THE FEDERATION OF VERMONT LAKES AND PONDS

NEWSLETTER

The Federation of Vermont Lakes and Ponds, Inc. • P.O. Box 421 Waterbury, VT 05676

WINTER 2003-2004 NUMBER 3

Milfoil Seminar

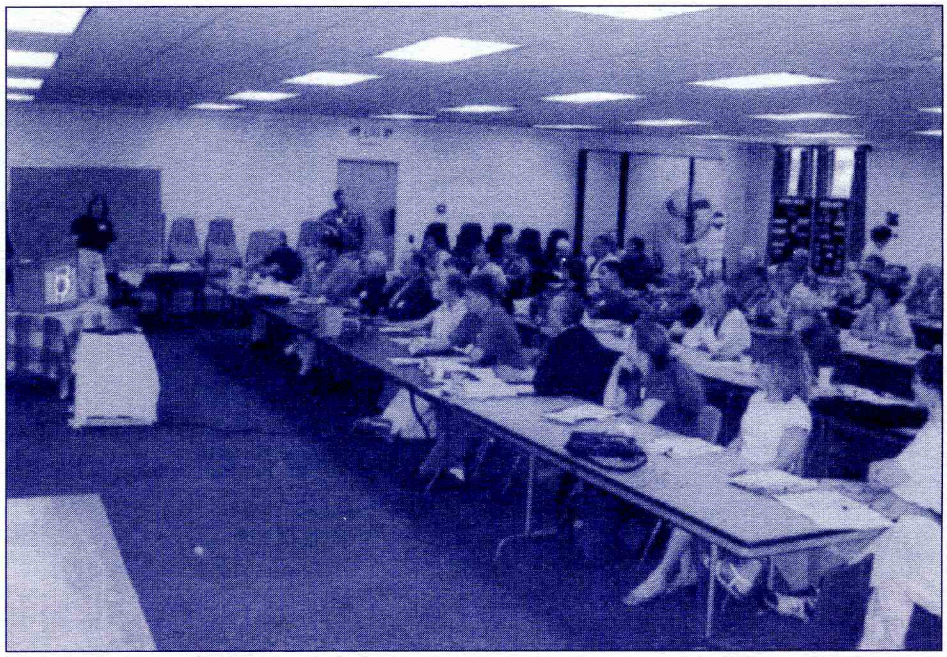
First Federation Milfoil Seminar a great success. Future Seminars are planned.

The newly organized Federation of Vermont Lakes and Ponds (FOVLAP) hit the ground running in its second year with a well-attended specialty seminar on June 20th, 2003, focusing on Eurasian Water Milfoil. Held in Waterbury, VT., six local Vermont lake associations currently involved in milfoil control projects presented information about their project design, funding, staffing, volunteers, permits and what worked and what didn't.

The seminar was sponsored by the Westmore Association (Willoughby Lake), the Vermont Department of Environmental Conservation, Lakes & Ponds Section, and FOVLAP, led by president Jackie Sprague. Concurrent workshops were offered in the morning and the afternoon, one concentrating on control projects for new and established infestations of Eurasian Water Milfoil, and the second providing information on the permitting process and funding sources. Funded by a grant, at this seminar the Westmore Association initiated a survey of lake associations, and has subsequently published a report of providing details of what each lake is doing in thier efforts to prevent, control and/or remove Eurasian Water Milfoil.

Over 70 individuals attended, attesting to the intense interest in the subject. With more than 50 Vermont lakes and ponds infested, FOVLAP is considering repeating the seminar another summer.

Jackie Sprague, President of the Federation, welcoming attendees to the Milfoil Conference



The Second Annual Meeting of the Federation of Vermont Lakes and Ponds

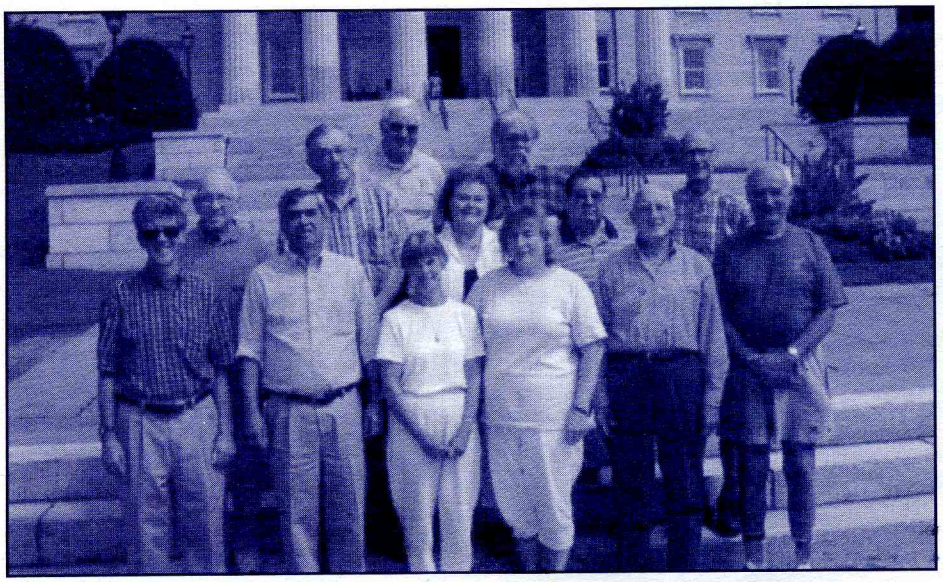
This years Annual Meeting literally covered the waterfront when it came to topics addressed. President Jackie Sprague called the meeting to order to a room filled with 80 representatives from 29 Lakes & Ponds, and staff from the State's Department of Environmental Conservation.

State authorities were the first to speak and some of the best news came first when Ann Bove reported there were no new Aquatic Nuisance Species infestations yet this year. Suan Warren presented a Compendium of Lakes and Ponds Associations and Ginny Garrison created a hand-out of Lake-related legislation introduced in Vermont in 2003. As population puts increasing pressure on our lakes, we anticipate increasing legislation to protect them.

The liveliest discussion took place over the effects of the Act 60 Education Reform Act and the devastating effects it hard on Vermonters and second home owners alike. For those unfamiliar with Act 60-- it takes tax monies from so-called "gold towns" and redistributes these tax dollars to poorer regions of Vermont with weak educational systems. Lake properties, have been harder hit then any other group with the increased tax assessments. The newly signed Act. no. 68 was also discussed, a bill that would impact all non-resident property owners at $1.59/$100 of assessed valuation.

The General consensus of those attending was that we should "speak out" when legislation intended for a singular element of Vermont life impinges negatively on Vermont Lakes. Act 60 has had such an effect, and the feeling was that in the future we should be pro-active for our positions on lake and water quality. These discussions were led by Senator Jim Greenwood from from the Northeast Kingdom and Tim Meehan speaking for the Vermont Coalition of Municipalities.

Lake Reports were given and were generally upbeat with evidence of our protective efforts beginning to show. A brief business meeting concluded the Annual Meeting of 2003 with election of Officers: Jackie Sprague was re-elected as President, Dick Simpson was elected Vice President. Both Reggie Lamb as Treasurer and Jo Wright as Secretary were re-elected. Two new members were elected to the Board of Directors--Andy Dales from Caspian Lake and Phil Pope from Lake St. Catherine. They replace Peggy Ingehart and Jollie Parker, whose dedication to our new organization was greatly appreciated. Reflecting back on how far the Vermont Federation of Lakes and Ponds has come, we can only be heartened by the responses and happy in knowing we are fulfilling our mission.



OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS OF THE FEDERATION.

FRONT ROW LEFT TO RIGHT:
Bill Casey, Andy Dales, Jo Wright; Secretary; Jackie Spague, President; Dick Simpson, Vice President; Cliff Aikens.

SECOND ROW LEFT TO RIGHT:
Len Pallotta, John Washburn, Patricia Rockwell, Reginald Lamb, Treasurer; and David Wood.

BACK ROW LEFT TO RIGHT:
Phil Pope and Tom Benoure

Message From The President

Thank you all for making this a busy and productive year for the Federation of Vermont Lakes and Ponds, Inc. The Milfoil Seminar was a huge success and the survey created, distributed and correlated by the Westmore Association will assist and guide other Lake Associations in their endeavors to combat Eurasian Water Milfoil. Thank you, Westmore Association.

The annual Meeting boasted the most attendees in our history. We were very fortunate to have so many gifted speakers and many questions and comments relating to the subjects at hand. In order to keep the meeting flowing and on time, we will institute a more formal practice of meeting protocol. There will be a moderator to lead and direct discussions. Each association will have the opportunity to have the floor, with one representative designated to be spokesperson for the association. Each association will be allowed one vote. We hope that these changes will make for a more effective and productive meeting.

The *vtlakes.org* web site is up and will contain the minutes and photos from the annual meeting. Once the newsletter is completed, it will also be included. We will include board members contact info and term limits. The Federation is in the process of creating an email directory. Please let us know who should be on this contact list from your association's annual meeting. Please let us know when your annual meeting will be by May 2004. This is your Federation. We want to hear from you. Have a safe and healthy winter.

Jackie Sprague, President

Update From L + P Section

Update from the Lakes and Ponds Section, by Susan Warren.

It has been a pleasure to work with the new Federation this past year and to be a part of the energy to conserve Vermont lakes by getting more information out to our lake associations and residents. There really is an impressive amount of activity occurring on lakes across the state! Check out one or all of these listings to see what's going on and how to get in touch with people concerned with the same things you are:

Watershed and Lakes Association of Vermont - A listing of river and lake associations and their contact information from across Vermont

A compendium of Vermont Lake and Pond Associations and Projects - A listing of recent projects and concerns of lake associations.

2003 Aquatic Nuisance Species Survey - the program details and financial information from 43 spread prevention or control projects.

(Continue to page 4)

SAVE THE DATE!

ANNUAL MEETING

MONDAY JULY 26, 2004

VERMONT
TECHNICAL COLLEGE
RANDOLPH, VERMONT

Please send us your updated list of Association Officers and email contact.

2004 Membership Dues

WE INVITE YOU TO JOIN OUR FEDERATION
AND HELP PRESERVE VERMONT'S LAKES AND PONDS.

( ) $25.00 *ASSOCIATION MEMBER* ( ) $15.00 *INDIVIDUAL MEMBER*

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

ASSOCIATION: _____

CONTACT
PHONE NO.: _____ EMAIL: _____

( ) *We would like to show our support with the following donation*
$_____.

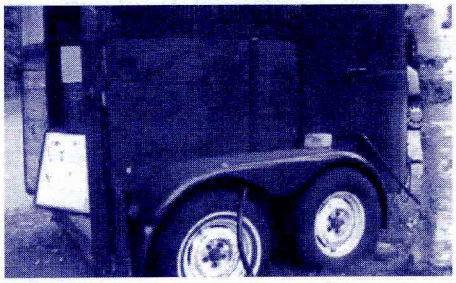
THE FEDERATION IS A 501C3 NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION.
YOUR CONTRIBUTION IS TAX DEDUCTIBLE IN ACCORDANCE WITH I.R.S. REGULATIONS.

CHECKS PAYABLE TO THE FEDERATION OF VERMONT LAKES AND PONDS
AND MAILED TO OUR P.O. BOX 421, WATERBURY, VT 05676.

Shadow Lake Boat Wash Station

Shadow Lake Association (SLA) applied for and received their first State Grant-in-Aid this year.

SLA members felt that the best way to prevent the Lake from getting Milfoil or other Aquatic Nuisances was to build a boat wash station. This project became SLA's share of required contribution for the Grant. The town of Glover assisted SLA with getting the electricity necessary to run the station and they also took over any liability by adding it to the Town's insurance policy.



There were 3 "engineers" who designed the boat wash with the goal to keep costs down. Don Gilman had the idea to buy a used horse trailer to put the working parts of the wash station in so they could be locked up at night and when there were no monitors working. Basically the wash station has two hot water tanks, a pressurized hose and electrical outlets inside of the tailer. The pad or dry well that the boats were washed on was dug by a contractor who donated his time for this. With the Grant-in-Aid funding SLA was able to hire 2 boat monitors who worked 40 hours a week. The rest of the time the station was manned by volunteers from around the Lake. Since the wash station is on wheels it is easily hauled away in the winter to be stored until next year. Boat owners were very cooperative and many said that every lake in Vermont should have one! For more information contact: Patricia Rockwell at patsy@together.net

UPDATE FROM L + P SECTION
(Continue from page 3)

Copies of all of these can be obtained by contacting the Lakes and Ponds Section or the Federation. Visit the VTDEC web site at *www.vtwaterquality.org/lakes.htm* to get acquainted with the various programs at the Lakes and Ponds Section, or feel free to call us at 241-3777.

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OFFICERS OF THE FEDERATION

Jackie Sprague, President (Lake Harvey)
Dick Simpson, Vice-President (Willoughby Lake)
Reginald Lamb, Treasurer (Woodbury Lake)
Jo Wright, Secretary (Lake Iroquois)

DIRECTORS OF THE FEDERATION

Cliff Aikens (Silver Lake)
Tom Benoure (Fairfield Pond)
Bill Casey (Lake Morey)
Andy Dales (Caspian Lake)
Len Pallotta (Lake Eden)
Phil Pope (Lake St. Catherine)
Patricia Rockwell (Shadow Lake)
John Washburn (Lake Parker)
Dave Wood (Salem Lake)