



Sebec Lake Association
Newsletter

Summer 2008

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Annual Meeting Aug 9th, 2008
Mayo Regional Hospital
7pm in the Sebec/Borestone Room



What's Inside

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Association's Website: www.sebeclakeassoc.com

Annual Meeting: Aug 9, 2008, Mayo Regional Hospital, 7pm in the Sebec/Borestone Conference room

Sebec Maps

We will have the laminated Sebec maps at the meeting if anyone would like one. The cost is five dollars.

Tim Merrill also has them at the store so if you can't make the meeting you can visit Barbara and Tim and pick up a map while you are there.



Mailing List Update

During the summer of 2007, we worked on updating our member list and our newsletter mailing list. We used as our basis the public tax records of the four towns bordering the lake, selecting only those lots which bordered the lake. Our special thanks to those folks in the town tax offices for allowing us access to the records. We couldn't have done it without you!

For new names on our list, the newsletter is being sent to the address of record for tax purposes. For those of you who are members, we have kept the address that you have provided to us as your preferred mailing address. We recorded both the address for tax purposes and the property mailing address (when available.)

Since owners of record are sometimes multiple family members or legal entities, such as trusts, your newsletter may not be addressed as you wish it to be. Please advise us if you wish to have the information changed. Note also that the tax records are several months delayed from the sale date of transferred property.

Please send any changes to names and/or preferred address for the newsletter to:

Sebec Lake Association
Records Department
PO Box 303
Dover-Foxcroft, ME 04426



Or online at www.sebeclakeassoc.com and fill out the change of address form.

Change in Ownership at Sebec Dam

On November 30, 2007 the assets of Sebec Electric Limited Partnership were sold to:

Ampersand Sebec Lake Hydro LLC
c/o Ampersand Energy Partners LLC
717 Atlantic Avenue, Ste 1A
Boston, MA 02111.

Prior to that date the former owners engaged the Swift River Hydro Operations to carry out the most extensive overhaul of the dam facility in the past 25-years. The turbines were overhauled and the gates were repaired essentially rebuilding them with new steel rollers, cleaning corrosion from the gate guides, strengthening corroded areas where the rollers were attached, installing new seals along the bottom of each gate and J-seals along the sides of the gates. A number of concrete areas within the flumes where spalling had started due to submersion of the flume over the last 25 years were repaired. Additionally, all the cracks on the dam and its concrete apron were sealed, and divers worked on numerous small leaks found on the up-stream side of the timber crib dam. Once the units were made operational again the PLC system was activated for controlling the lake level using the lake level control system. The work took over six weeks to complete.



Following is the Maine Board of Environmental Protection approved Small Hydroelectric Generating Facilities Permit and Water Quality Certification for the Sebec Dam for the purpose of generating hydroelectric power:

Except as temporarily modified by (1) approved maintenance activities, (2) extreme hydrologic conditions as defined below, (3) emergency electrical system conditions as defined below, or (4) agreement between the applicant, appropriate state and/or federal agencies, and the Sebec Lake Association, and commencing October 1, 2005 the project shall be operated in a run-of-the river mode, with outflow approximately equal to the inflow on an instantaneous basis except during flashboard failure or replacement, and with Sebec Lake levels maintained within six inches of full pond elevation (that is between elevations 322.8 and 322.3 feet) when flashboards are in place and within three inches of spillway crest elevation (that is, between elevations 321.3 and 321.0 feet) when flashboards are not in place.

"Extreme Hydrologic Conditions" means the occurrence of events beyond the applicant's control, such as, but not limited to, abnormal precipitation, extreme runoff, flood conditions, ice conditions or other hydrologic conditions such as the operational restrictions and requirements contained herein are impossible to achieve or are inconsistent with safe operation of the project.

"Emergency Electrical System Conditions" means operating emergencies beyond applicant's control which require changes in flow regimes to eliminate

such emergencies which may in some circumstances include but are not limited to equipment failure or other abnormal temporary operating condition, generating unit operation or third party mandated interruptions under power supply emergencies; and orders from local, state, or federal law enforcement or public safety authorities.

Notwithstanding Part A of this condition, the lake level shall whenever possible be drawn down in late winter to help reduce seasonal flooding, with a target lake level of 317.8 feet on or before March 31st, and a minimum flow of 40 cfs, as established in Condition 3 of this permit, shall be maintained at all times.

A three-member Sebec Dam Liaison Committee of the Sebec Lake Association has been formed to establish an ongoing dialog with new owners of the dam. RBH (5/12/2008)





Ruth B. Meierdierck

Ruth Blauvelt Meierdierck, 87, died at home peacefully July 10, 2008

A memorial service will be held July 18, 2008 at 2:00 pm in the chapel of the Presbyterian Church in Westfield for Ruth and her recently deceased husband Paul.

Ruth was born in Westfield on January 27, 1921. She was the daughter of Esther (Sidell) and Daniel Blauvelt. She was a lifetime resident of the Westfield area.

Mrs. Meierdierck attended New Jersey College for Women (Douglass College). She was active in local real estate until her retirement in 1983.

Ruth's life centered around her beloved husband Paul (Bud) and their three children. Paul and Ruth first met at Roosevelt Junior High and both graduated from WHS in 1938. They were married in 1942 and remained "Sweethearts Forever" the rest of their lives.

An avid bridge player, Ruth enjoyed playing in duplicate clubs here and in Sebec Lake, Maine where she and her family spent their summers.

She leaves her son Paul, Jr. (Georgia) and daughters Jill Adams and Diane Mull (Kenneth). Grandchildren Kenneth, Jr., Elizabeth, Scott, Terra, Paul III and Jeffrey survive her. Also survived by great grandchildren Luke and Sara. Ruth was predeceased by her husband Paul (July 4, 2008) and granddaughter Jenny Blauvelt Adams.

In lieu of flowers, donations to Homeside Hospice, 67 Walnut Ave, Suite 205, Clark, NJ 07066 or a charity of your choice would be appreciated.



Paul L. Meierdierck

Paul Lawrence Meierdierck, 88, died July 4, 2008, at Overlook Hospital. Born on June 26, 1920, he was a lifelong resident of the Westfield area.

Ruth, his beloved wife of 65 years, survives Paul. He was the loving father of Diane Mull (Kenneth), Paul, Jr. (Georgia), and Jill Adams. He was the cherished grandfather of Kenneth, Jr., Elizabeth, Scott, Terra, Paul, III, and Jeffrey. Also survived by great grandchildren Luke and Sara. His brother Charles and granddaughter Jenny predeceased him.

An avid fisherman and nature lover, Paul especially enjoyed spending summers with his family at Sebec Lake, Maine.

Paul received both his undergraduate and master's degrees from Rutgers University. He was a World War II veteran and worked for 35 years in the energy and financial fields.

A memorial service will be held at a later date. In lieu of flowers donations to Homeside Hospice, 67 Walnut Avenue, Suite 205, Clark, NJ 07066 or a charity of your choice would be appreciated.

Arrangements by The Gray Funeral Home, Westfield.



Dirty Secret

It's a dirty secret: soil erosion is the number one source of water pollution in Maine. Rainstorms and snowmelt wash tons of dirt off the land and into water bodies around the state.

When we change the landscape from forest to yards and streets, we speed up soil erosion. Across the nation, soil is eroding at about 17 times the rate at which it forms. According to DEP scientist Jeff Dennis, soil erosion and the resulting silt in Maine's lakes, rivers and streams post the single greatest threat to surface water quality.

The dirt causes murkiness that we can see. The particles act as sandpaper against a fish's gills, causing damage and making breathing difficult. Silt can cover the nesting areas and can bury both eggs and small fish. To add to the problem, the soil particles carry with them hitchhiking pollutants like oil, fertilizer, pesticides and bacteria. These contaminants further harm water quality.

In lakes, one particular hitchhiker can be devastating: phosphorous. Phosphorous causes algae to grow, and can turn beautiful blue lakes to green.

We need to work to stop soil erosion into our lakes. Here are some steps to take at our own lakefront properties:

1. Cover bare soil with natural plant growth and



- trees. This keeps the rain from moving the soil around.
2. Keep exposed areas to a minimum on construction sites, driveways and parking areas.
 3. On dirt roads and driveways that cannot be covered, it's important to catch the soil before it reaches the lake, using diversion to a stable vegetated area so the dirt can be trapped. The best idea is to plant a wide ribbon of trees, shrubs and ground cover (called a vegetated buffer) on the down slope.
 4. Avoid using fertilizers at the lake front.

Let's keep Sebec Lake clean!

This article was adapted from a column published in the Piscataquis Observer 10/3/07, and submitted by Kathy Hoppe, an environmental specialist with the Maine DEP Bureau of Land and Water Quality.

Arsenic at Sebec Lake

At last summer's Annual Meeting of the Sebec Lake Association concerns were expressed that there had been problematic levels of arsenic reported at some places at the Lake. It was decided that the SLA should arrange to make a determination of arsenic concentration level in the Lake. Subsequently, a surface sample for analysis was grabbed from the Lake at a location corresponding to the deepest portion of the middle lake (northeast of Greeley's Landing). The measurement indicated that there was less than 5 ppb (parts per billion), below the present



EPA maximum contaminant level (MCL) of 10 ppb.

It is worthwhile to note that the limit for the EPA maximum contaminant level (MCL) has been changed. The original limit for arsenic was set in 1947 at 50 ppb. The EPA MCL was lowered from 50 ppb to 10 ppb effective February 22, 2002. The new limit was phased into public water systems over the past years, and compliance was required of all public water systems by January 23, 2006. The Maine State Exposure Guideline (MEG) is set at 10 ppb for arsenic in drinking water. This guideline for water set by the state suggests that anything over 10ppb may be potentially harmful to human health.

I can provide some relevant anecdotal data based on the periodic measurement (every three years) of the water we drink at camp derived from a drilled well (we are located on the north side of the middle lake). In the report I received back on my water sample from 2001 arsenic was not even one of the impurities being measured. In 2004 my arsenic level was measured and found to be 10 ppb in my water, and at that time the report indicated that the maximum "allowed" arsenic concentration was 50 ppb. In 2007 my report listed an arsenic level of 12 ppb in my water (and that the maximum "allowed" arsenic concentration was now 10 ppb) and indicated that this was the cause for my water to be "unsatisfactory for drinking". I will be measuring it again this summer.

Arsenic is a natural occurring element found in both bedrock and overburden and is commonly detected in groundwater. In some areas, past use of arsenic



in pesticides on blueberry, apple and potato crops may add to the water problem. Additionally, in the past chromated copper arsenate (CCA) was used as a preservative for wood products (pressure-treated lumber) and could subsequently leach out of the wood. Starting in December, 2003 CCA wood was no longer manufactured for use in the residential market.

If you are interested in having your well-based source of drinking water tested, you can get a free measurement kit from:

Piscataquis County Soil and Water Conservation
District
42 Pine Crest Drive
Dover-Foxcroft, ME 04426.

The kit includes all the paraphernalia you will need to collect and send off a water sample for analysis to a laboratory in Maine. The cost for analysis is \$60.00. RBH 5/13/2008

Special Thanks to:

Bob & Janet Hall for all their hard work with everything.

Jennifer Stewart our new treasurer.

Maurice Marden for all of his help.



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Dover Fire Department	207 564-2310
Dover Dump (Transfer Station)	207 564-7613
Recycling	207 564-7940
Sebec Lake Association	Http://www.sebeclakeassoc.com
Bill Larrabee's Weather	http://www.sebeclakeweather.org
Sebec Webcam	http://www.sebeclake.net

Dover Dump Hours:
Mon 9-5, Wed 10-6, Fri 9-5, Sat 8-4
Dover Recycling Hours:
Wed 10-6, Sat 8-4

**MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION / DUES PAYMENT**

Dues are due on JULY 1st of each year. Please complete the following form to the best of your knowledge. We are attempting to upgrade our mailing list to better serve our members and lake property owners. Thanks.

Name: _____

Mailing Address: _____

Email Address: _____

Property Address: _____

Map #: ____ Lot #: ____ (this can be found on your tax bill)

New Member or Renewal (please circle)

Dues are Currently \$15.00 Yearly (July to July)

Mail Checks For Dues To:
Sebec Lake Association Treasurer
PO Box 303
Dover-Foxcroft, ME 04426

You may also go online to www.sebeclakeassoc.com to join or pay dues.

If you have had a change of address, please go to our website and fill out the Change Of Address form. For those who do not have access to the web, you can go to your local library or mail your new address to the address above.