



President's Corner

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Welcome back to Blaisdell Lake! The summer season of 2022 certainly started eventfully with several of us experiencing tree damage from a late May storm. A big thank you to the town of Sutton for quickly making Old Blaisdell Road passable and to all the crews that

restored our electricity. Let's hope the weather is calm for the rest of the summer!

At this time, we are not sure if our annual meeting will be held in person or via Zoom. We will let everyone know as soon as we hear if the dining hall at

Camp Wabasso or another venue is available. It would be great to be able to gather in person again.

Wishing you all a happy and healthy summer season. Enjoy every minute – it goes by too quickly!

Doug DeLand



Storm damage at Bass Point from the May 16 microburst.

SAVE THE DATE!

BLPA Annual Meeting

July 23 @ 10 AM

Venue TBD
In Person if possible

Stay tuned for details!

Another Visit from Mother Nature

While we did not have a confirmed tornado as was seen just south of Claremont on the evening of May 16, 2022, it sure felt like it. As severe thunderstorms rumbled across our area they swept a swarth from Old Sutton Road to Old Blaisdell Road, across the lake to Bass Point and up to the center of Blaisdell Hill.

Along the path of the microburst, multiple trees, limbs and power lines were downed. Objects were blown off their footings, appearing to be picked up and deposited haphazardly. A large pine fell directly on a home on Blaisdell Hill Road, fortunately not injuring its occupants who spent the night with their next-door neighbors.

A section of Route 114 at Foot Hills Road and down past Old South Sutton Road was shut down to clear debris and restore power lines. While many lake residents experienced significant trees uprooted and fallen, fortunately no major damage was done to homes and camps.



- ✓ Pay your BLPA membership dues
- ✓ Sign up for On-Call Weed Watch
- ✓ Buy your flares
- ✓ Get your smart lock pin code
- ✓ Always LOCK THE GATE behind you

On-Call Weed Watch and Boat Launch Use

BLPA members who wish to use the boat launch should request a pin code to the smart lock if you have not already done so. Non-BLPA boaters who intend to use the launch throughout the summer may join as Seasonal Boat Launch members and receive a unique pin code for the season. Single day users may [go online and request a launch time](#) and will be met at the gate by an On-Call Weed Watch volunteer who will inspect the boat and supply a temporary pin code following a successful inspection. Alternately, single day users may text or call the On-Call Weed Watch line to request a launch, but *online registration is strongly encouraged*.

Weed Watch needs YOU!
On-Call hours 8 AM - 4 PM ONLY. Please sign up at our website for a full week or full weekend of on-call duty.

Weed Watch still needs you! [Sign up at our website](#), same as always. You can now conduct weed watch duty from home, only going to the beach when it's necessary to inspect a boat. Please sign up for a full week or full weekend time slot. On-Call hours are 8 AM - 4 PM ONLY and you will not be the only person on-call. You can go about your day and not be tied to the phone for the entire

shift. Because of the low probability that a single day user needs inspection during your shift, it's quite likely you will never be called to the lake at all. You'll simply be "on-call."

Without boat launch inspections, we are at significant risk of introducing milfoil to the lake, which - as you know - has already infested several nearby lakes. Every member is encouraged to volunteer for at least one On-Call Weed Watch segment this summer.

Please do your part and sign up for On-Call Weed Watch. For more information, visit the [BLPA Weed Watch website](#) page and the [BLPA Boat Launch page](#).

When using the boat launch, PLEASE make sure you close and properly lock the gate after you at all times. Fully push up on the shackle to insure the lock is engaged. Do this both after you launch and after you take your boat out of the water. This is the only way we can protect Blaisdell Lake from milfoil infestation that would greatly harm our waters.

Important!

Always shut and LOCK the gate

both after launch and upon return to shore. Fully push up on the shackle to lock.



BLPA Membership Reminders

Thanks to all who have submitted your BLPA membership dues for the 2022 season. Dues are essential to fund operating expenses, including beach taxes, water quality testing, dam registration and more. If you haven't submitted your dues for this year, it's not too late. New members are always welcome. Please share this invitation with any new friends or neighbors who are interested in joining our lake community.

The latest edition of the BLPA Membership Directo-

ry will be emailed to members in good-standing later in the summer. Because of privacy concerns, we will not publish the directory on the BLPA website. This is a "Members Only" directory and we expect that our members will not share the information with outsiders or use it for business purposes.

Membership renewal forms were emailed last month. The form allows you to denote whether you want to request a pin code for the smart lock and it you

wish to be included in the member directory.

For more info, contact:

Vicki Willard, Membership Chair
 vepwillard@mac.com 603-938-2547

Betsy Fowler,
 tinkerrf@mctelecom.com
 603-938-5367

Send your check made out to BLPA for \$85 to:

BLPA
Attn: Membership
PO Box 453
South Sutton, NH 03273



WELCOME

NEW MEMBERS
 Mark & Martha
 Lennon
 259 Rt 114

The Tradition Continues - BLPA Fourth of July Celebrations



A sure sign of summer! BLPA will celebrate on Sunday, July 3 with our traditional boat parade, flares and fireworks. Once again, Bradford has elected to hold it's fireworks September 24 to coincide with Bradford Celebration Day.

Please use common sense and common courtesy when discharging fireworks. Be mindful that many residents are and pets are very sensitive to loud noise. Avoid using fireworks that create lots of fragments and trash that can litter our beaches and coves. Please clean up all debris. As a courtesy to all, limit the use of fireworks to the designated Flares and Fireworks night

Flares for Sale!

Proceeds to benefit BLPA

Contact Vicki Willard

603-938-2547

Sunday, July 3

4 PM Pud Ellsworth Boat Parade

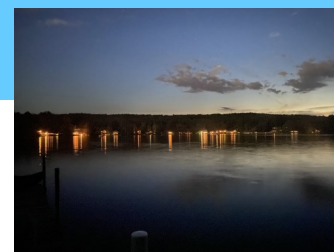
Line up in the vicinity of Spruce Point

9 PM Flares and Fireworks

Please be respectful; clean up all debris and limit use to the designated night.

on July 3.

Flares are available for \$5 a piece. Vicki Willard will have flares for sale at Wright's Beach on Sunday, June 26 from 9 - 10:30am. If more inventory remains, she



will be at the beach Sat, Jul 2 from 9 - 10:30. Bruce Ellsworth will also have flares for sale.

Local Upcoming Events Summer 2022

Looking for things to entertain yourself or out of town guests this summer? Check out some of these local events!

- Annual Community Fair, [Kearsarge Food Hub](#), Saturday, July 2 9am - 2pm, Old Bradford Inn/Sweet Beet Market
- Fourth of July Parade, Monday, July 4 10am, South Sutton Green/Rt 114
- Free Live Concert Events, Jim Mitchell Community Park, [Main Street Warner](#), 6:30 - 8:30pm, June 29, July 15 & 28, August 12 & 25
- Free Programs at the South Sutton Meetinghouse, July 24 Community Variety Show 4 - 6pm, August 6 Colonial Meetinghouses 4pm, Old Home Day August 21 11am, sponsored by [Sutton Historical Society](#)
- Summer Music Series at the [Bradford Center Meetinghouse](#), July 9 @ 7p Classical, July 22 @ 6p Rock & Roll, August 7 @ 2p Ice Cream Social, August 27 @ 4p Bluegrass
- 21st Annual Powwow, [Mt. Kearsarge Indian Museum](#), July 9 & 10, gates open @ 10a
- 89th Annual [League of NH Craftsmen Fair](#), Mt. Sunapee Resort, August 6 - 14

Community Variety Show & Open Mic

Celebrate our Historic Sutton Meeting House

Sunday, July 24
4-6 pm

A call for acts:

Singing, Instrumentals,
Poetry, Theatre,
Storytelling, Dance,
Comedy and more....

All ages welcome



To signup, contact:

Kathy Lowe
603•491•0789

kathylowebloch@comcast.net

Signup Deadline: July 14

Sponsored by
The Sutton
Historical
Society

Flashback: Old Man of the Lake

By Ed King

An autograph saying "To one old clown from another," and signed by Emmet Kelly; an autographed picture of Red Skelton, a mechanical parrot; an old shooting gallery that fires pennies; if you hit the bulls-eye, you get the penny back - these are just a few of the things that make up the world of retired showman Chet Wright, who has owned and operated his little store at Blaisdell Lake Sutton, for 52 years.

"When I came here, there was only seven houses here," the 83-year-old humorist recalls. "I came up here looking for a summer camp and found this little store. I bought it and later added the house." That was back in 1919, and Mr. Wright has lived here ever since.

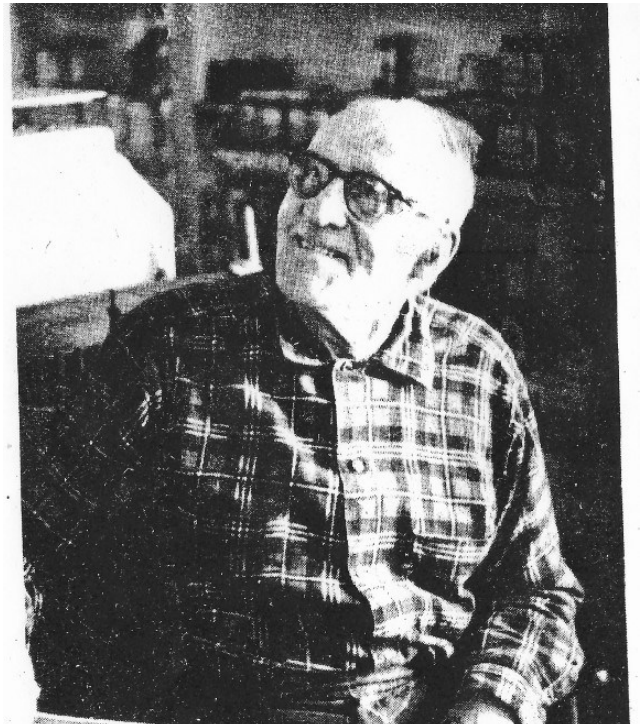
He got his big start in show business in 1908, when at the age of 20 he joined the Oregon Indian Medicine Show. Five years later he formed his own vaudeville troupe and went on the road with a tent show that featured his dog and bird act. His big feature was a little dog who would climb up a 50-foot ladder to a tiny platform, then leap off into space. Landing in a canvas blanket stretched over the ground like a trampoline.

"I'd set up the ladder long before show time, so I

This article was first published in March, 1971 in the Hillsborough *Messenger*. Chet was 83 at the time. He died in June 1989 just before his 99th birthday. Thanks to Al Byam for sharing this gem.

could attract attention," Wright commented. "It had little rungs about a half a foot apart so that the dog could climb it. People would come up to me and say that they didn't believe no dog was going to climb that there ladder and that it was just a gimmick to get people to come to the show. They'd get the surprise of their life when that little dog actually did it. One night, though, after the show, some kids came in and cut the guy wires that held the ladder up. It came down and got smashed all to pieces. I never did that act again."

"Dogs and birds were easy train," Wright went on. "The hardest animal to work with was a goat I used in one of my acts. He was supposed to be hidden under a table and on cue would wald off with it, making it look like the table was moving by itself. Well, one night that goat, Jimmy was his name, he came charging out from under that table and butted me good right in the side. Knocked me right off



Chet Wright, who has owned and operated Wright's Store at Blaisdell Lake Sutton for 52 years. (1971 caption)

the stage!! The audience was laughing real hard, so I just got up and went on like it was part of the show, but my side was aching like crazy. The next day one man came up to me and said that it was the funniest thing he'd ever seen and was I going to do it again that night. Well, I looked at him, my side was still aching, and just said, "No sir, I am not!"

Wright married Miss Ola Gay, who then joined him and sang and played musical instruments in his shows. After they bought the store, they would live there during the summers, and go back on the road during the winter, renting

town halls where they could. Finally, in 1945, after 37 years on the road traveling from Maine to Georgia, the Wrights settled down for good in the little store.

Continued on next page



We want to hear your story!

- [Send us stories](#) to share with our fellow members
- Family stories about your camp or cottage
- Pictures, memorabilia and other lake memories
- History of how you came to Blaisdell Lake
- And much more!

Adopt-A-Highway

Since 1995, BLPA has sponsored a three mile stretch of Route 114 for the NH Department of Transportation's Adopt-A-Highway program. This stretch runs from the blinking light in Bradford to Russell Pond.

While we do not currently have anyone heading this effort, BPLA is still registered with the state to care for this section of road. We still need a new point of contact to step up.

There will be a roadside clean up early this summer and we need volunteers. Please join in. Stay tuned for more details and thank you.

If you would be interested in helping BLPA's Adopt-A-Highway effort, please contact Betsy Fowler.



Four loons captured on camera over Memorial Day weekend by Rick Wright at Wright's Beach

Old Man of the Lake *from Page 4*

Mrs. Wright died in 1958, and since then Mr. Wright has devoted all of this time to his store and his little museum of memorabilia of the world of show business. Among some of the items he has there are an old hand-cranked organ owned by P.T. Barnum back in 1897, and a ventriloquists dummy that is over 100 years old. There is also a collection of old posters, photographs, and movies.

Through the years Wright has managed to keep his wonderful wit and sense of humor. The front door to his store is covered with

bits of witty wisdom. One hand-lettered card proclaims "It's true there's not much to see in a small town, but what you hear makes up for it." Living proof of this saying is Mr. Chet Wright himself. The tales he tells bring one back into history, into a world of traveling shows which is lost forever. Drop in sometime, for what you'll hear and see there is as fascinating as anything you're likely to find anywhere in the country.

Plan Ahead! **Fall, 2023**

The next scheduled lake lowering will be a year from this fall. Per the BPLA By-Laws, the lake level is temporarily lowered no more than every five years for the convenience of the membership and to conduct dam maintenance. **PERMITS TAKE TIME.** Most shorefront projects require a NH Department of Environmental Services SWQPA (Shoreland Water Quality Protection Act) and/or or NHDES Wetlands Bureau permit. Plan ahead!



BEACH RULES REMINDER

Please, **NO DOGS** on Wright's Beach
and **NO FISHING** from Wright's Beach

*Thanks to the talented
Gretchen Gudefin for the
beautiful painting that serves
as our newsletter masthead.*

In Memoriam

We are sad to share the news of the passing over the winter of two long-standing BLPA members.

Richard P. Manual (1933 – 2022)

Dick Manuel of South Hadley, MA and Stony Pines Cottage on Camp Kemah Road passed away on March 12, 2022. A devoted family man, he was a friend to everyone he met, and quick to lend a helping hand. Above all else, he was always a true gentleman! Dick was born on August 11, 1933 in Washington, D.C. to Theodore and Gladys (Conard) Manuel. He attended Duke University and graduated in 1956 with a Civil Engineering degree. Upon graduation, he fulfilled his ROTC commitment in the U.S. Air Force as a 2nd Lieutenant stationed at Westover Air Force Base. In 1960, he married his beloved wife of 62 years, Joan Glesmann. They settled in South Hadley and raised three children whom he adored: Lynda McClintock (Darby O'Brien) of South Hadley, Judith Harding (David) of Glastonbury, CT, and Richard Manuel, Jr. (Cara Sterling) of Winchester, MA.

Dick worked as an engineer for Aquadro & Cerruti, Inc. in Northampton, MA for 50 years, many of them as their dedicated Treasurer. He oversaw the construction of hundreds of buildings

in the Pioneer Valley: schools, office buildings, churches, parking garages and college buildings, most notably laying out Hampshire College.

Throughout the years, Dick served his community in many different leadership roles worthy of his Eagle Scout status: Town Meeting and Prudential Board member, Deacon at First Congregational Church, Boy Scout Leader of Troop 301, President of Evergreen Cemetery, and even as a volunteer firefighter for District 2. He was also President of the Blaisdell Lake Property Owner's Association in New Hampshire.

Dick spent as much time as possible at his family lake house on Blaisdell Lake. It was his "happy place." His engineering acumen and construction skills transformed an old Girl Scout camp into the family's favorite gathering place. This was the location for knot-tying lessons with Grampy, working on puzzles, reading on the dock, competitive tennis and ping-pong tournaments, horseshoe games, fort building in the woods, swimming, sailing, kayaking, water-skiing, and many, many famous Manuel theme parties! Endless happy memories were made at the lake. His family will especially miss having those late-night chats on the porch, listening to the loons.

Dick leaves behind his dear sister Lorraine May and her family of Morro Bay, CA. A brother-in-law Robert A. Glesmann, III of Granby, MA and nephew Robert T. Glesmann (Sheila) and family of Severna Park, MD. He was predeceased by brother-in-law Jonathan Glesmann and wife Janet, and sister-in-law Jane Glesmann. He also leaves 6 cherished grandchildren who thought the world of their "Grampy": Emily McClintock of Seoul, South Korea, Jake O'Brien of South Hadley, Molly and Matthew Harding of Glastonbury, CT, and Nicholas and Jeffrey Manuel of Winchester, MA.

Joseph L. Cohen (1933 – 2022)

Joseph (Joe) Cohen M.D. of Beverly, MA and Old Blaisdell Road, passed away on January 8, 2022, at the age of 88. Born in Worcester, MA to David B. and Sylvia (Magaziner) Cohen, Joe graduated from Brandeis University and then Tufts University School of Medicine in 1959. Joe leaves behind an enormous legacy both professionally and in his adoring family.

Joe's professional career was spent at the Lemuel Shattuck Hospital where he worked from the early 1960's until he retired after 48 years of service. He was a skilled and compassionate oncologist, medical researcher, and held numerous leadership positions at the Lemuel Shattuck Hospital including serving for 33

years as the Medical Director. Additionally, he served as an Associate Professor of Medicine at Tufts University School of Medicine. He helped launch several groundbreaking programs including Boston Health Care for the Homeless and the first inpatient HIV/AIDS unit in New England at the Lemuel Shattuck Hospital.

Joe's professional life was complemented by a very fulfilling personal life. He enjoyed time with his family, relaxing at his lake house on Old Blaisdell Road, working on various handyman projects, traveling, listening to classical music, cooking and, in earlier days, running, bicycling, sailing, and skiing. More than anything, he adored his wife (Freddy) of 63+ years and was always her partner and best friend. Every family member had a special bond with Joe, from each of his kids, to his siblings, to his grandchildren and great-grandchildren. Any person who knew Joe was better for it.

He is survived by his devoted wife, Frieda Kala Cohen formerly of Brookline, MA and four sons, Stephen Cohen (Martha) of East Had-dam, CT, Mitchell Cohen (Betty) of Foster City, CA, Ian Cohen (Jennifer) of Beverly, MA and Colin Cohen (Jennifer) of Annapolis, MD. He is also survived by eight grandchildren as well as 2 great-grandchildren.

Board Committees and Activities

Some of the current issues and priorities facing the BLPA Board of Directors include:

Water Testing. Chris Kelley and Steve Domber continue to conduct tests of lake water and have scheduled a visit with the state biologist at the end of July.

Road Salt Concerns. A sub-committee including Jenn McCourt and Steve Domber have been working over the winter along with Sutton Conservation

Commission and lake association member Deb Lang to determine if the state will designate the stretch of Rt. 114 from Russell Pond past Wright's Beach as a Low or No Salt zone. The issue is on the agenda for the Sutton Board of Selectmen, as town approval is also needed.

Dam Maintenance. Bruce Ellsworth will petition at this year's annual meeting for member approval to lower the lake level in the

fall of 2023 for scheduled five year maintenance at the dam. Prior to lake lowering, Bruce wants input from boat launchers regarding the incline at the end of the ramp to determine if that needs some adjustment while the lake is lowered.

Board Opening. Members are encouraged to contact the Executive Committee if interested in filling a board seat at the end of this season.



Moon over Blaisdell

You're Invited - Mishe-Mokwa Celebrates 100

BLPA members and guests are invited to join the Henley and Gehret families as they celebrate the 100th anniversary of their camp Mishe-Mokwa on Sunday, July 24, 2022. The camp is located on Old Blaisdell Road along the shore just past Camp Wabasso.

Mishe-Mokwa's owners are excited to bring the lake community together for this special occasion. The Henleys and Gehrets are working together with BLPA to host a fun gathering.

Mishe-Mokwa was built in 1922 by Victor Brook. The Brook family sold to veterinarian Dr. Leo Dube in the mid 1970s, who then sold to Dave and Cynthia Donovan in 1996. It's the Donovan's daughters, Kim and Pam,

who now own the property as Mishe-Mokwa LLC together with their spouses, Joe Henley and Jake Gehret.

Details regarding the time, what you can bring, etc. will be supplied prior to the big day. Stay tuned and we hope to see you there!



Learn more and support clean and healthy lakes in New Hampshire at nhlakes.org

Kindly direct omissions, corrections, and suggestions for additional content to Newsletter Editor, Dorothy Jeffrey djeffrey@comcast.net

Blaisdell Lake Protective Association

PO Box 453
South Sutton, NH 03273
www.blpoa.org



BLPA IS A 501(C)(3)
ORGANIZATION DEDICATED TO
THE PROTECTION AND
ENHANCEMENT OF BLAISDELL
LAKE AND ITS WATERSHED

BLPA Executive Board Contact Information

President - Doug DeLand dkkjdeland@comcast.net

Vice President - Steve Domber steven.domber72@gmail.com

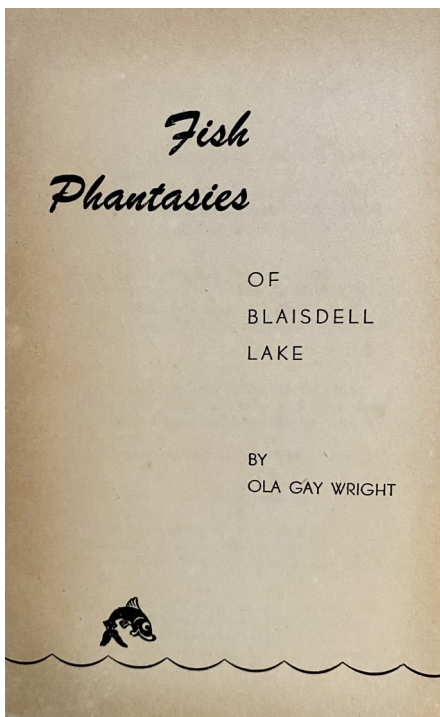
Treasurer - Kristine Mozes kristine.mozes@gmail.com

Clerk - Betsy Fowler tinkerf@mcttelecom.com

Past President - Chris Kelley kelleylawofficenh@gmail.com

Back Page Story—Fish Phantasies of Blaisdell Lake

The Frolic of the Fishes
By Ola Gay Wright



The moon shines so bright in Lake
Blaisdell below,
The fishes all gather to put on a show.
Old Father Bullfrog so stately and grand
Signals the leader of the Frog Jazz Band.

And all the froggies begin to giggle
When the leader calls "The Tadpole Wiggle."
Shiny black eels seem to glide about
And squirm and twist while the spectators shout.

The little perch laugh and start to sing,
When their fond dad cuts a pigeon wing.
The horned pout gaily drolled up with the rest
Looks very swanky in his clean white vest.

While timid pond shiner has such a sweet face
Attired in a gown of silver and lace.
Black bass wore a dress of silver and green
The flappiest flapper that was ever seen.

The frolic is ended altogether too soon,
A big black cloud scurries over the moon.
Miss Pickerel hurrying home to bed
Bumped into a turtle and hurt her poor head.

A bold blood sucker, who his footing did miss
Ran into Miss Flatside and gave her a kiss.
She threw up her fins and loudly did shriek
For the burly lake cop to remove the shiek.

Pandemonium reigned until he was caught
And to Judge Sucker the culprit was brought.
The jury pronounced him a mental crook,
He must cut out his capers or he'd get the hook.

And then the storm broke with lots of worry
And the waves donned their white caps in a hurry.
But the next time the moon is out bright, you know
They've posted the bills for a "Movie Show."