



# THE LAKESIDER

Newsletter of the Greater Pushaw Lake Association, serving Pushaw Lake and Little Pushaw Pond

**Please join us for a SUMMER ICE CREAM SOCIAL & GPLA 2011 Annual Meeting, July 27, 6:30-8:30 p.m.**

June 2011

Volume 4, Issue 2

The GPLA Annual Meeting will be held on Wednesday, July 27, from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. in the recreation hall at the Pushaw Lake Campground, located at the end of Orono Landing Road (formerly known as Villa Vaughn Road), Orono. The theme for the meeting this year is "An Old-Fashioned Summer Ice Cream Social." We will provide make-your-own ice cream sundaes, home-baked cookies, and fresh fruit to celebrate another successful year of neighbors and neighborhoods working together to protect the watershed around Pushaw Lake and Little Pushaw Pond. Feel free to bring your families, friends, and houseguests. The more the merrier!



Socializing and sundae-making will be from 6:30 to 7:00, followed by the GPLA Annual Meeting. If you can't come until 7 or later, that's OK — we expect to have plenty of ice cream and other treats for all comers, although it may be a bit soupy!

This year's meeting will feature a fun group-participation game of "GPLA Jeopardy," hosted by Chris Brewer of the Penobscot Soil & Water Conservation District (PCSWCD) and Laura Wilson of the University of Maine Cooperative Extension. Chris and Laura will challenge us with trivia questions about Pushaw Lake and Little Pushaw Pond, as well as questions on more general watershed protection subjects as invasive plant species, camp road maintenance, and best practices to maintain high water quality. Whether you are an old-timer or a newcomer to Pushaw or Little Pushaw, a current member or just checking us out, please come join us to meet some of your neighbors and learn more about what GPLA is doing to help protect our lakes. If you would like to place an item on the agenda for discussion at the Annual Meeting, please contact GPLA President Sandi Duchesne at 827-3782 or [smduchesne@roadrunner.com](mailto:smduchesne@roadrunner.com).

Greater Pushaw Lake Association  
Sandi Duchesne, President  
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Old Town, ME 04468  
(207) 827-3782  
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## **PUSHAW PROFILE: A Salute to Mike Belliveau** by Bill Phillips

Mike Belliveau, a year-round resident of Pushaw, is Vice President of GPLA, a member of its Steering Committee, and a highly valued resource in our efforts to improve conditions in our lakeside communities.

A graduate of MIT, where he specialized in environmental science, Mike is cofounder and Executive Director of the Environmental Health Strategy Center. This nonprofit, with offices in Bangor and Portland, promotes human health and safer chemicals in a sustainable economy.

These are the folks who led the campaign for the 2008 Kids-Safe Products Act, the nation's most protective safer chemicals law. They were also responsible for the recent ban on BPA, a harmful chemical found in sippy cups, plastic baby bottles, and other containers for consumer products, a chemical that disrupts hormones and impairs brain development. (continued on Page 3)



Photo: Mariah Kopec-Belliveau

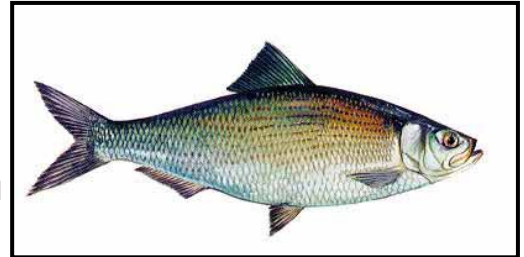
- DID YOU KNOW?**
- Former names for Orono (incorporated 1806): Colburnton (or Colburntown) Settlement, Deadwater, Stillwater.
  - Glenburn was incorporated as Dutton in 1822, then reincorporated as Glenburn in 1837.
  - Hudson was incorporated from Jackson Plantation as Kirkland in 1825, and took its current name in 1855.
  - Old Town (inc. 1840) took its name from "Indian Old Town," the English name for the largest of the Penobscot Indian villages, now known as Indian Island.

## Alewife Reintroduction to Pushaw Lake: An Update

by Rich Dressler

In 2010, fisheries biologists from the Maine Department of Marine Resources (DMR) and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) proposed stocking of Pushaw Lake with alewives. The goal of this effort is to restore historic alewife runs in the Penobscot River, which will be possible with the removal of several dams on the Penobscot. To speed up this process, the biologists are proposing to stock alewives in Pushaw Lake that would migrate to the ocean to grow to maturity, and would then return again in 4 years. In order for the project to be successful, a fishway would be needed at the Pushaw Lake outlet dam.

Progress has been made collecting the necessary data to develop a preliminary design for the fishway. The next step will be taking the proposal to the Kukunsook Camp Owners' Association (KCOA) Board to request their approval to take the proposal to a vote at the Annual Meeting. Efforts related to the project are being monitored by a KCOA Alewife Fishway Committee. Concerns or questions related to this project may be directed to KCOA, P.O. Box 307, Stillwater, ME 04489. These will be passed on to the Committee and the state and federal biologists.



The Department of Marine Resource's goal is to get agreement with KCOA this year, complete final design by 2012, and construct the fishway by 2013. Alewife will not be stocked in the lake until 2012, assuming KCOA approval of the fishway on its dam.

## FOR ALL BOATERS: A GUIDE TO THE MEANING AND USE OF NAVIGATIONAL BUOYS

submitted by Dorli & Lou Cloutier, GPLA Buoy Monitors for Pushaw Lake

Good News! The State of Maine, Department of Conservation, Bureau of Parks and Lands, has selected Pushaw Lake to participate in their Navigational Aids Program.

The State of Maine Aids to Navigation System is the basic system of waterway markers (buoys). Waterway markers are used on state waters as recommended by the U.S. Coast Guard for the purpose of minimizing hazards to navigation. The system has been developed, in part, to indicate the presence of both natural or artificial obstructions and hazards. The system is also used to mark restricted or controlled areas.

State waterway markers shall not normally be placed within the Water Safety Zone (200 feet or less from any shoreline) except when marking channels or hazards to navigation in critical high traffic areas. Floating state waterway markers normally will mark hazards covered by less than four feet of water at low water during boating season. This lasts typically from Memorial Day through October 1st each year.

Approximately ninety markers have been installed by the Bureau of Parks and Lands in Pushaw Lake. The buoys are meant to remain in the lake year round. Listed below with their descriptions are the three basic types of markers.



**Black and White Vertically Striped-** Aids shall mark obstructions extending from the nearest shore to the aid and shall indicate to a watercraft operator **not to navigate** between the aid and the nearest shore.



**Circular Symbol-** Orange circle on white buoy indicates that a watercraft operated in the marked area is subject to certain operating Controls and Restrictions. The nature of the controls and restrictions shall be indicated by words, numerals, and/or well-known abbreviations in black block letters inside or beside the circle. Extra explanation may be given above, below, or beside the symbol in the white background. Some examples: "**Headway Speed Only**" or "**Slow Zone**"

**Notes-** "Headway Speed" buoys were placed in the lake inlet and outlet. "Safety Slow Zone" buoy was placed in the approach to Gould's Landing.



**Vertical open-faced diamond symbol, orange on white buoy, to mean DANGER-** The nature of the danger may be indicated by words and/ or well-known abbreviations in black block letters above, below or beside the symbol in the white background. Some examples, "**Hazard Area,**" "**Shallow Area,**" "**Rock,**" and "**Dam.**"

**Note-** Hazard area buoys may be found singularly or in multiples to mark an area.

Please report any buoy that is found damaged or off station as quickly as possible to the Bureau of Parks and Lands, Navigational Aids Program, Richmond, Maine.  
Telephone: (207) 582-5771

28TH ANNUAL MAINE AUDUBON LOON COUNT ON PUSHAW LAKE and LITTLE PUSHAW POND

Saturday July 16, 2011 7:00-7:30 am

In July 2010, volunteers counted loons on both Pushaw Lake and Little Pushaw Pond. Both bodies of water were covered in their entirety by the volunteers, many representing the GPLA. The final official count reported by Maine Audubon included 35 adults and no chicks for Pushaw Lake and 11 adults and no chicks for Little Pushaw Pond. The count occurs over 1/2 hour to minimize the possibility of double counting loons moving about the lake.



Volunteers will again count loons in July 2011 from shore and from boats, canoes or kayaks to cover all of Pushaw Lake and Little Pushaw Pond. We are hoping all the volunteers from 2010 will be available to do the survey again this year. If you participated in 2010 you should receive a mailing from Maine Audubon in late June or July with instructions. Rich and Marian Dressler will be coordinating the survey again so they will be contacting you by early July to determine your availability, make sure you have the necessary forms, and coordinate the portion of the lake to survey.

If you did not participate in the survey last year and want get involved **please contact Rich or Marian Dressler 827-5407 to get details.** Please respond no later than June 30. The survey takes about 45 minutes to one hour of your time in total. You will need a good set of binoculars and will be recording observed adults and chicks on a map of the lake. Thanks!

(Pushaw Profile: Mike Belliveau, cont'd from Page 1)

Mike and his associates have raised more than two million dollars for research and development at the University of Maine to produce bio-based plastics from Maine potato waste and wood chips. These bioplastics are petroleum-free and nontoxic, and they can be composted at the end of their useful life.

Mike has been instrumental in securing matching funds from the Town of Hudson to leverage State water quality grants for GPLA. He has also been involved in efforts to improve ditching and culverts on Beechwood Avenue to prevent soil runoff into the lake. And he has represented GPLA in acquiring land around the lake for recreation and conservation.

GPLA is both proud and grateful for all that Mike Belliveau brings to our efforts, and we encourage lakesiders to visit Mike's professional web site, [www.preventharm.org](http://www.preventharm.org), to learn more about his activity as a public health advocate working to create jobs and boost Maine's rural economy while promoting safe and environmentally-friendly products from Maine's natural resources.

JOIN OR RENEW YOUR GPLA MEMBERSHIP TODAY!

We count on dues-paying members to help support our efforts to protect and improve the water quality on Pushaw Lake and Little Pushaw Pond. Because of recent budget cuts in state and federal programs that help support GPLA activities, your financial support is even more important to our long-term success. Our suggested annual dues are \$15 per household per calendar year, but we will gladly accept larger donations if you are so inclined. Thank you for your continuing support of GPLA!



Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address (Please list primary and seasonal addresses, if applicable) \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Phone and E-Mail Address \_\_\_\_\_

Mail this form with your dues to: Kathy Lukas, GPLA Membership Chair  
281 Birch Tree Drive  
Hudson, ME 04449

## Greater Pushaw Lake Association

c/o Penobscot County SWCD  
1423 Broadway, Suite #2  
Bangor, ME 04401

Address Correction Requested

NON-PROFIT ORG.  
U.S. POSTAGE PAID  
BANGOR, ME  
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*“Never doubt that a  
small committed  
group of citizens can  
change the world.  
Indeed it is the only*

### GPLA Lost & Found Department

Bill Phillips of Hudson has volunteered to operate a clearinghouse for items that float away as the result of storms, high winds, or mishaps. This summer, we are looking for the owner of a **wood-fiberglass dock section** that washed up near the beach on Moose Island in Orono. Is it yours? Whether you have lost or found an item, please call Bill at 827-0454 and he will try to return it to its owner.



### **GPLA Salutes Our Pushaw Protection Partners!**

GPLA is fortunate to have a core group of active and strongly committed volunteers. We are grateful to all of our GPLA members, donors, and volunteers for their ongoing support, and to the many organizations that help us protect the watershed surrounding Pushaw Lake and Little Pushaw Pond: **Penobscot County Soil and Water Conservation District, University of Maine Cooperative Extension, New England Grassroots Environmental Fund, Maine Council of Lakes Associations, Bangor Bass Club, Orono Land Trust, Maine Volunteer Lake Monitoring Program, Maine Department of Conservation, and Kukunsook Camp Owners Association**, plus the elected leadership and hard-working staff of our four Municipal Partners: **Town of Orono, Town of Hudson, Town of Glenburn, and City of Old Town.**