



the *Loon Flyer*



Published by the Squam Lakes Association

Spring 2004

NEW VIEW OF MILL BROOK WETLANDS

By Eric Morse

As you drive past the SLA Resource Center on US Route 3 in Holderness, you will notice a new view of the Mill Brook wetlands, because the old motel cabins on the Harrison property have been removed. As reported in the fall and winter editions of the Loon Flyer, the Harrison parcel was conserved jointly by SLA and the Squam Lakes Conservation Society.

SLA hired inspectors to test the cabins for asbestos, which was found in the window glazing and in a countertop. The asbestos containing materials were removed on March 2 and SLA received a demolition permit from the town of Holderness on March 4. Demolition began the same afternoon, as Randy Eastman removed 6 small cabins, one building with four cabins, an old garage, and an old trailer.




Haying at Burleigh Farm circa 1903, provided by Peter Webster. The SLA Book Committee reviewed thousands of historical images for the upcoming book: "Squam". Burleigh Farm is also the location of the SLA Centennial Celebration.



Randy Eastman was contracted by SLA to demolish old motel cabins on the recently acquired Harrison property, Photo by Eric Morse.

RESOURCE CENTER UPDATE

SLA has completed the Resource Center renovation project, by installing new septic tanks and a new leach field in the parking area, located east of the building. The leach field had to be raised four feet, because the parking area was filled with boulders when US Route 3 was constructed in the 1950's. Unfortunately, we have lost several parking spaces, so the parking area may fill up on busy summer weekends. 

LOOK FOR SQUAM IN JULY 2004

By Monique Devine

After nearly four years of research and writing, SLA's long-awaited history of the Squam Lakes watershed will be printed in June – just in time to kick off SLA's Centennial summer! You will soon receive your introductory mailer and order form this spring. Those who purchase (and pay) before May 31 will be able to buy this book at the pre-publication price of \$55. After that date the price will be \$65.

This summer SLA will be hosting several special events to celebrate its first 100 years and the issuance of this book.

Squam will be a limited edition. Only 2,500 copies will be printed and almost 10% have already been sold through sponsorships in 2003. So please order as quickly as possible. It is impossible to know how long they will last, but thus far interest has been very high!

Printed on high quality paper with over 300 images in color and black and white, *Squam* begins with the glacial activity that created the lakes at the end of the last ice age, and traces the history of the region through successive eras as a Native

Continued on Page 3

The Squam Lakes Association is dedicated to conserving for the public benefit the natural beauty, peaceful character and unique resource values of the lakes and surrounding area. In cooperation with local and state authorities and other conservation organizations, the Association promotes the protection, careful use and shared enjoyment of the lakes, mountains, forests, open spaces and wildlife of the Squam Lakes region.

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CHANGE OF ADDRESS

The office requests that those SLA members who have separate winter and summer addresses let us know the dates you are in residence at Squam as well as both addresses. If there is a change related to 911, please let us know. You can call the office at 603-968-7336 or e-mail carolsnelling@squamlakes.org.

SLA CENTENNIAL VOLUNTEER

The SLA Membership Committee is recruiting 100 Centennial Volunteers to each give one 6 hour shift manning the SLA Resource Center this summer. Because of our prominent location, many people new to the area or passers by often stop for information. This has become a great way for SLA to disseminate information about our programs and preserving the lakes, as well as information on area attractions.

This would be a wonderful gift for you to give SLA in its 100th year. Volunteers may be men or women, young or old. Please contact Priscilla Bartholomew or Carol Snelling at (603) 968-7336 or visit the SLA website for more information on volunteer opportunities with the Squam Lakes Association.

SLA WEBSITE

The SLA website was rewritten this winter by Eric Morse, SLA Conservation & Communications Director. The updated website takes advantage of improved technology, which makes viewing and navigating the site much easier. The website uses drop down menus for navigating, which are sorted by the following headers: Conservation, Education, Outreach and Membership.

The Squam Forum is a bulletin board where you can share wildlife observations, ask questions, enter contests, or vote for your favorite Squam activity, Squam Lakes boat, SLA Trail, or Campsite. To get to the Squam Forum, move your mouse over Outreach and click on the Squam Forum link.

Congratulations to Mary Langdon, winner of the SLA's Annual Squam Ice Out Contest. Mary won a \$20 gift certificate to the SLA Store by correctly guessing Squam's Ice Out Date of April 19, 2004.

In April 2004 there were 3,040 visitors who viewed 8,305 pages. There have been 57,200 visitors since June 2003. Visit the SLA website today at: www.squamlakes.org.

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SQUAM BOOK CONTINUED

American campsite, colonial outpost, struggling farm region, and rebirth as a summer resort. Through photographs, maps and paintings, *Squam* celebrates both the beauty of the watershed and the accomplishments of the countless individuals who have left a positive and lasting mark on the lakes and surrounding towns.

If Squam has had a place in your life, you will want to own a copy of *Squam*.

SLA CENTENNIAL EVENTS – SUMMER 2004

The SLA Centennial Celebration
Saturday, August 7, 2004 at 4:00 – 10:00 pm
Burleigh Farm, Holderness



DON'T MISS SLA'S CENTENNIAL CELEBRATION!

Mark your calendars! The Squam Lakes Association is celebrating 100 years of protecting the Squam Lakes watershed and over the next year has planned a number of activities and projects to commemorate this milestone. There are many important organizations in existence today, but few that have the longevity and sustenance to its mission like the SLA. This is something to celebrate.

You will want to collect the commemorative items created just for the centennial including a centennial

pennant for your boat. The SLA has also published a beautiful, historical Centennial book titled, *Squam*. The book written by Rachel Carley gives the reader an historical perspective of the Squam Lakes region with magnificent images.

Along with the commemorative items there will be special gatherings for all ages. Squalypics, an afternoon of fun family games and activities will be held for the Next Generation and All Generations on July 31st from 1:00 – 4:00 pm at Holderness School. A book signing of the Centennial book with *Squam* author Rachel Carley will take place at the Minary Center on August 10th from 9:30 am until noon.

The culmination of events will take place on August 7, 2004 at the SLA's centennial annual meeting and gala at Burleigh Farm, the home of the first president of SLA, Laurence J. Webster. The event will be a spectacular celebration including a delicious New England clambake, dancing to the Bo Winiker Orchestra and concluding the evening with a spectacular fireworks display! Celebrate the history of the Squam Lakes Association and mark your calendars today.



A BOOK SIGNING WITH RACHEL CARLEY

Tuesday, August 10, 2004 9:30 am – 12:00 pm

The Minary Conference Center, Holderness

The Minary Conference Center has graciously offered to host a book signing event with author Rachel Carley. This beautiful conference center has been a summer home for the both the Schrafft and Paley families. Stop in to pick up your book if you previously ordered or purchase a copy at this event.

THE EAGLES HAVE LANDED

Eagles successfully nested on Squam Lake's Little Loon Island in 2003, which was the first time in over 70 years. SLA is working cooperatively with NH Audubon Society, Squam Lakes Natural Science Center, NH Fish & Game and Squam Lakes Conservation Society to protect the eagle nest on Little Loon Island.

Will Grinnell and Rick Van de Poll visited the bald eagle nest on Little Loon Island on Squam Lake on Friday April 16, 2004. They report seeing one adult eagle in the nest in incubating posture, while the other adult perched on nearby Loon Island. Hatch is due by May 21 at the latest.

As of April 16, New Hampshire has a total of seven bald eagle pairs incubating eggs or attending young, the highest total documented in the Granite State in the post-DDT era, surpassing the previous high of five set in 2003.

The NH Fish & Game Department received a conservation "Moose" license plate grant to install buoys around Little Loon Island. SLA has hired two biology student interns from Plymouth State University who will monitor the eagle nest on weekends, and educate boaters at the Public Access Ramp on Route 113.

Please respect the eagle's nest by obeying the following guidelines:

- 1) Stay behind the buoys.
- 2) Do not anchor or remain stationary for a long time.
- 3) Be quiet while observing the eagles.
- 4) Do not swim near the island.
- 5) Pets and swimmers are more threatening than slowly moving boats.



REFLECTIONS OF SLA'S PAST PRESIDENTS

The leadership of the Squam Lakes Association has been critical to its success and longevity. In recognizing that, the Centennial committee has been interviewing Past Presidents of the SLA to present some of their insight to the history of this great organization.

By Victoria West (niece of Sid Lovett)


Sid Lovett has spent all his summers on Squam. Originally a summer resident, Sid now lives year-round in Holderness, and has been a team player in a variety of ways to preserve and enhance the tranquility and character of Squam. Sid served as SLA's president from 1989 to 1991. He also has been involved with a number of other organizations around the lake, served in the state legislature, and preached for many years on Chocorua Island (It is also interesting to note that Sid's father also was a frequent preacher on Church Island, and Sid's two sons and son-in-law currently rotate through the roster of ministers.)

Sid recalls three core challenges during his SLA presidency. The most important was public access to the lakes. "We were the first board to unanimously vote in favor of exploring public access on Squam," said Sid. "We recognized that public access to New Hampshire's second largest lake was

going to happen, and we wanted the SLA to be a full partner in the process. I remember our discussions as vigorous and spirited, but we all agreed that this was an important step for the SLA." While the ball started rolling with this board, it took ten years to establish the public boat ramp on Route 113, a positive solution according to Sid.

The second issue was to revise the SLA's bylaws so that there was more board rotation and membership accessibility to the nominating process. Sid remembers some sentiment that the SLA board was too insular, and these bylaw changes addressed that issue.


The final challenge during Sid's tenure was to set up preliminary guidelines as to how best manage Moon Island. Sid credits former SLA Director Phil Preston as working with Mrs. Ham which enabled the SLA to acquire the island at an affordable price, and then taking the lead to ensure that the island would be used for low-impact and education purposes.

Sid believes that today's SLA is very healthy and moving in the right direction. He approves of the variety of programs the SLA manages, including the environmental issues, youth programs, trail maintenance and more. Sid feels, "The SLA is a force rather than a victim in managing the future of Squam." 

By Margie Howe Emmons

Peter VanWinkle's first introduction to Squam was in 1948 with his family summering here. He holds fond memories of JSLA involvement as a teenager during years when so many families stayed at the lake for most of the summer. Now he recognizes that many more people live around Squam in larger and busier homes and vacation time is definitely more limited. When asked about issues facing SLA today, Peter said that balancing lake access for all (both for the general public as well as lake property owners), recognizing that usage by too many people will surely spoil this precious area, looms as a major challenge.

Peter was the SLA President from 1991 to 1993 and during his presidency of SLA there were two pressing issues. The first issue found the organization split down the middle about its priority to promote public access or to emphasize land conservation. To bring these two forces together, a vision statement was created with a 3-year strategic plan. It was agreed that a more active board of directors would work on "consensus management" of controversial topics. The second issue involved Bowman Island, which was about to be sold. This effort, which included raising money, obtaining the island and creating a management plan allowing public access, proved SLA's seriousness in conservation.

When asked about SLA's greatest strength, Peter quickly said its membership base, a highly motivated group who are energized to protect the Squam watershed. He strongly maintains that SLA has done a flawless job in the all-important balancing act of providing access for all while conserving the beauty of the Squam Lakes region. 



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SLA TRAIL DAYS

The SLA is sponsoring Volunteer Trail Days on June 5th (National Trails Day) and July 17 (NH Trails Day). These events are a great way to meet other hikers and to give back to the trails that we all enjoy.

On Saturday, June 5th we will meet at Mt. Morgan Trail at 9:00 am and work until 2:00 pm. Volunteers will rake waterbars, clear down trees, and trim brush on Mt. Morgan Trail, Crawford-Ridgepole Trail, and Mt. Percival Trail, which is a 5.5-mile hike. We hope ten or more volunteers will show up, so everyone can enjoy the hike and share the work load.

On Saturday July 17th we will meet at Mead Conservation Center at 9:00 am and work on Wentworth Trail until 2:00 pm. We will hike about 4 miles

MOON ISLAND LOG BOOK

July 3, 2003

Great day, warm weather & good company. It doesn't get any better than this. Live every day to its fullest!
The Ramsays

July 20, 2003

A perfect day! On a gorgeous lake in a wonderful spot with great friends - here from Massachusetts for a few days visit to Squam - staying at Rockywold-Deephaven Camps.

September 6, 2003

What a great spot! We love Golden Pond & Moon Island. Been here five times this summer. Enjoyed South Beach & rocks on Bowman. Memories that will last forever. Dave & Barbara

September 17, 2003

Plymouth State University Paddling Fundamentals Class. This lake is beautiful and we are so psyched to be here. Hopefully, some of us will be able to come back.

HIKE FOR THE TRAILS

SATURDAY, JULY 24TH

Intermediate Hike: Morgan & Percival Loop. Meet at 8:30 am at Mt. Morgan Trailhead.

Advanced Hike: Mt. Morgan Trail to Crawford-Ridgepole Trail to Mead Conservation Center. Meet at 8:00 am at Mead Conservation Center.



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SLA Natural Areas & Trails Committee

Fundraiser for SLA Trails

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for the round trip and will have great views from Mt. Israel.

All participants will receive a free t-shirt and are invited to the NH Trails Day BBQ at Mead Conservation Center from 3:00 to 5:00 pm. Wonalancet Outdoor Club (WODC) is also participating in NH Trails Day and will attend BBQ at Mead Conservation Center, which is sponsored by The Common Man, The Corner House and Sandwich General Store. Please join us for this fun event.

HIKE FOR THE TRAILS

Hike For The Trails is Saturday, July 24th and is a hike-a-thon fundraiser for SLA Trails. This is a great way to meet

other Squam hikers and to help support SLA trail maintenance. All hikers who raise \$50 or more in pledges will receive a free event t-shirt. The most successful fundraiser will receive a pair of Merrell hiking boots and the top ten fundraisers will receive a pair of Thorlo hiking socks. Clif bar, The Northface and Golden Pond Country Store will provide gifts to all hikers.

EAGLE CLIFF TRAIL

SLA received a grant for \$13,972 from the NH Recreation Trails Program to reconstruct the Eagle Cliff Trail. We plan to construct an easier alternate route to Eagle Cliff and to stabilize the trail with stairs and waterbars.



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SPRING MILFOIL

By Earle Jenkins

While cleaning up debris that had washed ashore during "ice out" in mid-April 2004, one Squam resident noticed some green, healthy plant fragments floating near shore. He contacted the SLA to report the finding. Upon investigation it was discovered that a significant amount of hearty, viable green milfoil had washed up on the east shoreline of Little Squam. Some of the fragments had already rooted themselves in the sand. Subsequently, a group of volunteers was organized to rake up the fragments.

Further investigation revealed that a well established and healthy growth of milfoil was growing nearby in an area where aquatherms had been running over the winter. It is suspected that the combination of open water (sunlight) and oxygen from the aeration contributed to the growth. The NH Department of Environmental Services confirmed that similar observations have been reported in other areas in the state. Plans are underway to address this infestation site.

The management of milfoil infestation is an ongoing effort that goes well beyond the summer season. The SLA Ecological Monitoring Committee is continually developing and




Variable milfoil fragments have been found this spring by lake front owners on Little Squam Lake. SLA is looking for more Weed Watchers to help monitor the spread of invasive aquatic plants, such as variable milfoil. Photo by Earle Jenkins.

implementing plans to keep the spread of this invasive plant under control.

In addition to the reactive programs associated with the management of known infestation areas, proactive longer-range plans have been developed. As an example, this summer all areas that have been treated during past years will be mapped utilizing GPS coordinates to enable ongoing monitoring of the effectiveness of the treatment.

All of this work requires volunteers. We

are currently in the process of expanding our weed watcher program. If you would like to assist, please contact Earle Jenkins at (603) 968-3829 or ejshs@adelphia.net. 

MILFOIL RESEARCH FUNDING

By Christopher Devine

Variable milfoil is an invasive aquatic plant present in over 50 New Hampshire lakes. In 1999 variable milfoil was identified in the Squam Lakes Watershed and currently there are 11 distinct areas of infestation. At

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present there is no method of complete eradication of invasive milfoil from NH's waters.

In New Hampshire, a program was developed for invasive or exotic aquatic plants via a \$1.50 fee assessed to each in-state boat registration. In 2003 this fee was increased to \$4.50 to provide additional funding and more specifically to fund research for prevention and control. With approximately 100,000 boats registered each year, the total funding provided to the NH Department of Environmental Services (NHDES) for exotic plant programs is about \$450,000.

Earlier this year U.S. Senator Judd Gregg (R-NH) announced that an additional \$1 million in federal funding would be provided to the NHDES to further research efforts on invasive milfoil. Half of this funding is going to be provided by the US Environmental Protection Agency and the other half provided through the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Agency. Currently the NHDES is soliciting proposals from qualified researchers in the state and it is anticipated that the research projects will commence in the second half of 2004. 

COMMUNITY YOUTH SAILING PROGRAM

It's not too late! There are still spaces available for young people, ages 8-16 years, to learn the recreational sport of sailing during SLA's Summer Sailing Program.

Optimist classes are for 8-12 year olds with less experience and are offered in the mornings for one week sessions. There are 2 instructors for 6 sailors, with each participant sailing his or her own boat. Club Juniors are used for the older sailors, two in each boat, and some racing instruction is provided.

For more information or to register, call SLA at (603) 968-7336.

2004 Squalympics

Saturday, July 31
1:00 - 4:00 pm
An afternoon for all ages.
Favorite Olympic events like:

Oreo Stacking	Donut Race
Costume Relays	Self Portrait
Pogo Stick	Headstand Singing
Goofy Golf	Rock Toss

Please mark your calendars.
More details to follow.

An SLA
"Next Generation"
Event

SLA'S SQUALYMPICS

Saturday, July 31

1 - 4 p.m.

The Holderness School Athletic Center (across Route 175 from the main campus)

Fee: \$5 per person

An SLA Next Generation event for all ages! The *Squalympics* will host "competitors" from every town and cove around Squam. All ages are welcome to participate in events designed for the young, the old, the fleet, and the slow.

Events will include Olympic favorites such as Oreo stacking, self-portrait drawing, nature identification, relay races, golf, and more. While the *Squalympics* sounds like fierce competition, it is not a survival of the fittest but a fun way to meet Squam residents of all ages. Parents and grandparents: we ask that at least one adult accompany their clan. Light refreshments will be served. Please RSVP by July 27.



Catch as many different species of fish & win a prize. Sponsored by SLA Wildlife Committee. Call SLA or visit www.squamlakes.org for more info.

BIKE AROUND THE LAKE

SATURDAY JULY 10TH

10:00 AM AT SLA



Bike Around the Lake is a fun family bike ride that supports the SLA Youth Programs.

The funds raised will support JSLA and CYSP scholarship and equipment funds.

Sponsored by: Rhino Bikes & Clif Bar



For more information call SLA or visit www.squamlakes.org

SLA CALENDAR OF EVENTS

June 5	National Trails Day at Mt. Morgan Trail 9:00 am
June 26 - July 10	Squam Rules Fishing Derby
July 10	Bike Around The Lake at SLA 10:00 am
July 17	NH Trails Day at Mead Conservation Center 9:00 am - 2:00 pm
July 17	Squam Wildlife Census
July 24	Hike For The Trails 8:00 am - 2:00 pm.
July 29	Kids Canoe Day between Moon & Bowman Islands at 10:00 am
July 31	Squalympics - fun family games and activities at Holderness School 1:00 - 4:00 pm
August 7	SLA Centennial Celebration at Burleigh Farm 4:30 pm



SLA BOATS FOR SALE

1 Necky "Cruiser II" Double Sit-on-Top Kayak	\$500
2 Necky "Eskia" Single Kayaks	\$650 each
1 Necky "Elaho" Single Kayak w/ Rudder - Used	\$900
2 Escape "Captiva" Sailboats	\$1,000 each
2 Necky "Elaho" Single Kayaks w/ Rudder - New	\$1,200 each

For more info visit www.squamlakes.org or call SLA (603) 968-7336.

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