



Seymour Lake Association Newsletter

Summer 2007

Notes from the President Elect

At the Seymour Lake Association's May Board Meeting, we agreed that:

(1) the Dam and Lake Level concerns of the past have been basically resolved,

(2) we need to focus in the coming years on continual Milfoil Inspections and Education to keep our lake Milfoil-free, and

(3) we also need to preserve the water quality and purity of Seymour Lake and promote safety for all residents and those who use it for recreational purposes.

Due to our successes in keeping Milfoil out of Seymour, and the success of Lake Salem, many lakes in Vermont have applied for State Grants. Consequently, Lake Seymour's Grant request has been cut, and this year we will only receive less than 20 % of our request from the State. Even with the good support we continue to receive

from the Town of Morgan, your Association will need to request and receive donations from our members and area residents to fund the shortfall in our Budget.

You will see a line on the membership application for "Additional Donations" and your Board would greatly appreciate your financial help.

This assistance is needed to fully fund the Milfoil Inspection work that has kept Seymour Lake free and clear of the choking weeds found in other Vermont Lakes. Also, if you have not sent in your dues for 2007, please do so on the Application Form.

This summer's newsletter is being distributed at the Annual Meeting and hand delivered by volunteers to residents around the lake and in Morgan.

See the article, in this newsletter, from

one of our SLA members, who is on our Board, about how much his family treasures our wonderful lake. He is one of many, many residents who share the same feeling for our homes here at Seymour Lake, in the North Country.

With an eye toward raising future funds for the Milfoil, education, and other issues, your Board and Nominating Committee have selected persons to fill open positions on the Board, whose past experience includes Development and Marketing.

We are really looking forward to a super year in 2007. Contact myself or Jim McWain with any of your concerns or suggestions for a better Lake Association.

Ron Kolar—rkolar@eagle-harbor.com or 802 723-4400,

Editorial Thoughts

As your outgoing President, I would like to submit a few comments from my perspective of the past five or six years.

First, I am very proud to have been associated with the dedicated and hard working people you have elected as officers and board members. They have served you well and as a result Seymour Lake and your Association are held in high regard within the State.

Second, because of all those who have gone before us on the Association Board, we can be truly thankful. We have a long history of dedicated service in keeping our lake a pure, safe place for families and recreation. I would be remiss if I did not thank my predecessor as President, Beth Torpey, for having the foresight to recognize the dangers of Milfoil and initiate the first grant request for assistance from the State of Vermont. Her actions initiated our milfoil program which has been copied throughout the State.

Third, I am pleased that Ron Kolar has agreed to assume leadership of the Association. He has a long history with Seymour Lake and his hard work, along with Homer Selby on the Dam/Lake Level Committee, is the main reason that the new dam was constructed to our specifications and our lake level concerns have been resolved.

I am also thankful that Lyman McWain agreed to become Vice-President. He and I started coming to Seymour Lake in 1947 and continue to enjoy our time together at the "lake". He brings a career of experience in marketing and the development of markets and will be a great assistance as the Board addresses its new challenges.

Now, a **MAJOR CONCERN**—We cannot be complacent about milfoil and other aquatic nuisance problems. Our lake quality is good and your board has a plan to increase monitoring of water quality; however, other lakes close by have milfoil. We must continue to monitor boats and trailers that use the State Access area for Seymour Lake. We must also be aware of the dangers of the increased population of water fowl. Please urge your children to not feed the ducks and seagulls.

Initially, our first grant from the State for the milfoil program was around \$20,000. Last year we received only \$7000 which necessitated the Association and Town of Morgan each adding \$7000 to provide the \$21,000 needed to fund the employment of our milfoil checkers. This year we have received only **\$3900** from the State of Vermont.

Association members—**WE NEED YOUR SUPPORT**—Please renew your membership. Please speak with your neighbors and if they are not members urge them to join us in keeping Seymour Lake in its familiar, pristine condition. I respectfully request that those able to make an additional donation to assist the Milfoil Program. The best way to protect this natural treasure that is so important to all of us is to keep milfoil out. The unfortunate alternative, one that is expensive and seldom successful, is to fight it once it arrives.

Please use the attached form for Dues Renewal and Donations

Join the Association—Help Us Keep the Lake Great



You may recognize our home, like yours, as one of those treasured places in the world. A place, where we retreat to enjoy the beauty and wonder of Seymour Lake. We've been doing this since 1949 when my Mother and Father bought this property on the western shore of the lake. Since then, our family has spent wonderful moments just looking, swimming, boating and loving the life that Seymour affords. Keeping our places beautiful means keeping Seymour beautiful, and the best way is through the Seymour Lake Association (SLA). A pristine lake is our most valuable asset. Most of you pay your yearly dues and some contribute additionally to support the important projects of the SLA. The biggest project is combating the threat of **Eurasian water milfoil**, and the Association has spent considerable effort and money to keep this invasive pest out of our lake. Recently the state has cut back funding for milfoil abatement and that puts a greater burden on SLA to keep this very important effort going. If you are not yet a member, won't you join. And if you are a member, won't you please contribute additionally so that SLA can keep Seymour clean and beautiful and continue to keep our homes our treasures.

Morgan Town Officers

Moderator-	Charles Woods	North Country School Director-	
		Mary Roy	
Selectman-	Richard Miller	Listers-	Jim Judd
	Robert Guyer		Diane Moore
	Brian Gray		Deanna Keenan
School Directors-	Robert Cargill		
	Kelly Paul		
	Danielle Blake		

Proposed Slate of Association Officers & Directors for 2008

Officers

President-	Ron Kolar
Vice President-	Lyman McWain
Secretary-	Peggy Bolduc
Treasurer-	Janet Selby

Directors (Term ending)

Brad Shattuck	10	Kalman Samuels	09
Bob Slater	10	Peter Poulin	08
Peggy Barter	10	Jim McWain	08
Ann Moore	09	Ted Jewitt	08
Eric Lessing	09		

****note—nominations from the floor will be accepted at the Annual Meeting*

Committee Chairs

Audit	Jean McKenny
Boating/PWC	Brad Shattuck Eric Lessing
Dam/Lake Level Development	Ron Kolar Lyman McWain Kal Samuels
Fishing	Homer Selby, Ron Frascoia
Grants	Janet Selby Peggy Barter
Ice Out	Homer Selby
Loon Watch	vacant
Maps	Nancy Gilmond
Membership	Janet Selby, Ann Torpey Ann Moore, Peggy Bolduc
Milfoil	Bob Slater Peggy Barter
Newsletter	Jim McWain
Swim Program	Janet Slater
Water Quality	Tom Emery Bruce Barter

What Your Association Does

- **Lake Level**

The Seymour Lake Association is actively engaged with the Agency of Natural Resources to insure that the new dam maintains the lake at its current level. We appealed their certification of a dam without an operable gate which would allow regulation of the lake level during spring flood season. This resulted in a design which includes an operable gate and a two year test period to review test data and lake level.

- **Eurasian Water Milfoil**

The Association has been proactive and has requested and received State Grants for the last six years. These grants, coupled with local volunteers and Town assistance, have allowed the manning of the Boat Access area with paid summer help. These young people and volunteers have checked boats being launched which may have come from other lakes in Vermont that are already infected with the milfoil. Additionally, they search the waters of Seymour susceptible to aquatic nuisance growth. It is far better to keep the milfoil out than to try and remove it.

- **Map**

The Seymour Lake map, with properties specified and a cross referenced index of property owners, has been updated to include the 911 emergency designators. The maps are available at the Morgan Country Store or contact any of the Association officers.

- **Swim Program**

Each year the Association sponsors the summer swim program held at the Morgan Sand Beach. This year we had about 70 students from Morgan and the surrounding towns. This is a Red Cross program with many volunteers from the local Seymour Lake community.

- **Fishing**

Members of the Association participate in monitoring the Vermont Fish and Wildlife efforts to protect the lake trout population and enhance lake trout fishing over the long term. This is important, as it enables us to participate in the establishment of rules governing fishing at Seymour.

- **Water Quality**

Every year the lake is sampled weekly from June through August to document the condition of the lake. This has been done since 1979. Seymour has consistently shown low levels of phosphorus and chlorophyll. The water clarity index consistently measures eight meters deep; total phosphorus remains below 9 milligrams per liter; and chlorophyll is well below 7 milligrams per liter.

Seymour Lake Association—Membership Application 2007

Mail To: Janet Selby, Seymour Lake Association, P.O. Box 43, Morgan, Vermont 05853

Type of Membership— Family (\$30) ____ Individual (\$10) ____ Amount Enclosed _____

Names (s) _____

Seymour Lake Address _____

Seymour Lake Map Number _____ Phone _____

Mailing Address (if different than above)

Street _____

City _____ State ____ Zip _____ Phone _____

We need your help—Please consider an additional donation to support Milfoil Inspection and Education

Amount enclosed _____,

Thanks.

Annual Meeting

The Annual Meeting of the Seymour Lake Association will be on Saturday the 28th of July in the Morgan Community building at 9:00 A.M.

Reports will be given by all the committee chairs. Coffee and refreshments will be served.

Ducks are also a Nuisance

When you feed them, you are really asking them to return for more food when they are hungry.

People need to be discouraged from feeding the ducks and other water fowl. They carry parasites which can give humans skin rashes and other illnesses.

Ice Out/Block Down Contest Winners

The 2007 Ice Out contest proceeds will again be used to support milfoil and water quality efforts.

The method for determining the time of "Ice Out" is that a wooden pallet supporting a cinder block is placed on the ice in late winter. When the ice becomes non-supportive, the tethered pallet and block sink, setting off a timing device on shore.

Last spring the block went down at 3:12 A.M. on April 4, 2006. The closest entry was that of Kelly Curtis Martin. Bill Drake was second and the third place winner was Jeff Lamphere. This year the block went down on April 24, 2007 at 11:18 A.M. Winners will be announced at the Annual Meeting.

The Association thanks Janet and Homer Selby for running the contest. Janet spends many hours collecting and arranging the guesses submitted. Homer has the difficult task of making sure the pallet, cinder block and timing equipment are okay and then retrieving them from the lake.

This year the contest generated around \$1000 which will be used to support milfoil and water quality monitoring. program. .

Volunteers Needed

- Help at the Access Area checking boats and trailers for milfoil is always welcome, or just stop and tell the guys working that you appreciate their efforts.
- We do need help to distribute this newsletter to all property owners on the lake. We are passing it out at the Annual Meeting to save postage but realize that just a small percentage of members get to the meeting in July. We feel it is important to inform everyone on the lake of our problems. If we do not inform them, we should not expect their help.