



November, 2025



**The President's Message** By Rhonda Shippee

**I**t was a great summer on the lake! There was much excitement as we watched two pairs of loons nest and hatch chicks (photos on page 2) for the first time in many years. Following two summers of flooding we saw no major rain events which was a welcome relief. We had great weather conditions for our boat parade on July 5th with 46 watercraft participating and 136 shoreline people waving and cheering. Our annual meeting had a great turnout, as well as the summer social at Camp Winape. Thanks again to the Kolar family for hosting us in their historic dining hall.

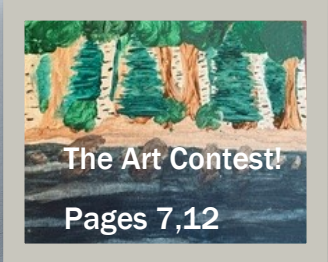
Our first Youth Art Contest was a great success, and we look forward to sharing the entries in this and future newsletters. The Water Quality Committee's Facing the Floods workshop was informative to all who attended (see more on page 11 ). The Committee continues to en-

courage property owners to have Lake Wise Assessments. It's important to remember these are not about "getting an award" but about learning how we can improve our properties to protect the lake. We are also reaching out to property owners about potential projects that were identified in the Lake Watershed Action Plan (LWAP).

We had another invasive-free summer! David Wiesselmann's dedicated team of 13 volunteers (see more about VIPs on page 9 ) did not detect any milfoil in their patrols of the lake. Our AIS prevention program inspected, 1951 watercraft, 53 of which were decontaminated. We closed out the season with 337 active members (247 families and 90 singles). This included 24 new members - welcome! We are very thankful to the 202 members who made additional donations to support our effort to build a cash

reserve should we have to battle milfoil or other invasives in the future.

We continue to follow the wake boat rules which the State is proposing to amend. Informational meetings were held in late summer outlining their intent to reduce the eligible lakes from 30 to 18 and to eliminate the home lake rule. As we feel this is our greatest protection from the potential threat of invasives coming from wake boat ballast water, we plan to voice our strong opinion that the home lake rule should be maintained. There will be formal public hearings in the coming months. We will keep members informed of the process via email blasts. Finally, a huge thank you to all our generous members and dedicated volunteers who work tirelessly to protect the lake and support all the Association's activities. □



**The Art Contest!**  
Pages 7,12

Seymour Lake Association  
PO Box 36  
Morgan VT 05853

This Newsletter is a semiannual publication of the Seymour Lake Association, a 501 (c),(3) tax exempt organization dedicated to the protection and preservation of Seymour Lake and the surrounding locality for the benefit of lake users, property owners and residents of Morgan, Vermont

Photos by

Rob Hofmann, 2025

- President Rhonda Shippee Tim Buzzell '26 Michael Tule '27 Bonnie McWain '28
- Vice President Bruce Remick Chris Blais '26 Charles Woods '27 Candy Moot '28
- Treasurer Jean McKenny Bill Bilowus '26 Tracey Becken '27 Denis Fortin '28
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Activities

Bonnie McWain,  
Molly Bilowus, Kathy Remick

Nominating

Tim Buzzell, Bonnie McWain ,  
Michael Tule

Boating

Tim Buzzell, Bonnie McWain

Communications

Candy Moot, Denis Fortin,

Fishing

Charles Woody Woods, Bill Bilowus

Bruce Barter, Rhonda Shippee, Karen Abada, Chuck Nichols, Andy Barter, Wendy Franklin , Peggy Barter

Membership

Chris Blais, Tim Buzzell, Gerry Cahill,

Dam Lake Level

Tim Buzzell, Chuck Nichols,

Ann Torpey, Bonnie McWain, Chuck Nichols, Andy Barter, Dick Morley, Jim Mitchell, Ann Stafford, Michael Tule, Janet Clemons

Ron Kolar, Candy Moot

Loons

Charles Woody Woods, Denis Fortin,

Nancy Bowen, Eli Fortin

Audit

Marie Tule, Doug Jangraw

Volunteer Invasive Patrollers (VIP)

David Wieselmann, Clayton Kolar

Water Quality

Tracey Becken, Peggy Barter, Kit Walker,

Dan Barry, Beth Torpey, Rhonda Shippee Ron Kolar, Rob Hofmann David Wieselmann, Trish Clark, Gerry Cahill, Tom Emery, Andy Barter, Kate Bednaz

Lee McLendon, Candy Moot, Janet Selby, Kit Walker,

Betsy Walkerman, Gerry Cahill, Andy Barter, Rob Hofmann, Sylvia Geiger ,Cindy Smith, Sean Selby

Milfoil

Rhonda Shippee, Beth Torpey,

David Wieselmann

Greeters at the boat launch (2025)

Bud Bergh, Kim Hier Germain, Bethany Howe, Cora Kelly, Leslie Martin, Kerry Wevurski, Dean White, Cassidy Mitchell, Karla Braunesreither, Liam Torpey

**Note:** Underlined is committee chair, Others are Committee members

Shoreland Protection Permitting

For questions regarding Shoreland Protection Permitting, the contact person is Laura Woods who can be reached at [laura.woods@vermont.gov](mailto:laura.woods@vermont.gov) 802 490 6100

**Note** That the town of Mogan now requires a shoreland permit (if needed) prior to issuing a zoning permit

**Town of Morgan** [www.townofmorgan.com](http://www.townofmorgan.com)

Selectmen: Eric Pope—Chair  
Larry Labor,  
Bruce Remick

Town Clerk/Treasurer—TammyLee Morin  
Asst. Town Clerk—Christina Pare  
North Country School Directors: Danielle Blake-chair,  
Sean Selby, Tammy Lacourse

Zoning Officer—Beth Torpey, 802-895-3013  
Fire Warden— Bob Cain, 802-895-2727

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## Could Seymour Lake Defeat Eurasian Water Milfoil? By Rhonda Shippee

**E**urasian Watermilfoil (EWM) is a huge threat to our lake as every year additional lakes are losing the battle against it (now more than 100 lakes in VT-up from 30 in 2003). EWM is a fast-spreading aquatic plant that forms dense underwater tangles that choke out native vegetation, foul boat propellers, and turn swimming holes into soupy messes. Salem, Willoughby, Crystal and Memphremagog Lakes all currently have EWM. I worry how well equipped we will be should we discover milfoil. A recent article in North Star Monthly entitled “Can Vermonters Win the War with Invasive Milfoil” outlined Joe’s Pond’s recent experiences following the discovery of milfoil there in 2024. Below I share their experience with our membership so all are aware of the time and expense we will face if EWM makes it to our lake.

It’s been a year since EWM was confirmed in Joe’s Pond-August 2024. It is believed the EWM had been established for up to two years before discovery and had spread significantly. Note that this is precisely what our VIP (Vermont Invasive Patroller) program exists for. Should we get EWM we want to detect it at the earliest possible time. Our VIP program (see page 9) is our first tool for early detection. Our other main detection and protection is our boat inspection program which operates from Memorial Day through October 31st. It is the longest operating program in the State, celebrat-

ing its 25th year in 2025. Its cost is covered by a State grant, the Town of Morgan and SLA and operated by SLA’s Beth Torpey. It is our largest annual expense.

Joe’s Pond has thrown everything at the problem from hand-pulling by volunteers, snorkeling surveys, and a new “snuba” diving device that extends underwater work time. They contracted for five days of professional hand-pulling and suction harvesting, then formed a dive team working twice weekly throughout the summer. In order to commence any of these activities, a permit is required from the DEC Lakes and Ponds Program. This requires a containment plan supported by a professional survey of the lake littoral zone. Unfortunately, this process can delay the steps to control the spread.

Fortunately, this year the lake association at Joe’s Pond convinced the State to allow the use of the herbicide Procel-laCOR as an early-stage treatment. Prior to this, lakes were required to exhaust years of non-chemical methods first – methods that typically failed and were more expensive. At least 14 Vermont lakes to date have used ProcellaCOR with good results. Joe’s Pond’s first treatment was applied in August. At a recent Danville Selectboard meeting, association President Joe Hebert presented their first -year costs in fighting the EWM. They spent \$57,000 in 2025, with out-of-

pocket expenses of about \$37,000 after grants and donations. They expect to spend roughly \$40,000 a year on containment efforts and are hoping the town will pledge \$10,000 annually toward the cost. Their milfoil coordinator has warned that eradication isn’t likely, and he believes the battle with EWM will not likely be over within any existing member’s lifetime. Joe’s Pond is 393 acres compared to our 1,777 acres so we might anticipate an annual cost of at least 4.5 times that or \$180,000. This amount would nearly fully deplete our current cash reserves in the first year alone.

The story of the Joe’s Pond battle with EWM scares me as President of SLA and as a property owner for 25+ years on the invasive-free lake that I love. Would we have the necessary financial and volunteer resources to effectively mount a battle against EWM? I hope so, but for now I hope their story can be a wakeup call to us of 1) the continued need to support SLA with dues and donations so that we can continue our boat inspection program and build cash reserves to fight EWM should we get it; 2) to encourage those lake owners who are not currently SLA members who may be reading this to please join and support SLA; and; 3) for all to continue our vigilance to fully clean, drain and dry any of our watercraft that return to Seymour from another lake.□

## My Aunt’s Worst Nightmare By Tim Buzzell

**O**ver the previous century, people enjoyed the amenities at Seymour Lake. Many people who grew up on the lake are with us today, and must have stories of adventures they participated in as youngsters back before mandatory life jack-

*ets, sun screen and helicopter moms.*

*SLA will make an effort in the next several newsletters to enlist a long time Seymour denizen to relate a memory from the past. To kick this effort off, following is a remembrance from Jim Buzzell from 1953.□*

**I**n 1953, when I was six, I spent the summer with my Aunt Sally and my grandparents who owned and rented the Hallden Cottages, on their Buzzell Road property on the north side of Seymour Lake. One day, I asked my Aunt if I

could go play on the beach. She, being busy cleaning cottages, said ok, but warned me not to go swimming without her being present. At the beach were two older boys from a family of renters. They asked me to join them in an adven-

ture they had planned, and I enthusiastically agreed to go along without telling anybody. The plan was to row to the south side of the lake known today as Wayeeses shore, which In 1953

**Continued on page 11**

## Thank you to the following Seymour Lake Association Members for your support in 2025

|                            |                               |                            |                            |
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|                            | Century 21 Farm & Forest      | Krystal Jenness            |                            |

**\*Indicates those SLA Members who have received a Lake Wise Award. If you note a mistake on the Data, please contact Tracey Becken at slalakewise@gmail.com**

|                                  |                             |                                 |  |
|----------------------------------|-----------------------------|---------------------------------|--|
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| Jeff & Ellen O'Hara              | Stella Samuels              | Richard Tobia                   |  |
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**Lakeshore Best Management Practices April 2025 Workshop Breakdown By Will Marlier**

This spring I supported our partner organizations, the Memphremagog Watershed Association and North-Woods Stewardship Center, in hosting demonstrations on the shore of Seymour Lake. The workshop was designed to **showcase practical and manageable projects that lake association members and lakeshore landowners could implement independently.** The day was split between three stations, each exploring a different type of water quality improvement.

**Station One: Riparian Buffer Planting**

The first station focused on planting a riparian vegetative buffer alongside Cranberry Brook. There, facilitators Ted Sedell, Meg Carter, Gabryel Gianoni, and myself led volunteers through the planting of a wide range of wet-loving plant species. **The following table provides a list of the species that were used, as well as some information worth considering before planting.**

| Species            | Deer Resistant? | Beaver Resistant? | Tolerant of Hydric Soils? |
|--------------------|-----------------|-------------------|---------------------------|
| Black Elderberry   | Not Preferred   | Yes               | No                        |
| Highbush Cranberry | No              | No                | Yes                       |
| Red Osier Dogwood  | No              | No                | Yes                       |
| American Larch     | Yes             | Yes               | Yes                       |
| Red Maple          | No              | Not Preferred     | Yes                       |
| Button Bush        | Yes             | No                | Yes                       |
| Willow Stakes      | No              | No                | Yes                       |
| Willow Fascines    | No              | No                | Yes                       |

Establishing buffers on the banks of streams and lakes serve a critical role in protecting water quality. Growing roots work to stabilize and hold the soil, prevent erosion from high-flow events, armor banks against ice push, and slow and filter water draining down the bank and into the body of water. Planting vegetative buffers is an accessible way for lakeshore property owners to get involved on their own properties. While this management practice is relatively straightforward, most plant vendors and landscapers are also available to answer questions about the specifics.

**Station Two: Culvert Installation and Driveway Drainage**

With the help of an excavator operator, this crew installed a cross culvert that redirected stormwater drainage under an existing driveway and reconnected it to a marshy field it had historically hydrated. Culvert installation requires the careful consideration of multiple points.

1. Is the culvert properly sized to accommodate high flow events?
2. Is the culvert properly pitched to facilitate drainage and

natural flow?

3. Are both the inlet and outlet set in such a way that future erosion will be minimized?

Workshop facilitator, MWA's Patrick Hurley, laid out the details of how he determined the culvert's ideal size and pitch to the day's attendees. If you (or a neighbor) are considering replacing or adding a culvert, it is always a good idea to get a professional's opinion before moving forward to implementation. After the culvert was in the ground, the contractor set about stabilizing the outlet. This was done with loose stone to create an armored crossing for cattle and a splash apron for the culvert. Stone at the outlet helps to slow and disperse the water as it exits the pipe while also protecting the soil from unnecessary erosion.

**Station Three: Lakeshore Erosion**

The third station was located directly at the lakeshore and served as an informational station, with less hands-on involvement from volunteers. The site showcased lawn-to-lake mowing, which creates a weaker bank that is prone to erosion, and does little to filter the water entering the lake. Significant ice push at this site created large berms of soil along the bank and pushed large stones up and onto the lawn, threatening the structure of the cabin. At this point, facilitators of the workshop recommended leaving the berms in place to act as natural bank armor against future ice. The facilitators also showcased some bioengineering materials known as BioD-Blocks and Coir Logs. These items aid in lifting and containing soil when performing lakeshore stabilization and restoration projects. This site also observed an erosive gully that was threatening to destroy a portion of the driveway. Due to its proximity to the lakeshore, any excavation work to correct the bank of this drainage was potentially subject to permitting. It is a good reminder that work done by heavy machinery in the vicinity of a lakeshore should go through the proper regulatory channels, even if you are unsure if a permit is required. Overall, the workshop was a huge success.

It was a pleasure to engage with local lakeshore advocates and community members, and I am hopeful that many attendees walked away with useful information that they will be able to put into action on their own lakes. Remember, each of us is capable of effecting real positive change for the environment on our own properties and in our own communities. Be the change you want to see! Please feel free to reach out to me by email ([will.marlier@orleanscountynrcd.org](mailto:will.marlier@orleanscountynrcd.org)) or phone (802-595-4538) if you have any questions or ideas regarding this work. □

**More pictures of the April Workshop on page 10**

## Seymour Lake Association Youth Art Contest By Kathy Remick

The first Seymour Lake Association Youth Art Contest was a huge success. The contest ran from July 1st through August 24th and winners were announced on Labor Day.

There were 27 entries in four age categories: Age 5-6, Age 7-8, Age 9-10, Age 11-12. The theme was "What do I Like About Seymour Lake."

The youth artists crafted everything from fishing, sunsets, Mt Elan, swimming loons, birds, playing on the water, rafting and tubing. The judging was based on the theme, craftsmanship and the Artists statement about what they like about Seymour Lake. The exceptionally creative entries made the decision difficult for our 3 judges. Each winner from the four age categories received an award of art sup-

plies to encourage their future creativity. , all the contestants received a personalized thank you for and a photo of Seymour Lake. The judges were: artist Ann Stafford, artist Bonnie Potter, and retired elementary art teacher and artist Katy Rhodebeck.

We would like to thank the organizers of this contest: Bonnie McWain, Kathy Remick, Molly Bilowus, and the Morgan Store for providing a space for the entry forms, and to all those who participated.

Tristan Newberg 5-6 YO Winner



Thomas Westover 7-8 YO Winner



See all the Entrants' Pictures on page 12!

Rose Bronskill 9-10 YO Winner



Anne Riley 11-12 YO Winner



## A New Kiosk By Andy Barter

Several years ago, the SLA Water Quality Committee, in partnership with the NorthWoods Stewardship Center and community volunteers, developed a series of best environmental management practices for the Seymour Lake boat access area. The initiative aimed to reduce runoff, protect water quality, and serve as a model for responsible waterfront stewardship.

Two major projects emerged from this collaboration — the design and construction of three rain gardens and the establishment of a no-mow buffer zone along the perimeter of the access area. As these projects were completed, attention turned to the aging SLA Kiosk, which had served as a community information hub for many years. Temporary repairs, including replacement of post footings, were completed as first steps of rehabilitation. Unfortunately, in the spring of 2024, several installations at the access site were vandalized, and the kiosk was

destroyed. However, portions of the historic kiosk — including the original sign and teak pamphlet boxes handcrafted by Erik Lessing — were recovered.

Article continues on page 8



## SLA Loses Two Friends By Rhonda Shippee

**J**im McWain was born in Norton and grew up in Island Pond. He was a proud graduate of Norwich University and dedicated 32 years to military service rising to the rank of Colonel. His career included key assignments in Vietnam, serving on the Joint Chiefs of Staff at the Pentagon, commands at Fort Carson, Colorado; Vilseck, Germany; and Schweinfurt, Germany. He earned numerous honors including two Bronze Stars and multiple combat flight Air Medals but was especially proud of the unit citations awarded under his command in Vietnam. In addition to his service to country, he served his community as a 65-year Mason and a dedicated member of multiple lodges and Masonic affiliations throughout his life, culminating in his election as Grand Master of Connecticut in 2011.

**F**rank Antonelli was raised in Roselle Park, NJ. He received a Bachelor of Science in Education from Wagner College in NY where he played football. He then received a Master of Arts degree in Administration and Supervision from Kean College, NJ. He taught and coached football, softball and wrestling at schools in NJ and Maryland, ending his career as Athletic Director at Rye Country Day School in Rye, NY. He was Wrestling Coach of the Year in NJ and ultimately inducted into the New Jersey Wrestling Hall of Fame and the Roselle Park Hall of Fame.

Seymour Lake has always been a part of Jim's life, first at his grandfather's camp and then at the camp his father purchased in 1948 where he spent every summer. He returned to the lake whenever he could during his years in the service. He was President of the Seymour Lake Association from 2002-2007 and was on the Board of Directors from 2008-2012.

Jim and his wife, Bonnie made the lake their second home and have hosted annual reunions for friends and family for 30 years. Jim will be greatly missed in Morgan and at the lake he loved so much.□

He and his wife, Sue, retired to a home in Winape Hills where they enjoyed both Echo and Seymour Lakes. He held many leadership roles at Teachers Credit Union, various athletic associations, Newport Country Club and for 10 years on the Seymour Lake Association Board of Directors where he and Sue organized the annual SLA social.

Frank was devoted to his loving wife Sue, their two sons, Jay and Brian, and their eight grandchildren. He will be greatly missed by friends and family.□



James Thomas McWain

December 23, 1938-

September 3, 2025



Frank John Antonelli

April 26, 1945-

July 19, 2025

### A new kiosk, continued from page 7

This fall, a **new SLA Access Kiosk** was installed. The new structure honors the legacy of the original while incorporating updated features. It proudly displays the restored signage and teak boxes, along with new elements such as a QR code panel linking to resources from the Seymour Lake Association, the NorthWoods Stewardship Center, the Federation of Vermont Lakes and Ponds, and the Memphremagog Watershed Association.

When you return to the lake next summer, please stop by the new kiosk to explore current lake news, updates from the SLA, and the upcoming event calendar. The kiosk stands as both a symbol of stewardship and a testament to community collaboration in protecting Seymour Lake for generations to come.□



**A special thanks to the Barter team, Bruce, Andy and Stu**

## So what is A (VIP) Vermont Invasive Patroller? By Candy Moot

I've been part of Lake Seymour's VIP team for about ten years and will be as brief as humanly possible to adequately explain why I love it and why it matters. But you'll also want to read to the end to learn about our VIP Coordinator at Seymour... although you may have seen him already on television!

A VIP volunteer typically kayaks (although some snorkel!) a designated section of the lake, looking for aquatic invasive species (AIS), most often milfoil but also zebra mussels and other AIS. Although technically we only have to patrol our section of the lake twice a year (early summer and late summer/early fall), many of us do it each time we go kayaking. Also, although there are currently 13 formal VIP'ers at Seymour, the actual number is probably closer to 24, since in many instances, couples and even families do it together. Each year, there are training seminars, both in-person and virtual, where there's lots of information and lots of fun...so you know exactly what you're trying to find (or more specifically, hoping NOT to find)! And although Seymour is still free of any AIS,

substantially because of our awesome greeter program but also because of our VIP program, where if the worst case scenario should happen and we get AIS, we could be on it right away.

Meet David Wieselmann, Seymour's VIP Coordinator:

For six years, David has been the Coordinator of Seymour's VIP Program. He's handsome, smart, funny, paralyzed from the chest down, enthusiastic, athletic, and possibly the most popular guy on the lake. I mean, how can you not love a guy who kayaks up to your camp and keeps yelling out your name until you come out to chat?? David was paralyzed mountain biking in Vermont 15 years ago. When he was found, he was heli-vacced to Dartmouth to start his recovery, but eventually moved to Boston to get specialized spinal cord injury therapy. David continues to live in Boston much of the year, but he's proud of his Vermont roots, growing up on Seymour in the summers as a kid, where his grandfather was born in the 1890's. As a matter of fact, David is so beloved that when one Seymour resident learned that the only way David had to get in and out of his kay-

ak was by hoping strong neighbors would be around to lift him from his wheelchair into his kayak (and of course, back out again when he was done) this particular resident, Erik Lessing, decided to design a mechanical/hydraulic lift so David could independently get in and out of his kayak. And believe me, with David as the recipient, it was easy to do the fundraising to make this new lift a reality.

Vermont's local CBS television affiliate, WCAX, heard about David and the new lift designed by Erik, and came to Seymour to do a story. Click here to see if for yourself:

<https://www.wcax.com/2021/08/23/how-vermont-community-helped-give-neighbor-much-needed-lift/>

When David's not at the lake, he lives in Boston, and after learning his new life in a wheelchair and the reality of how inaccessible the world is, he started Where To Wheel in 2018. It's a mobile application and site, designed to help map Boston and the country for accessibility. A super worthy cause when you realize that 42.5 million Americans (or 13% of the civilian, non-institutionalized popula-

## Youth Scholarship Camps By Linda Buzzell

Since 2018, Seymour Lake Association has been sponsoring boys and girls to attend the Green Mountain Conservation Camp (GMCC) at either Lake Bomoseen or Buck Lake. The camps offer learning experiences about fish, wildlife, ecology, botany, and forestry. In addition there are opportunities for the campers to hike, canoe, fish and learn to tie flies, get their Hunter Safety Certificate, learn archery and so much more. It is SLA's hope that by attending, our kids will develop a caring attitude about Vermont's fish and wildlife, gain confidence and the love of the outdoors and bring that respect back to Seymour Lake as they grow into young adults.

Next summer in addition to GMCC we are also including the various camps at

Northwoods Stewardship Center as an option. Northwoods camps are based out of their home campus in East Charleston, Vermont, which offers exploration of their trails, forests and meadows, visits with Oberon the Barred Owl, paddling of the Clyde River often, and acts as a base for off-campus adventures.

More information can be found on their website [www.northwoodscenter.org](http://www.northwoodscenter.org) These camps fill up very early (some are already full) so investigate if interested.

We hope that other boys and girls from Morgan and our lake community will want to attend in the future. If your child is interested, please contact Linda Buzzell before you register your child, giving her your child's name, age and

address. She will email the signed sponsorship form to you which must be attached to the application. Her contact information is Linda Buzzell, 603-443-1666 (cell) or email [tbuzzell47@gmail.com](mailto:tbuzzell47@gmail.com).



**A new Fire hydrant has been added to the Boat Access area. We suggest contacting your Insurance agent as it may reduce your rating and rate !**

## Morgan, A post Office and the Cargill Family



**Robert, Carole, Cayden, Marie, Elleigh, and Phil Cargill**

In 1945, Everett and Lillian Cargill purchased a package of items in Morgan, They got a home, 30 acre farm, a post office and a school bus in one swoop.

Lillian had taught in Newport and Morgan, and now became the post-mistress in Morgan Center. As a post master since 1945, again the front room became the post office, meeting room and a mini store. The Post office not only had the 60 (rent was \$75/year from The USPS) postal boxes, the office also had coffee, bread, candy, post cards and cigarettes. There was also a telephone booth in front of the home, (a party line according to Lillian and Everett's son, Robert), and it was also a bus stop for the local kids. Everett ran the farm and drove the school bus until 1973.

Robert married Carole in 1974, moved "across the bay" to Oxbow

Road where they raised Ben and Phil. Robert and Carol continued teaching, until their retirement.

The Morgan Center Post office closed in 1983 and Lillian lived there until her death in 2004. Phil, Robert and Carole's son, bought the home in 2005 and married Marie in 2009. Phil and Marie reside there now with their children, the fourth Generation of Cargill clan in Morgan.

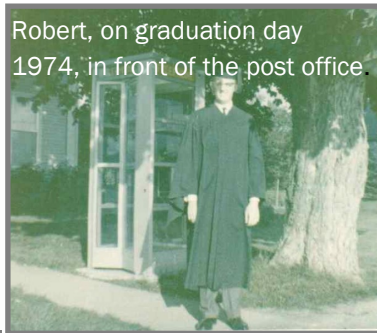
The sidewalk used during the operating post office is still there today, and while Phil and Marie have made many changes to the home over the years, you can still see a resemblance to the Morgan Center post office today



Cargill home /Post Office, 1983, Newport Daily



Cargill home Summer 2025



Robert, on graduation day 1974, in front of the post office.



## Spring workshop, Continued from page 6

Robbie Guyer, Patrick Hurley and Danny Guyer



Meg Carter explaining Planting Procedures



BioD-Blocks and Coir Logs used to prevent Shore Erosion



## Smelt Are Back In Seymour Lake By Bill Bilowus

After five years of putting smelt eggs in our brooks, we finally had a great run of smelt (thousands of them) in the spring of 2025. They were seen, by the thousands coming up Valley Brook and Twin Culvert Brook, We did not monitor the brooks this spring because the State of Vermont Fisheries did not supply us any smelt eggs.

We believe the smelt came up and spawned in a number of our brooks but were not observed. Smelt only spawn for about a week in late March or early April depending on the weather. They only spawn at night and come back to the lake during the day.

In the Spring of 2026, we will be monitoring seven brooks coming into Seymour Lake during March and April to

observe how many brooks they are coming up to spawn in. They usually come up 50 to 100 yards depending on the condition of the brook. In a few smaller brooks it could be less. Where they spawn, their eggs are spewed all over the creek bed. Since the eggs are sticky, they will attach on to logs, rocks, and other debris in the brooks. After about a week or so, depending on the weather, they will hatch and detach from whatever they were secured to. The millions of minute baby smelt will float down the brook into the lake and begin their new lives.

Our smelt committee is composed of Bob Durgin, Denis Fortin, Shawn Austin, Marie Cargill, Dana Seguin, Mike & Tracey Rossi, Hunter Judd and Nathan Maez. They will start monitoring seven of our brooks the last couple weeks in March and the first couple of weeks in April of 2026. We will monitor the follow-

ing brooks: Cranberry, Twin Culvert, Valley, Sucker, Hatchery, Juddy and Jordan. If anyone is interested in joining the smelt committee, please email me: [wibilowus@gmail.com](mailto:wibilowus@gmail.com) or call me at 802 895 2540.

In the fall, brook trout, brown trout and salmon go up our brooks to spawn while the lake trout spawn in the lake around big boulders. In the spring, smelt, rainbow, and suckers go up our brooks to spawn. Also in the spring, bass, perch, pan fish, walleye, pickerel and bull heads spawn in the lake. It will take a few years to fatten up our fish on the return of the smelt.

We should see more loons, also ☐



## Facing the Floods, Storm Water Workshop By Kit Walker

This spring I attended a meeting held by the Vermont chapter of The Nature Conservancy (TNC), a global environmental organization. At every meeting, TNC includes research based presentations. I saw a natural connection between the work of the Seymour Lake Water Quality Committee and TNC. The SLA WQ committee reached out to the Echo Lake Protection Association (ELPA) and began organizing a workshop that could help residents of the Seymour/Echo Watershed region.

Our goal was two-fold: first, to deepen our understanding of recent flooding events. The Nature Conservancy has

vast expertise about what is happening in Vermont; secondly, it makes sense to address practical ways that residents and landowners can take action. To do this, our Committee tapped into the expertise of the Orleans Country Natural Resources Board (OCNRCD). It is a local organization that is already working on these challenges.

Suma Lashof and Shayne Jaquith (TNC) started by discussing statewide trends on increased flooding events, flood resiliency actions and the new State Flood Safety Act.

Next, Will Marlier (OCNRCD) spoke about the direct impact of

flooding events on Echo/Seymour watershed. He then referenced the Lake Watershed Action plan and Best Management Practices (BMP's) along the lake and along rivers and streams.

Over 50 people attended this workshop and followed each presentation with interesting and relevant questions. The two lake associations will continue to work together to address these ongoing challenges. Look for more workshops in the coming summers! ☐



## Tim's Aunt's Nightmare, cont. from page 3

was undeveloped and pretty much a wilderness. We went ashore, and over the next two hours, hiked through the woods up Elan Hill to explore the remains of an old boys camp the boys had spotted from across the lake.

Returning to the boat after about two hours, we rowed back across the lake with me feeling like one of the big boys. A while after we left, my Aunt took a break

from her chores to go check on me. I was nowhere to be found, and at the beach, nobody had seen me. Aunt Sally became concerned. As time passed, she became more and more anxious and was beside herself wondering if I had disobeyed her and had gone swimming knowing I was a poor swimmer. Finally, as she rushed frantically up and down the shore fearing the worst, she spotted the rowboat com-

ing from across the lake with two teenage boys rowing, and me sitting big as life in the back waiting to tell everybody about my big adventure. The emotions Aunt Sally was dealing with as she plucked me from the back of the boat were promptly expressed by bending me over her knee and giving me a good, sound spanking followed by a big hug while she cried her eyes out in relief. ☐

Seymour Lake Association

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A big thank you to all of our young artists!

