



BELGRADE REGIONAL CONSERVATION ALLIANCE



Belgrade Regional Conservation Alliance



BRCA conserves the lands, water quality, and natural heritage of the Belgrade Lakes Watershed.



BRCA Celebrates 20th Anniversary Photo Contest

BRCA's 20th Anniversary Photo Contest has some beautiful photos from BRCA members celebrating the scenic beauty of the Belgrade Lakes region. This area has a lot to offer and our members helped us capture what makes the region special. Ten winners of the contest will receive a BRCA coffee mug, along with mention on our website. There are more photos ahead.



"Maine Perfect" by Marc LeClaire overlooking Great Pond



"Poplar at Castle Island" by Carrie Beth Weaver



"Wheeler's Pine Rest camp on Salmon Lake"
by Ken and Barbara Leach

Please note that this special anniversary edition of our newsletter is in full color as our electronic version on our website is always. To reduce our printing and postage costs, we encourage everyone to sign up for the electronic version by sending us an e-mail at brca@gwi.net

See **AQUAFEST** details on page 9.

President's Column **Do Anniversaries Matter?**

I think so. A 100 year anniversary is a testament to community and relevance. When 80% of NY Stock Exchange listed companies that were in business 100 years ago have gone out of business or merged or morphed into other forms, it says something about BLA and Maine's slower pace that BLA is here today and more needed than ever. BRCA is 20 years old, and is looking to the future. As a land trust, BRCA is entrusted to protect the lands it conserves *in perpetuity*, without end. This legal phrase didn't mean much to me when I joined BRCA as treasurer 10 years ago, but it has sunk in. BRCA is building an organization that we hope will be here in 100 years to conserve the land and water of the Belgrade Lakes region.

Executive Director's Column

It continues to be an exciting and busy summer, albeit a bit soggy. Our Youth Conservation Corps recently wrapped up their season after completing 55 projects and our Courtesy Boat Inspectors are well on their way to inspecting well over 6000 boats and one of our inspectors, Katie Jacobs, removed Eurasian milfoil from a MA boat launching into Great Pond. We got approval from the Land for Maine's Future (LMF) Board for our Kennebec Highlands Expansion project although we didn't get the full amount we were hoping for. Our Education and Outreach Committee has had a very successful summer, leading nature hikes, presenting educational programs, and guiding canoe trips. Thanks to a generous donation from one of our members, we hosted a very successful archaeological program that drew a hundred people to a public lecture and dozens to a series of archaeological surveys and digs the following week. Planning for AQUAFEST continues and we are building towards a very successful event.

A vision of sustainability is needed to get us from here to there. *How can we develop and prosper as a community and sustain the land and water?* BRCA hopes to help answer that question, but only by working with the wider community to figure out what to do and how to do it. Our vision for BRCA is increasingly focused on working with schools, road and lake associations, towns and government, businesses and sporting groups to conserve land and water.

So, anniversaries matter. If we fail to get the sustainability job done in the next 100 years, I question whether BRCA will be in business; its relevance will have passed. But if we are reasonably successful, and I think we can be, we will leave the region a better place for our children's children. That's an anniversary worth celebrating.

And, thanks again.
Charlie Baeder

Photo-
graph
"Allium"
by
Carrie
Beth
Weaver



On the down side, we have been taken aback by the discovery of Eurasian milfoil in Salmon Lake near the outlet stream to Great Pond. Eurasian milfoil has been described as "the pit bull" of invasive plants and represents an extremely serious threat to our lakes. It was heartening however to see the rapid and vigorous response by Maine DEP, the Volunteer Lake Monitoring Program (VLMP), the members of the McGrath Pond-Salmon Lake Association, the Belgrade Lakes Association, and student volunteers from the University of Maine at Farmington. DEP and Inland Fish and Wildlife (IFW) immediately placed a surface use restriction on the cove where the plants were found, DEP twice deployed teams of divers to hand pull plants from the cove, and teams of DEP personnel and lake association volunteers have been conducting surveys throughout Salmon Lake as well as in the Hatch Cove area of Great Pond and the stream that connects the two lakes. We are optimistic that we

caught this infestation early enough to keep it in check although it will be a lot of work over the next couple of years before we will be able to declare victory. We are still continuing to try to expand our membership and encourage more volunteers to become involved in our programs. We are looking for new members who are a lot like our current members- in love with this part of Maine and concerned enough to help protect it. The best place to find those people is among the friends and families of our current members. If you have a friend or family member who shares your conservation ideals who is not yet a member, please ask them to join or consider giving them a gift membership. Any member who refers a new member will receive a special gift as a token of our appreciation. Please contact me or stop by the office if you have any ideas about how to make BRCA more responsive to your needs.
All the best, Peter Kallin

Land for Maine's Future Board Selects Stunning Conservation & Farm Projects Across Maine

In July, using funds approved by voters last fall, the Land for Maine's Future Board voted to give approval to 46 land conservation projects across the entire state, including 8 farms. "Land for Maine's Future continues to serve a valuable role in the state by preserving some of our most treasured natural resources," said Governor Baldacci. "The latest list of projects selected for conservation shows the importance of investing in and enhancing Maine's competitive economic advantage, which is characterized by our Quality of Place. Land for Maine's Future is part of our overall strategy to maintain our outstanding assets and qualities that will grow Maine's economy now and into the future."

The finalists, located in all 16 Maine counties, include an addition to the State's holdings in the Grafton Notch area that will protect a key portion of the new Grafton Loop Trail that has been drawing new visitors to the Western Mountains. "These projects represent strategic investments in Maine's future", said public board member Leon Gorman. "In addition to conserving important aspects of the State's natural heritage, many of these projects will also contribute to Maine's economic health. With tourism such a big and growing part of Maine's businesses, these conserved lands are a part of the State's economic infrastructure right along with its roads, bridges and power grid." As an example, the Wabassus Lake project will protect miles of shoreline in the heart of the internationally famous Grand Lake Stream community of hunting and fishing guides, craftsmen and sporting camp owners.

Grants to help support conservation of more than 36,000 of Maine's best natural, recreational, and farm resources.

More than three quarters of the new projects are located in southern and coastal Maine towns, many of which are struggling with mounting development pressures and sprawl. Patrick McGowan, Commissioner, Maine Department of Conservation and Board member said, "LMF funding to expand the Kennebec Highlands between the

Belgrade Lakes and Farmington adds momentum to the Bureau of Parks & Lands efforts to provide landscape-scale conservation of Maine's most special places. Future generations will thank us for protecting these gems."

Responding to total requests that exceeded available funds by 60%, the LMF Board was challenged to meet the conservation needs of the State. "The Board understands that it is taking a calculated risk", said Tim Glidden, LMF director. "It is possible that some of these projects may struggle due to reduced funding but we hope that the strong partnerships supporting these projects will prevail.

The Land for Maine's Future Program was created in 1987 in response to concerns over the loss of critical natural areas and wildlife habitat along with traditional access to undeveloped lands for hunting, fishing, and outdoor recreation. To date, the Land for Maine's Future Program has protected over 490,000 acres of Maine's best recreational and natural areas. The Program also seeks to protect farmlands through the purchase of development rights and public access to water for fishing boating and commercial marine activities. Working with other state agencies, numerous local governments and charitable non-profit groups, the Land for Maine's Future Board adheres to a "willing seller only" policy. A series of previous bond issues, overwhelmingly approved by Maine voters, provides funding for these projects.

The Belgrade Regional Conservation Alliance received \$227,000 of the \$412,000 we had requested. We plan to add over 1,000 acres to the Kennebec Highlands via either fee purchase (603 acres) or conservation easements (463 acres). We will be conducting a capital campaign in the near future to raise our cost share portion of this project.

Excerpted from the LMF website: http://maine.gov/spo/lmf/docs/pressreleases/7-8-2008_LMF2008Awards.pdf



"Misty Morning on Long Pond" by Carrie Beth Weaver



"Sunset on Great Pond" by Michael Bernstein

BRCA EDUCATION & OUTREACH

Saturday, Aug. 30 All Day	AQUAFEST	Cocktail Party for the Lakes (Friday evening , 5K Race for the Lakes, Fun Run, Kid's Corner Challenge with the Lakes Event Course, Kayak/Canoe Race, Family BBQ, Farmer's Market, Art Mart, and other events.
Thursday, Sept. 11 5:15 p.m.	Annual Meeting Alden Camps	Join fellow members and friends to hear the latest watershed news, enjoy a delicious dinner, and socialize.
Friday - Sunday, Sept. 19, 20, & 21	Common Ground Fair Fairgrounds, Unity	BRCA Booth at the Common Ground Fair and special lecture by BRCA Executive Director, Pete Kallin.

Please call the BRCA office 495-6039 for details and to sign up for an event so we may notify you in case there are any changes in the schedule due to inclement weather.

Summertime with BRCA

It all started with wanting to get visitors and locals alike out on the trails to gain a sense of appreciation for the beauty of the area. Margaret Pietrak began leading hikes from the five trailheads in the Kennebec Highlands and BRCA properties during the summer of 2006. Since that summer, a group has formed and the Education and Outreach Committee has been established. The goal to educate and nurture a sense of appreciation for the history and natural world of the local region fuels the volunteers.

This summer there has been a stronger effort to spread the word about events through flyers, website, *Summertime in the Belgrades* and word of mouth. Each year word has spread and eager visitors and locals have walked and learned. This year more activities have been added to the

schedule beyond hikes including guided canoe trips, biking, talks and activities. Leaders of the events include Brian Alexander, Warren Balgooyen, Eric Harms, Peter Kallin, Margaret Pietrak, and Gi Reed. All deserve special thanks for volunteering their time and knowledge to help promote the BRCA mission.

The response to the activities has been encouraging! Hikes and canoe trips have been well attended offering BRCA the opportunity to educate about the watershed it is so actively conserving. Please check out the schedule for the rest of the summer! Just call the BRCA office to sign up for an event!

If you have any suggestions for future events or would like to lead an activity, contact the BRCA office. A list for fall and winter outings will be posted on the website as the time nears.

SAVE the DATE: Belgrade Regional Conservation Alliance's Annual Meeting

BRCA Annual Meeting

Thursday, September 11, 2008, at 5:15 p.m.

Alden Camps, Oakland, Maine

Alden Camps has once again generously donated the use of their facilities for the BRCA annual meeting.

Alden Camps is located at 3 Alden Camps Road off of Route 137 in Oakland.

Buffett dinner: beef, chicken, and vegetarian entrees will be available, along with salad, dessert, and other fixings. Cost: \$19.00 per person (tax and gratuity included), payable to Alden Camps at the meeting. You are welcome to BYOB.

Join fellow members and friends of the Belgrade Regional Conservation Alliance on Thursday, September 11, to hear the latest watershed news, enjoy a delicious dinner, and socialize. Bring along a friend or two and introduce them to the BRCA's efforts to protect the land, water quality, and natural heritage of our Belgrade Lakes Watershed.

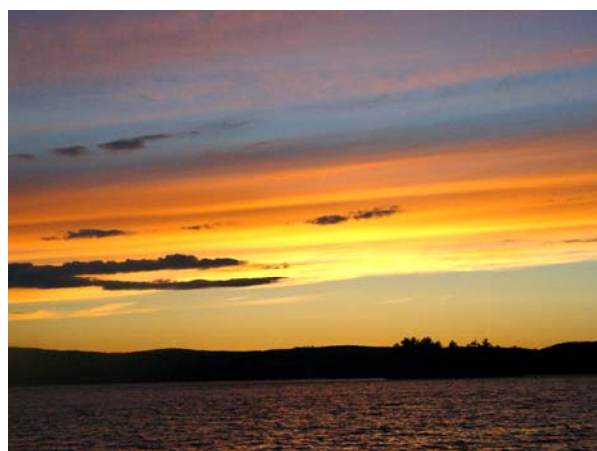
Please RSVP to (207) 495-6039 or brcamaryk@gwi.net by Thursday, September 4th.

Find out what BRCA has been up to! Great progress and new opportunities...and a little BRCA business, too.



Photo (left)
"Belgrade Sunrise" by
Carrie Beth
Weaver

Photo
(right)
"Sunset on
Great
Pond Summer 2004"
by Michael
Bernstein



Archaeology in the Kennebec Highlands

Driving down many roads in Maine you may notice a rock wall or a worn path going off into the woods. These sights often lead me to question what happened; what was there 50 or 100 years ago? It turns out there are folks who have careers trying to answer just those questions, The Maine Historic Preservation Commission.

Small cemeteries and moss covered rock walls that are characteristic of many Maine back roads are evidence of Maine's history. Further investigation leads to homesteads of farmers who first cleared the land and built the rock walls to keep livestock. It's hard to believe much of the forest we now treasure was once cleared field not so long ago. The stories of these settlers and pioneers lie in the depths of the Kennebec Highlands.

The Kennebec Highlands, fortunately conserved by forward-thinking citizens, is rich with history. Several historic cellar holes, barn foundations, rock walls and cemeteries have been identified and documented by the Maine Historic Preservation Committee through its first archaeological survey for Land for Maine's Future in 2003. The towns of Mount Vernon, New Sharon, Rome and Vienna all have a bit of history wrapped in the Kennebec Highlands with past residents farming and creating homes as far back as the mid 1800s. By the early 1900s, many of the sites were no longer recorded on maps, leaving us to wonder the fates of the families who were no longer there.

Kennebec Highlands Cultural Legacy

John Mosher, of the Maine Historical Preservation Commission, shared some of the reasons the Kennebec Highlands is a cultural legacy and deserves further investigation. The site of the Kennebec Highlands is a rare opportunity to study 19th-century rural life where the cultural legacy is preserved, not threatened by development. The Kennebec Highlands contains remains of at least 33 farmsteads and schoolhouses with the potential for a huge database of material remains. In 2003, the MHPC previous survey found that there were no prehistoric sites, located and mapped 15 cellar holes and barn complexes, most of which appear to be largely undisturbed, and the potential for 18 additional sites. The Kennebec Highlands consists of nearly 6,000 acres in Vienna, Rome, New Sharon, and Mount Vernon. There are 5 undeveloped ponds and 50 miles of roads and trails. Vienna has a potential of 21 19th-century sites, Rome has a potential for 9 sites, New Sharon has a potential for 3 sites; and Mount Vernon's potential was unknown in 2003. Maps, field surveys/excavation, town histories, census records, genealogies/vital statistics, deed research, agricultural census, diaries, newspaper accounts, and photographs/postcards are useful in order to create a cultural database. In order for the Kennebec Highlands area to be eligible for the National Register of Historic Places several conditions have to be met: that the sites require a reasonable amount of documentation, that the sites have separable components (the ability to distinguish one household from another from the age of the artifacts); and that the sites should be largely undisturbed.

A new survey began with an informative public lecture on Wednesday, August 6, given jointly by Leon Cranmer and John Mosher on the history of the Kennebec Highlands and its historic sites so far noted. The lecture introduced archaeology in Maine, explained basic archaeological concepts and methods, related what was learned in the first study of the Kennebec Highlands and what the current study planned to cover.

In the week following the lecture, the general public had the opportunity to participate in 3 ½ days of field surveys in the Kennebec Highlands in which over a dozen new sites were discovered. In the second half of the week, the public was invited to participate in an all day archaeological digging workshop, at the Farnham Farmstead on BRCA property. Thank you to all who came and helped us.

To truly understand the present, we need to explore the past. It helps us to gain an appreciation for the way of life that brought people to live here and visit over and over, generation after generation. The cellar holes and rock walls now overgrown by forest, are just pieces to the puzzle which help to create a sense of awareness and a sense of belonging to this place.

"It's not just important, dead white men that we ought to remember, it's everybody. Their stories are harder to find, because the people we are talking about lived lives like you and I do, sort of below the level of historical scrutiny."
-Jay Adams, director and curator of Old Fort Western.



A family at BRCA's archaeology dig with the Maine Historic Preservation Commission

Milfoil Program

Our sixth summer has been hot and productive on many fronts, particularly on the frontline of aquatic invader defense. The high prices of gas might have slowed down the tourism, but the boaters keep coming, and the inspections keep rolling. To date, the Courtesy Boat Inspectors (CBIs) have put in over 2000 hours of coverage at your local boat launches, and over 5000 boat inspections have been completed. Our inspectors have removed Variable leaf milfoil from several boats leaving Messalonskee Lake, and have removed Eurasian milfoil from a boat launching at Great Pond.

The Milfoil committee was formed in 2002 in order to coordinate invasive plant prevention efforts throughout the Belgrade Lakes Watershed. This collaboration be-

tween the five lake associations, Belgrade Lakes Association, East Pond Association, McGrath Pond and Salmon Lake Association, North Pond Association, and Snow Pond/Messalonskee Lake Association, has made it possible to have CBIs at all the public boat launches in the region.

Some of the CBIs are paid employees, covering critical times at the ramps that each lake association determines; others are dedicated volunteers who fill in those times that cannot be covered by paid staff due to lack of resources. Of note, the entire McGrath Pond and Salmon Lake Association's Board of Directors received CBI training and spent significant time covering the ramps this summer. The CBIS have continued to

prevent both Variable-leaf Milfoil and Eurasian Milfoil from entering our uninfested lakes.

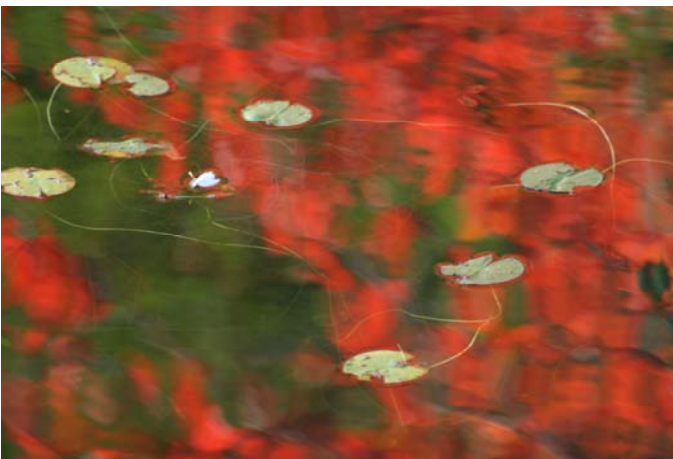
The public's reception to the program has been great, and the awareness has increased about the issues of invasive plants. I'm sure that many of you have met some of our crew, and our crew appreciates the friendly interactions, and positive experiences they encounter daily. Our whole community relies on the lakes that surround us, and with your participation, donations, and positive feedback the program becomes stronger and more affective. On behalf of the CBI program, we sincerely thank you for caring, engaging and sharing your positive support.

Thanks to the BRCA Courtesy Boat Inspectors on Staff

- Alan Brackett
- Mike Avery
- Brendan Cloukey
- Mathew Collins
- Ian Davis
- Heather Doolittle
- Ben Dubois
- Felicia Dumont
- Robert Giggey
- Brandon Hall
- Katherine Jacobs
- Megan Kerwood
- Colby LaPlante
- Brad Loomis
- Lindsey Mathes
- Katherine Mills
- Aaron Romac
- Stephen Squiers
- Nicholas Stevens
- Caitlin Wyman
- Lila Zanicoli



“Loon” (above) and “Autumn Reflection” (below) by Carrie Beth Weaver



“Off Long Pond toward Lost Pond” (above) and “Conservation Land leading to Lost Pond” (below) by Maryjane Shiverick in October 2007



Eurasian water milfoil found in Salmon Lake

Maine DEP and DIFW engage rapid response plan

AUGUSTA—Confirming an August 1st discovery of Eurasian water milfoil (*Myriophyllum spicatum*) in Salmon Lake, a headwater of the Belgrade Lakes region, the Departments of Environmental Protection (DEP) and Inland Fisheries and Wildlife (DIFW) mobilized their Rapid Response Plan to suppress the aggressive invasive aquatic plant before it has an opportunity to proliferate. The Plan deploys trained personnel, equipment and other resources without delay.

“This finding, especially in headwaters of a major lake system, calls for a quick and precise response because Eurasian water milfoil is considered more aggressive than the variable water milfoil which exists in 25 ponds and lakes in Maine,” said Paul Gregory, an environmental specialist for the DEP. “We have seen in the recent past that a rapid response to a new infestation can significantly limit and even eradicate an invasive species. That’s our objective.”

On August 5th, DEP biologists surveyed the site where the plants were first detected -- a shallow cove between a public boat ramp off Route 8 and an outlet stream leading to Great Pond. Determining that the infestation is sparse in density, DEP dive teams removed the Eurasian water milfoil by hand on Friday, August 8, and Tuesday, August 19.

Beginning August 11, DEP and BRCA coordinated in-depth surveys of Salmon Lake, an outlet stream leading down stream to Great Pond, and the inlet cove in Great Pond to determine whether the aggressive plant is established elsewhere. Meanwhile, state officials deployed buoys identifying plant sites, improved signage at the nearby boat ramp, communicate with lake shore residents on appropriate boat usage, and BRCA increased the hours of Courtesy Boat Inspections occurring at the boat ramp.

Adapted from a press release from the Maine Department of Environmental Protection



Eurasian water milfoil
Myriophyllum spicatum

“It is extraordinarily fortunate that we discovered this infestation of the highly invasive Eurasian water milfoil early on,” said DEP Commissioner David Littell. “We are aggressively addressing the containment and removal of these plants following the Rapid Response Plan we developed in 2006. We are also working cooperatively with the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife to control surface water uses in the immediate area of the infestation in order to prevent the spread of this invasive plant. We have been extremely fortunate to have kept this invasive plant at bay thanks to the work of many volunteers and staff at DEP and IFW under Maine’s invasive aquatic plant program.”

DEP officials discussed the infestation, rapid response plan and sought assistance from area residents at the previously-scheduled annual meeting of the Salmon Lake-McGrath Pond Association on Thursday August 7th at the Belgrade Center for All Seasons in Belgrade.

Also known as Ellis Lake, Salmon Lake’s 695 acres are located in Belgrade and Oakland. The infestation was first detected by Kurt Lakin, a summer resident from Tennessee and a fisheries biologist with first-hand knowledge of Eurasian milfoil. Only one other water body in the state, a 46-acre gravel pit in Scarborough, is infested with Eurasian milfoil. In total, 29 out of Maine’s 5,700 ponds and lakes contain an invasive aquatic plant species.



To date, a few fragments have been found in the stream but no plants have been found outside the cove where the original infestation was noted.



“McGrath Pond
Sunset”
Summer 2007
(left)
by Kay Macklin



“Kayaking
on Long Pond”
Summer 2005
(right)
by Michael Bernstein

OFFICIAL 2008

SUMMER FISHING DERBY & RAFFLE

Summer Photo Fishing Derby

Date: Memorial Day to August 30, 2008
Location: Belgrade Lakes Watershed

Just \$5 per entry/photo!

Send in your **photograph** or e-mail a digital photograph of your “trophy” fish caught in any of the lakes or ponds in the Belgrade Watershed with \$5 and you are eligible to enter our raffle. A great event for all ages! All proceeds go to preserving the natural resources of the Belgrade Watershed.

The Fishing Derby offers prizes from our select local sponsors. Guide services, GPS units, and more!

Enter the BRCA Summer Fishing Derby & Raffle until 11 a.m. on the day of the final drawing. All prizes to be selected by drawing at the AQUAFEST Awards Ceremony. Maine State fishing regulations are in effect. Registration forms are available at the seven Belgrade Watershed boat ramps from our Courtesy Boat Inspectors, at the BRCA office in the village, or on our website.



Electronic Fishfinder
Value \$300



Full Day Guided
Fishing Trip for 2
Value \$300



\$200 Gift Certificate

Sales • Service • Storage • Rentals

Swan's Guide Service

Full Day Guided Fishing Trip
Value \$350



Half Day Guided Fishing
Trip, Value \$175



MID-MAINE MARINE
THE BOATER'S CHOICE - OAKLAND, MAINE

Gift Certificate for Marine Store Accessories
Value \$350

tonde guide service inc.
have fun outdoors in Maine

6 hour Guided Fishing Trip
Value \$300
397-4972



Pete Kallin, BRCA Executive Director, and his grandson, Nathan Kallin, just having caught his second fish ever. This is an entry for the Official 2008 Summer Fishing Derby and Raffle.

Belgrade Watershed Aquafest

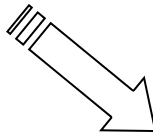


Ongoing programs of the BRCA Lake Trust include Milfoil control, Conservation Corps, support of the five lake associations, and a watershed-wide working group to improve water quality and public enjoyment of the seven Belgrade lakes for all who live, work, visit, and play in the 13 towns of the Belgrade Watershed.

KID'S CORNER CHALLENGE ACTIVITIES INCLUDE:

- Passport thru the Watershed
- Musical Milfoil
- Stream Critters
- Working Watershed
- T-shirt Painting with a free t-shirt to take home!

When kid's visit each lake station, their "passport" is stamped.
When a kid's passport gets all the stamps, they earn a free ice cream.



Saturday, August 30,
ALL DAY

6:30 to 7:45 am **5K Registration**
Camp Runoia, Point Road

8:00 to 8:40 am **5K RACE for the LAKES** \$
Timed Road Race, Safe, Rolling course, Out and Back from Camp Runoia Gates
\$18 entry fee on Saturday

8:45 to 9:00 am **5K Award Ceremony**
Overall Men and Women, 1, 2, 3 Men's and Women's in six age categories.
Camp Runoia Gates.

8:30 to 10:45 am **FUN RUN Registration**
CFAS Route 27, Belgrade

9:00 to 11:00 am **KID'S CORNER CHALLENGE!**
Center for All Seasons **FREE!**

FREE RIDES ON MELINDA ANN, a pontoon boat with lake learning lab! From the Dock at the Center for All Seasons.

FUN EVENTS FOR FAMILIES!

Lake Activities Event Course, T-shirt painting, Ice Cream!

11:00 am **FUN RUN, WALK, CRAWL, or CREEP (dogs too!)** \$
From the Center for All Seasons around the Village flower triangle and back. \$5/person, \$10/family, or FREE with pledges for sponsorship

12:00 **BARBECUE AND FAMILY SWIM** \$
Center for All Seasons Picnic Area.
\$5/person, kids under 3 Free.
First Come, First Served. Live Music

1:00 to 3:00 **Kayak Clinic**
at the waterfront of Center for All Seasons
2:00 pm GPS Clinic, CFAS Picnic Area

2:00 to 3:00 pm **KAYAK RACE** \$
From the Dock at Center for All Seasons

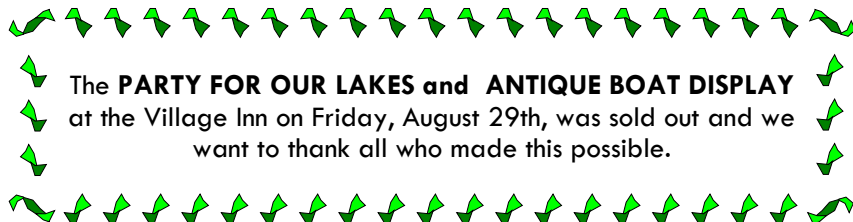
ALL DAY ACTIVITIES IN THE VILLAGE

8 am to 2 pm in the Village
FARMERS' MARKET at the Yellow House Lawn
ART MART at Artists and Artisans in the Village

7 pm **COFFEE HOUSE AND OPEN MIKE** \$
Union Church, Featuring Live Music

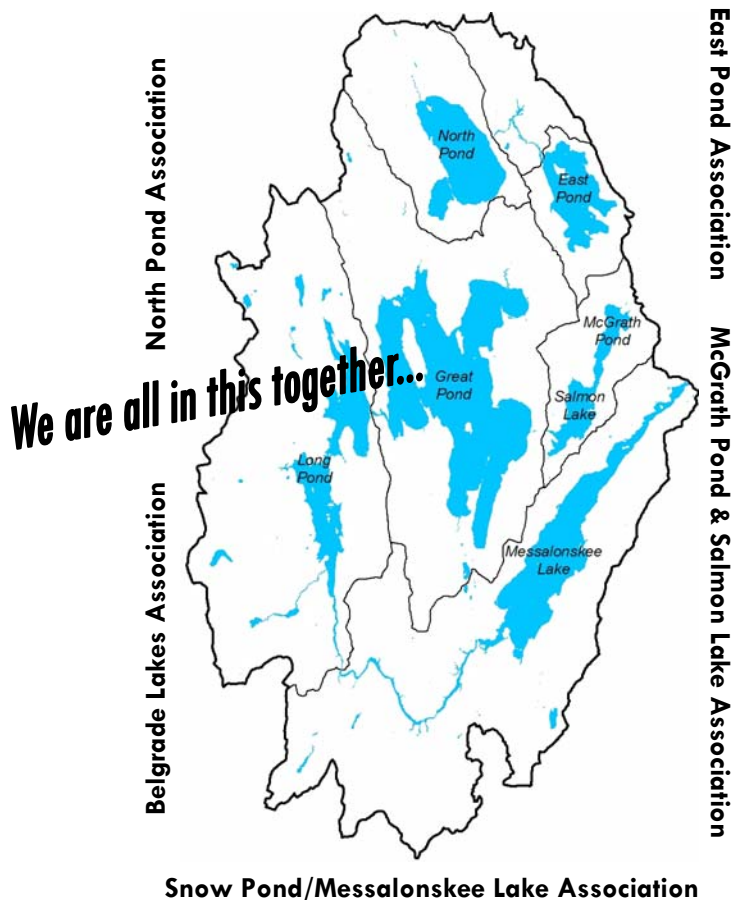
\$ Fee will be charged for these activities

Please thank all of our sponsors who are listed on the back page.



The **PARTY FOR OUR LAKES and ANTIQUE BOAT DISPLAY** at the Village Inn on Friday, August 29th, was sold out and we want to thank all who made this possible.

BRCA Lake Trust



Snow Pond/Messalonskee Lake Association

Conservation Corps: New Look, Same Great Taste!

The BRCA's Youth Conservation Corps wrapped up its 2008 work season on August 14, following a busy summer in which our two crews of local students completed a near-record 55 projects throughout the Belgrade Lakes Watershed. By far the most visible Conservation Corps project of the summer was completed in the first week of the season, when the crew installed a rain garden and a set of infiltration steps at Day's Store in Belgrade Lakes in order to collect and infiltrate runoff from the driveway next to the store. Other Conservation Corps projects this summer included riprap, ditch armoring, buffer gardens, runoff diversion, and bare soil stabilization. Since its inception in 1996, the Conservation Corps has completed 549 projects in the Belgrade Lakes Watershed, helping to prevent soil erosion and protect the water quality of our lakes.

BEFORE



With the 2008 work season in the books, the Conservation Corps has begun looking ahead to 2009. Corps Director Jason Bulay is currently visiting sites and arranging projects for next summer. If you are interested in a work project on your property next year, contact Jason at the BRCA office or via email at brcacc@gwi.net.

Some of you may also have noticed the new look of the Conservation Corps this year. With the help of the Norcross Wildlife Foundation, Morrissette Motors of Waterville, Mission Trailer of Waterville, Trailside Performance of Winslow, and the generous support of many concerned citizens of the Belgrade Lakes area, the Conservation Corps purchased a truck and two new trailers to carry tools and equipment between project sites. Look for the Conservation Corps throughout the Belgrade Lakes watershed as we continue our work to protect the lakes we all love!



AFTER



**BRCA
Thanks the
Conservation
Corps**

Jason Bulay
Cody Baeder
Sam Mathes
Jackson Bouchard
Whitney Bushey
Jon Dumont
Ben Seel

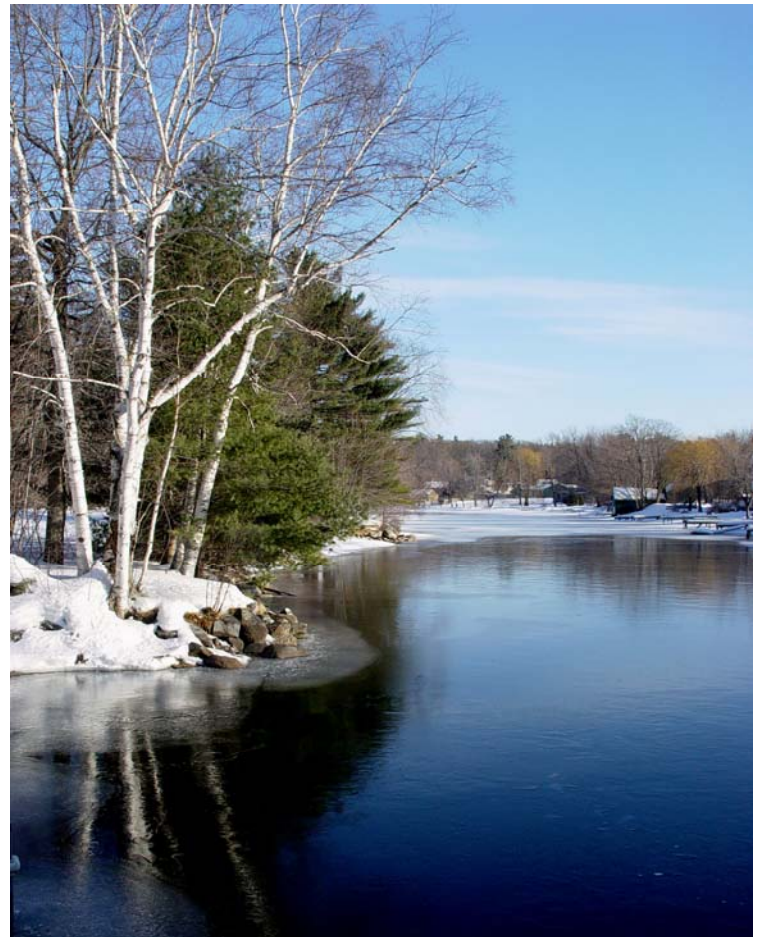
Dan Pelletier
Matt Seel
Stephen McLeod
Isabel Burgess
Tim Davis
Ryan McLeod
Sean Strothmann



And don't forget us northern folks
still up here in the winter
keeping all safe and warm.....



"Birdhouse in Snow" December, 2003



"Belgrade Lakes"



"Ice on Great Pond"(all above)

Photos by Michael Bernstein

BRCA is planning a 2009 calendar with some of our member's photos. If you have any photos for the BRCA calendar 2009, please submit to brca@gwi.net or stop by the office to have them scanned.



Photos by
Dick
Greenan,

BRCA's
Board
Member
and
Treasurer





BELGRADE
REGIONAL
CONSERVATION
ALLIANCE

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www.belgradelakes.org

Phone: 207.495.6039
E-mail: brca@gwi.net

Please thank all of our AQUAFEST sponsors:

**The HILDRETH STEWART
CHARITABLE FOUNDATION**



Savings Bank of Maine

**NORTH POND
ASSOCIATION**

Hight

Chevrolet-Buick-Pontiac-GMC

**Hammond
Lumber Company**

BELGRADE REGIONAL HEALTH CENTER

Kennebec Savings Bank 
your community bank since 1870

Member
FDIC



NATIVE NOTIONS
Ecological Landscape Design & Contracting

Also thank all of the wonderful community members that volunteered to make this possible.