



Perkins Pond Protective Association

# The Perkins Ponder

Spring 2011



**2011 Spring Meeting**  
**Sat. May 28**  
**10 a.m.**

**94 Mary's Road**  
**Dorothy and Ronald Bealer**  
**603-763-4497**

Bring chairs. Come by boat or car.



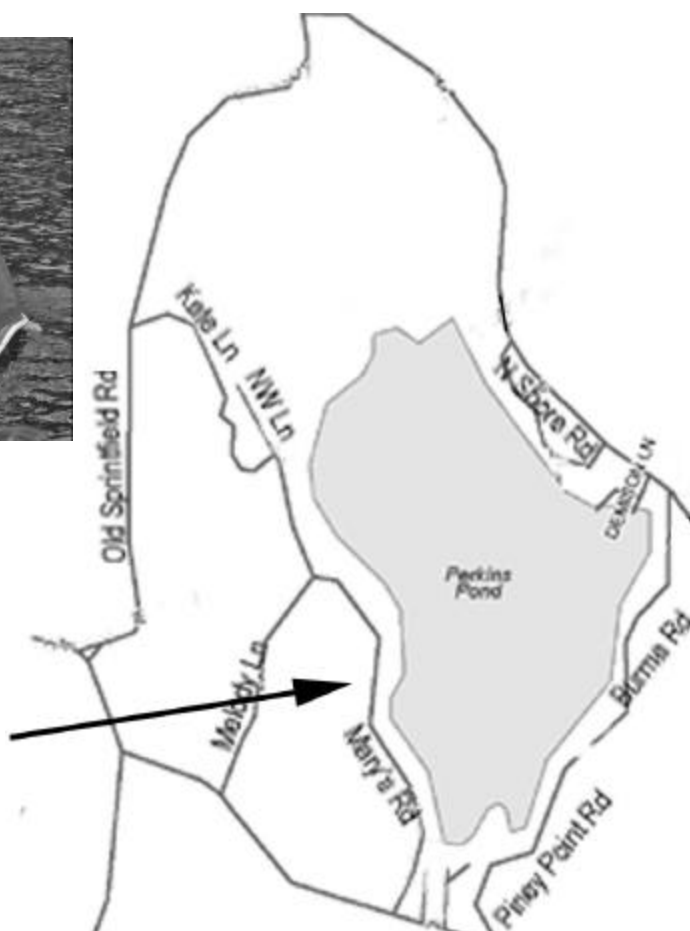
Ron Bealer in his "Whale of a Boat"



*All Perkins Pond area  
residents are welcome !*



May 28 Meeting at 94 Mary's Road





**Saturday July 23, 2011**

Boat Parade at 11 am

Potluck Lunch at 1 pm

At 102 Burma Road (at the far end of the road)

Steve and Macey Mietelski

For more info or to volunteer, call xxx-xxx-xxxx

Volunteers to help are appreciated.

Bring a potluck lunch contribution.

Decorate your boat or 'parade as you are'

*All Perkins  
Pond area  
residents are  
welcome !*

*Fun for  
Everyone !*

*Mark your  
Calendar!*

## Opportunities



- Would you like a role in the leadership of the Association?
- Would you like to help with communication?

Some roles and opportunities may be open. This will be addressed at the Spring meeting. Contact President Gary Szalucka for a picture of the possibilities.

## Perkins Pond Memorabilia



Orders or Questions:  
Paula McDonough  
617-909-5735

## Please Support the Perkins Pond Protective Association

The Association has been meeting for over half a century for the purpose of protecting the Pond. It conducts activities and seeks to influence and educate for pond protection. It holds two meetings a year open to all who care about Perkins Pond, and has sponsored events such as the Water Carnivals.

The shared nature of the pond causes many of the same forces to affect all of us, and the activities of each of us affects many. If you live, vacation, or own property on Perkins Pond, then protection of the pond means protecting the value and enjoyment of your property. Please support the Perkins Pond Protective Association with your dues and participation.

## Mission of the Perkins Pond Protective Association

The mission of the Perkins Pond Protective Association is to actively monitor, protect, and enhance the viability of Perkins Pond and its watershed. This will be implemented through:

- Collaboration with local, state and federal organizations
- Providing educational resources
- Encouraging a sense of community.

*Adopted at the Fall 2010 meeting.*



### 2011 PPPA Dues \$25 per family

Bring to Spring Meeting or  
Send in Enclosed Envelope

**PPPA Treasurer  
Holly Leonard,  
26 Mary's Road  
Sunapee, NH 03782**

## What does the Perkins Pond Protective Association Do?



- **Water Quality** is key to protecting the pond. Most PPPA projects support this goal. The Perkins Pond Protective Association tests, monitors, and documents water quality on a regular basis and for special studies.
- **The Sewer Project** aims to bring town sewers to Perkins Pond. The PPPA assisted the state with a survey of septic systems and a Diagnostic Study, developed and distributed educational materials, and confers regularly with town officials about this goal.
- **Alien Weeds** can destroy a body of water. The PPPA conducts a program to monitor the weeds in Perkins Pond and educate on ways to keep alien species out. It also put up the banner and posted information for incoming boats.
- **The State of NH** affects the Perkins Pond community in many ways. The PPPA collaborates with the Dept. of Environmental Services to monitor water quality, and alerts residents to changing regulations in areas such as boating, licensing, and shoreline protection.
- **Town of Sunapee** zoning, taxes, road maintenance, and sewer planning affect everyone. The PPPA acts as a focal point to advocate for Perkins Pond homeowners to the town. Its influence helped to get local roads accepted as emergency lanes, and septic planning sponsored on the town warrant.
- **Major Projects** to protect the pond have been organized by the PPPA. The sewer project is one example. A couple of decades ago, the PPPA created the outlet at the end of Piney Point Cove to keep water flowing through the pond.
- **Participation** with sister organizations, such as Weed Watchers and the NH Lakes and Lake Sunapee associations, provides training and information to the PPPA and leverages its influence at the town and state level.
- **Education** by the PPPA about all these topics provides accurate information to the Perkins Pond community and promotes practices that protect the health of the pond.

### PPPA Officers

#### President

**Gary Szalucka**  
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#### Vice President

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#### Treasurer

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#### Secretary & Newsletter Ed.

**Anne Darling VanTine**  
22 Wildwood Road  
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61 N. Shore Road  
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secretary@perkinspond.org

## Fall 2010 Meeting

The meeting was called to order on September 4, 2010 at 10:10 am at the Gearan family cottage. About 36 people attended.

### Sewer Project

A discussion took place about the potential for getting sewers installed around the Pond. Gary Szalucka reported that no action would occur at least until the following spring.

### Weed Watching

Paula McDonough reported that Weed Watchers had not detected any new weeds that summer.

Gary thanked the O'Grady's for hosting the Water Carnival, and John McMahon for documenting it with photographs.

### Mission Statement

Petra Nosenzo reported that the Steering Committee had one meeting and developed a proposed Mission Statement for the Association. Richard Jaffe moved and Robert Evans seconded to accept the following statement and it was unanimously approved:

The mission of the Perkins Pond Protective Association is to actively monitor, protect, and enhance the viability of Perkin's Pond and its watershed. This will be implemented through:

- Collaboration with local, state and federal organizations
- Providing educational resources
- Encouraging a sense of community.

### Jet-Skis and Ski Craft

Virtually all attendees expressed annoyance and frustration about the prevalence of ski craft on the pond. Most people felt that the noise and commotion destroys the tranquility and intrudes on everyone. A few attendees expressed concern about trading off enjoyment of the pond versus restrictions. However, most agreed with the sentiment expressed that, "One person is enjoying the pond and 200 people are miserable."



Speakers referred to the state's procedure for banning ski craft from a lake. They suggested that much of the activity was from non-resident visitors and that state regulations should be better enforced. Several commented on

the aggressive, rude, and unsafe practices of many ski craft operators, including overloaded ski craft, underage operators, dueling craft, and traveling too close to shore. Attendees noted that state regulations restrict ski craft to keep at least 300 feet from shore when moving fast, which is twice as far as for other boats.

### Safety on the Pond

Attendees mentioned these additional safety topics:

- Cathy Priest: Residents should remind newcomers and visitors of boat direction
- Paul Lewis: Boats need their lights on for safety in dusk or darkness.
- Robin Saunders: Kayaks should have lights for safety
- Robin Saunders: If swimming in deep water, swimmers should wear bathing caps for visibility
- Richard Jaffe: With the lake being low, boats should stay even further from shore.

### Communication Vehicles

Attendees discussed what types of communication the Association should adopt. Discussion took place about the desirability and concerns with having an Association web site for communication. For a sense of the meeting, Suzanne McMahon moved and Paul Lewis seconded to vote on whether members wanted a web site. A majority voted affirmatively but it was not unanimous.

Anne VanTine commented on the benefits of paper mailings. She suggested communicating with all landowners to foster a sense of community and engage everyone in protecting the pond, including the many who are not members of the Association. VanTine asserted that while email and a web site have benefits, it would be impossible to reach everyone with these vehicles. The only contact information available for all landowners is a mailing address, and mailings don't depend on having the recipients take any action.

Anne Watkins proposed and Suzanne McMahon seconded the following statement. It was approved by vote:

"Move that the meeting ask the Steering Committee to research and consider the pros and cons of effective communication vehicles to foster community, and the advisability of developing a web site, and report back to the members at the May 2011 meeting."

The meeting adjourned at 11:25 am.





## Spring 2010 Meeting



John and Christie Brooks welcomed people to the Spring Meeting at Skyledge Farm overlooking Perkins Pond.

The Spring 2010 Meeting was held on May 29 at the home of John and Christie Brooks on North Road. There were 58 attendees. The meeting came to order at 10:15 am.

### Sewer Project

Gary mentioned that the Towns of Sunapee and New London had voted at the spring election to approve upgrade of the Sunapee waste water treatment plant. Gary then introduced Bill Scharff, who updated the meeting about the sewer project. Negotiations are underway about what land would be crossed in the route from Perkins Pond to the waste water treatment plant and the status of the land. Once these issues are resolved, then the project could go to bid. Once bids are received, then implementation of the project will have to be approved by a 60% vote at Town Meeting or the polls.



### Sand Buildup

Gary mentioned that sand bars have built up at the boat landing. Cathy Priest commented that road sand continues to be washed into the pond. Petra Schaefer commented that her property also has a sand bar made of road sand that washed into the water.

### Boat Landing

Cathy Priest asked if a porta-potty could be put at the boat landing. Gary Szalucka pointed out that the state Fish and Game department owns the landing. The state takes care of the sign board and posts literature there. Members thanked Paul Pratt for putting up the banner at the landing which warns incoming boaters to check for milfoil. Members asked if a gate could be installed. Gary thought a gate could be installed, but could not be locked. Suzanne McMahon moved and Cathy Priest seconded to have John McMahon look into resources available and what could be done to take better care of the boat landing. It was approved.



### Weed Watching

Paula McDonough, head of the Weed Watchers, reported on activities and a VLAP meeting she attended for weed watches and those concerned with water quality. She mentioned that stimulus money might be available for non-impervious material, and that it might be a solution for paving the boat landing. Paula indicated that she has special bags available to use for sending any suspected exotic weeds to NH DES for identification. Paula reported that the state is no longer providing funds for boat monitors to inspect incoming boats for exotic weeds. Members commented that Pleasant Lake still has boat monitors.

### Water Quality Monitoring

Vice President Robin Saunders reported that Perkins Pond participates in the NH DES Volunteer Lake Assessment Program (VLAP) for monitoring water quality. With the early season, the first sample of 2010 was taken on May 10. Sampling trends are available from 1987 to the present. In 2009, conductivity which indicates clarity of the water increased, and the phosphorus count was down.



E coli was higher than normal for the past couple of years, perhaps due to the high volume of rain runoff coming into the pond during those years. Discussion took place identifying other contributors such as ducks and dogs. Robin commented that with the summer season starting early, the heat and light was likely to grow a big crop of weeds and possible outbreaks of blue-green algae.

### Water Carnival

Paul Lewis suggested that Brendan O'Grady, one of the newest pond residents, host the carnival. To great applause, Brendan agreed that he would look into doing it. Suzanne McMahon moved and Dundee Nestler seconded authorization for the Association to spend up to \$800 on the water carnival. It was approved unanimously.

### Web Site

Steve Mietelski suggested the Association should have a web site to use for education about water quality and related topics. Secretary Anne VanTine mentioned that some members had concerns that a Perkins Pond web site might attract more visitors and could have adverse effects.

## Spring 2010 Meeting (Continued)

### Mission

Gary brought up the subject of what the mission of the Association should be. He said that he is often called on to advise or intervene in situations, but did not feel that he should set policy and practices for the entire association. Robin suggested that a mission statement is needed. Kim Christiansen moved and Steve Curley seconded that a steering committee be formed. It was approved unanimously, and a sheet was passed around for volunteers to sign up. Petra Schaefer volunteered to organize the committee.



### Animals on Perkins Pond

Ellen Mercer asked what could be done about the beavers that build dams across the outlet. Dundee Nestler reported that there currently are about eight beavers – four adults and four babies. He said that trapping beavers is allowed with a license and landowners' permission. He currently is looking for a new trapper. In the past trappers preferred hunting in late winter because then they could get \$35 for each winter pelt. Beavers move from other ponds to Perkins Pond when they are a year old. They get kicked out of the family / pond when the new babies come. Dundee pointed out one benefit of beavers is that they eat pond lilies.

Gary reported that a couple of Perkins Pond residents have licenses to discourage geese from settling at the pond. They have a gun and noise-makers that can make sound to scare geese away and are authorized to shoot geese. Additional methods include putting oil on goose eggs so they don't hatch. In 2009, no geese settled at the pond.

Susan Farland noted that she had seen loons on the pond and they should be protected. Robin commented that there appear to be three loons on the pond. Dundee said that he had seen two young loons and that next year they probably would nest.

The meeting adjourned at 11:45 am

## Don't Let Alien Weeds Sneak In

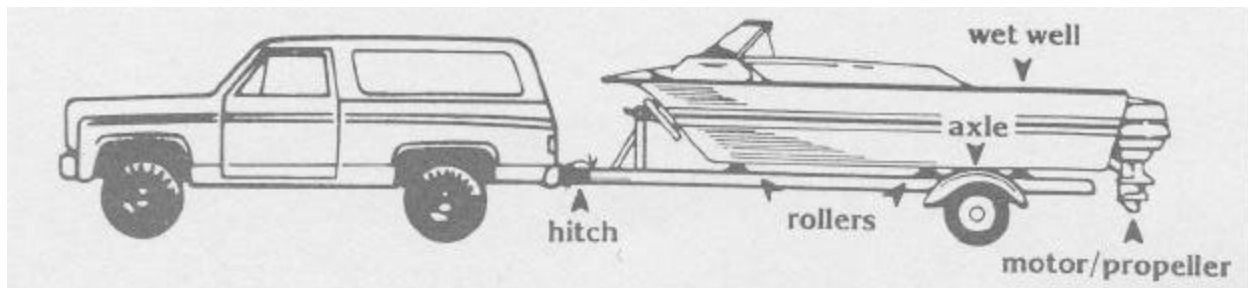
Here's some tips from the *NH Boater's Guide* to prevent exotic weeds from sneaking in on your boat and trailer. The diagram of locations to clean comes from NH DES.

- Inspect your boat and trailer and remove any weeds before leaving any water body.
- Drain your motor, wet well, and bilge on land before leaving a water body.
- Empty your bait bucket on land before leaving the water body.
- Never release live bait or live animals from one water body into another.
- Rinse your boat, trailer, and equipment. Use a garden hose or preferably high pressure hot water.
- Air dry your boat and equipment.

## Ski Craft Weed Removal

Ski craft continue to hold water when you remove the craft from a lake. To avoid transporting weeds, flush the motor for 90 seconds before launching to a different body of water.

Ski craft have a spot that's made for attaching a hose for flushing. This should be done on land away from the destination body of water.



*Aquatic weeds are often found attached at the locations indicated. Please remove and dispose.*



# 2010



Photos by John McMahon  
You can view more photos at:  
[www.jpmphotography.com/galleries/Perkins](http://www.jpmphotography.com/galleries/Perkins)



User name: perkins  
Password: carnival  
(all lowercase letters)







## Perkins Pond Reminders

- Boat speed must be at “No Wake” within 150 feet of shore, docks, rafts, other boats, and swimmers. For jet-skis and ski craft, it’s 300 feet. It’s NH law.
- If your boat has been in other waters, wash it thoroughly before launching into Perkins Pond. Let’s keep the alien weeds out.
- Power boats travel in a clockwise direction on Perkins Pond.
- There are many rocks in the pond. Stay East and North of black/white markers and West and South of red/white markers.
- Do not feed the ducks or geese. It’s bad for the water and bad for the birds.
- Don’t use lawn fertilizers. They cause phosphorus to enter the pond, producing plant growth that clogs the waterways and harms water quality.
- Be courteous to your neighbors. Continually barking dogs echoing across the pond can really disturb a peaceful summer day.
- Take it easy on night lighting: it hides the stars and disturbs the wildlife.

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77 Piney Point Road  
Sunapee, NH 03782