



Waves

The Newsletter of Hickory Hills Landowners

www@hickoryhillslake.com

978-582-6365

hickoryhills@net1plus.com

Autumn 2009

Annual Shareholder's Meeting Reports from September 19, 2009

Following are the reports presented at the meeting.

President's Report - Neal Sullivan

It has been my honor to serve in the capacity of president over the past year. I had very big shoes to fill, following the successful years under Paula Bertram and Judy Male. It is, however the people on the BOD who are responsible for much of what happens here in Hickory Hills. What I find amazing, year after year, is the dedication of this group to Hickory Hills. The hours that are spent and the accomplishments achieved, all for the greater good of our community. The expectations of the shareholders are high, as they should be and we strive continuously to meet them. Our reward is the propagation, and hopefully some small improvements, to the wonderful gift that is HHL.

The BOD managed the corporation effectively in very challenging fiscal and natural environments during 2008 – 2009. Three of six of the goals established by the BOD for this year have been substantially met, while 2 others were casualties of the economic malaise and went unmet, and 1 was partially met. Standard costs continued to escalate with large increases in taxes, insurance and dam maintenance continuing to follow accelerating trends established over recent years.

Through the formation of the Finance Committee, whose

**** NOTICE TO RESIDENTS ****

Effective May 1, 2010 by vote of the HHL Shareholders, **Annual Fees** have been increased:

Lakefront = \$330

Non Lakefront = \$220

Please see Finance Committee Report for details

members come from a cross-section of our lake community we were able to complete our first goal for this fiscal year: to complete a 3 – 5 year financial plan. Here again, we have a dedicated group of volunteers, providing time, wisdom and expertise for the benefit of the HHL community.

The next goal is a casualty of the economy: Beachview / Wildwood Rd. property sale. These are trying times to sell real estate, even worse when it's just land! We are working with Linda Marble at ReMax and have had a couple of inquiries over the year, none of which could be termed serious.

The next goal was accomplished by kicking the can down the road. Given our fiscal circumstances, the Finance Committee recommended and the BOD concurred, that it is not feasible to address the new office building, most likely for some years to come, if at all.

The website, goal 4, has been improved incrementally through the inclusion of reports from the Lake Management Group, etc. This will continue to be a focus for the organization as we try to move towards more cost and time effective electronic communications. This is also an area where we could use some resident expertise, perhaps forming a group to drive web and connectivity issues within the community.

As far as increasing the number of volunteers and community involvement, this may have been our most visible and successful accomplishment. First and fore-

(reports con't on page 2)

Yard Waste Days for Lunenburg

The Lunenburg Landfill, off Youngs Road will be open Saturdays **October 17 through November 21 from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.** Guidelines for disposal or yard waste:



- **Acceptable:** grass clippings, back mulch, wood chips, leaves, brush (with a diameter not to exceed 3 inches and unlimited length). Shrubbery and plantings with the same restrictions.



(reports con't from page 1)



most, is the Lake Management Group. You have seen the group's output from the LMG presentation materials and for me it demonstrates fully the power of a committed group, working together towards a common goal. I find it incredibly inspiring to see the enthusiasm and teamwork evidenced by the groups fine output. The continued volunteerism that must be recognized includes: the Harvester crew led by Jay Simeone and Jim LeBlanc who maintain and put in and out of the water that magnificent beast; the numerous beach clean-up participants who seem to come out every year to make the association beaches shine for each summer season; the buoy and log teams – who make the water safe for navigation; the dam committee (aka Jack K.) who like the sailors of old lashing himself to the mast, goes out onto the spillway as large storms approach and removes / replaces the boards to be sure that our lake can handle the influx of water; and finally the March Mixer and Community Day folks – who maintain the social traditions of living on Hickory Hills

We are in good shape: keeping with the directions laid out by our predecessors and looking forward to the future to be sure that we are prepared. In closing I would like to recognize two individuals:

Charlie Kimball Vice-President, who has spent 4 productive years on the Board, is taking a sabbatical. Charlie has been invaluable to the BOD and will be greatly missed. He was our link to the town, spending a great deal of time at Conservation Commission and Board of Health hearings, working on the beaches and all other lake and property issues.

HHL, Inc Goals for 2008-2009

- ◇ Complete a three to five year Financial Plan
- ◇ Complete the sale of the Beachview/Wildwood Rd. property
- ◇ Formulate a plan for improvement of Island Rd. facilities.
- ◇ Improve electronic presences (website)
- ◇ Increase the number of volunteers and community involvement
- ◇ Establish Lake Management Group charter and goals

Judy Male who (BOD 1993 and served as President from 1995-2005) with her husband John (also in the HHL hall of fame) is moving off the lake this fall. During Judy's tenure as president many significant accomplishments were achieved, too many to list, so I am going to focus on real estate. Judy managed to acquire (without adding debt to the corporation): property on Townsend Harbor Road in 1999 that is being used as a docking area for non lakefront shareholders; property along the dam berm giving HHL more protection for the dam; an island off Peninsula Drive; property on Park Street Terrace, adjacent to Island Road Beach, for use as a future recreational facility/office building.; property on Wildwood Road, now an important component of the HHL financial plan and the piece de resistance the 52 acre parcel off Island Road purchased to keep our lake private and serene and to enable us to have a recreational area with trails for walking, cross-country skiing and snowmobiling. We as a community remain forever in her debt.

A bronze plaque commemorating Judy's efforts for obtaining the Hickory Woods will be placed at the trailhead, reading: "HICKORY WOODS, Dedicated to Judith Male for tireless efforts to acquire this beautiful property and her commitment to the Hickory Hills Community."

Finance Committee - Neal Sullivan

Membership consists of lake residents who are shareholders: Jane Blake, Caroline Fortin, Pat Lastella, John Male, John Morse, Jim Shearer and Neal Sullivan. The committee charter, as defined by the HHL BOD in 2008 is to: Compare our community's financial structure with other similar communities focusing on fee structure and historical progression of fees; understand the impact of new recreation/office facility as it will impact finances with respect to construction & maintenance costs and assess the impact of projected costs for maintenance of the dam. The goals given to the committee by the BOD for 2009 were to: determine the Financial Requirements for Dam and Community Center/Office; determine the Financial Viability of Installing Septic System for Island Road in 2009; to Solicit/ Inform Lake Residents of developments and to Propose Course of Action at 2009 Annual Meeting for Approval. The following recommendations, presented to the lake community over a series of



(con't on next pg)

(con't from page 2)

local meetings during August and September, were approved by the shareholders at the 2009 Annual Meeting:

Fee increase for all residents to: Lake Front \$330.00; Off-Lake \$220.00

- Do not proceed with Community Center/Office project
- Allocate Beachview/Wildwood Rd. land sale revenue towards future dam work
- Allocate \$75k loan from CARF for future dam work
- Borrow from bank only amount required for dam above money raised through fee increase
- Maintain financial support for Lake Management activities
- Use "other" fee increases to meet needs as they arise

The financial plan adopted by the shareholders allows for maximum flexibility, absorbing cost increases through bank loans (or other financing options that may be available) and projecting financial strength to State agencies and banks, while being fair to the fee paying residents. Details of the financial planning inputs, the development of the plan itself and considerations of alternatives are described below.

Dam Maintenance: With recent near-failures of area dams, the State of Massachusetts has placed a significant emphasis on dam inspection, maintenance and the capability to sustain 100 yr or even 500 yr flood conditions. While the HHL dam has consistently performed well in these inspections over the years, major work is required based upon the 2008 inspection results. In this inspection, while demonstrating significant progress, ahead of schedule, in areas committed to the State in the 2006 HHL dam maintenance plan (areas of improvement include: rip-rap repair; downstream beaver control; brush and tree removal; stump removal; grass planting; maintenance and repair program of earthen berm and concrete dam/spillway) the inspectors highlighted the spillway capacity as inadequate – at less than 50% of the required capacity.

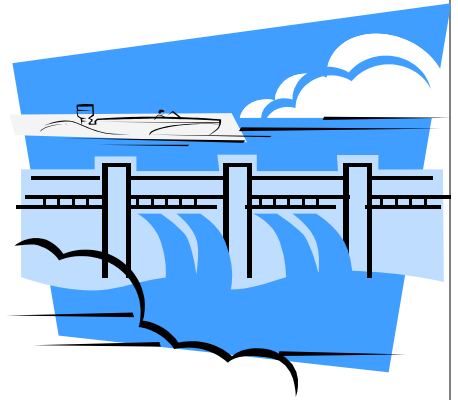
The official rating of 1 (on a scale of 5) is the lowest rating possible. While the spillway capacity has been known for some time, the 2008 evaluation criteria increase the minimum acceptable capacity rating (the rating for which the dam would receive a 1) from 0-20% to less than 50%. This has heightened the urgency placed on this metric and necessitates that HHL take action. The dam maintenance plan culminates with a hydrology study and stability analysis in 2012 which will trigger the requirement for spillway expansion to begin. While a full cost estimate for this work cannot be made until the design is complete and sent out for bid, two budgetary estimates have been obtained for the purposes of financial planning. The first comes from the engineering firm that HHL has used in the past for both

improvements and inspections – Tighe and Bond. This very rough estimates gave three options: to lower the spillway crest elevation and mount flashboards that would break away in a storm event at a cost as high as \$175,000.00;

to increase the length of the spillway; and to lower the crest elevation and construct a crest gate. These final two options were quoted at "well over \$200,000.00 in cost." The second estimate is from an Association of State Dam Safety Officers (ASDO) Dam Safety Workshop in which national average data was collected for dam repairs. From this report, for dams in the size range of the HHL dam, the average cost was \$463,623.00. The Finance Committee used the cost range of \$200,000.00 - \$400,000.00 for planning purposes.

Office Building: Given the high costs associated with the HHL dam the Finance Committee recommends postponing, indefinitely, the proposed new HHL office building until such time as the financial picture is clearer. This postpones both the building project itself and the septic project.

In order to meet the financial requirements of the dam repair, the Finance Committee developed a model, presented at the 2008 shareholders meeting to create financial projections. The committee also considered several means of increasing revenue, before arriving at the fee increase. First, a one-time assessment was determined not be viable (even though it would postpone the financial impact and be able to use the actual repair cost estimate) due to the size (> \$1000.00 per household) required, the fact that no bank loan could be obtained with this means of financing and it doesn't offer a means to address all other cost increases. Second, a ramped yearly fee increase was found unable to provide the revenue required in the timeframe dictated by the State and the dam maintenance plan. While such a program may be easier for individual residents to budget for, in the end, it would impact HHL's flexibility in the bank loan, result in more money being owed at the project completion and would see fees increasing over many years. The final, non-workable, alternative studied was to increase the "user" fees (e.g. boat stickers, ID cards, parking etc) as a



(con't on next pg)



(con't from page 3)

means to increase revenue. Even though this alternative was attractive from the perspective that it primarily impacts those who use the lake most and it is under the control of the BOD (no shareholder approval required) it was decided that it was not capable of raising the required amount of money (e.g. a 2x increase in the boat fee would bring in an additional \$8000.00) and it would impact the ability of security to control unauthorized use of the lake (the primary function of the boat stickers) by increasing the number of un-stickered resident boats.



The proposed fee structure - \$330 on-lake; \$220 off-lake, was arrived at, using the financial model, with the following inputs and assumptions: Dam repair cost \$200k - \$400k; other costs increase at 1-3%; a bank loan up to \$200k may be required; \$75k would be borrowed from CARF and \$75k would be realized from the sale of the Wildwood Rd. property and allocated to the dam repair. First, the "best case" assumption, in which: Dam repair is \$200k; Other costs increase at 1%; and \$150k is contributed from the CARF and land sale results in HHL being able to fully pay for the dam repair and end up with a surplus (less than \$50k) and a near balanced budget which trends negative. The nominal case, in which: Dam repair is \$400k; Other costs increase at 3%; and \$150k is contributed from the CARF and land sale results in HHL required to take a bank loan of \$200k and a near balanced budget in 2015 trending to a increasing deficit in 2016 and years following.

HHL has maintained a balanced budget since the organization's inception and as reported last year costs have been rising across the board at an annual rate of 5% since 1998. The most dramatic increases, occurring since 2001 have been: taxes which have increased 3.9x to >\$11k; insurance costs which are up by 3.1x to >\$9k; and dam maintenance which has risen by 4.5x to >\$11k (and were more than >\$19k in 2007) In past years the BOD has managed the corporation such that a revenue surplus could be invested in the CARF fund (~\$35k) and could contribute significantly to land purchases (5 parcels in all). Such surpluses have not existed for several years and the BOD has struggled to balance the budget, but managed to do so each year with a fee structure that has remained the same for 18 yrs: \$165 Lake-front and \$110 Off Lake.

Capital Asset Reserve Fund - Jack Kutarnia

The Capital Asset Reserve Board of Trustees has been empowered by the share holders and is responsible for the management and control of the reserve fund that when needed could be liquidated and used for emergency repair work due to a large storm or a breach of the dam structure.

I am pleased to report that this fund remains intact and has increased by \$ 2,592 during the past twelve months. We want to thank the contributors for their donations this year. We have had 37 contributors of which 5 have contributed \$100.00 or more for a total contribution of \$1,407.

CD Investments	\$ 55,240
Fidelity Cash Reserve Act	25,886
<u>T. Rowe Mutual Fund</u>	<u>9,778</u>
TOTAL	\$ 90,904

During July of this year the Board of Directors placed a request for \$75,000 to be allocated for the rebuilding of the emergency spillway. The Capital Asset Reserve Trustees unanimously agreed to support this request provided that the money would be replaced in future years once the emergency spillway work is completed.

I am pleased to report that we continue to grow this fund and even though we have reached our short term goal of \$75,000 we still have a long way to go to reach our long term goal of \$150,000. Thank you again for your continued support of this fund with your contributions.

Dam Report - Jack Kutarnia

During October of 2008 our 2nd dam inspection report was completed by Tighe & Bond Engineering firm. I'm pleased to report that once again we have achieved an overall satisfactory rating. This rating was achieved through continuous upkeep and ongoing improvements to the embankment and the concrete dam for a cost of \$7,000. This is not to say that we do not have major problems. Unfortunately the parameter of one sub category that contributes to the overall rating has changed. During the 2006 inspection the sub category of draw down capacity was rated "satisfactory". The latest report identifies this sub category as failing and the rating is "unsafe" or the lowest score possible on the inspection report. This does not create a problem today but could easily become a problem tomorrow. I believe

(con't on next pg)



(con't from page 4)

it is imperative that we take action as soon as possible to address this draw down capacity issue by increasing the size of the dam and emergency spillway to meet State regulations or risk losing our lake. Our next mandatory inspection will be September of 2010.

During the summer of 2010 we will be completing a major objective of reinforcing the dam and adjacent embankment. This will include the cutting down of approximately a dozen trees next to the dam and the removing of tree stumps. The cost should be approximately \$10,000. Once this is completed I recommend that we have the hydro analysis report complete by Tighe & Bond. This report will determine the lake draw down capacity of the lake and determine the necessary improvements required to meet State mandates. Based on the previous analysis the dam and emergency spillway has less than one half the capacity necessary to accommodate a major flood condition. I recommend completing this survey during November of 2010.

The next step in the process will be to have Tighe & Bond develop an engineering design plan that will address precisely what work needs to be performed on our dam to meet State requirements. I can only guess the cost of this design project but I recommend completing it during 2011. Once the design plan has been completed we will need to seek estimates and begin the rebuilding of the concrete dam and emergency spillway. I believe that with increased property dues, funds available from the Capital Asset Reserve Fund and bank loans we can accomplish this last step during 2012 and 2013. The cost of this last project should be approximately \$400,000.

Lake Management Group Report Paula Bertram

Hickory Hills remains one of the healthiest lakes in the Commonwealth, due in part to a commitment to lake management. Unfortunately, the future of many Massachusetts' lakes is at stake as a result of aquatic nuisance species, pollution, shoreline and watershed development and threatening storm water issues.

In an effort to stress the importance of pro-active lake management, the Board of Directors has endorsed and supported the formation of a Lake Management Group. At The Annual Meeting held in September the Lake Management Group was asked to report on its findings. During the past ten months this group (LMG) has conducted extensive research in an effort to identify specific areas of concern around the lake and to learn as much as possible about the pros and cons of

lake management techniques. The presentation at the Annual Meeting commenced by providing the audience with information about the natural life cycles of lakes, factors that speed up the "aging processes" of a lake and specific areas of concern around our own Hickory Hill Lake. Details were depicted in a slide show presentation that vividly documented dramatic changes in the lake.

Presenting for the Lake Management Group, Paula Bertram articulated the need to be concerned regarding an increase in silting and sedimentation: the invasion of aquatic vegetation: the effects of storm water ; and the erosion of lake islands and lake shoreline.

During the question and answer period the concern regarding contaminants being brought into the lake as a result of launching boats that have been brought in from other lakes was raised. Boat launching was identified as a concern of considerable significance. The boat launching issue helped to underscore the major premise of the presentation, which was the need for pro-active lake management. It was stressed that residents using a vendor to transport their boat must be vigilant. Because trailers are often a source of lake contamination, residents were urged to question where a boat trailer was used prior to being put into Hickory Hills and how the trailer was disinfected.

The pro-active management theme was reiterated when Paula explained that Hickory Hills can learn valuable lessons by understanding the experiences of other lake communities. She cited examples from Wellesley, Bedford and Pittsfield Massachusetts and advocated that pro-active lake management is the best way to avoid the disturbing results and huge costs

(con't on next pg)



Board of Directors for 2009-2010

- President Neal Sullivan
- V. President Walter Parquet
- Treasurer Anne Davis
- Clerk Lisa Normandin

- Directors:
- Chris Albert
 - Mario Andella
 - Paula Bertram
 - Jack Kutarnia
 - Jim Leblanc
 - Ron Pearson
 - John Pesenti



(con't from page 5)

associated with similar lake problems that only escalate over time.

The Lake Management Group offered information, acquired from their research, on existing lake management techniques as well as techniques such as benthic barriers, erosion control measures and hydro-raking that deserve further exploration.

A suggested lake management budget of \$12,000 annually for the next five years was proposed to deploy appropriate management techniques and continued public education and outreach.

The Lake Management Group closed the presentation by urging an expansion of its membership. They encourage any residents willing to help and become involved in the effort to protect and preserve Hickory Hills to contact davebetty-macdonald@comcast.net.

The entire LMG slide show and presented by Paula Bertram to the shareholders can be viewed on the Hickory Hills website www.hickoryhillslake.com.

Lake and Property Report - Charlie Kimball

We started off this year with many hands helping to put the trap rock back up on the berm where it belongs. Thanks to all who helped.

At the far end of the berm on Townsend Harbor near Hemlock, we removed trees and stumps and replaced them with trap rock as required by the Tighe and Bond evaluation report to meet State requirements.

Many thanks to all who helped during the December 11th ice storm. Many chain saws, generators and man hours were shared among neighbors to help speed recovery efforts. The trees that have fallen into the lake will be removed as funds and volunteers become available.

Motorized winter traffic on the lake was again under control this year therefore beaches and islands near their paths have experienced little disturbance. We thank the local snowmobile club for marking acceptable routes across the beaches and monitoring traffic flow.

Spring brought the all important beach clean-ups. This year we had the best turn out in years on the main beach. Special thanks go to Chris & Tammy Albert and sons, Jeannette Biery, Sue Lozier, Walt Parquet, Anne Davis, Arnie Shattuck, Pat Lastella, Sue Andrews, Jay Simeone (and his tractor), Bryan and Karen Sanderson and daughters, Carol Higgins Hatch, Patrick McColl, Betsy and Brendon Kenerson and many others.

Thanks to Pat Lastella and Sue Andrews for donating loam

to cover the tree roots at the main beach which was subsequently spread with grass seed and chaff and thanks to this year's rain it actually grew very well. Padula Brothers donated the tractor and loader that was used for that work.

This was a year of many celebrations: there was no graffiti at the office, not one high e-coli test at any beach throughout the summer, neighbors kept an eye out for needed repairs like broken swings and broken chains, only two logs have floated to the surface so far this summer—they are marked and will be removed, for the most part the islands were used frequently but responsibly by HHL residents.

Thanks again to John D'Agostino for weekly trash duty at the main beach. Thanks to Troy Cutter for maintaining the lawns. Thanks to Neal Sullivan for placing and removing the buoys. Thanks to Jay for storing and delivering the security boat.

Harvester Operation Report - Jim Leblanc

As you all know, this summer got off to a real wet start and finally it got nice in August. This year water and air temperatures were well below normal. This along with the lack of sun could be responsible for the smaller than normal crop of lily pads and why the bladderwort weed had a banner year. The harvester is excellent in cutting and removing this weed but once it is cut it will drift. This year we had some difficulty aligning the harvester roller bar, which was replaced last year, and the cutting bars, which were replaced this year. The machine frequently broke down and made picking up the leftover weeds difficult at times.

All weeds float when you cut them, so normally you can pick up most of the clippings. This year I completely filled the harvester with bladderwort from stem to stern several times and had a lot of difficulty unloading it.

As you know most of the lake was infested with bladderwort this year. Some of the worst areas are; Hemlock Beach, the area just beyond the main beach; the whole Island Rd/Brookview Rd Cove area; Peninsula Drive/South Row Rd cove area all the way to the south and the cove between Davis's peninsula and Townsend Harbor Rd; Brookview Beach/Cliffview Rd coves; the south cove in front of the Woodlands; Horizon Island Rd/Island Rd cove on the northeast side; and west side of Hemlock Cove and beyond.

(con't on next pg)



(con't from page 7)

Bladderwort can be removed easily with a rake. If placed on the shore, it will dry out and then can be picked up and discarded with yard debris. I believe bladderwort is a carnivorous plant which catches microscopic bugs with its bladders (flowers). There are several species of bladderwort, some annual and some perennial. We will work to determine what kind we have and what the best course of action is to control it.

Lastly, I would like to thank Jay Simeone for his hard work and great skills at rebuilding this old beast. Thanks to Pete Doherty, who helped remove the weeds out of the dump area and to our second operator this year Bob Ruggles.

Harvester Maintenance - Jay Simeone

This spring the usual service work was done on the weed harvester engine and hydraulic system.

- The engine starter needed to be rebuilt. It's a Bosch starter, which is common, but being on a VM diesel is not.
 - The hydraulic fluid was changed, still using the environmentally friendly biodegradable oil.
 - The lower cutter bar assemble was replaced with new knives and rock guards.
 - The conveyor screen needed to have a few links removed to take the slack out of it.
 - There were a few other minor items that were taken care of
- For next year, we plan to;

- Get the harvester pontoons painted
- Add an additional valve to separate the conveyor screen from the cutter bars.
- Remove the rest of the side plates from the trailer deck as they continue to interfere with loading and unloading the harvester, and do some repair work to the trailer deck.

The Harvester was put in the water in mid July and will be removed soon. Thank you to everyone who has made donations to the Harvester Fund. And many thanks to Dan Proctor & his crew for transporting the harvester and their help with unloading and loading the harvester each spring and fall, and also for storing the harvester during the off season for us.

Public Relations Report—Lisa Normandin

A Welcome Meeting for new residents was held on February 18, 2009 at the Island Road office. Several people attended the meeting hosted by John Pesenti, Lisa Normandin and Pat Lastella. This is a wonderful opportunity to meet the new residents and educate them about the lake and its rich history.

The annual March Mixer was held at the Eastwood Club on March 28, 2009. D.J. Jim Bean provided the entertainment for the evening and many members of the community en-

joyed the music and dancing. The raffle items were very plentiful this year and Bob Saia and Paula Bertram did an excellent job emceeding the event. Thank you to the many fine vendors, businesses and residents that make contributions to our raffle. This year the Mixer raised \$436 dollars for the youth activity fund.

Adult volleyball continued this summer at the Island Road Beach. Volleyball is held on Thursday evenings in the summer. Feel free to join the group next summer.

We continue to publish the Waves newsletter quarterly to keep our residents up to date and to provide a means to share information. We welcome your photos and articles for publication.

The first annual Hickory Hills Beach Party was held on July 5, 2009. This was a wonderful opportunity to meet our friends and neighbors in the community. The Lake Management Group did a wonderful job organizing this free event and raised awareness of the many issues of managing a healthy and beautiful lake.

A summer youth program was offered for the second year in a row. Amanda Bertram served as Youth director with Ciera D'Agostino and Jamie Narus as helpers. A minimal fee was charged in order to cover the costs of the program. The program was held July 7th to August 6, 2009 for children aged 5 through 12.

Office Report - Lisa Normandin

This year our Office Manager, Pat Lastella issued 700 boat stickers, 587 ID cards and 106 parking stickers. And there were 28 real estate First Right of Refusal Releases were issued.

There are 321 total Shareholders for 2009. The Board welcomes the following new residents as shareholders;

Fred & Linda Malcomb	149 Island Road	New
Alan & Alicia Legere	181 Peninsula Drive	New
Kerry Anne Sullivan	163 Island Road	New
Dayton Semerjian & Nanette Moss	192 Peninsula Drive	New
Elizabeth Grady Dowd	3 Trillium Court	Transfer
Edmund & Joanne Guerard	14 Hilltop Lane	Transfer
Barbara Turkington & Robert Vaughan	110 Royal Fern Drive	Transfer

The following office improvements were made this year;

- We continue to improve communications by dividing the Lake Community into 8 Precincts. This makes it easier for BOD members to divide up the work of keeping residents informed. And we now have email distributions list for each precinct.
- We continue to up date the website and have added the

(con't on next pg)



(con't from page 9)

Lake Management Group's investigative reports on a variety of lake topics.

- As a reminder the most effective way for you to contact the office is through email. So please make sure we have your current email address and that your spam screener will accept mail from hickoryhills@net1plus.com

I would like to thank Pat Lastella our office manager for everything that she does for our corporation and my fellow BOD for their dedication to the Hickory Hills community.

Roads Report - Mario Andella

Like most neighborhoods in Lunenburg, the public roads within our Hickory Hills community would benefit from repairs or resurfacing. However, our Lunenburg Department of Public Works informs us that their budget for road repairs is insufficient to accomplish all of the work we requested. The DPW was responsive to our request for patching of potholes. The roads committee will continue to work with the DPW to improve the quality of our public roads.

In addition to routine road surface upkeep, we are working with the DPW on two specific road safety issues:

- Diverting the water that accumulates in a dangerously large puddle in front of our emergency spillway on Townsend Harbor Road

- Eliminating the hazard caused by southbound vehicles turning left from Townsend Harbor Road onto Mulpus Road. I wish to thank Dave MacDonald of Island Road for providing a plan to reconfigure this dangerous intersection.

We also made some repairs to private roads owned by Hickory Hills Landowners Assoc. Ruts formed by water runoff on Hemlock Terrace and Hilltop Lane were filled and regraded, as well as the Island Road office parking lot. I wish to thank Jim Bertram for coordinating snow plowing and sanding of our private roads.

Please remember to call the town's DPW if you notice any dangerous condition on our public roads. Do not assume that your neighbor has already called. Also, please try to keep the grates over catch basins in your neighborhood clear of leaves and other debris. If you need assistance with this, call the HHL office, and we will find someone to help.

Security Report - Walt Parquet

The 2009 lake recreation season was fortunately mostly uneventful from a security standpoint. We were fortunate to have both Calyn Jones and Ryan Spain as our security detail. Both had previous experience with our lake security and were known to the residents. Cooperation between security personnel and the residents was exceptional.

Unlike the 2008 season where we experienced thefts of boats, canoes and motors, no such events occurred during this season. Vandalism was at a minimum but the Portable-John did get toppled once. Also, for the first time, not even one rope swing was cut from the islands.

Overall boat traffic on the lake and beach attendance was light and very few dangerous boating operations were reported. The lightness on lake and beach usage was due in the main to the amount of inclement weather experienced this summer.

To our disappointment nighttime parties left trash, broken glass and illegal fire pits on the two main islands. We encourage parents to prohibit their teens from organizing or attending these gatherings. They despoil the islands and the broken glass and other trash are hazards to daytime users. Overnight camping on the island is not permitted.

Also, on the negative side, the security personnel experience some frustration due to the lack of current stickers on kayaks, canoes and paddleboats. It is hoped that in the future the residents will be more cooperative in obtaining and displaying the current sticker on these watercraft. It is observed that too many watercrafts of these types are without stickers. The charge for the boat stickers is minimal and the association needs your cooperation in putting stickers on all your watercraft, it is our only method of distinguishing resident and non-resident boats on our lake.

We look forward to a safe fall and winter season on and around the lake and to the continued cooperation and support for next summers' security detail.

End of reports

Fall & Winter Office Hours

Monday & Thursday 9:00 – 11:00 a.m.

Call the office before arriving, 978-582-6365. If necessary, appointments may be made for your convenience.

EMAIL ADDRESSES: Please update the office of any email address changes by sending your current email address to hickoryhills@net1plus.com. Thanks!



Family Fun “Pirate Day”

Our Condolences...

We express our sincere sympathy to the family and friends of ..

Eugene Whitney, 75 of Townsend Harbor Road passed away on Tuesday September 8th. Eugene lived in Lunenburg since 1963 and owned and operated Whitney Battery Company for over 30 years. He leaves his wife of 52 years, M. Eleanor Whitney. Eugene was known for his warm smile and the habit of waving to all he passed.

David A. Womble, 74 of Mulpus Rd passed away peacefully at his home on Sunday October 18th. He leaves his wife of 36 years, Nancy Womble. David worked in the field of National Security from 1965 till his retirement in 1990. During this time he received many awards for his technological achievements. David was an avid outdoorsman, enjoying fishing, hunting and astronomy. He will be sadly missed by all those who love him.

FOR SALE

Lake Front House for Rent: Cozy year round home with 2 small bedrooms, wooded yard with private beach and dock for \$1100/month + utilities. Call AnnMarie at 978-582-4677.

Brand New Mattress: 12 week old king size Simmons BeautyRest World Class Kinard Plush Firm, no box spring. Cost \$1450 will take \$750. Pat at 978-582-7588

For Sale By Owner: Completely Renovated Cabin- 3 Bedrooms, 2 baths, turnkey will sell furnished. Buyers agents welcome but if we sell directly, we will give \$8000 credit! Call Cindy 315 391-4439 67 Sandy Cove Rd

