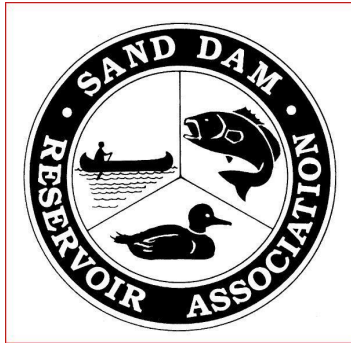


Sand Dam Reservoir Association Newsletter

July, 2019



MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT:

First, a note of deep appreciation and thanks to Judy, Carolyn, Mary, and Brian for an incredible amount of work on the Board. Their extensive commitment and quality initiatives propelled SDRA forward and the current Board wishes to continue on that path. The **Lake Smart Program**, with leadership from Carolyn, is exploring training with the Maine Lakes Association and Judy will take up the reins in August for our **Boat Greeter Program**.

Good News! No herbicides likely this year, as only patches of invasive milfoil have been found! (*Solitude will be doing a free followup survey; the lateness of warm weather in this area could be affecting a later than usual growth pattern.*) Hopefully, our Suction Harvester Team will be able to tackle identified areas - but they need more assistance (see below). SDRA's work and its accomplishments are only possible through the *voluntary efforts of our members*, so please take a look at the following and, if at all possible, join one of SDRA's initiatives.

WE NEED YOU:

The **Suction Harvester Team** will be offering training from **8-10:30 AM, Sunday, July 28th**. Please contact Aaron at **603-986-9185** or by email at plumsupply@aol.com to attend. The Association purchased a suction harvester that is significantly underutilized because there are not enough trained volunteers. Let's try to make better use of our investment while helping to avoid or minimize the use of herbicides. **Training on the equipment is the first step.**

The **Boat Greeter Program** could use more volunteers! Please contact Judy at **401-568-4267** or by email @ judycolaluca@aol.com to let her know of your interest. It's a "train as you go" approach. When fishing tournaments are held, this group helps boaters to identify and remove milfoil and other invasive "hitchhikers" from their boats and trailers. It is important work and your help is needed to keep this program strong.

EYES ON THE LAKE:

We all have a responsibility to keep an eye out for problems that may be adversely affecting our lake. For example, if you spot a milfoil patch, or a runoff that may be dumping harmful products, or other detrimental activity, please send that information to Aaron at plumsupply@aol.com. Problem areas can be marked with a large plastic bottle attached to an anchor (rock).

WATER TESTING:

The tributaries were tested for bacteria, nitrogen and phosphorus in June. The results indicated that all were under the acceptable limits. The main test site also had very good results. The RI Health standard for recreational contact: Maximum 60 Enterococci per 100 mls. Smith and Sayles results were <1. We are also testing a new tributary across from Hemlock Village on Chopmist Hill Rd. and still monitoring Keach Brook and Balcolm Brook.

NEW CAMPAIGN - ONE PLEDGE AT A TIME:

Please take a walk through your property and ask yourself: Is there ONE thing I could do to make my property kinder to the lake? For example, if using fertilizer, can I end that practice? Or, can I add some plantings that would serve as a barrier to rainwater draining into the lake? Other ideas??? If you are willing, make that pledge and share it with the Board, with your name or anonymously as you choose. Your commitments will be compiled and shared with the membership - which might inspire others. Every step in the right direction counts and you can be a part of this effort. Send your pledges to Elaine: secretarysdra@gmail.com.

PUT ON YOUR CREATIVE HATS!

Our ongoing fundraising efforts have enabled SDRRA to develop a variety of initiatives in support of a healthy lake. The Board is reaching out for **any and all fundraising ideas..** Please submit your idea(s) to Eric at **401-241-4851** or email eclariv@yahoo.com. This past year SDRRA achieved exceptional results, with the *Bella Fundraiser* bringing in close to **\$5000** after expenses and the *Herbicides Voluntary Donation Outreach* now having topped the **\$6000** mark!

UPDATED CONTACT INFORMATION:

Operating our very successful website requires skills not currently held by any current Board member, so Deb & Elaine will be taking an online course for this purpose. Thank you, Carolyn and Art, for pointing us in the right direction. In the meantime, here's your contact information:

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|---------------------------------|--------------|--|
| President, Janice Baker: | 401-578-2308 | neverneverlandjb@gmail.com |
| Vice-president, Deb Silva | 401-290-7381 | debsilva7771@gmail.com |
| Secretary, Elaine Theriault | 401-474-8215 | secretarysdra@gmail.com |
| Treasurer, Marissa Danville | 401-632-7780 | mjdanville@gmail.com |
| Member-at-large, Eric Lariviere | 401-241-4851 | eclariv@yahoo.com |
| Member-at-large Steve Hopkins | 401-567-9293 | hopkinsgrn@verizon.net |
| Member-at-large Cleo Monti | 401-871-8115 | cleoamonti@gmail.com |

SAVE THE DATE: **SAND DAM DAY** August 17th, 10AM - 1PM.

Board Meeting Dates for 2019:

July 29, August 19, September 16, October 7, December 16.

Unless otherwise noted on a meeting agenda, all meetings will start at 6:30 PM. Please notify the meeting host or SDRRA Secretary if you plan to attend. *All are welcome.*