!

Library Receives
A New Surface!



The gravel driveway and parking areas of the Dr. Shaw Memorial Library were paved this fall, thanks to a gift from the estate of Barb Kennedy, long-time FPIA Board member. The pavement will mean fewer washouts of the driveway, better conditions for library users and staff, and less pollution flowing into Minnehonk.

In Memoriam

Dr. Pat Onion



The FPIA acknowledges with sadness the passing of Dr. Pat Onion on November 12, 2023. Pat and her husband, the late Dr. Dan Onion, were instrumental in shaping the FPIA, and Pat served as Board Secretary for many years. Visit: pressherald.com/obituarypatonion.

From the FPIA newsletter Editors Thanks to all the writers & photographers who participated with this newsletter! Please send photos with captions to diane@artillusstudio.com & stories/announcements to flyingpond@gmail.com. – Diane Araps, Nancy Hemphill & Cindy Ripley