



# the Beacon

of the Lake Sunapee Protective Association

June 2011



Volunteer Tom Mickle waters one of the planters at The Knowlton House which he and his wife Caroline planted this spring. Beyond him is the top level of LSPA's rain garden system.

## Vision To Action for NOAA-Funded Infrastructure Project

The two-year NOAA-funded grant period for the Sunapee Watershed Infrastructure Project is coming to a close at the end of July. The goals of the project included assessing the present and projected adequacy of stormwater infrastructure, primarily culverts, in the Sunapee watershed, and promoting community planning to adapt to changing landscape and precipitation conditions. **More development on the landscape and more frequent and intense storms will continue to increase stormwater runoff volumes in the future.**

### LSPA's Robert Wood a NOAA Grant Team Member

From the original grant application, LSPA has been involved in this significantly beneficial project for the Lake Sunapee watershed. Associate Executive Director Robert Wood was a member of the team that directed the data collection (the measuring of all culverts and bridges in the watershed) and the entry of the data on a large map as well as in statistical databases. Wood and Executive Director June Fichter presented the project to watershed town boards. Wood did all scheduling and contacts with local individuals who were participants in the

*(NOAA Grant, Cont. Page 4)*

## Summer 2011 Research Has Begun

LSPA scientists and students working with them have begun the summer field research season, and will be busy in the tributary streams and lake all summer. All these scientists and studies overlap, and the work is a collaborative effort to learn more about Lake Sunapee and its watershed

### Ongoing Gloeo Research

A team from Dartmouth, Bates, Cornell and the Cary Institute is studying this cyanobacterium blooming in New England lakes under a National Science Foundation grant. The Dartmouth part of the team, from Kathy Cottingham's lab, will continue, for the sixth summer, taking limnology readings and collecting from Gloeo traps weekly at four Lake Sunapee sites. Another group from Bates,

*(Summer Science, Cont. Page 7)*

## LSPA Annual Meeting and Garden Tour at LSPA Saturday July 16 8:30am

LSPA's Annual Meeting offers an opportunity to learn about current lake topics, view displays, meet with staff and fellow members, and discover the latest on science and education. A Landscape Garden tour will follow, led by Master Gardener, Kiki Schneider.



## From the Helm: LSPA's Summer Series

If you have not had a chance in the past to partake of any of the Summer Series Educational Programs at LSPA'S Environmental Learning Center at The Knowlton House, you are missing a real treat! The 2011 series will take you on a memorable walk through our local area and often through the hands of time. All events are free and open to the public.

The kick off is July 7 at 7:00pm with my father-in-law, Val Wilkie, sharing his memories of summers in Sunapee as a boy in 1929 and then progressing through his personal recount of World War II, the underground, and his prisoner of war experience. When he returned from the war he never talked about his experience and moved on with his life as so many other WWII vets did. Having encouraged him to write his recollections and talked him into doing this program, I promise you, as a teacher, that this is one history lesson you will not forget.

Back by popular demand on July 12 at 7:00pm are Midge Eliassen and Nancy Dutton, local historians, who have gathered stories and photographs of families and life in the Sunapee area from early settlement to the 1930's. This event will be standing room only so come early if you would like a chair.

The next highlights of the summer will be topics everyone needs to know to help preserve this beautiful lake. LSPA's Annual Meeting on July 16 at 8:30am will feature "Rain Gardens". This will be a fun, educational program, given by Education Director Kathleen Stowell, and Associate Director Robert Wood. A landscape garden tour will follow the meeting led by Master Gardener, Kiki Schneider. Don't miss this!

On July 19 at 7pm, NH Master Gardener Richard Wright will follow up, explaining how our landscaping choices impact surface and ground waters and recommending plants to help protect our water resources.

August brings the dog days of summer with a Landscape Garden Tour on August 4 at 1:00pm, with a variety of easy to care for perennial plants and trees, followed by Love Your Lakes Day on August 14 with the Antique Boat Parade and harbor exhibits. The final program of the summer will be a presentation by our Executive Director June Fichter, on Thursday August 18 at 7:00pm, on how Lake Sunapee evolved a million years ago!

Please come join us and bring your friends to learn more about the "jewel that brings us all together".

Enjoy a fun filled, educational summer,

Tanya Wilkie, President

PS. Save the Date! Full Moon on Lake Sunapee Cruise September 12.

### Memorial Contributions

LSPA has recently received contributions honoring the memory of:

**Ruth Dermody**  
**Curtis Ivey**

Our sincere thanks to the families and friends who thought LSPA an appropriate recipient for these memorial gifts.

### Officers, 2010-2011:

Tanya Wilkie	President
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Kak Weathers	Research Dir.
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Bonnie Lewis	Lab Manager
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A publication of Lake Sunapee Protective Association Founded 1898

All articles prepared by Staff, Officers, *Beacon* committee or *Beacon* Editor Midge Eliassen unless noted. Photos by Midge Eliassen unless credited otherwise.

# The Leadership of LSPA: the Individuals Who Have Made Us What We Are Today — Frank Hammond's Thoughts and Recollections, Continued

*A strong nonprofit organization with a long history gets to that position because of the individuals who have stepped up to lead it. The modern LSPA is an organization that has attracted just the right skills at the right moment, and the interests and talents of strong leaders have shaped its history. Frank Hammond, LSPA's Executive Director from 1974-1991, recently reminisced for Nancy Dutton and Midge Eliassen's Lake Sunapee History Project about how he came to be Executive Director and the leadership styles of the LSPA Presidents under whom he worked. The first installment appeared in the May 2011 Beacon; the rest of the story follows.*

*The other side of LSPA's leadership has been the story of strong and visionary Executive Directors. We would like to include that story in the Beacon in the fall. To do so, we need your recollections; please contact Midge Eliassen 763-2502 to share your impressions of the leadership of Frank Hammond, Paul Grevstad, Cliff Vermilya or Gordon Marshall.*

## **Frank Hammond's Thoughts and Recollections**

### **Court Cross 1982-1988**

Courtland Cross is a gentleman of notable physical presence. A tall handsome man, he enters a room or a meeting literally on the run, taking quick steps in preparation for human encounters either through teasing cocktail party exchanges or serious dialogue over an issue from the meeting's agenda. He enjoys engaging in an exchange of views about anything, makes it clear to the assembled what his position is on the matter at hand, but was surprisingly receptive to rebuttal. Contrary to the misconception that some people might have about him, Court is open-minded and welcomes hearing fresh points of view on established positions that hadn't been recently challenged.

Court has "a passion for the Pond." He has had several properties on the lake at one time or another and gets great enjoyment out of cruising and monitoring the open waters in his

power boat. He knows every inch of the shoreline and can give you detailed information about houses, cottages, lake communities, etc. when you get the Cook's tour of Sunapee, or, as he would say, "the booze cruise," with his guests before dinner.

It was Court who put LSPA on the map. He felt very strongly about establishing working relationships with town selectmen and state officials from NH Departments of Environmental Services, Safety, and Water Resources. When he first came aboard, he wanted me to arrange for meetings with NH state commissioners in Concord, which I did. We succeeded in getting the attention of state leaders who began to see LSPA as more than just a summer association, but, instead, a potentially powerful lobbying group with authority and influence over the legislature. Court is one of the original charter board members of the NH Lakes Association which is carrying on the work that had once been directed by LSPA and Squam Lakes Association. He surely left his mark not just with LSPA but also as a force in the state-wide lakes association movement.

### **Robert Skelley 1988-1991**

Skel had a very unique management style very much unlike those described before. He was genuinely humble and very modest about himself. He felt very uncomfortable at the podium in front of an audience. It was for that reason that he carefully planned the LSPA annual meetings so that everyone serving on the board had a role to play and a report to make. He kept the Executive Director (ED) in the forefront, ostensibly engaged in keeping the meeting going and encouraging discussion from the floor. Skel surely was not shirking his responsibility; he knew exactly what he wanted from other people. He had the uncanny ability to introduce one of his own ideas to a single individual in such a way that the person, upon coming around and endorsing Skel's

presentation, would accept ownership of it and argue for it as if it had been his own to begin with. Machiavelli might have learned a lesson or two from this man who had the ability to create an environment where people would enter, share ideas enthusiastically, and come up with action plans.

During the time Skel was president of LSPA, he opened up his home on the lake every Saturday morning - offering coffee and muffins - for a meeting with ED Frank Hammond and Paul Grevstad who had become the Association's communication director. Anyone else present was welcome to join in on the conversation. When word got around what Skel was doing, more people would show up to see what was going on. Over a period of time the living room became filled with raised voices competing for attention to respond to the view of whoever had the floor at the time. Skel had created a tone that gave each person at the meeting some ownership in the ever expanding decision making process. Because of Skel, the ostensible outcome - uncontrollable imbroglio - didn't happen, because his quiet voice would cool down emotions at just at the right moment, giving him a chance to react to the group's proposals, many being manifestations of his own ideas that he had "planted" beforehand. By getting so many others into the process, Skel created a mood that led to excitement about the future of the LSPA and a spirit - a special esprit de corps - that one doesn't find too often, with so many people engaged in their deep commitment to lake management issues.

*Janet Grevstad, whose husband Paul succeeded Frank Hammond as Executive Director of LSPA, has also shared memories of Skelley's leadership. She recollects:*

Bob Skelley was the consummate salesman, and he set about selling LSPA. Skel's tenure was a time of dynamic resurgence and growth for LSPA.

*(NOAA Grant, Cont. from Page 1)*

various task force meetings and the final forum. Wood also arranged and led presentations of what was learned from the culvert data collected and analysis of precipitation patterns, to meetings in four different towns of various town officials and board members. Over the past winter, he has also researched potential funding sources for culvert replacement.

### **Public Meetings Have Driven Approaches**

There have been a number of public meetings throughout the two-year grant period, all aimed at helping municipalities plan for the future. Public participation in these meetings and the forum have resulted in a number of action items and/or paths to addressing issues involved in stormwater infrastructure. Issues include regulatory approaches, the use of low impact development techniques, regional and inter-town cooperation, short and long term financial planning, and resources for upgrades and other improvements.

### **June Forum Featured Experts and Leaders**

A well-attended Vision To Action Forum in mid-June was the last public meeting in the grant period but the work will continue. It included presentations from technical experts and leaders in community planning. Rhett Lamb, City Planner for Keene, spoke of his city's experience in upgrading infrastructure. Rob Roseen, Director of the UNH Stormwater Center, showed the financial benefits of low-impact development. Christine Walker, Director of the Upper Valley Lake Sunapee Regional Planning Commission (UVLSRPC), brought plans for project funding and regional cooperation. Michael Simpson, Director of the Environmental Studies Program at Antioch University and NOAA grant team member, presented cost benefit analysis. Team members Jim Gruber (Antioch), Latham Stack (Syntectic International) and Colin Lawson (Antioch) were also present.

### **"Avoid water!"**

One point from Simpson's presentation is how much knowledge road

agents have - they know where there are problems - and the need to capture their information.

"Avoid water, avoid water, avoid water!" was Sunapee Road Agent Tony Bergeron's comment - if runoff is kept away from roads, roads do not need fixing.

### **Continuing Efforts**

As the grant funding ends, the UVLSRPC is now taking a lead role along with LSPA in the steps to use the data from the grant to prioritize, plan funding, and start to upgrade stormwater infrastructure (see adjacent article). LSPA is also collaborating with the town of Newbury in pursuing combined state and federal funding for a much needed infrastructure upgrade on Chandler Brook.

NOAA has had a very positive reaction to the Sunapee project and several grant team members have applied for another NOAA grant to fund a similar project in an urban watershed of Minneapolis, MN.

## **UVLSRPC to Lead Stormwater Infrastructure Follow-up Efforts**

From their participation in the early task force meetings, the Upper Valley Lake Sunapee Regional Planning Commission (UVLSRPC) saw stormwater infrastructure upgrades as an area in which the Commission can contribute to the local region.

Director Christine Walker has sought out, applied for and received funds from the NH Office of Energy and Planning to facilitate multi-town cooperation and identification of funding for these stormwater management issues. She brought this good news to the final Vision to Action Forum. LSPA will partner with UVLSRPC in this follow-up effort.

## **Frey Foundation Fund in Memory of Jane Taliaferro Weathers**

The Frey Foundation, a Michigan family foundation, has established a \$50,000 fund at LSPA in memory of Jane Taliaferro Weathers who passed on in 2010. The foundation is connected to Weathers and Lake Sunapee through her late sister, Frances Taliaferro Frey. Weathers was the mother of LSPA's volunteer research director, Kak Weathers.

The income from the Jane Taliaferro Weathers Fund is to be used to support education, outreach, collaboration and/or research that is appropriate under LSPA's mission, and that is in keeping with Weathers' "sense of community and catalyzing community action".

At LSPA, Jane Weathers was a Board member in the late 1980's, and the leader of LSPA's first volunteer water quality monitoring work, which included not only water sampling, but lab analyses, done in the volunteers' kitchens.

The Frey Foundation also supported LSPA in 2007 with a grant of \$15,000 to fund the production of LSPA's water quality buoy, part of the Global Lakes Ecological Observatory Network.



LSPA's Robert Wood makes a point during the wrap-up "take aways" at the last meeting under the NOAA stormwater infrastructure grant. Wood was a key grant participant and leader.

## LSPA Summer Programs for Adults, 2011

*All events take place at LSPA in Sunapee Harbor, unless otherwise noted.  
For events where registration is required, call LSPA at 763-2210 to register.*

### **Weed Watch Kickoff Meeting** Saturday, June 25, 9:00am

An update for Weed Watchers from Lake Sunapee and local lakes and ponds, and anyone else who is interested on the status of invasive plants in NH waterbodies.

### **Recollections of WWII** Thursday, July 7, 7:00pm

Valleau Wilkie will share the effects of World War II on the Lake Sunapee area and highlights from his book on his personal experience as a prisoner of war.

### **Discovering Our Lake: Tourism and its Impacts on Lake Sunapee**

Tuesday, July 12, 7:00 - 8:30pm

Nancy Dutton and Midge Eliassen, local historians, will share stories and photographs of families and life around the lake, from early settlement to the 1930's.

### **Annual Meeting and Garden Tour** Saturday, July 16, 8:30am See Page 1.

### **Landscaping at the Water's Edge: an Ecological Approach for NH**

**Landowners** Tuesday, July 19, 7:00pm

Richard Wright, Master Gardener, will explain how landscaping choices impact surface and ground waters and describe practices through which you can protect, or improve, the quality of our water resources. Tour LSPA's Landscape Garden.

**Exploring Stream Ecology** Thursday, July 21, 9:00am - 12 noon followed by potluck picnic at LSPA. Join Nick Baer, Colby-Sawyer professor and LSPA Board member to compare the differences in two streams. Look at "critters" and water quality. Registration required; limited to 20 people.

### **Catch Up on Loons** Tuesday, July 26, 7:00 p.m.

Kristen Begor, Loon Committee Chair, and Susie Burbidge, a Loon Preservation Committee biologist, will update us on the loon population in our area and NH.

### **They Sawed Up a Storm: The Women's Sawmill at Turkey Pond, NH, 1942**

Tuesday, August 2, 7:00 - 8:30pm

Sarah Smith tells the story of NH women who operated a saw mill on the shores of Turkey Pond in Concord after the 1938 hurricane timber salvage efforts.

### **Landscape Garden Tour** Thursday, August 4, 1:00 p.m.

Master Gardener Kiki Schneider will lead a tour of LSPA's Landscape Demonstration Garden. See techniques for handling stormwater and beautifying your property with a variety of "easy to care for" plantings. Registration required.

### **Invasive Species Presentation** Tuesday, August 9, 7:00 - 8:30pm

Douglas Cygan, Invasive Species Coordinator for the Dept. of Agriculture, Markets & Food, will provide an in-depth look at upland invasive plant species of NH. Characteristics, identifying features and control measures of the most aggressive non-native plants in the Granite State. With the Sunapee Gardeners.

### **Love Your Lakes Day** Sunday, August 14, 10am - 2pm, Sunapee Harbor

Activities and exhibits in the harbor and under the LSPA tent, and the Antique Boat Parade. Visitors can learn about lake ecology and view a unique fleet of lovingly restored antique and classic boats.

### **Formation of Lake Sunapee and its Early Inhabitants**

Thursday, August 18, 7:00 - 8:30 p.m.

June Fichter will explain how Lake Sunapee and the area evolved over millions of years and describe the first pre-Europeans who lived in the area.

### **Full Moon on Lake Sunapee** *Mt. Sunapee Boat Cruise* Monday, Sept. 12,

6:30 - 8pm

Join LSPA on a beautiful evening cruise, timed for a full moon over sparkling waters! Hors d'oeuvres provided; cash bar; \$25 pp. Reservations required.

## LSPA Family Summer Programs

### **Family Story Hour at The Fells**

The Fells, Route 103A, Newbury

Friday, July 8, 10-11am

Backyard Garden Friends

Friday, July 22, 10-11 am

Ponds and Puddles

Friday, August 5, 10-11am

Swimming Birds

Regular Fells admission (no charge for LSPA or Fells members)

Each week will feature stories, projects and games about our natural world.

### **Watershed Wanders**

#### **Guided Hikes for Families**

Please call LSPA for directions and to register, 763-2210

**Bog Wander**, Saturday, July 9, 9:30am

Philbrick-Cricenti Bog, New London

The bog is a magical place! Discover insect eating plants, bog bouncing and legends from another time. Please wear appropriate footwear.

**Wetland Wander** Saturday, July 23,

9:30 am, Low Plain, New London

Investigate the creatures that make the wetlands their home. We will get to know what makes a wetland and why they are so important! Please wear appropriate footwear.

### **Watershed Wildlife**

#### **Family Learning Adventures**

At LSPA headquarters Learning Center, Sunapee Harbor

Thursday, July 14, 10-11am

Amazing Mammals

Thursday, July 28, 10-11am

Beautiful Birds

Thursday, August 11, 10-11am

Interesting Insects

Free of charge

Spend some time getting to know the wonderful wildlife that share the Sunapee Watershed with us! Active investigation, stories and projects will introduce us to the habitat needs and lifecycles of many different critters. Each week has a different theme – come for one or all three. A program for the whole family.

## An Ounce of Prevention... The Cost of Controlling an Invasive Plant

### How Infestation Occurs

There are many ways aquatic invasive plants can find their way into a lake. It is not always at public boat launches that plant fragments can be transported from one water body to another. Other ways invasive species may spread are on boats (and trailers) launched from rental properties, or on fishing and diving gear. Dumping of fish tanks or bait cans into the lake is a known source. (Invasive plants are often grown in fish tanks because they thrive.)

Those with shoreline properties have the most to lose if an invasive plant becomes established. Once established, it will quickly spread, adversely affecting recreational activities such as swimming and boating, and may even reduce property values.

### Control is Costly

Nearby Squam, Winnisquam, and Massasecum lake associations have spent thousands of dollars and expended hundreds of hours managing variable milfoil, a very invasive aquatic plant. After years of mechanically removing milfoil from large areas via hand pulling and using other control methods, these Associations have recently resorted to using herbicides approved by the NH Department of Environmental Services (DES) to help control this plant.

Clearly this is not what we want to happen to Lake Sunapee. Avoiding these expenses and chemicals is why we have Lake Host and volunteer Weed Watch programs. For control, LSPA staff and volunteers carefully monitor, place benthic barrier, and hand weed in the two small areas where Lake Sunapee has had stands of invasive variable milfoil.

### Costs and Methods of Control at Other Lakes

The Squam Lake Association spent over \$60,000 for its milfoil management program in 2010 and has spent well over \$250,000 since variable milfoil was first discovered in the lake in 2000. Their program includes two

crews, including certified divers, with boats outfitted with special pumping equipment to suction harvest milfoil in about 20 acres of the lake

The Lake Winnisquam Association recently spent \$25,000 for an herbicide treatment and a follow-up suction harvesting operation to control one infested area of the lake. Like Squam Lake, there are multiple areas in Lake Winnisquam where variable milfoil has become established, over 38 acres in all.

The Lake Massasecum Association spent \$10,000 for an herbicide treatment in 2009 to control variable milfoil in over 12 acres of the lake.

In 2010, an herbicide treatment of nearly 200 infested acres within Moultonborough Bay on Lake Winnepesaukee cost \$101,000.

According to DES, herbicides have been shown to be safe and highly effective at targeting variable milfoil, however they are not a cure-all as the plant can and often does return after treatment. For Sunapee, it would not be possible to use herbicides since it is a public drinking water source.

### What LSPA Spends

LSPA spends \$25,000 to \$30,000 a year to fund the Lake Host and Weed Watch programs. (Lake Hosts greet and educate visiting boaters, and inspect the boats and trailers.) Funding is provided from a NH Lakes Association grant, the Towns of Newbury, New London, and Sunapee, and from LSPA members. These funds also cover control of Lake Sunapee's milfoil stand in Georges Mills, discovered in 2001, and a small patch in the Harbor, discovered in 2009. Control has been effective thanks to rigorous monitoring by LSPA staff and volunteers. Compared to the acres of infestation in the lakes mentioned above, Lake Sunapee has only two small areas where milfoil has been successfully controlled.

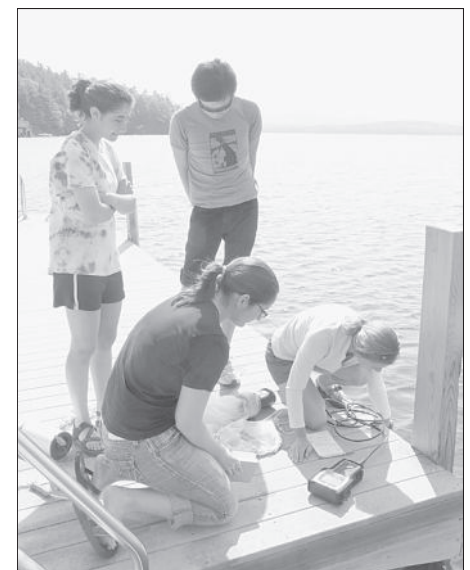
## Weed Watch Volunteers Needed

Since the LSPA's Weed Watch program was established in 2000, the number of active volunteers has slowly decreased. There are now less than 100 active volunteers down from the high of 190 in 2000. More volunteers are needed to replace those who are no longer able to weed watch or who move away. There are many shoreline areas of the lake with spotty coverage and some with none at all.

The more eyes we have monitoring the 30-mile shoreline of the lake the less likely an invasive plant will become established.

A weed watch survey area can be as small as the waterfront area in front of your property or cover many properties. You do not have to be an expert in identifying native plants. The most important part of surveying is to become familiar with the plants growing in your area and be able to spot any suspicious or new plants, so they can be removed quickly before they have a chance to become established.

For more information on weed watching please call LSPA or visit our website at [www.lakesunapee.org](http://www.lakesunapee.org) and click on the programs tab.



Scientists in training: Jennie Brentrup from the Dartmouth lab demonstrates Gloeolimnology techniques for Bates research assistant Laurie Griesinger (kneeling) and students from the Bates lab.

## Lab Interns: Grad Students Interested in Water Quality

Mimi Soo-Hoo and Geneva Travis are glad to be working this summer with someone of Bonnie Lewis' experience and enthusiasm for teaching, in the LSPA Water Quality lab at Colby-Sawyer College. They have come from California where both are in a two-year Master's degree program in Environmental Science and Management at UC Santa Barbara.



Soo-Hoo is from the San Francisco area and did her undergraduate work in geography at UCLA. Although this is her first visit to New England, she is well traveled. She has traveled with a Bulgarian women's choir and has also been to China, where her father was born. In

the future she wants to work in the field of water quality, in particular the effects of contamination on people, animals and avians.



Travis is from Indiana and did her undergraduate work at the U of Indiana where she majored in public policy. She is hoping to work with developing countries on water quality. In the master's program she is specializing in water resource management and pollution control. Her travels include a lot of camping in western national parks with her family, and study abroad in Amsterdam.

Both interns are also working at the Anchorage part-time this summer.

(*Summer Science, Cont. from Page 1*)

directed by Holly Ewing, will be doing comparable collecting from several Maine lakes. This sampling requires many hours of lab analysis, counting Gloeo colonies and testing for nutrients.

The whole "Gloeo gang" may do a one day "sediment blitz," collecting samples of sediment from many sites in the lake, all on the same day.

Cayelan Carey will be writing her doctoral thesis on her work on Gloeo, to be defended next spring. Meredith Greer at Bates will refine and add new parameters to mathematical models of Gloeo blooms. Graduate student Sam Fey, at Dartmouth, will continue his lab-based studies of "grazing" of Gloeo by zooplankton. LSPA citizen scientists will continue their daily or biweekly Gloeo tows.

### Movement of Water in the Lake

New research at Lake Sunapee will be done by Dan MacDonald (see *May Beacon*) on seiches, or underwater waves, and how water moves between basins in the lake. MacDonald will deploy an instrument on the lake bottom which will generate data to be analyzed and that may inform the Gloeo studies.

### Mercury in "Bugs" and Fish

A group from Dartmouth (Celia Chen's lab) will join Nick Baer and Colby-Sawyer College students, Kak Weathers, Cottingham and Ewing to research dissolved organic compounds and mercury in biota under a National Institutes of Health grant. They will be setting out in the tributary streams for their first field season.

### Tributary Flow and Chemistry

Bates College students and Ewing will continue data collection from Lake Sunapee tributaries, looking at water chemistry and the rate at which water enters the lake from the streams.

### Research Experience for Local Teacher

Newport teacher Teriko MacConnell will return in a Research Experiences for Teachers position, funded by the National Science Foundation, and work on several of these studies, as well as working with Education director Kathleen Stowell.

## Jody Connor, 1953-2011

New Hampshire lakes lost their best advocate when Jody Connor, Director of the NH Department of Environmental Services (DES) Limnology Center, passed away in June. As well as establishing programs that

helped monitor and maintain water quality in all NH lakes, Connor was a mentor and resource for LSPA during most of his 32 year career at DES. His key contributions to LSPA came as the association created its lab at Sunapee High School in 1992, and as the lab became a DES satellite lab with the move to Colby-Sawyer College in 1997. Connor also helped LSPA prepare for and then deal with its invasive milfoil, as well as providing ongoing support for Bonnie Lewis and the LSPA lab.



Bonnie Lewis instructs new lab interns in the processing of an *E.coli* test.

# LSPA

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## Fireworks and Flares: Be Careful of Impact on the Lake

July is the season for lighting the night around the lake. The annual flares ringing the lake start the summer season — but be sure to place yours on an aluminum pie plate so that the hot drips of sulfur and many other chemicals can be kept from reaching the lake or setting your dock on fire!

Fireworks also contain many chemicals, some known to be carcinogenic, radioactive, toxic, or noted contaminants. While we all enjoy a 4th of July display, our lakes (and we!) would be much better off to limit our displays to the July 4th celebration, and to sites not over the water.

## Beacon Night at The Knowlton House

A first-ever summer celebration at LSPA's headquarters! LSPA will host "Beacon Night at The Knowlton House" on Saturday July 23 from 6-8pm. Tickets are \$50 per person; refreshments and heavy hors d'oeuvres will be served. Members are encouraged to bring a friend, family member or neighbor who would like to become a member, and receive a special LSPA shopping bag as a thank you. Capacity is limited to the first 100, so call early for a reservation (763-2210). It should be a memorable event!

## Brochures on Various Topics For the Lakeshore Homeowner

In addition to an expanding amount of educational material and displays, LSPA's Learning Center has many LSPA brochures available to help you live carefully on the lake (any area lake, not just Lake Sunapee).

Visit LSPA in Sunapee Harbor to pick up information on appropriate shoreland plants, materials for dock building and cleaning, septic system maintenance, invasive exotic plants, cyanobacteria, or ice management choices. Most of these publications are also available on LSPA's website, [www.lakesunapee.org](http://www.lakesunapee.org), under the Publications header.



A Kearsarge Regional Elementary School kindergartner completes the transition from a tadpole to a frog. See Page 5 for a list of LSPA family summer programs with Kathleen Stowell.

This issue of *the Beacon* has been sponsored by:



LSPA appreciates this support.

### The Mission of Lake Sunapee Protective Association (LSPA)

LSPA, founded in 1898, is a member-supported nonprofit organization dedicated to preserving and enhancing the special environment of the Lake Sunapee region, through education, research and collaborative action.