

LAKE MOREY PROTECTIVE ASSOCIATION
SPRING 2017 NEWSLETTER
www.lakemorey.org



From the President:

Welcome to another season at Lake Morey and 110 years as a lake association! By renewing your membership in the LMPA you are supporting the many volunteers working on preserving Lake Morey's clean water, monitoring the surrounding hills that encompass our watershed, and promoting safety for everyone who uses Lake Morey Road.

2017 will see the LMPA build on last year's success of our expanded Greeter Program at the public boat access. The Town of Fairlee, the Lake Morey Foundation and the LMPA membership combine funding and support so that 3 part-time greeters educate boaters on the harmful effects of aquatic invasive species and provide courtesy boat inspections to prevent new invasives from entering our Lake. Peggie Bissell will coordinate the Greeter Program again this summer.

Lake Morey is our precious, shared resource. Whether in peaceful reverie or joyous celebration we encourage all to think about how our activities affect others as well as the health of the Lake. Be conscious of swimmers, smaller watercraft, and lakeshore property while piloting boats. Travel on Lake Morey Road with care and awareness, whether on foot, bicycle or car. Do your part to keep pollution out of the Lake, whether trash or debris, chemical run-off or non-native species. Everyone benefits when we thoughtfully use Lake Morey -- now and in the future.

Cheers for happiness with family and friends at Lake Morey in 2017!
Peter Massicott, LMPA President

Treasurer's Report:

At the Fall 2016 Board of Directors meeting, the Board approved an increase in member dues to maintain a balanced, sustainable budget. This action was necessitated by funding commitments to the Greeter Program and the acquisition of liability insurance for directors/officers. It has been more than 10 years since our last dues increase. The Board feels the increases (from \$40 to \$50 for Lake members and from \$20 to \$25 for Family & Associate members) are very reasonable compared to most lake associations and adequately support our current mission.

Summer Events Schedule:

Check out our calendar at www.lakemorey.org for additional information on LMPA activities:

LMPA 1st Fridays at the Lake Morey Resort. This is a popular way to meet up with friends and neighbors. The initial gathering is June 2 at 5:30 p.m. in the lounge and will continue on the first Friday of each month thru October (cash bar).

Fairlee Family Fun Day on Sat., July 8, at the Town Beach from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Enjoy this annual LMPA/Fairlee Recreation Council event featuring games, crafts, water events, prizes and **free BBQ with ice cream at Noon!** Please lend a hand: make a side salad, help set-up, assist with games, serve food, or be a BBQ cook. Contact Laura Byron, Event Coordinator, to volunteer (byron_vt@hotmail.com).

LMPA Annual Meeting on Sat., July 8, at the Lake Morey Resort at 4 p.m. A Social Hour with appetizers will follow (cash bar).

LMPA Golf Tournament on Sat., July 8, at the Lake Morey Golf Course — time TBD.

LMPA Regatta on Sat., July 15, with 10 a.m. start in Breezy Bay. See you on the Lake!

LMPA Board of Directors:

Peter Massicott, President; Ginny Pomeroy, Vice President; Bill Minard, Treasurer; Debbie Baker, Peggie Bissell, Laura Byron, Barbara Duncan, Ginny Reed, Mark Richardson, and Will Watson. Nominating Committee: Barbara Duncan, Chair; Debbie Baker, Carol Wertheimer.

LMPA Communications:

Please be sure to follow LMPA all year at www.lakemorey.org. Thanks to the dedicated effort of Denise Drouin, our **website** has been redesigned to showcase information and announcements of interest to LMPA members and lake visitors. There is also a greatly improved Lake Chat section where members can post messages. Many thanks to Denise for an outstanding job and her willingness to continue as our webmaster. Patty Armstrong augments our website by maintaining the LMPA **Facebook** page. All are encouraged to post photos of seasonal lake activities year round!

Boater Certificate Course:

Sponsored by the LMPA for those who need to obtain VT certification to operate a motorized boat -- this free class is scheduled for **June 13 and June 15, from 4 – 8 p.m. each night** (a total of 8 hours is required). Meet at the Fairlee Fire Station. Pre-registration is not necessary.

HELP WANTED: can you assist us with this vital program? We need someone to teach this class next year. Our current trainer will certify the next teacher, but he/she must attend this year's 2 sessions. If you have the time, and would like to help us instruct a new generation of boaters, we would greatly appreciate it!!

2017 Milfoil Control Update:

The results from last summer's lake surveys in both deep and shallow waters showed that Lake Morey's milfoil infestation was at its lowest in years. This is attributed to aggressive control measures taken over the past 10 years. There are no plans to apply chemical treatment this year. However, four weeks of professional dive time (suction harvesting and deep water hand pulling) is scheduled along with maintaining our crucial Adopt-A-Lake efforts.

Don Weaver, Lake Morey Commission

Adopt-A-Lake News:

Thank you for your vigilance in searching and pulling milfoil – please continue this summer! If you find milfoil be sure to pull it or ask for help. We don't want to spread it by creating fragments with our motors or paddles. Please contact Don Weaver or Barbara Duncan to report milfoil beds. Let us know if you need help identifying milfoil -- we are always happy to provide samples.

Barbara Duncan, Adopt-A-Lake Coordinator
barbara.duncan@valley.net

VT Lakes & Ponds Update:

The LMPA is a member of the federation (FOVLAP) that is dedicated to the conservation and environmental quality of Vermont's lakes and ponds. Fighting aquatic invasive species is the number one priority statewide, as over 50 different invasive species are in Lake Champlain alone. LMPA, along with most lakes, has significantly increased boat inspections through its Greeter Program. Wash stations are being considered at many lakes, including ours.

The VT Dept. of Environmental Conservation has determined that water levels in Vermont's lakes

and ponds should be stabilized. The intent is to reduce stress on streams receiving water from lakes and be beneficial to shoreline property owners by fixing the lake level for proper water line placement, shoreline plantings, and recreational activities. Bruce Durgin, our FOVLAP rep, is working with the DEC and the Town of Fairlee to implement a recommendation for our lake this year. Contact him for more info. Bruce Durgin (durginbruce@yahoo.com)

Minimizing Phosphorous in Lake Morey:

Many property owners were alarmed last fall when our lake was invaded by a foul smelling algae bloom. Some algae are naturally occurring and not harmful. However, sample analyses last fall raised concerns and kept people and dogs out of the water. There are contributing factors beyond our control that can promote a bloom (weather, water level) but other measures can mitigate a potential negative impact. The most obvious is minimizing our phosphorous contribution to the lake's watershed.

Two key ways to reduce phosphorous include updating septic systems and preventing the dumping of leaves and other organic matter from landscape operations. The Dept. of Environmental Conservation website (<http://dec.vermont.gov/waste-management>) provides information on approved septic systems. Raking and blowing leaves into the lake, where they decompose on the lake bottom, are detrimental to its overall health. Be informed and help us be good stewards of our lake!
Bill Minard (bminard@gmavt.net)

Be Visible on the Road!

In recognition of **LMPA's 110th Anniversary**, and with our eye towards safety, we will again be offering t-shirts in a neon "safety" green color!



Suggested donation is \$12. Details are on our website (www.lakemorey.org).