



## *President's Column*

By Dave Mankus

It's the season to put away the boats and reflect on the summer, the visitors and family reunions, the thunderstorms and sunny days. Fall is a mixture of cool days warning of the winter to come and the Indian summer days, which seem to be a bonus. My favorite month is October when the cool Canadian air makes the lake very dark blue and the low sun angle casts a wide swath of diamond like sparkles.

It has been a good year for Great East Lake. Chuck Hodsdon reports the water quality is good. Few heavy storms causing runoff and greater awareness of the sources of phosphorus have helped hold the line on phosphorus levels. Nearby Lovell and Province Lakes have had several cyanobacteria blooms this summer. These photosynthetic bacteria/algae live in all our lakes to a limited extent, but when conditions are right they multiply greatly. They float to the surface and are driven downwind to accumulate on the lee shore. Their bodies contain small amounts of a powerful toxin and when concentrated in this way they can poison pets or people. Imagine what it would be like to have your kids playing in the water in the morning and when the wind comes up and the water turns green and you have to tell them, "Don't touch the water!" I have attended the meetings of the Province Lake Association and will keep track of their efforts to not let this reoccur. AWWA, under the direction of Linda Schier, has started gathering data and is working closely with them to identify the factors which are causing this to happen.

We have a host of new Directors and volunteers working very hard to preserve and improve our lake and our Association. Deb Parkin has almost two dozen Weed Watchers enlisted and found a source for laminated, identifying photos of invasive plants which is fitted to a key ring you can keep on your kayak. Caitlyn McKay has assumed the leadership role of the Lake Hosts who have inspected almost 3000 launches and trained many new inspectors. Pat Theisen reports membership is steady at 400+ with over half giving more than \$49. Effie Jaramillo as head of marketing is looking into new sources of GELIA Wear and other logo products to sell at our annual meeting and on our website. Stephanie Theisen is handling our website and a new baby girl! Charles Crespi is our new Treasurer and Walter Neff and Ron McKay are recruiting new Directors including our newest, Susie Alvino. Arnie Murray is going to be the liaison to Acton, Gene Rosenthal, and I will pull the Maine buoys after Columbus Day. Dee Kasprzak handles the donated raffle items and thank you notes. A new technology committee was formed to address the new social media as a way to communicate with our members; it consists of Chris Allen, Jim Labrie, Jack Orenstein, Caitlyn McKay and Mack Hendrick who was responsible for our webcam. And certainly, we're happy to include Jennifer Craig, our past president, who volunteered to edit this newsletter.

I have only named some of the many Directors and volunteers who have served several overlapping capacities as it is true that with many hands anything is possible.

I hope all our members and their families have a safe and good winter and come spring, we will see you on the Lake!

**Great East Lake  
Improvement  
Association**

**OFFICERS**

Dave Mankus, President  
Arnold Murray, Vice President  
Charles Crespi, Treasurer  
Effie Jaramillo, Secretary  
Jennifer Craig, Past President

**DIRECTORS**

Chris Allen  
Janet Gould  
Mack Hendrick  
Chuck Hodsdon  
Bill Hohenberger  
Dee Kasprzak  
Jim Labrie  
Ron McKay  
Arnie Murray  
Walter Neff  
Jack Orenstein  
Deb Parkin  
Gene Rosenthal  
Dwayne Scruton  
Pat Theisen

**Mission**

To preserve, enhance and protect the advantages of Great East Lake and its environs.

***New GELIA Members 2013***

by Pat Theisen

Welcome to the following new members of GELIA! An increasing number of lake residents are supporting GELIA's mission by becoming members, including several who are new property owners.

Paul & Sharon Bauer  
Todd & Dawn Bernard  
Jasper & Mary Bogosian  
Brad Broce  
Francis & Odalys Croteau  
Jean & Maria Cummings  
Richard & Lisa Cummings  
Edward & Charma Drake  
Debbie Gaw  
Dave & Julie Lynch  
William & Amy Marshall  
Walden Mathews  
Kevin & Karen O'Connor  
Paul & Vicki Reid  
Barry & Claire Russo  
Kenneth A. St. Hilaire  
Stanley & Linda Trambly  
Todd Wilson

To date, GELIA membership consists of 420 members.

**Thank you for your support!**

***Thank You, Mary Field***

The long-time editor of the Newichawannock News, Mary Fields, has stepped down after 10 years of service to the organization. Mary's cheerful organization and desktop magic were a gift to all of us who were informed, amused and inspired by the many articles she helped us digest. We thank you, Mary! We are also pleased to announce that our new editor will be director Dwayne Scruton. If there are articles you'd like to see in upcoming issues of this newsletter, please feel welcome to forward your ideas to the president through the GELIA website.

### ***Partnerships Keep Great East Clean and Healthy***

by Linda Schier

On a recent late September day the sun was shining, the air was still and the water in the lake was like glass. My husband and I were awed by how we could see clear to the bottom in well over 20 feet of water. What a gift our lake is and what a joyful swim I had in the brisk cooling waters of fall.

There are many people whose efforts are focused on keeping the lake clear, not just for our enjoyment, but also for the health of the many critters that share our waters. The amazing diversity of life from the microscopic phytoplankton to the biggest bass all need those clear healthy waters to thrive and GELIA, the Acton Wakefield Watersheds Alliance, the towns, the state agencies and the road associations are doing what needs to be done.

As of the end of the 2013 season, the AWWA Youth Conservation Corps has installed 153 erosion control measures on 38 properties around Great East Lake. Those 38 homeowners have spent close to \$20,000 on materials for those projects that are preventing an estimated 57 tons of sediment from entering the lake each year! Imagine what a difference that would make to the clarity of the lake. An additional 65 GEL residents have received technical assistance visits to brainstorm solutions to their erosion problems.

In 2012 and 2013 AWWA and GELIA partnered with the Langley Shores Road Association and the Abbott Road Association to fix some chronic erosion problems that were sending sediment right into the lake. The two road fixes on Langley Shores solved a 6 ton erosion problem and the three sites on Abbott account for another 2.4 tons of reduced pollution. The YCC and road projects are funded in part by Watershed Assistance grants from the NH Dept. of Environmental Services and the ME Dept. of Environmental Protection with funds from the US Environmental Protection Agency under Section 319 of the Clean Water Act.

AWWA continues to work with the lake associations and towns in Wakefield and Acton to ensure that our collective voice is effectively calling attention to the need for strong lake advocacy at the individual, association and community levels. Whether we are talking about erosion control, invasive species management or pollution reduction you can rest assured that AWWA and its partners are in the forefront of the discussions to keep the health of the lakes front and center. Please visit [www.awwatersheds.org](http://www.awwatersheds.org) for information about AWWA programs.

### ***2013 Property Sales***

by Janet Gould

While many of us were enjoying summer activities on the lake this year, others were packing their belongings and saying their good-byes to Great East Lake. Fifteen properties have sold thus far in 2013 with new owners hailing from New Hampshire, Massachusetts, Maine, Connecticut and New Jersey. Thirty-five properties remain on the market with a sale pending on four of those.

GELIA welcomes our new lake community members and wishes them many happy days on Great East.

## ***Great Weather and Great Prizes!***

### **2013 GELIA Annual Meeting and Raffle Report**

by Dee Kasprzak

What a great meeting! A big thank you goes to all of the board members who put in time and travel soliciting all the wonderful donated items for our raffle. GELIA is extremely grateful to the following businesses and people, many of whom contribute every year to our raffle. *Please say thank you by patronizing our local donators.*

#### A Big Thank You to all below:

<b>Beatle's Bait &amp; Tackle</b>	<b>Crabby Bear</b>
<b>Effie Jaramillo</b>	<b>Good &amp; Tasty Restaurant</b>
<b>Great East Docks</b>	<b>Iron Trails Saloon</b>
<b>Knotty Pine Grill &amp; Tavern</b>	<b>Longmeadow Hardware</b>
<b>Lovell Lake Food Center</b>	<b>Mousam Valley Apiary</b>
<b>Muddy Paws Pet Supply</b>	<b>Nute's Trading Post</b>
<b>Parker's Boathouse</b>	<b>Peak Organic Brewing</b>
<b>Pinewood Products</b>	<b>Poor People's Pub</b>
<b>Province Lake Golf</b>	<b>Raise-A-Dock</b>
<b>Real Estate 2000 ME/NH</b>	<b>River House Restaurant</b>
<b>Roadside Gardens</b>	<b>Seven Lakes Provisions</b>
<b>Ted's Fried Clams</b>	<b>Wakefield Inn</b>
<b>Wakefield Massage Therapy</b>	<b>Wakefield Reiki Clinic</b>
<b>Watercolors &amp; Fabric Art</b>	<b>Waterways Coffee Shop</b>

### ***Condolences***

GELIA extends condolences to Rollie Fernald and the family of Barbara (Stewart) Fernald who passed away on August 17, 2013. Barbara's association with the lake was life-long. Before Barbara was born, her parents Gus and Grace Stewart, bought property on the lake in 1939 and Barbara came to the lake summers with her family. In the 1950's, the Stewarts ran a small store for several years from their camp, selling milk, bread, rolls, candy bars, penny candy, soda, tobacco, gas, oil, and worms. Barbara and Rollie's devotion to the lake has been manifested by their involvement with GELIA for many, many years, with Rollie serving as President from 1995-1998.

### ***Only One Loon Chick this Year***

by Chuck and Marcia Hodsdon

On May 30<sup>th</sup> we had our first visit by our loon biologist, Alexis Rudko from the Loon Preservation Society. We found the Scribner River loons to be on the nest and we observed that the Copp Brook pair were together near where they have nested in the past. Eventually only one chick was hatched by the Scribner River pair.

On July 20<sup>th</sup> we participated in the annual Loon Census. Seven members of our census team observed 9 adult loons and one chick.

The Scribner River Loons exhibit the parenting skills necessary for success. We have never seen the chick without at least one of the parents nearby. One day we observed one of the parents swimming around with a fish dangling from its mouth. She kept calling for 10 or 15 minutes until the chick finally showed up and took the fish from the adult. Apparently it is the usual behavior for the parents to continue to feed the chick for the whole season even though they are able to dive and catch some food for themselves.

In the Statewide survey 596 observers covered 138 of New Hampshire's Lakes. Five hundred twenty adult loons were tallied, along with 6 immature loons and 69 chicks. This is the smallest number of chicks in the last three years and probably reflects a very rainy June and other nesting challenges.

### ***Lake Hosts Continue to Protect Our Lake***

by Caitlin McKay

The Lake Host Program had another successful year! The Lake Hosts are dedicated to helping protect Great East Lake against invasive plant infestations. This year we had one save, which was variable milfoil coming in on a jet boat from Winnepesaukee. As Captain of the program, I would like to thank all of the Lake Hosts for a great season including: Amy Stanieich, Tyler Stanieich, Lauren Spurr, Mike Raferty, Jackson Robinson, Brian O'Day, Courtney McKay, Kathy McKay, Hayley Mandeville, Brian Kraft, Ruth Gutman, and Jackson Callahan. We received funding from GELIA, NH Lakes Association, the Lakes Environmental Associations, the town of Wakefield, and the town of Acton. This funding helped us keep the launch staffed seven days a week from before Memorial Day to after Labor Day.

Including the save, we were able to inspect about 2500 boats this season. The Lake Host Program is only able to be this successful with the support of GELIA. Being a Lake Host is a great job because so many residents of Great East Lake are advocates for the program. Once again, I would like to thank the residents and GELIA for the support since the program is the first line of defense for keeping our lake clean.

### *Always Looking for Talent!*

GELIA's effectiveness in helping to preserve this wonderful lake over the years has resulted from the combination of extraordinary member participation and the creativity and energy of its Board of Directors. As an association we have moved from a routine "property owners club" to a dynamic organization that thinks beyond our own water quality to address the health of the entire watershed (AWWA), interact with local and state governmental agencies (Acton, Wakefield, NH and ME), and take care of the immediate, daily needs of our lake (Lake Hosts, Weed Watchers, Boating Safety, Water Quality, Loon Watch, etc.).

As a result of these activities we are constantly on the lookout for new candidates for our Board of Directors to help improve these programs and/or to replace members whose terms have expired. While we have just added six excellent new directors, we need to look ahead for the next few years and make sure we maintain a strong board.

Do you know anyone at Great East Lake who you feel would be a good candidate? Or are you the candidate? Does that person have the time and the possible skills that would help us do our job? At this time we are particularly looking for people who have the following experience or interests:

Marketing/Media Competence

Information Technology

Fundraising

General Non-Profit leadership

Experience in Town Politics

Environmental Issues

If you know of someone who might be a good candidate, please let us know. If you send us a brief email, or a phone call, to either of us at the below addresses we will contact you for more information.

Thanks for your continuing support of GELIA.

Ron McKay  
[ron.mckay@comcast.net](mailto:ron.mckay@comcast.net)  
 603-772-1967

Walter Neff  
[wsneff@comcast.net](mailto:wsneff@comcast.net)  
 603-926-7278

### *Be Sure to Visit Our Website!*

The GELIA website, [www.greateastlake.org](http://www.greateastlake.org), now contains both information on local businesses for your reference as well as an active webcam that lets you see what's happening on the lake even when you can't be there! As the seasons change, be sure to check it out! You can also "like" us on Facebook at "Great East Lake". Post photos, share stories, and stay connected with your lake neighbors, no matter where you are!

***ATTENTION: Everyone Who Spends Time on Great East Lake  
(...yes, that means you!)***

by Deb Parkin

You have been recruited to be a Great East Lake Weed Watcher. Now, I know what you're saying; "I didn't sign up to be a Weed Watcher. I don't know anything about the native water plants in Great East Lake, let alone the invasive ones that can take over a lake and have a serious negative impact on my ability to enjoy the water. Besides, we've got a great Lake Host program that inspects the boats at the public boat ramp and stops them from carrying these invasive weeds into our lake. I don't need to do anything." Well, in truth, we *all* need to do our part to make sure this lake stays beautiful for generations to come. As good as the Lake Hosts are, we can't expect them to take care of this whole lake on their own.

So, what can each of us do? Well, I think that there is one thing that each property owner can probably do better than anyone else on the lake-know what grows in the water in front of your own camp or house. Think about it! Who swims, kayaks and snorkels in your area of the lake more than your family? Take a few minutes each summer to familiarize yourself with what's growing under the water. If you're interested and want to get more information about what you're seeing, go to the Volunteer Lake Monitoring Program's website at

[vlmp@mainevlmp.org](mailto:vlmp@mainevlmp.org). They offer classes and have come out with some waterproof identification cards to help you identify different water plants. I'm sure there are also other sites that provide information on aquatic plants. Even if you don't want to go to that level, you can still get a general idea of the underwater terrain in your area and watch for changes; a new plant that you've never seen before or a certain plant that seems to be spreading faster than others around it. If you find something you think is suspicious, email the VLMP, me or anyone else on the GELIA Board. Get a piece of the plant -don't rip it out- and store it in water so someone who knows what to look for can examine it. The Volunteer Lake Monitoring Program is a good resource for this.

Bottom line, we all need to do our part to take care of this beautiful lake. Please do what you can.

AWWA and GELIA would like to thank the following families and road associations for their participation in the AWWA YCC and erosion control programs:

Barr	Gottlieb	Merrey
Berube	Groden	Meyer
Cain	Harrison	Mullin
Charbonneau	Harvey	Murray
Coit	Henrichon	Read
Cook	Kasprzak	Schier
Cummings	Lessard	Shannon
Del Sesto	Martinez	Dorothy Smith
Elsberry	McKay	Nancy Smith
Geranian	McKinley	Waibel
Gordon	McLaughlin	Wobrock
	Abbott Road Association	
	Langley Shores Association	
	Leisure Lane Association	

\*\*\*\*\*GELIA Merchandise Order Form\*\*\*\*\*

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Phone(if questions)\_\_\_\_\_

**GELIA 2014 Calendars** # ordered @\$15 each \_\_\_\_ Total \$ \_\_\_\_

**NEWICHAWANNOCK REFLECTIONS: *Memories of Great East Lake***  
# ordered @ \$15 each \_\_\_\_ Total \$ \_\_\_\_

PLUS Shipping Charge for Calendars: \$2.50 for up to 3

PLUS Shipping charge for Books: \$2.50 each Total shipping charge \$ \_\_\_\_

**Make check payable to: GELIA** Total Cost for Order \$ \_\_\_\_

Mail to: GELIA

P.O. Box 911

Sanbornville, NH 03872

Holiday orders must be received by Dec.5

-----

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

GELIA  
PO Box 145  
Stratham NH 03885

NEWICHAWANNOCK NEWS

