

Alamoosook Lake Association Early Summer 2020 Newsletter



June Membership Meeting Cancelled

(Think of this Newsletter as Your June Meeting)

Please send dues (\$20) to ALA, Box 464, Orland ME 04472

Courtesy Boat Inspections Deemed “ESSENTIAL”

With the current pandemic situation, an increase in boating activities is expected. Keeping invasive plants out of the lake is a crucial task.

ALA is seeking motivated volunteers to monitor the boat ramp at the Craig Brook Fish Hatchery to defend against invasive aquatic species from entering our precious lake.

Courtesy Inspections will begin 6/26/2020, a short training session and necessary equipment & supplies will be provided. You just need to bring a smile and some people skills.

**Join our important efforts!
The Message: CLEAN, DRAIN,
DRY! your Watercraft.**

If you are interested in becoming a volunteer courtesy boat inspector at Alamoosook Lake in 2020, please email

**Charlie Dodge at
cdodg0629@gmail.com or
call at 210--863-1105.**

Report on Investment of the Dam Contingency Fund

Over the years, the Alamoosook Lake Association has received donations for a “Dam Contingency Fund” established as reserve for upkeep of the dam should the present owners cease it's maintenance. Located on the north side of the lake on the Narramissic River, we all know the importance of this dam because it maintains the water level of our Lake.

Since there are no foreseen changes that would require our involvement in the dam's upkeep, it was decided to invest these funds in a fiscally sound manner to grow in value for the long run. The Board of Directors discussed options and voted unanimously to invest the money in an Exchange Traded Funds (ETF) which tracks the technology sector called the **Invesco “QQQ”** (this ETF is based on the Nasdaq-100 Index®). The Finance Committee, Mary Jane Cullinan (Treasurer) Pete Walton and Tad Van Leer, will invest the funds with Charles Schwab for the ALA. If you have any questions or comments please contact Tad (tadvanleer@gmail.com).

Information on ETFs and the QQQ: https://www.invesco.com/us/qqq-etf/?gclid=EALalQobChMiraDOjJvh6QIVBYTlCh0HNAUIEAAYASAAEgJpOfD_BwE

DATES TO REMEMBER:

JULY 4 Boat Parade 9 am
(Chip Stubbs, lead boat)

JULY 7 Board of Directors
Meeting

JULY 18 LOON COUNT
(Dottie Hamory, leader)

AUGUST 18 (TBD)
Outdoor Picnic at
Alamoosook Lakeside Inn



See Page 2
for a letter
from the
President..
and page 3
for some
links of
interest.

See Page 3 for Updates on
Bucksport Progress with Whole
Oceans and MMA

Dear Alamoosook Friends,

Greetings to all and welcome back to those who have returned to Alamoosook's shores. June has arrived with an uncharacteristic coolness after gorgeous days perfect for boating and gardening. I hope you and loved ones are safe in these troubling times. To all those unable to return to the lake in 2020, I send love and warm wishes on behalf of all of us fortunate to be sheltering in Orland.

Everyone appreciates the care taken to self-quarantine as needed. While Hancock County has been fortunate to be spared the large numbers of cases and tragedies experienced elsewhere, I wear a mask in solidarity with our healthcare workers and others deemed essential as well as for the protection of others and myself.

Sadly but responsibly, we will not be holding our usual June membership potluck and meeting. Your Board of Directors voted to send a check for \$300 to the Alamoosook Lakeside Inn as a gesture of support in these difficult financial times. We are holding out hope that we will be able to gather on the Inn's grounds for an outdoor picnic on August 18th with physical distancing protocols. Reports from the Treasurer and Secretary and voting on the Board of Director's slate may need to be done electronically. The Board will be meeting by Zoom on July 7th to make those decisions based on the latest CDC/Maine guidelines.

In the meantime, members have suggested choosing one late afternoon a week for gathering on the water in our boats to check in, share a laugh, and raise a glass of favorite beverage. So, how about Thursdays at 5pm beginning June 18th somewhere between the west shore and Loon Island?

Elsewhere in the newsletter read about our ESSENTIAL CBI (Courtesy Boat Inspection) program, financial investment, and find links to online webinars offered by Lake Stewards of Maine, Maine Lakes Society and others on topics important to us all. I learned from an MLS webinar on loons that trauma (boats) surpassed lead (fishing gear), as the leading cause of death starting in 2009.

I've been in touch with members of the Alamoosook All Clear Team, and while plant survey work is not considered "essential" we will be "for(a)ging" ahead with shoreline coverage from our individual boats or with snorkeling gear! We have great support from Hancock Lakes Association and LSM. We feel fortunate to have remaining funds from the 2018 and 2019 grants provided by our generous grantors, the Ram Island Conservation Fund.

Another big concern lies in the forests around Alamoosook. The hemlock woolly adelgid which has devastated hemlock forests elsewhere in eastern Atlantic states including Tennessee near the home of Anne and Gary Davis poses a serious threat. Hancock County is now considered a quarantined county for hemlock products. State entomologist, Colleen Teerling will be available for an online Zoom Webinar in August for our association and neighbors. More news on this in July. https://www.maine.gov/dacf/mfs/forest_health/insects/hemlock_woolly_adelgid_overview.htm

I look forward to seeing you, however best we can gather safely this summer and wish you all the best of health. Thank you to all who continue to serve the association and offer your valuable assistance. Please let us know your concerns and suggestions.

Katie

Catch up with friends and neighbors! Thursdays at 5 out on the lake!



Smallmouth
caught and
released
yesterday by
Martha
LaRoche

She's back out there for the
rest of you fisher people.



July 4 Boat Parade begins at 9 near the islands in
front of Stubbs' camp, proceeding counter-clockwise,
around the south, then up by the hatchery and on...

Check these links for some educational webinars offered by partner organizations:

Lake Stewards of Maine

<https://www.lakestewardsofmaine.org/>

1-hour webinars, preregistration June 5-August 28

Lakes Environmental Assoc. Webinar CBI Training for 2020 specifically for inspecting using Covid-19 protocols

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3fjc1tjwflI&feature=youtu.be>

Maine Lakes Society

Thursday, June 10th 4pm (Wakeboats and Lake Degradation) and June 20th 9 AM (keynote speaker Hilary Snook, EPA scientist)

<https://mainelakessociety.org/maine-lakes-conference/>

From Whole Oceans (via Chip Stubbs):As you may have gathered from our latest announcement about Mike Thompson coming on board as Senior Project Coordinator we are currently in the pre-construction phase and continue to make progress toward groundbreaking for the Bucksport facility. This phase includes finalizing the details of the design plans and contract negotiations for construction of the project. Whole Oceans is scheduled to break ground on the project this summer, but as with all major construction projects, the current pandemic situation requires careful coordination with construction coordinators as they adjust to new working conditions.

For an update on Maine Maritime Academy's progress, visit our website
www.alamoosooklakeassociation.org