

# Crescent Lake Chronicles

Issue 002

Unity / Acworth, NH

Spring 1996

## Association Notes

Fred Yates, the tireless Secretary-Treasurer of our Crescent Lake Association, announces the following:

First, the winner of this year's T-shirt contest is Camp 60B, with a design drawn by Geannette, William, and Pam Muzeroll. Congratulations on a job well done! (Note: to enter the contest, camp owners and their families can submit black-and-white drawings on 8½" by 11" paper—free of folds and protected against bending—to Fred at the Association address by December 1.)

Second, the Association Annual Meeting will be held *rain or shine* as always on the first Saturday after July 4th—July 6th this year—at 10:00 a.m. at the Unity Fire Station (handicap accessible).

Third, anyone who received a dud flare for last year's Labor Day festivities should please contact Marie Boyle. The Association deeply regrets that we received one case of flares that went bad. Marie will take note and you'll get a free flare when the time comes this year.

Finally, very special thanks to Mike and Diane Walker, Camp 1, who have graciously printed this issue of *Chronicles*.

## Greetings!

Welcome once again to *Crescent Lake Chronicles*, your new local mouthpiece and communications center.

If you missed the first issue last Labor Day, here's your chance to catch up.

We hope this little paper—to be published whenever we have enough to say—can help us stay in touch with each other and share information between Lake Association meetings. But the content has to come from you!

We're looking for all sorts of contributions: comments on lake life, tips on the area, lost & found, for sale / wanted to buy, assorted announcements and other items, news and reviews, letters to the editor...

To submit an item during the season at the Lake, contact Fred Yates (at "HateToLeaveIt") or Ray and Marie Boyle (look for the T-shirt display). Or send your suggestions to:

Colleen Kaftan ("C-Side") Phone: (401) 232-1537  
228 Harris Road Fax: (401) 232-5545  
Smithfield, RI 02917 E-mail: ckaftan@aol.com

## Fireworks!

Last year's Fourth-of-July fireworks were a real extravaganza—the perfect way to start another steamy summer season at the Lake. The display showed the wisdom of pooling our resources to create a more spectacular event: the Association contributed \$300, and private donors put in another

\$400 to make a pretty sizeable pot.

This year's fireworks will go up in smoke on the night before the Fourth, with the rain date on July 4th. Be sure to join the fun, and if you'd like to send a contribution, just add a few dollars to your \$10 Association dues, and send a check to:

Crescent Lake Association  
P.O. Box 56  
Bellows Falls, VT 05101



## Our Own Outdoors Reporter

*Mike Brown, from camp #4, writes on outdoors every Friday in the Poughkeepsie Journal. We reprint here his wonderful article from August 5, 1994.*

If you seek evidence about how important fishing can be in the long-term spectrum of a productive and balanced life, consider how bonds of lifelong friendship are enhanced by a few hours of angling on a hot summer night.

One of my lifetime friends, Donnie Bruce, has been just as busy with business and family (he and his wife have four girls including a pair of twin dynamos) as I've been over the years. Each midsummer we have worked hard to get together if only for just a single night of fishing in [Crescent Lake] New Hampshire.

Last Friday night was Donnie's 39th birthday (the last one he will officially celebrate) and we both recently changed jobs. So there was plenty to think about and be concerned with during these uncertain times of the 1990s.

Our dreamy midsummer night's adventure started at 10 p.m. after the kids were put to bed and the little New Hampshire night was quiet. We loaded up an old 12-foot fishing boat with his spinning gear, two or three surface lures, a big net, a few cold beverages and our high hopes that the bass would be active on a warm, calm night.

I volunteered to serve as guide and rowed the boat to areas of the lake where together we had first caught bass more than 25 years ago.

At first the action was slow, possibly because recent thunderstorms changed the water levels and temperatures of the lake. But then things picked up.

Before we rowed home at 1 a.m., Donnie brought five nice bass to my net and we lost a couple other hard-fighting fish. If you haven't fished for bass with surface lures on a dark night, you're missing one of the treats of the summer months.

You can't see them, you sometimes don't even feel them, but when a three-pound bass smacks the surface of the water, it certainly gets your attention.

The night before on the same lake, Donnie had caught the biggest bass of his life. The bass weighed just shy of five pounds and made multiple hours of tedious fishing worth the endeavor. But just like a year ago during our annual one-night trek into the darkness, our combined efforts were magical with a fishing rod in hand.

In addition to the five fish on the line, we also shared a conversation with a whitetail deer. The unseen deer, standing on the shore, wasn't sure about the movement of the water and it snorted and "blew" once or twice before I answered with my own responses.

Every time I snorted, the deer would answer on cue. Who knows what creature that deer thought had issued a challenge from the watery surface. We sure were entertained.

In between netting bass we did talk about work, friendship and life. But primarily there was this unspoken communication between two long-time friends that life is sort of like fishing for bass in the middle of the night.

Sometimes you get a good fish on the line. Other times you don't catch anything or get hooked up on an unseen dock. But just being there for the experience, placing yourself in the right position at the right time for success, is more than half the battle.

After all, that's what friends and fishing are all about.



### Bass Notes

The following report on our watery friends wins the coveted "first *Chronicles* contributor" award for Richard Brown. (Thanks, Dick!)

*For release:* Since the State of New Hampshire hadn't stocked since 1986, we stocked large mouth bass in 1991, 1993, and 1994 so that many of our youth could catch some bigger fighting fish in '95-'96. It's worked! Several of our family or friends' kids have caught 3 or 4 pound bass.

We're teaching catch and release to young and old. A 3-pound bass is probably 10 years old and a breeder/hatcher which helps keep our lake "alive!"

## The Race

"I owe it all to my 17-year-old son Scot," claimed Nick Boyd, exhilarated after his father-son team took top honors (men's division) for 1995 in the annual canoe race. "We came in second two years in a row, so this feels terrific." Nick says he plans to retire at the top, so the winner's podium just might be wide open in 1996. Lee Boyd begs to differ, though. She and Nick have another son, Shane, who's 14 and who could also be a contender. Better start training now if you want to challenge the Boyds!

Herewith a report on The Race from your Lake Association Directors:

The annual canoe race and picnic was a salute to a great spring and summer on Crescent Lake! Attendance at this Labor Day weekend event increases every year. The good times can be attributed to good neighbors and a hardworking, dedicated work crew. Thanks to Marie Boyle for leading the group. We look forward to the '96 season—the fireworks, the annual meeting, and Labor Day.

**David Sloan, President**

**Crescent Lake Association**

(Everybody's hearty thanks go out to David and Gail Sloan, to our other officers, and to the volunteers who make it all happen every year! We also greatly appreciate Dick Brown's timely contributions—to the lake and to the fledgling *Crescent Lake Chronicles*.)



## For The Record 1995 Canoe Race Results

### Men and Women

1. Stan Rastallis  
Judy Rastallis
2. Bob Mumford  
Carol Mumford
3. Vicki Papra  
Michael McCulley

### Children (under 14)

1. John Lloyd  
Scott Kepner
2. Pat Rousseau  
Michael D'Ascanio
3. Kate Rousseau  
Nettie Comtom

### Women

1. Helen Sirkin  
Susannah Sirkin
2. Dana Boyle  
Beth Boyle
3. Angela Nichols  
Marlene Vizcarra

### Men

1. Nick Boyd  
Scot Boyd
2. Jarod Millar  
Jonathan Millar
3. Mike Brown  
Mark Ryan

### Adult with Child

1. Charlie Walker  
Danny Walker
2. Larry McCluskey  
Lindsey McCluskey
3. Paul Halle  
Marissa Halle

## More Bass Notes

To: Crescent Lake Association  
From: Richard E. Brown, Bass  
Stocking Committee

Re: 1994 Report

On September 25, 1993 (8:30) on a cold and foggy day, Ed Keefe met me at the boat landing where we planted about 40 bass; then moved down to Rousseau's #82 where Tom, daughter Kate and some of her teenage friends helped to plant the rest, 125 large mouth at various sizes for \$437.50.

This spring several camp owners are advising they have seen "nesting" bass in the shallows — so we hope a good reproduction is going on!!! Since our Fish Fund has some funds left I'd like to stock one more batch this season then get some feedback from you all.

During summers would you try to keep track of the number of bass you and/or your renters and/or friends catch, release, and/or keep. Some measurements or weights and general info like times of day fished, part of lake caught and any other tidbits would be appreciated. Send notes to me or drop off at my cottage #44 at the end of the season. I want to do a small analysis report to return to the Association and also to the Fish and Game Department.

Write Dick at:

P.O. Box 29  
Bellows Falls,  
Vermont  
05101.

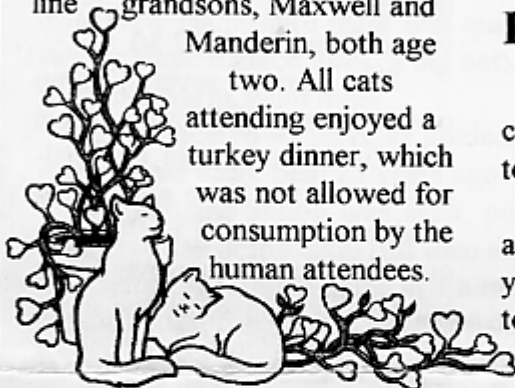


## 100 Year Birthday Celebration Marks Opening Weekend

(By Carol and Arnie Antak)

Despite the snow and sleet, the Antaks opened their cottage for the season the second weekend in April by celebrating feline Chips' 20th birthday (equivalent to 100 human years). The celebration was attended by feline brother, Rocky, age 15, and feline grandsons, Maxwell and

Manderin, both age two. All cats attending enjoyed a turkey dinner, which was not allowed for consumption by the human attendees.



Chips attributes his longevity to a stressfree life centered around frequent vacations and weekends at Crescent Lake. Chips can be seen almost every weekend from April to October, sunbathing on his dock at Camp 46C. However his favorite part of the weekend is traveling up and back, sitting on his Dad's lap in the driver's seat and looking out the window.

Congratulations Chips!

## Lake Lore

There's been some interest in capturing the tales people could tell about life on Crescent Lake.

If you'd like to help gather and publish an oral history, or if you know of a story that needs to be told, please contact the *Chronicles* staff.

### CLASSIFIED NOTICES

These *Chronicles* printed courtesy of NewsBank, Inc., Chester, VT. (802) 875-2397. Thanks, Mike Walker!

Need Help Opening/Closing Camps, Remodeling Decks & Porches? Ryan Property Services, Mark Ryan, Proprietor. 24 Cherry Hill, Bellows Falls, VT 05101 (802) 463-3790.

Lake Side Inn—Bed & Breakfast and small receptions. Phone 863-4330.

Acworth Community Newsletter, published monthly by the Friends of Silsby Library. Subscriptions \$6.50 / year. Box 88, S. Acworth, NH 03607.

Hemingway's Lawn and Dock Co. Lawn mowing, dock building (permanent or floating), bark mulching, minor construction, landscaping, raking, trimming and painting. Call 543-0069 or 1 (800) 529 0069.

Send copy to *Chronicles* address, p 1. Colleen Kaftan, Compiler-in-Chief.

**Crescent Lake Association  
P.O. Box 56  
Bellows Falls, VT 05101**

**INSIDE: The new Crescent Lake Chronicles!**

**Lake Association Annual Meeting: 10:00 a.m., Saturday July 6, 1996, Unity Fire Station.**

**\$10 Association Annual Dues are Due! Send your check to the address above.**