

GILFORD ISLANDS ASSOCIATION - 5/2/13

-NOTICE FOR THE SUMMER MEETING - Monday, July 29th
-REPORT FROM THE WINTER MEETING, MARCH 16, 2013
-GENERAL INFORMATION UPDATE

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1) The Summer **Meeting** will be Monday evening **July 29th**, 6-8 pm, at Gilford Town Hall. Guest speaker and agenda will be sent out later.

2) Report from the **Winter Meeting**: 36 attended the lunch at the Lyons' Den with guest speaker Don Berry of the Lakes Region Conservation Trust. **PART I:** First off, Jim MacBride paid special recognition to Shirley Burns and Estelle Miller for their years of service to the GIA and others who have been active since the founding days of 1991. The records that Shirley and Estelle kept are an important source of information for previous years' events and actions. Secondly, we reviewed preliminary results from last summer's water testing samples from 4 sites that GIA volunteers conduct. The 2012 levels, phosphorus & chlorophyll, were some what lower than 2011, but this doesn't reverse the 10 year trend of moving up in the wrong direction. See Part II of the Minutes of July 23, 2012. The continued importance of GIA funding and volunteering was emphasized. Thirdly, Dave Beardsley, Lockes, made a motion to continue the \$500 funding for the project, as we have done since 2011, and Alan Sherwood, Welch, seconded. It passed with 100% support. The money goes to the Lake Winnepesaukee Watershed Assoc.(LWWA), which operates the program in conjunction with UNH and DES. The two sites we sponsor are Gi C & Gi 5, off Governors Island. Janice McKittrick and Alan Sherwood have "pulled" these two sites since 2010. Go to **winnepesaukeegateway.org** for full reports.

PART II: Don Berry, President, Lakes Region Conservation Trust, grew up on and around Lake Winnepesaukee and currently lives in Melvin Village. Don has been active with LRCT for many years and as its president for the past 7. He is also active with the Belknap Range Conservation Coalition. The LRCT was founded in 1979 by John Forbes of Birch Island (the Forbes family is still on Birch and are active with the GIA). The LRCT issues a newsletter, The "Legacy", and its web site is **lrct.org**.

The Trust currently extends coverage to 30 towns from the Maine border over to Newfound Lake, south to Barnsted and North to Sandwich & Tamworth. There are 125 properties with over 22,700 acres, of which 16,428 are owned by the Trust with the rest in conservation easements, such as Timber Island, which include private ownership. There are 33 miles of shoreline on Winnepesaukee, Squam and on rivers and ponds, and summits such as the 104 acres on Rattlesnake and 2,576 acres on Red Hill in Moultonboro, and 85 miles of trails overall. Signature acquisitions include: 113 acres on Stonedam Island in 1982 (has a dock), with the remaining 25% of the island privately owned; 5 Mile Island (can beach a small boat), 11 acres, 1998; Ragged Island, 12 acres, in 2007, (has 2 docks); and the outstanding 5,381 acres on Mt. Shaw and Castle in the Clouds, a combination of a small conservation easement and full

ownership by the Trust, 2000-2003. There are about 30 acres of trails and old carriage roads and a trail up to the summit of Mt. Shaw. The spring water bottling operation is privately owned, but in the event of bankruptcy it would revert to the Trust. The LRCT also includes unique wetlands, such as Trask Swamp in Alton that is habitat for an endangered wild orchid (is similar to a wild lady slipper).

In conclusion, the LRCT is a vital advocate for preserving the natural beauty that surrounds us and a valuable partner in our efforts to help preserve Winnepesaukee for our own near term enjoyment and for future generations as well. It is incumbent upon us to continue our financial support and to lend volunteer support for help with trail and dock maintenance.

GENERAL INFORMATION:

1) Correction to the July 23, 2012 Minutes: I (J. MacBride) made a significant error while discussing our annual contributions. In response to a question about conservation/environmental protection organizations as compared to the Lake Winnepesaukee Sailing Association, LWSA, I used the term "private" vs. "public". That is completely wrong: LWSA is not a private club, but is a 501(c)(3) organization open to the public. When you see kids learning how to sail in Glendale bay, thank the LWSA. Islanders have been key supporters of LWSA over the years.

Also in the minutes we had a typo regarding Pat Tarpey's report. The depth of the average "secchi disk" reading on transparency is about 9 meters and we had 9 to 10 feet.

2) Web site and email list: We encourage any Gilford islander with an email address to join the "growing" list so we can expand our communications. Send yours to: jimmacbride@msn.com. The list is tightly protected. We have submitted over 140 names and emails for the initial start up of the web site: **gilfordislands.org**. The response so far has been very good. You can go directly into the site and join as a member and pay dues. There is a form you can print and mail to Treasurer Diana Goodhue.

3) Email only list, not USPS: You can request only email, except for the dues/winter lunch sign up forms. We have 38 currently and the more we have the lower our mailing costs. If you have already done this last year or recently, you don't need to respond to this.

4) DUES: About 135 have paid so far, out of 240. We need increased participation to run the GIA with our expanded involvement in water testing and the new web site. This money is not wasted and we are very diligent in running the finances. We are in the process of seeking 501(c)(3) status for federal income taxes.

5) Gilford Town News:

- The Glendale Rules & Regulations will be reinstated from 2012
- In the March election, Art. 12 passed, adds \$10,000 to the Glendale Capital

Fund.

- Art. 7 was defeated, which would have strengthened the "shoreline" protection requirements.

- As of 5/2, 17 trailer parking permits have been issued. In 2012 there were 42 total.

- In 2012, 287 Guest Parking Passes were purchased.

- In 2012, 77 Park and Launch were purchased.

6) Legislative Update: There are several bills that are "Lake" related and we will do a full report in July. 3 key bills are:

- SB 89, to restrict small sized lead sinkers and jigs. Passed in Senate, stalled in House.

- HB 393, to reduce nitrogen and phosphorus run-off. Passed House & Senate.

- HB 513, to strengthen Shoreland Protection. Passed House & Senate.