



From the Highland Lake Watershed Association - A Nonprofit Organization Dedicated to the Preservation and Protection of Highland Lake and Its Watershed

Spring **2020**

President's Message by Beth Papermaster



A new decade has begun! We're excited! 2020 brings along a few changes for the Highland Lake Watershed Association.

HLWA's redesigned website, www.hlwa.org, launched in January. Thanks to Terry Platt's management, our website has served our community extremely well for many years.

Our new design takes advantage of technical improvements and modern features. Please visit our site often! In addition to being the editor of this newsletter, Terry also keeps all of us up to date on fun and important events going on around the lake through HLWA's Facebook page. If you don't follow HLWA on Facebook, please be sure to do so.

The Finance Committee suggested to the Board that HLWA's fiscal year be changed to follow the calendar year. With Board approval and a bylaws change, our fiscal year is now January 1 to December 31. This is mostly a bookkeeping issue, but membership campaign drives and fundraising events will no longer cross fiscal years, and our fiscal year will be the same as our tax year. Historically, most members pay their dues in the spring and summer months. By following the calendar year, we hope it will be easier for you, our members, to know when your membership needs to be renewed. A membership application is in this newsletter on page 7, and I encourage you to complete it and mail it in today. Or you can visit our website, www.hlwa.org, to download an application. Payment for dues and donations may be made by check, PayPal or Venmo (@highlandlakewatershedassociation). Your membership is important to keep HLWA strong and viable. The work we do is vital to the protection of Highland Lake and to the value of our properties. As a member, you also receive printed copies of the newsletter mailed to your home.

Finally, Highland Lake News will change to three publications a year. This newsletter is important to keep you, our members and the community, informed about issues facing the lake. It is also entertaining and helpful in building a greater sense of community. However, the task of putting together this newsletter falls to people who already devote a great deal of time to HLWA. If you would like to help with the newsletter, in a small or big way, please email me at president@hlwa.org. Writing articles as well as proofreading/editing are tasks needed for each publication and can be done remotely. We also welcome new advertisers. If you own or work in a business, would you like to advertise with us? Your support would be greatly appreciated.

I look forward to seeing you on the water soon!

Check out our new advertiser on page 13 and all our other wonderful advertisers!

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Cold Water Safety (from the National Weather Service)

A warm spring day doesn't necessarily mean the water is warm. When cold water makes contact with your skin, cold shock causes an immediate loss of breathing control. This dramatically increases the risk of sudden drowning even if the water is calm and you know how to swim.

- Roughly 20 percent of those who fall into cold water die in the first minute of immersion due to cold water shock.
- Even strong swimmers will lose muscle control in about 10 minutes.
- Body heat can be lost 25 times faster in cold water than in cold air.
- Wearing a life jacket significantly increases chances of survival. *You must wear a PFD under CT State Law when operating a self-propelled boat (e.g., canoes and kayaks) from October 1 - May 31*

Knowing some basic cold water immersion principles can greatly increase your chances of survival. Although the times are approximate, in general you should try to remember the 1-10-1 principle.

The 1-10-1 Principle of Cold Water

0-1 minute . . . COLD SHOCK / RAPID BREATHING
In 10 minutes . . . LOSS OF MUSCLE CONTROL
In 1 hour . . . HYPOTHERMIA

1 Minute to Control Your Breathing

You have one minute after being submerged in water to get your breathing under control and realize what has happened. This is due to the "cold shock" of the water temperature which causes involuntary gasping, making it hard to catch your breath. If breathing isn't controlled immediately, the possibility of drowning drastically increases. Many people hyperventilate, faint, and drown before they are able to calm down their breathing.

10 Minutes of Muscle Control

After gaining your awareness, your body has about 10 minutes of meaningful movement.

After that, it's likely the cold water temperatures will cause a loss of control over hands, arms, and legs - and you won't be able to swim.

1 Hour until Hypothermia

There is approximately one hour until hypothermia will set in. Hypothermia is a condition in which the body loses heat faster than it can produce it - this can cause violent shivering, unconsciousness, or cardiac arrest. Keep in mind most cold water deaths occur well before this point - only those wearing a life jacket will survive longer than 10 minutes in most cases.

If you need to treat yourself or someone else who has been submerged in cold water, follow the steps below (developed by the Red Cross):

1. CALL 911 or the local emergency number.
2. Gently move the person to a warm place.
3. Monitor breathing and circulation. Give rescue breathing and CPR, if needed.
4. Remove any wet clothing and dry the person.
5. Warm the person slowly by wrapping in blankets or by putting on dry clothing.
6. Hot water bottles and chemical hot packs may be used. Wrap the person in a towel or blanket before applying.
7. Do not warm the person too quickly. Do not immerse the person in warm water. Rapid warming may cause dangerous heart arrhythmias.
8. Warm the core first (trunk and abdomen), not the extremities (hands, feet). Warming hands and feet first can cause shock.

Be Prepared for Cold Water

Even if it feels warm outside, rivers, lakes, and streams can still be cold and running fast. Always wear your life vest and consider cold water protection gear...cold water can kill.



weather.gov

Soldiers' Monument

by Jack Bourque

Somewhere overlooking the west side of Highland Lake there is granite missing from the hillside. If you can trace the movement of the missing stones, you might find them piled on top of each other about a mile away at the Soldiers' Monument on Crown Street.

The monument, honoring those who fought in the nation's Civil War (sometimes called the War of Rebellion), was dedicated in 1890. The outside wall of the nearly 60-foot monument and the stone wall and entryway contain granite believed to have been quarried from a location on the southwestern edge of what was then called Long Lake.

The exact location of the quarry has never been officially identified. Maybe someday a hiker or another historian will find the unique area where the granite came from.

The beauty of the stone can be seen at almost any time at the monument on Crown Street. But the best colors are often observed during the afternoon when sunlight, coming over the same western hills around the lake, shines – almost like a beacon – directly on the three-story monument.

The connection between the Highland Lake area and Camp Hill, where the monument is located, at one time was fully visual. Trees, now taller than 130 years ago, limit the view from the top of the monument from where once the lake could be seen.

Although many residents will admit they have not visited the monument and confess they know little about it, the monument is the most visible icon on the town's seal. The Soldiers' Monument Commission, during its open houses at the monument, often hears from longtime residents of this visit being the first time they have been within the building.

Once inside, the first floor has the 1890 dedication stone. The second-floor has names of Civil War soldiers inscribed in stone and historical researched information about many of the soldiers. The third floor has historical information about the building of the monument and some newsclips of its uses over the years. More displays will eventually be located on this floor when the next major renovation project – replacement of the windows and their frames - is completed.

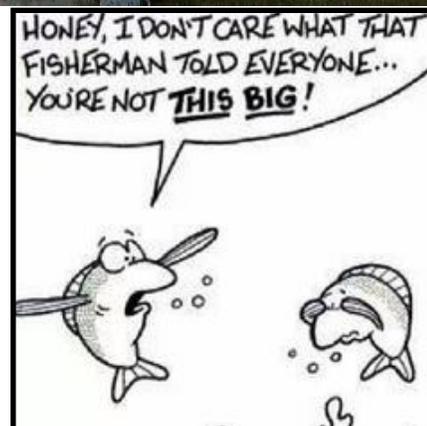
Private donations and public funds over the past 15 years have allowed the commission to replace the roof, completely repoint the outside mortar, install pavers in the walkway, and make other improvements to the building and the grounds.

Besides four yearly scheduled public openings – Memorial Day, July 4, Labor Day, and Veterans' Day – the commission has several yearly events on the grounds. Picnics have been held there as well as weddings and theatrical performances.

Historical information is available on the website: <http://www.soldiersmonumentwinsted.org/monument-history.html>. The commission also has a Facebook page: [@soldiersmonumentpark](#).

The nine members of the commission, appointed by the Board of Selectmen, welcome visitors and extend the use of the monument and memorial park. Visits and special use can be arranged by contacting the commission chairman Jack Bourque at jjb06098@yahoo.com.

HLWA members are invited to a special private tour on Saturday, June 6, at 10:00 a.m. - refreshments included! More information will be provided closer to the date.



A Local Gem

by Jackie Mulvey



The Auxiliary for Community Health Thrift Shop is a long name for a small shop located at 120 Willow Street, next to Levine's Auto Supply Store.

The "Thrift Shop" is a nonprofit organization which operates under the auspices of the "The Auxiliary for

Community Health." All profits of the store contribute to the mission of the auxiliary, which is to support health care needs in the Winsted area. Over the years, since 1965, this effort has included supplying medical equipment to hospitals, area fire departments, police departments, churches, schools, senior centers, and ambulance associations. Scholarships are awarded to students entering the health care field.

Volunteers, who commit to a three-hour shift per week, are the entire staff of the shop. If this sounds like work, it is - but it is also fun, social and rewarding. There is something for everyone. Almost every donor has a story to tell about the items they bring to us. Customers enjoy the hunt for a treasure, and their joy in success is truly contagious. Volunteers often say that going through a box of donations seems a bit like Christmas. You never know what you might find. It is a win/win situation for all. A good buy at the thrift shop is hard to turn down (by donors, customers and volunteers) - and - health-related needs in the area are served - and - we support the recycling focus of today's economy - and - we feel good about the help we give to the community!!

It depends on you to continue making this important effort possible. Join us as a volunteer, customer, or donor and enjoy!

The history of the Women's Auxiliary is quite fascinating. In 1901, 50 women organized in support of the newly chartered Litchfield County Hospital, the first hospital in the area. They became "The Woman's Auxiliary to the Litchfield County Hospital of Winchester." These women provided nearly every nonmedical item needed to run the facility, starting out with handmade and homemade goods from food to linens. In the following years, the emergence of electricity in the form of washing machines, sewing machines and medical machinery were introduced due to their efforts. In 1965/66/67, the thrift shop was formed, the Hospital was renamed "The Winsted Memorial Hospital," and the auxiliary name was changed to "The Auxiliary to the Winsted Memorial Hospital," and so they continued to support the hospital. After the hospital closed in 1996, the auxiliary name was changed to "The Auxiliary for Community Health" and has continued over the years to support the health needs of the area, donating hundreds of thousands of dollars to this cause. Isn't it amazing what a difference a few women getting together can accomplish? Go girls!!!

Hours of operation are Monday - Friday: 10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m., Saturday 9:30 a.m. - noon. Phone: 860.379.1997.

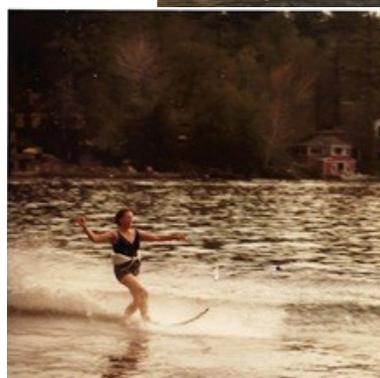
Longevity at the Lake

by Jan Gyurko

At 95 my Mom (Betty Formaggioni) insists she can't be the oldest person living on Highland Lake or the person whose property has been in the family the longest! I honestly don't know! I'm thinking it might be fun to open up some dialog for the next gathering or the next newsletter to find out if she's right!

Betty was born January 9, 1925. My grandfather, Jules Whiting, bought a total of five adjacent parcels of property for my grandmother Ruth on May 9, 1923 - 97 years ago! He ended up with 100' of land facing the lake and a property depth ranging from 270' on one side to 300' on the other - a very nice purchase! In 1930 when Jules began constructing what was supposed to be a boathouse, he was actually one of the last to build on Lake Drive. Immediate neighbors had built cottages as early as 1900, 1903, 1910, 1920 and 1922. His boathouse, by the way, was never close enough to the water, so it became the cottage we continue to enjoy to this day!

My grandfather Jules loved boats - probably why the first building was to be a boathouse! He would rescue old wooden rowboats the scout camp a few miles away had discarded. He would clean them up, fix and paint them, and they would become what Betty and her siblings, cousins and neighbors would play in and learn on all summer long. The photo of the little girl in the water is Betty sitting by the old wooden launch, which was her daddy's pride and joy. She looks to be about four years old or so. The picture of Betty in the old wooden rowboat was taken in 1942, and then there's Betty skiing, years later, still on the lake, still in the water, and still the owner of several boats! Way to go, Mom!



Tubing Safety Tips *(from the CT DEEP website)*

Tubing is a great water sport. Please remember riders do not have the directional control water skiers have. Take these special precautions to ensure safety and a fun time.



- Riders are required to wear a USCG-approved life jacket.
- By law you must have an observer at least 12 years old to watch for tuber safety.
- Make sure the vessel operator, observer and tubers are alert and sober.
- Follow manufacturer's recommendations – regarding capacity in terms of passenger weight, number of riders, age limit and maximum towing speeds.
- Securely fasten the line – use a heavy duty line designed for towing tubes; check condition regularly.
- Know the area ahead of time – maintain a safe distance between the tube and other boats, piers and floating platforms.
- Learn how to balance weight – properly position tubers based on the tube's characteristics; some ride better with weight back, some need tubers to ride belly down.
- Turn off the engine and count to 10 before allowing a person into the water – the propeller continues to spin after the engine is shut off.
- Make sure the tuber and the observer understand and communicate hand signals; always listen to the tuber; use the spotter – the boat operator should not be watching the tuber.
- Use caution when making turns – tube speed increases during a turn and riders can fall off or be thrown; never have the tuber on the inside of a turn; plan ahead of the turn to make sure tube will have room to safely pass other boats or docks.
- Slow the boat speed when needed – when crossing wakes to avoid back injuries; when pulling more than one tube (and be extra vigilant) to prevent tuber collisions.
- Approach with caution on the operator side of the boat into the wind or current – then turn the engine off; keep the engine off for reboarding.
- Never back up to a person or allow them to use the propeller to reboard.
- Securely stow all gear and tube – at the end of the day before throttling up; never have someone coil the line for the tube if the boat is in gear and the tube is still in the water or has any chance of flying out of the boat.
- Vessel operator should ensure all participants are not entangled in the towline prior to accelerating.



On Frozen Pond by Kristen Preusse

**“I wandered lonely as a cloud
that floats on high o’er vales and hills,
when all at once I saw a crowd,
a host, of golden daffodils;
beside the lake, beneath the trees,
fluttering and dancing in the breeze.”**

William Wordsworth



As you drive, watch out for turtles crossing the road. Turtles found crossing roads in June and July are often pregnant females and they should be helped on their way and not collected. Without creating a traffic hazard or compromising safety, drivers are encouraged to avoid running over turtles that are crossing roads. Also, still keeping safety precautions in mind, you may elect to pick up turtles from the road and move them onto the side they are headed. Never relocate a turtle to another area that is far from where you found it.

Loss of Sight Hasn't Stopped Jaguar Restorer Stew Jones

Courtesy of *The Hemmings Daily* at www.hemmings.com. See entire article and link to YouTube film at <https://www.hemmings.com/blog/2019/12/03/documentary-film-jaguar-restorer-stew-jones/>

Striving for excellence is a most human trait, one that isn't bound by limitations either inherent or imposed. Why should the loss of a physical sense - eyesight, as an example - preclude a person from resolutely following his or her dreams, and achieving the ultimate honors in their chosen field?

No, for 35 years, Stew Jones has rarely paused long enough to ponder what he "shouldn't" be able to accomplish. Since its founding, his company, Stew Jones Restoration, has quietly been expertly restoring, refining, and modifying some of America's finest classic Jaguars in a pair of modest, surgically clean shops perched on the edge of Highland Lake in Winsted, in the northwest corner of Connecticut.

That is the story that young filmmaker Elias Olsen set out to tell in his award-winning, 13-minute 2019 documentary film, *Stew*. **You can watch it on YouTube.**

"We did some research on Stew; we found his website, detailing some of his awards and background information, and contacted Hemmings to get a sense of what his work was like, and how open he might be to doing the project," said Elias. Filming took place over several weeks, which helped give Elias and company an idea of what goes into a serious restoration:

"Stew was really receptive to us, especially in our first meeting. Our first visit entailed getting to know him, and his crew, and to see the spaces they work in. I think we did four visits over three weekends, and one during the week over one of the semester breaks; we did some filming that time because they were doing a big project, putting an engine in an XJ13. It was really interesting to see that, because those are really rare cars, and that was a project they would be working on for a good amount of time. It was nice to see that big of a step."

As with any film, there are hard choices that are made during editing. In this case, a closer look at Stew's wife didn't make the final cut. "We had a lot of conversations with our professor, John Scott. We'd worked with him pretty closely on the editing, and how we were going to lay things out. We wanted to focus on Karen and her racing, because her story is a big part of Stew's life; their story is one and the same, in a lot of ways," Elias explains, "We



ended up cutting a bit of it because we really only had her interview footage, and we wanted to do more showing versus telling. Unfortunately we couldn't do that with her racing story because that car is currently dismantled, and it's been a little while since she's been on the track. That was something we were bummed about because it's such a fascinating part of their life."

Elias held the first screening for friends and family. "Stew was received well, generally. I think people liked it. Stew and his large extended family came - they're all close, and it was really nice to be able to have them receive it and to pick out the different things they all knew Stew for. That was rewarding."



Alex films the XJ13 build project in The Barn.

The next step was entering, and eventually winning the Best Student Documentary award, at the Outer Docs Film Festival.

Looking back, Elias puts much of the success of *Stew* on the man himself. "I felt like I was almost spoiled in a way, because we had so much access, and Stew was so willing to work with us. I've

been working on a project this semester where we've had a lot more hurdles to jump over. Having that first experience where everything went really smoothly, and Stew was such a great character, and there are so many layers to his life and his relationship with Karen and his workers. It was definitely encouraging, especially since we got the reception that did."

Elias films Stew consulting with head technician Sam Walker on the XJ13.



It's Time to Renew Your HLWA Membership for 2020!

It's amazing what your membership supports:

- Gives you a voice in protecting **our** great lake
- Enables us to obtain monthly water sampling and monitoring April through November
- Promotes spring and fall cleanups of the roads surrounding the lake
- Aids in the acquisition and stewardship of open forested land – our Legacy Program
- Provides an opportunity for a fun time with your neighbors at our Evening at Highland Lake, Meet and Greet, annual Boat Parade, and more
- A great newsletter and website that keep you informed about important happenings concerning Highland Lake and our community

All this and more for just \$50 in annual dues. So use the application in this newsletter and mail it in today. HLWA accepts VENMO and PayPal – see our website www.hlwa.org for details.

Your dedicated Board welcomes your input. Please tell us if we are missing something or if you have a good idea. Better yet, consider joining the board or volunteering for one of our events or committees.

Thank you for your past and continued support - we have great plans for 2020 and beyond.

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

HIGHLAND LAKE WATERSHED ASSOCIATION, INC.
P.O. BOX 1022, WINSTED, CT 06098-1022

The Highland Lake Watershed Association (HLWA) is a nonprofit organization dedicated to the preservation and protection of Highland Lake and its watershed.

Property owners in the Highland Lake watershed are eligible for voting membership. Others who wish to support the mission of the Association are eligible to join as an Associate Member.

Annual membership **dues** for 2020 are: \$50.00

I would like to make an additional **donation** of: \$ _____

Please make check payable to **HLWA** and mail to above address.

TOTAL enclosed: \$ _____

(Dues and donations paid to HLWA qualify for IRS consideration as a contribution to a charitable organization and may be tax deductible.)

Name(s): _____

Primary/mailling address: _____

Lake address if different from mailing address: _____

If your primary address is not in CT, do you want the summer newsletter mailed to your lake address? Yes ___ No ___

Primary phone: _____ Cell or lake phone: _____

Email: _____

Volunteer opportunities:

<input type="checkbox"/> Become an HLWA Director	<input type="checkbox"/> Collect Water Samples & Meter Readings
<input type="checkbox"/> Steward HLWA-Owned Land	<input type="checkbox"/> Write for the Highland Lake News
<input type="checkbox"/> Plan Social Activities	<input type="checkbox"/> Cleanup Campaigns
<input type="checkbox"/> Welcome New Owners	<input type="checkbox"/> Word Processing Skills
<input type="checkbox"/> Maintain Website	<input type="checkbox"/> Serve on the Finance Committee
<input type="checkbox"/> I would like to volunteer. Please have someone call me with more information.	

Your volunteer commitment can be one time, recurrent, or seasonal.

(Application is also available on our website www.hlwa.org)

Meet and Greet February 9, 2020

Add together the following ingredients: a cold snowy Sunday afternoon, a local favorite eatery known as Mario's, tables full of appetizers and pizzas, and more than seventy Highland Lake lovers. The result is a fabulous, fun, third annual HLWA Meet and Greet!

For two hours people mingled with new and old lake dwellers. Many stories were shared as the popular questions were repeated around the room, "where on the lake do you live?" and "how long have you been a part of the lake community?" So much history in one room!

All attendees anxiously await the arrival of spring when we can all once again be outside enjoying lake life!





Save the Date!

What: HLWA Spring Cleanup

When: Sunday, April 26, 2020
9:00 a.m.

Where: Resha Beach

Coffee, donuts,
conversation, and
supplies for
collecting trash!

If interested, please contact
Anne Lippincott at
annelippincott0@gmail.com



Social Committee Looking for New Members!

Consider joining this group that
meets approximately 4 times a
year to:

- Plan Evening on Highland Lake
- Organize Meet and Greet
- Coordinate Spring and Fall Cleanups
- Discuss new ideas for social activities

If interested, please contact
Anne Lippincott at
annelippincott0@gmail.com



*On left, Wake Waters by Georgi Andrews
Below, Springtime by Terry Platt*



Drawdown Information

by Shirley Allshouse

The Town of Winchester Water Level Committee currently schedules winter drawdown policies in five-year increments. The upcoming 2020/2021 fall and winter season will see the gate at the spillways opened on October 1 to begin the drawdown of the water level. Although the policy allows a draw to a maximum of 8 feet, the actual draw may be less depending upon precipitation, risk of floating bogs (mud islands), shoreline maintenance, and other factors. Regardless of what the level is, the gate will be closed on December 30.

In the more than 20 years the Water Level Committee has studied drawdowns, considerable information has emerged regarding their benefits and negative impacts. The standard 3-foot draw that we do has proven throughout the years to be safe and helpful in reducing ice damage to waterfront structures and the spillways area. It also provides some room for precipitation during the cold months but doesn't threaten refill in the spring.

The use of deep draws, however, must be carefully considered as they have been shown to have significantly more negative impacts on the lake than formerly believed. In fact, now the Connecticut DEEP as well as our limnologist consultant recommend as few and as moderate deep draws as possible.

It used to be thought that they were the most cost-effective and successful method of weed control. That has been disproved because we now know that for a weed kill to occur certain conditions (continuous freezing temperature for the necessary length of time without snow to insulate) must take place. Those circumstances are rare. Even if they occur, during a deep draw pollutants are washed further into the lake and can carry phosphorous and biological materials that decompose and can fertilize plant and algae growth. Studies have shown that it also increases migration of weeds to deeper areas of the lake where none lived before and where one species of weed may be killed, another native species propagates. Dr. Knocklein, our limnologist/consultant, described it as "like having a development without a silt fence."

The organic materials add to that "mucky" layer you may notice in some areas of the lake. The decomposition of those materials also consumes the oxygen that is necessary for a healthy lake and aquatic life. We do testing to determine the dissolved oxygen in the water. There already is an anoxic layer (a layer of water without oxygen that does not support life) at Highland Lake and it's important that it not increase.

During a deep drawdown many acres of shoreline are exposed to the elements. That sediment that is normally part of the lake bed is subjected to chemical change, erosion, can absorb pollutants, and can threaten small lake life such as snails, crayfish, insects, and mussels – all of which are necessary food sources for fish which are, in turn, an important food source for our bird life. It's an example of tampering with the food chain and ecological cycle of life.

When there is a deep draw we must be concerned about the ability of the lake to refill in the spring. An 8-foot draw drains 1,042,880,000 (one billion, forty-two million, eight hundred-eighty thousand) gallons of water from the lake.

A deep drawdown creates a very high risk for formation of what we call floating bogs. They are also known as "mud islands." A draw to 8 feet completely drains some cove areas and exposes the organic layer of the lake bed to the air and freezing temperatures. That dewatering damages the structure of the organic materials, causing it to be lighter than the water and uplift from the substrate and float away during the spring refill. These huge bogs have occurred in 1979, 1989, 1994, 2001, 2007 and 2009. The 15" to 24" thick "islands" have blown in and sunk in front of private homes, fouling waterfronts, and have reached Resha Beach, rendering it unusable for an entire season. They carry logs, stones, sharp tree limbs, nutrients, and anything that is contained in that layer into the coves, making the coves shallower, muckier, more fertile for weed growth and more dangerous for swimmers.

Finally, I'd like to clarify the process by which a water level policy is created and explain why the current policy is different from and not in accordance with the original recommendation by the Water Level Committee. The Water Level Committee (a town committee created by the Board of Selectmen in 1997) meets to consider all the factors mentioned in this article (and more) to create a long-term drawdown policy. Currently we've been doing 5-year policies. That proposed policy is brought before the Board of Selectmen for their approval. If they approve, the Town of Winchester becomes the applicant to the Inland Wetlands and Watercourses Commission for a permit. When the permit is issued, the policy is in effect and the Public Works Department implements the policy.

For the 2017-2022 policy the Water Level Committee unanimously approved a maximum 6½ foot draw in 2019-2020 with the gate closing on or before December 15. That proposed policy was also unanimously approved by the Board of Selectmen. However, when it got to the Inland Wetlands Commission, the proposal was denied and unilaterally changed by IWWC to a maximum 8-foot draw in 2020-2021. This is the first time in the history of the Water Level Committee that its proposed and approved policy has been changed. The results of that change mean more risk of experiencing the negative impacts that have been explained here. It also completely disturbs the schedule of budgeting for and hiring our consulting limnologist to do studies prior to formulation of the next proposed drawdown policy.

When man intrudes into the complex natural balance of factors that make up the life of a lake, there is a price to pay. We have become more aware and more sophisticated in our approach to any interference in that balance. We hope that lake residents and all who enjoy the lake understand and support our efforts to preserve and protect Highland Lake.

Water Level Policy

Drawdown for 2020 begins on October 1, 2020 to a maximum level of 8 feet down. If the gate is not already closed, it must be closed on December 30 to allow the lake to rise to the level of 3 feet down. The 3-foot level will be maintained until the ice is sufficiently off the lake in the spring.

If you plan to do any work on your wall or dock during the 2020 deep drawdown, be sure to contact the Inland Wetlands and Watercourses Committee at the Town Hall to determine if a permit is required.

YEAR	TARGET DEPTH	GATE OPEN/BEGIN DRAW	PUBLIC WORKS ACTION
2020/2021	Maximum of 8 feet down	October 1	Regulate gate to prevent level going below 8 feet down. If gate is not already closed, gate must close on December 30. Allow the lake to rise to the level of 3 feet down and maintain as per the year 2021/22.
2021/2022	3 feet down	November 1	Maintain 3-foot level, as much as possible, until ice is sufficiently off the lake. Then allow refill to usual over-spillway level.

Oluf Mikkelsen - Highland Lake Summer Resident in the 1920s - 1950s

by Willie Platt

The Oluf Mikkelsen family lived in Brooklyn, New York, during the winter, but in the summer they lived on West Wakefield Boulevard in first bay in a green house with a red stripe - which was called the Christmas Package house! It is now our home and painted white with a blue stripe.



According to a 1936 Motor Boating Magazine article, Oluf Mikkelsen was a Danish immigrant who, at the age of 18, arrived in this country via steerage, practically penniless, with no definite objective and no job in view; he ended up working as an office boy, longshoreman and shipping clerk for an exporting firm. While working at the latter, he ran across a pamphlet describing an outboard motor, invented only a short time before by Ole Evinrude. Envisioning the sales possibility of the new device, he resigned from the export concern to join forces with Mr. Evinrude as New York distributor.

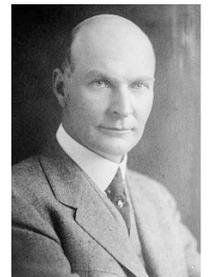
He helped to sell more than 5,000 outboards for his employers in the foreign market; lined up the domestic sales agency for himself in the eastern market, opened a small office in New York City - and in four successive, successful moves achieved national recognition as the Number One distributor of outboard motors in America.

In time, the business began to prosper and his company, with headquarters at 393 4th Avenue, Manhattan, became widely known in the marine supply field. His company also became a service agency, supplying parts and doing repair work for boat owners.

A visitor at that time would find an hour or so spent in the Mikkelsen display room a zestful, thrilling, pre-adventure in motor boating. Here one could have viewed the finest and latest outboard equipment as well as the swiftest outboard speed craft of the day. Here one could receive the benefit of wide experience and honest, conscientious advice in the matter of selecting or operating either an outboard motor or a completely equipped speedboat for any waters, salt or fresh.

And here you would find the latest and most complete stock of outboard motor parts in the country, outside of the foremost outboard motor factories. A considerable stock of complete motors could be built from the parts carried on hand in Oluf Mikkelsen's service department.

In July 1927, Oluf's son George won a silver trophy in the Albany boat race, a 134-mile race from Albany to Uptown Manhattan. Over the 4th of July holidays that year, Governor John H. Trumbull (picture on right) arrived at Highland Lake with his wife and sons to be weekend guests of Dr. and Mrs. Louis Kingsbury (Mikkelsens' neighbors) at their summer house on the lake, Casablanca. After dinner the governor enjoyed a boat ride around the lake in the speedy, trophy-winning motorboat, Baby Whale.



Governor Trumbull had planned to leave the lake Sunday by hydroplane for New York City, but unfavorable weather spoiled his plans, the projected trip of two hydroplanes from the Bethany airfield having been cancelled because of rain and poor visibility.

Oluf Mikkelsen died in July 1952 at the age of 68. I had the pleasure of speaking with his grandchildren who stopped by the house one day. They told stories of spending summers on Highland Lake. They said their grandfather, in the summer, walked down to the train station to catch the early train to his office in Manhattan and made sure to catch the train to be back home for evening activities on the lake. One interesting thing is their grandmother spent a good portion of each summer in Paris instead of on the lake!

It was fun learning about our house's past residents! If you have any stories about the people who owned your house before you, we'd love to hear them!

July 1927

Holcomb Ducked When Water Bike Tips over in Lake

Earl Holcomb, popular mail carrier, received a complete immersion in Highland Lake waters yesterday, creating at the same time considerable amusement. Mr. Holcomb was enjoying a trip about the cove at Woodland Park on one of the water bicycles. For some reason, probably due to the choppy waves, he toppled head first into the lake. He was fully clothed at the time and succeeded in reaching safety without assistance.

Winsted Citizen

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Recipe Corner Contest!

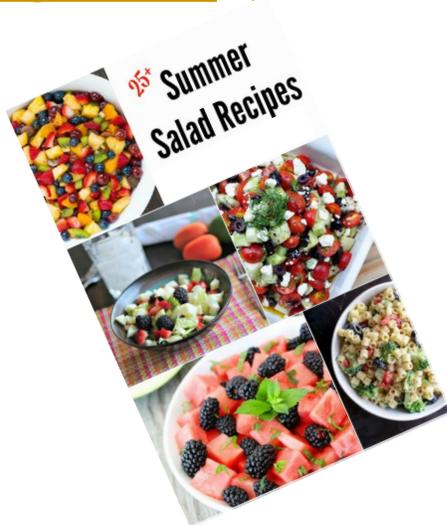
Calling all cooks.....

Looking for a new summer salad to try this summer?

Submit your favorite summer salad recipe.

Recipes will be chosen at random to be published in the next newsletter.

Email your delicious recipe to hlwa@hlwa.org by June 1!



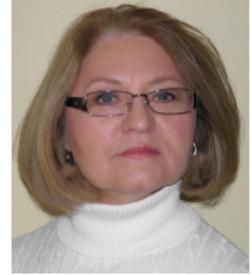
Yoga on the Beach

Fit Together, Sanctuary Power Yoga and Winsted's Recreation Department are planning Yoga Classes at Resha Beach on Wednesdays, July 8 through August 26, at 6:15 p.m. The classes are free and open to the public, with any donations going to the Winsted Rec Department's scholarship fund.

Spring: a lovely reminder of how
Beautiful change can be.

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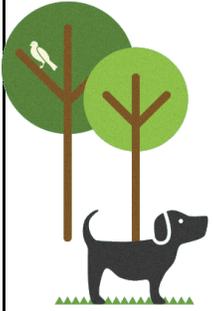
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*You are invited
to the
Highland Lake Watershed Association
Annual Meeting*

Friday, July 10, 6:30 p.m.

(Registration begins at 6:15 p.m.)

St. Joseph Franciscan Center

31 Oak Street, Winsted

*Special Guest Speaker: Steven Trinkaus
of Trinkaus Engineering,
designer of the project at 305 East Wakefield Blvd.*