



Crescent Lake Chronicles

Issue 9

Unity / Acworth, NH

Spring 2002

Association Notes

By Fred Yates, Secretary-Treasurer

As usual, the **Crescent Lake Association Annual Meeting** will be held at the **Unity Fire Station** the first Saturday after the 4th of July. This year that means the meeting will be held **July 6, 2002**, from 10:00 a.m. until noon.

At our 1997 annual meeting, Lake Association members voted unanimously to add \$10.00 per year to our dues for repairs to the dam at the eastern end of the lake. After we have raised the necessary repair cost this extra fee will be discontinued.

Annual dues of \$20.00 are due and payable **BEFORE** the annual meeting or can be mailed. Checks should be made out to *Crescent Lake Association* and mailed to:

Fred W. Yates, CLA Sec'y/Treas
17 Washington Street
Westminster, VT 05158

Fireworks July 6th!

This year's gala is scheduled for Saturday, July 6 (rain date Sunday, July 7). **Thanks as always to the Desbiens.** This is an expensive show and a lot of hard work to prepare. If not for the Desbiens brothers, it would cost us four times as much for the great, professional display we see each year at Crescent Lake.

When you send in your dues, consider adding a **donation for fireworks.** Last year we collected over \$1459.



Har-umph!

On the hottest and steamiest nights at the lake, usually well after the descent of nightfall, the concerts would begin.

Har-umph. Har-umph. HAR-UMPH!

And so the noise would go, a deep resonant two-noted sing-song uttered back and forth by bullfrogs sitting on rocks that jutted out of the water and were hidden by the stalks of the water lilies. The noise could go on forever, especially if it was midnight and you were trying to get to sleep.

*Whether these were mating calls or challenges between the male frogs, I didn't know. I just knew that listening to **har-umph** was part of my summer ritual...*

From "The Squirrel's Goblet"

by our very own Pam and Jeannette Muzeroll, map site 60-B.
An enchanting new *must-have* book -- see more inside!



Kayak Raffle

This year we'll hold another kayak raffle, with tickets for sale at the annual meeting and the picnic.

2002 T-Shirt Contest

The T-shirt contest was won this year by Camp 83, by Kristen Birkholtz (Hallee). The new T-shirt is called "A Day Fishing Is Better Than Any Day Working, Son."

The shirts will go on sale at our Annual Crescent Lake Meeting and thereafter at Marie Boyle's camp.

If you wish to purchase T-shirts and other items at the meeting, please come by 9:30 a.m.

Sickness and Distress

Members of the Association, if you know of any Camp that has had a serious sickness or distress in

their family this past year, please notify me, Secretary Yates, as soon as possible. I need this information for our Annual Meeting report. I can't be everywhere, know everything, so I need your help. Drop me a note in your dues payment. It would be greatly appreciated.

Fish Fund -- No Donations

No fish donations this year. Again, thank you! **REMEMBER:** Catch and release to promote our bass population.

New Voices!

We're delighted to welcome several new *Chronicles* contributors in the current issue. Obviously our community is brimming with great stories and talent. Send in your own articles and observations!



Crescent Lake Sailing Club News

By Brian Lisankie, map site 29

O.K. -- so there really isn't a sailing club on Crescent Lake. Not in the official, Webster's Dictionary definition of the word "club." There is no charter, no official meetings, no elected officers or dues. But you can see a growing number of dedicated sailors converge on the lake (with no prior agreement on times or dates) any time the wind blows. I consider these events "meetings." The sight of sails on the lake on a sunny day sends me running for my boat. I have, as they say, "the bug."

I got started in sailing by a lake resident who shall remain safely anonymous (but whose name rhymes with "Clark Moore"). During one of Dave Sloan's annual revival meetings I happened to mention to Clark that I was interested in learning how to sail. Much to my surprise, Clark pulled up in his sailboat the very next morning to give us our first lesson. Note: I've found out since that almost all sailors have a penchant for converting non-sailors to the sport... most likely because you are less likely to be considered odd if other people besides you drop their lawn tools and hammers to go sailing whenever the wind starts blowing. Well the trick worked -- shortly thereafter I bought my own sailboat and was out sailing whenever I had the chance.

There is something about sailing that gets in your blood. Perhaps it is the calming effect that moving with the wind has on you, or the quiet, or forgetting your list of camp improvement projects and work stress while you concentrate on reading the wind, maintaining course, and staying out of the water.

Being a relatively small and "uniquely" shaped body of water, Crescent Lake is indeed a challenge to sail. The various points and coves all have their own strange effects on the wind, and the narrow sections of the lake offer yet another challenge to the small boat sailor. You can race through the narrows with the wind behind you, only to have to spend considerably more time on the return trip as you tack back and forth against the wind.

There are a few tips that the beginning sailor needs to learn: (a) when the boat (or the wind) changes

direction, so do the sails. The swinging of the boom from one side to the other can be quite fast -- so watch your noggin! (b) if the boat starts to tip, release the sail and/or the rudder and (most of the time) you will be o.k., and (c) if you do capsize the boat, turn the bow (front) of the boat into the direction of the wind before you try to right the boat, or it will just blow over again.

Just about everyone I know has managed to capsize their sailboat at one time or another. My first trip "over the side" came as I was trying to sail during one of those weather fronts that precede the summer rainstorms here. Due to an improperly rigged boat (good sailors always have excuses for their mistakes) I found myself in the water with the powder blue hull of my sailboat pointing to the sky.

Besides wishing I had zipped my lifejacket, I remember seeing my bailing bucket, paddle, and topsiders floating away, so remember to (d) use elastic cord to secure loose items in the boat in case you capsize, and (e) leave watches, cell phones, and wallets safely on shore...

It takes quite a bit of energy to hoist yourself up on the centerboard and pull a waterlogged boat and sails back upright again. Completely forgetting my training, I tried twice to pull the boat up with the bow pointing in other than the right direction, only to have it blow over again. Tired and confused, I was wondering what to do when I heard the booming voice of God telling me to PUT THE BOW INTO THE WIND! Only it wasn't God, just Clark Moore shouting instructions from shore. To make a long story short, Clark & Betty paddled out in their canoe, helped me gather my flotsam & jetsam and pushed me away from the rocks along the shore, while my nine year old daughter came out to rescue me in a paddle boat to complete the spectacle. All's well that ends well, I suppose.

Anyway, all are welcome to join our merry band of sailors. Just mention to Clark that you are interested, or stop by #29 some windy afternoon. I'll be happy to drop my hammer, and show you the ropes.

Brian Lisankie can be reached at: blisankie@aol.com



Your Prez Says...

By David Sloan, CLA President

I hope all of you enjoyed a happy and healthy fall and winter season. As spring turns to summer, I wish you and your family a safe and memorable stay at the lake.

The Third Annual Sam Calkins Golf Outing will be held on July 13, 2002. Call David Sloan, 863-7156, or John Marshall, 863-1513 by June 23.

Men's Night will also be held on July 13 at 6:00 pm.

Labor Day Picnic 2001: Another Big Success

A night of thunderstorms and a gray, blustery morning gave way to gorgeous weather for the annual Labor Day bash on Saturday, September 1. There was a touch of autumn in the air as a spirited

kayak flotilla got the festivities going.

Later, the canoe racers faced heavy wind on the outbound leg but got some relief

on their way back to Silver Beach.

And the winners were:

Men's Division -- Long Course

1. Ben Hart & Andy Hart - 33:40
2. Brian Ignatowski & Tim Derby - 34:56

Mixed-Women & Men-Long Course

1. Bethany Coursen & Scott Coursen - 27:38
2. Judy Rastallis & Stan Rastallis - 27:41
3. Susannah Sirkin & John Wortham - 35:40

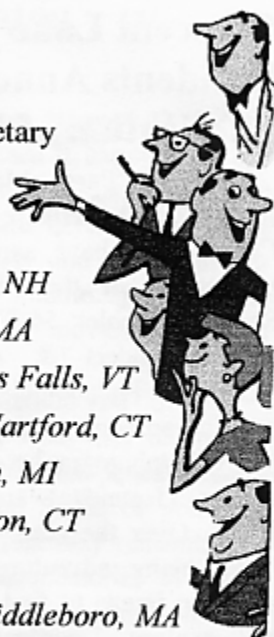


Welcome, New Neighbors!

This year we had at least nine camp changes! If there have been other changes, please let Secretary Fred Yates know as soon as possible before the annual meeting. Contact Fred at 863-1021 or drop by camp 86, *HATETOLEAVEIT*.

- Camp 14: Jim & Caryl Mullane, Charlestown, NH
- Camp 27: Paul & Marilyn Coombs, Carlisle, MA
- Camp 36: David & Beverly Baldasaro, Bellows Falls, VT
- Camp 39: Jeffrey & Renee Dzieczkowski, W. Hartford, CT
- Camp 42: James & Nancy McAuliffe, Brighton, MI
- Camp 91: Brian & Susan Ignatowski, Burlington, CT
- Camp 105A: Patrick J. Page, Concord, NH
- Camp 109: Gregory & Nancy Archambeau, Middleboro, MA
- Camp 109A: Russell & Kelly Carey, Kingston, MA

Welcome to Crescent Lake. We hope you will fall in love with the place as we all have. If you have any questions please feel free to contact your Lake Association Officers at any time. We don't get paid much, but we have a lot of fun.



Women's Division - Short Course

1. Lizette Grinaski & Laurel Swan - 23:09
2. Kristin Brush & Megan Luteran - 23:19

Adult with Children - Short Course

1. Tim Grinaski & Ian Grinaski - 22:15
2. Jim Magliano & Patrick Magliano - 27:00
3. Pete Murray & Dan Murray - 27:03

Under 14 - Short Course

1. Matt Lisankie & Caroline Lisankie - 23:11
2. Ramsey Mellish & Michael Grinaski - 23:48

PARTY TIME!

The picnic itself continues to set records. Liz Marshall and her hardworking crew created a superb celebration for more than 340 attendees. Raffle ticket sales reached

an astonishing \$1571 as hopefuls vied for dozens of lush gift baskets (no pun intended...) and the two grand prizes: Marion Ginter's exquisite blueberry tea set in its beautifully handpainted Bavarian treasure chest (won by Jeff & Leslie Fitts), and Liz Vavra's magnificent blueberry starburst patchwork baby quilt (won, appropriately, by Baby Nicole, who was still several weeks from being born).

The separate kayak raffle raised enough for two kayaks, with \$10 left over for the CLA coffers.

In the midst of all the fun, Tim Grinaski and friends braved choppy waters to offer a spectacular water-ski and wakeboard show--a new lake tradition, perhaps?.

Afterwards, as always, the lake was abuzz with evening activity as boats paraded past the soft light of the flares that circled the shoreline. Fireworks from the boat landing provided a fitting finale.

Crescent Lake Residents Announce Publication of Book

Phyllis "Pam" Muzeroll and Jeannette St. Hilaire Muzeroll, Camp 60-B, have announced the publication of their book, "The Squirrel's Goblet: 56 Tales of Nature's Wonders & Antics" by XLibris, in Philadelphia.

The authors, an essayist and a journalist/photographer, are also mother (Jeannette) and daughter (Pam). Over the years, they've enjoyed many adventures together: going on jaunts to find new places to explore, gardening, bird-watching, studying the intricacies that give the world its color and personality. Now, they've embarked on one more great adventure together, that of writing "The Squirrel's Goblet." They introduce readers to a collection of touching animal and nature tales, sharing

their adventures found in the rural beauty of Northern New England. They remind us that "the greatest moments in life can be appreciated in the smallest wonders all around."

"Many of these stories are set at Crescent Lake," said Pam. "The book is a wonderful way to share and remember some of the best experiences I've had in my life. The lake is such a special place."

From the poor duck that was mystified by her own egg-laying abilities to finding snow ghosts, "The Squirrel's Goblet" is a heart-warming collection of 56 true-life stories of nature's wonders and antics. Highlighted by photos, the tales include funny, often touching anecdotes about drunken birds, a disappearing rope, fireflies, a delicate loop of snow, thunderstorm sideshows, a frog and his feather and much more. In the tradition of Aesop's Fables, each story is followed by a modern-day moral.

"It's a relaxing book for adults and young adults," said Jeannette; "it's easy to read to and enjoy with children too."

Pam runs a successful writing business from home in Claremont, NH; William and Jeannette Muzeroll have owned their camp at Crescent Lake for more than 40 years.

"The Squirrel's Goblet" is 231 pages and available directly from the publisher by going to:

www.xlibris.com/TheSquirrelsGoblet.html.

It also will be available through amazon.com, barnesandnoble.com and borders.com, and can be ordered through local bookstores.

Editor's note: On the very day we typed the above, our copy of the book finally arrived in the mail. It is truly a delight, and we recommend it heartily. (See "Night Life" on the following page for a taste.) We're hoping to get the authors' autographs over the summer.

The CLA Milfoil Committee

Late last summer, after press reports of a Milfoil infestation at Georges Mills in Lake Sunapee, the officers and directors of Crescent Lake recognized an **urgent need** to develop a program that would help prevent **Milfoil / exotic plants** from infesting our beautiful lake. A special meeting was held in September 2001, and a "Milfoil Committee" of eight was appointed. Their charge was to formulate an **action plan** to combat **Milfoil / exotic plants** that would be implemented at the start of the 2002 boating season. This has been accomplished, thanks to the persistent and diligent efforts of the committee:

Leroy Underwood, Chair
Jim Howe

Carol Calkins, Secretary
Bob Kroupa

John Demars
Tim Perry

Charlie Ginter, Jr.
Stan Rastallis

The Committee first circulated a survey to raise awareness and to gather property owners' ideas regarding the appropriate response to the risk of exotic Milfoil invading our lake. Committee members then took our responses into account and worked all winter to design a **Master Plan for the control of Milfoil and exotic plants**. Every CLA member has received detailed updates on the Committee's progress, including queries about important issues such as the expenditure of CLA funds to support underwater plant mapping to identify plant life that already exists in the lake, and a request for volunteers to work at the boat launch over the summer. **Please be sure to read – and share – the magnificent Master Plan you received from the Milfoil Committee. It contains everything you must learn to help protect our lake. Education is key!** (For further information about Milfoil and exotic plants, see page 10 of this newsletter--but the Master Plan and other Committee mailings remain your best source.)

NOTICE: The Milfoil Committee's intention is to draw down the lake approximately 8" lower than the seasonal level by taking out the bottom board in mid-September to mid-October. The committee agrees to put the board back in after the first hard frost. See your Master Plan for more information.

Story Twenty-Three: Night Life

From "The Squirrel's Goblet," by Pam and Jeannette Muzeroll, map site 60B



When day turns into night, one might expect that the activities of the day are put to rest as things quiet down and the world goes to sleep for a while.

Things quiet down?

Absolutely not!

Rather, the inhabitants of day merely abdicate the ground, trees and air as their nocturnal counterparts assume their rightful positions, and that changing of the guard is as pronounced as the drawing of a window shade.

It wasn't until I began housesitting in East Washington, NH, and then living at the lake

that I learned just how *busy* the world becomes at night.

At dusk, the bats would fly by the camp or over the lake, clearly visible in the dwindling light. They'd dart about, catching bugs, maneuvering their way around the camp and trees. Once true darkness would set in, and at the lake, on a moonless night, it becomes pitch black, other creatures would set about their daily nighttime tasks. By the glow of the outdoor floodlight, I could see spiders whipping up fantastic webs, spiders of various sizes and colors. Giant green moths would sometimes land on window screens, their wingspans stretching several inches. Sometimes their wings would keep beating, making an audible drumming sound against the wire mesh. There would be wolves howling or foxes barking in the distance, and fishers and minks slinking around in the dark, on the prowl for a meal. Shining a flashlight around in the woods might reveal the greenish glow of a pair of mouse eyes caught by the beam of light. Moths and other flying things would hover around any light that was suddenly switched on, seemingly forming out of thin air.

Splash!

Sometimes a raccoon or two would be down by the water's edge, scrounging for freshwater clams. Once, I heard some really loud animal screams and then a big *SPLASH*, and concluded that two raccoons fighting in a tree had led to one falling into the lake.

Often, I could hear owls hooting in the distance, like surveying their territory with uncanny eyesight. One evening I heard a trio of owls communicating from three different points in the woods behind the camp. The hooting was so loud that I could hear it over the sound of my TV and prompted me to go outside to track down its origin. I stood at the tree line and actually recorded their cries on a small tape recorder.

Sasha always liked the nighttime, too. Besides finding interesting bugs to sniff at, she would always manage to find some little furry thing to chase, usually a vole so tiny that it could tuck itself between a tire on my car and the ground, successfully eluding capture.

Does the world quiet down at night? Not a chance. The night life can get pretty wild.

THOUGHT: There are day people and there are night people.

What Will We Do Now?

By Clark Moore, "Damp" 22

You've seen it happen and believe me, it will happen again. There you are at Crescent Lake, hosting friends and family and it rains every minute. Everyone is tired of cards, movies and video games.

NOW, what do you do?

I wonder what they did before TV when that happened--besides playing cards. Some of you "old timer" Lake folk may remember. If so, send your memories in to the *Chronicles* editor. Ideas from anyone, young or old, would be welcome.

In doing some research on this question, I came across an old book published in 1928 entitled, believe it or not, *What'll We Do Now*. It is chock full of parlor type games. Some are even for killjoys who don't like to play games.

I will try to select some of these that are appropriate for rainy days at the Lake and get them published in a future *Chronicles*.

In the meantime, let's hear from you. We'd better get ready because the rainy Spring weather is bound to continue at Crescent Lake.

Acworth Phone List

Greta Perry, map site 75, discovered that Acworth phone numbers will no longer be listed in the Verizon local phone book -- we've been placed in the Brattleboro directory!

To be listed locally, you must contact Verizon Customer Sales and Service at 800-474-9999, **before the last week of June**. For some unfathomable reason, Verizon refuses to change us as a group. Thanks for the info, Greta!

Unique Water Craft

Barbara Noll, photographer / journalist for The Claremont Eagle-Times, frequently publishes beautiful photos and wonderful articles featuring Crescent Lake. We reprint here (hoping not to arouse the ire of the Eagle-Times) Ms. Noll's article of August 24, 2001.

Unity Man Still Makes Kayaks, Canoes By Hand

UNITY -- Stan Rastallis knows how to float your boat.

A butcher, a baker, a canoe maker...and this story happens to be about a Crescent Lake canoe maker.

Out of a small workshop on Crescent Lake, Rastallis builds canoes, a craft he first tried his hand at in the mid-1970's when he and a friend wanted a racing canoe.

"A friend and I had kids and no money, so we decided to build one. I went on to build six more, both tandem and single racing," Stan said of his introduction to his craft.

Rastallis builds both canoes and kayaks in the workshop adjoining his house. He uses a form for their construction, composed of 2-inch pieces of wood that are straight on top (the strongback) with plywood stanchions, or forms, built on top of the strongback. These are later removed and re-used. Each canoe is built over these forms, upside down.

Starting at the bottom on both sides, Rastallis places strips of white cedar from stem to stern and

works upward. The white cedar is used to build the canoe, called a strip canoe, predominantly because it is lightweight.

"White cedar is not terribly strong wood, but retains its strength when bent because of its long fiber," Rastallis explained, demonstrating how he easily bends the strip into place.

The strips are held together with carpenter's glue and staples.

"When the whole hull is done, I pull out all the staples and sand it," he explained. "The major part of the construction of the boat is the hours and hours of sanding. After sanding, a layer of fiberglass is applied with epoxy resin. (This) gives it both the strength it needs and (makes) it definitely more waterproof. It's essentially a fiberglass canoe with a wooden core. The core gives it some buoyancy if it tips.

"The fiberglass is laid on carefully so there are no wrinkles," he continued. "One coat of resin adheres the fiberglass to the hull, the second fills in the sheave, and the third is to give it a smooth surface."

When the canoe is taken off the form and turned right side up, the same procedure is followed for the inside of the boat, though not as meticulously. The seats are made from plastic cane and woven by Rastallis.

His wife, Judy, is the promoter of the business, though he admits: "We are not good in the business line. We're good at building boats."

They also try them out together.

Their business, Sugar River Canoes, started while they were still living in

Claremont and they have kept that name. Besides the boats, Rastallis also makes paddles and gives lessons to children so they can build boats for themselves and friends. Though he does not sell many boats, and those are mostly to people on Crescent Lake and to people he knows, he keeps making them.

"I like building them. It's an addiction, an affliction, or whatever you want to call it," he says with a laugh.

Some of the canoes he crafted were donated to his church, South Congregational Church of Newport, for raffles. The proceeds went for camping equipment needed for the children's camping trip.

These boats are wonderful examples of craftsmanship and utilitarianism. The cedar strips produce a beautiful wooden canoe or kayak and the ease with which these lightweight boats glide through the water is a very desirable point as well. The kayak Rastallis recently finished for Judy weighs only 35 pounds. A canoe runs around \$2,000 and takes 100 hours to complete.

Bass Notes



Dick Brown, map site 4, informs us of another reason to catch and release our biggest bass. On behalf of the CLA Fish Committee, Dick contributed a three-pound bass to a state study on fish and water quality. The study found slightly elevated -- but not dangerous -- levels of mercury in the larger fish.

The state fishery could not find a bass raiser to furnish any fish for the lake last fall, so Dick will try again this year. No fish survey this year, no donations to the fish fund. Just enjoy the sport, and remember to catch and release!





Ready to relaunch: our new lake website!

Crescent-Lake.com

Three cheers for Matt Lisankie, map site 29! Matt answered the call in last year's *Chronicles*, and spent a good part of his summer creating www.crescent-lake.com.

It's a great-looking site and will surely be lots of fun in the years to come. This summer Matt will continue working on this virtual gathering place for our Crescent Lake community. With everyone's help we should be able to create the content that will keep it vital and vibrant.

Watch for updates by mid-summer, if not sooner. You will see that some of the articles in this issue of the *Chronicles* were initially featured on the web site -- that's by design! We're hoping to build an interactive set of communication tools to bring us closer together all year round.

Don't forget to visit www.crescent-lake.com. (The hyphen is all-important.) And thanks again, Matt. Keep up the good work!

Puzzler Winners

Last year we tried to get cute by including a literary puzzle for your summer ruminations: *In twenty-five words or fewer, what is the significance of a green light at the end of a dock?*

Well, we must not have explained the question very well, because only

two people figured out what we were looking for. Both, by coincidence, were guests at C-Side (seriously, there was nothing fishy about it -- your *Chronicles* editor wasn't even in the room). Both are avid readers of all sorts of literature, and it's no surprise that they're married to each other.

Independently, and within seconds of being asked the question, they both identified the green light at the end of Daisy Buchanan's dock in *The Great Gatsby*. Every night, Jay Gatsby would stare at this light and pine away for Daisy -- remember?

Take a bow, Cathie and David Desjardins of Arlington, MA.

Honorable mention goes to Bruce Keane, a friend of Gail and David Sloan, for the following explanation: "On the ocean, where I boat, red & green lights mark the safe return from the sea. And you would keep the green to port. On a lake, I believe the green light indicates safe passage is to the north or east." Thanks, Bruce, we've all learned something from your answer!

Unsung Heroes

We all owe our gratitude to the people whose continuous efforts make life better at Crescent Lake. **Mike Walker** has graciously printed every single issue of the *Chronicles* at Newsbank, Inc. in Chester, VT. **Liz Marshall** took over the giant task of organizing our Labor Day bash when **Marie Boyle** "retired." **The Desbiens** provide fireworks and a home for our big parties. Your **CLA Officers** never tire of working for the lake. And new this year, **The Milfoil Committee**, year-rounders dedicated to keeping invasive weeds out of our lake. See more on their program throughout this issue. Thank you, one and all.

Dave Diotalevi Resigns

By Fred Yates, CLA Secretary

With deep regret the Crescent Lake Association has accepted the resignation of David Diotalevi as a CLA Director. David has been a director since 1989 and a resident of Crescent Lake since 1987.

David recently sold his cottage on Crescent Lake and plans to build a new log home in the Holliston, MA area.

Thank you, David, for your untiring efforts, hard work, and dedication to making Crescent Lake one of the best lakes in New Hampshire. Your good humor, smile, and gentlemanly presence will be greatly missed for years to come. Good luck to you and your family in your new adventures in the years ahead. The lighthouse you nurtured to life, and took such great care of for all these years, wants us to ask: "Now tell us, Dave, how in the heck do you hitch me to the rocks?"

The Crescent Lake Association is pleased to announce the appointment of Timothy Perry to fulfill Dave Diotalevi's term of office, which expires in 2005. Please welcome Tim as your newest director and give him your support as you did to David Diotalevi. WELCOME aboard Tim.

Did You Know?

Another gem from Greta Perry

The area now known as Acworth received its first charter in 1752 and was named Burnet, after William Burnet who became colonial governor of Massachusetts and New Hampshire in 1728. No settlements were made under this charter, and the proprietors made a regrant in 1766 under the name Acworth.

This information is from *New Hampshire Town Names*, by Elmer Hunt.

A Day in the Life of Crescent Lake *By Ann Erwin, map site 105*

That Perfect Day

My mother once asked me, "What did you do today?" And I looked her straight in the eye and said quietly, "Nothing." She then asked me again in disbelief, "No, what did you 'do' today?" And louder I said, "Nothing!" She looks at me straight faced and I know exactly what she's thinking: With three kids you *had* to do something all day.

It was sunny, warm, and quiet. No motor boats, no swimming, no company or picnics. No violin lessons, no baseball practice, no speech therapy. No grocery shopping, no laundry, no cooking. No chores, no phone calls, no reading. Just a little hand holding, sandwich making and hammock swinging.

But in her book that doesn't really constitute a real accomplishment. I realize that yes, in this day and age, in our complicated lives that we all live, perhaps I had essentially accomplished something truly huge. This was the day in all those preparations that I had ultimately prepared for. A little sanctuary and peace of mind, even if it was just only for a day. We all need down time to be our creative selves... in order to be able to jump back into the race. We all need a little simplification. No guilt. Even if that means doing without a few amenities. It makes it so much sweeter.

So I realized this to be "my goal," even if it is just for a day... or even the entire summer. I am going to have "that perfect day" every summer... and do nothing.

Nothing Ever Changes

In the hustle and bustle of my New York City lifestyle, coming here really is a sanctuary. But as that old saying goes, Nothing ever changes! With a few minor twists...

There is still concern about the water quality. Still concern about lead paint. Still concern about mosquitoes (and the virus). And there's still not ever enough milk in the house for my coffee.

I still have to get up in the morning, at least an extra half hour before the kids for quiet time. This time to turn on the heat. Although it's an old Glenwood wood fired stove that serves as the cooking facilities as well. I still have to make breakfast (but it takes five times as long without my modern day interventions). I still have to do the laundry (that's a full day at the landromat). I still have to clean the toilet (don't even want to go there...).

But then, the kids still need a bath (there's a giant tub in the back yard...lake). The squirrels are still just as aggressive (getting into my flowers, garden, and even eating food in the house). The mailman stiiiiiiiiiiiiiii can't find my house (like out of a bad Chevy Chase movie). The neighbors, well, still don't ever seem to be home. But I still can't seem to find that perfect parking spot. (Someone else still keeps stealing it -- even with alternative side parking rules NOT in effect.)

And there's still someone picking through my garbage. (Although he only comes out at night... it's still spread out across the front of the house.) So you see, the more things change (the view), the more they stay the same.

A History Lesson, Yeesh!

Our camp was built in 1913 by the Dinkel family and handed down three generations. It had never been put up for sale before. I'm told it was the second camp built on the lake at its time. It pretty much is intact the way it was built. No insulation, pre-war wiring, Glenwood cooking/heating stove. Yeesh!

We went to the Granite Bank on Good Friday to close (as opposed to the day before we could have closed... April Fool's Day, I'm no fool) and found that the original Dinkel family member, who started the bank, was the one who built our soon to be humble abode. And a family cousin of the Dinkels' would be at our closing. Talk about small towns. Yeesh!

I was first attracted to this place because of its original raw condition and I do live in a little Victorian house back home built in 1860. So this place is a bit more modern in contrast. The kitchen still had the original black cast iron sink. I had to learn prehistoric housekeeping for god's sake. It had its original outhouse with a sign on the door, "Sit Well Inn." You open the door, and at eye level to the humble throne was another sign, "Grunt for service." Yeesh! *(continued next page: see "Yeesh!")*



Dates to Remember

July 6, 2002, 10 AM. Annual CLA Meeting, Unity Fire Department, Unity, NH

July 6, 2002, Dusk. Annual CLA Fireworks Display, Desbiens' Silver Beach Area.

July 13, 2002, 8:00 AM. Third Annual Sam Calkins CLA Golf Tournament. Newport Country Club, Newport, NH. CLA President David Sloan, Chairman.

August 31, 2002, 10:00 AM. Crescent Lake Canoe Race, Desbiens' Silver Beach Area. Gail Sloan, Chairwoman.

August 31, 2002, 1:00 PM. Annual Crescent Lake Picnic, Desbiens' Silver Beach Area. Liz Marshall, Chairwoman.

Spring 2003. You finally get a better-designed version of the *Crescent Lake Chronicles*. We promise! (Anyone want to help with the graphics and layout? Please contact your *Chronicles* editor.)

In Sympathy

By Fred Yates, CLA Secretary

The Crescent Lake Association wishes to extend to Arthur Caravan and family our deepest sympathy on the passing of your wife, Anita, on October 3, 2001.

Anita Caravan surely will be missed. Always a smile, always pleasant to everyone, always there at the picnic doing the corn. The sweetest white haired LADY you will ever know, we all love you. (See "We Will Never Forget," next page.)

Editor's note: Just weeks before she passed away, Mrs. Caravan sent a lovely note thanking us all for the Association's gift honoring her many years of service during the Labor day picnic.

Another nice LADY passed away, at the age of 102, this January 2002. **Mrs. Myrtle Holbrook** was the mother of Marie Boyle. Marie, our deepest condolences to

you and your family in the loss of one so dear.

Charles V. Ahern, 89, of Camp 39 for over 50 years on Crescent Lake, passed away on May 8th. Charlie just sold his cottage this last month after many years as an officer and past president of the Lake Association. For many years Charlie maintained a fire boat on the lake for our fire protection. Several times we used the fire boat on the lake, well before the arrival of the local fire departments. Charlie, your good humor, smile, and a hard worker for the lake will be greatly missed in the years ahead.

Editor's note: Everyone at C-Side sadly misses **Rita Mary (Henault) Blood** of Claremont, our first and dearest friend in New Hampshire. Rita loved Crescent Lake, and her spirit still graces the place. She was buried on September 11, 2001, the day our world changed forever.

("Yeesh!" continued) I have fond summer memories of coming to Crescent Lake as a child. My grandmother had a place that is currently slowly being torn down. (Rather difficult to watch.) We were not allowed in the house because it was so darn small. My father would drive us to the country store for popsicles. When we reached the four corners, where the big old fat tree with the hand painted "Crescent Lake" sign was, we knew we were almost there. It was our landmark. Yeesh!

Back then there were a lot of trees and tire swings, and little crooks to play in. There was hardly any traffic. We used to play basketball at the neighbors' hoop in the road (which also got torn down recently... along with the house). Yeesh!

We had to hand pump the well for water and put block ice in the ice box. Grandpa made homemade ice cream with it, such as David Sloan's Labor Day Treat! (Thanks David.) Our family also learned to water ski here. I remember one time my father had a full leg cast after a motorcycle accident. I watched him water ski by taking off from the dock on one foot, on one ski and landing ashore -- never getting wet! He was way ahead of his time. Yeesh!

The water was more polluted then. There was a lot of dumping in the water and blood suckers. We found a few of those under the old dock, along with a huge fat old spider that must have been there when the house was built. Yeesh!

Now our camp also had a popsicle/candy stand, with its large white door that lifts up bottom-to-top, still there. We still have the shelving and an advertisement of a soda jerk saying "Drink Moxie." The boys' room contains cardboard baseball teams playing ball and eating watermelon. No need to decorate. The master bedroom is overlooked by a cardboard owl that on nights in August hoots like a bullfrog. Yeesh!

Talk about decorations, on the front porch walkway are permanently cemented foot imprints of raccoons (about to dump our garbage again). It came complete with bats too. They've become a symbol of good luck for us since my husband works for Batman himself (DC Comics). Why didn't we name this place "The Bat Cave" I do not know. They've taken good care of us all these years, you'd think we'd be grateful and give them entitlement. No way!

We Will Never Forget

By the grandchildren of Anita Caravan, map site 74

Grandma, you mean the world to us and we will never forget you. You are the heart of the family and that is what held us together. We will continue to keep the family the way you would want it to be.

We will always remember the light you brought into the room when you walked in. We will never forget your hamburger soup, the lake parties, your tag sale gifts, Ka Ka Ka Katie, or Pony Boy. The way you hum a little tune on a silent drive or if we didn't finish our supper we would be threatened to eat it the next morning. How you watched us swim in the lake but wouldn't go in past your knees. Your laugh, your smile and the five different pies that you would make for just one meal. Of course the root beer floats on extra special days. Then there were those relaxing days when you would sit in your chair reading a book, or just so

content in what you've accomplished. You would laugh so hard some days that you would jiggle like a bowl full of Jell-O and your dimples would shine through. Your apple and turnip casserole, chow mein, roast beef and Yorkshire pudding that all tasted so good. We will never forget how you let the boys get away with everything but yet was fair to every one. The ever so frequent water runs to the Perry's. We were never too big to crawl into your lap for comfort or leave the kids table. The whistling hearing aid after every hug. How we were always faking being carsick when we really were. Family breakfasts at McDonald's or the doughboys at the cabin. Visiting you in Florida and the times at the lake when we would all gather. Most of all we will never forget you as a person, a mother, a friend, a grandmother, a great-grandmother and all the other roles you portrayed so well. We will love you always and hold you in our hearts forever. Love always, Your grandchildren

Spread the Word -- Not the Milfoil

We are extremely grateful to our new Milfoil Committee (see page 4 and read your **Master Plan**) for their all-important effort to keep exotic Milfoil and other invasive plants out of our beloved lake.

Make no mistake, though. Every one of us is responsible for learning about and promoting the health of our aquatic community.

A few facts about water plants:

- ♦ Plants are important in a healthy lake, providing food and shelter for fish, and stabilizing the shoreline.

- ♦ Not all varieties of Milfoil are bad.

- ♦ **Eurasian and variable Milfoil are invasive:**

- They spread at tremendous rates -- as much as one inch a day!
- They choke out fish and native plants.
- Their large mats interfere with swimming, boating, and fishing.

- ♦ Milfoil spreads by rerooting from tiny broken off segments of the plant.

- ♦ It takes only a tiny piece of broken off Milfoil to start a new colony.

- ♦ Even dried bits of Milfoil on a boat or trailer can start a new colony, when a boat is launched and the Milfoil takes root in a new site. This is the primary source of invasive Milfoil.

- ♦ There is no way to eradicate invasive Milfoil once it establishes itself in a lake.

The Good News

The Milfoil Committee has established a Master plan to combat the risk of Milfoil at Crescent Lake. Its key components:

- ♦ Establish a Weed Watcher program to spot Milfoil / exotic plants in the early stages for prompt removal and control. **Please do not pull suspicious plants you spot on your shoreline. Notify Stan Rastallis (863-8838) and he will contact the State of NH for proper removal.**

- ♦ Boat Landing -- Educate boaters! Check boats and trailers for Milfoil/ exotic plants that could spread into the lake. Train volunteer and hired Watch Captains for the launch.

- ♦ Educational Programs -- for CLA members, at the annual meeting, in our local towns, in conjunction with the NH Lakes Association, and via lake volunteers.

- ♦ Volunteers and/or paid helpers for the boat launch -- to greet boaters, conduct surveys, spread the word about Milfoil, and inspect boats and trailers for dangerous weeds. (See help wanted ad on page 11).

- ♦ Lake draw down next fall for better control of weed growth. Boards will be removed from the dam to draw down the lake level approximately 8 inches below the normal seasonal level from late September / early October until the first hard freeze.

- ♦ Continuous research into new methods for early identification and control of Milfoil / exotic plants at Crescent Lake.

Help Wanted: Work at Crescent Lake This Summer!

Be a host/greeter at the Crescent Lake boat launching site, greeting people launching boats. Conduct surveys and perform boat inspections for "MILFOIL" on boats being launched.

Weekends Friday / Saturday / Sunday starting June 7th through September 8th. Launch area to be covered eight hours per day and a training class will be held by the NH Lakes Association before the season starts.

PAY RATE IS \$8.52 / HOUR.

If interested in a fun summer job call:

Leroy Underwood
Chairman,
CLA Milfoil Committee
(603) 863-9286

Or email at LUKW@NHVT.net



DENNIS

Lumber & Supply

Route 10,
Goshen, NH
03752
863-5601

Summer Hours:
Mon.-Fri. 7-5,
Sat. 7-3, Sun. 9-1

We'll keep publishing *Crescent Lake Chronicles* as long as you keep sending material. We have lots of new voices and lots of information this year, so let's keep it going strong! To contribute, contact:

Colleen Kaftan

Camp 103 "C-Side" -- 863-9415

or mail to

228 Harris Road, Smithfield, RI 02917

fax: 401 232-5545 / email: ckaftan@aol.com

We're looking for comments on lake life, tips on the area, for sale / wanted to buy, announcements, news, reviews, good summer puzzlers (and solutions!), pithy front-page quotes, letters to the editor... and even photos, especially if they're accompanied by witty captions or stories. Don't be shy! Send your article today!

Your Lake Association Officers

President: David Sloan, map site 11A

Secretary-Treasurer: Fred Yates, map site 86

Directors:

Eino Antilla, Shorewood map site A

Timothy Perry, map site 75

Charlie Ginter, map site 59A

Tom Rousseau, map site 82



Whenever you move, please complete this form and mail to:

Mr. Fred W. Yates
CLA Secretary / Treasurer
17 Washington St.
Westminster, VT 05158

First Name	Middle Initial	Last Name
<hr/>		
New Address	Street	Apt. #
<hr/>		
City	State	New Zip Code
<hr/>		

Please cut out and mail the entire section showing old address on the other side.

CLASSIFIED NOTICES

These Chronicles printed by NewsBank, Inc., Chester, VT. (802) 875-2397. Once again, Mike Walker (map site 1) and his staff have done a terrific job. Thank you again, Mike Walker and NewsBank!

Fire permits: Contact George Dunn, fire warden for Unity. All outdoor fires require fire permits from town fire wardens. Please be careful with anything that might cause sparks, and always get a permit for outdoor fires.

Sugar River Canoe: Cedar Strip Canoes, Kayaks, Bent Shaft Paddles — those works of art you see gliding by on the lake. Call Stan Rastallis, (603) 863-8838. Lake Road, Unity / HCR 66 Box 193 / Newport, NH 03773 .

Soap Source: Dishwasher or washing machine at the lake? Order "Seventh Generation" non-polluting detergents from Harmony, at 1 (800) 869-3446.

Dump Hours. Acworth: Wed. 11-6, Sat. 9-4, Sun. 9-1. Unity: Sat. 8-4

Crescent Lake T-Shirts: Get 'em while they're current, because they can't be re-ordered. If you have "vintage" shirts you'd be willing to sell or give to a deserving neighbor (or to the Association for resale or auction), please contact Marie Boyle at 863-3778.



Lost & Found: If you find anything floating down the lake—boats, docks, skis, rafts, toys, kids, etc., please try to locate the owner. Also, be sure to secure your boats, etc., and put your name on them so they can be returned if found. Contact the Chronicles or any Lake Association officer to report either lost or found items.

Dino Zampini, logging, firewood, bark mulch, trucking, excavation. 543 1188.

Site Specific, Inc. Remodeling, new construction, custom carpentry, period restoration, energy auditing and conservation service. K Wesley Cubberly 863-4802 or 1 (800) 281-2880

SP Drafting and Design draws and updates our lake maps. Elmer N. Paquette, Wallingford CT. Phone: (203) 265-7352.

Stan's General Contracting. Building, Remodeling, Home Maintenance & Repair. (603) 542-5719

Valley Artesian Well. Christopher Farrow (802) 674-6493 or (800) 366-6493.

Keep up with area news and events! Subscriptions to the Acworth Community Newsletter, published monthly by the Friends of Silsby Library, are \$6.50 / year. Box 88, S. Acworth, NH 03607. Or pick up the Unity Newsletter at Will's Place in beautiful downtown-Unity. Summer hours: M-F 6 am - 9 pm, Sat. 8 am - 9 pm, Sun. 8 am - 8 pm.

Crescent Lake Association
Mr. Fred W. Yates Sec./Treas.
17 Washington Street
Westminster, VT 05158

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED



PETER & COLLEEN KAFTAN
228 HARRIS RD
SMITHFIELD RI ** 02917

INSIDE: The Spring 2002 Crescent Lake Chronicles!
Lake Association Annual Meeting: 10:00 a.m.-noon, Saturday, July 6, 2002, Unity Fire Station.
\$20 Association Annual Dues are Due! Send your check to the CLA address above.