



Granite Lake News

Working together to preserve our lake

May 2018

Hello Everyone,

Whew... that was a quick two years. In July of 2016, I was appointed for two years to chair the Granite Lake Association executive committee and it has been my pleasure to do so. Keeping a watchful eye on *Granite Lake* and its drainage basin is the main focus of our attention. Minimizing the effects of siltation into our beautiful lake is our primary goal. To that end, we have spoken with and kept a watchful eye on local logging operations in the *Granite Lake* watershed.

We are in constant contact with the road agents in both Stoddard and Nelson whenever the roads around the lake need special attention, especially after a major rain event. We are working with New Hampshire Audubon and the Harris Center for Conservation to help protect the Granite Lake watershed for years to come.

In the past twenty-four months, we were able to complete our application for tax exempt status and have now received our 501c3 status as a non-profit organization. Thanks to New Hampshire Lakes

Association for technical assistance in helping with the federal forms.

I would like to give a special nod of thanks to Bill Steiniger for his use of the Granite Lake Watershed Management Plan to help identify work on culverts in special need of attention. He worked with the town of Stoddard about needed changes to the intersection of West and North Shore Road which were in dire need of attention. Thanks to Bill and road agent Dave Vallencourt this area now has a much needed larger culvert which stabilized the intersection and helped to mitigate the siltation from this area at the beginning of Atten Road in Stoddard. Bill has been vigilant in his use of the watershed plan and his persistence in informing the towns about areas of concern around the lake.

As you may know Bill Steiniger will be the new president of the **GLA** at the conclusion of our annual meeting on July 21, 2018.

Please remember to check out our web page at granitelakenh.org for up-

dates about current projects. You can also view past newsletters, minutes of meetings and other links to organizations of interest. We have been working hard to keep the web site current and up to date.

It has been my pleasure to serve as the chairperson for this dedicated body of volunteers.

Harry Flanagan

**Lake Host Point Person
Needed for Summer 2019
Become the next point person**

*Interested in protecting Granite Lake
Keep our lake free of Aquatic
Invasive Species*

**Training Available
Please call Anita Flanagan
Retiring point person at 847-3082**



REAL PHOTO

GRANITE LAKE AND MONADNOCK - MUNSONVILLE, N. H.

TILDEN - KEENE

From Fish Pond to Granite Lake What's In A Name...? By Alan Rumrill

The early settlers of southwest New Hampshire were practical people with little spare time to consider ornate names for local natural features. The result was names such as Center Pond for the body of water that was closest to the center of town and hills named for people who lived on them, such as Holt Hill and Pitcher Mountain. **Granite Lake** was no different. By 1768 the lake had been given the simple name "**Fish Pond**," undoubtedly because of the number and variety of fish found, and caught, in this deep, cold body of water. Since the date of settlement 250 years ago our lake has had five different names, each one meaningful and appropriate during its time.

When Nelson was incorporated the town was named Packersfield in honor of original proprietor and large landowner Thomas Packer. The town line separating Packersfield and Stoddard divided the lake almost in half. This may have resulted in the townspeople of Packersfield assigning that name to the lake as well, to clearly show their partial ownership. **Packersfield Pond**, the name given to the lake by 1790, was more dignified than **Fish Pond** and may have

illustrated the importance of the body of water to the people of the community.

Two events occurred in a two year period in the early 1800s that would result in another name change. In 1814 the name of the town was changed from Packersfield to Nelson by request of the citizens and vote of the state legislature. The following year a cotton factory, powered by the water flowing from the lake, was built at the outlet of **Packersfield Pond**. The name Packersfield was now gone and the economic impact of the cotton factory was growing. A new name assigned to the lake reflected these changes. The mill was known locally as Nelson Factory and a new post office opened in the village in 1837 was given the same name: Nelson Factory post office. Consequently, the lake became **Factory Pond**, but both the post office and the new lake name were short-lived.

The principal owner of the cotton mill after 1832 was Alvan Munson. In 1849 Munson convinced the government to change the name of the post office to Munsonville; the village be-

came known by the same name and the pond followed suit. By the 1850s it was listed in books and shown on maps as Munsonville Pond. This new moniker lasted until the 1880s when social and economic developments resulted in one final change for the oft altered name. By that time southwest New Hampshire was beginning to experience the impact of tourism. Visitors were attracted to the region's rural communities, and especially its lakes, to relax surrounded by the area's natural beauty. At that time a movement started to make the names of the lakes of New Hampshire more attractive. Apparently the belief was that a lake with a charming name would be more likely to attract tourists. Consequently, **Stoddard's Long Pond** became **Highland Lake** and **Nelson's Breed Pond** became **Silver Lake**. The lake shared by both of those towns also received a new "beautified" name; by the mid 1880s **Munsonville Pond** had been renamed **Granite Lake**. The lake with numerous names now had a permanent title. After holding four names in 120 years, our lake has now observed more than 130 years as **Granite Lake**.



Nesting Loons / Nesting Eagles

Report from Brian Reilly
Chairman, Loon Preservation
Committee, New Hampshire by Bob England



Observations and research is ongoing on this very subject, especially with the doubling time for Bald Eagles in the Northeast now at about every 5 years.

Biologists from Loon Preservation Committee and NH Audubon have jointly been studying this topic now for several years and others in the US and Canada are contributing information as well.

Bald Eagles will occasionally take loon eggs off the nest or loon chicks from the water. This is not their preferred food but it works for them if other prey is scarce or if an easy opportunity presents itself.

There are lakes in the northeast and in northern NH where eagles and loons have nested nearby one another on the same lake for many years with absolutely no interactions or problems.

On lakes where artificial nesting platforms are provided for the loons they are all now outfitted with covers called "avian guards" to minimize predation of loon eggs by birds such as eagles, ravens, crows.

Our data at LPC has confirmed loss of only 2 - 3 % of loon chicks to eagle predation to date so the risk is low but certainly possible.

We can only sit by and observe as both species are protected.

It would be terrific if Granite Lake could have both species living in harmony. It just may happen.

The Harris Center for Conservation Education is working to protect the Granite Lake Headwaters property, a 515-acre parcel located in the highlands of Stoddard. The property contains two headwater streams that emerge from the steep slopes of Fletcher Hill before flowing under Route 9, into Nye Meadow, and on to Granite Lake in Stoddard and Nelson, NH.

In 2013, this property was purchased by a forestry and development company, who conducted extensive timber operations at the site. During this period of intensive road building and timber harvesting, silt and sediment were carried in heavy rains from the site through the headwater streams and into Granite Lake, raising concerns about water quality at that popular swimming, fishing, and boating spot.

Protection of the Granite Lake Headwaters land – which is the largest unprotected parcel in the Granite Lake watershed – will raise the proportion of conserved land in the watershed to 30 percent. On a recent visit to the property tracks were found from moose, bear, bobcat, grey fox and many of our more commonly found species. The conserved lands would be managed for wildlife habitat and forest health, paying special attention to minimizing the potential for erosion and sedimentation impacts in the stream **Nye Meadow** and **Granite Lake**. In addition, the Headwaters parcel is directly contiguous with a 2,278-acre corridor of conserved lands stretching north from **Spoonwood Pond** in Nelson to Route 9 in Stoddard – providing important room to roam for people and wildlife alike.

A conservation-oriented buyer has recently purchased the property from the timber company in order to give the **Harris Center** time to fundraise for this important land protection project. To permanently protect the land, we need to raise \$250,000 and will be reaching out to the Granite Lake and the surrounding communities starting this summer. Stay Tuned! For more information, please contact Jeremy Wilson at (603) 525-3394 or wilson@harriscenter.org.

Since 1970, the Harris Center for Conservation Education has been promoting understanding and respect for the natural world through environmental education, land protection, and conservation research. We have conserved over 23,000 acres in large conservation blocks across our 8-town focus area.

Lake Host Program at Granite Lake

Anita Flanagan

Spring and the thoughts of summer always seem to arrive just in time to save us all from the gray and gloomy weather. It reminds us that soon the hum of motor boats and the festive party boats will herald a new summer on the lake. The early morning fisherman will push off into a fog enclosed lake only to return when the sun breaks through. The colorful kayaks and now more frequent paddle boards will make their quiet way around the lake. Many of these boats will have been inspected for aquatic invasive species by members of the Lake Host Program. These invasive species are not visitors we welcome to the lake.



As the new summer season of Lake Hosting approaches I would like to reflect on last year's ramp coverage and boating numbers, and what the program continues to contribute to Granite Lake.

Our enthusiastic and hard working volunteer lake hosts and our paid lake hosts logged 943 hours. Volunteer Lake Hosts logged 523 hours on the ramp staying consistent with last season's hours. Our paid lake host, including myself as point person, also put in 420 hours either at the ramp or completing other lake hosting business. Last summer our volunteers and paid lake

hosts inspected 792 boats, down from 1,020 boats the prior summer. I believe this was a result of cool and rainy summer weather. We trained three new paid lake hosts and two new additional volunteer lake hosts joined our organization.

"It is clear that people around the lake care for and support the lake and are willing to give of their time to keep the lake in its beautiful condition." We are fortunate that we have such a dedicated group of volunteers and young people as stewards of the lake.

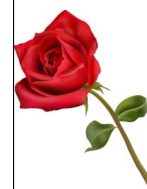
The New Hampshire Lake Host Program state wide, made the 2017 season a success with a total of 94,222 courtesy boat inspections made by 671 Lake Hosts leading to 22 saves of aquatic invasive species at 101 boat ramps.

This will be my last season as Granite Lake Point Person for the Lake Hosting Program.

I will have served 5 years in this position by this summers end. I will continue as a volunteer but feel it is time for a new person to take over this responsibility.

Thank You to all the volunteers ! It has been a pleasure getting to know you and working together.

If you are interested or know of anyone who is interested in this role please let me know. Anita Flanagan 847-3082



In Memorium

Jane Seaver Kirk

of Munsonville NH

Died May 22, 2018., at the age of 90: A life well lived, filled with travel, adventure and service. *Jane* may be best known locally for her energetic efforts to help underprivileged children in Cheshire County. She was a 26 year member of the Rotary Club of Keene and at one point she was assigned to administer a Rotary program that provided clothing to school-age children . *Jane* transformed the program into a personal shopping experience for the children and their families. She derived a great deal of satisfaction from her work with the program, which ultimately became known as "*Jane's Kids.*" *Jane Kirk* : neighbor, friend, community organizer, volunteer leader, Granite Lake Association member and Town of Nelson selectmen : led a rich and interesting life and will be remembered by many for her community service and genuine care for others. She will be missed by all those she touched.!

Summer Camps of Granite Lake

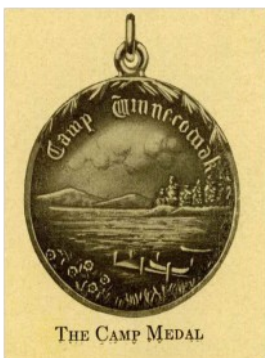
Living The Dream by Joann Bartolotta

From 1906 to 1972, a period of 66 years, Granite Lake was the home of ten summer camps. Thousands of young men and women enjoyed the woodlands, water activities, sports, hiking, horseback riding as well as forging life long memories which they made in this wonderful environment.

The first camp established at the lake was by a Boston Opera Company run by Paul Savage in 1906. Amazingly this building and its original camp grounds still stands on North Shore Road.

In 1915 Camp Oahe was built in the same area run by a famous Dakota Sioux : Dr. Charles Eastman.

The listing of camps existing during this period is as follows;



- * Paul Savage - music camp 1906-1913
- Camp Winnecomack - Ewing property 1910-1914
- Camp Oahe - Ewing property 1915-1934
- YMCA Camp - located on the island 1915-1934
- Granite Lake Camp (Jewish Boys Camp) 1917-1970
- * The Milestone (singing camp) 1920-1925
- * Camp Swastika 1926-1930's
- Camp Led Yard early 1930's
- * Spruce land Camps 1930-1961
- * Camp Notre Dame for Girls-1962-1972

*All were located on site of Paul Savage Music Camp.

The Skidmore family who ran the last camp in the area maintains its history and charm, a step back in time.

Standing in front of the old camp Notre Dame building on a warm, quiet summer day you can just imagine the campers enjoying waterfront activities of swimming and canoeing, the tennis courts in full swing- the smell of camp fires and sounds of sing-alongs, and perhaps most important the building of friendships and memories, while having the best time of their lives on Granite Lake.

By Bill Steiniger

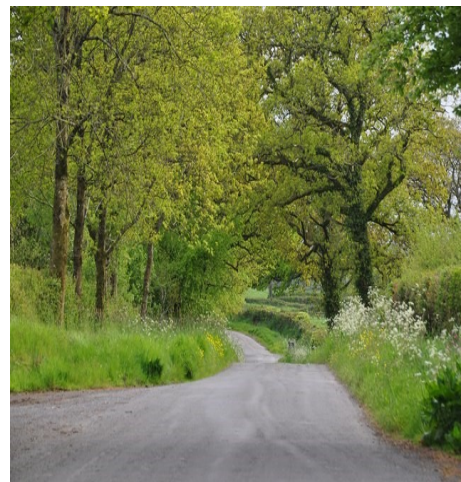
In Memoriam Marion Weston Frazier

Long time Munsonville resident Marion Frazier passed away on March 1, 2018, at 85 at the Cheshire Medical Center with family by her side.

She was born at the Peterborough Hospital in 1932, to William Weston and Estner (Wright) Weston. She was born the fourth of nine children. She was best known for her Nana rolls and her pies, along with her radiant smile. She brought love and kindness to everyone around her.

Marion married Leonard Frazier on Nov.12, 1950, at the Chapel by the Lake in Munsonville, where they were lifelong members. They also lived on Granite Lake where they loved to swim and fish. They spent 63 happy years of marriage together.

She will be missed by all who had the pleasure of knowing her.



Back in the summer of 1972 my family and I discovered **Granite Lake**. My parents were good friends of Al and June Skidmore who owned the old Camp Notre Dame for Girls. When the camp closed down they invited friends to use the property for summer vacation. .. and that is when the love affair began. My siblings and I were so enamored with everything *Munsonville* – the *Lodge*, the *lake*, the *country store*, the dirt road, the starry skies, the campfires and sing-alongs. It was our first time paddling a canoe, rowing a boat, exploring an island, waterskiing... It was a magical place filled with so many new adventures we couldn't get enough of!

As time went on our family grew up and moved away. I kept coming to the lake. First with friends, then with my boyfriend who became my husband, and when our children were born they began coming up every summer as well. They began their own love affair with the lake that continues to this day.

My dream in life was to have a house on Granite Lake one day, and here I am living my dream. I am so blessed to still be a part of this beautiful place. And now I get to call it home!

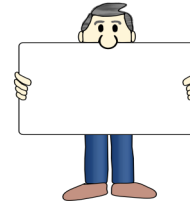
The 69th Annual Meeting of the Granite Lake Association

SATURDAY JULY 21st 2018 at the Chapel by the Lake at 9:30 AM

The Association works for the protection and betterment of Granite Lake. The annual meeting is the forum for discussion of common concerns and for the determination of appropriate action. Please join us!

AGENDA 2018

1. Salutation/Call to Order
2. Pledge of Allegiance
3. Remembrances of past neighbors
4. Secretary Report - Sally Ripley, Secretary
5. Guest Speaker - Jeremy Wilson Executive Director Harris Center
6. Treasurers Reports / Financial Report -Tom Newcomb, Treasurer
 - Water Quality VLAP Report
 - Report on 501c3
- 7 Lake Host Report - Anita Flanagan, Lake Host Point Person
- 8 Loon & Eagle Nest Report - Bill Steiniger
- 9 CPR / AED Bob England
- 10 Nominating Committee Report - Judy Walton
 - President - Bill Steiniger
 - Vice President - Tyke Levine
 - Treasurer -Tom Newcomb
 - Secretary - Sally Ripley
 - Officer-at-Large - Bob Maiden
- 11 Harry Flanagan Presidents Report and update
 - Beaver Deceiver Update
 - Siltation Concerns
 - Logging issues
 - Possible update on the dam - Bob Woods
 - Lake drawdown October 1st—15th 2018
12. Vote to pay for use of the Chapel
13. Set next annual association meeting
Saturday July 20th 9:30 am 2019
14. Questions / Concerns
15. Motion to adjourn the meeting



Jeremy Wilson Guest Speaker

Executive Director of Harris Center

Jeremy grew up in Princeton, NJ, but developed early ties to the mountains, forests, and lakes of the Monadnock Region during summers spent visiting family in Hancock and Peterborough.

He graduated from Bowdoin College, and then attended the Yale School of Forestry and Environmental Studies, where he earned his master's degree. He earned his Ph.D. from the University Of Washington College Of Forest Resources in 1998. For 11 years, he was a professor at the University of Maine, where he directed research programs that advanced understanding of forest stand and landscape dynamics. He taught undergraduate courses on forest ecosystem management and a graduate course exploring issues of scale in forest ecology and management. He joined the Harris Center as our Executive Director in 2012.

He and his wife Katie were married in a ceremony at the Harris Center in the early 1990s. They live in Dublin with their four children, ages 11 to 22.

Bob England on:

AED,S

In Granite Lake Community

When a person collapses suddenly, the most common cause is cardiac arrest. Without immediate treatment with CPR (Cardio pulmonary resuscitation) and often a shock to the heart with an AED (Automatic External Defibrillator), the individual is likely to die.

AEDs appear prominently at airports, theaters, public buildings, schools, and municipal facilities, but they are not so commonly seen in rural areas.

Here at Granite Lake, an AED is located in a kitchen cabinet of the Chapel-by-the-Lake, a 125-year-old village church, located right in the center of Munsonville Village and never locked. Therefore the AED is available 24/7/365.

While the church is an ideal place for an AED, in order to be effective, CPR must be administered immediately and an AED shock must be given within 4 minutes. Though the lake community is not large, many residents live a bit farther away from the church. Thus, with an emergency, there would not always be adequate time for someone to drive from the incident location to the church and return in time for defibrillator shock to be effective.

Five years ago, we decided to expand the AED presence around Granite Lake. Two residents purchased their own units, and fortunately, the distance between each of the three lakeside AEDs is almost exactly one mile.

Thus, if there were to be a sudden emergency, someone would start CPR, another person would call 911, and someone else would retrieve the nearest AED and return within a couple of minutes.



In the spring, summer, and fall, the AEDs are located in well-marked areas and accessible at any time. In the winter, because the units cannot be left in freezing temperatures, they are available in our homes.

A fourth AED has recently been purchased and is located at a lodge about a mile away from the lake, readily available to residents on that road.

Also, for three of the last four years, we have arranged for certified CPR/AED instructors to lead classes for residents of the Granite Lake community. These are held at the Munsonville Church, and the Granite Lake Association generously pays the tuition for participants.

We expect that these classes will continue annually. While we are fortunate that, to date, we have not needed resuscitation skills or an AED, we are prepared.

CPR/AED TRAINING

For three of the last five years, the GLA has sponsored CPR/AED classes, and we have had at least 25 Granite Lake residents become certified in CPR. Last year's course was particularly good, having been taught by Peter Sebert, the athletic director of the Keene Family YMCA. Peter is willing to teach the course again this summer, probably in August.

Details of the CPR/AED training will be discussed at the GLA Annual meeting, and a date will be established at that time.

Note that CPR/AED certification lasts only two years.

Potluck Picnic with the Band



Chapel-by-the-Lake

A community of Faith In the Community By the Lake

Worship services will be held
Sundays at 11 a.m.

with Pastor Eric Feustel until June 16th,

2018. The new pastor Bill Taylor will begin July 1st, 2018.

AA Meetings are held Sunday evenings at 6:30 pm.

Saturday Night Hymm sings 7:00 pm

Knitting Club meets every other Thursday from 10 to noon. Starting June 7th. For more info call Diane Halter at 8479581.



**JULY 4th Annual
Chicken BBQ** was
a big success again

last year !! The Church plans to cook and sell 150 plus fresh chickens and sides again this year. An excellent way to kick off your Holiday while supporting the Church !



Fitness on the Beach with Joann

Classes Monday—Friday

Fitness 101 from 9:00-9:45 Fitness 102 from 10:00-11:00 am. **Fit 101** is a slower paced easier going class and **Fit102** will obviously be the next step up.

The classes will be a mix of strength training, balance work, cardiovascular endurance training, dance, drumstix and stretching!

All participants should bring a mat, towel and water bottle. Classes will be \$3 per person per session. Looking forward to working with others to get healthy and have some fun !

SUNDAY, AUG 15th at 3:00 PM

Potluck Picnic with the **Nelson Band Performing** on **Sandy Beach Commons** at 4:00 pm and **Touring the lake** at 5:00pm .Everyone is invited. Call Donna Hamilton 847-3288 or Angel Nicoletti 847-9547 to volunteer to help. Many hands and many dishes are needed to make this a success.



MAY 2018 The Granite Lake Association is a member supported non profit organization. Your membership contribution is now a (501c3) tax *deductable charitable donation*. Please return this section with your check to: Granite Lake Association and mail to

Thomas Newcombe - Treasurer
701 Granite Lake Rd
Munsonville NH, 03457

\$50.00 Family Households

\$35.00 One-person Household

\$\$ Donation to Water Quality Projects

Name _____

Summer Address _____

Winter Address _____

Email _____

Winter Telephone: _____ Lake telephone # or cell _____

Will you volunteer to help? Circle: Lake Host, Picnic, Executive Committee, Newsletter, Web Site

Help us keep our mailing list up to date. Please Inform us in writing or email Cayla Pagniucci @ pagniucci.cayla1@gmail.com ,of any changes in addresses.