

ALTON-BARNSTEAD HALF MOON LAKE ASSOCIATION      SECRETARY'S REPORT  
JULY 7, 1996

The July 7, 1996 meeting of the Alton-Barnstead Half Moon Lake Association, held at Larry Holt's cottage at Rustic Shores, was called to order at 11:10 a.m. by President Carl Johnson. There were nineteen members' names on the sign-in sheet but more were present.

The President introduced the newly-elected officers and explained the rules of procedure for the conduct of the meeting.

The Secretary's Minutes of the August 20, 1995 meeting were read and were accepted by a voice vote on a motion by William Duggan, seconded by Gordon Headley.

The Treasurer's Report, stating a balance of \$2,943.37 in the Putnam Fund and \$575.00 in the newly-opened checking account with Fleet Bank, was accepted by voice vote on a motion by Ann Ellen Valle, seconded by William Duggan.

Treasurer Gordon Headley referred to articles concerning the defeat of a bill to ban three and four-passenger jet skis and the Environmental Protection Agency in Lakeside, the publication of the New Hampshire Lakes Association, and stated that he had copies of the newsletter for members to look at. Mr. Headley announced that he would be attending the third annual New Hampshire Lakes Conference in Meredith on August 10.

President Carl Johnson reminded members of the importance of bringing our mailing list up to date, especially obtaining the names of new cottage owners and the addresses of those who were affected by the new 911 service.

Mr. Johnson described the water testing done by members of our Association George Fitzpatrick, Larry Holt, Albert Evans, and William Duggan three times a year and the good quality of our lake water which the tests have shown. He suggested conducting the tests only twice a year and called on Larry Holt to explain. Mr. Holt stated that since we have had almost the same favorable results with each testing over the past five years and each test costs from \$100.00 to \$160.00 tests made in late June and early September would be sufficient.

Larry Holt made a motion, seconded by Ann Ellen Valle, that the Association conduct water tests twice a year. Kevin Drum suggested amending the motion to say "conduct water tests at least twice a year" so that if just two were found to be insufficient in time to come it would not require a meeting vote to increase the number of tests.

Mr. Holt's motion, as amended, was passed by a voice vote.

Vice President Kevin Drum stated that he had gone with the Marine

Patrol Officer Brad <sup>SMITH</sup>Bishop when he put out the markers on Half Moon Lake this year and that Mr. <sup>SMITH</sup>Bishop had stated that he would be willing to attend our meeting in August to discuss water safety. President Carl Johnson gave out the Marine Patrol telephone number 1-800-848-4415 so that members would have it.

Michael LePage distributed a copy of an article from the Boston Globe on the high content of mercury found in New Hampshire fresh water fish and naming Half Moon Lake in Alton as having one of the highest levels in the State. Gordon Headley stated that older large mouth bass accumulate a large amount of mercury, but that white perch and trout have low mercury levels.

Michael Lepage asked about speeding on roads around Half Moon Lake and he was referred to his local area association where road care and speed limits are handled.

Jeffery Byer asked if there was further information on a possible ban of water skiing in the cove which the previous Marine Patrol Officer had considered. He was assured that skiing in the cove was permitted as the cove had been measured as 1,000 feet wide and Kevin Drum stated that he had mentioned this to Officer Brad Bishop who had said skiing in the cove was fine if boats kept a safe distance and courtesy was shown.

Mr. Byer asked about milfoil in the lake as it had been reported in Suncook Lake. Larry Holt stated that milfoil had not shown up in any of the water testing done to date in Half Moon Lake.

David Parish stated that there were no NO PARKING signs at the ramp rear Herndon's cottage and William Duggan reported many small fishing boats launching from the sandy beach near Route 28 and recommended more water testing in that area.

President Carl Johnson announced that the Boat Parade this year would be held on Saturday evening, August 31, with a raindate of Sunday, September 1.

He suggested the date of Sunday, August 25, for the next meeting of the Association which is to be held at Camp Mi Te Na. The Camp representative present stated that the Camp would be closing the week before and that August 18 might be more convenient, but that he would check and get back to Mr. Johnson as to whether August 25 would be possible.

Mr. Johnson asked each local area association to prepare a list of its members from which a map of the lake could be made showing where each cottage owner was located.

Wayne Killam asked about the ban on jet skis as to holidays

and Larry Holt explained that the ban was from sunset on Friday to sunrise on Monday. It was noted that there is no restriction at present on the ski boats which hold three and four people, but that they should follow the rules for boats.

Questions were asked about the ramp and the dam near Herndon's cottage and William Duggan stated that the dam looked good and the ramp was in fine shape.

Karin O'Halloran stated that when the water in the lake was low she had what seemed like stagnant water in front of her cottage which was formerly the Essex cottage. William Duggan explained that this happens in shallow places around the lake, that it was a fact of nature, and, as he knew from personal experience, just required more raking and care than other areas.

Larry Holt described at length the water testing procedure during which every community swimming area was carefully tested.

On a motion by Carl Johnson, seconded by Gordon Headley, the members voted to adjourn at 11:45 a.m.

Respectively submitted,

Elvia Hetu, Secretary