

THE BOWMAN LAKE NEWSLETTER



Taborton, NY
April, 2010

Spring Greetings
from
Bowman Pond!

Bowman Lake Association

2009-2010 Board of Directors:

President: Anja Carr

Vice President: Janice Kullman

Secretary: Susan Faulkner

Treasurer: Al Trivers

Immediate Past President: John Losee

Board Members/Term End Date:

Buzz Piche and David Cobden, Jr., 2010

David Douttiel and Colleen Masters, 2011

Rob Dawes and Shane Cahill, 2012

Appointees:

Historian: Vacant

Directory Editor: Anja Carr

Newsletter Editor: Susan Faulkner

2010 Calendar of Events

06/19: 4pm, Board Mtg. at the Trivers'

5pm, Membership Meeting

6pm, Summer Kick-off Party

07/31: Noon, Regatta, at the Simons/Kullman
dock

08/21: 4pm, Board Mtg. at Anja's

5pm, Annual Membership Mtg.

6pm, Post meeting Social

09/04: End of Summer Pot Luck Supper

Hosts TBD

TBA: Ladies of the Lake Tea

TBA: Men of the Mountain Activity

TBA: Bowman Lake Sailing Assoc. Races

A Word From Our Bowman Lake Association President

Welcome back to Big Bowman Pond! Our 2010 season holds promise for more good times on Big Bowman.

Bruce and Lorraine are chafing at the bits and ready for Friday afternoon meetings on center lake. They're ready to set out in their paddle boat and welcome anyone to join them, the sooner the better.

Much around the lake survived the winter in good shape, despite torrential rains, some extra heavy snowfall (in weight, not inches) and gale-force winds. Alas, the windmill snapped a paddle in the last heavy snow storm. It now stands guard, leaning against the side. (Photos by Anja Carr.)



Most of the snow is gone now, leaving patches of brown lawn against stone-gray snow banks and spilling across fields and yards and woods. Full streams run with foamy rapids down the surrounding hills and into the lake, brook and dam outbound flow equally fast. The beavers are gone, and we can once again view the lake bottom along the shore line around the lake. Yesterday, a trio of very loud Canadian geese honked for their northern-bound brethren to join them on center court. I swatted at my first mosquito of the new season this morning. My brown yard joins most others in being littered with many branches and gravel, plus four-inch pine cones that resist both rake and hose.

Spring is arriving on Taborton Mountain and Big Bowman Pond!

Bowman Lake Calendar News

Winter Festival: Once again the Winter Festival was a well-attended and well enjoyed event. The luncheon hosts, Dave and Karen Cobden, counted about 60 people for the cookout. Bill LaFleur told Anja that there were fewer people at the activities this year than last, but those who did participate found a way to extend the fun into the night. Thanks again for their time and efforts to the Cobdens, Colleen Masters, Tom White, and Bill and Cindy LaFleur for creating a fun day for all of us in our wintry wonderland.

End of Summer Potluck Hosts: As you may have noticed from Page One, we are missing hosts for the end of summer potluck. Please check your calendars and see whether you could host a lovely bunch of people on Saturday, September 4. In past years, there have been the location hosts and then other people who have volunteered to organize food contributions. Whether you can do it all or you would be willing to volunteer to help out, you'll have an opportunity, at our first Association meeting in June, to make known what you'd be open to participating in. Let's all think about what part we might be willing to do so the majority of the work doesn't fall on a few individuals.

Ladies of the Lake Tea: And, Ladies? Here's a reminder to all of us that, when we have done this in the past, we have had a great time and had a chance to get to know each other a little more. Each previous hostess has had her particular "touch" which we have appreciated, and now some daring lady can have her chance to share her own special *j'ne sais quoi* with the rest of us. Any takers?

Men of the Mountain Activity: One might ask, what is a men of the mountain activity, and, historically speaking, this would be a question without an answer since, as far as I know, there has never been a designated men of the mountain event. Perhaps this is an idea whose time has not yet come? Or, perhaps there is a man of the mountain out there who is on the verge of suggesting such an event?

June 19th Association Meeting: Midge and Al Trivers have offered their home for our first Association meeting and social of the summer on June 19. Just be aware, there are some parking constraints, but for those of you who will be driving, the Faulkner/Newdom household has some places available as well, a little further down the driveway.

Remember to bring hors d'oeuvres for the social immediately afterwards.

Also, the Taborton Fire Department will be having pizza available that night from 4-8pm, so for anyone who doesn't want to make dinner after the meeting, you may want to order a pizza ahead of time and make sure you get the toppings you want on your pizza. Pizzas can be picked up at the firehouse or delivered.

The 2010 Regatta: It's time to start thinking about what kind of glorious float you want to create to dazzle the judges and get to have your name included on The Blake Cup list of winners. We are fortunate to have the Simons/Kullman dock once again for these festivities and this year Erin Robilotta has offered to be our Chairperson.

While the Blake Cup is the ultimate goal, it is fun for all of us to see the creativity and wit that go into all the floats. Good luck to all!

Bowman Lake Calendar News Continued**The Bowman Lake Sailing Association:** by Doug Boughton

As I sit here...it does seem like the long cold winter is easing her grip on us, and my thoughts begin to return to warmer pursuits, like sailing.

If you are interested at all in enjoying our lake from the cockpit of a Sunfish, now is a good time to begin looking. Peruse through the Want Ad Digest, or Craigslist, or maybe even EBay for a used boat. I paid \$400 for mine, and Bruce paid less. Both boats needed minor work to get them seaworthy, fairly easy stuff, as in painting, rigging, sail attachment. What's important when looking at a used Sunfish is to examine the hull for cracks, make sure it isn't waterlogged (both of these maladies can be fixed), look at where the mast inserts in the hull to be sure that portal is still in good shape, and also at where the keel slides down through the hull. The outer cracks are easily dealt with, but cracks inside the mast hole and keel slot can't be so easily, so shy away from any Sunfish that is broken in those two places. If you're not comfortable with your ability to assess a used Sunfish, give me a jingle and I'll go with you to have a look. I also have a pickup that has now carried two Sunfish to their new home on Big Bowman, and I'll be happy to carry yours also.



Quite a few people already have Sunfish at their camps and homes up here on the lake and hopefully they will pull them out, tune them up, and between those boats and any new ones that show up this year, we can get a little fleet out on the lake. Perhaps we could even get a little casual fun-series started on breezy weekend days, maybe mid-summer after everyone has had some time in their boats to get acclimated to the how-to's of sailing. By the way, if anyone needs a primer, I'd be happy to help you set your boat up and get you started in learning how to sail it, not that I'm an expert by any means. At any rate, I'll be out there whenever the breeze is good and the sun is out. Hope to see some of you out there too.

Other Community Calendar News

Pastor Bob Loesch of the Zion's United Church of Christ on Taborton Road once again has sent our community an invitation to join in church events. For more information contact him by phone at 674-8204 or by email at rkloesch@aol.com.

April 24, Saturday, Earth Day Festival, 10am-4pm. At 9:30 am, Blessing of Pets and All Animals. Educational displays and demonstrations.

June 5, Saturday, Turkey Supper, 4:30, 5:30, and 6:30 seatings. For reservations call Bea Primeau @ 674-5360.

August 7, Saturday, 102nd Taborton Summer Festival, 10am-10pm.

September 25, Saturday, Turkey Supper, (see June 5 for pertinent information).

October 2 and 3, Saturday and Sunday, Taborton Arts Festival and Artists Open Studio Tour, Free admission, 10am-4pm.

Other Community Calendar News Continued

Since the Taborton Fire Department Pizza Night is such a big hit around the lake, I thought I'd just include the late Spring through early Fall dates that they do their pizza night. They are: May 15, June 19, July 17, August 21, September 18, and October 16 from 4-8pm. Remember to order ahead. You can eat there, pick it up, or get free delivery.

Bowman Lake Happenings

Bowman Lake Association Constitutional Review Committee News: Sharon Dawes sent this update regarding her committee's progress:

The Bowman Lake Association Constitutional Review Committee has sent a survey to all owner members and associate members seeking comments to several aspects of the Bowman Lake Association Constitution and By-Laws. The survey covers purpose, membership, committees, dues, meetings, and other topics. Your comments are welcome on any or all of them. The due date for responses is April 16. Please send them via email or regular mail to Cindy LaFleur (clafleur@callahan.com) or Cindy LaFleur, PO Box 662, Averill Park, NY 12018.

Beware of Coyotes and Fishers: Anja reports that she and other lake residents have had sightings of both these animals in recent months. She states that the coyotes have been easy to hear at night.



A fisher (left) is part of the weasel family, runs from 7-14 pounds, and 40" long. It has a high pitched screech. It preys on medium sized animals. Coyotes are part of the dog family and can get up to 50 pounds. Their sounds are more like howls and yelps. They tend to prey on small animals and like fruit, compost, and carrion. While both in the wild tend to be wary of people, if food is left out, coyotes can get bolder. It is advised on web sites that domesticated animals not be left out at night, bird feeders be set away from homes, garbage cans be secured, and if you see either animal that you make noise to let them know they are not welcome. Today's paper reported a poodle in Rye, NY, staked to a chain by a populated building was attacked during the day.

Treasurer's Update: This is a reminder to please send to our esteemed Treasurer, Al Trivers, last year's annual donations to the Bowman Lake Association. If you could send them to Al sooner than later, he would appreciate it. His address is: Box 516, Becket, MA 01223-0516. This newsletter is made possible in part by your donations.

More Bowman Lake Happenings**Transitions:**

Birth: Jaden Patrick Cahill, son of Jamie and Shane, brother of Anthony.
Congratulations!

Deaths: John Herbert Deane and Harold G. Anderson Jr.
To those of you who knew and loved them, our condolences.
One thing seems certain, since they were part of lake life,
They will live on as part of the lore and memories of Bowman Pond.

Remembrances: Here is an example of how these memories of people live on. Barb Hickey, who is currently in Boise, Idaho, with Bill, wrote to Anja upon hearing about the WinterFest: "I miss the lake and all the activities, especially coming home from teaching all day, putting on my x-country skis and getting out on the lake, and, once in a while the ice skating was terrific, before a snowfall and then we hung up the skates for skis. We hosted the winter festival a couple of times.... I remember Ken Smead and someone else standing around the piano and singing every song in the book...we had a great time...and Erna has a terrific voice. She and I would sing all the old songs together...."

Construction Updates: Here's an update of all the construction projects that we all started to get a glimpse of in the Fall, saw progress in the Winter Newsletter, and have progressed even further:

- Erin and Matt Robilotta moved into their home in December.
- Shane and Jamie Cahill moved into their home in February.
- Scott and Rachel Cahill are just about moved in if not already so.
- The Hungry Bear is looking spiffed up and not so hungry.
- Hemlock Lodge's progress is well on it's way, with outside walls and roof.

Rental Opportunities: It has come to my attention that some people would like to rent their homes/camps and there are some people who would like to rent. Here's a list of what has come my way:

-Rovie Simons indicated that their camp is available for 1-2 week or long weekend rentals throughout the year subject to availability. It's not available a majority of holiday periods, but check with Rovie at 202-566-0517 or at simons.tom@epa.gov for more details regarding availability and other information.

-Susan Faulkner knows someone who is interested in renting a camp for about five weeks this summer, the last week of July through most of August. For additional information, contact Susan at 518-439-6411 or at susanf@nycap.rr.com.

-Anja Carr knows someone who is looking for a year round rental, nearby, for parents with three children (ages 3, 13, and 16). For more information, contact Anja at ALSCarr@nycap.rr.com.

Beware of the Tick: According to a local veterinarian, tick-borne diseases such as Lyme disease and anaplasmosis are on the rise. Outdoor pets are particularly susceptible without protection, but people are too. For both diseases, early detection is healthful.

“Our Common Concern Is the Lake:” This quote is from the 1989 Premier Edition of The Bowman Lake Newsletter. In the Newsletter, there was a reminder of the 3 C’s: courtesy, consideration, and caring. These three words are just as applicable today as they were 21 years ago. As a small community with a common concern, it falls upon each of us to be mindful of how what we do may affect those around us. In the third edition of the Newsletter, Elbert Hubbard was quoted as saying: “do unto others as though you were the others.” I once heard someone say: “disagreements are inevitable among people, but conflicts are optional.” It seems to me that if we all use those 3 C’s with one another, any disagreements could be resolved without conflict.

On that note, below are the oft reminded “do’s and don’ts”. Let’s all glance over them and try to keep these in mind over the summer.

Suggested Do’s and Don’ts

- Do** remember to minimize pollution. Don’t feed the geese as they create pollution. Don’t use fertilizer that is harmful to the lake.
- Do** pull your weeds and dispose of them. Don’t leave them floating in the lake because this can actually lead to increased spread of those very weeds you are trying to rid the lake of.
- Do** remind friends and guests to the lake to clean off anything including clothing before putting it in the lake. Anything exposed to milfoil can spread it.
- Do** be considerate of the property of others. Seek permission to cross the land of home and camp owners.
- Do** remember that voices and sounds carry across the lake clearly especially when there are no other ambient noises (like at night). Remember night parties can disturb others who may be on a different schedule than you.
- Don’t** bathe in the lake. (Yes, this has been done.)
- Don’t** speed on the one lane roads around the lake. Remember our community’s children and pets may be at risk, not to mention the rest of us.
- Do** keep any pets under control. There is a Town of Sand Lake leash law for dogs. Please remember that your neighbors may not want to deal with your pet(s).
- Do** have a wonderful summer with lots of fun and enjoy the beauty and friends around you. (I confess, this is my addition.)

Editor’s Note: As usual it has been my pleasure to immerse myself once again in thinking about Big Bowman Pond and letting you know what has come my way as news about our wonderful lake and community. Thanks to all those who sent me information and or pictures. Unfortunately, no one sent any photos from the Winter Festival, and I wasn’t able to attend, so I had none to share with you. Thank you also to those of you who send me feedback once you get the Newsletter. I appreciate it all. Of course I like the positive, but it also helps to hear when I have made mistakes. How else will I learn from them? So, best wishes for Spring, and with this warm weather, Fred and I may be seeing some of you much sooner than later.

With warm regards, Your Newsletter Editor, Susan Faulkner