



President's Corner

By Chris Kelley

After a long, cold winter, summer is finally here. As many of you know, the Wright's Beach boat ramp was damaged this past October after heavy rain storms while the lake was lowered. The erosion of the ramp was caused by the repaving of Route 114 last summer and Andrews Brook jumping its banks and water flowing onto the lower portion of the boat ramp.

Last fall, I spoke to a civil engineer, the NH Department of Environmental Services, and a contractor to explore our options for repairing the ramp and preventing similar erosion in the future.

The BLPA Board met on May 25, 2019 to discuss the next steps in making the necessary repairs to the ramp. We are currently meeting with additional contractors and engineers to determine the best course of action for a permanent repair to the ramp. In the interim, the boat ramp access gate has been temporarily widened so boats can be launched without using the damaged portion of the ramp. Please be sure to launch your boat south of the ramp, as there is a narrow gulley and sand bar immediately in front of the existing ramp.

The Executive Committee will provide an update of our efforts to address this issue at our Annual Meeting scheduled for July 27th. We hope to see you there.

HELP OUR LAKE - Weed Watch

Our lake needs your help! Each member is asked to volunteer for at least one weed watch block at Wright's Beach during weekends and holidays throughout the season. [Sign up online](#) and learn more about what weed watch duty entails. It's easy, it's fun, meet your neighbors! Thank you for helping keep Blaisdell Lake free from invasive species!

Please visit the Blaisdell Lake Protective Association website for more information and resources. blpoa.org

Membership Dues Reminder

If you haven't already done so, please submit your BLPA membership dues for the 2019 season. Dues are essential to fund operating expenses, including beach taxes, water quality testing, dam registration and more. New members are welcome. Please share this invitation with any new friends or neighbors who are interested in joining our lake community. Send your check made out to BLPA for \$85 to:

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

2018 Lake Lowering Recap

By Bruce Ellsworth

Pursuant to the BLPA By-Laws, the lake was lowered last fall to inspect and maintain the dam and for the convenience of the membership. The project was a success, issues with the boat ramp on Wright's Beach notwithstanding.

A heartfelt thanks to the folks who volunteered to clear a considerable amount of debris off the dam last September. With the debris cleared and the lake lowered, the dam showed no signs of disrepair. The culvert that we feared might need rebuilding was merely clogged. The dam was pressure washed and resurfaced with two coats. The beavers appear to have moved on and the lake was back to normal levels by mid-November. If you spot any beavers in or around the lake this summer, please email Betsy Fowler at tinkerf@mcttelecom.com.

Remembering Don Wright

(1913 - 2019)

Captain Donald G. Wright passed away on April 9, 2019 in Ventura, CA at the amazing age of 105.

Don was born in Sutton, NH on November 11, 1913 to Chester (Chet) Wright and Ola (Gay) Wright, the venerable vaudeville family that settled on the shores of Blaisdell Lake in the early part of



the twentieth century. Don was the elder brother of Estelle (Wright) Rooney, who operated the legendary Dog House restaurant with husband Pat Rooney from 1948 - 1984 on the Wright family property adjacent to Chet's general store and vaudeville museum.

Don is survived by his wife Elaine (Freeman) and predeceased by his wife Barbara Helen (Michaud)

who passed in 1985. Don had a distinguished 25-year Army career, retiring as a Captain in 1957. He was honored for his service just three years ago on his Veterans Day birthday at age 102, during which Don looked back on "My First 100 Years" including a glimpse at his life growing up in Sutton in the early 1900's.

Don also had a career as a zoning inspector for the County of Ventura, retiring in 1976. He was proud to be a Mason for over 75 years. Don is also survived by daughter Sandra Harrison of Trinidad, Colorado; son Donald Wright II (wife Janet) of San Luis Obispo, CA; daughter Carol Coert (husband Lewis) of Ventura and Susan Westover (husband Wally) of Ventura.



*Retired Army Capt. Donald Wright in 2015, at his 102nd birthday celebration with daughter Susan Westover. Photo: Joseph A. Garcia
Ventura County Star*

Thanks to the generosity of Don, Estelle and the Wright Family, the Blaisdell Lake Protective Association has owned and managed Wright's Beach since 2006.

With Don's passing, the family is currently considering their options regarding the site of the old Dog House, Wright's Store and the Rooney property across from the beach.

Looking Ahead to 2020

Next year marks BLPA's 70th anniversary. Just planting seeds for thought ...

Summer Schedule of Events

The Fourth of July falls on Thursday this year. BLPA events have been scheduled to minimize conflicts with Bradford Independence Day Activities and allow everyone to enjoy as much or as little excitement as you wish!

Friday, July 5	Flares and Fireworks 9 PM
Sunday, July 7	Pud Ellsworth Boat Parade 2 PM
Saturday, July 27	BLPA Annual Meeting, Camp Wabasso 10 AM - noon BLPA Board Meeting 8 AM
Saturday, August 18	104th Annual Sutton Old Home Days South Sutton Meetinghouse 10 AM
Saturday, August 31	BPLA Board Meeting 9 AM

Bradford Independence Day Activities

Saturday, July 6

9am- Bradford 5K Road Race [Click for details and registration](#)

4pm- Parade. Lineup and contest judging at 3:30pm on Old Warner Road.

4:30pm-9:30pm- Celebration at Brown Shattuck Field. Live music, Food, Kids Train Rides, Bounce Houses, Face Painting, Games and MORE!

4:30-6:30- Music - Clint Lapointe Band

5pm- Little Red Wagon Theatre "Cleo's Egyptian Tale"

6pm- Little Red Wagon Theatre "Who Came up With That? A Time Traveling Adventure"

6:30pm- Charity Grilling Competition [Click here for registration info](#)

7-9:30- Music - April Cushman Band

8pm- Trashion Show

9:30- Fireworks



NH LAKES Partnership

BLPA is a member of the statewide New Hampshire Lakes Association, Inc. (NH LAKES), a nonprofit organization devoted to keeping New Hampshire's lakes clean and healthy, now and into the future. NH LAKES brings the power of individuals and local groups like BLPA together to influence public policy, to provide programs to various lakes, and to create critical mass and attention within our greater society of the value and the needs of our lakes.

Among their many areas of focus, NH LAKES recently sponsored legislation to prevent the spread of aquatic invasive species. To learn more about what NH LAKES is doing for the lakes of New Hampshire, [visit their website](#) or [sign up to stay up to date](#) with NH LAKES programs and events, lake and watershed conservation and management, and current lake-related news. Just enter Blaisdell Lake Protective Association as your member "Lake Group" when you register.

Fireworks PSA

While all types of fireworks are legal in the Granite State (provided you are at least 21 years old and plan to use them on your own property), common sense and common courtesy should be the rule for all. As stewards of Blaisdell Lake, we are all concerned about the debris that can litter our beaches and coves. Please try to avoid using fireworks like the one shown here that create lots of fragments and trash. Please clean up all debris after discharging any fireworks. Please also try to limit the use of fireworks to the designated Flares and Fireworks night. Some of our neighbors do not enjoy the loud sounds as much as others! Celebrate safely.



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