



June 2017

Hello HMLA Members,

After a long snowy winter and a rainy spring, summer is finally on its way to Halfmoon Lake. In fact, yesterday was the first time in over a week that we saw the sun shine, but we're looking forward to more of it for the rest of the season. Welcome back to all summer residents and a big applause to any of the year-round residents who survived the winter up here.

Below is important information about our upcoming July and August Association meetings as well as a reminder about dues, and other news items. Please be sure to join us at the July meeting. We not only need your support, but would like to take the opportunity to meet all our lake front neighbors.

2017 JULY MEETING & SOCIAL: This year we are trying a new meeting format. Rather than getting together on a Saturday morning—when we know everyone wants to be out on the lake—we have decided to have a Friday Evening Wine & Beer Social. It's a chance for everyone to mingle with neighbors as well as catch up on the latest news. The first-ever Halfmoon Lake Association Social will be held on **Friday, July 7th from 5:00-7:00 pm** at the home of Cliff and Kate Brown, 23 Halfmoon Bay Drive, Center Barnstead. Halfmoon Bay Drive is off of Dalton Road.

Everyone is welcome!! But to make it a success, we'd like to kindly ask our members to help out with beverages and munchies. If your last name begins with any of the letters A-L please bring a bottle of your favorite wine or beer. If your last name falls in the M-Z category, please bring an appetizer or munchie. We will provide soft drinks, lemonade, and iced tea.

After a meet and greet, we will hold a brief Association Meeting to catch you up on all the news. A copy of the minutes from last August's meeting is attached. Please bring this with you.

Following that, we hope you will stick around and socialize with your fellow lakefront owners. Just so we have a count of how many are able to attend, would you please RSVP to Kate Brown at 978-376-9598 or katebrown@browntech.com . **Also remember to bring your favorite chair!**

AUGUST MEETING: Our second HMLA Association meeting of the 2017 season is *tentatively* scheduled for Saturday, August 26 at Camp Mi-Te-Na, Alton. Last year's 50th Anniversary Celebration was such a success that we decided to continue the tradition of hosting a pot-luck picnic following the meeting. Once again Camp Mi-Te-Na has generously offered to provide the BBQ and open the camp grounds so we can enjoy games, basketball, soccer, kickball, tug-of-war, and the Climbing Tower. This is a phenomenal gift and we are very grateful to the camp for their generosity. **Check the website for more details.**

LOON UPDATE: We are so pleased to report that our pair of loons have returned to the lake. They arrived in late April and spent time in the cove off Rustic Shores circling around the area where the nesting platform was located last year. Thanks to John Wheeler and his grandson, Joey, and Bill Mannion, the platform was quickly put in and the loons took notice. It took a while before they finally decided this was home and started building a new nest. Unlike last year, though, the loons built up surrounding vegetation in such a way as to obstruct a clear line of sight into the nest.

However, Pat Mannion has been keeping a close watch on the nest and eventually observed the female on the nest all day with only brief exceptions. When she did take a break the male took her place on the nest. Most recently, she was able to spot two eggs in the nest when the parents exchanged nesting positions. If the nesting

began sometime about Sunday, June 4th, and since the expected date for a chick is about 28 days, the expected hatching should be the Fourth of July weekend.

There are signs posted around the nest warning boaters to keep a distance so as not to disturb the expectant parents. We ask that you please respect their need for privacy and not motor, kayak, or canoe close to the nest. However, if you want a good view, the nest can be seen from the Rustic Shores beach area. Be sure to bring your binoculars. Loon watching is fast becoming a favorite activity on the lake!

FOURTH OF JULY & FIREWORKS: Everyone loves a fireworks display. It's what makes the 4th so much fun, so we do not want to discourage anyone from putting on a show. However, we would like to ask that you clean up any debris left over on the shore or in the water following your display. We also ask that you respect your neighbors by stopping any fireworks by 10:00. Your cooperation will be much appreciated!

ON A SAD NOTE: We recently learned of the passing of Martha Parish, a long-time summer resident of Halfmoon Lake. Martha and her husband owned a cottage on New Castle extension and were part of the founders of the Lake Association. Their son, David, now owns the cottage. We don't yet have any details on funeral plans, but would ask that you keep her family in your thoughts and prayers.

DUES ARE DUE: As you are aware, every year we ask each lake front household to contribute dues that are used to keep our lake clean, free of invasive species and safe for all users. The fee is nominal—only \$15—and if everyone contributes, we will have enough in our reserve for milfoil activity and other lake endeavors. **Please assist us by paying your dues.** You may do so at the July meeting or mail them using the form below.

HMLA OFFICERS / CONTACT INFORMATION:

Bill Mannion, President	603-776-2362	wpmatlake@aim.com
John Wheeler, Vice President	603-581-6779	goatroper144@yahoo.com
Linda Bramante, Treasurer	603-776-0486	lbramante118@gmail.com
Kate Brown, Secretary	978-376-9598	katebrown@browntech.com

Sincerely,
Your Halfmoon Lake Association Board

Halfmoon Lake Association Dues Form for 2017

Name: _____

Address: _____

City/Town: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Email Address: _____

Please include your email address to help defray the cost of postage for meeting notices and to assure you receive emergency email notices (i.e. water conditions, etc.) during the year. Thank You!

MAIL THIS FORM WITH YOUR CHECK TO:

Linda Bramante, Treasurer
118 North Barnstead Road
Barnstead, NH 03225

Make checks payable to the "Halfmoon Lake Association".