

FALL



2020



Photo by Jon Larrabee

TLA OFFICERS & DIRECTORS | 07.01.20 - 06.30.21

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PRESIDENT'S LETTER

Members and Friends,

2020, the year of adapting!

The leadership of TLA was able to find ways to move forward in 2020 despite COVID. Meetings were held monthly, via Zoom. And on August 1st, we had a very successful "live" Annual Meeting at the Litchfield Fairgrounds. We thank their leaders for allowing us to use the facilities due to the unusual circumstances.

Our membership numbers remain solid, with many members making very generous donations in support of the association. To date our donations are trending to exceed last year's totals.

The first line of defense for our lakes, is the Certified Boat Inspection program at the Woodbury boat launch. Again, this year our launch was one of the busiest in the entire Cobbossee Watershed District. A total of 1,747 boat inspections took place and 174 of these inspections resulted in plant fragments being found by the inspectors. Fortunately, none of the fragments found were of an invasive species. Inspectors logged a total of 363 hours over 45 days throughout the summer. As we all know, the minimum wage has increased annually over

the last couple of years, making this program our most costly program.

Our intrepid plant patrol was active again, this year focusing on Sand Pond and the Woodbury boat launch area.

As waterfront property owners, it is OUR responsibility to protect the beautiful lakes, we are all fortunate enough to summer on. Make yourself aware of what invasive plants look like, encourage your neighbors to join the association, report any suspicious looking water, or plant life.

In 2020 we will end the year with around 235 members, our goal for 2021 is 300 or bust. We are also fortunate to have two new Directors; Janis Boyer and Patty Mosher. In a short time, they are already making an impact, bringing new ideas, and new energy to our group. With all of your help, we will reach our goal.

Watch for our membership drive in the spring, winter safely, and let's all hope for a more normal 2021.

Regards,
Jim Adams, President

TREASURER'S REPORT

TLA has experienced another strong year to date. TLA's uses a year end date of December 31 for financial reporting purposes. As of October 6, 2020 memberships decreased by 4 memberships as of this date in 2019, and donations have increased \$520.00 through that same period. Membership as of October 6, 2020 stood at 209 members.

We have again received support from the State of Maine, and the Town of Litchfield. We thank them for their continued support. We also thank our members

and those in the community that support our fundraising efforts especially during this difficult year.

Currently, all bills are paid and there are no outstanding invoices. I am happy to answer any questions that the membership may have regarding TLA finances. You may contact me by email at curtisindamoodcpa@yahoo.com.

Thank you,
Curtis Lindamood, Treasurer

THANK YOU TO OUR 2020 DONORS!

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INVASIVE PLANT PATROL (IPP) ANOTHER UNSUCCESSFUL YEAR!

The IPP has done between 15 and 20 surveys this summer despite social distancing and mask requirements. Early on we decided to divide Sand Pond, our target for this year, into sections. Lynn Sidman led the patrols at the north end of the lake and Patti and Toby Lott, the middle section. Diane Clay took the part closest to the Buker Bridge. Buffy DeMatteis, Lindsay Nelsen, De Ricker, Cheri Cooledge, and Dian White jumped in where needed. This summer Lindsay spotted a dwarf milfoil which we have not noticed before. This is a native plant, but very hard to see. Apparently, the flower is what identifies this plant. This was a fun lesson for all of us!



Dwarf Milfoil

All of the training and meetings with Lake Stewards of Maine were provided on-line. Many of the webinars they offered were interesting and helpful for anyone with property on the lakes. These are recorded and can be viewed at [lakestewardsofmaine.org](https://www.lakestewardsofmaine.org). (<https://www.lakestewardsofmaine.org/2020-summer-webinar-series/>)

Our team consists of a variety of members all of whom love our lakes. We have dedicated organizers, a couple of experts who have either studied botany or taught themselves about our native plant population, and folks who go out for the paddle and the company but also know what looks suspicious. Together we have a good time, social distancing if necessary, and we get the job done. We welcome new members and we welcome requests to teach our neighbors how to keep their shorefront free of invasives.

Reach out to TLA or email Diane Clay: c112a3y4@gmail.com

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