



THE ALIC NEWS

Join or Renew Today

Summer 2020

Summer of 2020 by Buddy Cummings

The deadline for submitting articles for publication in this year's newsletter was March first. That was just a few days before the impact of Covid-19 began to be felt in the United States. Today is April 3rd. The world has changed a great deal since those first days of March. Much is still uncertain.

It is not clear how summer will unfold in central Maine or how the many programs of our lake association will be affected. Our board of directors is now using *Zoom* for its board meetings. We expect that our *LakeSmart* program will see some limitations this summer. Our plant patrol team will continue to monitor for invasives, but I do not anticipate that we will be able to train new volunteers. If the boat launches are not otherwise closed by the state, our *Courtesy Boat Inspection* program plans to remain strong.

This is also the time of year when the board starts making plans for the ALIC Annual Meeting. We anticipate that this year's meeting will be held remotely, by video conference. Watch your e-mail for updates.

On a personal note, I am not planning for a summer in Maine this year. By April, I would normally be busy laying out my road trip from California to Wayne, Maine. Many of us are wondering what will happen to our usual plans for summer on the lake this year.

By the time this newsletter is published and distributed sometime in May, things will have changed again many times over. The most effective tool that our board of directors has for staying in touch with our community is e-mail. If we do not already have a good e-mail address for you, please send it to us at alic@androscogginlake.org.

There is no doubt that the summer of 2020 will look very different for all of us on Androscoggin Lake. Through this, remember that the hard work and programs of the lake association to preserve and protect our lake remain strong. We are all in this together.

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Quick Stats for Androscoggin Lake

Ice	In 12/03/2019	Out 04/01/2020
Total Phosphorus	Low 07/03/2019 6 µg/l	High 08/27/2019 16 µg/l
Sechi	High 07/03/2019 5.41 m	Low 07/19/2019 4.08 m

Loon Counts

2019	
adults	38
chicks	1
2018	
adults	31
chicks	1

Annual Meeting

Saturday, August 15th

Everyone is encouraged to attend. Mark your calendars!

www.androscogginlake.org

President's Message

by **Bill Messer**

The *Androscoggin Lake Improvement Corporation (ALIC)* set ambitious goals for the 2019 season, and I am pleased to state that most of them were met.

Certainly not listed as a goal, ALIC was able to react quickly, to alert our membership and other shorefront owners of the significant highwater level event this past spring. In addition, several of our board members inspected shoreline homes and related our findings to the owners who were not able to visit their properties.

The *Androscoggin Lake LakeSmart* and the *Eyes on the Water* programs continue to grow in community participation and in membership.

Our partnership with the *30 Mile River Watershed Association* has grown stronger with improved communication and sharing of water quality data. The largest percentage of our operating budget is spent to ensure continued weekend coverage from the 30 Mile River Courtesy Boat Inspection program.

Our *Annual Loon Count* and *Loon Distress Response* programs remained strong, which has in part resulted in viable and a healthy loon population on Androscoggin Lake.

Due to the many responsibilities of our volunteer board members, it was necessary for ALIC to pay for part-time administrative assistance from the *30 Mile Watershed Association* to assist with the many normal business requirements of our association, as well as with the new projects. We are pleased to state that the attention to detail that Sonya Clark has provided our association is outstanding.

The unwritten and most important goal of our association is to monitor and do what we can to maintain the necessary water quality to sustain a healthy lake for all of us to enjoy. I am proud to say that in spite of the significant highwater event this past spring, which created excessive runoff and flooded many septic systems, the water of Lake Androscoggin continued its course of improvement and remained of good quality.

The lake association is especially focused on the following three goals for 2020:

- Increase both resident and business memberships.
- Provide sufficient and unhurried time for business and social interaction during our annual meetings. Our board has agreed to change the format of our annual meeting to allow more time for business matters, social interaction and fun!

(Continued on page 10)

Androscoggin Lake Improvement Corporation

ALIC
PO Box 307
Wayne, ME 04284

alic_board@androscogginlake.org

Board of Directors

George Bardaglio
Ian Barclay (*Town of Leeds*)
Tom Barden
Aaron Chrostowsky (*Town of Wayne*)
William Cousins, *Treasurer*
Buddy Cummings, *Vice President*

Jeff Degroot (*AYC*)
Ronn Jubinville
Margaret Lane, *Secretary*
Bill Messer, *President*
Tom Wells

Slow Down and Enjoy the Scenery

by Tom Wells

Maine is a beautiful state, offering scenery unmatched by any other. With its mountains, its lakes, its rivers, its forests, and its oceans, our unique land is a destination for many. Add to its beauty the plethora of wildlife that call our lakes home (loons, ducks, fish, eagles, beavers etc.) and its clear that Mother Nature is alive and well.

Unfortunately, mankind can pose a threat to the survival of a species. People who use Maine's waters have a responsibility to help protect its environment and the creatures that reside there. This is the reason Maine has boating laws.

According to the *Boater's Guide to Maine Boating Laws* found on the Inland Fisheries and Wildlife website, it is imperative that those who operate powerboats adhere to the rules, especially the one that addresses speed. "Maine law states that boats should leave 'no wake' within 200 feet of shore." This accomplishes two goals: minimal shoreland erosion while creating a safe environment for birds

and other creatures that call the lake 'home'. There is little doubt that speed kills.

The Boater's Guide also states, "not only are collisions with speeding boats and personal watercraft one of the leading causes of death for loons in Maine, wakes from boats can flood a loon's shoreline nest, and they can easily overwhelm small chicks."

Imprudent speed has many other negative side effects. Accidents with other boats, noise pollution, killing other wildlife are just a few more. It's also difficult to appreciate a lake's beauty when speeding across its waters.

It is important that those who enjoy Maine's waters embrace the experience and give them the protection they deserve.

If you come across a distressed or deceased loon on Androscoggin Lake, contact Terry Brooks, our loon liaison, at loons@androscogginlake.org.

Neighbors

by Kathy Mahoney

The first time I saw a beaver was 30 years ago while visiting my father's house on Lake Androscoggin. This industrious creature had built a lodge within sight of the house where a small creek meandered to the cove. Not only was this thrilling but this individual and with help from the family removed many small trees around the lodge and opened up the landscape. This large aquatic rodent species was the architect of North America before Europeans arrived and decimated their population with the fur trade. *Castor Canadensis* built dams on creeks that became lakes and reshaped the way water flowed and collected over the landscape. The evidence of their influence and engineering skills were everywhere across the continent.

In the last four years there has been another beaver lodge constructed in the inner cove of Lake Androscoggin. It was wonderful to see these amazing monogamous creatures swimming out in

front of my house to feed on lily pad stems and the tips of reeds or creating their v-shaped wake transporting branches back to the lodge. There was one huge male that owned the cove and had a problem with my dock being put in last summer whacking his tail repeatedly on the water to try to drive off the dock installer. No success with that effort – the dock went in. Although, the fact that a beaver can hold their breath for up to fifteen minutes does give one pause.

The days of early October found me out on my paddle board, and, on this one morning, I let myself drift toward the lodge. I didn't move or make a sound and observed three river otters emerging from two entrances and who didn't see me (or smell me) initially. It was only a 30 second glimpse as they soon detected my presence and dove back into cover.

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Getting to Know Our Lake: Stinchfield Point

by John Haile

It's a bright early morning in June, the kind Emily Dickinson described as "molten blue." As I sit on my dock, legs outstretched, coffee cup and book in hand, I rejoice at the sparkle of the rising sun over the lake, creating millions of points of shimmering light. In front of me I see my wooden Lightning sailboat on its mooring, and beyond that Androscoggin Island and Camp Andro, with the boats of the Androscoggin Yacht Club in Wayne and the spire of the Community Church in the distance. To the right of the island Morrison Heights rises and the fingers of the Dead River delta reach into the lake. This is my part of the lake--the wonderful view from the east side of lovely Stinchfield Point.

A chattering kingfisher zooms by, skimming along the water and then swooping up to perch watchfully on the spreaders of my sailboat mast. A loon pops up and looks around before diving again--all business this morning. I stand up, stretch and untie my battered old canoe from the side of the dock. Settling into the stern, I begin my leisurely tour. Heading left, I paddle along the eastern shore of the

point. To my left are the tall pines and the camps owned by the families who have, in some cases, been coming here for generations. At 32 years, we are relative newcomers. The Simoneaus and Tardys, I know, have roots on the point going back over 100 years, when Charles M. Bailey bought a large tract here as part of what was designed as a resort community on the east side of Stinchfield Point. The "Promenade," a clearing to serve as a carriage road along the point, is still visible in some places. I continue along the shore until it curves around into the marshy shallows of pickerel grass and water lilies, whose flat, heart-shaped leaves and buds will soon fill the area with a carpet of sprawling white glory. I continue around our little cove to what my kids have always called "The Secret Beach," a lovely little stretch of sand covered with blueberry bushes, which, in August, we pick to make blueberry pancakes and muffins. At the end of the point is a stand of prominent trees, where the osprey has a nest--stolen many years ago from the great blue

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Swimming in Androscoggin Lake

by Liz Manduca

I swam in Androscoggin Lake for the first time in 1976. My boyfriend had a friend who summered in Wayne. They told stories of swimming, water-skiing, and childhood shenanigans with their camp buddies.

I was a strong swimmer from my high school years of competitive swimming, and I wanted to show off my skills. I swam across the cove and back, and they sat on the porch talking and laughing, not even noticing my feat. The next summer, they gave me a lifeguard rescue can, from their Old Orchard Beach lifeguard days, so I could swim farther.

During the late 1970's, the water in the cove was murky. I couldn't see the weeds before my arms and legs got caught up in them, making me jump like a fish after a bug. When I swam near dusk, the sky would be full of bats. Every summer I couldn't wait to get in the water. The years passed, we all got married and had children. I became good friends with their camp friends. In 1996, a neighbor

informed us she was selling her camp. We jumped at the chance to be part of the West Acres family.

In the late 1990's, the water level in the lake rose dramatically, so much so that my children dove from the front yard into the lake, which normally was a steep drop. I swam across the cove and touched the railing of a camp porch.

My encounters with wildlife have been a beautiful gift. I swam to the island in the cove and stood on a massive rock. A shadow in the water was heading swiftly my way. My heart was pounding. I couldn't jump into the water. I'd skull myself. A big loon popped up right in front of me. It scared him too. He paddled backwards, but not before I got a look at his stunning red eyes.

One cloudy morning, I started my swim. My husband sat on the dock reading. As I aged, he kept a closer watch. I know better than to wear my rings,

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Water Quality Report

by *Bill Messer*



With the extremely highwater level event this spring, I was worried about a significant deterioration in water quality caused by flooded septic systems and a heavy runoff. The cresting of our dam by the raging Androscoggin River had occurred twice during this heavy spring melt in the northern mountains.

The blockage of the outlet gates caused by trees, limbs, shorefront owners' possessions and general debris was excessive, which resulted in the containment within Lake Androscoggin of the unusual high level of pollutants for an extended period of time.

Due to the unusually highwater level that reached well into the end of June, I was not able to set up my docks and thus launch my boat until early July. As usual, I tested twice per month into mid-October

and performed about 370 tests and measurements for dissolved oxygen, temperature and secchi clarity, all of which showed good overall results, comparable to the past two years.

Twenty-four individual samples were collected from the three designated sample stations, plus two samples were collected from the Androscoggin Yacht Club basin. These samples were analyzed by the State of Maine Environmental Laboratories for total phosphorus. To my absolute amazement, the levels were actually lower than the past two years, with phosphorus levels ranging from the single-digits to the low teens.

Although the above results are an example of the resiliency of Androscoggin Lake, we must not take this for granted and must realize that our precious resource remains in a very delicate balance.

Loon Count 2019

by *Tom Wells*

On Saturday, July 20th, Maine's annual loon count was held. Under clear, chilly skies, twenty volunteers headed to their quadrants at 7:00 AM to record loon numbers. Maine's most endeared feathered friend put on quite a performance.

After volunteers circled their quadrants at the same time so as not to double-count their guests, they spotted thirty-eight adults and one chick. The section of the lake finding most success was the western shore, quadrant 2, where a total of 14 adults were seen.

2020 Bass Tournaments on Androscoggin Lake



06/21	open	<i>Maine BASS Nation</i>
07/12	club	<i>Southern Maine Bassers</i>
07/18	open	<i>MVB Maine Trail Spring</i>
08/22	open	<i>Western Maine Bassmasters</i>
08/29	club	<i>Kennebec Valley Bassmasters</i>
08/30	open	<i>TBF of Maine</i>
09/19	release	<i>Buzzard's Luck Bass Club</i>
10/03	club	<i>Mainely Bass</i>

Call to Action: Ramping up the Fight Against Invasive Plants

by Lidie Robbins, Executive Director of the 30 Mile River Watershed Association

At the beginning of the 2019 summer season, 31 lakes and ponds, and 14 stream and river segments in Maine were known to be infested with invasive aquatic plants. The majority of these waters are infested by variable leaf milfoil, and other invaders include curly leaf pondweed, European frog's bit, European naiad, hydrilla and Eurasian water milfoil. All of these infestations are in the southwest portion of the state, south of Skowhegan and west of Waldoboro.



In October, one more lake was added to this list: Big Lake. Big Lake is the second largest lake in Washington County, covering 10,444 acres, and is one of the largest lakes in Maine. Near the New Brunswick border, it is known for its remote, wilderness beauty and extraordinary fishing. An initial survey by staff from the Maine DEP and Lake Stewards of Maine (LSM) determined that the infestation of variable milfoil was quite extensive, indicating that it had been present for a number of years. Roberta Hill of LSM wrote, "This new infestation in a remote, previously uninfested part of the state has been a wake-up call for all of us." No lake in Maine is safe.



Infestations are alarming close to our watershed

On Androscoggin Lake and the other lakes and ponds in the 30 Mile River Watershed, we take a two-pronged approach to protecting against invasive plants: 1) Keep hitching plants on boats and trailers from getting in through the courtesy boat inspection program and 2) catching infestations early through surveys conducted by trained invasive plant patrollers.

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Cyanobacteria and its Effect on Human, Animal and Lake Health

by Liz Manduca

I am not a scientist, but a swimmer with a keen interest in ensuring that our beloved Androscoggin Lake stays clean. Cyanobacteria or Blue-Green Algae (BGA) are a type of bacteria that live in fresh, brackish and marine water, and have been linked to human and animal illness. They are some of the oldest fossils on earth. Algae are essential to life on earth as they produce oxygen.

A bloom can form in warm slow-moving waters that contain fertilizer, manure runoff or septic tank overflows. Warmer summers with heavier precipitation, as a result of climate change, are also a factor by washing additional nutrients into the lake.



water body with algal bloom

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Your Camp is Safe

by Tom Wells

Covid-19 has affected everyone in myriad ways. Camp owners on Androscoggin Lake have concerns that they will not be able to enjoy their special retreats this summer because of this deadly disease. Some worry about the safety of their camps as well. The ALIC board wants them to know that we care and are here to help.

To promote peace of mind, I am volunteering to check on seasonal camps this season. I am neither a repairman nor a groundskeeper, but I will be glad to just do a walk-through and make certain that everything is safe and secure in the event that your trip to Androscoggin has been delayed/cancelled due to the virus. You can contact me (Tom Wells) at tomhod@roadrunner.com. We are all in this together.



photo by John Hail

Photo Gallery



photo by Margaret Lane



photo by Sarah Dole



photo by Sarah Dole

Cyanobacteria ...

(Continued from page 6)

Blooms most often occur in the late summer and early fall, and can be blue, brown or bright green in color. They look like scum, foam, or paint floating on the water's surface. The water may smell like rotting plants as the algae die. Dense blooms block sunlight, and use up the oxygen in the water, harming plants, aquatic animals and fish.

People and animals can get sick by recreating, breathing in droplets of water, drinking contaminated water, or eating fish that has come from water with an algal bloom.

Dogs can be severely affected from swimming in, or drinking the water. Neurotoxins can cause excessive salivation, weakness and staggering, and difficulty breathing. Dogs should be thoroughly rinsed with clean water if they have swum in an algal bloom.

Human symptoms include numb lips, tingling in the extremities, gastrointestinal distress, and dizziness. If you have been in water that has a bloom, you should rinse off with fresh water as soon as possible.

The best way to avoid blooms is to reduce the nutrient load into the lake by using less fertilizers and pesticides. Your household septic system should be properly maintained. A buffer of natural

vegetation can filter water that may have undesirable chemicals in it from flowing into the lake. Nitrogen, phosphorous, and iron help create ideal conditions for the development of a bloom. Sloping lawns should become a thing of the past, as they allow contaminated water to flow freely into the lake.

Citizen scientists, in groups such as ALIC, are often the first line of defense. They observe conditions that may contribute to a bloom. Androscoggin Lake is listed on the Maine Department of Environmental Protection website as a lake that rarely has a bloom-only one on record, and it has a moderate risk of occasionally blooming.

Six Maine lakes have reported algal blooms, the closest to Androscoggin is Annabessacook in Monmouth.

The economic effects of harmful blooms include losses in the tourism industry, human and animal medical costs, costs associated with professional monitoring of harmful sites, and contaminated wildlife.

Each one of us can take part in helping to keep Androscoggin Lake clean, safe and beautiful. There are many resources available to help homeowners make their properties lake friendly.

Neighbors ...

(Continued from page 3)

A few weeks prior to this moment I had wondered in passing why the lodge and its careful architecture of sticks had been interrupted by what looked like a muddy slide from the top of the lodge down into the water. Now I knew. In researching otters, I learned that they will occupy abandoned beaver lodges, but the question I had was, "What had happened to the beavers?" Did they run out of food? A thought quickly overcome by - But otters in the cove?! A wondrous thing I had never before witnessed. It is my hope that keeping the lake healthy and boat traffic down in this area that the diversity of wildlife will continue to proliferate, and I eagerly await the Spring to see who will be my neighbor.



The ALIC Facebook page is an open forum. We encourage everyone with an interest in our lake to post their thoughts and photos. Find us at www.facebook.com/androscogginlake

Stinchfield Point ...

(Continued from page 4)

herons who built it. Sure enough, the osprey is on the nest and warns me sharply to stay away. I obey, and head directly back across the cove toward the end of Stinchfield Point. In front of me is Camp Arlington, beloved of the Crandall family, whose prominent rocky outcropping was a significant meeting place for the Wabanaki people who had a settlement here before Thomas and Roger Stinchfield moved to what was then called Littleborough from New Gloucester in 1780. Arrowheads and other artifacts found around Camp Arlington bear witness to long history of human habitation.

I reach the point and paddle around to the right, following the rocky, wooded shore with its neatly kept camps. As I look to the left, across the opening of Frenchman's Cove, I see the mouth of the Dead

River, a fisherman in a bass boat zooming out (too fast!) to find some corner of the lake in which to snag a trophy largemouth. I continue around the western side of the point past the Leeds Town Beach and boat ramp. I wave to the lone person sitting on the beach--perhaps the caretaker. This land was purchased by the Town of Leeds for public use in 1949. In front of me are more camps and some year-round homes as well. Through the woods, I know, are the town ball fields, where, later today, the little league championship between Leeds and Livermore Falls will bring shouts of joy and sorrow.

I'm getting hungry, so I turn my canoe with what I like to think is a skillful sweep stroke and retrace my route back to my dock. As I tie up my canoe and walk up to refill my chipped ceramic coffee cup with Maine lighthouses on it, I give profound thanks for the beauty of this place and for the privilege we enjoy in such a summer paradise.

How You Might Save The Food Chain Off Maine's Coast

by David Van Cott

In new reports, dire changes to water temperature and acidity are harming the seafood chain in the Gulf of Maine. The productive waters off the coast of Maine are now the second fastest warming section of the world's oceans. The cold Labrador current that normally flows from 'iceberg alley' to Maine has weakened. Plus, both the jet stream and warm Gulf Stream are shifting northward. Although Maine's encompassing waters have characterized traditional experiences for generations, today these waters urgently require your aid.

As a result of rising temperatures, aquatic life in Maine's waters is under duress. The critically endangered Right Whale is suddenly back on the brink of extinction because 90% of their food source in the eastern part of the gulf has recently disappeared. The whales feed on tiny copepods that cannot survive in these warmer temperatures. Copepods signify the base of the food chain. As a keystone species, scores of others depend on copepods as well. At the same time, the kelp forest found here is the largest in the Atlantic Ocean. Kelp

provides ideal habitat for the diverse ecosystem but it falls apart in warm temperatures. Loons wintering at sea find fewer fish and Puffin chicks starve when the seabird's prey dives deeper to reach cooler water temperatures.

Deforestation and development along the myriad of lakes and rivers (including Androscoggin) that flow into the Gulf of Maine are increasing water acidity. This acidity harms fish gills and shellfish. For example, the clam harvest has decreased 80% since 1950. The boom of American Lobster crossing the Gulf of Maine is predicted to drop abruptly within a few years when most lobsters have either completed their relocation to Canada or died off en masse.

You can help by choosing to maximize the amount of native forest and buffer space on your property and minimize grass lawn space. Buffer areas have groundcovers, various layers of understory shrubs, with trees. Forests and buffers absorb rain, filter clean groundwater, and cool local air masses.

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President's Message ...

(Continued from page 2)

- Work collaboratively with the towns of Wayne and Leeds to provide quick response for potential or existing emergencies due to unusual water levels. This will involve establishing a communication system so that out of town shorefront owners will be able to obtain timely information about potential problems regarding Lake Androscoggin.

We also support the following:

- Continue to improve communication and collaboration with the 30 Mile Watershed Association and to utilize more of their resources where beneficial and cost-effective.
- Establish improved communication with the residents of Wayne and especially the town officials and shorefront owners of Leeds regarding the purpose of the dam and the **impossibility** of raising lake levels during drought and high temperature conditions.
- The significant 70% reduction in the normal annual contribution from the Town of Leeds is a serious concern. By the time you read this annual newsletter, your ALIC Board is optimistic that we can correct the misconceptions that have led to this drastic reduction.
- Continue to monitor and take whatever action is possible to sustain a healthy and clear lake for all of us to enjoy.

Call to Action ...

(Continued from page 6)

Since 2008, 30MRWA has partnered with ALIC to provide courtesy boat inspections for Androscoggin: ALIC provides a large portion of the funding and 30MRWA implements the program, providing and coordinating the staff. This past summer, paid inspectors conducted 1127 inspections on Androscoggin – 968 at the public launch in Wayne and 159 at Stinchfield Beach in Leeds – during 524 hours.

That IS a lot of inspection hours, but is it enough? Most of our inspections happen on Fridays, Saturdays and Sundays, when the launch is likely to be the busiest, but if you drive by the public launch on a beautiful weekday summer afternoon, you may find the parking lot full. With a volunteer force supplementing our paid staff, we could add coverage during the week.

On Androscoggin, the Invasive Plant Patrol team,

called *Eyes on the Water*, is led by Buddy Cummings. In 2019, ALIC's 28 trained volunteers spent 67.5 hours on the water looking for invasive plants. (Fortunately, none were found.) This work is vital because if Androscoggin does become infested, we must catch it early to get it under control. Androscoggin is a big lake, and the more eyes we have on the water, looking for things that don't belong, the better.

Are you ready to join us to boost your lake's chances of not being added to the list? If you like spending time in your kayak, observing the natural world, we hope you'll consider becoming an invasive plant patroller. Please contact Buddy Cummings at alic@androscogginlake.org to learn more. Maybe you are a people person who would like teaching others about how to protect the lake; if so, being a courtesy boat inspector may be for you. Please contact Lidie Robbins at lidie@30mileriver.org to learn more.

Time to Renew Your Membership



The primary purpose of our lake association is to maintain and improve the quality of the water in Androscoggin Lake. ALIC works hard to safeguard the lake from threats posed by both pollutants and invasive plants. But, the ability of ALIC to continue its good work relies on support from all of its members.

If you have not already done so, please renew your membership in ALIC today!

To renew, use the form enclosed with this newsletter, or click the Join option at www.androscogginlake.org. Send your completed membership form, along with your check, to the following address:

ALIC
PO Box 307
Wayne, ME 04284

Swimming in Androscoggin Lake....

(Continued from page 4)

especially on gray days. A fish, probably a pickerel, mistaking the rings for a lure, swallowed two fingers on my right hand. It gagged, let go, but I was already gone-halfway around the cove in a flash.

I discovered that a beaver took a nightly swim at 7:00pm because we almost ran smack into each other, his fat tail slapping the water, and me bolting for the shore. After that, I watched him from my porch.

Over the years, as the lake got cleaner, the eagles returned. The water was rough so I was swimming back and forth in front of the camp. An eagle circled above me. I'm too big to be his lunch, right? He dove right in front of me. I saw his eyes close, his

yellow talons stretch as he struck the water and grabbed a bass. He shuddered as he ascended with his meal.

Suddenly, I was sixty, time to swim the length of the lake. I began in West Acres and hugged the east shore. Stalled in the channel between Norris and Lothrop Islands, swimming hard and going nowhere, I wanted to quit. My husband yelled, "Don't give up, I haven't finished my book." I made it to the opposite shore, realizing with dismay that the boat couldn't pass through the rocks, so I had to swim another quarter mile back out.

This summer, as a sixty-five-year old, I will enter the water with the same giddy excitement with the goal of swimming around the entire lake. Maybe my husband will be able to read three books in the boat.

Maine's Coast ...

(Continued from page 9)

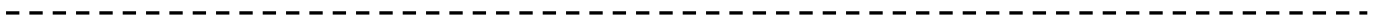
To do the job right, first consult your local conservation resources. Why? For instance, on a visit back to my old well-organized suburban neighborhood, many homeowners have replaced lawn space with buffers along borders or as a centerpiece. In addition to conservation, this creates privacy and can improve a home's value. They even marked the destination of the storm drains to raise awareness. Great! However, now there are large gaps overhead in the tree canopy of the neighborhood's namesake woods that may take a century to recover.

ALIC MEMBERSHIP FORM
Androscoggin Lake Improvement Corporation (ALIC)
www.androscogginlake.org

Membership in the lake association is open to anyone with an interest in preserving and protecting *Androscoggin Lake*.

To renew or to join as a new member, fill out a printed copy of this form and mail it, with your check, to the following address:

ALIC
PO Box 307
Wayne, ME 04284



Name: _____

Phone: _____

E-Mail: _____

(Member e-mail addresses are never shared by ALIC)

Renew Membership New Member

I would like to save some trees. By checking this box you will not receive paper copies of ALIC Newsletters. ALIC newsletters can always be found on the web site, www.androscogginlake.org.

Membership Contribution

\$25 Individual \$45 Family \$75 Loon \$100 Contributor \$150 Benefactor
 \$250 Eagle Other: _____

Healthy Lake Fund Donation

Additional Contribution to the *Healthy Lake Fund*: _____

The <i>Healthy Lake Fund</i> is a reserve fund for special projects outside of the annual operating budget. Consider donating.
--

Mailing Address

Street or PO Box: _____

City, State, Zip: _____

Summer Address (if different)

Street or PO Box: _____

City, State, Zip: _____