



OUR MISSION

**Preserve - Enhance
Educate - Protect**

40 Ridgewood Terrace
Otisfield Maine 04270
www.saturdaypond.org

President's Message,

Dear Friends and Neighbors,

The summer has come and gone, fall is upon us and it won't be long before we'll find snowflakes falling and the lake icing over. There has been much activity on Saturday Pond over the past few months and, as a result, much to report from the perspective of the Saturday Pond Watershed Association (SPWA).

The SPWA held its Annual Meeting on Saturday, July 17th. We are pleased to report that we had a record turn-out as you can see from the accompanying picture! At

the meeting, we formulated our preliminary plans for 2011 plans which include:

- 1) Identifying several SPWA members to obtain Lake Surveyor training to carry on the invasive plant monitoring that Pixie Williams has provided to us for many years.
- 2) Developing an educational brochure for members of the Saturday Pond watershed which provides information specific to general boating guidelines of the state of Maine.
- 3) Adding testing for phosphorous levels on a regular basis in addition to the clarity testing we regularly conduct.



- 4) Adding a social component to our 2010 Annual

Meeting scheduled for Saturday, July 16th, 2011 by holding a breakfast prior to the meeting. Please mark your calendars to "Save-the Date". We'd love for you to join us!

As you may know, Eric Williams did not run for re-election to the SPWA Board of Trustees at this year's annual meeting. Eric provided many years of leadership in his role as one of the founding members of the SPWA and his service on the Board. Although Eric will still serve the SPWA in a consultant capacity and as our "IT Director" (webmaster), the SPWA would in no way be where it is today without Eric's leadership and involvement all of these years. Thanks so much, Eric!

We'd also like to welcome Marilyn Freeman onto the Board. Marilyn will now serve as the Board's Pond View representative.

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The Board of Trustees held its fall planning meeting on October 17th which was attended by fifteen people. One of the most important agenda items was to receive a summary of the recent Otisfield Lakes Association Meeting which included an 'Otisfield Lakes Survey Report'. An important focus of the Lakes Association meeting was to provide information about preserving the quality of ponds by limiting the damage done by motor boats. At our SPWA meeting, it was agreed that a meeting with representatives from each of the pond's organizations (Pond View, Great Oaks and the SPWA), representatives from other segments around the pond and the Town should be scheduled in the next few months to continue our discussion about safety on the pond and plan for its preservation. It is critical that we all work in partnership to ensure our pond remains the treasure that it is.

Wishing you very happy holidays,

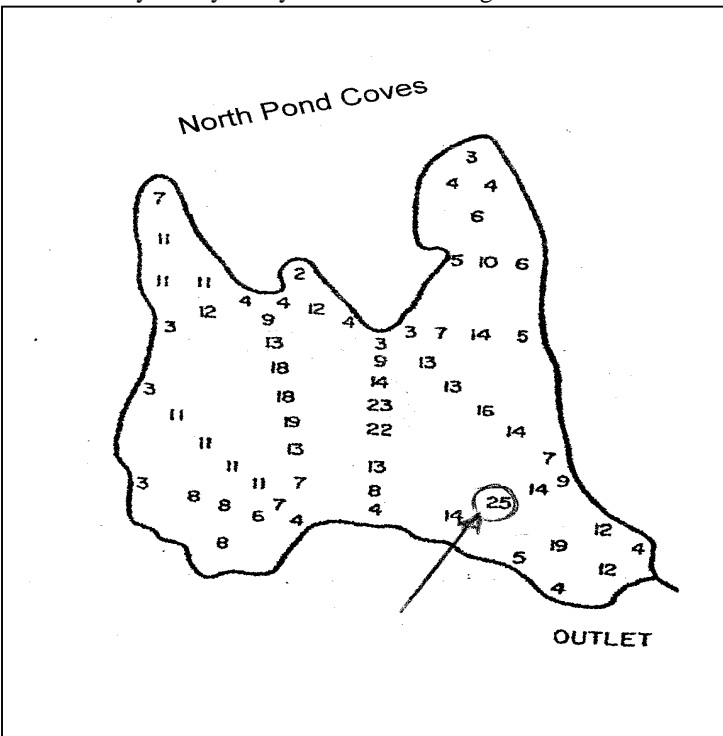
Ellen Attaliades

Monitoring Saturday Pond

Water Clarity

By Carl Anderson

Lakes and ponds are most biologically productive, and water quality problems are most likely to occur from early May through September. It is during that time of year that I monitor the water transparency level on our pond. Using a secchi disk, I test for water clarity nearly every two weeks throughout the summer months. This year the first test took place on June 2nd. The average depth recording in meters for each month was as follow:



June: 5.75 m.
 July 6.39 m.
 August 5.78 m.
 September 6.62 m.
 October 6.97 m.

October usually being a quieter month as far as activity on the pond, might explain the best results for the whole season. As indicated on the map on the left, this type of testing takes place in the deepest part of the pond. Eric Groves has also been involved in water clarity testing in the past. The table on the following page provides you with the average results in meters for the past five years.

Invasive Plant Survey

By Pixie Williams

"The first survey this past summer was early in the week, right after the Pond had experienced a weekend of activity. A disturbing sight met our eyes. Numerous small plants had been uprooted from the shallows and were floating about and there were many places where the benthos (aquatic organisms

which live on, in, or near the bottom of water bodies) had been scraped by motor boat propellers. There is a pond south of Otisfield where I often see the same damage. In this latter pond, there is a camp that specializes in water skiing and so there is a lot of motorboat activities.

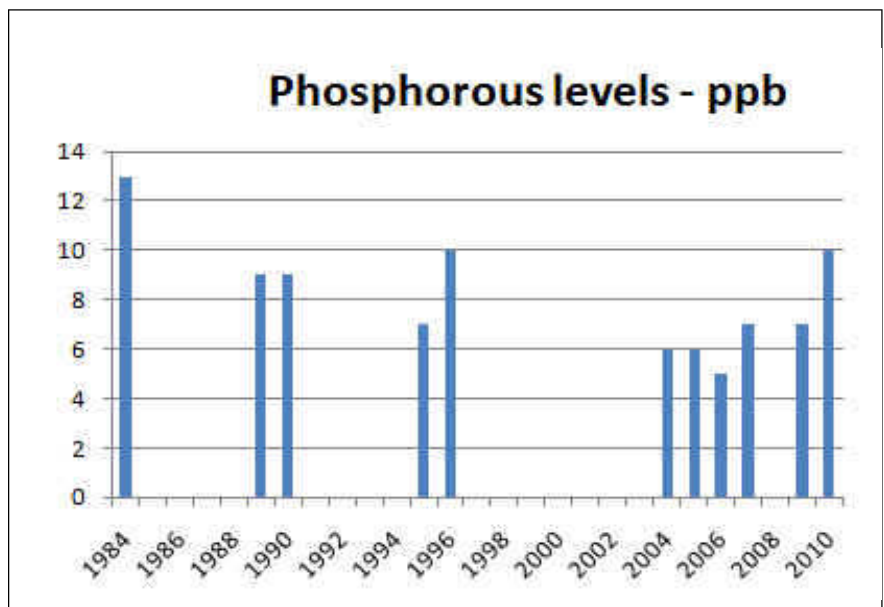
Quillworts are an aquatic species of plant, the average lake dweller does not often see. Depending on the species, they are usually well rooted in several feet of water and does not easily dislodge. But in recent years I have found quillworts floating on the surface in both these ponds This is a casual observation, but it seems to me that the volume of native plant species is increasing a bit in Saturday Pond. On a more cheerful note we found no invasive aquatic plants but as you might suspect the Chinese Mystery Snail is still present." Beverly Smith from Casco is a Certified Invasive Plant Patroller assisting Pixie.

Phosphorus Testing

By Lew Wetzel & Scott Williams

Lew Wetzel has done the phosphorus testing on our pond for many years. Considering the higher than normal level of phosphorus level this year (10ppb) We asked Scott Williams to comment on this result. "The phosphorus is the nutrient that most directly controls the growth of algae in lakes and ponds. The natural occurrence of phosphorus in lakes is very low, which is why Saturday Pond, and Maine lakes in general, are very clear. However, small increases in phosphorus levels in a lake, resulting from human activity in the lake and watershed, can cause a dramatic increase in the growth of algae. In turn, this causes the water to become less clear, and ultimately for oxygen levels to decline during the summer months, which negatively impacts fish communities in some lakes. I would suggest that you consider taking more than just a single P sample each year, because a single sample may not always be representative of conditions in the pond throughout the summer. Of course, this would be more costly, but it would also help us to have a better understanding of whether or not P levels are actually on the rise in Saturday Pond. The results for the last five years are available on the table above.

	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010
Clarity	6.40 m.	6.64 m.	5.99 m.	6.12 m.	6.21 m.
Phosphorus** (ppb)	5ppb	7 ppb	No test	7ppb	10 ppb
Survey Invasive Plants	None	None	None	None	None
Ice Out	Mar.30	Apr.24	Apr. 24	Apr.12	Mar.25



Learn more about Scott Williams on page 5.

(Note: the graph above is historical data and measurement methods may not be consistent.)

Annual Loon Count Report

By Carl Anderson

This year again, Carl Anderson was our loon counter. This was the 27th Annual Loon Count took place on Saturday, July 17th, from 7 to 7:30 a.m. on lakes and ponds all across the state. Carl reported seeing two loons, but no chicks.

If you are interested in participating in the count, please e-mail Susan Gallo*, Loon Project Director, or call 781-2330 ext. 216. They'll need to know your mailing address and the lake where you'd like to count loons. No prior experience needed, just an ability to survey all or part of a lake with binoculars, either from shore or a boat.

Learn more about loon protection by visiting Audubon Society at:
http://www.maineaudubon.org/conservation/loon/documents/LoonProtection_000.pdf

* sgallo@maineaudubon.org



"The nation behaves well if it treats the natural resources as assets which it must turn over to the next generation increased, and not impaired in value."

-Theodore Roosevelt

MEMBERS FOR 2010

Anderson, Kathy & Carl
Archacki, Paula & Ray
Attaliades, Ellen & Jim Ryan
Bernard, Anne & Mike Mills
Bramswig, Robin & Bill
Cali, Robert & Linda
Dryzga, Jean
Engel, Tom & Lourdes
Freeman, William & Marilyn
Glassock, Judith
Goss, Elizabeth
Jackson, Nancy
Johnston, Cynthia
Jones, Art and Connie
Kane, Barbara
Lennox, Scott & Joan
Marble, Abby & Jeff
Markarian, Jeri & Steve
Milos, Greg
Peaco, Gordon
Poole, Mary Jane
Ruefer, Roger
Sirois, Jacinthe & Al
Spiller, Gertrude
Szala, Michael & Elizabeth
Washburn, Anita & James
Williams, Ann & Eric
Ywoskus, Julie & John

Welcome to our new members

Ecker, Jeffrey
Haber, Susan & Jerry
Nageswari, Shri

MEMBERS FOR 2011

Anderson, Kathy & Carl
Attaliades, Ellen & J. Ryan
Bernard, Anne & M. Mills
Goss, Elizabeth
Johnston, Cindy
LeBlanc, Janet & Bruce
Lennox, Joan & Scott
Marble, Abby & Jeff (2014)
Markarian, Jeri & Steve
Mulvey, Trudy & Gerald
Peaco, Gordon
Sirois, Jacinthe & Al
Steuer, Kelly & Dave
Washburn, Anita & James
Watts, Carolyn & Martin
Williams, Ann & Eric

Welcome to our new members

Kilkeary, Rovena & Joe
Lafleur, Susan & David
Shungrue, E. & S. Berardesca

THANK YOU ALL FOR JOINING

Treasurer's Report

By Jacinthe Sirois and Eric Williams

As Treasurers of the SPWA, we thank you for your generous support in 2010. We counted 31 members. This past year, we provided all our members with the booklet LAKE-A-SYST, an interesting publication from the University of Maine Cooperative Extension focusing on how to maintain your lakefront home to protect & preserve lake water quality.



We continued publishing an informative newsletter twice a year, once in the fall and once in the spring. Contributions were made to support two very important Maine organizations: the Maine Volunteer Lake Monitoring Program (MVLMP), and the Congress of Lake Association (COLA).

In many different ways, they both play an important role in preserving our lakes and ponds.

We also encounter yearly fees to the University of Maine for the phosphorus analysis, the State filing and our website.



Those of us who live on or near our beautiful, unspoiled Saturday Pond appreciate it. With the holiday season soon to be upon us, we would like to invite you to give a gift of SPWA Membership to your friends and/or relatives who visit you during the summer and enjoy the pond.

It is very simple. Just fill out the form at the top of page 5. Include a check and mail everything to the address listed. We'll send you your special Gift Membership Card(s) as soon as we receive your request.

Voila! It's quick and easy! You will be helping the pond while shortening your to-do list for the holiday season.

Furthermore you can also purchase a membership in memory of specific people, for birthdays. or even as wedding gifts!

Every gift helps support our Pond.



SPWA Membership Application/Renewal/Gift Form for 2011

Name: _____ or name(s) of gift recipient(s) _____
Address _____
City/Town _____
State _____ Zip code _____ Compliments of _____
Email (optional): _____

I prefer to read the newsletter: via the web via regular mail

Membership \$15.00

Make check payable to: **Saturday Pond Watershed Association (SPWA)** and mail to:

SPWA

Jacinthe Sirois, Treasurer

P.O. Box 919

Oxford, ME 04270

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT

Joining the Saturday Pond Watershed Association is an investment in the future good health and beauty of Saturday Pond. We hope you'll join us.

MEET SCOTT L. WILLIAMS

Scott Williams is an aquatic Biologist with three decades of experience monitoring, assessing, protecting and restoring lakes and ponds throughout Maine. During this time, he has worked as an advisor and consultant to lake and watershed associations, community watershed planning groups and conservation commissions, town planning boards, the Maine Legislature, and other entities focused on the assessment and protection of lakes and ponds in their communities. He is the owner and senior Limnologist/Aquatic Biologist of Lake and Watershed Resource Management Associates, a consulting firm that specializes in virtually all aspects of Maine's lakes and ponds, from ecology to conservation.

He has been the Executive Director of the Maine Volunteer Lake Monitoring Program since the program transitioned from state government to an independent nonprofit



organization in the mid 1990's. He is past-President of, and long-time Science Advisor to the Maine Congress of Lake Associations (COLA), and former co-chair of the Maine Council on Environmental Monitoring and Assessment (CEMA). He is a member of the Governor's Task Force on Invasive Aquatic Species, and has served on numerous technical committees in the development of lake water quality protective standards for state and local

laws and ordinances, including Shoreland Zoning and the Maine Stormwater Management Law.

Scott's work has been recognized by the Maine Legislature, the Natural Resources Council of Maine, Maine Soil and Water Conservation Districts, and the North American Lake Management Society, which presented him its Technical Excellence Award in 2000.

You're invited ...

We are always looking for volunteers to be trained in water clarity testing, phosphorus testing and invasive plant patroller. The Maine Volunteer Lake Monitoring Program (MVLMP) offers yearly training, usually in the spring. For more information check their website at: <http://www.mainevolunteerlakemonitors.org/waterquality/indicators.php>



Saturday Pond Watershed Association
40 Ridgewood Terrace
Otisfield, ME 04270

We are on the web:
www.saturdaypond.org

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

President: *Ellen Attaliades*

Vice-Presidents: *Carl Anderson , Marilyn Freeman*

Corresponding Secretary: *Steve Markarian*

Recording Secretary: *David Steuer*

Treasurer: *Jacinte Sirois*

Board/Committee Members

SPWA Board of Trustees is still looking for members. If you know of good candidates or would like to join, please contact SPWA

President, via email at eattaliades@saturdaypond.org

CURRENT NEWSLETTER

Editors: S. Klenzak – J. Sirois – E. Williams

Contributors: Ellen Attaliades – Carl Anderson –
Scott Williams – Pixie Williams - Eric
Williams

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Web Masters: Eric and Ann Williams

We hope you've enjoyed reading our newsletter. Rather than throwing it away, why not pass it along to a friend or neighbor! We welcome suggestions for future articles in "Saturday Pond Watershed Newsletter. Contact jsirois@saturdaypond.org