

Spring 2023

THE SINGLETARY SUN

THE VOICE OF THE LAKE SINGLETARY WATERSHED ASSOCIATION

"Dedicated to the preservation and protection of Lake Singletary and its watershed"

THE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Summer is just off our bow. In our perpetual voyage through the seasons, once again we find ourselves bearing down on the "port of call" known as summer. We know we're on course as we begin to observe the sun angling ever higher off the horizon. Checking the ship's log, we confirm our arrival point of June 21st and realize our estimated time enroute has only a few short weeks remaining. Though I can appreciate the diverse opportunities available throughout our seasonal circumnavigation, summer is the premier destination for me. The warm cruising season provides for the rebirth of greenery, the bursts of flowering blooms and the magnificent display of wildlife around the lake to enjoy.

Even the majestic eagles, which are with us year-round, save their best acts for the summer. This is when they kick their aerial artistry into high gear, dive bombing the unsuspecting fish on their final swim. Despite the misgivings of Ben Franklin, who campaigned for the turkey to be our national bird - Benjamin once characterized the eagle as "a bird of bad moral character". No doubt Mr. Franklin was a very smart guy, but I think he missed on this one. It's hard not to feel patriotic while enjoying these incredible symbols of strength and freedom flying among us. I'm always in awe watching their soaring and hunting skills.

My foremost love of summer, like many who live near water, is that it offers the widest variety of activities on and around our great lake. With the multiplicity of things to do on the lake, comes the increased responsibility to do them safely. I would encourage everyone to start with reading the boating safety article in this newsletter. An annual review of boating and swimming best practices is a great step towards insuring a safe time on the water.

I hope all of you enjoy the upcoming season. And I wish all our members and friends a happy and healthy voyage on and around Lake Singletary.

Paul Kowalis – LSWA President



Singletary Sun - P.O. Box 332 - Sutton, Ma 01590 - www.lakesingletary.org
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2023 CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Earth Day Cleanup	Saturday, April 22, 2023	9:00 AM Meet at the boat ramp
Boat Parade	Tuesday, July 4th	8:00 PM - Meet at the Southwest end of the lake for an 8:15 parade start
Rafting Party	Saturday, August 5th	3:00 PM Gull Island
Annual Meeting Open to all members	Wednesday, August 30th	7:00 PM St. Mark's Church

We are also investigating the potential to bring back the Spring Wing Ding. More information to follow via email and FaceBook

Want to keep up to date on events, meet new lake friends or just enjoy the beautiful photographs of our lake?

JOIN US ON FACEBOOK!

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/3216376521791259>

Any LSWA Member that is current on dues can join – we are already at 115 members and growing every week. Join up, stay connected and keep in touch.

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VOLUNTEER WATER QUALITY MONITORING

This year we continued one of our main purposes of the Association - our volunteer water monitoring program. As we all know, the summer of 2022 was one of the hottest and driest on record, and with the warm, wet winter, this summer has the potential to be very challenging from a chemistry and weed perspective. As such, we thank our testing volunteers - Ann and Wayne Junnila, Brian Mellen, Diane and John Greenlaw. This amazing and dedicated team, along with our lake chemistry and weed management vendors, will help us enjoy our pristine lake as a healthy and enjoyable respite from the world. And as always, new volunteers are always welcome.

Our program includes in-lake measurements for clarity (Secchi depth), pH, dissolved oxygen (DO), temperature profiles, alkalinity, and total phosphorus. In addition, we monitor pH, DO, and temperature, and phosphorus at 3 upstream locations in the Merrill Ponds. These locations are Arnold and Welsh inlets and the Schoolhouse outlet.

The LSWA continues to provide information to Alpha Analytics, the consulting company we contracted with to complete the Management Plan update, for their analysis with the goal of improving water quality of our lake.

If interested in learning more about our sampling program, check out the web site at www.lakesingletary.org. Click on Maintenance/ Water Quality to explore our program.

Did you know?

We manage two main invasive weed species – Fanwort and Eurasian Milfoil, along with several species of Algae over the course of the Summer

You can help! A major source of non-native weeds is boats moving between lakes. If you, or visiting friends, use your boat in another lake, ensuring you wash down your hull and trailer before launching in Lake Singletary can limit the spread – we make this same ask of the multiple fishing tournaments that happen on the lake over the year.



<<< Fanwort



Eurasian Milfoil >>>

MEMORIES ON THE LAKE

Singletary Sailing Association

Submitted by: Jimmy LeClaire

Imagine with me if you will. It's a sunny, breezy Sunday afternoon, about the year 1968. At about 12:00 noon, members of the Singletary Sailing Association use a motorboat to put out bright orange, square buoys with orange flags and numbered 1,2 and 3 in strategic parts of the lake, placed depending on the direction of the wind that day. On one end, they place the starting buoys with plain orange flags.

One by one, sailboats fill the lake with their bright multicolor sails. The various skippers of these vessels make their way to the starting line, tacking back and forth behind the line waiting for the beginning of the race.



Some larger boats had 'first mates' to aide in the race such as pulling the jib line. There were some slow boats such as O'Day Widgeons and many fast boats such as catamarans, Lasers, Sunfish, and even windsurfers. The official committee boat logs the skipper's name and what boat they are sailing with the sail number.

There are 3 short blasts from the air horn, then 2, then one signifying how many min to the start. And then, one long blast to start the race. This whole 'sea' of a rainbow of colored sails begins their quest to be first to finish. They jockey for position and set the sails to gain more wind from their competitors all in good fun. There is always portion of the course requiring skippers to sail upwind tacking close to the wind. The wind could be very tricky on Lake Singletary, as it often shifted slightly from a South wind to a Southwest wind and back. The

most favorite part of a race was sailing downwind toward a marker or the finish line at great speeds. As each boat crossed the finish line, their time is recorded by a club member with a stopwatch. After all boats complete the course, usually a second race was held and sometimes, even a third race could be run if there is plenty of wind and interest with the members. For some, two races were plenty and went home. A smaller race was often held for the 'younger sailors'.

The races ran most every Sunday and other speedboats and water skiers yielded to the races. The Singletary Sailing Association was started by John Gaucher. In nautical vernacular, Mr. Gaucher was the Commodore. He was a good friend of my father, and my dad also joined him to help establish the club as he loved sailing.



Have a Memory you want to share? Email JHull444@Gmail.com

MEMORIES ON THE LAKE

Singletary Sailing Association - Continued



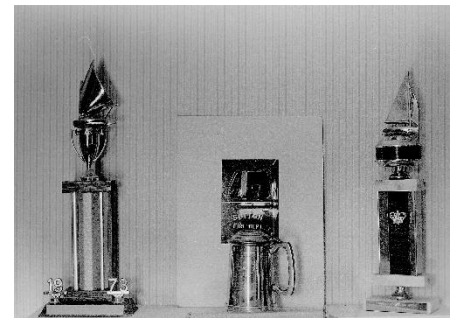
These memories as I described above are as vivid in my mind today as the day the races were held. The Singletary Sailing Association club was the strongest bonding time I had with my father, Robert 'Bob' LeClaire. Dad was the one with the O'Day Widgeon (pictured to the left) mentioned earlier. It was a 'dry' boat with a mainsail and a front sail called the Jib. It had red trim and a white hull and a black strip near the bottom. It was my job as I got older to hold the jib line to let it out to catch more wind or pull it in. We were always dead last in the races as it was such a slow boat, but with a 'handicap' of a 100 factored in, we came closer in points but never won any races. Some of the time it was nice to be further behind and just be with dad and talk to him, and other times, I wanted to be up closer with the other members.

As time went on, I convinced dad to purchase a Sunfish as most of the other boats were. It had a Yellow, Blue and White wide striped sail. The hull was royal blue. I was so excited the day it was delivered. We began winning races and at the end of each season, a banquet was held at the old Marion's Camp meeting house. We had a roast beef dinner which was cooked over an outside open fire. Awards were given out after the meal and I remember we won a couple of third place trophies and a second place one year.



When it was my father's turn (along with myself) to be the official "committee boat" to run the races, I also took many photos as did another member of the group and a few years, we held a multi-projector slide show with music and titles of the season's races after the meal.

Unfortunately, as members got older and had difficulty getting their boats ready for races, the group and the club stopped. All things do come to and end at some point. I doubt these days, there is any interest in sailing as there was in the late sixties through to the early 80's. We hardly see any sailboats on the lake anymore for just relaxing with the gentle breezes pushing you along and the water gently lapping against your boat. But I still find sailing a great relaxing hobby for myself as it was for me and my dad back then.



(LeClaire Sailing Trophies)

Dad passed away January 21st, 2021. I plan on sailing a lot this summer to remember our days sailing together in races or just out for a relaxing sail and bonding time. I'm sure his spirit will be in the gentle breeze that will fill my sail to pushing me and the boat through the cool blue water.

(Photo Credits: Jimmy LeClaire)

Have a Memory you want to share? Email JHull444@Gmail.com

JULY 4TH BOAT PARADE - 2022

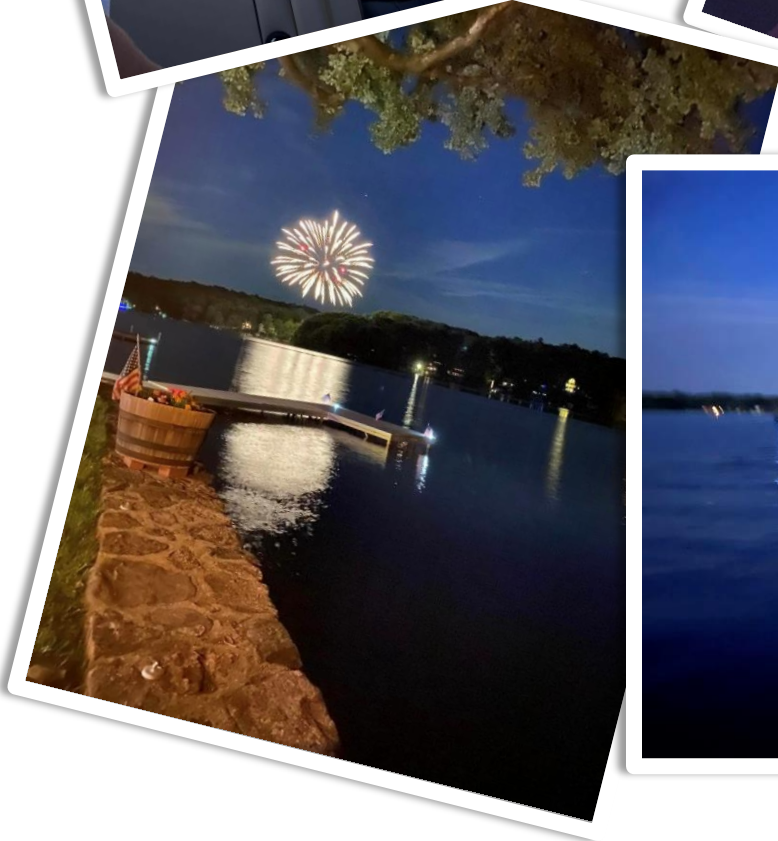
We had a great turnout in July 2022 for the annual Boat Parade.
Decorate and join us again this year for a great time!
Meet at 8pm in the South cove on the 4th for an evening of celebration



See more photos in the FaceBook Group!

Spring 2023

DON'T YOU JUST LOVE A **GREAT** PARADE!



See more photos in the FaceBook Group!

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Spring 2023

PARADES ARE FUN FROM SHORE AS WELL!



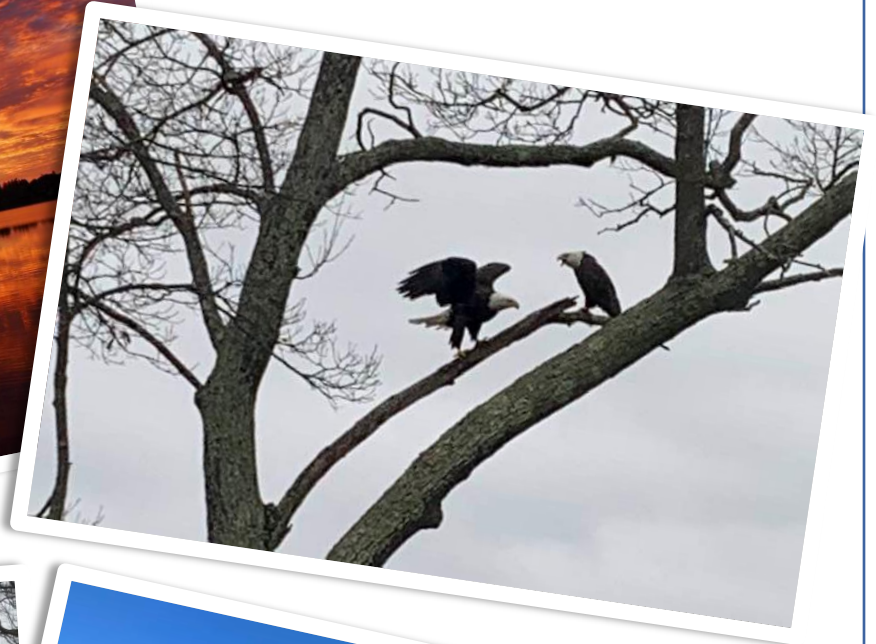
See more photos in the FaceBook Group!

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OUR BEAUTIFUL LAKE

No matter the Season – our Lake is a Place of Beauty!



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EARTH DAY CLEAN UP

Every year, volunteers gather for our annual Earth Day Cleanup of our watershed. As is the story each year, many hands make for light work. Please join us this year on April 22nd
We will meet at 9am at the Boat ramp, and bags are provided

Many thanks to all who participated last year: Laurie and Brian Mellen, Bob Kimball, Deb and Arthur Remillard, Candy and Mike Leblanc, Linda Carlson, Ann and Wayne Junnila, Giles Whalen, Cindy and John Charest, Jim Nash, Karen and Ken Rapp, Jenni and Jim Hull, Mona and Paul Kawolis, Lindsey, Tim and Tommy Nash



For more pics, see us on Facebook!

LSWA BOARD MEMBERS

President	Paul Kawolis	paul@lindersinc.com	508-865-0741
Vice President	Lynn Whalen	gileswhale@aol.com	508-865-0646
Treasurer	John Charest	johcha01@gmail.com	508-553-9024
Secretary	Mona Kawolis	mona1223@aol.com	508-865-0741
	Linda Carlson	lbcpgc@gmail.com	508-769-8038
	Jim Hull	jhull444@gmail.com	508-958-4672
	Wayne Junnila	wjunnila22@charter.net	508-826-1054
	Karen LeBlanc	kkleblanc1@yahoo.com	508-865-4977
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	Garth Maynard	garth.maynard@verizon.net	<Contact LSWA>
	Dan McNamara	daniel.mcnamara@us.ngrid.com	508-865-1016
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	Karen Rapp	karenprapp@gmail.com	508-634-8992
	Tom Wotjkowski	t_c_wojtkowski@hotmail.com	508.415.1669

MASSACHUSETTS BOATING RULES

Minimum Age Restrictions: No person under 12 years of age may operate a motorboat, unless accompanied on-board and directly supervised by a competent person 18 years of age or older. Personal watercraft (PWC) users must still be at least 16 years of age in order to operate, with no exceptions.

Safety Education Certification: Youth who are between 12 and 15 years of age must complete an approved basic boating course in order to operate a motorboat without adult supervision. Upon successful completion of such a course, students are issued a state "boating safety certificate" which must be in the possession of the certified operator when underway. Personal watercraft users who are 16 or 17 years of age must also complete such a boating course. Youth less than 16 years of age are not allowed to operate personal watercraft.

Accident Reporting: The operator of any motorboat involved in an accident which results in personal injury, death, or property damage (over \$500) shall immediately notify the MA Environmental Police and file the appropriate accident report within the required time frame. (2 days-fatality; 5 days - all other accidents)

Safety Equipment: Most of the state equipment carriage requirements are similar to federal laws. This primary list includes life preservers, fire extinguishers, signaling devices, visual distress signals, and navigation lights. In Massachusetts, life preservers are required to be worn by: (1) youth less than 12 years of age (2) personal watercraft users (3) waterskiers (4) canoeists/kayakers from September 15 - May 15. A boat owner or a boat's operator is responsible to ensure that passengers on-board wear life preservers as required. Additionally, the state requires that all motorboats (with the exception of personal watercraft) be equipped with an anchor, manual bailer, and line. A paddle or an oar is required on boats less than 16 feet in length. Motorboats towing skiers must also be equipped with a boarding ladder. Registration and numbering of all boats powered by machinery is required.

Have a Memory you want to share? Email JHull444@Gmail.com

MASSACHUSETTS BOATING RULES

Prohibited Operation: The following types of operation are extremely unsafe and are prohibited:

- Operating any vessel under the influence of alcohol or drugs. A blood alcohol concentration of .08 BAC is the current standard of intoxication in Massachusetts.
- Operating a motorboat within 150 feet of a swimming area, whether public or private.
- Operating at an excessive speed considering weather conditions, boat traffic, and other hazards.
- For inland waters, operating at a speed greater than 45 mph is considered negligent operation.
- Operating a motorboat without properly working lights.
- Operating a motorboat during the nighttime while towing waterskiers, tubers, etc.
- Operating at greater than headway speed (6 mph or less) within 150 feet of a swimmer, waterskier, mooring area, marina, boat launch, or when the operator's vision is obscured in any way.
- Operating in an overloaded condition (carrying total weight that exceeds capacity plate recommendations or is excessive considering water conditions)
- Operating with passengers on the bow, gunwales, or any other place where there may be a chance of falling overboard.

Personal Watercraft Operation:

Personal watercraft (PWC) are considered motorboats by law and must comply with all boating laws and navigation rules, including the speed and operation provisions above. Additionally, PWC users must adhere to state regulations specific to personal watercraft operation including:

- Wear an approved life jacket (PFD) at all times (operator and passengers).
- Attach the safety lanyard to the operator and the cutoff/kill switch.
- Always operate at slow, no-wake speed (6 mph or less) within 150 feet of a swimmer, the shoreline, waterskiers, a boat launch, a raft or float or a moored or docked boat.

You must not operate a PWC:

- If less than 16 years old;
- Under the influence of alcohol;
- Between sunset and sunrise;
- At high speed in congested areas;
- On waters under 75 acres;
- While towing persons on skis, tubes, etc.

<https://www.mass.gov/service-details/massachusetts-boating-law-summary>

2022 HONOR ROLL

Paul & Lee Adams
Roy & Marilyn Ahlen
Andes Andes
Laurie & Mark Ballantine
Margareta Berg
Ken & Kathleen Bergeron
Carl & Penny Bergeson
Ed Bettke
Virginia Bliss
Audrey & Mark Brigham
Brad & Karen Bumpus
John P & Stacy A Burl
Michael & Rie Poirier Campbell
Thomas & Sue Capistrone
Dottie Capuano
Linda Carlson
Lee Carman
Stephen Chabot
John & Cindy Charest
David Chase
Kiersten Mutell & Matt Connors
Deborah Cox
James & Amy Craft
John & Emily Crane
Paul & Lynn Dahlin
Daniel & Mary Daly
Joe & Kelli Deliso
Andy & Tara DeWolfe
John & Rose Drenzo
Stephen & Teresa Dunne
Karen Dwyer
Bruce & Donna Edwards
John & Jeanne Esler
Robert & Bridget Fink
Joe and Joan Fitzhenry
Sean & Kayle Fitzpatrick
Donald Fouracre
Bill & Ann Fredericks
Barbara & Giulio Fusaro
Greg & Trish Gauthier
Dana & Diane Giampa
Michael & Jo Goodfriend
Karen W Green
John & Diane Greenlaw
Kimberly & Bernard Grimes
Mary Hagstrom
Tony & Elaine Halpin
Janet Hammarstrom
Marie & Tom Haynes

David & Deborah Hebert
John & Susan Hebert
Jon & Donna Heslin
Kathleen Holt
James & Jennifer Hull
Donal & Dina Jamieson
Paul & Debby Johnson
Betsy Johnson
Wayne & Ann Junnila
Paul & Mona Kawolis
Robert Kimball
Sean Kloczkowski
Mark Labbe & Maddie Morris
Paul Larson
Paul & Kathy LaVerdiere
Diane Lavoie
Patricia Lawton
Donald & Denise Le Blanc
Kenneth & Karen Le Blanc
Michael & Candace LeBlanc
James & Ruby LeClaire
Stephen LeClaire
Mike & Sue Linder
Patrick & Erin Lundgren
Bob & Laura MacKinnon
David & Pam Marois
Garth & Sandra Maynard
John Maynard
Kevin & Kristin McCarthy
James & Crystal McGlynn
Daniel & Kyrenya McNamara
Garry & Peg Melia
Garry T. & Karen Melia
Brian & Laurie Mellen
Michael & Donna (Kimberley)
Michelson
Bob & Ann Mondor
Jacqueline Dadey & Wayne Mong
Dennis & Nancy Mulhane
Edward Jr Murphy
Alan & Diane Murray
William & Barbara Nartowt
Timothy & Lindsey Nash
James & Barbara Nash
Karen Norlin
Suzanne Nydam
Jim & Brenda O'Brien
Ginger Parker & Marcus
DeFlorimonte

Lynne Olson
Gangadhar Patil
Julie & Jeff Penterson
Gwen Spencer & Onezime Picard
Bob & Ginny Picking
Debra Pinto & Jacqueline Shakar
Lindsay Poland
Jonathan & Elizabeth Rapp
Ken & Karen Rapp
Phil & Cheryl Rawinski
Sharon Reardon
Arthur & Debra Remillard
Tim & Rachel Rodgers
Hayward & Christine Rogers
Frank G & Norinne O'Brien Rourke
Don Rudge
Richard & Carol Rudman
Rosemary Salem
Kelly & Stan Urban Salmon
Lucille & Jack Sampson
Holland & Sylvia Shaw
Mark & Beth Shirman
John Silverberg
Heather Sims
Richard & Leslie St. Jean
Ron & Jeri Stead
Nicholas & Kristen Stone
Donald & Dolores Swatik
Wendy McGovern & William Talcott
Dana & Dodie Tschirch
Steven & Lisa Vaillancourt
Lynda Martin & Craig Warneke
Carolyn Wellington
Parker & Diane Wellington
Giles & Lynn Whalen
Stanley & Mary Ellen Wilczynski
Stephen & Marty Winchell
Chris & Kellie Windle
David M & Nancy A Winn
Tom Wojtkowski & Cathleen Gagne

THANKS to all LSWA Members!
It's not too late to be a member!

Send Dues to:
LSWA
P.O. Box 332
Sutton, MA
01590

