

ALAMOOSOOK LAKE ASSOCIATION

WINTER, 2024



What's inside

Good news about a nasty plant



AMAZING NEWS FOR THE NEW YEAR!

DEP will remove Alamoosook from the list of invasive plant infested waters. It may take a bit before we see the change on the website map – but it will happen.



The Alamoosook All Clear Team (AACT) led by Katie Greenman has worked diligently to identify plants, work with state officials and to educate the general population. Their efforts are greatly appreciated!

If you are concerned about the threat of invasive plants in our lake, there is something you can do. Start by taking the following steps:

- Educate yourself.
- Educate others. Tell your friends and neighbors about the threat, especially if they are a boater who might inadvertently spread the plants.
- Volunteer with a Courtesy Boat Inspector program. The CBI committee needs your help! **Please contact Ellie Castilla at ellie.simone.davis@gmail.com**
- Always remove all plants from your boat, trailer, fishing gear and anchor when going in and out of a body of water.

A message from your president



Meet your board members

Around the lake

**2024 MAINE SUSTAINABILITY
& WATER CONFERENCE**



A message from Tad Van Leer, ALA President

I would like to start this note by wishing all of the Alamoosook extended community a happy, healthy, and prosperous new year. I hope that 2024 will bring us together to enjoy the lake and fellowship. I would also like to note that the board had a resignation- Lynn Ames whom we will miss and thank her for all her work. In her place, the board has nominated Gina Bushong, for your final approval. In my mind, Gina has done more to help move this program along and is a great addition.

During our membership meeting in August, we discussed the potential ownership changes with the Alamoosook and Toddy Pond Dams. The purpose of this email is to update you on the most recent news. Just over a week ago, AIM's representative contacted the Toddy Pond Association (TPA) and stated that AIM was now interested in finding new ownership for the dams. They were interested in assessing the lake associations interest in the properties.

The Board has already been developing long-term options for the ownership/management of the dams, however, given this news, we are now focused on identifying options for the near term to maintain our pristine lakes. To date, the board has undertaken the following actions:

1. Establishing a Coalition of the local towns, lake associations, trusts, and other stakeholders to prepare for the future. The ALA is now actively working with TPA and the Town of Orland as well as others to find solution. We have made it clear that ALA would not be future dam owners.
2. Working with our partners, we are exploring multiple options for future ownership that will lead to not only the preservation of the dams but significant improvement to the fishways and the broader environment. We are in the beginning stages and as more information is gained, we will keep you well-informed and provide lots of opportunities for broader membership input and involvement. Stay tuned for more shortly.

We are pleased to announce that Ellie Castilla has volunteered to head up the CBI (Courtesy Boat Inspections) Program this summer. As you are aware, this is of vital importance to keep our lake pristine. THE CBI PROGRAM NEEDS VOLUNTEERS please reply to ellie.simone.davis@gmail.com

With all that is happening, the board plans to invite the members to a Zoom membership in the near future. The meeting is to explain where we are organizationally, and the different directions examined to move forward. The remaining meeting will be open for questions, comments, and hopefully understanding.

Now more than ever, having a voice through the ability to vote on important matters is crucial. Please consider being an active member of the ALA. The dues are \$20/year. This fee allows you to vote and supports the efforts of the organization that requires that fees be paid. Please visit the ALA website <https://alamoosooklakeassociation.org/> to pay via PayPal, or send a check to:

ALA
PO Box 464
Orlando, ME 04472

Additionally, please send your contact information including name, address, phone number and email address to Lisa at alamoosooklake@gmail.com so that we can keep you informed.

This is our legacy!

Thank you,

Tad Van Leer for the board

Chip Stubbs Lisa Deweese MJ Cullinin Charlie Dodge Matt Ball Peg Stumpfels Gina Bushong

WHO ARE YOUR BOARD MEMBERS?

RECENTLY, I ASKED YOUR BOARD MEMBERS SOME QUESTIONS SO THAT YOU CAN LEARN MORE ABOUT THEM. HERE WERE THEIR RESPONSES!

CHARLIE DODGE

WHERE ARE YOU NOW? IN MICHIGAN VISIT MY MOTHER, JAY DODGE. A LONG TIME SUMMER RESIDENT AT THE LAKE

WHAT KEEPS YOU BUSY IN THE WINTER MONTHS? WORKING. AND BIKE RIDING IN THE SUNNY STATE OF FLORIDA.

WHAT DO YOU MISS MOST ABOUT SUMMER AT ALAMOOSOOK? FISHING

IF HERE, WHAT DO YOU LIKE MOST ABOUT WINTER AT ALAMOOSOOK? I WANT TO VISIT IN THE WINTER. NEVER HAVE.

WHAT COMMITTEES ARE YOU ON AND WHAT IS THE BIGGEST GOAL OF THIS COMMITTEE? ENV. (CBI). AND DAM COMMITTEE, KEEPING THE LAKE BEAUTIFUL FOR GENERATIONS TO COME. HOW CAN WE INTERACT MORE WITH THE MEMBERSHIP? BOWLING NIGHT. HAPPY HOURS. MOVIE NIGHTS. FUN STUFF.

CHIP STUBBS, AKA THE MAYOR OF ALAMOOSOOK AND VP

WHERE ARE YOU NOW? ON THE TURKEY PATH BUCKSPORT ME

WHAT KEEPS YOU BUSY IN THE WINTER MONTHS? STAYING WARM GOING TO THE GRANDDAUGHTER'S EVENTS,

WHAT DO YOU MISS MOST ABOUT SUMMER AT ALAMOOSOOK? VISITS WITH SUMMER PEOPLE, KAYAKING AND FISHING

IF HERE, WHAT DO YOU LIKE MOST ABOUT WINTER AT ALAMOOSOOK? VISITS WITH FRIENDS AND ICE FISHING

WHAT COMMITTEES ARE YOU ON AND WHAT IS THE BIGGEST GOAL OF THIS COMMITTEE? DAM COMMITTEE PROTECT THE DAM TO KEEP IT SAFE. MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE REACH OUT TO ALL THE PROPERTY OWNERS ON THE LAKE TO INVITE THEM TO BECOME MEMBERS, ALSO OFFER TO PUT THEM ON OUR E-MAIL LIST TO KEEP THEM INFORMED OF WHAT WE'RE DOING AS THE ASSOCIATION AND INFORMATION ABOUT WHAT'S HAPPENING WITH THE LAKE SUCH AS WATER LEVELS AND ACTIVITIES THAT ARE GOING ON.

HOW CAN WE INTERACT MORE WITH THE MEMBERSHIP? REACH OUT MORE OFTEN.

MATT BALL

WHERE ARE YOU NOW?

CURRENTLY LIVING IN PORTSMOUTH, NH

WHAT KEEPS YOU BUSY IN THE WINTER MONTHS?

SADLY, WORK KEEPS ME VERY BUSY. BUT IN MY FREE TIME I LOVE SKIING, PICKLEBALL AND TENNIS. FUN FACT: I'M CURRENTLY UNDEFEATED AGAINST TAD AND WILL LOOK TO CONTINUE MY STREAK IN 2024 AND BEYOND. I LOVE SPENDING TIME WITH MY WIFE. WE LOVE TO TRY NEW RESTAURANTS, GO SCUBA DIVING, AND PARTICIPATING IN OUR LOCAL CHURCH COMMUNITY.

WHAT DO YOU MISS MOST ABOUT SUMMER AT ALAMOOSOOK?

SO MANY THINGS, THE PEOPLE & COMMUNITY ARE SO UNIQUE AND SPECIAL ON THE LAKE. I LOVE FORMING MEMORIES DURING HAPPY HOURS, TALKING BY A CAMPFIRE AT NIGHT, SIPPING AFTERNOON TEA AND PLAYING GAMES ON THE PORCH, AND OF COURSE EARLY MORNING FISHING!

IF HERE, WHAT DO YOU LIKE MOST ABOUT WINTER AT ALAMOOSOOK?

THE VIEWS AT THE LAKE ARE BREATHTAKING. NO MATTER WHAT SEASON, THE TRANQUILITY AND NATURAL BEAUTY IS UNLIKE ANYWHERE ELSE.

WHAT COMMITTEES ARE YOU ON AND WHAT IS THE BIGGEST GOAL OF THIS COMMITTEE?

DAM COMMITTEE - PRESERVING THE MEMORIES, LEGACY, AND BEAUTY OF THE LAKE FOR GENERATIONS TO COME. OUR GOAL IS TO FIND A SOLUTION TO ENSURE THE LONGEVITY AND LONG-TERM SUSTAINABILITY WITH THE DAM.

HOW CAN WE INTERACT MORE WITH THE MEMBERSHIP?

MOVIE NIGHTS SPONSORED BY THE BOARD, SWIMMING CANOEING RACES, FISHING COMPETITIONS, FLOATING HAPPY HOURS.

PEGGI STURMFELS

WHERE ARE YOU NOW? FROM OCTOBER TO MAY, RALPH AND I LIVE IN A 55+ COMMUNITY IN LITTLE EGG HARBOR, NJ. (ABOUT ½ HOUR NORTH OF ATLANTIC CITY.)

WHAT KEEPS YOU BUSY IN THE WINTER MONTHS?

I AM THE EDITOR OF OUR COMMUNITY MONTHLY NEWSLETTER. I AM ALSO ON THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES FOR CLEAN WATER ACTION/NJ AND SERVE ON THE ORGANIZATION'S PLANNING COMMITTEES FOR ANNUAL RETREATS, CONFERENCES, AND FUNDRAISERS.

WHAT DO YOU MISS MOST ABOUT SUMMER AT ALAMOOSOOK?

I MISS SITTING ON OUR PORCH AND WATCHING THE LAKE. RAIN OR SHINE, THE WATER, WILDLIFE, AND LAKE ACTIVITY ALWAYS FASCINATE ME. WHETHER IT'S COFFEE IN THE MORNING OR A LOVELY GLASS OF WINE IN THE GLOAMING.

THE CURRENTS, SHADOWS AND SURFACE ARE ALWAYS CHANGING AND THAT ALWAYS GIVES ME A SENSE OF PEACE.

I MISS OUR SUMMER FRIENDS AND GET-TOGETHERS. SITTING ON THE LAWN AND WATCHING FOR SHOOTING STARS, CRUISING THE LAKE AND ENJOYING MY GRANDKIDS' ANTICS ARE ALL FAVORITE PASTIMES. AND MY EAGLES. I MISS WATCHING THE EAGLES THAT SIT IN THE TREE OUTSIDE OUR PORCH WINDOW EVERY DAY.

WHAT COMMITTEES ARE YOU ON AND WHAT IS THE BIGGEST GOAL OF THIS COMMITTEE?

I SERVE ON THE GRANTS COMMITTEE AND TRY TO ASSIST IN FINDING MONIES THAT MAY BE AVAILABLE TO THE ALA FOR THE PRESERVATION OF THE LAKE.

HOW CAN WE INTERACT MORE WITH THE MEMBERSHIP?

EMAIL ALERTS ABOUT UPCOMING EVENTS TO THE MEMBERS MIGHT HELP. IT IS DIFFICULT TO PLAN THINGS WHEN THE MEMBERS ARE SO SPREAD OUT AND ARE AT THE LAKE AT DIFFERENT TIMES. THE JULY 4TH BOAT PARADE IS ALWAYS A LOT OF FUN AND MAYBE COULD INCLUDE A POTLUCK GATHERING AFTERWARD. SEVERAL YEARS AGO I HELD MY DAD'S 90TH BIRTHDAY AT THE PARKING(LOADING) AREA OF THE FISH HATCHERY. WE HAD OVER 75 PEOPLE WHO CAME AND ENJOYED BARBEQUE. WE HAD CHILDREN'S GAMES, TOURS OF THE HATCHERY AND SWIMMING.

TAD VAN LEER, PRESIDENT

WHERE ARE YOU NOW? PITTSBURGH PA WATCHING THE SNOW FLY HORIZONTALLY

WHAT KEEPS YOU BUSY IN THE WINTER MONTHS? FAMILY, ESPECIALLY MY GRANDSONS, DOGS, TENNIS AND PLATFORM TENNIS (SOMEDAY I MIGHT BE AS GOOD AS MATT- AND BY THE WAY THE SCORE WAS 2-3), TRAVEL AND CAMPING, BOARD ACTIVITIES....

WHAT DO YOU MISS MOST ABOUT SUMMER AT ALAMOOSOOK? THREE THINGS: OUR CAMP IS MY HAPPY PLACE- GREAT MEMORIES AND ALWAYS GOOD TIMES. LOVING THE WATER, I MISS SAILING, SWIMMING AND FLOATING. ALAMOOSOOK HAS MANY GREAT PEOPLE THAT I MISS WHEN I AM AWAY.

IF HERE, WHAT DO YOU LIKE MOST ABOUT WINTER AT ALAMOOSOOK? PROBABLY SEEING THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN WINTER ON THE LAKE, AND THE LAKE THE REST OF THE YEAR. IT WOULD BE GREAT TO PARTY ON THE LAKE AND CROSS COUNTRY SKI. MABE KELLY AND LYNN CAN TEACH ME ICE FISHING. BRING BACK WINTER WEEKEND- PRIOR GENERATIONS HAD GREAT TIMES.

WHAT COMMITTEES ARE YOU ON AND WHAT IS THE BIGGEST GOAL OF THIS COMMITTEE? I AM ON ADMIN, FINANCIAL, AND DAM. ADMIN GOAL- GENERATE A LIST OF "LAKE PEOPLE" THAT WILL SERVE AS A SPRINGBOARD TO GET MORE MEMBERS. WORK AS A TEAM TO PRODUCE QUARTERLY NEWSLETTERS.

FINANCIAL GOAL- MAKE MJ HAPPY. MAINTAIN STRONG FINANCIAL POSITION TO SUPPORT ALA GOALS

DAM GOAL- REACH AN UNDERSTANDING WITH AIM/BUCKSPORT GENERATION SO THAT WE CAN MOVE FORWARD.

HOW CAN WE INTERACT MORE WITH THE MEMBERSHIP? BETTER OUTREACH DIRECTLY TO NON MEMBER RESIDENTS OF THE LAKE. TO ACHIEVE WE NEED DIRECT CONTACT EITHER THROUGH PHONE OR MEETING IN PERSON. MORE EMAIL UPDATES ON ACTIVITY.

LISA DEWEESE, SECRETARY

WHERE ARE YOU NOW? SITTING IN MY BED WATCHING THE SNOW OVER ALAMOOSOOK WITH A CUP OF COFFEE. BEST VIEW EVER!

WHAT KEEPS YOU BUSY IN THE WINTER MONTHS? WORK, HOME REPAIR HERE, AND HOME BUILDING FOR ELLIE ACROSS THE STREET. I TRY TO RETURN TO WEST VIRGINIA EVERY 12 WEEKS OR SO TO SEE THE OTHER KIDS AND GRANDKIDS WHO STILL LIVE THERE.

WHAT DO YOU MISS MOST ABOUT SUMMER AT ALAMOOSOOK? ALL THE FUN GET TOGETHERS WITH LAKE FRIENDS, FAMILY VISITING AND WEEKENDS WHERE MY CRAZY MAINE FAMILY AND FRIENDS DROP IN WITH A DRINK TO SHARE AND SOMETHING FOR THE GRILL-WE NEVER KNOW WHAT WILL RTRANSPIER!

IF HERE, WHAT DO YOU LIKE MOST ABOUT WINTER AT ALAMOOSOOK? WACHTING THE SNOW FALL WHILE COZIED UP IN FRONT OF THE WOOD STOVE WITH THE HUBS AND A GLASS OF WINE.

WHAT COMMITTEES ARE YOU ON AND WHAT IS THE BIGGEST GOAL OF THIS COMMITTEE? ENTERTAINMENT WITH THE GOALS OF MORE PARTIES (NOT REALLY, JUST BGETTING MORE LAKE PEOPLE TOGETHER),MEMBERSHIP WITH THE GOAL OF INCREASING IT, COMMUNICATINS WITH THE GOAL OF DISPURSIING INFORMATION.

HOW CAN WE INTERACT MORE WITH THE MEMBERSHIP? KEEP BUIDLING THE ENTERTAINMENT COMMITTEE. MORE GATHERINGS THAT INVOLVE PEOPLE FROM ALL ENDS OF THE LAKE, BETTER INVOLVEMENT IN THE ALA WITH MORE MEMEBERS.

GINA BUSHONG

WHAT KEEPS YOU BUSY IN THE WINTER MONTHS? REPRESENTING THE ALA IN BUILDING A COALITION OF STAKEHOLDERS TO ADDRESS THE FUTURE OF THE DAM AND OTHER WATERSHED ISSUES. IN A NORMAL YEAR, I LOVE SNOWSHOEING AND WINTER CAMPFIRES WITH FRIENDS (JUST NO SNOW THIS YEAR).

WHAT DO YOU MISS MOST ABOUT SUMMER AT ALAMOOSOOK? ALL THE GREAT SUMMER FOLKS, FAMILY, AND GUESTS WHO MAKE THIS PLACE LIVELY. KAYAKING AND HIKING ARE ESPECIALLY FUN.

IF HERE, WHAT DO YOU LIKE MOST ABOUT WINTER AT ALAMOOSOOK? THE QUIET BEAUTY AFTER A SNOWFALL.

WHAT COMMITTEES ARE YOU ON AND WHAT IS THE BIGGEST GOAL OF THIS COMMITTEE?THE DAM COMMITTEE. BRINGING TOGETHER THE ENTIRE WATERSHED COMMUNITY TO ADDRESS THE DETERIORATING DAMS, ENHANCE FISH PASSAGE, AND IMPROVE WATER AND HABITAT QUALITY.

HOW CAN WE INTERACT MORE WITH THE MEMBERSHIP?SEEK TO INVOLVE MORE MEMBERS IN ADDRESSING THE ISSUES OF IMPORTANCE TO THE ENTIRE LAKE COMMUNITY. THIS STARTS WITH INCREASED COMMUNICATION.

MEMBERSHIP

info



Alamoosook Lake Association

Welcome to Alamoosook Lake Association

 Alamoosook Lake Association

**WE ARE A 501C3
DUES ARE \$20/YEAR, BUT EXTRA DONATIONS ARE APPRECIATED.
IT'S TAX DEDUCTIBLE.**

**SEND CHECK TO ALA
P.O. BOX 464
ORLAND, ME 04472 OR**

PAYPAL LINKS AVAILABLE ON THJE WESITE

PLEASE INCLUDE YOUR EMAIL!

RISING FROM THE ASHES...A PHOENIX IS BORN



ON NOVEMBER 3RD, THE MORNING STARTED AS A PINK SIGHT TO SEE. WINTER AT THE LAKE IS AMAZING.

QUICKLY, THE DAY TURNED TO TRAGEDY AND THE PINK SUNRISE FADED FROM OUR MEMORY. OUR DEAR NEIGHBORS AND FRIENDS, APRIL AND JOE, LOST THEIR FAMILY HOME IN ORLAND MAINE TO AN EXPLOSION AND FOLLOWING FIRE. JUST A LITTLE AFTER 9AM, THE HOUSE EXPLODED RESULTING IN BOTH THE HOMEOWNERS AND THEIR GUEST BEING INJURED. AFTER EVERYONE WAS EVACUATED, A FIRE THEN IGNITED FROM THE EXPLOSION SITE. THIS LEVELED WHAT WAS LEFT OF THE HOUSE, AND BADLY DAMAGED AND BURNED THE APARTMENT WHERE MIKE AND KYLIE RESIDE. THE PARTS OF THE HOUSE, AND THE THINGS THAT WEREN'T SHATTERED BY THE INITIAL BLAST WERE DEMOLISHED AND RUINED BY THE FIRE. **THANKS GO TO FAMILY AND NEIGHBORS FOR THIER BRAVERY AND STRENGTH TO GET EVERYONE OUT SAFELY.**

A GOFUNDME WAS ESTABLISHED , AND THIS, ALONG WITH PRIVATE DONATIONS, RAISED MORE THAN \$26,000. INITIALLY, YOUR GENEROSITY ALLOWED US TO PROVIDE MEALS, PET CARE AND CLOTHING. SINCE THEN, APRIL HAS POSTED THIS MESSAGE:

IT HAS JUST BEEN OVER 2 MONTHS SINCE THIS TRAGIC DAY IN OUR LIVES. WE ARE GRATEFUL WE ALL SURVIVED, INCLUDING OUR DEAR FRIENDS AND OF OUR BELOVED PETS. WE ARE TRYING TO REBUILD LITERALLY AND FIGURATIVELY AND HAVE SO MANY WONDERFUL PEOPLE TO THANK FOR HELPING US WITH MEALS, CLEAN UP WORK, EMOTIONAL SUPPORT, AND SO MUCH MORE. THE GO-FUND-ME DONATIONS HAVE HELPED US TOWARDS THE EXPENSE OF A NEW FOUNDATION, WHICH WILL BE LITERALLY THE 'FOUNDATION' TO OUR FUTURE. THIS EXPERIENCE HAS BEEN HUMBLING, RAW, AND FILLED WITH MANY EMOTIONS AND CHALLENGES WE WERE NOT PREPARED FOR BUT WITH THE LOVE AND SUPPORT OF SO MANY, WE WILL EMBRACE OUR FUTURE WITH HOPE AND A RENEWED SPIRIT.

THE GIARD FAMILY

WE ARE HAPPY TO REPORT THAT PROGRESS TO DATE IS AMAZING-THE WALLS OF THE SECOND FLOOR OF THE NEW HOME, THE PHOENIX-WERE RAISED THIS WEEK. MANY NEW MEMORIES WILL BE MADE HERE, BEGINNING WITH THE MARRIAGE OF MICHAEL AND KYLIE THIS SUMMER.



THURSDAY, MARCH 28, 2024 | AUGUSTA CIVIC CENTER

ABOUT THE CONFERENCE

THE MAINE SUSTAINABILITY & WATER CONFERENCE PROVIDES AN ANNUAL FORUM WHERE PROFESSIONALS, RESEARCHERS, CONSULTANTS, CITIZENS, STUDENTS, REGULATORS, AND PLANNERS GATHER TO EXCHANGE INFORMATION AND PRESENT NEW FINDINGS ON SUSTAINABILITY AND WATER RESOURCE ISSUES IN MAINE.

LAUNCHED IN 1994 BY UMAINE'S SENATOR GEORGE J. MITCHELL CENTER WITH A PRIMARY FOCUS ON THE FUTURE OF MAINE'S WATER RESOURCES, THE CONFERENCE HAS GROWN TO INCORPORATE TOPICS RELATED TO MANY OF THE SUSTAINABILITY CHALLENGES FACING MAINE, INCLUDING ISSUES RELATED TO CLIMATE CHANGE, ENERGY FUTURES, AGRICULTURE, FORESTRY, FISHERIES, TOURISM, AND MUNICIPAL PLANNING. THE CONFERENCE ATTRACTS A BROAD AUDIENCE OF CLOSE TO 400 PARTICIPANTS FROM ACROSS THE STATE.

LEARN MORE HERE

[HTTPS://UMAINE.EDU/MITCHELLCENTER/2024-MAINE-SUSTAINABILITY-WATER-CONFERENCE/](https://umaine.edu/mitchellcenter/2024-maine-sustainability-water-conference/)