



Andy Zuorski provided this photo of teens having fun on Torsey Pond. You can help keep the pond pristine by taking part at the TPA meeting at the Town Office at 10 a.m. Saturday, July 9.

Torsey Pond Association
c/o Holly Rahmlow
118 Thundercastle Road
Readfield, ME 04355

ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

Board Members

(p) indicate year term ends

Keith Coulling, President (2018)
and Damkeeper, 207-838-5023
keithc@sacoriver.net

Andy Zuorski, Vice President (2018)
and Courtesy Boat Inspections
603-673-7994
azuorski@septemberpartners.com

Mike Pastore, Treasurer (2018)
207-377-8657, tubuch@aol.com

Sandra Gorry, Clerk (2018)
917-860-3818
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Chip Stephens, Webmaster (2018)
207-685-9284, 203-227-6880 (cell)
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Judith Beck (2016)
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Mark Dershwitz (2017)
207-685-9373 (camp)
508-653-4450 (home)
Mark.Dershwitz@umassmed.edu

Paul Dube (2018)
207-240-1449, paul@dubetravel.com

David Gross (2016)
800-663-2414
d.gross200@comcast.net

Cynthia Kuhns (2016)
207-293-2194
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Linda Lally (2017)
207-685-9406
trlwlally@gmail.com

Dave Roberts (2016)
LakeSmart, 207-749-7616
davidxcskier@gmail.com

Michael Westfort (2018)
508-366-1073 mwestfort2@yahoo.com

Darcy Whittemore (2017)
HDKSWHIT@roadrunner.com

Francis Zambella (2017)
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Also serving TPA:

Holly Rahmlow, Newsletter Editor
207-685-3287 holly@thundercastle.com

Don Rahmlow, Assistant Damkeeper
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Barry Kutz, Supervisor of Buoys
781-389-8881
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Hi, everyone,

Summer 2016 is nearly here. We had a very “boring” winter on Torsey Pond this year. Not much snow and generally thin ice. I think that maximum ice thickness I saw this winter was maybe 15 inches, so it was not surprising to see an early ice out.

At last year’s general meeting Bill Monagle from the Cobbossee Watershed District talked to us about doing a watershed survey of Torsey. The association approved the expenditure estimate of \$3,600. Everyone should have received the mailings about the survey.

The survey officially started at the beginning of May and, hopefully, will be concluded by the end of June. You may notice volunteer watershed surveyors walking the roads around the lake looking for and documenting serious erosion problems within the Torsey watershed. The Cobbossee Watershed District will then put together a watershed report for our lake. I would like to thank all volunteers involved with this survey!

Bill will be presenting the report to us at this summer’s annual meeting.

I would also like to report that the Torsey Pond Association now has an Internal Revenue Service 501(c)(3) classification. Donations to the TPA can be deducted on your income tax returns!

I hope to see all of you at this year’s annual meeting on Saturday, July 9, at 10 a.m. The meeting will be held at the Readfield Town Office.

As always, please encourage your neighbors to join the association and attend the annual meeting.

Keith Coulling, TPA President

TPA ANNUAL MEETING AGENDA

10 a.m. Saturday, July 9

- Watershed survey preliminary report
- Last year's annual meeting minutes approval
- TPA now a nonprofit under IRS 501(c)(3)
- Treasurer's report
- Director and officer elections
- Q & A

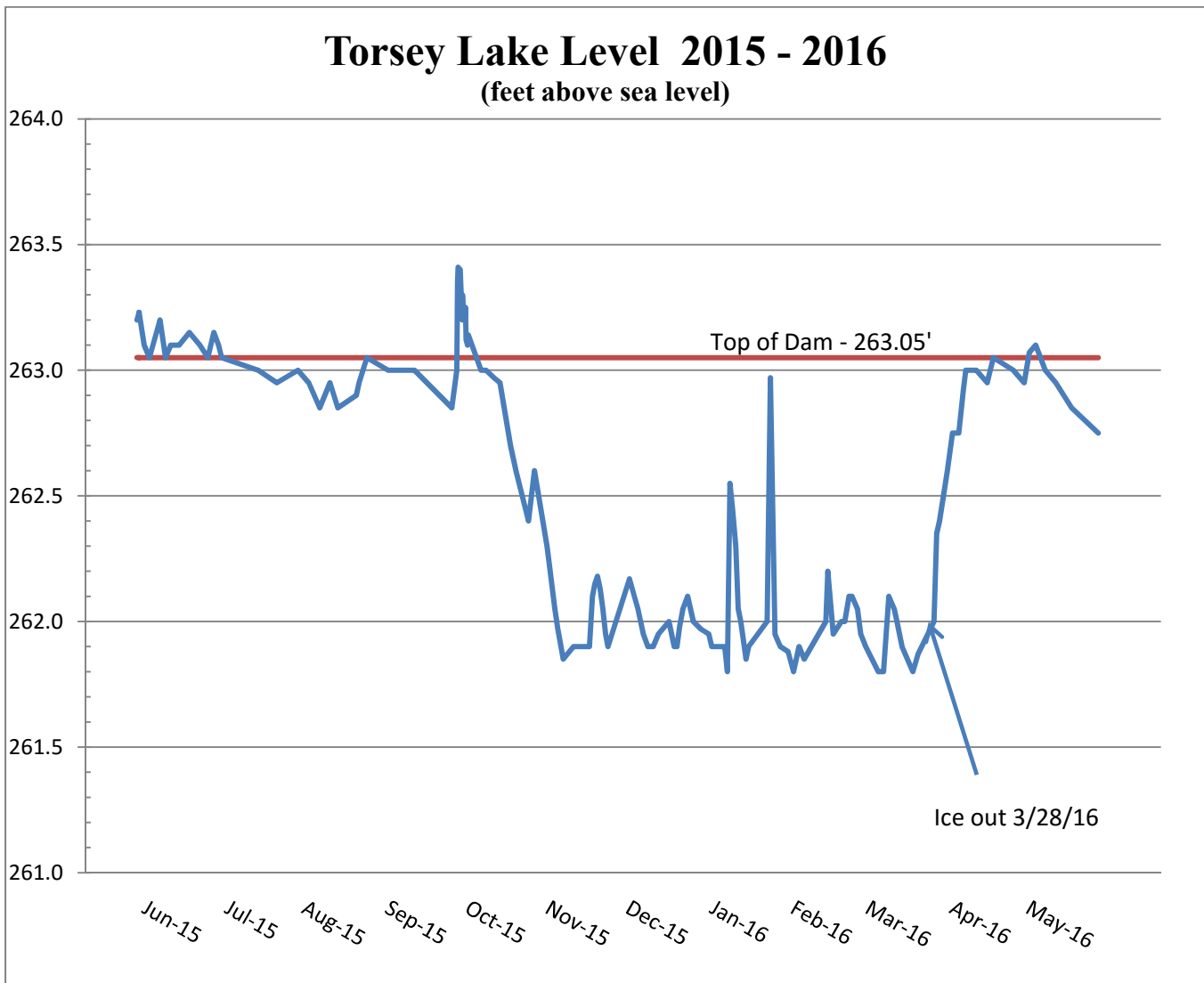
If you can’t attend the meeting, please send in your dues and proxy.

Dam Facts

The dam continues to operate well, as we can respond easily to major rain during the year. Ice out was early but prolonged. Ice out started March 14 with the south end opening up. The main bay of the lake went out March 17. The north end did not open until March 28 due to cold weather. Official ice out is the date that a boat can travel from one end to the other.

Feel free to contact me at keithc@fairpoint.net with any questions/concerns about the dam.

— Keith Coulling, Damkeeper



LakeSmart Program

LakeSmart is an education and recognition program of the Maine Lakes Society for lakefront property owners who maintain their homes in ways that protect lake water quality and property values. The focus is on preventing stormwater runoff, which ruins lakes and is the major cause of algal blooms, fish kills and impaired lakes. Waterfront owners are the last resort to prevent run-off and inputs of pollution. LakeSmart provides advice on how to capture and infiltrate stormwater before it reaches the lake.

LakeSmart is a cost-effective strategy that homeowners can use to protect their lake, their property's value and their recreational activities. Maine Lakes Society currently provides this service for free, and the visit usually takes less than an hour. You will be told right away whether you qualify for an award or commendation and you'll also receive information about lake-friendly land practices and relevant web links. LakeSmart is entirely voluntary, so you are free to take some of the recommended actions or not — it's completely up to you.

Contact Maggie at Maine Lakes Society, 207-495-2301 or msshannon@mainelakessociety.org or me, David Roberts from the Torsey Pond Association at davidxcskier@gmail.com, to schedule a time to assess your property.

— *Dave Roberts*

Milfoil Prevention Program

At the Maine Milfoil Summit held in Lewiston during February of this year, the chief science coordinator for Acadia National Park spoke about the impact climate change has on aquatic species in Maine. While there is a debate over whether the current warming trend is a natural occurring cyclical or a planet changing event, the fact is the earth is warming. Warmer waters and a longer growing season favor invasive species and are detrimental to native species which rely on a cycle of deep cold. Further, warmer weather leads to the increased use of lakes and ponds by boaters. Boats are the primary way invasive species are spread from one body of water to another.

With eleven confirmed infestations of aquatic plants within close proximity to Torsey, the danger is very real. To provide a first line of defense against invasives entering Torsey, courtesy boat inspectors (CBIs) will be at the boat launch for twelve hours every Saturday and Sunday from the Memorial Day weekend through Labor Day. CBIs inspect boats for hitchhiking invaders and educate boaters on the importance of inspecting their own boat before launching in any body of water. Resources come from the Friends of the Cobbossee Watershed and a great group of dedicated volunteers from the TPA. More volunteers are needed, so please consider helping out.

Our second line of defense against aquatic invaders is an annual plant survey. If invasives were to enter Torsey, early detection and treatment are critical to the success of controlling an infestation. Last year, as in prior years, a survey was performed and while several native species of milfoil were found, none were invasive.

Everyone can help protect Torsey from invasive plants. Before you launch your boat, please inspect the hull, trailer, prop, fishing tackle, live wells, anchors, water skis, tubes, etc., and remove any plant fragments. If you would like to volunteer for our CBI program or would like more information about our milfoil prevention program, please send an email to azuorski@septemberpartners.com.

Thank you for your support and have a great summer!

— *Andy Zuorski*

Minutes from 2015 Meeting

Keith Coulling established a quorum, called the meeting to order at 10:05 a.m. and introduced the day's speaker.

Bill Monagle of the Cobbossee Watershed District said that the water quality of Torsey is very good and actually has been improving over the past 35 years. For that reason there is no need to assess the water quality more than once every 3 years. However, he recommends that TPA conduct a watershed survey to monitor phosphorus runoff more closely.

The survey would identify potential sources of pollution such as those created by lawn and camp road run offs. Should significant pollution problems arise the watershed survey, in conjunction with a watershed base plan, is a prerequisite for applying for a grant from DEP or EPA to correct the problems. He stressed that the property owners must give permission for their land to be surveyed, and negative responses would be honored. The survey is not intended for enforcement; that is the responsibility of the association should it so choose.

The cost of the survey is estimated at \$6,000 of which TPA would be responsible for 60% or \$3,600 plus approximately 150 volunteer hours.

The Torsey Pond surface area is approximately 5 square miles, and he estimates that the area would be divided into about 5 sectors with a minimum of two volunteers assigned to each sector to take pictures and record information.

Since camp roads generally present the majority of problems, he did not think a shoreline survey would be necessary. Although the best time for conducting a survey is early spring, since many of the lakeshore residents are seasonal, he proposed starting the survey process as soon as possible. This involves creating a steering committee, soliciting volunteers and scheduling training.

Mark Dershwitz motioned that TPA proceed with the watershed survey and allocate sufficient funds to cover the cost of the survey plus any ancillary expenses (such as those incurred by a direct mailing to the members) Cynthia Kuhns seconded and the motion passed. Stephanie Hatch stressed that a financial plan should be developed to cover unexpected expenses for the dam.

Mike Pastore presented the treasurer's report. The general fund has a balance of \$4,392.27, and the Stanis Coryell Scholarship Fund has a balance of \$1,165, out of which two scholarships of \$500 each have been awarded. David Gross motioned to accept the report. The motion was seconded and passed.

The clerk's minutes were read. Cynthia Kuhn motioned to accept the minutes. Paul Dube seconded, and the motion passed.

Mike Pastore presented the Nominating Committee's nominations for directors each of whom will serve a 3 year term: Keith Coulling, Sandra Gorry, Mike Pastore, Andy Zuorski, Chip Stephens and Michael Westfort. In addition Paul Dube was nominated from the floor. Cynthia Kuhns motioned to accept the nominees and David Gross seconded. The motion passed. The slate of officer nominees was presented, each of whom will serve a one-year term: Keith Coulling, President, Andy Zuorski, Vice President, Mike Pastore, Treasurer, and Sandra Gorry, Clerk. David Gross motioned to accept the slate. The motion was seconded and passed.

Dave Roberts reported on the Lake Smart program. To date seven properties have been certified and Dave's goal for 2015 is to certify 10 additional properties. He stressed that if an owner's property fails, remedial help is available under the terms of the program.

Andy Zuorski mentioned that there will be a bass tournament on Torsey on Sunday. A member expressed concern about the bass boat traffic disturbing the nesting loons. Sandra Gorry volunteered to print up fliers pinpointing nesting sites and distribute them at the boat launch early Sunday.

At 11:45 Paul Dube motioned to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded and passed.

Directors meetings for 2016

- June 18, 2016, 10 a.m., Keith Coulling's cottage, 9 Columbine Lane, Mount Vernon
- July 9, 2016, following annual meeting at Readfield Town Office
- August 20, 2016, 10 a.m., location to be decided

Please visit our website at www.torseypond.org!

If you would like to be added to an email distribution list for the association, please email your newsletter editor at holly@thundercastle.com. She promises not to spam you! You will be notified only about issues affecting Torsey Pond directly (such as an emergency or upcoming meeting).

We also have a Facebook page!

Thanks to Alyson Ricketts, who built and is managing the page, you can connect with other residents on Facebook, so check it out!