

Please Note

**LAON 2012 Meeting
Saturday, June 30
9:00 AM
Little Red Schoolhouse
Lake Road**

**Lakes Association of Norway
Annual Meeting
June 25, 2011
9:00am
Little Red Schoolhouse**

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 9:05am by Bruce Cook, President.

Minutes: Pat Cook:

A reading of the June 26, 2010 Annual Meeting minutes was dispensed with on a unanimous vote of members present. Minutes can be found on the website:

www.norwaylakes.org

Treasurer's Report: Jeanne Rubly

E-mailed the reports to the Directors for their review prior to this meeting:

Balance Sheet: Revenue: \$16,069.71 – Expenses:\$14,950.25 = Net:\$1119.46

Income Statement: Total assets – liabilities = \$12,276.57.

Jeanne also reported that LWRMA was late in getting us an invoice, which means that 2009 figures were understated by \$1645 and this years are overstated by \$1645. The treasurer's reports will be placed on Lakes Association website: www.norwaylakes.org

LAON on the Web www.norwaylakes.org

Stay up to date: Ed Stone has created a number of links to other related websites.

PayPal: pay your dues either from a PayPal account or through them with your own major credit card, safely.

Invasive Plant Update

Bruce reminded all that while lake testing is expensive, the consequences of not testing would be overwhelming in terms of lake use, appearance and property values. At the Town of Norway's Annual Meeting held this past week, voters supported funding these tests at \$7,500 for this year. This supports about half the expense both surveys.

Dave West asked how often we test for invasive plants, and Bruce said it is annually as is the quality testing. Quality tests occur often from late spring through early fall. The invasive plant testing takes place from mid-August through September when the plants are matured.

Susan Jacobi offered to organize a meeting of interested members who would be willing to become volunteer courtesy boat inspectors. A list was circulated, and a brief meeting was held after the regular meeting. Step 1 is to find a trainer. The suggestion was made that LEA from Bridgton may have someone available. Once a person and date/time are arranged, there is a hope that if an article is placed in the Advertiser, more people will join the effort, be trained and sign up for random inspections.

Lake Water Levels

Bruce commented that the water has fluctuated greatly throughout the spring with winter run-off and much rain. He explained that the system is complex and that balances must take place between lakefront needs and those of the businesses and homes on the stream in town. As Dave West, Past President of LAON, pointed out, it's been problematic since he can remember. Bruce agreed.

Program: 'The Wildland/Urban Interface'; Matt Bennett, Maine Forest Ranger

Matt explained that the need for this program that emphasizes the homeowner's taking steps to improve the chances of the house surviving a forest fire should fire services be unavailable. This could happen if there are wide-spread fires or other disasters locally. Forest Rangers are taught to inspect homes and look at whether the home's susceptibility to catch on fire risk is high, medium or low.

1. They begin by assessing Roof to Eaves, considering building materials (low risk roof → terracotta tiles, metal: high risk roof → old, dried out wood shingles) and other factors like pine needles. Keep roof clean, and repaired.
2. Then the assessment is from Eaves to Foundation: building materials, windows, screens, doors, decks, steps. Where-ever leaves collect near the house, is where embers will collect. Don't store firewood next to the house or under the deck except during the winter.
3. Next is from the Foundation out 30 ft from the house: Evergreens are most flammable. Thin out or at least limb the trees up (taking off the limbs) from the base to 4-5 ft. Replace evergreens with deciduous trees.
4. The final assessment is vegetation 30 ft – 100 ft from the house: thin and limb up.

So would your home survive a fire situation?

There is a brochure available: "Will Your Home Survive 50 things you can do to protect your home from wildfire" This can be found on the website listed below.

The website is: www.maineforestservice.gov Ed Stone will soon link this website to the Lakes Association website.

Summer Events

Rotary/Kiwanis Auction & Flea Market Friday July 8

Norway Summer Festival & Art Show July 7 -9

Mini-Triathlon: July 9

25th Annual Rotary Lobster/Steak Fest Sat. Aug 20

Comments:

1. **Thanks!** Bruce thanked Ed Stone, Webmaster, for all the time an expertise he has put into developing our website: www.norwaylakes.org Bruce recently received a call from a person who wants to live on a Maine lake. He's been looking at a variety of lake association websites, and said that ours is, by far, the best he's seen.

He also thanked Jeanne Rubly for her tireless efforts as Treasurer, and Pat Cook for her minute taking as well as the Newsletter.

Dave West thanked White's Marina for placing the navigation buoys again this year, and asked if the map used for this is still in good condition. Bruce answered yes to this, and Ed said that on the website, White's Marina is thanked. Bruce said that in addition to placing them, we have to report to the State when they are taken out and in and also verify the placement and report it regularly during the summer.

NOTE: Jeanne is planning to leave her position as Treasurer this year. We are actively seeking a replacement for the Treasurer position. Jeanne (207-743-7799) and Bruce (207-890-7920) will be happy to speak with anyone interested or just curious.

2. **Historical Finances:** Jeanne Rubly, on a whim, looked at our member contributions since 2002, when she became the Treasurer. In 2002, amount was \$5,500 and this year it's \$15,000. There was discussion about membership vs. dues increases. We have not consistently tracked membership numbers.
3. **Baby Loon Sitings:** On both Norway Lake and Sand Pond
4. **Recent loss of a member:** Jeanne Silverman said that John Douglas, "Doug" Kimball recently passed away at his cottage on Sand Pond. His obituary indicated that those wishing to contribute in his memory do so to Lakes Association of Norway.
5. **Next Meeting:** The Annual Meeting next year will be: Saturday, June 30, 2012 at 9am, Little Red Schoolhouse.

Meeting Adjourned at 10:10am.

Respectfully submitted,

M. Patricia Cook

M. Patricia Cook, Secretary