



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

FALL NEWSLETTER

November 18, 2021

Lake Host Program 2021

- Lynn Dennison

NH Lakes recently sent us the summary of the 2021 Lake Host season. We are posting the full report on the lake association website for those who want to 'get into the weeds' of the detailed report.

The highlights for Lake Armington include:

Our lake hosts worked 431 hours, on weekends and holidays, and did 297 inspections. 88% of these were inspections of non-motorized boats. There were zero identifications of invasive species at our public landing.

Our share of the cost of the program was \$5,224, and we received a \$1700 grant from NH Lakes. We will qualify for a grant in 2022 and we will have a carryover from this year to help offset the expense. Statewide there were fewer inspections this summer, most likely due to the rainier weather and the changes brought about by it being the second summer of Covid precautions.

We thank Lynn DeMerchant for managing this important program, with payroll and record keeping help from Laurie Gramlich. In 2022 Kathy Soloway will join this program to help Lynn with checking in with the Lake Hosts at the public landing.

Both the Lake Host and Weed Watchers are effective programs protecting our lake from invasive species. We are grateful to all who contribute to these efforts.

WMNF Project Update

- Lynn and Bob Dennison

Representatives from the White Mountain National Forest (WMNF) Project met with a few local people at Kingswood Camp on November 3 to review the scope of the project with a focus on changes to the view-shed from Lake Tarleton. Here is a link to the presentation they used for this meeting:

https://www.fs.usda.gov/nfs/11558/www/nepa/111828_FSPLT3_5684899.pdf



It remains true that the impact of this project on Lake Armington will be minimal. The final version of the Environmental Impact Statement (see www.lakearmington.org for a link to the draft version) will be released this winter, followed by a limited comment period.

While there are a few people concerned about the scope of the project and its potential impact on

wildlife and views, our recommendation at this time is to continue to stay informed and monitor the progress of this project.

Drinks on the Lake, September 2021

- Polly Tafrate

Drinks on the Lake, in conjunction with the final business meeting, is becoming an annual tradition. Beth Wellington graciously hosted this year's gathering. About forty members gathered at her home on the afternoon of September 11, 2021, to enjoy beverages and delicious snacks. As in the past few years, the weather was early-fall perfect.



Long-time summer residents Carlos and Barbara Manrique will not be returning to their beloved lake camp for health reasons. Carlos was an incredibly active and enthusiastic member of our association. Since we couldn't say goodbye to them in person, we did the next best thing. Members who knew them were asked to write cards with a few memories.



Alice Wellington took a stellar photograph of their camp to send to them as a lasting memory. This framed photo and the cards were sent to Carlos and Barbara at their Florida home. They were overwhelmed with gratitude and hung the picture in their living room. Our thanks go to everyone who helped to make this happen.



Photo of Carlos and Barbara Manrique's Lake Camp

LAA Board - Being President of the Lake Armington Association isn't a huge job, but it is a responsibility and one that no one was ready to assume. Three former presidents, Lynn Dennison, Alice Wellington, and Polly Tafrate, agreed to share this role, thus eliminating the position of Vice President.

Kate Merritt will continue as Treasurer, as will Sam Rounds as Recording Secretary, and Arline Cochrane as Corresponding Secretary. Current board members are Lynn DeMerchant, Carolyn Dorfman, James Jensen, Lisa McGiffert, Bill Musty, Ken Settel, and Kathy Soloway. Mike Poole and Tim Donelon will continue as our Water Quality testers, Linda Kline will coordinate the Weed Watchers, and program. Heartfelt thanks go to all these willing volunteers.

New LAA Directory Booklet for 2022

- Alice Wellington

A thoroughly updated LAA Directory booklet is in the works, available in early July 2022 and distributed at LAA summer events. Its publication coincides with LAA's 50th anniversary. A team of Neighborhood Captains has been in touch with lake residents, and we're now compiling the updates.

Last minute updates should go to Arline Cochrane (arline.cochrane@gmail.com) and Alice Wellington (alice@nutmeadow.com) by May 1.

Weed Watchers Update

- Linda Kline

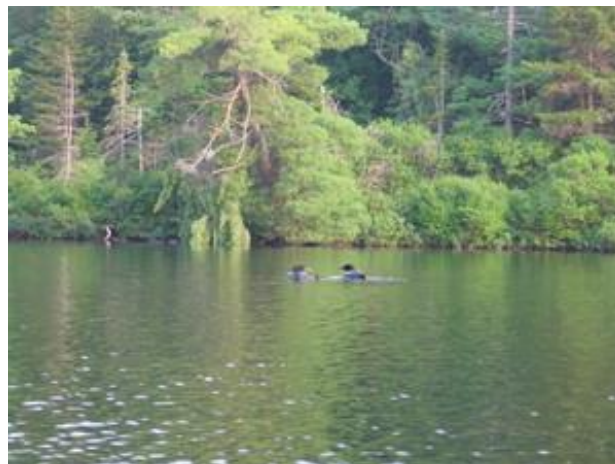
Thanks again to all of the Weed Watchers (Wendy Cahill, Lynn DeMerchant, Lynn Dennison, Tim Donelon, James Jensen, Lisa McGiffert, Kathy Soloway and Ken Settel) for their attentive monitoring of our beautiful Lake! Happy to report that we still have no sign of any of the unwanted invasive species that are present in some of the nearby lakes. A number of lake residents raised concerns about what seemed to be more prolific weed growth this year, and I reached out to our contact at NH Department of Environmental Services for advice. Following are her comments:



"I think what we are seeing is the result of the 2020 drought, which resulted in lower water levels, more sun extending down to deeper areas of the lake, and warmer water. All of these are great conditions for plant growth. Couple that with the early ice out in 2021, and we've had a stretch of good conditions to allow our plants to expand. And, yes, unfortunately climate change will keep our lakes open and warmer longer than before, so plants will continue to expand, get thicker, and have more species in them (native or otherwise).

All that said, lake aging is a natural process, and it does include plant growth expansion, so it is natural anyway, but exacerbated by the climate."

We'll continue efforts next year and please let me know if you have questions or concerns about the weeds! Happy Holidays to all!



Loon Family

Carlos Manrique

Taking Stock of a Pandemic Summer at Camp Walt Whitman

- Carolyn Dorfman, CWW Director

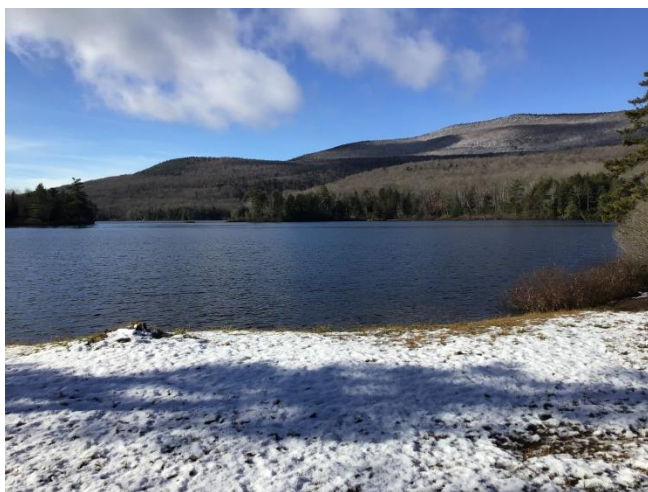
It's been three months since our campers left camp and it was a summer that was more meaningful than any summer we have ever experienced. Our campers arrived at Camp Walt Whitman after over a year of isolation and more time than normal sitting at home. The change was swift—and took some getting used to. Their emotional and social stamina was down, their dealing with challenges and adversity' stamina was down. Kids spent far less time around their peers and friends during the pandemic, and camp was an abrupt shift.

The start of camp was an adjustment for all our campers. It was fascinating to watch all of that shift over the first couple of weeks. Camper stamina returned to normal, and then exceeded normal and went to 'camp normal,' which is being comfortable in this communal living and doing all these activities and having all the energy for it — and really getting used to this home-away-from-home.

While we are all anxious to close this pandemic chapter of our lives, this summer was one for the books. What initially felt like a shock to the system — being around so many people, with so much to do after doing so little — quickly transformed into a rare experience: a blissful bubble free from Covid

and filled with the kind of fun and friendships that can only be found at camp.

We felt lucky to be part of this summer and are so proud of our campers and staff for all the changes they experienced, for being open to camp and to believing in something bigger than themselves and for knowing that Covid COULD NOT take camp away from them again.



November 2021 first snow Lynn Dennison

Lake Armington Hats for Sale

Lynn DeMerchant is managing the sales of these great hats (\$20) with Lake Armington logo. Proceeds help fund our programs. *They make great gifts.* Contact Lynn at waterwoman02@yahoo.com.



Lake Armington Hat Logo

LAA Financial Update

- Kate Merritt

As of November 15, 2021:

	Actual	Budget
Dues	\$1,380.00	\$1,800.00
Donations	\$5,455.00	\$6,000.00
Total Income, including hat sales	\$7,243.00	\$8,000.00
Lake Host Expenses	\$5,874.58	\$5,874.58
Other Expenses	\$1,446.80	\$1,079.26
Total Expenses	\$7,321.38	\$6,953.84
Net income	-\$78.38	\$1,046.16

A couple of things to notice – first, our Lake Host expenses are 80% of our total expense, which means that, as we should, we are spending the bulk of our funds on activities which directly protect the health of our lake. Second, because we are under budget in terms of both Dues and Donations, and we have some extra expenses, we are showing negative Net Income for the year so far.

So now is the time, if you haven't already done so, to send in your dues and donations so we can close out the year in the black!

We are keeping Dues at the same level again this year, \$20 for an individual, \$40 for a couple/family. Additional Donations are greatly appreciated. All contributions are tax deductible, see www.lakearmington.org.

Please send your checks made out to the Lake Armington Association to:
 Lake Armington Association
 PO Box 143
 Piermont, NH 03779.

Wishing you all the best this Holiday Season,
 Lynn Dennison
 Polly Tefrate
 Alice Wellington
 LAA Co-Presidents