

Keoka Lake Association Annual Meeting
July 8,2017 Wilkins House, Waterford, ME
AGENDA

Coffee & Donuts	8:30 a.m.
Welcome – Charlie Tarbell	9:00 a.m.
Keynote Speaker: Roy Lambert, LEA Board of Trustees	9:05 a.m.

Roy spoke to the role LEA plays in monitoring, maintaining and proactively researching data to further the goal of healthy lakes in the state of Maine. He encouraged folks to become a member of LEA as funds raised, through dues, grants, fundraisers, memorials, etc. are used to support the work of the organization toward their goals. KLA supports the placement of a LEA ‘hobo buoy’ off the shore of Kokosing. The buoy is placed in late spring and collects data all summer. In early fall, LEA pulls the buoy and plugs the data into their computers to discern the statistics for the year – hence the release of the 2016 data that shows Keoka is doing better than the Long Term Average (but so area all lakes) This was due in part to 1) the drought last summer (no storm run-off that would have raised the phosphorus levels) and 2) the lake ‘turned over’ in late June – meaning there was a mixing of the layers in the lake.

Three of the measurements in Keoka are stable but there are problem areas which necessitated moving the lake from one of Moderate concern to one of Moderate to High concern. Specifically, Keoka has low deep water O2 levels, although it can support brook trout. In addition, Keoka is one of only a few lakes that have *Gloeotrihcia* which causes algae blooms. If the levels get very high, there could be neurotoxins that cause reactions in humans. LEA is watching the *Gleo* levels in Keoka closely as there have been two high readings in the last three years (2014 and 2016). As a positive, Keoka has high ratios of aluminum in the sediment in the lake. Aluminum bonds with the phosphorus and can be the reason some lakes appear green (abnormal) and others blue (normal) when viewed from above.

In conclusion, Roy mentioned the LEA activities that are supported by dues payments, etc.:

- Milfoil irradiation – following the discovery of the presence of Milfoil in the Songo River, LEA put manpower, study and innovations into an effort to curtail the infestation that enveloped the entire river. Through the use of benthic barriers, divers in the water harvesting the seaweed type residue after a year under the barrier, the suction boats and the composting of that which was pulled from the bottom of the river, the Milfoil infestation in the Songo River is now only the sides – away from the boat channel, reducing the risk of spreading the invasive to another body of water.
- Courtesy Boat Inspections (CBI) – LEA spearheads the ongoing inspections at public boat landings and works to provide training, payroll and scheduling for lake associations such as KLA.
- Maine Lakes Science Center – a state of the art research center that will become the focus for ongoing lake research in Maine. Almost funded through grants,

fundraising efforts and bequests, the MLSC has begun the process of hiring staff and commencing the research, including studying the data that is retrieved from either the hobo-type buoys (such as Keoka Lake has) or the transmitting buoys, due to the cost (\$50k), that are currently only on Long Lake and Highland Lake.

- School Education programs – ongoing for many years, this program helps educate school children about lake science, environmental concerns and the discussion of global warming's effects on the lakes in Maine. The program has become a feeder for LEA staff as it has excited youth to attend college to study environmental science, among other majors. A fun end to the school year program is the 'Hey You!' cruises on the Songo Queen on Long Lake where the students are charged with spotting abuses, destructive practices, etc – all staged by 'enactors' (including Charlie Tabell, Roy and others) along the shores of Long Lake.
- LakeSmart/CleanLake/BrookSmart programs – supporting the work of educating landowners to the best practices to control run-off, maintain lake clarity and mitigate erosion issues along the shoreline.
- Code Enforcement Officer support – LEA provides expertise to any local Code Enforcement Officer who is dealing with a potential violation of Shoreland Zoning regulations.

- **Old Business**

Following questions for Roy, the Business meeting of the Keoka Lake Association began at 9:25 a.m.

1. Secretary's Report – Dave Abbiati, secretary, broke his femur on July 3rd and was unable to attend the meeting. Dan Johnson took minutes in his stead. The reading of the minutes was waived as they are posted on the website. A motion was made to accept the minutes as posted; seconded and passed.
2. Treasurer's Report – Chip Mason, treasurer, reviewed the balance sheet (incorporated herein), indicating that \$1,000 was applied to the Milfoil Reserve bringing that total to \$33k. In the event of a discovery of milfoil in Keoka, that reserve would allow KLA to put divers in the water immediately without having to delay due to the need for a fundraising campaign. Additionally, \$1,000 was applied to the Liability Reserve completing the funding of that reserve at \$10k. Board Member and attorney, Richard Orr, has suggested a liability reserve in lieu of directors and board members liability insurance. The raffle of the bench was very successful last year. The Treasurer's Report was accepted by show of hands.
3. Membership – Number of members is up this year – to date, 64 paid memberships. 2016 membership total was 104 – up 20 members from the year before. The increase is in large part to the efforts of Ginny Raymond who mailed out letters to everyone who owns property on the lake who is not currently a member as well as those at Keoka Beach CampGround (KBCG) who are not members. Currently, there are 11 KLA members at KBCG. She reiterated the availability of gift memberships and how by giving gift memberships to family members, they get the newsletter and have an opportunity to be involved at a younger age.

4. Water Quality – Charlie felt Milfoil efforts get an A grade; run-off has slipped to a B grade. The violent storm of July 1st brought 2” of rain in 2 hours and the SECCHI disc readings late this week reflected the sediment brought down the streams that feed Keoka Lake. This summer’s effort will be to walk stream beds, especially after a rainstorm, to determine which streams/brooks have overbanked and may be contributing phosphorus to the lake via run-off.
5. LakeSmart – Three KLA board members received LakeSmart training this week (Charlie, Jim Flynn and Joanne Eaton), joining Peter Morse as LakeSmart Inspectors. There are four properties signed up for LakeSmart inspections this year, but all trainers are eager to apply their new training and are looking for additional properties to ‘inspect’. A take away from the training was that there is a projected 71% increase in violent storms in the next 30 years. Therefore, it is imperative to do whatever we can to control run-off into the lake in order to preserve the quality of the water. Currently 20 (of 96 lakeside properties) properties have received the LakeSmart award. These awards may have a time limit after which the property must be inspected to retain the award. Based on research done by Colby College, Charlie indicated that a developed LakeSmart property that has been inspected and mitigation work done compares directly with an undeveloped property. The emphasis this summer will be to target some of the larger properties on the lake to potentially mitigate runoff issues.
6. Muni Hot Spots – Waterford’s DPW Brad Glover has historically worked with KLA to minimize the impact of certain hotspots on the lake. The DPW has provided the labor while KLA has agreed to foot the bill for the materials. Specifically, Mill Hill Rd has received attention and this year, Pine Tree Rd. is the target. Many of the muni hot-spots were mitigated several years ago, but they have not been maintained. The intent is to address these areas on an on-going basis.
7. Stream Walks – Charlie is looking for volunteers who might be interested to join him and some board members to assess overbanking and redirection issues of streams that feed into Keoka to determine, especially in light of the storm on July 1st. If anyone is interested in joining one of these ‘walks’, please contact Charlie.
8. Septic Review –Failing septic systems can also contribute to poor water quality readings in a lake. While this is a winter project, the plan is to review all plumbing permits pulled for properties on the lake to determine the latest septic updates done on each of those properties. The goal is to ID where problems may exist as failing septic systems put a huge burden on a lake.
9. As a follow-up for those who were not in Waterford for the July 1st storm, the area got 4” of rain in 2 hours. Kedar Brook (in Waterford Flat) was up to within 2” below the bridge and the lake rose 12”. However, within 24 hours, Kedar Brook water had ‘cleared’ (as opposed to being murky brown) however, where streams and brooks entered Keoka, the opaque brown sediment was evident for longer periods.
10. Courtesy Boat Inspections – this is KLA’s 16th year of participating in the program. The Best Practices model for keeping a lake free of invasives is three-fold: 1) prevention – our CBI program works to achieve that, 2) early detection – our Plant Patrol map breaks the lakeshore frontage into ‘manageable’ segments that are inspected regularly by volunteers, and 3) remediation/eradication – KLA’s reserve to fund immediate diver intervention is addressing this point.
11. Plant Patrol – Arne Klepinger spearheads the Plant Patrol efforts, including recruiting volunteers to cover the lake segments. There are a few segments that

need new volunteers, including Kokosing, Stone's Cove, Keoka Beach Campground and the town boat launch. Andy Tabor stepped up to cover Stone's Cove; Tom Stockwell agreed to cover the town boat launch and efforts will be made to find someone at Kokosing and KBCG to cover the area in front of their properties this summer. What is required is becoming aware of the vegetation in the water and being able to notice if there's anything 'different/strange' that shows up. Additionally, the LEA divers will be on Keoka on Aug. 9th to survey the shallower waters of the lake. This is similar to the full inspection they did a couple of years ago.

12. Water Safety – Andy Tabor reported that the buoys in the town swim area and boat launch went in the Sunday of Memorial Day weekend and are due to be removed by Columbus Day weekend. Additionally, he reported that the damaged buoy near the swim area has been repaired and the dock that separated was fixed on 7.7.17.
13. Charlie reported that on Sunday of the July 4th weekend, he was 'pulled over' by the warden while motoring his 'party boat'. Their concerns included adequate life jackets, an air horn and safe driving. It is the first time in 60 years that Charlie has seen a warden in a boat on Keoka – but their presence is comforting and it is hoped that it will keep boating/jetskiing on Keoka safe.
14. Dam – the dam has been monitored through the recent storms and will be lowered again in the next couple of days. Due to the number of feeder streams into Keoka, a swift heavy thunderstorm can raise the level of Keoka significantly in a very short period of time.
15. Fundraising – Efforts to raise funds to support KLA's efforts come in large part from dues and direct contributions, but Joanne Eaton works hard to provide a myriad of items for sale at Community Breakfasts and the Fall Foliage 5k. In addition to the assortment of shirts for both Keoka and McWain, sweatshirts, fleeces, 'little bits' for children, this summer, she is doing a date specific raffle for each of the 4 community breakfasts. In addition, there is a raffle for an 12" x 18" ArtiPlaque of Bill Colbath's picture of last summer's Keoka Lake loon and chick. See the Spring 2017 newsletter on the KLA website for what the picture looks like. The Loon pix raffle will be drawn at the Fall Foliage 5k on October 8th. The cost is \$2 for 1; 3 for \$5 or 10 for \$10. Tickets are available at any of the breakfasts or by contacting Joanne, Charlie or any board member.
16. Education – Ginger Eaton and Tom Hammett are working on plans to duplicate Ginger's successful sand sculpture recreation of the Keoka to Sebago watershed on the shores of KBCG in early August. The information will be posted to the KLA FB page and also will shown in the banner of the home page of the KLA website (keokalake.org) as soon as details are available.
17. Website – Jo Lynne Johnson reported that the website is being updated on a continual basis now instead of twice a year. The banner headline box on the website's home page works to alert website visitors to upcoming events.
18. Appropriations – Charlie reviewed the appropriations request, noting that there is an increase to the Lakes Environmental Association (LEA) appropriation that covers the hobo buoy on Keoka Lake. He also indicated that LEA is the 'staff' for KLA. They provide the personnel should we need assistance with milfoil mitigation; they provide the hiring/screening/scheduling and payroll for the CBI inspectors and the various monitoring services as noted above. The appropriations were approved without question.

19. Election of Board Members – The slate of board members for the 2017- 2020 term (Dave Abbiati, Ginger Eaton, Tom Hammett and Jim Flynn) were approved. Charlie indicated that he is working to add new board members who can add/supplement expertise of current board members and who can assist as KLA's needs and responsibilities change with the times.

New Business:

1. 2017 4th Annual Bud Lazott Memorial Regatta is scheduled for Saturday, July 29th. Registration begins at 1 pm at Chadbourne's beach; race course orientation at 1:45 pm and the race begins at 2 pm. All participants must register to participate. For additional information, watch the website and/or Facebook posts on the KLA page.
2. 501(c)3 status – We are in the process of applying for 501(c)3 status – now made easier by an online application. Stay tuned for updates that will allow you to take a tax deduction for your contributions/donations to KLA.
3. Polly Wilcox brought up two items – 1) the state of Maine currently has a program for credits purchase of LED light bulbs and 2) the suggestion that those who have street signs that may be obstructed by overzealous foliage, trim the foliage back to make the street sign more visible for emergency vehicles.
4. Karen O'Brien thanked the board for the work they are doing for the good of KLA and Keoka Lake.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:20 a.m.