



BELGRADE REGIONAL CONSERVATION ALLIANCE



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

Conserving the Natural Heritage of the Belgrade Lakes Watershed

Every year, Pine Island Campers travel to the summit of Mount Phillip, at the north end of Great Pond, in search of King Kababa's elusive cave. Mount Phillip has been home to King Kababa ever since he gave Pine Island to the founder of Pine Island Camp, Clarence Colby, in 1902. In 2004 BRCA, in collaboration with Pine Island Camp, acquired 207 acres on Mount Phillip, including the hiking trail and summit. Traditions such as these are the heart of what drives the part of BRCA's mission to

"conserve the natural heritage of the Belgrade Lakes watershed". Traditions in the outdoors provide the foundation for connecting people to nature. Studies show that when children spend time outdoors, there are a suite of benefits related to their physical, emotional, and mental well-being. Children are also more likely to be good stewards of the land and water if they have experienced a personal connection to those places. Many traditions have begun on BRCA-owned land, in the

Kennebec Highlands, and in the lakes of the Belgrade Lakes watershed. Perhaps you would like to share a story about a special tradition for you and your family or friends? Or, perhaps you will be inspired to start a new tradition? Either way, BRCA would welcome the opportunity to learn how our mission is being carried out throughout the watershed.

Please contact BRCA at brca@belgradelakes.org, to share your story.

King Kababa, Pine Island Camp and Mt. Phillip

According to local historians, in order to establish a boys' camp on Pine Island, Clarence Colby (no relationship with Colby College) had to negotiate with King Kababa, who in 1902 was living on the island with his sacred animals. King Kababa thought the camp was a great idea, and he agreed to vacate the island (at least during the summer) and retire to his cave atop Mt. Phillip as long as the boys at Pine Island were loyal to the King's principles: **honesty, good humor, independence coupled with a concern for others, responsibility, cooperation, and a generous spirit.** Colby agreed and the camp was established. Each summer since then, King Kababa has kept an eye on the camp and on Pine Islanders everywhere, and during the summer he sends messages to the campers, always written on birch bark in blue ballpoint pen, to comment on the progress of the camp season. These are interpreted by the resident Kababologists, all graduates of the Yale School of Kababology, at the evening campfire on the day the signs are discovered. At least once a summer the youngest boys in camp embark on the Sacred Journey, a day-long trip that includes an ascent of Mt. Phillip to pay respect to King Kababa. The boys often find evidence of the King and his henchmen, but no one has ever actually seen the King or discovered his well-disguised cave. At the end of the summer, if belief in King Kababa is strong and the campers have been loyal to the King's principles, he sends his henchmen to the island to deliver one of his sacred animals as a gift to the boys and staff. Each animal has a chant associated with it, and on a still night on Great Pond you may hear the campers and staff performing one of the chants as a way of thanking King Kababa for the use of Pine Island and for the King's benevolent oversight. Many beautiful sacred animals hang from the rafters of buildings at Pine Island.



President's Column:

The BRCA Board of Directors and Decision Quality

Decision Quality, or the art of making good decisions, is crucial to a successful organization, and the quality of the decisions made is only as good as those individuals making them. I'm always impressed with the breadth of knowledge of our BRCA board members, but am more impressed in how they work together to use that knowledge to make quality decisions. Each of our board members brings to the table unique skills to ensure that the decisions we make support our strategic plan. I consider it a privilege to work with these people and I'd like to share a few thoughts about each of them.

Our Executive Committee is comprised of me, **Dick Greenan**, and **Don Mairs**. We provide strategic and tactical guidance to our Executive

Director Charlie Baeder. Dick, our treasurer, is a board member of the Belgrade Lakes Association (BLA). He understands our financial books inside and out and can literally tell you where every dollar was spent, and why it was spent. He is prone to ask those difficult questions that no one else is brave enough to ask. Don is a McGrath Pond/Salmon Lake Association member, is an avid birder and knows just about everything there is to know about birds. His grandmother introduced him to birding when he was a young boy and he hasn't slowed down. He's very practical and pragmatic, great assets for making good decisions as our secretary.

Jack Schultz, also a board member of the BLA, cuts to the chase on every issue and reduces every discussion to its basic elements. Jack's probing questions help me make better decisions and I often seek him out for his opinion on complex and difficult issues.

I consider **Warren Balgooyen** to be a naturalist. He's an "at large" member not associated with any lake association and knows as much about plants and animals as Don Mairs knows about birds. Many of the decisions we make require a keen understanding of nature, and I can always count on Warren to enlighten us.

Bill Swan, another at large member who formerly lived in our watershed, is also active in the 30 Mile Watershed located just west of the Kennebec Highlands. Bill, a Maine Guide, is a very experienced conservationist and is quick to share lessons learned, experiences, and best practices, all key tenets of good decision making.

Chris Cook, also a member of the BLA, is an attorney and an extremely valuable asset to our organization. She is quick to provide legal advice and explanations, but she can explain

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Executive Director's Column: Board of Director Policies / Bylaws Amendments / BRCA Directors

Hello Members! The BRCA board is proposing several amendments to our bylaws which must be voted on by BRCA members. We plan to vote on these amendments at our Annual Meeting at Alden Camps on September 2, 2014. "The proposed amendments must receive a two thirds (2/3) majority vote of the members present and voting, or represented by proxy, to become effective." The proposed amendments are listed below. Our complete bylaws are available by contacting our office manager, Mary Kerwood. If you want to vote on the amendments and cannot attend the Annual Meeting, please contact Mary to vote by proxy. If you have any comments on these changes please let us know.

See page 9 for the BYLAWS AMENDMENTS

Most of the proposed changes are to improve the efficiency of our financial activities. However, a more strategic amendment is proposed to increase the number of directors from 16 to 20. *This change is being proposed to encourage lake association members to participate as BRCA directors. To complement this bylaws change, the BRCA board is adopting a policy to reserve 10 (of 20) director positions for lake association members (up to 2 director positions per lake association: East Pond Associa-*

tion, North Pond Association, McGrath Pond/Salmon Lake Association, Belgrade Lakes Association, and Friends of Messalonskee).

Two additional board policies are being considered: All BRCA directors must attend at least 4 Board meetings each year, in person, and at least 8 Board meetings each year, in person or by phone/ videoconference. (BRCA board meetings are held monthly 12 times per year.) All BRCA directors must serve on at least 1 committee, and are encouraged to serve on 2 committees.

Friends of Messalonskee (FOM) supports a larger BRCA board and more active and inclusive lake association participation. The BRCA board elected two FOM members to the board in April: Mike Willey and Ret. General Bill Libby. Please welcome them to BRCA's board!

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2014 Water Quality Grant Program for Homeowners, Road Associations, and Towns

BRCA received a Maine Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) grant this year to fix erosion problems on Long Pond and Great Pond. The \$74,460 grant will be used to improve town and private roads and driveways, and to fund Youth Conservation Corps (YCC) projects in 2014 and 2015. The grant will also fund technical assistance from the Kennebec County Soil & Water Conservation District including the development of Road Management Plans. The grant provides up to 50% of project costs to homeowners, road associations and towns.

Long Pond qualified for this grant because it is considered “impaired” by DEP as a result of a documented long-term decline in water clarity. The grant also covers Great Pond because 70% of

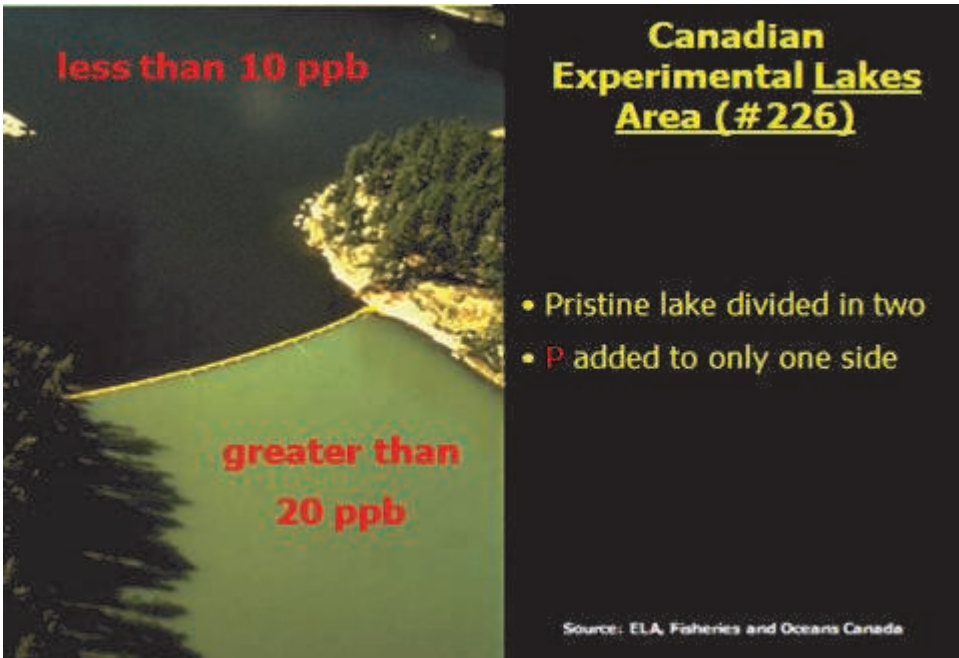
Long Pond’s water comes from Great Pond. The grants are known as “319 grants” because the funds come from an Environmental Protection Agency Clean Water Act program of that name; the program is administered in Maine by DEP.

Erosion adds phosphorus to lakes, and erosion is a frequent result of many land use activities including residential and commercial development, roads, farming and forestry. Phosphorus attaches to dirt and is the reason BRCA works to reduce erosion around the watershed. The other primary source of phosphorus to our lakes is septic systems. This grant program does not fix septic systems.

Phosphorus (P) is a nutrient that feeds plants, including algae, and a little

phosphorus goes a long way. Like human food, moderation is key. Below 10 ppb (parts per billion) lakes remain clear. Above 20 ppb lakes become a green soup. The photo below is an experimental lake in Canada where researchers added phosphorus to prove this point.

Long Pond is still generally below the 10 ppb threshold. BRCA’s goal is to reverse the negative trend and to improve water quality in the face of on-going development. Lakes drive much of our local economy – in addition to property taxes, we depend on lakes for our tourism, real estate, residential construction, hospitality, and recreation industries. BRCA supports land use and development when it is done with water quality in mind.



PHOSPHORUS ATTACHES TO DIRT AND IS THE REASON BRCA WORKS TO REDUCE EROSION AROUND THE WATERSHED.

Please contact BRCA to fix an erosion problem on your property or to get technical advice. This applies to any location in the Belgrade Lakes watershed including East Pond, North Pond, Salmon McGrath and Messalonskee, in addition to Long Pond and Great Pond. Our YCC program works on all the lakes and we provide free labor to install erosion fixes (also known as Best Management Practices, or BMPs). BRCA YCC program information is available at www.belgradelakes.org and by contacting Nathan Durant, YCC program director, at bracc@belgradelakes.org.

The 319 grant program provides up to 50% of project costs to homeowners, road associations and towns for road and driveway improvement projects, and for Road Management Plans, on Long Pond and Great Pond. Additional 319 grant information is available by email at brca@belgradelakes.org and by contacting Charlie Baeder, BRCA Executive Director, at brcab@belgradelakes.org.

- Charlie Baeder

HOMEOWNER PROJECT REQUESTS

You may want to take advantage of the Conservation Corps' free labor for erosion control on your property if...



-you have more grass than other vegetation in your yard
-your driveway goes downhill towards the lake
-you have soil displacement under roof drip lines
-you have spots of bare soil in your yard
-you have a path that goes downhill to the lake
-your shoreline is eroding (you see loss of soil, undercutting, exposed roots)
-you just want to know what you can do to improve the lake's water quality.

HOMEOWNER PROJECT REQUESTS

The Conservation Corps is constantly seeking candidate project sites. Corps labor is free of charge. Homeowners pay only material and permitting costs. Contact the BRCA to schedule a property visit and learn how you can improve your lake's water quality. (207) 465-6039

New Youth Conservation Corps Director

Hello there! My name is Nathan Durant and this is my first summer as the Program Director for the BRCA's Youth Conservation Corps. I am a native to Maine and my home town is Williamsburg Township located near Brownville. I attended college at University of Maine at Farmington. While in school, I was a research assistant for Dr. Buckley and his research pertaining to invasive aquatic plants for the Rangeley Lakes Heritage Trust. After

obtaining my degree in Biology from the University of Maine at Farmington, I was accepted for the Margret Chase Smith summer internship program. My position was an entomology assistant for the Maine Forest Service and I participated in the Emerald Ash Borer (EAB) survey. My task was to identify any beetles that closely resembled EAB morphology and to remove old pheromone traps with new ones. When my internship ended, I briefly worked at Backyard Farms as an Integrated Pest Management technician. Next, I worked on a crew for the Maine Conservation Corps (MCC). My summer was spent in Acadia cutting a brand new trail on the Schoodic Peninsula and making a bridge for Damariscotta River Association. During the fall, I jumped from making stone stairs at Grafton Notch State Park to making bicycle trails in Yarmouth. This 900 hour term of service at MCC has ignited a passion for trail work. This is what led me to the Program Director position for the Belgrade Regional Conservation Alliance. I am excited to live and work in such a lovely area. My goal is to use my education to better myself as well as the Belgrade Lakes Region.



Milfoil Program: UPDATE

The summer of 2014 is sure to be a busy one for the BRCA milfoil program. There will be an army of interns, summer employees, and volunteers, preventing, detecting, and removing invasive aquatic plants on all six lakes in the Belgrade Lakes watershed.

Last summer, BRCA's courtesy boat inspectors (CBI) inspected almost 13,000 boats going into and coming out of the seven public boat launches and two private boat launches, in the Belgrade Lakes watershed. If you use the public boat launches, you will see a lot of familiar faces and some new one's. Take time to say hello to the CBI on duty, and if you are interested in being a volunteer CBI, please contact BRCA Milfoil Director, Toni Pied.

There are several efforts underway this summer to help detect any new infestations of invasive aquatic plants. For the second summer, residents of Great Pond and Long Pond will have the opportunity to "adopt" their shoreline. This is a fun and easy way to protect the lakes and your property values! If you are interested in participating in this program, please contact Toni. In addition to the Adopt-A-Shoreline program, there will be interns from the University of Maine at Farmington, Colby College, and Unity College (in partnership with the Friends of Messalonskee), surveying the shorelines of all the lakes for any new infestations of invasive aquatic plants, and recording information about native plants. There will also be volunteer invasive plant patrols (IPP) on many of the lakes. Please contact Toni if you are interested in being a volunteer IPPer.



For a third summer, BRCA, in partnership with the Belgrade Lakes Association, will be on Great Pond removing variable milfoil from the Great Meadow Stream and the mouth of the stream, as well as three other tributaries at the north end of Great Pond. There will be a team of college students as well as the professional milfoil mitigation company, New England Milfoil, out on the lake from the beginning of June through September. We have made great progress over the past two summers and are planning to significantly decrease the amount of variable milfoil in Great Pond this summer. Please note that a surface use restriction is still in place at the mouth of the Great Meadow Stream, and in the stream itself. This restriction is for all watercraft, except those that are participating in milfoil removal, until the end of 2014. BRCA will also be working on variable milfoil removal in the Belgrade Stream, and parts of Messalonskee Marsh this summer. Our first priority is to prevent variable milfoil from spreading into other water-bodies. To accomplish this task, we will be removing variable milfoil from access points, such as the unofficial boat launches at Knowles Road and Bartlett Road, and the carry-in boat launch off Route 27, as well as areas

close to the Wing's Mill Dam. We will also be working to improve habitat for the endangered Black tern in Messalonskee Marsh.

A significant addition to the milfoil program this year is the new BRCA DASH (diver assisted suction harvester). This boat and equipment was made possible through a grant from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's North American Wetland Conservation Act, small grant program. The DASH will be out on Great Pond and in the Belgrade Stream from the beginning of June through the end of August.

This summer, BRCA will be partnering with the Friends of Messalonskee (FOM) to map and remove milfoil from Messalonskee Lake. A team of interns from Unity College and FOM's DASH crew will be mapping the current status of Messalonskee's variable milfoil infestation, and will be working in areas to remove plants from infested areas. If you are interested in helping with this effort, please contact Toni.

Whether you volunteer as a CBI, get trained to "adopt" your shoreline, help with a removal project, or donate money toward the cause, there are several ways to get involved with the milfoil program this summer. Please contact Toni Pied at brcamf@belgradelakes.org or (207) 215-2685 for more information.

Milfoil Program: WISH LIST

- o Sturdy canoes and kayaks
- o Paddles
- o A place for the team from New England Milfoil to stay from July 14th-17th

AQUAFEST

Saturday, August 2nd
10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.



FAMILY FESTIVAL

Games, activities & learning adventures
for kids of all ages

Rides on the *Melinda Ann*
Musical Milfoil
Stream and Lake Critters
T-shirt painting
Watershed Demo Model
Fishing for Tots\Invasive Fish Game
Letterboxing, Geocaching and more!



Rome Cell Tower Update

BRCA has followed the Town of Rome's review of a cell tower application for the construction of a cell tower near The Mountain. BRCA has asked the town to have the applicant, Global Towers, consider alternative locations or tower heights in order to have less impact on views from BRCA's conservation properties and from area lakes. The town's Planning Board rejected the application this winter and the applicant has filed a complaint against the town in federal district court. The town's response has been to ask the court to dismiss the complaint and to use the town's Appeals Board as the next level of review rather than the courts. The complaint is before the court at this time.

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Central Maine Motors Donates Truck to YCC



Central Maine Motors (CMM), Waterville, has agreed to donate a used truck to the Youth Conservation Corps (YCC) for summer 2014. CMM has provided a truck for 3 years now and it has given BRCA the means to tow our trailers and to provide logistical support for the YCC's work throughout the watershed, saving us significant money and time in depreciation and maintenance. Chris Gaunce has made the process easy. Thanks to CMM for their continued support of our programs!

Upcoming BRCA and Conservation Events

BRCA News ~ Summer 2014

EDUCATION & OUTREACH

Saturday, June 7th, 11 a.m. Hike Round Top, Rome	Hike Round Top with BRCA Board member, Pete Kallin. Pre-register by 6/5, 3 person minimum.
Saturday, June 14th, 10 a.m. Fogg Island, Belgrade	Ferns Flowers & Fauna with BRCA Board Member, Warren Balgooyen. Pre-register by 6/12, 3 person minimum.
Saturday, June 21st, 10 a.m. Mt. Phillip, Rte 225, Rome	Hike Mt. Phillip with Margaret Pietrak. Pre-register by 6/19, 3 person minimum.
Thursday, July 3rd, 6:30 p.m. MLRC, 137 Main St, Belgrade	"Local Bear Rehabilitation" Lecture with Dawn Brown from Second Chance Wildlife.
Tuesday, July 8th, 2 p.m. MLRC, 137 Main St, Belgrade	"Birds of Prey: New England's Majestic Raptors" A Chewonki Natural History Program with live predators of the sky up close. Sponsored by the Belgrade Lakes Association.
Thursday, July 10th, 6:30 p.m. MLRC, 137 Main St, Belgrade	"Ticks and Lyme Disease" Lecture with Dr. Stephen Sears, Maine State Epidemiologist
Saturday, July 12th, 10 a.m. The Mountain, Rome	Geology of the Kennebec Highlands with BRCA Board member, Mel Croft. Pre-register by 7/10, 3 person minimum.
Sunday, July 13th, 10 a.m. French Mountain, Rome	Interpretive Nature Hike on French Mountain with BRCA Board members, Warren Balgooyen & Jodie Mosher-Towle. Pre-register by 7/10, 3 person minimum.
Thursday, July 17th, 6:30 p.m. MLRC, 137 Main St, Belgrade	Lecture with Dr. Whitney King and Colby Colleagues about water quality which is the physical, chemical and biological characteristics of water and why it is important.
Thursday, July 24th, 2 p.m. MLRC, 137 Main St, Belgrade	"Scales and Tails" A Chewonki Natural History Program. Sponsored by the Maine Lakes Resource Center. For more information: Call MLRC at 207-495-3617.
Friday, July 25th, 5:30 p.m. MLRC, 137 Main St, Belgrade	BRCA's Famous Antique Boat Party, Village Inn in Belgrade Lakes village. Benefits the BRCA's Lake Trust programs. For more information: Call BRCA at 207-495-6039
Saturday, July 26th, 3 p.m. Long Pond, Rome	Canoe Upper Long Pond with Robyn LeGrand in Rome. Pre-register by 7/24, 3 person minimum.
Sunday, July 27th, 8 a.m. MLRC, 137 Main St, Belgrade	2nd Annual Seven Lakes Music Festival will be a Village-wide celebration of the lakes. Benefits the Maine Lakes Resource Center. FMI: Call MLRC at 207-495-3617.
Thursday, July 31st, 6:30 p.m. MLRC, 137 Main St, Belgrade	"LOONS" Lecture with Laura Suomi-Lecker, volunteer at Avian Haven & from Somerset County Soil and Water Conservation District will discuss the Unleaded Loon Program .
Saturday, August 2nd, 10 a.m. MLRC, 137 Main St, Belgrade Ends at 2:00 p.m.	Come join the lake associations of the Belgrade Lakes Watershed and have some fun with your kids learning about the lakes and having fun, too. Paint t-shirts, see lake critters, play musical milfoil, see how a watershed works, and meet people.
Tuesday, August 5th at 2 p.m. MLRC, 137 Main St, Belgrade	"Mammals of Maine" A Chewonki Natural History Program. Sponsored by the Belgrade Lakes Association. For more information: Call MLRC at 207-495-3617.
Thurs., August 7th, 6:30 p.m. MLRC, 137 Main St, Belgrade	A local Maine native, Earl Smith, presents his newest book <i>More Damn Trouble</i> , the latest chapter in the life of Belfry Village, Maine.
Tuesday, August 12th, 2 p.m. MLRC, 137 Main St, Belgrade	"Owls of Maine" A Chewonki Natural History Program. Sponsored by the Belgrade Lakes Association. For more information: Call MLRC at 207-495-3617.
Thurs., August 7th, 6:30 p.m. MLRC, 137 Main St, Belgrade	Outdoorsman/Writer, George Smith, a local source for the most in-depth and timely news, information, and analysis about outdoor issues and Maine travel will join us.
Saturday, August 30th, 8 a.m. Camp Runoia, Belgrade	7 th Annual 5K Race for the Lakes is hosted by the lake associations of the Belgrade Lakes Watershed working together as the BRCA Lake Trust.



Save the Date:
JULY 25th

LAKE TRUST FUNDRAISING 2014



It's Time for the Famous Antique Boat Show

The BRCA will host our bi-annual antique boat show July 25 at 5:30 PM at the Village Inn in Belgrade. Everyone seems to love old wooden boats, especially when they are up close floating dockside where you can talk to the owners and sip a glass of bubbly while munching on delicious hors d'Oeuvres made by our friends at the Inn.

Details for the evening are still being planned, but there will be music and other entertainment. There will not be a formal sit-down dinner but plenty of food will be available to satisfy your appetite. We'll have a speaker and will hold a live auction for some great prizes.

We hope to have a Maine State Warden from our local Sidney Warden Regional Headquarters. The warden in mind has quite a 'library' of

experiences on our lakes with boaters, fisherman and hunters, etc. and of course some local stories related to the popular North Woods Law series (no names of course!). He has an entertaining, light-hearted humorous approach that is extremely engaging and will have you following his every word!

There will be many beautiful old wooden boats for your pleasure, reminiscent of the beautiful boat driven by Henry Fonda and Katherine Hepburn in Ernest Thompson's classic *On Golden Pond*. Scott Finlay will display his boat, a wooden 1938 Christ Craft Deluxe Runabout 17feet long with a 121 horsepower KB racing engine.

There's just something about old wooden boats that brings out the little kid in us. Finlay explains "To me the allure is as much

about aesthetics as it is about boating. Wooden boats are floating pieces of art; the look, the sound, the nostalgia. They come in all shapes and sizes, some are painted lapstrake and others highly glistening mahogany."

Jack Schultz displayed his boat at the last show. When asked why he liked his wooden boat he said "It's not plastic, it's real wood! It has the original motor, a straight six Marine Gray with 100 horsepower." His boat has never been off Great Pond, and he learned to water ski behind it in 1956.

The boats are a connection to the past. Finlay shared "It's a reminder of a time that has slipped away when varnish and paint were the springtime chore and cruising was as much about being seen as it was about seeing others." But these boats come

with a commitment to maintain them. Schultz has his boat "scraped, painted and re-varnished every 5 years", but I could tell that he enjoys the chore.

Come step back in time when life was slower and the boats were made for showing off. Those exhibiting boats will be happy to give you a tour of their beautiful craft and answer your questions. In addition, the show is a great opportunity to have some great food, catch up with friends and make new acquaintances at a lovely venue located on the Stream, and support the BRCA. Tickets will cost \$50 each, well worth an unforgettable evening.

Mel Croft; BRCA President

For more information: Call BRCA at 207-495-6039 or brca@belgradelakes.org

Executive Director's Column:
**Board of Director Policies/
Bylaws Amendments/
BRCA Directors** (continued)

BRCA's board now has 15 directors. Seven of the 15 directors are up for election or re-election by the members at this year's Annual Meeting. We will publish notice of all board nominees at least 10 days before the Annual Meeting. As with bylaws amendments, if you want to vote on director nominees and cannot attend the Annual Meeting, please contact Mary to vote by proxy.

The proposed bylaws amendments are below (new text is underlined, deleted text is struck through):

Section 4.1. General Powers. The property, affairs and activities of the corporation shall be managed by a Board of Directors consisting of at least five, but not more than ~~sixteen~~ twenty persons....

Section 8.2.2. Savings Accounts. An officer, or their designee, as authorized by a resolution of the Board of Directors, shall transfer funds between the corporation's checking and savings accounts, or. ~~An officer~~ shall make withdrawals from the corporation's savings accounts....

Section 8.2.3. Investment Accounts. An officer, or their designee, as authorized by a resolution of the Board of Directors, shall transfer funds between the corporation's bank and investment accounts, or. ~~An officer, or their designee, as authorized by a resolution of the Board of Directors~~, shall make withdrawals from the corporation's investment accounts....

Section 8.2.4. Safety Deposit Box and Corporate Records. An officer, or their designee, as authorized by a resolution of the Board of Directors, shall have custody of a safe~~2~~ deposit box in which shall be placed title deeds, easements, and other documents belonging to the corporation....

Thanks for your attention to BRCA business and for your support. Have a great summer. We hope to see you at our office, on the trail or water, or at the Annual Meeting.

- Charlie Baeder, Executive Director

**Congrats to BRCA for Funneling
Federal Watershed 319 Grant Monies
to Our Watershed**

BRCA received a letter from the State of Maine's Department of Environmental Protection in May congratulating the successful completion of Phase II of the Long Pond Watershed Restoration Project. The project implemented several actions to reduce phosphorus loading to the lake. Many new Best Management Practices (BMPs) were installed that reduce the export of sediment and phosphorus from the watershed. Significant accomplishments included:

- BMPs were installed on 54 NPS (NonPoint Source) sites including 14 camp roads, two home sites, and the Maine Lakes Resource Center (MLRC), exceeding the project goal of 25 NPS sites. The MLRC porous paver project, grass pavers, and rain gardens are effective BMP demonstrations – over 5,000 visitors passed through the MLRC in 2013;
- Technical assistance was provided to over 20 road associations; 19 road management plans were developed;
- Youth Conservation Corps projects to control erosion and sedimentation were completed on 50 NPS sites, exceeding the project goal of 40 NPS sites. Outreach in support of LakeSmart recognition was conducted with 45 homeowners; and
- **Work completed through the project reduced pollutant loading to Long Pond by an estimated 6.7 tons of sediment and 6.7 pounds of phosphorus per year and to Great Pond by an estimated 42.7 tons of sediment and 37.6 pounds of phosphorus per year**



Michele Joly: 1956-2014

Michele Joly, longtime resident and steward of East Pond passed away March 21, 2014, at the too young age of 58 of colon cancer. She was the eldest daughter of Roz and Bob Joly. The Joly family moved to their home on East Pond in Smithfield in the late 1950s, where Michele grew up in a "diaper and a life jacket." "She was tied to East Pond" recalled her husband Steve Helme, and the Joly home on East Pond was "the perfect spot to grow up." Steve and Michele were married on the front porch of the Joly home among a small group of friends and family.

She was educated in Smithfield schools and Skowhegan High School. Michele attended the University of Maine at Augusta, where she graduated with a degree as a registered nurse. Michele joined Mid Maine Medical Center in 1979, and served the hospital in many roles, from bedside RN to administrative director. She loved to teach and mentor new employees and was a true patient advocate. Her style was commanding and inspiring, always in the best interest of the patient. She was the "go to" person when a job had to be done, which demonstrated her compassion, dedication and commitment to others. She was generous, caring and very intelligent.

Michele had a great sense of humor and possessed a smile that

would light up a room. She loved the outdoors, and was well known for her flower gardens at their home in Unity, which she shared with Steve and their cat Bentley. A true "water baby," she and Steve spent more than 20 summers sailing the coast of Maine from their mooring in Camden Harbor, before moving back to East Pond to care for Michele's parents and Hershey, their beloved Portuguese water dog. Steve told me they always had ocean-going boats in Camden Harbor, and remembers many weekends when they would "take the dingy out to the moored boat and just hang out for the weekend", never leaving the harbor.

One of five children, Michele loved to swim, and even worked as a life guard on East Pond for a while. There were occasional fishing trips on the lake with her father, one of the founders of the very successful Youth Conservation Corps which is still active, dedicated to reducing sources of pollution in our Belgrade Lakes. Ice skating was common in the winter when the lake cooperated. Michele and her mother "were like two peas in a pod" and Roz taught Michele all the traditional skills; she could sew, paint, refinish furniture, garden, and do just about anything she wanted to do. Shirley Boynton, neighbor and long-time friend had tremendous respect and love for Michele, saying "there wasn't anything she couldn't do." She loved helping other people; Boynton

recalled "she was thoughtful, giving, and always thinking of the other person; to know her was to love her." Roz also had several horses and of course Michele learned to ride.

Michele took over her father's place on the boards of the Youth Conservation Corps and East Pond Association when his health began to falter in 2007. Her passion for improving the water quality of East Pond and the Belgrade Lakes was equal to that of Bob's and energized all of the organizations that she worked with. Unfortunately following Bob's death in 2011 Michele was diagnosed with cancer.

Michele was a fighter. In spite of the heavy toll the treatment and disease had taken, this past fall she planted 600 pink tulips at her home on Frog Rock Lane in Smithfield.

Michele did not want a formal ceremony, but her co-workers and medical staff asked Steve if they could do something special in her honor, "as much for them as Michele" Steve shared. The Cancer Center hosted the event and Steve brought along two of Michele's sisters. Over 100 people attended and were rewarded with many stories of Michele during the evening.

A nursing scholarship in Michele's name has been established. Donations can be made to the *MaineGeneral Office of Philanthropy, C/O Michele Joly Scholarship Fund*, PO Box 828, Waterville, ME 04903.

Michele and Steve were close; "we were always together" he recalled with a broken voice when I spoke with him in April this year. It was clear to me that it was time to end the conversation as the good memories were taking their toll. His last words to me were "she was a superstar" and this is how I will always remember her. Godspeed Michele!

By Mel Croft

Photo:

Sunset over East Pond, Smithfield

By Mel Croft



President's Column (continued)

it to us laypersons so we can understand it, and we make better decisions because of her.

Mark Heuberger, a BLA board member, is practical and always asks probing and logical questions to ensure that nothing has been overlooked. He's very good at summarizing decisions to ensure that we clearly understand them and are all in agreement. Moving to consensus is another important aspect of great decision making.

Jodie Mosher-Towle, representing North Pond Association, is an idea person which is great for planning and decision making; she automatically goes into the brainstorming mode when new issues arise.

Most everyone knows **Pete Kallin**, our former Executive Director and current BLA member. Most people are aware of his knowledge of wetlands and water quality, but he is an

extraordinary networker, another critical tenet of good decision making. He seems to always know what the public thinks on key issues which help us make better decisions that everyone will support.

Jane Eberle, a BLA board member, is a former Maine state representative who brings tremendous knowledge of how our state government works. She understands the ins and outs of the governmental process and has been instrumental in many of our efforts to change laws and regulations.

Pat Donahue, another BLA board member, is as dependable and reliable as they come. He's a bit quiet but a great listener, a trait many of us don't have. I've learned to read his body language and know when it's time to call for silence and ask for Pat's opinion. I can also rely on him to provide local knowledge.

Maggie Shannon probably works

harder than anyone I know to preserve our lakes. I don't know anyone who can more eloquently describe the importance of protecting our lakes, explaining technical information about lake conservation that many of us don't know.

I'd also like to recognize former board members **Dave Axelman** and **Bruce Hazard** who left the board to focus on areas where they feel they could be more productive.

Mike Willey and **Bill Libby**, both from the Friends of Messalonskee lake association, have recently joined our board and I look forward to getting to know them better.

The BRCA board is a diverse group of individuals who bring to bear a variety of talents to ensure we make good decisions. The next time you see one of our board members please thank them for their hard work to protect our lakes.

- Mel Croft: President BRCA

A Farewell to a Friend of East Pond



My father, Bill Fudge, first came to East Pond as a kid in the 1950s. Before there was even an Interstate-95, his family would drive up from Ohio in the summer to spend time at a camp built by his great-uncle Everett Coffin, the man who also constructed the dam at the end of the Serpentine. Over the years he'd bring his own wife and children to stay at the family camp, and after nearly 40 years as a teacher, he retired here, moving into the first house Everett Coffin built on East Pond.

East Pond meant a great deal to my father, and by extension, my family. It was a vacation spot, a camp and then his home. It was a fishing hole and a swimming hole. It was summer sunsets and windswept winters. It's where his kids grew up and where he grew old with his wife. Most of all, it was paradise, and where my father peacefully spent his final days before passing away this past January at 67.

Some of you may have known my father through his work with the East Pond Association, serving on the Board of Directors or volunteering to check boats at the landing. But whether you knew him well, in passing or barely at all, to know and love this lake was to know and love my father.

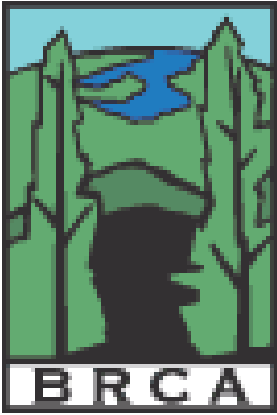
To him, seasons were determined by docks and ice. In winter the ice came in, spring it went out. In summer docks went in. In fall they went out. He'd define a busy day on the lake in the winter as a handful of ice

fisherman and snowmobiles, in the summer it meant D&L was "hopping."

He lived an exciting life, having been everywhere from Rome to Soviet Russia to the Super Bowl, yet he preferred the calm of the lake and a quiet, evening boat ride with his wife at his side and his dog at the bow.

His devotion to this lake is testament to what a special person my father was, and a testament to how tranquil and captivating this place is. My family would like to sincerely thank all of you who have reached out in our time of loss, your kind words have helped more than you can imagine, and you are part of the reason he loved this place so greatly. For those wishing to honor my father in some way, simply savor the beautiful gift we have here. Care for it. Share it with those you love most. It's what my Bill did, and what we will continue to do.

-By Brian Fudge



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