



Crescent Lake Chronicles

Issue 11

Unity / Acworth, NH

Spring 2004

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 10, 2004**, from 10:00 a.m. until noon.

At the 2003 Annual Meeting the CLA cottage owners voted to raise the annual dues to \$40.00 per cottage owner. Dues have been \$20.00 for several years, of which \$10.00 was earmarked for the repairs of the dam at the end of the lake. Last year the CLA members voted to apply the former \$10.00 dam repair allocation to the **Milfoil** project in the future, and to add another \$20.00 to support the Milfoil Committee's work. In short, of the new \$40.00 dues, \$10.00 goes to the operation of the CLA, and the remaining \$30.00 will go toward the activities of the **Milfoil** Committee.

The Milfoil Committee's programs will cost an estimated \$11,500.00 each year from now on. For this year that budget will be financed as follows: **State of NH**, \$4,000; **Town of Acworth**, \$2,000; **Town of Unity**, \$1,000; **Acworth Garden Club**, \$500; **Crescent Lake Association**, \$4,000.

The Milfoil Committee's work is like an **INSURANCE POLICY** on your cottage valuation, helping to protect our most important resource. Where else can you get an

*Twenty years from now
you will be more disappointed
by the things you didn't do
than by the ones you did.
So throw off the bowlines.
Sail away from the safe harbor.
Catch the soft trade winds in your sails.
Explore. Dream.*

Mark Twain

(And if the winds of Crescent Lake strand you in the cove,
you can always **dream** you are exploring...)

insurance policy for \$30.00 to help preserve your property value? The answer is, "**YOU CAN'T.**" So support the eight cottage owners who work 365 days a year to help keep our lake free of invasive weeds.

Where can you get a great **FIREWORKS** display, **CANOE RACES**, **GOLF TOURNAMENT**, **ANNUAL PICNIC**, and a **CLEAN** lake for everyone, for only \$40.00 per year? Think about it -- "**YOU CAN'T.**" This is why the vote was unanimously approved at our Annual Meeting.

Annual dues of \$40.00 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

Hope to see you at our annual meeting, July 10, 2004.

Fireworks July 3rd!

This year's gala is scheduled for Saturday, July 3 (rain date Sunday, July 4). **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.

So when you send in your dues, consider adding a **donation for fireworks.** Last year we collected over \$1,570.

Kayak Raffle

We will have another Kayak Raffle this year at our Annual Picnic. Last year's winners were Grant & Beth Freeland, Camp 27B, and Jean & Pat Thompson of Silver Beach. Tickets will be on sale at our Annual Meeting and at the Picnic. Chairman Fred Yates.

(continued next page...)

2004 T-Shirt Contest

The T-shirt contest design for 2004, titled "Canoe Race Silver Beach," comes from Jan Harrington and Jerry Coutu of Shorewood Estates. Thanks and congratulations!

The shirts and other items will go on sale at our Annual Crescent Lake Meeting, and afterwards at Marie Boyle's camp #80.

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 Committee Report

Fish Committee Chairman Dick Brown reports that the State gave him the name of a new source for bass stocking last summer. Dick contacted them and was promised a delivery of 100 fish to replenish our bass population, but in mid-August they called to say they did not have enough fish left to fill our request. Dick plans to call again in June to see if an order can

CLA THANKS



for your annual donations to our Labor Day picnic.

Route 10, Goshen 863-5601

be delivered this year. REMEMBER: Catch and release to promote our bass population.

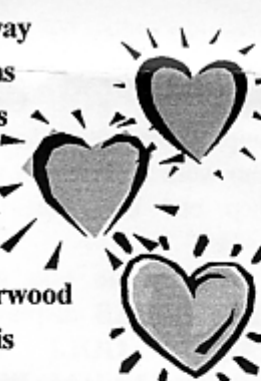
Milfoil Committee

We continue to be grateful for the dedicated efforts of our Milfoil Committee. Many Lake Association members want to donate money to the prevention of Milfoil/exotic plants because they are not able to give time or help in other ways. **If you would like to make a donation, please write your check to the Crescent Lake Association and designate that the money is for Milfoil/exotic plants prevention. Send the check to Fred Yates, or give it to any member of the Milfoil Committee.**

We have a beautiful clean lake and we want to keep it that way!

The Milfoil Committee:

- ◆ Jerry Bushway
- ◆ Carol Calkins
- ◆ John Demars
- ◆ Jim Howe
- ◆ Bob Kroupa
- ◆ Tim Perry
- ◆ Leroy Underwood
- ◆ Stan Rastallis



Please contact any Committee member if you haven't yet received their Spring report, which outlines the goals, budget, funding, and strategy for the 2004 season.

The most critical activity is to **INSPECT ALL BOATS** as they enter the lake, screening for weeds and informing boaters about the danger of carrying weeds from one body of water to another. Last summer the lake hosts removed noxious plants from at least two different boats -- good job!

The Committee has put in

place a program to perform boat surveys and boat / trailer inspections from 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m., 12 hours a day and 7 days a week, from June 6 through September 6. Four hired Lake Host workers and numerous volunteers will staff the extended hours. Leah Haynes and Aaron Witham, both college students, will be returning from last year, joined by Julie Kroupa and Brenda Gauthier, both from Crescent Lake.

An underwater survey will be performed by qualified lake divers on June 12, to map the vegetation in the shallow areas and check for the presence of invasive plants.

The Weed Watcher Program will continue this year, with trained lake volunteers conducting ongoing inspections of the shallow, weedy areas where invasive weeds are most likely to take root. Thanks to Weed Watcher Captain Stan Rastallis and all our other volunteers for helping prevent invasive weeds from entering our beloved lake.

Another Type of "Invasion"

MAN'S BEST FRIEND -- You guessed it, his dog. But do you realize only 20% of the homes have a dog or dogs? Other people do not have a dog but have to pick up dog "droppings" left on their property by somebody else's dog.

Dog owners should keep their dogs on their property. Let them step in it, clean it up -- not their neighbors. This is a request from a Crescent Lake cottage owner. The CLA cannot do anything about this, but forward to all of you dog owners, the messy concerns from your neighbor.

Thank you all dog lovers, for your kind attention in this matter.

Fred W. Yates
Secretary-Treasurer, CLA

Dates to Remember

July 3, 2004, Dusk. Annual CLA Fireworks Display, Desbiens' Silver Beach Area.

July 10, 2004, 10 AM. Annual CLA Meeting, Unity Fire Department, Unity, NH.

July 17, 2004, 8:00 AM. Fifth Annual Sam Calkins CLA Golf Tournament. Newport Country Club, Newport, NH, followed by Men's Nite at the lake. Call CLA President David Sloan, 863-7156, or John Marshall, 863-1513.

July 17, 2004. Crescent Lake Ladies' Night! Join us for dinner and the theater. Call Liz Marshall, 863-1513.

September 4, 2004, 10:00 AM. Crescent Lake Canoe Race, Desbiens' Silver Beach Area. Gail Sloan, Chair.

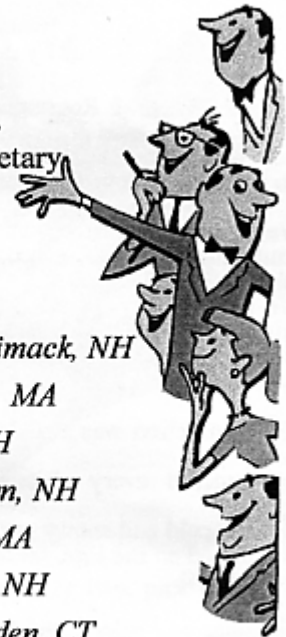
September 4, 2004, 1:00 PM. Annual Crescent Lake Picnic, Desbiens' Silver Beach Area. Liz Marshall, Chair.

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 (802) 463-3468 or drop by camp 86, **HATETOLEAVEIT** -- 863-1021.

- ◆ *Camp SWNA: Wayne & Bonny Corson, Merrimack, NH*
- ◆ *Camp SWNB: Dave & Kim Howley, Franklin, MA*
- ◆ *Camp 8: Jason & Stephen Zullo, Newport, NH*
- ◆ *Camp 14: Gary & Judith LaForest, Goffstown, NH*
- ◆ *Camp 21: Clif & Angela Graves, Hampden, MA*
- ◆ *Camp 23: John & Stephanie Pamula, Exeter, NH*
- ◆ *Camp 60: Thomas & Lannie Sebastian, Hamden, CT*
- ◆ *Camp 63: William & Kathy Miller, Keene, NH*
- ◆ *Camp 124: Edward & Jennifer Bell, Newbury, MA*

Welcome to Crescent Lake. We hope you will fall in love with the place as we all have. If there are 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.



The Picnic and the Race, 2003

Our Labor Day 2003 celebration saw an impressive number of raffle prizes go to one large (and very gleeful) group. You might want to be sure you buy the "Rousseau Red" raffle tickets this year -- it must be good luck!

On the other hand, Tom Rousseau claims that his family's winnings were just a minor payout on twenty years' worth of investments in losing tickets... Total receipts came to \$1,526. Thanks to Diane's Jewelry, Woody's at the Junction, and Cheryl DaCosta, Photographer, for contributing the fabulous grand prizes.

Seventeen canoes splashed into the water at

Desbiens for the race beginning at 10 AM. Within an hour it was all over but the victory celebrations.

Gail Sloan, Chairwoman of the event, tracked the results as she so tirelessly does every year.

Women and Men--Full Course Around the Lake

1. Judy Rastallis & Kristian Huttar - 31:38
2. Heidi Hammell & Jeffrey Hammell - 34:00
3. Karyn Jensen & Mike Jensen - 39:24

Women's Division--Short Course Around the Lighthouse

1. Kristin Brush & Megan Luteran - 22:29
2. Christine Salamone & Dana Boyle - 23:02
3. Sarah Mockler & Shannon O'Brien - 26:00

Adult with Child Under 12--Short Course

Six canoes raced in this category! The winners:

1. Janna Grinaski & Tim Grinaski - 21:23
2. Chip Colello & Ben Colello - 22:35
3. Dan Murray & Pete Murray - 24:38

Under 14--Short Course

1. Ramsay Mellish & Michael Grinaski - 22:38
2. Jacob Mellish & Ian Grinaski - 29:05
3. Ben Abrahamovich & Gage Carter - 34:15



My Ode To Crescent Lake *By David Levin, map site 100*

I Write Rhymes & Roasts for special occasions,
Like Anniversaries & Birthdays for friends and relations.
But I'm struck with the urge, a challenge at stake,
To write of my love for Crescent Lake.

We visited here late August, the year Nineteen-Eight-Eight,
And ended a 7 year search, for my dream was a place by a lake.
We chased after an ad in the paper with merriment and mirth,
Never imagined or heard of some far away land called Acworth.

The transaction was a nightmare; over 3 months to ink the deal,
Encountered every obstacle, 'twas enough to make me squeal.
But one cold and snowy morning, at an office in Newport,
We signed on the line, spent every last dime, and owned our own resort!

The lake was asleep, the temperature low, that day in mid December.
Our car was loaded up to the roof, that I'll always remember.
Do you recall the movie once called "The Money Pit"?
Learned that day to our dismay, Our house was the star of it.

There wasn't a level floor in the place, the cellar floor was dirt.
We were flatlanders from Massachusetts, that's what really hurt.
The list of things we needed to buy looked like the National Debt,
I told my wife a boat comes first, then we'd be all set!

We discovered the attic was full of 'Stuff', so bad it gave me the chills.
I hauled it away to the Unity dump, I found when I first went to Will's.
I didn't know the difference, was new to this rural berth,
That you cannot go to the Unity dump, if your house sits in old Acworth.

I almost got arrested, for dumping without a permit;
All I wanted to do, was get rid of that pile of ----!
Do you remember the famous ballad of Alice's Restaurant?
I learned that day to stay away, don't visit that local haunt.

The foundations walls were cracked, you could see the great outdoors.
Not one strip of insulation ran the perimeter of any doors.
The pipes were bare to the cold and the wind, that blew all through the cellar.
No fiberglass around the sills, that place was cold as hellar!

I put more insulation, way up in the attic.
Add five cases of caulking, you see I was a fanatic.
Installed around the pipes I ran two hundred feet of foam,
And then I weather-stripped the doors; Hey, it started to feel like home.

Each time we came up that winter, we brought a carload of our own 'Stuff'.
I borrowed a truck one weekend but a snowstorm made moving in tough.
Furniture had to wait, for the snow to be around no more,
So the kids spread out their sleeping bags; Terry and I threw

a mattress on the floor.

The warmth of Spring came early to our beautiful lake that year.
Soon all of the ice abated, it just sort of disappeared.
We watched and admired the splendor of all that we never saw.
And listened to the loons and the frogs, with intent and interest and awe.

The boat I found was a piece of junk, thought I'd try my luck,
I bought it from Want Advertiser, for just about 200 bucks.
Another \$200 in parts and what do you know, it ran,
We added a paddle boat right after that, from some guy they called "Yard Sale Sam".

I filed for a permit, to build ourselves a beach.
Little did I know in New Hampshire, approval would be a hard reach.
I made up the detailed drawings, took photos and sent them along,
To the Environmental Gurus in Concord, they laughed at me hard and long.

It seemed with my photos & drawings, I opened Pandora's Box,
They showed me a well made retaining wall, carefully built with rocks.
Because they found in their records, no permits for that wall,
Their letter said to tear it down, tear it down once and for all.

Now remember that junk from the attic? I saved some old photos I found.
Nicely dated back to the sixties, that wall was clearly around.
So I sent copies to Concord, with a letter and a few words of wit.
And lo and behold four weeks later, I got my beach permit!

The kids were excited, they dug and they played.
I kept fixing things, each weekend we stayed.
The 100 mile trip was now a piece of cake,
Thought traveling with 3 kids was sometimes a big mistake.

We were thrilled there was no sales tax, here in Granite State.
Being from Taxachusetts, that was cause to celebrate.
Until the property taxes, grabbed us by surprise,
They ate a big hole in our pocket; who says it's "Live Free or Die".

But the frogs and the fish and the turtles, are part of what nature has sent.
They show us that we'll never own it, we share it with them and pay rent!
And we love the little Beaver that visits once in a while;
So what if he gnawed down a couple of trees. That added to the firewood pile.

A magnificent Blue Heron comes around now and again;
He's often seen in our little cove, usually around 6 A.M.
The fishermen spend thousands in pursuit of a slippery wish,
But that Heron just stands there motionless, then comes up with a 12" fish.

Oh the fishermen do try hard, they come back year after year.
With some you'd think they're paid by the hour, like it's a full time career.
Their 150 horse boats, are packed with a week's supplies,
A few have sonar fishfinders, but all have beer coolers at their sides.

Those elusive fish look up, and laugh at the suckers sport;
The only fish to be had today, are at the market in Newport!
And if you're lucky to bring one in, 1/4" less than regulation,
The Game Warden's there to say "Hello," and "Thanks" for your donation.

The friendly Marine Patrol Officer is another kindly guy.
Just because he hides in coves behind rocks, that doesn't make him sly,
He'll check your yacht from bow to stern, as you go for a morning ride.
Forgot to pack your P.F.D.'s, that's another big bite taken from your hide.

He only has a job to do; To make his quota on account of you!
With no income tax on the local few, the fines all add to the State Revenue.
So although he keeps it safer, some advice we do believe:
Stay at home when he's on the lake, and wait for him to leave!

Now the lore of the lake would not be complete without a few special occasions,
Like the annual July 4th fireworks show, down at Jane & Dick Desbien's.
The people come from around the lake, Acworth, Lempster, and Unity,
Dragging blankets, chairs, coolers and snacks; to party with impunity.

Each year the show outdoes the past, the smoke is seen for miles.
The thunderous booms and special effects all leave us filled with thanks and smiles.
What I like best are the coolers, the noise and the fun and the frolic,
As I remember to bring my water bottle, filled with a triple Gin and Tonic!

The other nite to look forward to is filled with great expectations.
It's "Men's Night" over at Sloan's House, where the men all earn reputations.
Oh the golfers boast, the fishermen lie, and cigars take care of the bugs,
The best part of all is plenty of Beer, from bottles, cans and mugs!

We drink and we eat and then drink some more.
We pee on the ground but not near the shore!
Some smoke and tell jokes or sway to and fro,
And Dave tops it off with a 'Special' video.

The Labor Day canoe race and picnic is a tradition of day-long nourishment.
It's also held at the Desbien's, they are truly gluttons for punishment.
Marie and Liz are masters, at putting on this show.
It starts at 10 in the morning, and runs 'til midnite or so.

The race is the main event of course, Gail Sloan sees to this event.

Bring five bucks if you want to compete, the money is always well spent.

The young and the old, the brave and the dumb, all row like never before.

If you make it around the lake this year, you'll come back next year for more.

The food dishes fill several tables, the burgers are piled up high.
The hot dogs and baked beans and corn on the cob, are enough to make hungry men sigh.
Folks bring along chairs and a blanket or two, pick out a spot there or here;
Everybody brings their cooler, well filled with plenty of beer!

The summer finale is later that nite, a tradition goes back many years.
The spirit of friendship and love of our lake is stirring enough to bring tears.
Red flares adorn the lakeside shore, every house is thus displayed,
As boats all take to the water, for our annual Boat Parade.

For me the day is bittersweet, I sit back and lament,
Another summer's passing, signaled by this merriment.
It's nearly time to put away, the deck furniture that came out on Memorial Day,
Back the trailer down the boat ramp and then, put that old piece of junk in storage again.

Although the summer revelers will soon be homeward bound,
The memories have filled the hearts of all that were around.
Oh yes we plan to be here, a few more times during the fall.
The beauty and nature's splendor will be a treat for one and all.

The days are growing shorter, campfires no longer burn.
Autumn's knocking at the door, as the leaves now start to turn.
The docks will be gone, the boats put away, the lighthouse no longer blinking,
The air has a chill, the trees soon to be grey, Winter's coming my senses now thinking.

I cherish every moment that I spend at Crescent Lake.
If it weren't for winter's bitter cold, I'd move here no mistake.
It didn't take long to understand, one little piece of wit;
Why Fred Yates named his cottage just one word ...

'HATETOLEAVEIT'.

David Levin
2003-2004



Bass Notes

[David Levin, map site 100, found this important information about how to practice proper catch-and-release techniques in a back issue of "Outdoors" magazine, published by the Chevrolet Division of General Motors. The author is Jack McQuarrie, who writes a column titled "Traveling Angler."]

Lip Grip Alert

Don't leave your next bass catch for dead.

Bass anglers who practice catch-and-release might want to reconsider how they presently handle fish.

The popular method of immobilizing a bass after landing it has been to clamp a thumb on its lower lip and force the jaw back. But a hatchery superintendent for the Texas Department of Parks and Wildlife says this technique can harm, even kill, the fish.

From his study of big largemouths that anglers have donated to the state for spawning and research, Dave Campbell says some injuries to the fish were so severe "they couldn't close their mouths." Consequently, they died.

The "lip grip" method badly damages the bass' lower jaw joint,

contends Campbell, who handles the fish through the Operation Share a Lone Star Lunker program.

"If you release a fish that can't close its mouth, it's going to starve to death," he says. "Rather than waste the resource, it would be smarter to keep it. Better yet, why not handle a fish in such a way as to ensure its survival after you release it?"

Campbell says the bass he observes at the Tyler State Fish Hatchery weigh 13 pounds or more and that he hasn't had a chance to record the effects of the classic lip hold on smaller bass. Still, he believes it's probably a good idea for conservation-minded anglers to exercise caution when gripping the lower jaw of a bass of any size.

It's OK to grasp a bass by the bottom lip, but "hold the fish straight up," advises Campbell, "and if you're going to hold it very long while you take pictures or whatever, help support the weight of the fish by placing your hand under the body just behind the anal fin, so that all the stress isn't on the lower jaw."



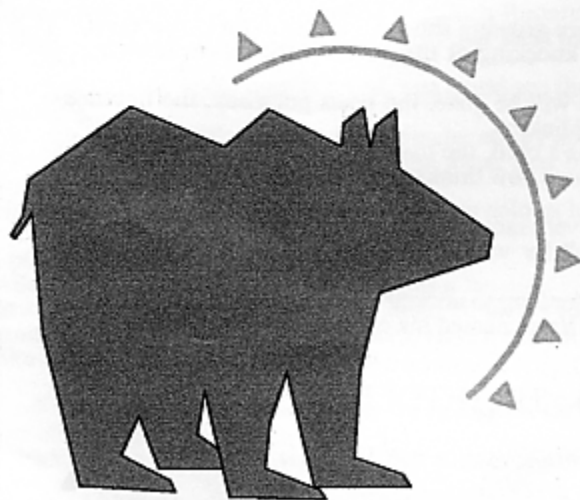
Sunday morning a bear "visited" by climbing the birch tree next to Underwoods' deck and left by the stairs to visit the Spauldings and up to see the Yates.

While this was in progress another very large one was paying a repeat visit to John Demars. Being unaware as to why his tiny dog was raising such a ruckus, John investigated. The bear was around the corner of the garage and they faced off at ten feet.

John gave him ROOM and the bear proceeded to search the place for snacks (he didn't appear interested in John or the dog).

While this was going on, a third one was cleaning out bird feeders on Anderson Road. It was observed by Bill Paton near Lake Road about 8:15 and I saw it about 9:15 near North Shore Road. We now have three trained bears ready for handouts and there are many in need of "bear proof" feeders -- or perhaps we can train them to sit at the boat launch and search for Milfoil.

On another note, when Judy and I were on vacation last fall in the Grand Tetons of Wyoming, we observed a large moose gorging herself on Variable Milfoil. She wasn't putting a dent in the weed, but the sight was fascinating and especially beautiful with the Tetons in full color in the background.



Bears on Patrol

By Stan Rastallis, map site 30

May 31, 2004: We now have bears visiting regularly at Crescent Lake. Occasionally one or two cottages were visited along the Acworth side, specifically around the Underwoods.

More Lake Notes

By Fred Yates, *CLA Secretary*

Alternative Septic Systems

I am in the process of trying to get a representative from Wastewater Alternatives, Inc., of Groton, MA, to speak at our Annual Meeting about a new style of septic systems that cost half as much, take half the space, and are approved by the State of New Hampshire. If you wish to know more about this company, you may contact them at www.thecleansolution.com. One has been installed on Crescent Lake the last year and two more this year. This looks like a good system for some of our cottages that have very little land for a good system.

Crescent Lake Ice Out

Now you ask, what in the world is an ICE OUT? It is a raffle on when the ice will go out in Crescent Lake. Some of you



must have heard of Joe's Pond Annual Ice Out in West Danville, VT. They have been running this raffle for over 17 years. Last year they sold 8,367 raffle tickets all over the country and some from The Netherlands, with the winner getting over \$3,000 on a \$1.00 raffle ticket.

Joe's Pond Association uses the proceeds for their fireworks display. We could use it for a college scholarship, to lower the Milfoil cost, or anything else. Think it over and we will bring this up at our Annual Meeting.

Woody Welcome

By Colleen Kaftan, *map site 103*

Late last November I headed for the lake on a Friday to make sure things were buttoned up for the winter. I turned onto Crescent Lake Road just after 5:00 PM and got the greatest greeting of the year.

About 50 yards beyond the Desbiens' Silver Beach, a magnificent bull moose stepped out onto

the road ahead of me. He looked over his shoulder as if to acknowledge my arrival, and led the way for 150 yards or so as I slowly followed him in the darkness. Then he gave one last look over his left shoulder and disappeared up the hill into the woods.

He was exquisite -- and huge! I'm still not over the excitement of that wild welcome. But I understand even better now why we need to be careful of moose when driving after dark. His legs extended a foot above the height of my car's roof -- and his antlers reached halfway to the sky.



Calling All Artists!

By Pam Muzeroll, *map site 60B*

Although Association members have been doing a fantastic job of keeping Milfoil at bay, we all know that

this is going to be an ongoing job which is going to require ongoing funding.

Many of our members enjoy a wide variety of hobbies and artistic pastimes, such as photography, woodworking, painting, needlework, etc.

I mentioned to Colleen Kaftan, the dedicated editor of the *Chronicles*, that perhaps we could offer an art show during the annual Labor Day picnic to showcase this wonderful talent and to help raise funds for the annual anti-milfoil program. Her friend Cheryl DaCosta brought photographs to sell last year, which prompted this

Calling All Artists! idea.

Right now, the guidelines are pretty loose: open to Association members and their guests who would be willing to showcase their work and donate a percentage of their sales to the Milfoil fund.

Perhaps articles could be displayed on an individual basis, set up by picnic-goers next to wherever they're sitting. Then people could meander around the grounds and mingle even more as they check out the different items.

Donations to the Milfoil fund, in care of the Lake Association, would be on the honor system.

Calling All Artists! would be a fun way to help a worthy cause and get an early start on that holiday shopping!

phyllismuz@hotmail.com
(603) 542-73

Bless Our Vets

[It seems fitting this issue to include news about the contributions of our Crescent Lake military personnel. Thanks to Dick Brown and Herb Landon for sending the following articles. Bless these and our other vets!]

Acworth Vet Gets Bronze Star 60 Years Late

*By Damien Fisher, Staff Writer
Claremont Eagle-Times 5/17/04*

The sun broke out on Sunday afternoon, providing Robert Spaulding with a warm place to stand while he waited his turn outside the Charlestown VFW.

Spaulding, 83, of Acworth has waited 60 years for his turn. It was in 1944 that Spaulding served in the First Infantry Division known as the Big Red One. He was a 24-year-old from Vermont when he fought at the Battle of the Bulge and then saw action in Czechoslovakia against German S.S. Troops.

Spaulding was awarded the Bronze Star for his heroic action against hostile enemies. It is one of the highest honors the United States gives and can only be earned in combat.

The retired hydraulic designer said he was a little embarrassed by the ceremony and the award.

"It's not that I'm not very proud of it," he said. "But the thing that I like about it is that the kids have something to be proud of."

Spaulding's kids, his children and grandchildren were on hand for the ceremony and were planning to have a party for him when it all was said and done. He has four children, four

grandchildren and four great-grandchildren.

Spaulding said Congressman Charlie Bass is most responsible for the award, pushing for the Bronze Star for the New Hampshire veteran in Washington. Spaulding heard he was getting the medal two months ago.

Coming now, the recognition is timed right. Spaulding is planning on moving to Florida this year after making his life in New England.

"I love New Hampshire," he said. "But I love the winters in Florida too."

The Junior Vice Commander of the New Hampshire VFW, Rick Young, presented the medal to Spaulding.



"You must have done a good job and kept your head down, because you're still here," Young said.

Spaulding wasn't sure why he won the award, or why it took so long to get to him. His remembrances of the war aren't as sharp as they once were.

"I can sure as Hell remember the good times after the war was over," he said. "Thankfully I can't remember all of the bad times."

Trained for combat in the

Pacific Theater for the war, Spaulding had spent a month in Florida getting ready for jungle combat and heat. Once training was over his unit was sent to Europe in the Winter to face Germany's last offensive push, the Battle of the Bulge. Spaulding said he didn't get his winter boots until the decisive battle was over.

"I'm just damn glad to be alive," he said. "It makes you think there must be somebody up there looking out for you because I had a lot of close calls."

Nearly hit with a spray of machine gun fire, being covered in mud from a faulty artillery shell that landed just feet from him., Spaulding was eventually injured by some artillery.

"I was basically blown up," he said.

He stood firm and in good health on Saturday, looking forward to going to Florida and doing some fishing. He plans to stay active in the Claremont VFW Post 808, and he plans to come up from time to time to visit.

"I'm sure when I come back here I'll be watching NASCAR on TV," he said.

Mail Call for our Mail Carrier

By Herb Landon, map site 76

May 10, 2004: Our local mail carrier has recently been sent to Kuwait and is now somewhere in Iraq. We have started a small group of "lakers" who wish to insure that Steve Rizza gets lake news, as well as local and NH's best wishes and prayers in the mail, as thanks for

the years that he and his wife Tammy took care of our mail delivery.

I have additionally learned that the financial burden placed on his family by his deployment would be substantially reduced if a small number of us would invest in an occasional telephone card (60 minutes or more -- Tammy felt ATT was preferable, standard phone).

A number of close neighbors have already responded, and thanks, in advance, to all. We are not trying to make a political statement, but recognize the importance of supporting our troops. Any "vet" will tell you that a letter from home is the next best thing to being home. Finding an envelope in your name at mail call can be the best part of your day.

Please address your letters to Steve exactly as follows:

SpC Steve Rizza
CCO 3C = 172 inf
mnt
95th mp Bn
LSA Anaconda
apo ae
09391

Video Features Goshen WWII Vets

[From liner notes by Kristin Proulx, Staff Writer at the Concord Monitor]

In 1940, the rural farming community of Goshen, New Hampshire, numbered 342 citizens. The town would send 45 men and one woman to the Second World War.

They came from all walks of life and entered every branch in the military. Some enlisted and some were inducted. A

fortunate few had gone to college, some were high school graduates and a few lied about their age in order to enlist. Nine sets of siblings served, including a brother and sister.

[Their] stories are both personal and universal. Told in crisp detail by the men and women themselves, the tales illuminate powerful, private experiences and history-making events all at once.

Billy Harold Sr., a machine gunner in the 34th Infantry Division, lost his entire squad at the notorious battle of Monte Cassino, Italy. He also participated in the brutal 1944 Anzio Campaign. Childhood best friend, Clyde Childs, was one Division over from him the whole way.

Donald Hurd, a weapons specialist in the 95th Infantry Division, fought for 100 days on the front lines without rest before his infantry unit won the fortified French city of Metz. The soldiers were dubbed the "Bravest of the Brave" by war journalists.

Bob Jenison in the 3rd Armored Division hit a minefield in Germany as his unit was advancing. Wounded, he spent months recuperating in several military hospitals before returning to American soil.

One by one, all but one of the 46 soldiers, sailors, and codebreakers came home, found jobs, planned weddings and had children. A few years after they came home, their names were added, in bronze, to a tall gray

memorial stone planted outside the Olive G. Pettis Library. In their absence, Goshen, like many New Hampshire towns remained unchanged. But these young people, who brought back visions of the world beyond, would never be the same.

"Stories from Silence, Witness to War," an 87-minute film by Deborah Scranton van Paassen, is available on video for \$20 per copy. Contact Debbie at 863-3091.

In Sympathy

By Fred Yates, CLA Secretary

The Crescent Lake Association wishes to extend to the families of the following Lake members, past and present, who have passed away. Our deepest sympathy in the loss of one so dear.

Phillip R. Marshall, father of John P. Marshall, map site 5, passed away March 20, 2004 at the age of 85. The CLA sends our deepest condolences to John and the Marshall family on the loss of your father.

Herbert Hinner, map site 62A, Crescent Lake Road. The CLA and his lake friends will miss Herb. Herb loved the lake and was planning to live here upon his retirement in a few years. His cottage was half completed of renovations when Herb passed away in a traffic accident upon leaving the lake on his way home. The CLA extends to Mary and the Hinner family our deepest condolences on your loss of Herb.

These Chronicles printed by NewsBank, Inc., Chester, VT. (802) 875-2397. Once again, Mike Walker (map site I) 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.

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

Got extra company? For Rent: 2 bedroom with sleeping porch overlooking West end of Crescent Lake. Call Dick 863-3935.

CLASSIFIED NOTICES

Lawn Mowing / Yard Work. Call Bob @ 863-3080.

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.

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

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

Site Specific, Inc. Remodeling, new construction, custom carpentry, period restoration, energy auditing and

conservation service. K Wesley Cumberly 863-4802 or 1 (800) 281-2880.

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: Your Home Town Store. Groceries, Fish & Game licenses, worms & crawlers, Megabucks, rental movies, fresh grinders, soda & ice, Power Ball. Corner of Mica Mine Road and 2nd N.H. Turnpike. Summer hours: M-F 6 am - 9 pm, Sat. 8 am - 9 pm, Sun. 8 am - 8 pm. 543-3769.

Support Will's Store and Market Place! Please support your local store as much as possible. Next store is 10 miles away!

South Acworth Community Store, 835-6547. Operated by the town people and Acworth Historical Society. Support another local store.

We'll keep publishing **Crescent Lake Chronicles** as long as you keep sending material. To contribute, contact:

Colleen Kaftan
Camp 103 "C-Side"
863-9415
or mail to:

228 Harris Road, Smithfield, RI 02917
fax: 401 232-5545
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: Kevin D. Brenker, Shorewood map site K

John Demars, map site 55

Tim Grinaski, map site 119

Tim Perry, map site 75

