



P.O. Box 143 Piermont, NH 03779 • www.lakearmington.org

LAKE ARMINGTON ASSOCIATION FALL NEWSLETTER 2019

Fall Foliage

What a spectacular display of fall foliage in the White Mountains this fall! Here's a view of Piermont Mountain from mid-October.



But I'm told winter weather followed quickly! Ice covered the lake by November 21.



Summer 2019

2019 was a busy summer for the Lake Association. I think we have come up with a popular format for our get-togethers: Our annual picnic early in July and Drinks at the Lake in late August, or early September.

Our thanks to Rose Marie Faustini and her family for graciously hosting the **July 6th picnic** (how glad we were that the rain held off!). We enjoyed our speaker from the Loon Preservation Committee (thanks to Lynn DeMerchant for planning this) and we learned a lot about our favorite birds!

And again this year we all enjoyed following the growth of our loon chick, born in late June. The DeMerchants report that the **loons** departed the lake by early November, before the lake had iced over.



September 7 Event

Many thanks also to Wendy and Bill Cahill for hosting **Drinks at the Lake** on September 7th. This was a fun evening, with a short business meeting. Again the rain held off till later in the evening, as Bob and I were paddling home.

LAA Caps for Sale!

At the September event we launched our **“Caps for Sale,”** organized by Lynn DeMerchant and her committee. As of this writing we only have 9 caps remaining. Great quality, \$20.00!

Email Lynn at waterwoman02@yahoo.com. She is happy to ship hats to you for your last minute holiday shopping!



Weed Watchers

Thanks go to Linda Kline for organizing a new **Weed Watcher** Training with a NH State biologist in July. We thank all our weed watchers for their dedication to lake inspections.

No suspicious weeds were found this summer. These trainings are great for learning more about the lake and I would encourage anyone interested to speak to Linda.

Info Kiosk and Memorial Plaque

This summer Lynn DeMerchant updated our information **kiosk** at the public landing and she did a great job! And thanks go to Tom Cochrane for constructing a display case and installing the **memorial plaque for Kelly Fitzpatrick**.



Water Quality Testing

Mike Poole sent me a summary of the August **Water Quality Tests**. E. coli tests were good, and transparency was slightly better than last year. The full report will be sent to us in the spring.

Dam Update

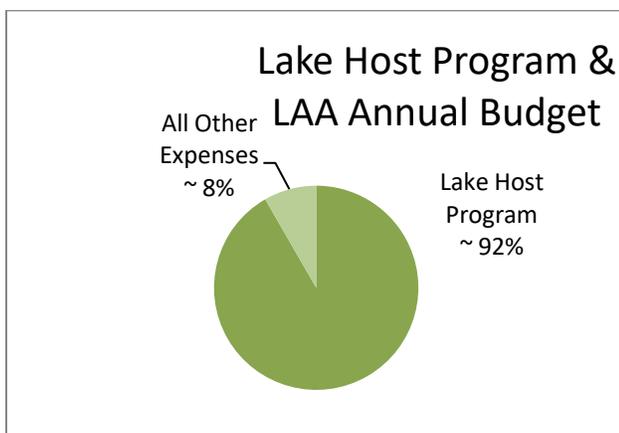
The final stages of the **dam replacement** were completed this summer, including landscaping and the installation of a gate. All without disturbing the loon nest! Kudos to the NH DES Dam Bureau for a job well done.

Lake Host

NH Lakes compiles comprehensive reports on the work of the **Lake Hosts**. Lake Hosts conducted 92,500 courtesy boat inspections statewide which led to 14 'saves' of aquatic plants/animals. I conclude from these numbers that the education piece of this work is very effective.

At Lake Armington, our Lake Hosts, paid and volunteer, worked 625 hours and conducted over 500 inspections. 88% were on non-motorized boats and 12% on motorized boats. If you would like more detailed information about these statistics, please contact me (Lynn Dennison) at radennison@aol.com or Lynn DeMerchant at waterwoman02@yahoo.com.

Our thanks go to Lynn DeMerchant and Laurie Gramlich for their many hours of work coordinating this important program.



Erosion Repair on Public Access Road

In August we discovered that the **Public Access Road** was eroding into the lake. After discussions with State DES and Town of Piermont officials, Frank Rodimon, the Piermont Road Agent, completed road repairs by Columbus Day to reestablish the roadway and prevent further erosion.

We thank Carlos Manrique and Bob Dennison who led LAA's efforts to get this work done. We also thank Wendy Cahill who recalled when and how the last road repairs came about and Polly Tafrate for finding correspondence with the State and Town in our archives about the past work.

We will continue to monitor the road with the Town.



Erosion repair at the Public Access Road this Fall

White Mountain National Forest: Lake Tarleton Land Use Plan

Approximately 20 years ago, the National Forest Service acquired a large area of land surrounding the lakes in our area. (Many people active in the LAA at the time were very involved in this process.)

This year the Forest Service is beginning to develop a land use plan for the Lake Tarleton area, focusing on 3 major elements: recreation, forest management, and access control. The first step is to write an Environmental Assessment which will build on an Environmental Impact Statement which was written in 2006 (available online). A public meeting was held on November 21, 2019, in Warren, to start the public dialogue. LAA was well represented at this meeting. The Forest Service explained the process for developing the land use plan, and there were staff present to answer questions.



View of the lakes from Piermont Mountain

The material from this meeting and background reports are available online at www.fs.usda.gov/projects/whitemountain

There will be additional meetings providing opportunities for public input throughout the project. The next one will be a public scoping meeting planned for early 2020.

At the scoping Meeting, the Forest Service will gather input from the public to determine the scope of the study. Comments can be made at any time. The project manager is Scott Hall, whose email is: scott.hall@usda.gov.

You can request to be added to their mailing list by sending Scott your email address.

LAA will notify the membership of meetings dates as we learn them.

In Memoriam

We were all saddened in July by the death of long time lake matriarch, Ruth Wellington. Her humor, optimism, and generosity will be missed by everyone. Her funeral service in Haverhill was truly a reflection of her love of life.

Board Members and Project Leaders

2020 LAA Board of Directors

President: Lynn Dennison
Vice-President: Shirley Nicol
Treasurer: Kate Merritt
Recording Secretary: Sam Rounds
Corresponding Secretary: Arline Cochrane
Past President: Polly Tafra
Lynn DeMerchant
Carlos Manrique
Bill Musty
Ken Settel
Ann Soloway
Alice Wellington



October sky over Piermont Mountain

LAA Project Leaders

Lake Host Point Person: Lynn DeMerchant
Lake Host Manager: Laurie Gramlich
Weed Watchers: Linda Kline
Water Quality: Mike Poole
Forest Service Plan: Lynn and Bob Dennison
Ice-Out Contest: Carlos Manrique, Richard and Lynn DeMerchant, Todd Langley
Communications: Alice Wellington

Our thanks to all who volunteer!

And Finally

I encourage all of you to check the website (lakearmington.org) now and then for updates, and to **Donate to LAA** on the dues/donate page or by mailing a check to Lake Armington Association at PO Box 143 Piermont, NH 03779.

Our programs, especially Lake Host, rely upon your ongoing generosity.

We wish you all Happy Holidays and a healthy winter season. In February, watch for the **2020 LAA Ice-Out Contest**.

We will report any lake news as it develops.

Lynn Dennison,
LAA President