



## LAKE MOREY PROTECTIVE ASSOCIATION

### 2019 ANNUAL REPORT

THE LAKE MOREY PROTECTIVE ASSOCIATION (LMPA) WAS FOUNDED IN 1907, MAKING IT THE OLDEST LAKE ASSOCIATION IN THE STATE OF VERMONT. ON BEHALF OF IT'S 200+ MEMBERS, THE LMPA BOARD OF DIRECTORS CARRIES OUT A VARIETY OF ACTIVITIES IN SUPPORT OF THE MISSION OF PRESERVING THE NATURAL ENVIRONMENT OF LAKE MOREY AND ITS IMMEDIATE SURROUNDINGS WHILE SAFEGUARDING THE HEALTH OF THE LAKE FOR ALL TO ENJOY.

#### **2019 INITIATIVES:**

**Ice Cream Social:** The Fairlee Library invited young town residents to participate in an incentive reading program this past summer and 39 children participated. In conjunction with that we invited the entire community, all ages and residences, to attend an ice cream social as a way of celebration. The social was held on August 3, 2019. The LMPA gave \$300 each to the Library, as a donation, and to Gladstone Creamery to offset the costs of supplying the ice cream.

**Golf Tournament:** This year's golf tournament had the largest number of participants in tournament history. It was held on July 13<sup>th</sup>, the morning of the Annual Meeting. The new start time 10am helped attract a larger group of players and we hope to continue the momentum next year.

**Sailing Regatta:** took place on July 6, 2019. The regatta was won by Camp Aloha this year. Camp Aloha had six boats participating in the regatta and Camp Lanakila had five boats participating. In addition, there were several boats in the regatta that were sailed by members of the lake community.

**Boater Safety:** Co-sponsored for the ninth year with the VT State Police Marine

Division, a class that leads to a VT boating license. In previous years, Terry Lewis led this class and certified over 150 safe boaters. In 2019, Trooper Christopher Brown found us instructors to teach the class. We hope to continue with this event in 2020 to place even more safe boaters on our waterway, with the caveat that we would also like to consider moving this to encourage more online certifications so the LMPA can eventually step out of sponsoring a class.

**Lake Water Quality Initiatives:** The LMPA has been working closely with the Lake Morey Commission and the Lake Morey Foundation to monitor and address both natural and man-made threats to the aquatic environment of Lake Morey. Threats include proliferation of Eurasian milfoil as well as the many different types of aquatic invasive species that are known to be present in Lake Champlain and other water bodies in Vermont. The presence of cyanobacterial blooms has presented a new challenge in recent years as well as an influx of phosphorus and other nutrients to the lake from run-off and unforeseen events such as a break in a beaver dam that has contributed to further algal blooms.

**Greeter and Adopt-A-Lake Programs:** The LMPA runs programs to educate lakeshore owners and boat operators about controlling the spread of invasive species in the Lake. Peggie Bissell has led the “Greeter Program” at the boat ramp over the past 4 years. Four part-time employed greeters inspect over 1,000 watercraft per year. Many boats have previously been in Lake Champlain, the Connecticut River and other bodies of water affected by aquatic invasive species (AIS). Education about how to clean the boats to prevent the spread of AIS is the ultimate goal of the Greeter program. The “Adopt-A-Lake” program encourages lake residents to participate in monitoring, pulling, and removing Eurasian Milfoil from the lake. Sue Minard has taken over management of the Adopt-A-Lake Program. For 2020, the Adopt-A-Lake and Greeter programs will be maintained and strengthened with the goal of preventing new invasive species from becoming established in Lake Morey.

**Lay monitoring and Milfoil Management:** in 2019 our members assisted in regular monitoring of the Lake. Don Weaver and Greg Allen led this key activity. This summer we received permission to use Procellacor instead of the previous chemical used, Renovate. After application, no milfoil was found in the lake! By the end of the summer, some areas detected new growth but it was very limited. Selected stream sampling over the course of the summer in 2019 did not show any significant phosphorus loading that would be a cause for alarm. However, two streams showed a higher level of sulfates, and additional sampling will be conducted over the summer in 2020 to gain a clearer picture and may provide more information for potential impact of water quality and future actions.

**New Lake Morey Map:** Smith Reed spent the past few months modifying and updating the map of Lake Morey. Trail details were added and a few lake features included.

**Directory:** A 2019 directory was published and distributed thanks to the hard work of Ginny Reed and Denise Drouin. The LMPA is working towards including an “online” directory on its website in the coming year.

**Community Service Activities:** This year, the LMPA teamed up with several local organizations to provide funds for Fairlee Community Arts, Fairlee Library, and Upper Valley Rescue.

As we begin our 114th year, our Lake Association will continue to keep a vigilant eye on both the needs of the Lake and the surrounding lands to ensure that we are a responsible and responsive local organization. We appreciate the support of our Town Administrators as we work together to see that Lake Morey continues to provide healthy recreation opportunities for all residents.

The LMPA’s activities can be followed at: [www.lakemorey.org](http://www.lakemorey.org).

Respectfully submitted,

Laura Tucker, President  
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