

Quaboag Quacumquasit Lake Association, Inc. May 2015



**IT WAS A VERY
LONG WINTER!**

**WELCOME
SPRING!**



**P.O. BOX 370
EAST BROOKFIELD, MA 01515**

WWW.QQLA.ORG

Quaboag Quacumquasit Lake Association, Inc.

Officers

President - Don Taft
Vice President - Bill Seabourne
Treasurer- Pat Seabourne
Corresponding Secretary- Vacant Position
Recording Secretary- Judy Nielsen

Board of Directors

Brookfield

Edward Jaeger
Mary Lou Knight
Annette Lazili
Peter Levine
Beverly Lund
Ann Mathieu
Don Taft

East Brookfield

Sue Sardi
Pat Seabourne
Bill Seabourne
Carrol Yorzyk

Sturbridge

Judy Nielson
Skip Nielson
Margaret Noyes
Howard Ser
Marita Tasse

2015 Calendar

MAY 2 LAKE CLEAN UP DAY
MAY 23 MEMORIAL DAY WEEKEND
ILLUMINATION NIGHT
MAY 23 PICNIC ON SOUTH POND BEACH
JUNE/JULY/AUGUST SATURDAY NIGHT
RAFT UPS
JULY 4 BOAT PARADE
AUGUST 16 ANNUAL MEETING AND BREAKFAST
SEPTEMBER 5 LABOR DAY WEEKEND
ILLUMINATION NIGHT
SEPTEMBER CANOE KAYAK POKER RUN—
DATE TO BE DETERMINED

Board of Directors Meetings



Board meetings are open to all QQLA members and we encourage you to attend. Please check with any Board member to verify the date, time and location of the next Board meeting.

Anyone interested in serving on the QQLA Board of Directors or on a committee please contact Don Taft or any Board Member.



Contact Us

Membership / Fundraising

Email: seapat@yahoo.com

Environmental Concerns

Email: dtaft9492@verizon.net

Newsletter

Email: dtaft9492@verizon.net

Bill or Pat Seabourne

Tel: 508-867-9074

Don Taft

Tel: 508-637-1458

Mary Lou Knight

Tel: 508-637-1458



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A Note from the President

Congratulations are in order to all of you hearty New Englanders for surviving the winter of 2014/2015. We had lots of snow and ice; but, on Monday 4/13/15 all of the ice was gone from the ponds. As soon as that happened the weather magically got warmer! Spring is here, crocuses and daffodils are up and soon we can welcome all of our summer friends back to the lakes. I am looking forward to Saturday night raft ups, swimming, and fishing.

Lakes Management Plan

The QQLA Board of Directors has received the ESS proposal for 2015 lake management. At our April meeting we approved the plan and will have lake mapping performed early this spring followed by weed treatments as may be necessary.

Spencer Waste Water Treatment Plant

Members of QQLA (poop group) had scheduled a meeting with EPA and MA DEP in January to do a site walk at the SWWTP and, as luck would have it, that was the start of the record snow falls of the winter. Consequently, our meeting never did happen and we are now working on a date for a new meeting. This will give us a chance to meet face to face with the two agencies and further explain our issues and concerns.

New "Y" Camp Director

Camp Frank A. Day has a new camp director and we look forward to meeting with him on May 3rd and welcoming him to the neighborhood.

QQLA BOD

It is with regret that we have accepted the resignation of Bryan Plumb from the QQLA BOD. I personally want to thank Bryan for all of his help supporting QQLA efforts. Our best wishes to Bryan and Carol and we hope to see them around the water. If any of you are interested in joining us on the BOD or would like to serve on any committees please contact Don Taft.

Helpful Hint from the President

If you are going fishing and need night crawlers, but can't wait for nightfall, mix a small amount of dry mustard with water (stir well). Go out into the yard and find the night crawler holes, brush away the crown and pour a few drops down the hole. Get ready to catch them because they will come out of the hole very quickly!



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Obituaries

Chris Jordan let us know that **Philip Jordan** of Copiague, NY passed away on December 10, 2014 after a long illness. Mr. Jordan, who was born on March 6, 1936, came to Lane 8 on South Pond in 1985 with his family. He loved to fish and boat and most of all enjoyed teaching his grandchildren to water ski. Philip Jordan is survived by his wife Ginger, son Chris and 9 grandchildren. Philip Jordan was memorialized in December with a mass and a U.S.M.C. color guard.

Longtime Lane 8 resident **Tom Marshall** of Grinnell, Iowa died on March 24, 2015. He was 81 years old. Son David Marshall posted that his dad always enjoyed his time at the lake appreciating the good friends and natural beauty that South Pond offered to him.

Free Safe Boating Course—Offered by SLAC

The Sturbridge Lakes Advisory Committee (SLAC) is offering a free safe boating course on Saturday May 30 at the Southbridge Savings Bank Community Room on Route 20 (200 Charlton Road) in Sturbridge.

The one day course starts promptly at 8:00 AM and runs until 4:30 PM. Participants should bring lunch...snacks and drinks will be provided.

Advance registration is required for this course. You may register on-line at **www.Mass.gov** (search for safe boating course—Sturbridge).

Invasive Non-native Aquatic Species in Massachusetts

Zebra Mussels and Asian Clams are two invasive species of bivalves. Both out compete native bivalves for space, food and other resources. The Zebra Mussels sharp shell can create a hazard for swimmers and beach visitors.

Spiny Water Fleas are small planktivorous crustaceans. Large numbers of these organisms form cotton-like mats that may foul fishing gear and boat motors.

Once an exotic species is established, it is almost impossible to eradicate and very expensive to control. The best way to protect a waterbody is through prevention, education, early detection and rapid response. You can help by learning to identify exotic species and reporting any new infestations to the Department of Conservation & Recreation and by removing any plants or animals from your boat, trailer and gear before leaving or entering a waterbody. For more information go to **www.mass.gov/lakesand ponds**.

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Summer Musings by Grace Ilchik

I met Lee Hawkins in 1953 and it was around 1959 that Lee asked me how we would like to spend a month on a lake in a 100 year old house in Massachusetts. The rent would be \$35 for the month which fit into our budget, so needless to say, my family and I jumped at the chance.

All we had was a Roger Hawkins hand-drawn diagram, when on a hot August night these "big time" New York City folks arrived late at night, in the woods, in the dark, no moon and no one near. The instructions were "park the car up above, walk down a rather steep hill and you will find the key hanging on a hook above the door." There we were with a five year old, groping our way through the pitch dark, walking into a rustic, warm living room with a big, beautiful stone fireplace. It was late, so we went right to bed not knowing what to expect when we woke up!

Dawn arrived and we jumped out of bed. Now – Oh Wow!- we took a few steps and there we were on a huge, huge porch looking out on a huge, huge body of water. What a shocking change from the busy streets of Manhattan! We were surrounded by tall, massive pine trees. Through the trees we could see three modest cottages; one on either side of us and one up on the hill above. We just stood on the porch taking it all in.

By the end of the day, a young couple knocked on the door. Diane and Frank Sweryda had come from the house up on the hill to welcome us! She was the daughter of Bill and Lousie Bartels from Springfield who recently built their cottage up above. After a while of playing geography, "Where are you from; where have you been?" we discovered that both men were born in small neighboring towns in Pennsylvania, where Frank Sweryda's father, an electrician, had electrified Frank Ilchik's parent's home in 1926! Bill and Louise Bartels are long gone but Diane and Frank have remained good friends! We soon met Mr. and Mrs. Mickle who live in the small modest cottage on one side of the Hawkins and then met Charlie and Lucia Vizard who were part of the Vizard Compound on the other side.

Our days were spent on the beach, sometimes on the rowboat going across the lake, but most often on the porch where at dusk we watched the campers from Camp Frank A. Day come in their canoes to the end of the lake where there were few houses and even fewer boats! The Hawkins' "camp" was ours for one month every year for sixteen years. Every summer brought new wonderful experiences. With Roger Hawkins' early experience in China and with many of our foreign friends, the Hawkins' summer place became a little United Nations. Friends, family and acquaintances from the world over came for some rest and relaxation. Then one day in 1975, Roger called to say a Vizard cottage was for sale. Would we be interested? After some deliberation and the opportunity to "scare up" the money, the Vizard Compound sign came down and we "took over" one of the four cottages on the Vizard Compound.

The three modest cottages we first saw that first summer are now elegant all-year-round homes. After 40 years the Hawkins family is no longer there, but their house still stands beautifully "rearranged" by the Goodwin family. We no longer feel like interlopers. We have found a new, warm wonderful family – the Zuidemas, Marita Tasse and the Vizards! How lucky can one get?

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Cheese Puffs from Carrol Yorzyk

1 small French baguette
3/4 cup Cains mayonnaise
1-2 tbsp. finely grated onion
8 oz. grated Monterey Jack or extra sharp cheddar
2 tbsp. dry Hidden Valley dressing



Mix all ingredients together well. Slice baguette into 1/2" slices and place on rimmed cookie sheet. Toast in the oven until very light brown. Cool. Place well rounded scoop of mixture on each baguette slice. Bake at 375-400 degrees about 10 minutes or until bubbling. Let cool slightly before serving.

Around the Ponds

20 Foot Aqua Patio Pontoon Boat For Sale

New Marine plywood decking covered by outdoor carpeting. Much of the furniture and benches was new last year. 1984 Evinrude 60 hp motor still works well. Boat Needs new canvas. Very good trailer included. May be seen by appointment only at Lane 7. Contact Bill or Carrol Yorzyk at (508) 347-2787.

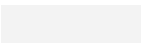
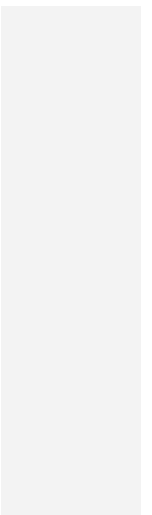
QQLA SPONSORS/FRIENDS

QQLA is reaching out to area businesses and services to see if they are interested in becoming a QQLA "Friend and sponsor". A "Friend and Sponsor" business would have a business card advertisement in the three (3) QQLA newsletters - that are sent out to 250 families around both North and South Ponds. Additionally your business card will appear on our **WWW.QQLA.ORG** website "Friends and Sponsors" page with a direct link to your business. The cost for becoming a "Friend and Sponsor" is fifty dollars (\$50.00) for one year.

Should you want to participate or if you have any questions please feel free to contact Don Taft, QQLA President at dtaft9492@verizon.net or 508-637-1458.

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QQLA Friends and Sponsors



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ANNUAL LAKE CLEAN-UP DAY MAY 2ND!!!!!!

Come out and help us clean up around the ponds at 9:00 AM on Saturday May 2nd!

QQLA will supply latex gloves and trash bags. There will be someone at each boat ramp with supplies. Please contact Don Taft (508-637-1458 or dtaft9492@verizon) to volunteer or to pick up supplies in advance.



Trucks will be available to take filled trash bags to the Brookfield landfill.

Many hands will make quick work of the trash that has accumulated over the winter.

Quaboag Quacumquasit
Lake Association, Inc.
PO Box 370
East Brookfield, MA 01515