



Perkins Pond Protective Association

# The Perkins Ponder

Spring 2007

## McMahons to Host Spring Meeting and Water Carnival at *SunSet Lodge*

**Spring Meeting**  
**Sat. June 2**  
**10 a.m.**

**52 Burma Road**  
**John & Suzanne McMahon**  
603-763-4332  
Please bring chairs.

**Water Carnival**  
**Sat. July 28**  
**10:45 a.m.**

**52 Burma Road**  
**John & Suzanne McMahon**  
603-763-4332  
See the insert announcement.



### Photos from the Meeting Last Fall

Jim and Jean Fuller hosted the Perkins Pond Protective Association meeting on August 26, 2006. Topics included the water quality study, water testing, weed watching, and the water carnival.



## Fall 2006 Meeting

Andy Chapman of the NH Department of Environmental Services (DES) attended the Fall meeting to update the Association on the Water Quality Study. Andy reported that field research was complete, but the report would not be completed until 2007. Gary Szalucka reported he collects samples of water for testing on a regular basis in collaboration with NHDES. Among the water quality attributes tested are phosphorus, conductivity and e-coli. Water quality has remained constant over the last four years.

**Hear a summary of the NH DES Perkins Pond and Watershed Diagnostic Study at the Spring meeting.  
The full report will be published this summer.**

Marian Leavitt, the Weed Watcher leader, reported that no new weed growth has been detected. Marian went to a Weed Watcher training seminar where she learned that many lakes have hosting programs with volunteers monitoring incoming boats. There is potential to get a grant that would help pay individuals for hosting. Marian also reported on a Lake Sunapee weed watching meeting. Lake Sunapee officials have been hand-pulling milfoil from the Georges Mills milfoil patch, but now have somewhat automated the process. They also have a see-through bottom canoe for viewing weeds.

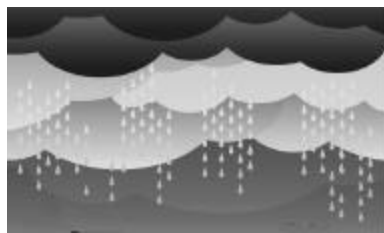
Steve Priest moved and Claude Leavitt seconded a motion to elect Ellen Mercer as Association Vice President. Ellen replaces Tom Gallagher who recently resigned. The other officers remain the same.

Gary reported on several topics:

- If you register your boat at the town offices, then Sunapee gets a portion of the revenue.
- The NH Lakes Association thanks the Association for its \$100 membership contribution.
- The "weed wacker" that the Association owned is now permanently broken.
- Members are offered \$5.00 off their dues for bringing in a new member.

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## The Storm that Ate the 2006 Water Carnival



A most incredible rainstorm cut short the boat parade and let loose with buckets pouring from the sky just as everyone gathered for a potluck feast. Amazingly, the quickly constructed plastic tarp roof held up, and hearty residents settled into the mud and watched the rivers coming down the hill. It kept raining and raining until there was nothing to do but go home and wait for the next year's Carnival.

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## Ice-Out

Gary reports that this winter: "we had ice by the second week of December, but then on 15 January, there was open water from the boat landing right down the center of the lake." The ice returned, and stayed until April 23 when "Dundee was able to get from his house (behind the island) to the point of land known as Piney Point!" Recent ice-out history is:

07 Apr 23 / 06 Apr 3 / 05 Apr 19 / 04 Apr 18 / 03 Apr 28 / 02 Apr 12 / 01 May 3 / 00 Apr 9

### 2007 PPPA Dues

\$25 per family

*Send to Treasurer Holly or  
Bring to Meeting.*

### Perkins Pond Memorabilia

Paula McDonough

603-763-0195 or cell 617-909-5735

*Many new items at the Meeting!*

## "Creel Notes"

by Guide Islefish Anytime

As the snow slowly turns to mud here at the pond I have yet another opportunity to reflect back on the past fall and winter fishing season. I know, I know, not again.....So much water, so little time. I had a chance to spend quite a bit of time on the Sugar River last fall. A fellow fly fisherman and neighbor, who shall remain nameless, also spent a lot of time there. In fact, he spent so much time there I think he's now an honorary Newport resident! I don't want to say that he gets his moneys worth out of his license, but its safe to say Fish and Game is now paying him not to fish in the area. Now that's what I call fishing.



The Sugar River produced some of the best fly fishing Ol' JB and I can remember in recent years. It wasn't unusual to catch a colorful brown, fighting brookie or fat rainbow all in the same day if you put your mind to it. Woolly Bug-gers, Muddler Minnows, and Black Flies each seemed to work on different days. Even if you don't fish take a walk along the fly fishing section of the river just to enjoy the wildlife and the scenery. You can start at the Oak Street bridge and go to the Kelleyville bridge without much effort. Anyone who has glanced at a cover of Field and Stream or Fly Fisherman magazine will not be disappointed by what they see, hear and feel along the shore of the riverbed. Just stop for a few seconds along the river, close your eyes, listen and enjoy the experience. Not much can match the subtle sounds of the river cascading by, or stimulate your sense of smell as much as the scent of the nearby wild flowers, grasses and trees being carried by the faint river breeze. I've stopped many a time to think of how lucky I am to be able to experience this local treasure. However, if you happen to smell the faint aroma from a not so good cigar, you're likely too close to one of my many secret locations. Make sure you keep it that way, it's part of the fisherman's code of ethics.

Perkins Pond was great as always. I spoke with several people fishing on different days and the smallmouth bass fishing was very active. Several fishers also caught some nice large pickerel.



Ice fishing trips included the pond, Second Connecticut and Lake Francis in New Hampshire. It was close to 20 below when my brother and I hit the Second Connecticut one February weekend. Seemed even colder when it took us about 45 minutes to dig the snowmobile out of 12 inches of slush before it froze to the ice, and to top it off, we only had three wind flags all day. Ended the season with my first trip to St. Froid Lake in Winterville, Maine. Took Durham Jim with me on this trip and caught several nice salmon, and even brought a couple home to cook on the grill for the wife. Upon arriving home after each trip she always hits me with the classic, "Did you bring any fish?" She knows I like to catch and release, but I also know she likes salmon. You can see the "win, win," here can't you? Can't have fresh salmon if I don't fish. After I figured out the cost of the long weekend trip, this salmon cost me about \$90.00 a pound so it had better be good! Till next time, keep a tight line.

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### Perkins Pond Protective Association

#### President

**Gary Szalucka**

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#### Secretary & Newsletter Ed.

**Anne Darling VanTine**

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## Perkins Pond Reminders

- Boat speed must be at “No Wake” within 150 feet of shore, docks, rafts, other boats, and swimmers. It’s NH law, it’s safe, and it protects the shoreline.
- 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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