



Sebec Lake Association

PO Box 303

Dover-Foxcroft, ME 04426



Sebec Lake Association Newsletter

Spring / Summer 2016



- ◆ Fuel and Oil ◆ Snacks
- ◆ Dock Spaces and Moorings
- ◆ Glastron and MirroCraft Boats
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Thank you all for a great 2015.

We hope to see you again in 2016!

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Annual Meeting

Saturday July 9, 2016 9:30am @ Mayo Regional Hospital, Piscataquis Room

www.sebeclakeassoc.com

President's Message - Sebec Lake Association - 2016

This winter has been quite a contrast from the last.....not much snow and fairly warm. Ice fishing required care to avoid open water and snowmobiles had a rough time on some of the trails. With winter passing we hope you will find the summer at Sebec Lake full of fun and excitement.

There are many summer activities around the community this year. The town of Guilford is celebrating its Bicentennial '200th' Anniversary. There are special events every month of 2016. Check out the Guilford website and Facebook for the events calendar and come join in the fun. Fireworks again this year at the Guilford River Festival which also includes a parade, classic and vintage cars, lots of food, entertainment and a visit from Elvis - July 30th.

Our Volunteer Lake Monitoring Program (VLMP) is moving forward in mapping Sebec Lake. In our effort to Preserve and Protect we want to make sure we do everything possible to keep invasive plant species out of Sebec Lake. Please volunteer to help with this effort. Contact chairperson, Rudy Davis, or any other officer/director listed in the back of this SLA Newsletter.

Don't miss our annual SLA meeting to be held at Mayo Regional Hospital, Piscataquis Room, Saturday, July 9th 2016 at 9:30 A.M. The directors and officers will meet at 8:00 A.M. prior to the membership meeting.

Please support our local businesses.....some are advertised in this SLA Newsletter. Check out our Chamber of Commerce for events and adventure.....tell Executive Director, Denise Buzzelli, we sent you!

Also don't miss our very own fireworks on Sebec Lake August 6, 2016. As in previous years there will be dancing on the beach to the tunes of "Music Maker' Steve Pratt, with lots of food, trinkets & games. Please continue to donate to this wonderful event. The full Dover-Foxcroft Homecoming celebration will return in 2017 with parade, street festival and fireworks at Sebec Lake.

Thanks for your support of the Sebec Lake Association. We look forward to having you as a member!

Piscataquis Brian
Chamber of Commerce

Denise Buzzelli
Executive Director
Piscataquis Chamber of Commerce
1033 South St.
Dover-Foxcroft, ME 04426
(207) 564-7533

www.piscataquischamber.com



Sebec Lake Association - Please join now!

We still need to increase the number of dues-paying members; we still have **less than 25%** of property owners willing to pay the \$15 to join SLA. We need help to increase our member numbers and our best recruiting tool is word of mouth. What we realize is that we need the help of camp owners to **talk to their neighbors and friends about SLA, what we do, and to encourage them to join.**

Our dues continue to be **\$15 per year**, and if we can get a higher percentage of camp owners to join, we won't be facing continuing financial deficits. Our costs include printing and mailing newsletters to *every* camp owner (and many camps have multiple owners) *whether or not they have paid dues*, website fees, and now, with the IPP, costs for equipment to do the shoreline mapping. Again, at the 2015 annual meeting, it was decided because our financial situation continues to head in the wrong direction, we cut our donation for Homecoming fireworks in half to \$500, and cut by 75% our support of the Maine Volunteer Lake Monitoring Program (VLMP) for the services they provide to us, including free classes and training for Lake volunteers including plant identification, training classes, water clarity testing support, training and equipment. **PLEASE consider joining SLA...**

It happens to all of us: you are reading this Newsletter, you tell yourself you are going to join...then the Newsletter gets put on that stack of 'To Do Later'...This time, do it NOW... The SLA will really appreciate it...

We welcome anyone with an interest in Sebec Lake who supports our mission to **Pre-serve and Protect** as members! **Joining is easy:** mail the form in this newsletter or go to our website (www.sebeclakeassoc.com) and click on 'Click here to Join Now or Renew your membership' to pay by check or by PayPal; consider membership an 'insurance policy' to help keep your property values up by keeping our lake clean and free from invasive species.

Please go to our website and watch the VLMP video on the home page to see what we would be up against if Sebec Lake gets 'invaded.'

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Invasive Plant Patrol & Lake Mapping Update

The SLA initiated its comprehensive Invasive Plant monitoring and Lake Mapping program this past summer. SLA is committed in maintaining vigilance in the face of increasing threats from invasive plants, such as Eurasian Milfoil and Hydrilla.

These two species of invasive plant, which can take over and effectively 'kill' the lake, continue to make their way farther into Maine. How does this happen? Fragments of these invaders arrive on boats, trailers, fishing equipment, PWCs, canoes, kayaks, waders, skis, tubes and even kids' toys.

In response to this threat, a monitoring team was formed and training initiated in June of 2015. SLA and the IPP team are working closely with the Maine Volunteer Lake Monitoring Program (VLMP), which provides the training sessions. SLA also has formed a collaboration with the Foxcroft Academy, bringing interested students into the effort. The team has gotten off to a good start, meeting most of a set of ambitious goals this past summer. Following a classroom training session, an 'on water' session took place at Greeley's Landing, which resulted in the marina area being mapped as to its current aquatic vegetation. No invasive species were found. Having gained this experience, the team then built several custom viewing instruments – trunk scopes- that were used for the next mapping session focusing on the immediate area around the Newell Cove boat launch. This area was also found to be free of invasive plants, though there is much more to do. These first two sessions were so very important, as they gave us excellent insight into what methods of mapping are going to work best for SLA. Sebec Lake is unique in many ways, and presents some challenges that other Maine lakes don't. Though the team would have liked to have gotten more done, they are happy with the outcome when weighed against an ambitious plan and the complicated nature of getting volunteers to donate time during the summer season.

To date, the IPP effort has been funded out of specific donations from camp owners. Without camp owner support, whether financial or in time and equipment, and camp owner vigilance of the waters around them, this program just won't work. With this support, the team was able to quickly respond to camp owners reporting 'something different' in the water to a team member for an evaluation. On behalf of the full team, and the SLA board, the IPP team is very grateful to all of you who have made contributions.

And for the summer of 2016? Mapping, mapping and more mapping! See you in a few months.

Rudy Davis

What you can do to support the IPP initiative:

First and foremost, **volunteer to be on the IPP team**. If you'd like to volunteer, contact SLA President Brian Woodworth at 207-217-0962 or Board member Rudy Davis at 978-204-6799. Or, you can contact them by email via the SLA website.

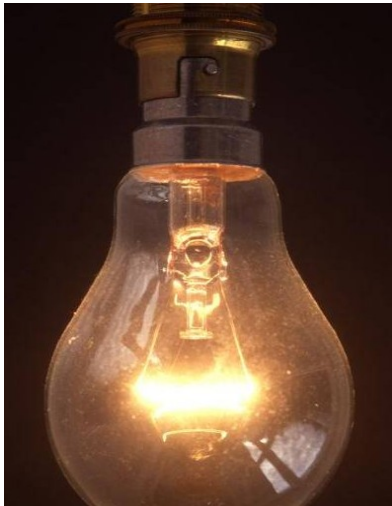
Second, volunteer your small boat, kayak or canoe to the effort for a few hours every now and then.

Third, make a dedicated **financial contribution** to the effort. The team will need additional equipment: logs, view scopes, maps, identification books, specialized rakes, etc., and additional training. When you donate, please make a note on your Membership form or your check memo that it's for the IPP.

Fourth, if you are not a current member of SLA, **join**. Annual dues are only \$15.00, and the return – protection of your lakeside asset – is immense.

Finally, become educated about this threat, and make sure the equipment and 'toys' you put in the water, or that any visitors may put in the water, are **appropriately washed, cleaned and inspected** prior to going in.

The SLA believes it is critical not to underestimate the threat these invasive species pose to our Lake. If you'd like to see what an infestation looks like, go to the SLA website and view the VLMP video on the Home page.



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Items of interest

The Sebec Lake Association continues its mission to Preserve and Protect Sebec Lake. Our **Invasive Plant Patrol** (IPP) initiative is now underway; we will continue the program to map the entire shoreline, recording locations of native plant species and checking for invasive plants. We need your support including donations to purchase equipment, lending us your canoes and kayaks and to volunteer to be part of the 'mapping crew' either on the water or as shore support. Please see the Invasive Plant Patrol Initiative article by Rudy Davis in this Newsletter.

Do you have a local business? Please consider advertising in our Newsletter and on our website. Many people who come to Sebec Lake need goods and services while at camp. Since camp owners are often 'from away', they may not be familiar with local businesses/owners and have no clue who to call for repairs or service on equipment. Please visit our website and click on the Local Businesses link to get listed. For Newsletter advertisements contact Peter Chase at director5@sebeclakeassoc.com or peterchase3649@yahoo.com by email for information.

SLA is run completely by volunteers. We have a Board of Directors, headed by President Brian Woodworth, who conduct business via email and at the annual Directors meeting. If you are interested in getting involved with SLA, please contact Brian or any of the current Officers/Directors listed in this Newsletter and on the website.

The SLA is in the process of revising the Bylaws; it is necessary to 'update' the means of doing business given current technology and the difficulty of getting volunteers to make a commitment to the SLA. The proposed changes will be discussed at the annual meeting on Saturday, July 9 at 9:30 a.m. in the Piscataquis Room of Mayo Hospital and will be available on our website. Look in the 'Announcement' list for more information which will be posted when the Directors finalize the proposed changes.

Hazard marker update: Tim Thurston reports that in 2015, scheduled maintenance replaced 6 buoys and 13 chains. Currently, there are 80 markers in the lake. Questions, concerns, or possible new marker locations can be sent to any SLA Director or call the Dept. of Ag, Conservation & Forestry at 207-582-5771.

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New Smelt Study at Sebec Lake – Tim Obrey, IF&W Biologist

Last spring Inland Fisheries & Wildlife began a new study at Sebec and Moosehead Lakes that will help us develop catch indices for rainbow smelt at various life stages. We plan to monitor long term trends in abundance and identify factors that may impact survival for this important forage species for salmon and lake trout.

Work began about 10 days after we observed adult smelt spawning in the tributaries. We installed a plankton net for about 20 minutes at the lower end of the streams to determine if we could capture any newly hatched smelt fry. Our work was very successful and we caught many smelt during this trial run.

We returned to Sebec Lake throughout the summer to sample smelt fry. We were able to capture them on the surface during daylight hours until early June. By mid-June the young smelt began to drop deeper in the lake as they develop a negative reaction to light. We know that after these young smelt reach a certain length, they go to deeper water during the day time, but after the sun sets, they begin a migration to the surface to feed on plankton. So, in July we conducted some day time vs night time trials to determine if we could capture smelt using our surface sampling equipment. We captured just 3 smelt during the daylight trials but at night we took over 250 fish. Since the main objective for this phase of the project was to test trawling methods, only further testing will determine if 250 indicates an abundant or a low smelt population.

We also collected plankton samples in addition to the smelt sampling. Our goal is to be able to correlate plankton abundance with smelt abundance since studies indicate smelt fry survival is related to the abundance of rotifers in the spring. Rotifers are very small plankton species that can only be seen with a microscope. It is very time-consuming to count the plankton so we are still processing these samples over the winter.



**The Dover-Foxcroft
Historical Society
Invites you to visit our website:**

dover-foxcroft-historical-society.org

**All are welcome at our museums,
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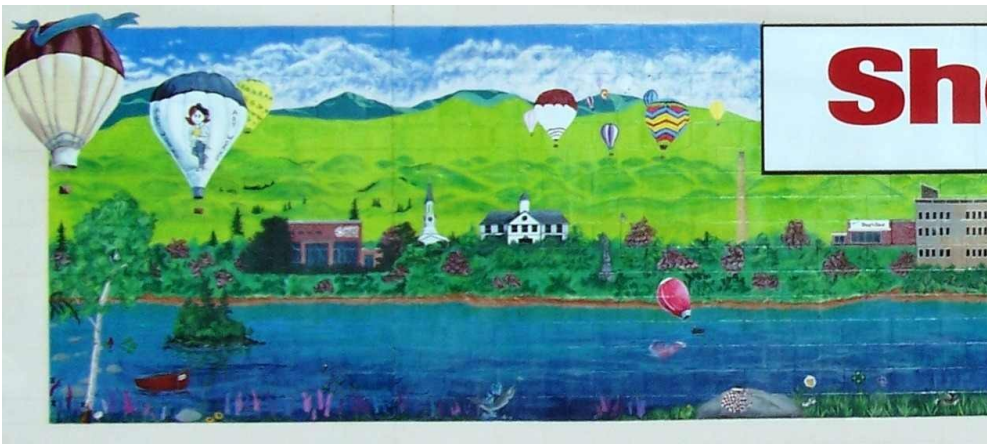
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Sebec, Maine: The beginning...

The name Sebec is derived from Sebecco, the Indian name for the lake. It is one of the six townships granted to Bowdoin College by Massachusetts in 1794. Sebec consisted of 22,228 acres, and was originally divided into lots by Moses Hodsdon in 1802.

In May 1803, the Treasurer of Bowdoin College deeded 16,000 acres to Richard Pike, 75 cents per acre. In 1804, Pike sold one-sixteenth of the lots to Benjamin Wyatt, soon after David and Charles Coffin, Mary Pike, and Phillip Combs bought equal shares.

The outlet of Sebec Lake included an 18-foot fall. Here the first mills in the county were built, and around it Sebec Village was clustered. In 1804, Samuel Kimball, Mark Trafton, and others here built a dam, put up a mill and the first framed building raised in the county. Roger Chase built the gearing and put a saw and gristmill in operation, in which the first boards were sawed and the first grain ground in the county.

In 1805 one-eighth of the mill, dam, and land connected was sold to Moses Greenleaf. According to Stephen Snow of Milo, the gristmill was running in 1806. One of the first settlers were Ezekiel Chase who was a Revolutionary War Soldier. He loved to roam the forest wilderness, and was a hunter. His lot, cleared in 1802 was on the bank of the river near what was later Sebec Depot. In 1803, he raised crops and hay, built a log cabin then brought his family. During the trip up the river they met up with Benjamin Sargent on his way to Milo. In 1814, Charles Vaughan Chase was born in Sebec. Abel Chase, a brother, settled in town.

Sebec, the oldest incorporated town in the county, was incorporated February 28, 1812. In 1870 the population was 964, and the town valuation was \$190,407.00.

The above information was adapted from an article on the **Three Rivers Community** website.

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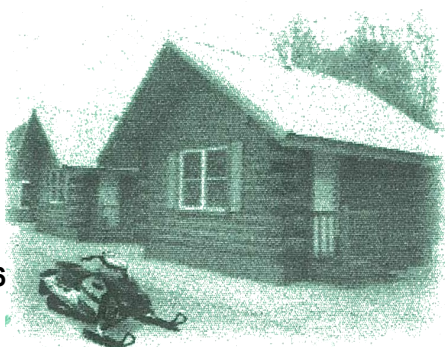
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Mary Annis · 564-0820 · mannis@myfairpoint.net

Read more about The Central Hall Project:

www.mainehighlandsseniorcenter.org

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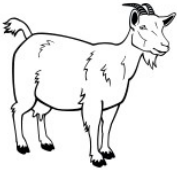
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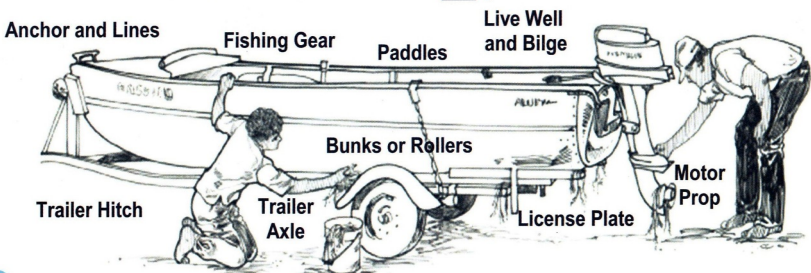


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A message from the Maine Department of Environmental Protection. Learn more about protecting our waters at www.maine.gov/dep/water/invasives

Contacts

Sebec Lake Association Website

www.sebeclakeassoc.com

Sebec Lake Association Annual Meeting

Saturday, July 9, 2016 @ 9:30 a.m.

Mayo Regional Hospital – Piscataquis Room

Sebec Lake Association Officers & Directors

President – Brian Woodworth (Cell: 207-217-0962) president@sebeclakeassoc.com

Vice President – Rick Page vp@sebeclakeassoc.com

Treasurer – Jennifer Stewart treasurer@sebeclakeassoc.com

Recording Secretary – Janet Hall (Newsletters & Data Manager) secretary@sebeclakeassoc.com

Corresponding Secretary - Cindy Woodworth correspondingsecretary@sebeclakeassoc.com

Director – Gary Soucy (Website Manager-Web Ads) director1@sebeclakeassoc.com

Director – Bob Hall (Water Level & Quality Monitor) director2@sebeclakeassoc.com

Director – MJ Sheldon-McKenzie director3@sebeclakeassoc.com

Director – Rudy Davis (Invasive Plant Contact) director4@sebeclakeassoc.com

Director – Peter Chase (Fish Stakeholder Contact) director5@sebeclakeassoc.com

(E-mail for Newsletter Ads) peterchase3649@yahoo.com

Director – Norman Hill (Fish Stakeholder Contact) director6@sebeclakeassoc.com

(Newsletter Ads)

Director – Dean Meffe director7@sebeclakeassoc.com

Director - Maurice Marden [Ampersand (dam) & DEP Liaison] director10@sebeclakeassoc.com

Director - Joe Guyotte (D-F Fire Chief & Animal Control) director12@sebeclakeassoc.com

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Sebec Fire Department 207-564-2090

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Mon & Fri...9-5.....Wed...10-6.....Sat...8-4

Merrill Marina

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Membership Form

Sebec Lake Association membership is open to all with an interest in our mission to Protect and Preserve Sebec Lake, whether or not you own lake property!

To pay your dues for 2016:

Go to www.SebecLakeAssoc.com, click on **Click here to Join Now or Renew your membership**, and pay your dues and/or make a donation with a credit card via PayPal. Be sure to fill out the update **Member Info form** under **Contact Us**. Or fill out the form below and mail it with a check for \$15 to:

Sebec Lake Association Treasurer

P.O. Box 303, Dover-Foxcroft ME 04426

I have included a Donation with my Dues for:

IPP initiative \$ _____ General Fund \$ _____

First/Last Name(s): _____

Home Street Address: _____

Home City/State/Zip: _____

Home Phone: _____

For Lake Property owners:

Lake Property Street Address: _____

Lake Property City/Zip: _____

Lake Property Map# _____ Lot# _____ (Can be found on tax bill)

Year Lake Property acquired: _____ Are you a **new** owner? Y/N: _____

Lake Property Phone: _____

To make sure all parties/all properties get membership credit:

Do you have more than one lake property? Number: _____

Do you share ownership? Name(s): _____

Email (SLA will NEVER share your email): _____

If you have already paid your dues or sent a contribution for 2016,

THANK YOU for your support of the Sebec Lake Association!

**(PLEASE NOTE: Fireworks donations to Town of Dover-Foxcroft
Care of: Sheila Bragg, 248 Morton Ave Suite A, Dover-Foxcroft ME 04426)**

