

The Watershed

Damariscotta Lake Watershed Association

Newsletter — June 2011



Water Wonder Day

By Kay Liss

Water Wonder Day is always a “wonder-filled” day – a chance for DLWA volunteers and staff to get outdoors with local young people and help them learn about Damariscotta Lake and its surrounding environment. Of course, it’s always more wonderful if the weather is warm and sunny, and this year – the 8th for the event as far as long-time organizers David and Julie Rand could recall – could not have been nicer.

Forty-eight 6th grade students from Jefferson, Washington and Nobleboro participated in small groups, on June 7 from 9:15 in the morning to 1:45 p.m. David and Julie, as usual, did a superb job in organizing the groups into six different areas of study.

One station was dedicated to studying invertebrates with volunteers Ralph Perkins, Joan Ebbeson and Willow Rowntree assisting students to identify fresh water invertebrates under magnifying glasses. Coming in a close second to the boat ride in the “cool” activity realm would probably



be the treasure hunt using a GPS device, led by DLWA’s **J u l i a M c L e o d**. There’s nothing like a treasure

DLWA RECEIVES GRANTS FOR INVASIVE PLANT PREVENTION



DLWA intern Tim Merten uses a trunk scope

DLWA has received grant funding from several sources for its efforts to prevent and detect invasive aquatic plants. DLWA received a \$5,000 grant from the Davis Conservation Foundation, \$2,500 from the Reny Family Founda-

tion, and \$2,500 from the Horizon Foundation. This funding allowed DLWA to re-hire Amanda Moeser for the summer. She worked last summer on the invasive plant program. We’re happy to have her back coordinating the Cour-

(Continued on page 2)

hunt and some nifty little technology to pique kids’ interest! However, there was an ecological lesson here: students found the hidden caches in places representing points of erosion, and thus an aspect of man’s impact on the environment.



Geoff Ng, an enthusiastic environmental education teacher with the Maine Conservation Corps, helped students identify and learn the

(Continued on page 8)

The floating lab and instructor provided by Maine Congress of Lakes Association took students out on the lake, where they collected water samples and sediment to study with on-board microscopes to look for micro-organisms. This is probably the most popular of the study groups, as kids not only get to go out on a boat but also to look at on a flat screen what an underwater camera robot is seeing under the water – “way cool,” as the kids would say! In the process they learn about lake ecology and study current issues impacting water quality.

(Grants continued from page 1)

tesy Boat Inspection program and helping with the invasive plant patrol program. The grant money also allows DLWA to purchase scopes for volunteers to use to conduct invasive plant surveys. Last year DLWA staff and volunteers made more than 30 bucket scopes, which work okay but have some limitations. This year DLWA will purchase AquaScope VI units (internal optics permit viewing without ones face pressed to the end of the tube), snorkeling gear, and the materials to make more trunk scopes.

After hydrilla was discovered in the lake in 2009, volunteers trained by DLWA mounted an outstanding effort to patrol more than 95% of the shoreline last summer. Fortunately, no new plants were found. However, to ensure that we spot any plants that were missed or any new infestations, patrols must continue. Roughly 1/3 of the shoreline will be surveyed each year, so that at the end of every 3-year period, the entire lake will have been inspected. **If you are interested in volunteering** for the invasive plant survey or the Courtesy Boat Inspection program, contact Julia at 207-549-3836 or Julia@dlwa.org.

HYDRILLA UPDATE
(From Paul Gregory of the
Maine DEP Invasive
Species Program)

Hydrilla was found in the Lake in 2009. After pulling up two pick-up truck loads of the invasive plant, Maine Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) used screens and rocks to isolate the infested lagoon. However, there is still an opening to the lake that needs to be closed with rock next winter. It would be helpful for an ice road to be kept clear of snow to allow for a sufficient freeze to bear a truckload of rocks safely. DEP does not have equipment for the task, however. Anyone local willing to step forward?



John McPhedran and Paul Gregory check and fix barriers put down to control hydrilla.
Julia McLeod photo

DEP treated the lagoon with herbicide last summer (2010), and this year deployed a benthic barrier on the bottom of the open basin. This barrier smothers emergent plants, providing long-term control of hydrilla.

DEP will continue to monitor the lagoon and immediate waters beyond the lagoon. Continued surveying and courtesy boat inspections by DLWA volunteers will remain important.

Damariscotta Lake Watershed Association
38 Lake Farm Circle,
P.O. Box 3, Jefferson, ME 04348
Phone: 207-549-3836, Fax: 207-549-3852
Email: dlwa@roadrunner.com

Executive Director Al Railsback
Administrative Secretary Nancy Holmes
Stewardship Coordinator and Educator Julia McLeod

Code Enforcement Officers

Jefferson, Newcastle and Nobleboro
Stanley Waltz 832-7351
Somerville Michael Dostie 549-7353
Washington Bob Temple 993-2512

Maine Warden Service:
Joey R. Lefebvre, Warden
Call *Maine State Police* 1-800-452-4664

To Report an Invasive Plant: *Maine Volunteer Lake Monitoring Program Center for Invasive Plants*, 207-783-7733 or email at mciap@mainevlmp.org

Damariscotta Lake State Park: 549-7600

ANNUAL MEETING

July 17 is the date to save for DLWA's forty-sixth annual meeting and potluck, 3:30 p.m., at Willow Grange on Washington Street, Jefferson.

Guest speaker will be Lisa Pohlmann, Executive Director of Natural Resources of Maine. She will describe NRCM's work over the last 50 years to ensure strong safeguards for Maine's land, air, wildlife, and water; and will specifically discuss the recent legislative session and the potential implications for Maine's environment.

A quick business meeting will be followed by a potluck supper. Bring something and anticipate enjoying the unmatched splendor of other Damariscotta Lake Watershed cooks!

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

For all events unless otherwise noted, meet at the DLWA office at 38 Lake Farm Circle in Jefferson. Please register in advance for all trainings, and for more information: Julia@dlwa.org or 549-3836.

Beginner Invasive Plant Training

Mon., June 27, 6-8 p.m.

Learn to identify hydrilla and how to determine if a plant is a suspected invasive or not. Also learn survey techniques so you can complete an invasive plant survey on a small section of shoreline.

Father-Daughter Take a Walk Day

Thur. July 7, 1-3

Celebrate with a hike at Davis Stream Preserve and a dip in Damariscotta Lake.

Invasive Plant Paddle

Sat., July 9, 8:30-11:30 a.m.

Location TBD

Learn how to patrol for invasive plants during this on-the-water training.

Hike and Swim at the West Branch Preserve

Sat., July 16, 12:30-2:30 p.m.

Hike down to the beautiful West Branch of the Davis Stream and take a dip in its refreshing waters. All ages and dogs welcome. (No lifeguard provided)

DLWA Annual Meeting

Sun., July 17, 3:30 p.m.

Willow Grange, Jefferson

See previous page.

Introductory Invasive Plant Patroller workshop

Wed., July 20, 2:30-8 p.m.

Learn how to identify invasive aquatic plants and how you can protect your favorite water body at this free workshop. There will be a meal break, so bring food or plan to join a group order to Damariscotta Lake Farm Restaurant. Register by emailing your name, phone number and work-

shop choice to vlmp@mainevlmp.org.

Underwater Adventures: Intro to snorkeling

Sat., July 23, Kids: 9-11:30 a.m. Adults: 12:30-2:30**Location TBD**

Kids: Learn how to use a mask and snorkel and discover the beauty of the underwater world.

Mask and snorkels provided. Please bring your own lifejackets.

Invasive Plant Paddle

Tues., July 26, 8:30-11:30 a.m.

Location TBD

See July 9.

Coyote Presentation

Wed., August 3, 6 p.m.

Join us for slides and a talk about coyotes by biologist Geri Vistein.

Invasive Plant Patroller Field Methods workshop - Sun., August 7, 1-4 p.m.

Bristol Mills landing, Pemaquid River

Learn how to conduct an invasive plant survey during this free, hands-on workshop. Bring your own canoe/kayak and PFD. Previous attendance at an Intro IPP workshop is recommended but not required. Bring snacks if you'd like; light refreshments and beverages will be provided. . Register by emailing your name, phone number, and workshop choice to vlmp@mainevlmp.org.

Beginner Invasive Plant Training

Tues., August 16, 6-8 p.m.

See June 27

Volunteer Appreciation Cruise and Cookout

Wed., August 17, 5-7:30 p.m.

All DLWA volunteers invited!

BACK PAGE ANSWER

Maine's native earthworms were scraped away by the glaciers. Today's earthworms are descendants of stowaways with European settlers. They are still expanding their range. As an impatient young fly fisher, I sometimes sneakily dug streamside for worms when the flies failed. But I seldom found any in the backwoods areas I fished. That is changing, and the worms are changing the backwoods. In our gardens, the worms convert dead plant matter into rich castings; and their tunneling distributes fertility and aerates the soil. But in undisturbed land, there is a duff layer on top of the soil. As earthworms convert the duff to open, fertile soil, plants and animals that depend on that duff layer are displaced; and the welcome mat is out for invasive species. In addition, when the soil loses its duff blanket, it is more easily eroded into the lake.

ALL ABOARD!



Children at last year's Sailing Camp, at the DLWA waterfront, 38 Lake Farm Circle, Jefferson

We're pleased to announce that sailing camp on Damariscotta Lake is back for another year. This program is a collaborative effort of the Central Lincoln County YMCA and the Damariscotta Lake Watershed Association. Children ages 8-14 will have the opportunity to spend a week on the lake learning how to sail. Experienced instructors will teach kids lifetime skills. Children should be comfortable in the water and must complete an easy swim test. Register at the YMCA or online at www.clcymca.org. There will be four week-long camp sessions during the month of July. Camp will take place Monday through Friday from 9 a.m.-3 p.m. The cost is \$175 for members and \$225 for nonmembers. The YMCA is also looking for Leaders in Training (LIT) for the program. LITs must be 14 years

CONNECTING

WHAT BETTER WAY TO INSPIRE TOMORROW'S
TAKE TODAY'S KIDS OUT



HOOKED ON FISHING

On behalf of my three sons, Liam, Nolan, and Patrick, we'd like to thank you and the fishing guides so much for another fun Hooked on Fishing experience. My boys participated last year too and couldn't wait to do it again this year.

They caught a total of twenty fish today, and had such a great time.

Their guides were very kind, friendly and helpful. We hope to be able to try it again next year. Thank you very much!

Eve Conlin

old and must attend a training session. The cost for LITs is \$70 for Y members and \$95 for nonmembers. Financial aid is available for those who qualify.

We're also looking for volunteers for the sailing program. Enjoy summertime on Damariscotta Lake by teaching children how to sail. You could help out for a week, or more. Sailing experience required. Contact Craig Wilson at the CLC YMCA for more information at 563-3477 or cwilson@clcymca.org.

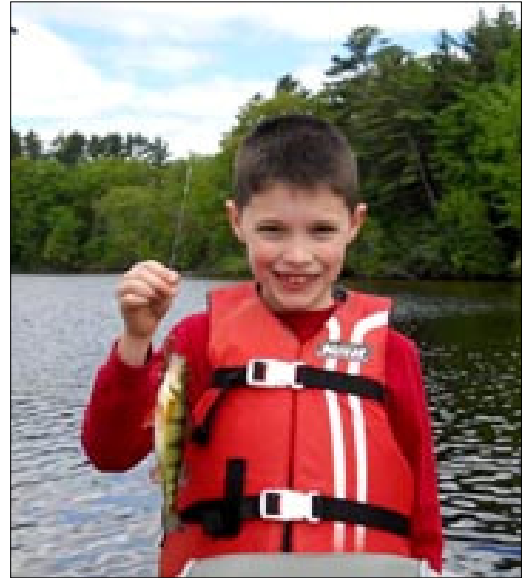


WITH THE LAKE

GOOD STEWARDS OF THE WATERSHED THAN TO
FOR FUN ON THE LAKE?



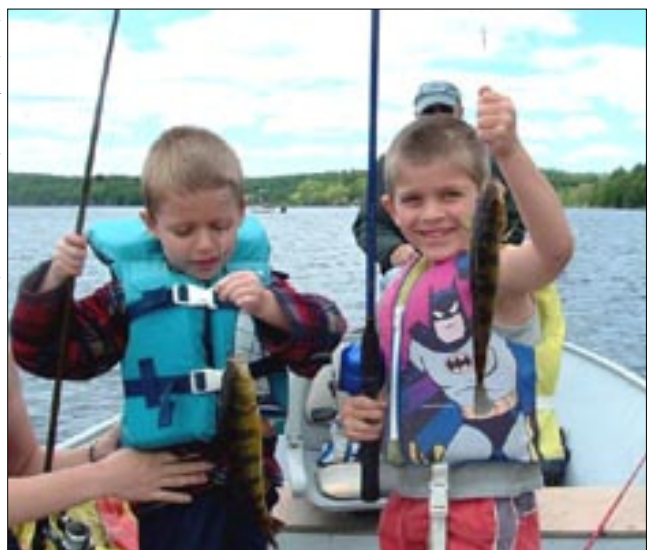
Good weather, good company, and the fish were biting.



Thanks to many volunteers, we had another successful youth fishing event on June 4 at Damariscotta Lake State Park . Thirty-nine children went out on the lake for guided fishing trips with experienced fishermen, and almost all caught fish. One young lady even caught 35 fish!

Damariscotta Lake Hooked on Fishing is a collaborative effort of the Whitefield Lions Club, Knox County Bass Masters, Maine Bureau of Parks & Lands, Lincoln County Fish & Game, Kieve-Wavus Camps, and DLWA. Thank you to the following volunteers who brought their boats and took children on guided fishing trips: Joe Holland, Will Turner, Bob Winslow, Don Johnston, Dave Parsons, Andy Gockel and David Trahan. Thank you also to other event volunteers, including all the helpful members of the Whitefield Lions Club who cooked lunch, Dick Pickering, John Hartman, Andy McLeod, Mark Goodridge, Ben Thompson, Joan Ebbeson, Jim Hartenstein, Dorothy Sealy, John Sealy, Bob Baldwin, Mitch Mank, Dave Cichowski and Andy Finch. Last and by no means least, friends and relatives of the late Sally Hartenstein for their amazing donations. See you all next year for the third annual Damariscotta Lake hooked on fishing event!

For regional fishing information:
Maine Inland Fisheries and Wildlife
[http://www.maine.gov/ifw/fishing/
regional_information/region_b.htm](http://www.maine.gov/ifw/fishing/regional_information/region_b.htm)



**GIFTS
IN MEMORY
OF
Dr. Reid Porter**



ter from:
The Bahney Family
Mr. & Mrs. Robert Billings
Terry & Alice Brooks
Doris Buckner
Helen Cadwallader
Alice Conkey
*Joan & Mike Dorman
Lawrence Fitzgerald Family
Joan & Don Fryday
Genevieve Haines
Hemlock Park Assoc.
*Joan Jackson
Larry & Ginny Kontny
Nancy Petit
Don & Isabel Sinclair
Kathleen Walsh
Mary Watt
*Howard Whitcomb

IN HONOR OF -

Phil Miller
From Lydia Johnson

Bob Lord
from Jennifer Gallogly

Les Rowntree
from Rowan Rowntree

Virginia Saylor and

Michelle Schoenberger
from Mary Johnson

Thanks to **Martha Brown, Bill Hill** and **Nancy Holmes** for donation of books for the DLWA library

♥ WISH LIST ♥

Pontoon boat, kayaks and canoes, spotting scope and tripod, shades for office windows, trailer to haul 2,000 lb tractor, office equipment and supplies, and building supplies (please check with us first.).

AND

A volunteer with bookkeeping experience for an hour or two twice a month.

***VOLUNTEERS*
MAKE IT ALL
POSSIBLE!**

**WELCOME AND A BIG
THANKS TO
NEW MEMBERS**

David & Sylvia Bailey
Bill Bausch
Erma & Paul Berry
Jane Ellen Black & Gregg Olson
Mary Ann & George Bostwick
Michael & Melissa Bourque
Catherine & David Budd
Pencie & Stuart Carroll
Carol & David Chandonnet
Mark & Kathleen Collins
Joan Davis
Carol & Don Doele
C. Brent Douglass
Jan Faulkner
Tench Forbes
Emil & Irene Fossa
Holly & Warren Friend
Shirley & John Gallagher
Sandy & Bob Green
Trudi Hodgkins
Marcia & Steven Hogan
J. Parker Huber
Elaine Jackson
Gladys & Richard Johnston
Rebecca & John Kistler
*Susan & George Laffin
*Mary & Jim Lassen
Katie & Michael Lebel
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Victoria Leonard & Noah Kahn
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Kathy & Gary McCarraher
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Natalie Norris
Wendy & Jerry O'Keefe
Stuart Polly
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Dorothea Sloggatt Rush
*John & Dorothy Sealy
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The First NA
Jean & Dick Vose
Wendy & Wayne Waterman
Ramona & Kent Whitaker
Raymond & Marion White
Kathleen Wood
George & M. Theresa Woodruff
Jay & Rachel Zoller

**RETURNING
MEMBERS 2011**

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*Lonnie & Ken Andersen
*Al & Sandy Andrejczak
*Gary Arsenault
*Laura & John Arsenault
*Robert & Marjorie Baldwin
Mellicent Ball
Judith Ball
*Pat & Dick Bamforth
*Martha Barnett
Sylvia & William Beldan
Cathy & Larry Bennigson
Peter & Helena Benton
*Sheryl & Bill Bickel
*Judy & Joe Bodnar
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Crystal & Robert Bogosian
Dave Bosworth & Lara Estroff
Kathy & Jim Boutselis
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 Jean & Harvey Moody
 Patricia & Andy Morrison
 Miriam & Howard Mosley
 Mary & Bill Mullaney
 Marjorie & Philip Murphy
 Deborah Myers
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 Ron & Diane Nobles
 J.J. Nuttall
 *Marion & Jim Olson
 Claudia Orff-Reed & Dennis
 Reed
 Nancy Overton
 Judy & Stan Paton
 Bill Pearce
 Gail & Frank Perkowski
 Susan & Alan Peterson
 Chester & Virginia Pettey
 *Jane & Dick Pickering
 Helen Pietila
 *Linda Pierpont
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 Aloisia Pollock
 Mary Ann Porter
 Faith Porter & Arthur Gingold
 Christina & Matthew Poryanda
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 Alison & Todd Prawer
 Marie & Thomas Pross
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 Alan N. Railsback
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 Patricia Reber
 Judy & Jerry Rex
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 Debbie & Allan Roth
 *Willow & Rowan Rowntree
 Bev & Al Sampson
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 Dorothea Schmitt
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 *Mary Sheldon
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 Wildwood Shores Association
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 Diana & Russ Williams
 Scott Williams
 Mark Becker & Deborah Wil-
 son
 Gretchen Jacobs & Kathleen
 Wilson
 Rosie & Mark Wilt
 *Steve Woodard
 Dr.Theodore Wright
 *Kathy Zambello

(Please let us know of any
 omissions or mistakes!)



Kay Liss photo

PLANNED GIVING

One way to help pro-
 tect the lake through
 DLWA, is by leaving a
 charitable bequest in
 your will or trust. Your
 estate planner is your
 guide to the many ways
 to give DLWA substan-
 tial support, while im-
 proving your own fi-
 nancial status.

We will be giving
 more information about
 planned giving in future
 issues; but there's no
 need to wait! Look into
 the alternatives and
 make a gift to the lake
 you love, through
 Damariscotta Lake Wa-
 tershed Association.



Our Mission: To enhance the quality of life in and around Damariscotta Lake, assuring enjoyment for all of its natural and human residents.

The Watershed June 2011
207/549/3836 www.dlwa.org



(Water Wonder Day continued from page 1)

structure of fresh water plants, both indigenous and invasive.

Willow and Rowan Rowntree conducted the group “spy on the natural world” in which students studied rocks, leaves and other examples from the woods to learn about ecological co-dependencies and photosynthesis.

The day concluded with a mock Town Meeting, in which a group representing developers debated a group representing opponents to development on the lake



The ever-popular activity of creating designs on t-shirts was again conducted by faithful volunteers Marilyn and Ron Speckman and Joan Scollo. Using symbols of various fresh water plants and animals, in addition to the perennial theme of “plant a buffer,” kids created colorful t-shirts they dried on the line and then took home with them.

BACK PAGE QUESTION

Are earthworms native to Maine?



Are they useful?
Do they do any harm in the environment?
Do they have anything to do with water quality of the lake?
Answer on page 3

Visit DLWA's website:
www.dlwa.org