

ALTON-BARNSTEAD HALFMOON LAKE ASSOCIATION NEWS LETTER

On August 18, 1985 the second annual meeting of this Association was held, and in the absence of the President, John Marmaras, the meeting was presided over by Vice President John Alliegro.

In addition to the normal business generally conducted, an election of officers was to have been held, but due to the very poor attendance (present were: John Alliegro, Vice President, Elvia Hetu, Secretary, Frank Brewster, Treasurer, and Donald Sheldon) the election or any other meaningful business could not be conducted.

It seems that with each meeting the interest in this organization lessens to the point where even the officers and area representatives stay away. This apathy may be due to the fact that, since the organization was formed many years ago--thanks to the efforts of Jim Parish and a few others--many of the older residents have left and have been replaced by new ones who do not know of this organization or the reason for its existence. Those who do may need a reminder. Therefore, I think it is proper and fitting to present herein, almost in its entirety, a letter Mr. Parish sent out early in the Association's history, which is as follows:

To The New Property Owners on Halfmoon Lake

The "Alton Barnstead Halfmoon Lake Association" welcomes you to the lake. We are the major lake association dedicated to protecting you, the property owner, and improving the conditions of the lake. We are primarily involved with major lake issues that affect your property value, safety, and the peaceful conditions we all came here to enjoy. We differ from the smaller local organizations who are dedicated to social functions, road maintenance, etc. We do supply services such as a member name and address directory with an associated lake map, but our prime interest is your protection.

The association was formed in 1967 when many property owners became disturbed about the prospect of our lake becoming joined by channel with Locke Lake. We formed the association, organized the lake into areas, elected area representatives, researched the situation, informed the owners, surveyed opinions, asked the owners if they would financially support an opposition, got a commitment, collected \$40 per family, got N.H. State permission and built the dam at the location of the proposed lake connector, thus ending the threat.

Since then we have elected to keep a strong organization and a healthy treasury to stand guard over threats to your property, privacy and safety.

We have two business meetings a year, the 2nd Sunday in July and the next to the last Sunday in August, generally at 10 a.m. Not only are you welcome but we want you to attend, learn about the issues around the lake and possibly become an area representative and officer.

Our dues are \$2.00/year. Only once since we collected \$40/family for the dam have we needed more than dues for income. On that occasion, area representatives voted to collect \$40.00 from families who had not previously contributed.

Some of the things the association has done are as follows:

- *Prevented the joining of the two lakes.
- *Opposed the airstrip behind Barnstead cottages.
- *Established a fire fighting map of the lake area for the town fire dept.
- *Provided members a lake directory and reference map.
- *Contributed to fireworks display.
- *Sent out lake news letters and special project bulletins.
- *Coordinated lake activities such as waterski directions.
- *Worked with the state pollution board on pollution control.
- *Acted on issues brought up by area representatives around the lake.

We invite you to join the association to protect your real estate investment and maintain the lake amenities of clean water, safe boating and general enjoyment of the lake. We think you should become active in the association to keep it alive with new thinking, to meet the other people in your area and around the lake and to contribute your talents to keep the association strong.

Jim Parish
President

The next regular meeting of this Association will be held on July 13, 1986 at 10:00 a.m. at Frank Brewster's cottage, next to the Boys' Camp (Camp Mi Te Na).

All officers and the area representatives from the following areas: Varney Shores, Barnstead Shores I, South Shore Drive, Barnstead Shores II, Crescent Drive, and Barnstead Shores V which has lacked representation, are urged to attend. Also invited and welcome is any adult member of any residence on this lake who desires input at this meeting. Think about whom you would like to have as officers in the next administration, nominate and elect them.

You are reminded that the Boat Parade will be held at dusk on Saturday, August 31 with a raindate of Sunday, September 1, and that boat drivers may pick up flares at Frank Brewster's cottage next to the Boys' Camp.

John J. Alliegro
Vice President

TO: Alton-Barnstead Half Moon Lake Association Members

The following new boating rules take effect August 15, 1985, and are reprinted here for your information.

As you may already know, the present Conservation Officer is extremely thorough and is fully enforcing all boating safety rules. This is in our best interest and for our protection, and we are grateful.

NEW BOATING RULES

CONCORD - Children ages 5 and under and young people under 15 are the focus of new boating regulations contained in the recently passed Senate Bill 32. Department of Safety officials from the Division of Safety Services Marine Patrol say the new rules deal with operators of jet skis, power boats, and boat passengers ages 5 and under.

Robert X. Danos, Director of the Division of Safety Services, says all jet ski operators must be at least 15 years of age and wear Coast Guard approved personal floatation devices (PFDs). The jet ski must stay 150 feet away from all other objects on the water such as swimmers, rafts, boats, and other jet skis. Those who violate the law may have their jet ski registration revoked. These requirements became law when Governor John Sununu signed SB 32 on June 14, 1985.

Taking effect on August 15, 60 days after passage, is a requirement for appropriate PFDs to be worn by all children 5 years of age or younger when being transported in any boat. The only exception deals with large vessels such as the MS Mt. Washington where the ship is surrounded by a 3-foot railing. Director Danos says children need special protection on the water.

"Since young children have less skill to respond in a boating emergency, the law specifies that the boat operator is responsible for the child's safety. When a child is wearing the proper PFD for his or her size and weight, the child's head will remain above the water if he or she falls out of a boat," the Director said.

The third boating rule change specifies a new minimum age for operators of power boats. In boats with motors of 25 horsepower or more, the operator must be at least 15 years of age unless accompanied by an adult. The previous minimum age was 13. The new age requirement takes effect on August 15. The new rule seeks to meet recent concerns about the lack of experience by younger boat operators.

The Division of Safety Services Marine Patrol section conducts boat safety classes throughout the state during the year to educate the public about safe boat operation. A representative from Marine Patrol is available to speak with local groups about boating concerns. Anyone wishing to arrange a speaking engagement can call the Division of Safety Services Marine Patrol section at the state boathouse in Glendale at 293-2037.

Following are the Alton-Barnstead Halfmoon Lake Association
Safety Rules

1. Never permit toddlers on or near the water unattended or without life vests or other floatation devices.
2. Never undertake to swim long distances unescorted by someone, preferably in a boat, and especially after having had a few drinks of an alcoholic beverage.
3. Larger and heavier boats should always stay great distances from smaller craft such as canoes, sailboats, etc. They should always travel around the lake in a counter clock-wise direction if pulling skiers or travelling at a fast pace, staying at least 75 feet from any other craft or dock.
4. Never snorkel-swim away from shore without the proper signal devices, nor should anyone ever swim too far from shore in the possible path of moving boats.
5. Every boat, regardless of size, should have the required floatation devices for every person in it.
6. When two boats approach head-on, each must alter course to the right and pass port to port side. When boats cross at right angles, the boat on the right has the right of way.
7. Exercise caution with barbecue fires, especially during dry periods.
8. The speed of vehicles using the dirt roads around the lake should not exceed 15 miles per hour.