

## May 2017      A Publication of the Canobie Lake Protective Association

### Our Mission

**“To help protect and improve the quality of Canobie Lake and the surrounding watershed, while maintaining and supporting the interests of lake users and watershed property owners.”**

### **2017 MEMBERSHIP DRIVE**

Our goal is to have all concerned residents join together. We mail this MEMBERSHIP DRIVE newsletter to over 300 residences around Canobie Lake. To all of our past and loyal members, THANK YOU!!!! We continue to welcome anyone to join and demonstrate his or her support for our work to protect Canobie Lake.

***PLEASE JOIN TODAY and become a MEMBER for 2017***

CANOBIE LAKE PARK has, again, *generously* given us GUEST PASSES to be used in our membership drive. For each membership you will receive one complimentary guest pass to Canobie Lake Park. While supply lasts, for each additional \$25 donation you will receive a guest pass. (All donations of any amount are WELCOME but we must limit the number of passes from donations to insure that we have enough so that all members receive their guest pass).

**We are continuing our “RECRUITMENT SPECIAL”**

PLEASE reach out to your neighbors and friends to join the Canobie Lake Protective Association. Current members will receive 1 free pass for each new member recruited. (Just fill in the special recruitment information on the membership form below.)

**TO JOIN: fill in and send with your tax deductible check for \$25 to the Canobie Lake Protective Association**

**TO MAKE A DONATION: Due to recent legal and engineering consultant expenses any additional donations included in your check are encouraged and gratefully accepted.**

**To receive your CANOBIE LAKE GUEST PASS(ES) please enclose a return addressed, stamped envelope.**

**With questions, please call Ginny Campiola at 893-4433.**

**YES, I want to join (or renew my membership to) the Canobie Lake Protective Association**

**Please CUT OFF and MAIL (w/self addressed/stamped envelope) to: Ginny Campiola, 51 West Shore Rd, Windham, NH 03087**

**Name** \_\_\_\_\_ **Tele#** \_\_\_\_\_ **email** \_\_\_\_\_

Throughout the year the newsletter and special points of interest will be emailed to our membership. That is why we hope that you will provide us with your email address (It will not be shared with others).

**Address** \_\_\_\_\_ **Town** \_\_\_\_\_ **\$ enclosed** \_\_\_\_\_

**Comments** \_\_\_\_\_

**I** \_\_\_\_\_ **have recruited my neighbor,** \_\_\_\_\_ **, to join CLPA**

Current member's name

Please mail me my free pass to Canobie Lake Park

***WELCOME and THANK YOU !!!!!***

## ***Water Levels & "Safe Yield"***

Late summer and fall last year the water levels of Canobie dropped to one of the lowest levels in recent years, 214.8 feet, which is a drop of over 5 feet from full. The board monitored the situation all summer and while encouraged that Salem put mandatory water restrictions in place, they were not sufficient to halt the extreme drop.

As we hope most of you know, the Association has been extremely active over the past months regarding this issue. We have met with Salem town officials, attended numerous planning board and board of selectmen meetings, spoke at many of those sessions, we have granted interviews to local papers, asked the New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services to intervene, increased our public awareness activities and hired legal representation. Our goal is simple: We want to work with Salem to address this issue. We believe Salem does not have sufficient supply to serve the existing demand and this issue is being compounded by the large number of new commercial developments (the largest being the 150+acre site at the former Rockingham Park). Recently the New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services wrote Salem and expressed similar concerns.

The good news right now is the lake is almost full, just a bit short of 220 feet (which is full). If we have another dry summer, we could be in the same situation. We continue to encourage Salem to stay on the Arlington Pond supply as far past May 1st as possible. Last year they stayed on Arlington until May 18th. Also, we want Salem to switch back to Arlington in early fall--they can do that on October 10th. Last year they delayed until November 6<sup>th</sup> because of a high turbidity problem with treating Arlington Pond water.

Recently we have asked Salem to establish a "working committee" composed of Salem officials and their consultants and members of our board and our advisors. The goal would be to address near term issues such as Salem policies regarding water use, conservation efforts, increasing near term supply and most important agreeing upon the "safe yield" of Canobie. **("Safe yield" was established in 1996 by a Salem consultant, SEA, and recommends a maximum level of draw from Canobie in any given year. Over the past few years, Salem has exceeded this draw by about 20%).**

We will keep you advised of any new developments on this very important issue to all of us.

## ***CLPA Retains Legal Council***

In connection with the on-going discussions with Salem over the Canobie water level, the CLPA board has retained John Ratigan from DTC Law in Exeter. This is a law firm with significant experience in municipal, environmental and land use law. They are presently assisting us in obtaining relevant records from the Town of Salem. We hope that their expertise and experience can help us push Salem to affirmatively act to maintain an adequate water level in our lake.

## ***Proposed commercial development effecting Canobie Lake***

The board is closely monitoring commercial development in both Salem and Windham. In Salem the largest is Tuscan Village (the former Rockingham Park site). Thus far the Planning Board has given preliminary approval to a 256 unit apartment complex and 96 unit townhouse development. Our president has met with the developer and his engineers expressing concern over the amount of water this 150 acre site will need when complete. Both the developer and his engineers have committed to work with the Association to address the issue. The Board will continue to monitor the progress of this development very, very closely.

In Windham there is a great deal of activity. The largest is Gateway Park at the intersection of Route 111 and Range Road. This project does have some preliminary approvals from the town. Thus far, the developer has not asked for any waivers of existing town ordinances. The Dubay Group is the lead engineer on this project and throughout the process has worked closely with the Association. We appreciate his efforts. The other project we continue to monitor is 49 Range Road, which is adjacent to the Gateway project. This developer continues to seek additional buildings and parking. Recently he presented the Planning Board with a conceptual design for three more buildings and significant additional parking. He met with resistance from both the Planning Board and the Association. Recently he withdrew his preliminary plans but we believe they may re-emerge in the future.

### ***2017 Windham Election results***

Good news! The zoning article amendment that the CLPA supported passed. This amendment limits the amount of impervious surface in the watershed to 30%, thereby helping to prevent dirty storm water to eventually go into the lake.

### ***Tracking Chloride (Salt) Levels in Canobie Lake***

Last summer the Association in cooperation with the New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services (NHDES) greatly stepped up it's monitoring of chloride levels in our lake. This decision was based on a determination that over the past few years the levels of chloride have risen substantially. In the way of background, a few years ago, the level of chloride was less than 50mg/liter. Last summer they rose to almost 100 mg/liter. To put those numbers in perspective a very pristine body of water would have about 10mg/liter and a consistent level of over 220mg/liter will cause harm to fish and plants. So, while the current levels are not threatening to fish or plants, the rather sudden rise is concerning.

The major source of chlorides is from the application of salt on I93, state roads and local roads. The town of Windham uses a mix of 3 parts sand and 1 part salt around the lake. Salem continues to use a 1 to 1 mix and the Association has encouraged Salem to adopt the same policy as Windham.

The Association will continue to work closely with the NHDES in 2017. Recently the lake was "mapped" for chloride levels as it was in 2016. The 2016 map is on our website and we will post the 2017 map when available. In addition, as we did last year, we will take six water samples from predetermined spots every two weeks from May thru September. Those samples must be delivered to NHDES in Concord for testing within 24 hours of pulling them.

The Association wants to thank many folks at the NHDES for their continued support and interest in this project.

#### *Loon Update:*

As of today, we have consistently seen one couple and one solo Loon on the Lake. It is not known at this time if these are the regular Canobie resident Loons that have distinct bandings indicating as such. Our regular Loon Biologist, from the Loon Preservation Committee, should be coming by the end of the month for their seasonal verification of our resident or new Loons.

Special thanks to Dave Blake for his continued effort and support toward administering and installing the Loon nesting raft while communicating with the Loon Preservation Committee (LP) ([www.loon.org](http://www.loon.org)). The Loon raft has been in the water since the beginning of April in a new location to foster another successful hatching. As you may recall last season our native Loons successfully produced two eggs

but unfortunately they never hatched. The unhatched and abandoned eggs were retrieved and given to LPC.

Sometime over the winter one egg was chosen by LPC to be sent for testing at no cost to the CLPA. No egg has ever been from Canobie. They will test for metal contaminants such as mercury and lead etc. Testing should be expected to take several months and we will pass along the results once we are notified.

The Loon raft's new location is on the left side of the island in deeper water. New floating signs are being discussed with the LPC and will be put out as soon as they arrive. In addition to new floating signs, there is discussion with LPC to mentor and possibly supply a Digital camera on site to monitor the nest and for general public to view on the LPC website. Also, the LPC may possibly provide a second raft to be placed on the right side of the island. That will help decrease wind and noise.

If we are fortunate enough to have nesting Loons on the raft this summer we once again respectfully ask...that all boats and kayaks PLEASE stay clear of the raft(s) as LPC thinks human's were the cause for the loons to abandon the eggs last season. We will keep you posted on the camera and extra raft decisions.

***PLEASE GIVE THEM LOTS OF SPACE AND AS MUCH PROTECTION AS POSSIBLE !!***



### ***Canobie Lake has Bald Eagles too!!!***

The NH Fish and Game reports that bald eagles are present in NH year round. Pairs are breeding and raising their young in spring and summer.

Bald eagles can live up to 30 years old. They can begin breeding between the age of four and six. During the breeding season, the male and female will work together to build a nest of sticks. The nest will be located at the top of a tall tree and can measure up to eight feet in diameter. Once built, the eagles often go back to the same nest from year to year. Eagles typically mate for life. Once one of the mates die, the remaining mate will seek another partner.



The female lays one to three eggs, five to ten days after mating. Eggs are incubated by both the male and female, for about 35 days. The eaglet/eaglets remain in the nest for about 6 weeks before they go out on their own.

Immature bald eagles don't develop their distinctive white head and tail until they are between four and five years old.

An eagle's diet consists primarily of fish, occasionally other birds, small to medium mammals, turtles and carrion.



In the past, DDT was their largest threat. While it didn't affect the adult bald eagles directly, the consumption of DDT in their prey, impacted the thickness of the egg shell, which cracked under the weight of the eagle, in the incubation process. DDT was banned in 1972 and the bald eagle population has increased significantly since then.

Current threats are habitat loss, lead poisoning, power line electrocution and gunshot wounds. Bald eagles are legally protected. Possession and take (which includes harming, harassing, injuring and killing) is illegal.  
(Eagle photo taken on Canobie Lake April 2017, courtesy of Jay Johnson.)

## ***PLEASE...SAVE THE DATE... CLPA ANNUAL MEETING/SOCIAL---SUNDAY, JULY 30***

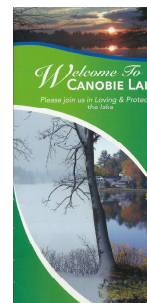
***Please mark your calendars*** for our annual meeting and social to be held at the Searles School and Chapel starting at 6:30 PM. Please come to the "party" and enjoy dessert and light adult beverages. The agenda details will be announced and will include; the election of officers, update on current issues of concern, and refreshments and socializing with fellow CLPA members. PLEASE NOTE: There will be openings on the board. We encourage anyone who is interested in serving on the board of CLPA to contact any current board member prior to the meeting and come to the annual meeting.

## ***Weed Watchers to be out again this summer***

Once again, we thank Steve Bortone for coordinating the 2017 weed watching program on Canobie Lake. If you are interested in helping out with the survey, please contact Steve Bortone (steve.bortone@gmail.com or 813.390.1667). Steve is coordinating the training, and reporting of findings to DES. Don't be afraid to participate. You don't need a degree in Aquatic Botany! With a little training, patience, and diligence, you too can become an invasive aquatic weed buster.

## ***IT'S AVAILABLE... THE CLPA informational and welcoming brochure for Canobie Lake***

You can view the brochure on our website: [www.canobelake.org](http://www.canobelake.org)  
If you would like more copies of the brochure please  
contact Ginny Campiola at [vcampiola@comcast.net](mailto:vcampiola@comcast.net)



***Our new and improved website: [www.Canobelake.org](http://www.Canobelake.org)***

Please visit the website for more information on Canobie Lake. There are photos, maps, depth charts and all sorts of information relevant to protecting our beautiful lake! Plus there are archives of previous newsletters and a downloadable version of our new Welcome brochure (under Lake Info). We will continue to add new information to it. Please let us know if there's something you'd like added. Thank you to Suzanne Moore for all of her diligence in updating and maintaining the website.

## ***4<sup>th</sup> of JULY 2017***



Our 4<sup>th</sup> of July boat parade will be held as usual. Watch for details in the pre 4<sup>th</sup> of July Newsletter. Also, the Canobie Lake Park fireworks are scheduled for July 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup>, and 4<sup>th</sup> at 9:30PM (weather permitting).



**THANK YOU** to Canobie Lake Park for their generous support of our association. Again, this year they have provided complimentary guest passes which will be used for membership. Any passes leftover will be used as prizes for the 4<sup>th</sup> of July parade and other incentives for CLPA members as publicized in later newsletters.

Canobie Lake Park is a beautiful facility with over 85 rides, games, shows, and attractions which include; Extreme Science, Tribute to Bruno, Incredible acrobats of China, Hagerman's Magic, Battle of the Bands, Tribute to Gaga, Extreme Sports, and The King Lives.

For hours of operation and more information about Canobie Lake Park visit;

**[www.Canobie.com](http://www.Canobie.com)  
or call: (603) 893 3506**



**A welcomed sign of summer...The Canobie Park Boat**

## **Canobie Lake Protective Association**

A 501 – (c) 3 non-profit Charitable Trust in the State of N.H.

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