SINGLETARY SUN

THE VOICE OF THE LAKE SINGLETARY WATERSHED ASSOCIATION

"Dedicated to the Preservation and Protection of Lake Singletary and its Watershed"

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

"And so with the sunshine and the great bursts of leaves growing on the trees, just as things grow in fast movies, I had that familiar conviction that life was beginning over again with the summer." -F. Scott Fitzgerald

I relate to Fitzgerald's feelings when it comes to summer. As things spring to life after a winter of dormancy, it does impart a perception of "life beginning over again." Consequently, our lake also comes alive with the activities and opportunities that only the summer season affords. It seems that after some early warm weather teasers, interrupted by decidedly cooler periods, the summer of 2016 has officially arrived at Lake Singletary.

The early ice-out, resulting from the milder winter, allowed us the opportunity for an early lake refill without concern for ice damage as the water level rose. So with a full lake and summer's warmth, we have the main ingredients for a great season on the water.

"It's a smile, it's a kiss, it's a sip of wine… it's summertime" –Kenny Chesney

Since summertime is the busiest season for activity on and around the lake, we all have to do our part to ensure everyone's safety. How can we impact lake safety? We've all witnessed unsafe activities and practices. Like the saying goes, "when you see something say something." That doesn't mean we should immediately dial 911. Instead, I would hope that when we see something unsafe, we should make an effort to educate the person involved by explaining how they could enjoy the same activity without the elevated risk. There are several things I've noticed that seem to be happening with more frequency. These include swimmers crossing the lake at busy times without a safety boat, boating after sunset without proper navigation lights (especially kayaks), and boat passengers riding with their legs dangling over the bow. Another hazard that seems to go unnoticed by many boat operators is excessive wakes for no reason. Before this last one gets misconstrued, I'm not talking about wake boarding activities, as that's a legitimate reason to produce a wake for a recreational purpose. I'm referring to the skippers we all see operating their boats with too much bow-up trim, an imbalanced load or just running at the wrong speed creating a huge wake for no reason. These boaters plow their way along intently watching out in front of their craft while oblivious to the havoc they create behind them. So while we're out and about the lake this season, let's all try to politely pass along some operating tips to those who could benefit from the knowledge.

I'm happy to report that our association continues to remain healthy. The success of the Lake Singletary Watershed Association continues to be a result of the hard work of the board of directors and the strong support all of you provide. I would welcome anyone who has an interest to serve on the board to contact myself or any of the board members. There's no length of residency requirement to serve on the board, so even if you recently moved to the lake we would love to hear from you.

I'll leave you with a couple of parting quotes. If you feel inclined to complain about the heat, now that's it's here, just remember this Yogi Berra line. "It ain't the heat, it's the humility." So try to get out and make the most of this season that always seems to go by too quickly. William Shakespeare must have agreed with me since he once said, "Summer's lease hath all too short a date."

I hope to see all of you on and around the lake this summer, and let's wish and work towards a happy, healthy and safe season.

Paul Kawolis, President

On Saturday April 23rd, lake association members met at the boat ramp prepared to clean up our watershed. And we did just that! We also cleared the brush out down by the outflow of the dam. Thanks to all that came and participated; Linda Carlson, Cindy and John Charest, Joe Fitzhenry, Janet Hammarstrom, Donna and Jon Heslin, Mona and Paul Kawolis, Michael Leblanc. Sandy and Garth Maynard, Laurie and Brian Mellen, Gwen and Ashley Picard, Karen and Ken Rapp, Heather Sims, Lynn and Giles Whalen, Sophia and Kellie Windle, and Tom Wojtkowski.

WING DING

We had our annual spring wing ding party this year on May 14th at the Dudley Gendron Post in Sutton. The lake residents that attended got to feast on an Italian buffet prepared by Brother's catering. We had carrot cake for dessert that was made with our logo on it.

All enjoyed socializing with old and new lake neighbors. Thanks to all that bought raffle tickets and hope you were one of the lucky ones who won a prize.

A special thanks to our local businesses that donated prizes; Lakeview Marine in Webster, USA Marine , Linder's Inc in Worcester, Christopher's Ice Cream and Scales Seafood in Millbury.

Next year's date is Saturday, May 6th. Hope to see you there.

NEWS ON THE LAKE

2016 Calendar of Events

	Rafting Party Saturday, August 6th August 13th (Rain Date) Gull Island	3:00 PM until ???? Calling all boats to tie up at the mooring ball. BYOB (Bring your own bumper) and an appetizer or dessert to share
swim. bike. run.	Sunday, August 7th Thursday, August 18th	7:30 AM Blackstone Valley Triathlon 6:30 PM Long Distance Swim Training Race
	Wednesday, August 24th	Annual Meeting Open to all Members 7:00 PM St. Mark's Church
Lake Singletary Golf Tournament	Saturday, October 1st Blackstone National Golf Course	Tentative Times 2:00 - 3:00 PM Registration 3:00 PM Tee Off 6:30 PM Dinner If you are interested in golfing or dinner, contact Rose Direnzo or watch the website for new information

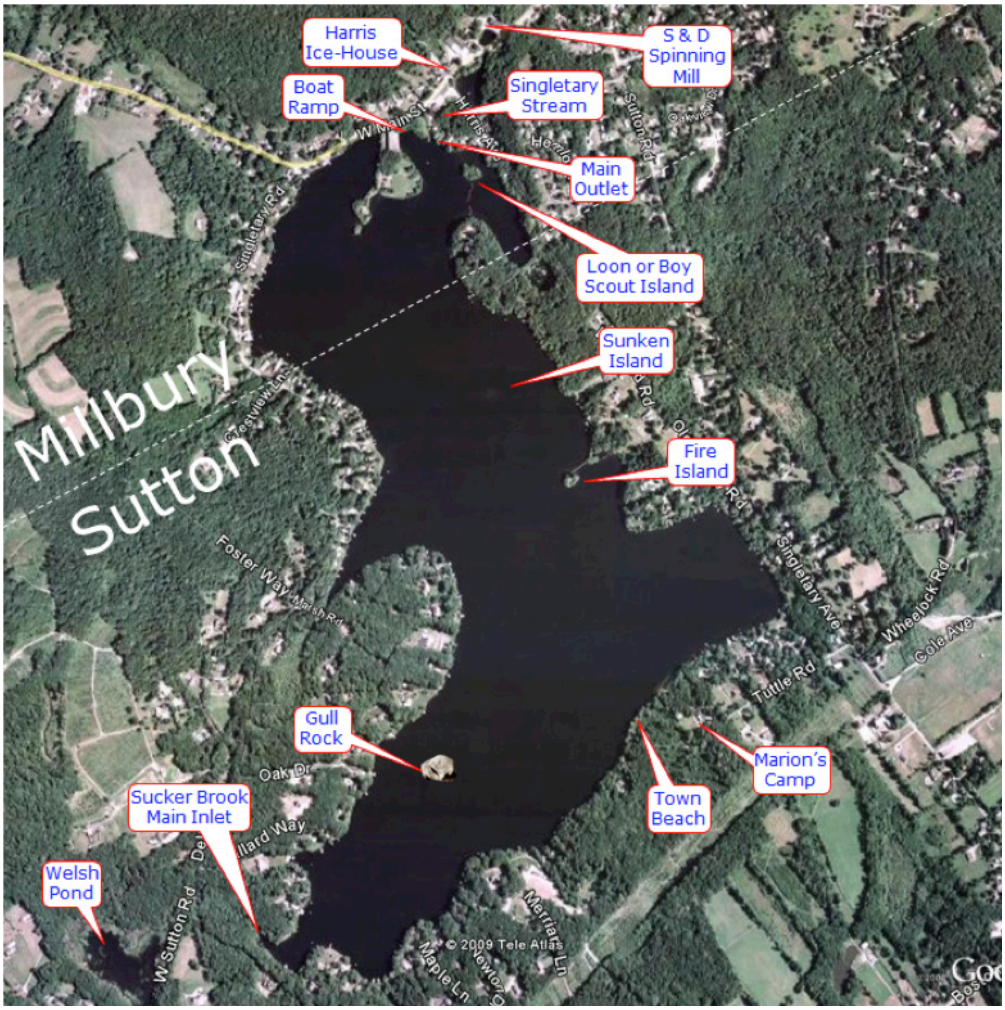
Photo courtesy of John Charest

Remember when…

Lake Singletary played an important role throughout American history. During the Industrial Revolution, Lake Singletary (then called Crooked Pond) supplied power to the mills built along the Singletary Stream outlet, formerly called Mill Brook.

In 1720 John Singletary purchased land along the Singletary Stream from Ebenezer Daggett. Shortly after John established the first gristmill in Millbury and later added a sawmill. John and his son Amos kept these mills in operation for many years. In fact the gristmill (known today as S & D Spinning Mill), is still in operation, making it one of the oldest continuously operating mills in the United States. Rumor has it that the original water turbine is still in the basement of the mill.

Throughout the 1700's and 1800's several more mills were erected along the Singletary Stream, manufacturing goods such as flour, cotton, paper, guns, scythes, horseshoes, and many other farm equipment items. Lake Singletary was also a major source of ice for the Worcester County area when Warren A. Harris built and operated his 2,500 ton Ice House.



As a reminder, your e-mail address is not shared and will only be used by the LSWA for membership communications. If you have not done so yet, please send an e-mail to LSWABOD@gmail.com with Add Me in the subject and get all the latest news electronically.

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Greetings LSWA members!

This year's annual membership dues drive began with a flurry of members eagerly contributing to the Association. For those who have already paid their dues, we thank you for your prompt payment! There are only 11 households remaining who paid their dues last year, but haven't yet paid their dues for 2016..

Our goal is to secure membership participation with 100% of lake property owners. Your membership dues and generous additional contributions help make it possible for the Association to continue it's efforts to maintain our lake's high level of water quality. Remember, your contributions are tax deductible!

Have a happy and safe summer!

A FINAL NOTE…

We Need You!

As most of you are aware, the Lake Singletary Water Association is run solely by volunteers. When it comes to running the fund raising events, we rely on additional Event Volunteers to help make these events successful.

The Annual Golf Outing is not only a great community event, it raises necessary funds to help maintain a safe, clean, and fun lake environment. Rose Direnzo has been leading the charge for this event for 3 consecutive years (Thank You Rose!). She needs YOUR help to ensure that this event continues to be a success for years to come.

We are looking for volunteers to assist Rosie run this event and more importantly, run next years' event. This year's Golf Outing is on October 1. Please contact Rose Direnzo at 508-865-4780 or email LSWABOD@gmail.com to volunteer. Any help is appreciated. Thank you in advance for your support!

Photo courtesy of Diane Greenlaw