



"Overhead"

Photo by Robin Slick (Honorable Mention, Berkshire Magazine Annual Photo Contest)

President's Letter

Richard Seltzer, *SBA President*

Stockbridge is an old-fashioned town that is having trouble adapting to the 21st century.

The Stockbridge Bowl Association (SBA) confronted this anomaly when it proposed using an herbicide to control the Bowl's 75-year-old infestation of invasive Eurasian Water Milfoil, a remedy that has been safely used for over 30 years in thousands of lakes, ponds and reservoirs nationwide. Even after both the Massachusetts Department of Fisheries and Wildlife and the Mass. Natural Heritage and Endangered Species Program gave their written approval for the use of the herbicide in Stockbridge Bowl, Stockbridge relied on an ancient bias against all herbicides to deny our permit.

In the past, the SBA and the Town have cooperated in stewarding the lake. Unfortunately, a wasteful and expensive court battle was required for the SBA to overcome the Town's opposition. (See separate article describing the plan now approved by Mass DEP to introduce fluridone to control milfoil in the lake.)

Acknowledging science, and the established expertise of other agencies in the state, will be needed for Stockbridge to move forward in ways that go way beyond the shores of the Bowl.

It has been reported that Stockbridge has one of the oldest demographics in the Commonwealth and that its total population has been declining for years.

While other Berkshire communities welcome young families, people of color and people of modest income, Stockbridge has, for the most part, complacently ignored these opportunities.

We have a Town Beach that for decades has been neglected. Most of its beach sand washed into the lake years ago. Its snack bar, which used to serve hot dogs, hamburgers and soda, has been shuttered for more than 25 years. Its parking area is nearly inaccessible. (The SBA has offered to pay for the engineering study necessary to redesign a safer access drive.) For young families looking for a summer residence, a more attractive Town Beach would be an obvious lure.

Just 400 yards from the Bowl, the former DeSisto Estate has sat untouched for more than a decade as the Town refused to allow an eager developer to put cluster housing on that 320-acre site. Negotiation might have provided an acceptable solution for both sides. Without new affordable housing, Stockbridge will continue to be a Berkshire enclave that turns its back on economic diversity.

Town resources are being stretched to cover expenses, hampered by the Town's lack of a commercial tax base. While we are surrounded by municipalities with robust retailing—Lee, Lenox, Great Barrington, and even West Stockbridge—our quaint town barely ekes out a block and one half of relatively anemic retail.

Years ago, former selectman Steve Shatz formed a diverse Visioning Committee which proposed many avenues to be pursued to bring Stockbridge into the 21st century. The excellent report of that committee now sits largely ignored on a shelf of the Town Offices.

The SBA has provided resources to help the Town, but, ideally, our resources should be devoted to the lake. When the Town is flourishing, as we all hope it will, the SBA and the lake benefit. Our recent Town elections have changed the composition of the Select Board. Maybe Chuck, Roxanne and Patrick will bring much needed new dynamism to our proud, sleepy Town.

Property and Trails: Bullard Woods

Kevin moose Moran, *Chair*

A Sanctuary in times when most needed. Nature nurtures us when we nurture nature. It's a two-way street. Bullard Woods, a sanctuary for wildlife and the human spirit, is being visited more often during this period of uncertainty and sadness caused by Covid-19, a reminder to be grateful for Mrs. Bullard's foresight in deeding the land to the SBA, so that it could be preserved as that sanctuary, often referred to as a chapel without a roof or walls.

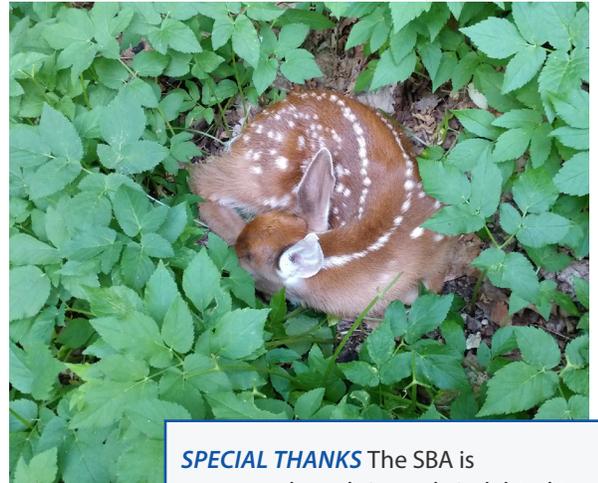
You may have noticed that the road leading into Bullard Woods is now paved, thanks to the Community Preservation Act (CPA) committee, which funded the project so that Bullard Woods would be a safer resource for the Stockbridge community. The SBA will also be replacing two 45-year-old docks, one at Bullard Woods and one at Kwuniikwat Island, as soon as research into the best-suited dock is completed. Thanks go to Cris Raymond and David Brause for their generous contributions which covers the cost of one.

A special thanks also goes to Peter Strauss for his efforts in marking the hiking trails that run from Bullard to Gould Meadows. By 2021, we hope to have a more detailed and significant map on the kiosk at the Bullard trailhead. We also owe thanks to the volunteer crews managing the Gould Meadows restoration project. The transformation of Gould Meadows is remarkable.

Gould Meadows and Bullard woods are like twins complementing each other, thanks to Kripalu which has allowed use of its personnel to help manage Bullard woods even during these challenging times. An early morning walk in the woods may reveal mother nature showing herself in large and small ways, her ecosystems, wildlife and, yes, weather To see this display requires being present in the moment and mindful of the surroundings.

"Present in the moment"

Photos by Kevin moose Foran



SPECIAL THANKS The SBA is enormously and sincerely indebted to Kevin moose Moran and Kripalu for the extraordinary job they have done to help maintain Bullard Woods for years. Under their care, Bullard has become consistently popular with people who enjoy hiking its trails and walking their dogs. It has been gratifying to see how full the parking lot has been, especially during the current pandemic.

Our new and improved website is up and running! Thanks to the joint efforts of Joan Cohen, Sarah Dinan, Pat Kennelly, Patti Klein and Joanna Wolff, a newly designed, richly informative and highly readable website is available to anyone on the Internet. You can learn about the purpose and achievements of the SBA, the complicated history of the SBA's recent attempts to preserve the Bowl and its plans for the future. Read about the resources for lake recreation, the ecology of the lake and how to become a contributing member of the SBA or make a donation (now or in your will). Glance through it (thesba.org), and you will see the website's many features and its in-depth information!

Report from the Lake Committee

Gary Kleiner, *Chair and Town of Stockbridge Harbormaster*

Harbormaster: In early November 2019, the Stockbridge Conservation Commission ordered the harbormaster to stop the annual drawdown. I was informed that due to "experts'" suggestions they were seeing a reduction in water animals, they blamed it on the drawdown. We have been doing this for over 40 years, and from what I can see, it has been helpful in keeping invasive plant growth at a manageable level. In addition, drawdown helps keep shoreline erosion to a minimum. As it stands now, there will be no more drawdowns.

Zebra Mussel Inspection: We normally start manning the boat ramp on Memorial Day, but due to Covid-19, the boat ramp is open unmanned and will stay that way for a few weeks. We hope to open with inspectors soon, as Laurel Lake has. Masks and social distancing will be the norm.

The state still has not sent us our grant from last year. We applied for some monies from the Town to run the washing station but there has not been a town meeting as of yet to vote on the warrant. We are working to get this resolved and get inspectors out there. In the meantime, please use the Clean Boat Certification forms that are in a box attached to the Zebra Mussel shed.

Boat Ramp: The State issued some rules for State-owned boat ramps which declare the ramp is for launching and retrieving boats only. This means no fishing, swimming, or picnicking at the ramp. Also, one of the rules states that only MA registered autos and boats may use the ramp. For those of you who summer in the area, I am requesting you leave your address and phone number on the dashboard with the clean boat certification. Masks must be worn and social distancing is required.

The marker buoys are in and speed must be down to 6 mph inside the markers. Swimmers who go outside the markers must have a boat with them or a day glow orange swimming marker so they can be seen from a good distance. This is for their own safety and needs to be observed.

We are getting new docks for both Kwunikiwat Island and Bullard Woods.



"Morning Canoe"

Photo by Robin Slick

(Honorable Mention, Berkshire Magazine Annual Photo Contest)

Not a Member? Come Join Us Anyway!

Annual Meeting Stockbridge Bowl Association



Saturday, August 1, 2020

4:00 pm via Zoom

All members will receive an email with instructions prior to the meeting. Non-members are welcome and can send their email addresses to sarahdinan75@gmail.com

Come...Celebrate Progress!

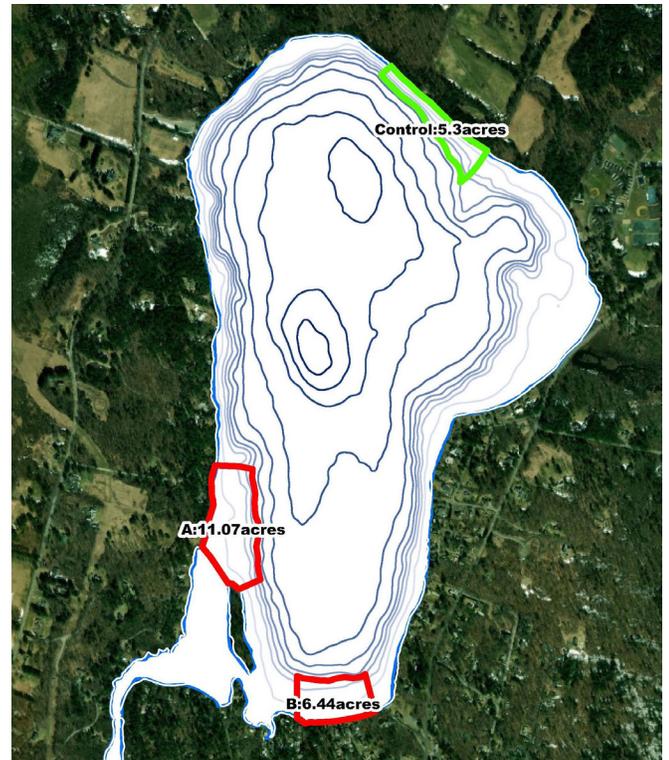
Is Our Three-Legged Stool Still Standing?

Richard Seltzer, SBA President

Last year, the SBA adopted a three-part program for restoring the health of Stockbridge Bowl. Knowing that all elements would contribute to a healthier, more usable lake and recognizing that we had different constituencies that would benefit from different parts of the plan, we planned to proceed simultaneously, attending to each of the three legs of our stool.

The legs are (1) applying a narrow spectrum, widely successful herbicide, fluridone, to control the growth of invasive Eurasian Water Milfoil, (2) dredging a channel through fifty years of accumulated sediment behind Kwuniikwat Island and down the outlet, and (3) hydro-raking near docks which have become almost inaccessible due to the dense growth of water lilies and other nuisance vegetation.

Applying fluridone to control Milfoil: Even though more than 300 other lakes in Massachusetts have been safely using herbicides to control Milfoil for more than three decades with the express approval of the Mass. Division of Fisheries and Wildlife, the Mass. Natural Heritage and Endangered Species Program, and the Mass. Department of Environmental Protection, the Stockbridge Conservation Commission (ConComm) has nurtured irrational fears about allowing any herbicide in the Bowl.



2020 Proposed Test & Control Plots (REVISED 5/19/2020)

Disregarding its own scientific expert who supported our application to use fluridone, the ConComm forced us to go to court to overturn its ruling opposing our application.

The Mass. Superior Court found every finding by the Stockbridge ConComm was “lacking substantial evidence,” and the court even labelled the local ruling “rather misleading” and “rather disingenuous.” The Town has elected not to appeal.

The SBA has incurred legal fees of \$100,000, and the Town reportedly incurred a similar expense—all money that should have been better spent restoring the Bowl.

We are now set to embark on a DEP-supervised test of fluridone in the lake to establish that its control of Milfoil will not be detrimental to most native plants. The DEP has demarked two test plots, six acres in front of the Beachwood community and eleven acres just north of Kwuniikwat Island off the western shore of the lake to confirm the regrowth of native plants following the application of fluridone.

After that test of fluridone in 2021 and 2022, the whole lake will be treated with fluridone in April 2023. The fluridone application should be effective for the ensuing three years.

Dredging a Channel: Under supervision of the Natural Heritage Endangered Species Program, the Town’s contractor GZA Environmental is designing a channel that will avoid most of the habitat of the endangered *Marstonia lustrica* snail. The channel will proceed along the south and west sides of Kwuniikwat Island and down the outlet. The plan includes dredging in front of the town beach and dredging part of the holding pond at the end of Lillybrook.

To compensate for some “taking” of snail habitat, GZA is offering several alternative mitigations. Once they are approved, GZA will estimate the costs to dredge a channel. The expected costs will exceed \$2M and financial support from the Town will be required to supplement funds raised by the SBA. If all proceeds smoothly, dredging could occur in 2022.

Hydro-Raking to Control Water Lilies: Last fall, we began to hydro-rake in front of one SBA member’s property. The contractor was removing years of impacted plants by digging their rhizomes out of the accumulated sediment and depositing it on land, where another contractor was promptly hauling away the rhizomes and surrounding muck.

Members of the Stockbridge ConComm came to inspect the work and found elements that they felt should be done differently to comply with local rules. However, instead of conferring with the homeowner who was prepared to cooperate fully, the ConComm issued a “cease and desist” order the next day with copies to the Stockbridge Police and the full Select Board.

The Mass. DEP learned of the ConComm’s position and asked for an immediate overhaul of the cumbersome local rules. Until the ConComm delivers its revised rules, hydro-raking on the Bowl has been abated.

Separate Note—Weed Reaping: For years, the Town has tried to mitigate the growth of Milfoil and water lilies by using a mechanical harvester that severs the plant stems four-to-six feet below the surface. The improvement from weed harvesting is only temporary and only occurs when Town employees are assigned to operate the balky equipment.

This year there has been no weed harvesting even though vegetation near the surface has become especially dense in the outlet. The Town’s permit for harvesting was allowed to expire in May 2020 with no application then pending for a new permit.

Although a Town contractor has now drafted and filed a Notice of Intent for a new harvester permit, the Mass. DEP is demanding that the ConComm resolve its hydro-rake regulations first.

Take Care of Your Buffer Zones

Patrick White, *Selectman, Town of Stockbridge*

If your property abuts water, the place where the land area meets the water is known as the buffer zone. The Massachusetts Vegetated Buffer Manual provides the following definition:

“Simply put, a vegetated buffer is a protective area between a water body and human activity. They are ‘living filters,’ because they capture many of the pollutants that travel through them. Buffers filter out sediment and debris from surface runoff. Plant root systems and chemical and biological activity in the soil can capture and transform nutrients and other pollutants and transform them into less harmful forms.”

The Vegetated Buffer Manual is a 111-page document produced by folks from Berkshire County and it’s chock full of tips and techniques to create and manage your buffer zone. Download your free copy of this manual today!

<https://www.kickshout.com/budman.pdf>

FYI

SBA Annual Meeting — Saturday, August 1, 2020, at 4:00 pm on Zoom.

The Larrywaug Bridge on Interlaken Rd. is closing for construction July 13, 2020. See townofstockbridge.com for map of detours.

The Town Waste Transfer Station is open Monday-Saturday: 7:00 am to 3:30 pm.

To prevent **Zebra Mussel contamination**, only canoes and kayaks stored at the Town Beach by permit can be launched from the beach. All other boats must be inspected and launched at the public access boat ramp off Rte. 183. Please use Clean Boat Certification form.

Paddle boarders who lie down on their boards should be aware that motorized craft can **barely see them** until they are close.

Regulations of Motorboats/Other Watercraft

1. Personal motorized watercraft (jet skis, etc.) prohibited
2. All motorized watercraft shall circulate counter clockwise
3. Maximum Speeds: 10:00 am to sunset, 40 MPH; between sunset and 10:00 am, 6 MPH; within Safety Zone—no more than 6 MPH
4. Safety Zone 300 feet from the shoreline into the lake; watch for buoy markers
5. Any swimmer out of the Safety Zone shall be attended by a boat
6. Moorings and docks prohibited more than 300 feet from shore

Complete regulations are available at Stockbridge Town Hall. Violations are punishable by fine.

Start with a Smile! — Did you know that by shopping at Amazon, you can support the SBA?



Go to smile.amazon.com and select “Stockbridge Bowl Association” as your charity-of-choice. Amazon always will recall your preferred charity choice. Shop as you would normally, and the Amazon Smile Foundation will automatically donate 0.5% of your purchase price to the SBA! It’s easy to do and it’s free, so please remember the SBA when you shop, and don’t forget to start with a smile!

The word “sanctuary” always makes me think of Charles Laughton in the movie *The Hunchback of Notre Dame*, swinging down on a rope from his bell tower to rescue Esmerelda, while shouting, “Sanctuary! Sanctuary!” I’m not fond of hyperbole, so I would never use the word “sanctuary” to describe a lake. Most lakes are pretty, right? End of story? Not in 2020.

Usually, when I look across the lake at night, I see dark smudges of houses on the other shore. The houses remain dark, especially during a raw and rainy spring, until the tourists and second-homeowners arrive for the summer. This March, I saw an ever-lengthening row of lights. As the number of Covid-19 cases grew in New York’s Greater Metropolitan Area, anyone who could leave, fled. Who could blame them?

Sure, some year-round residents grumbled about toilet paper disappearing even faster from the local markets, but most of those who came were taxpayers too. They quarantined themselves and began spending welcome dollars on takeout restaurant meals and the goods and services of the Berkshires’ essential businesses.

In spite of the cold, paddleboarders and kayakers took to the lake when the trees were still bare and I was still wearing a winter coat to the post office. The *Great Escape* no longer referred to a movie about prisoners of war. It described the escape to Stockbridge Bowl. Even my golden retriever, Rookie, sat on the grass gazing out at the water. Was he meditating? Who can say? One great thing about dogs is that they never tell you they feel more centered.

As the weather improved, everyone went to the lake. The geese were swimming further apart because social distancing was easier on the water.

All of us were free from our houses and grateful, and I, at last, felt kindly disposed toward adjectives. Our Stockbridge Bowl was without question lovely, awe-inspiring, magnificent, stunning and jewel-like. If I had a bell tower (and were a lot younger), I’d swing down from it shouting, “Sanctuary! Sanctuary!”



"Socially Distanced Kayaking"



"Bare Trees and Bare Bodies"

Photos by Andy Gold

There are twelve organization directors on the board of the Stockbridge Bowl Association. We always have some communities that are unable to supply news, but in this year of the pandemic, it's been particularly difficult to stay up-to-date with neighbors. We hope everyone is well.

Beachwood

Beachwood held its annual Memorial Day Weekend community meeting via Zoom this year. There were many participants and some lively discussions. As always, we reviewed our financial situation and the condition of our roads. I am happy to report that both are in good shape.

While the community practices social distancing, we keep in touch through our Beachwood email blasts alerting us to everything from the presence of bears in the neighborhood to people wanting to swap jigsaw puzzles. Our "little free library" continues to be popular, and our book group will continue to meet via Zoom.

This will surely be a different type of summer, but one thing has not changed. People are delighted to be back in Beachwood! — *Pat Kennelly*



"Autumn"

Photo by Andy Gold

Camp Mah-Kee-Nac at 90

The camp will not be operating in our traditional sense this summer. We may have a rental group, but we are extremely saddened by the fact that we will not be able to welcome our campers and staff for extraordinary experiences as we have in the past. Looking forward to 2021! — *Jamie Chadwin*

Canyon Ranch

The mission of Canyon Ranch has always been to help everyone – our guests, colleagues and partners – achieve greater wellness. I think we can all agree that we are now facing unprecedented times, and bringing people together to explore wellness at this moment is increasingly difficult due to Covid-19 and its communal spread.

We have an obligation to do our part to help slow the spread of this virus. Based upon the various local and state orders, we are temporarily ceasing operation at all locations. Protecting our community and Canyon Ranch family is our first priority. We thank you for your continued support and wish everyone good health during this time.

— *Leah Larmon*

Kripalu

The Pandemic of 2020, sad and tragic as it is, has left Kripalu in an intersection where decisions unfavorable to business had to be made to close the facility until it's definitively safe for reopening in 2021. The decisions made were principled and value-focused on the wellbeing of guests and staff. A small but talented bridge team remains working on innovative ideas reimagining what Kripalu can look like into the future. Strategic planning is underway, and Kripalu will be back and stronger. Kripalu expresses its gratitude for those selflessly serving humanity.



Photo by Kevin moose Moran

A Sycamore tree was planted on the main lawn which will provide comfort and inspiration for years to come. — *Kevin moose Moran*

Lake Drive

The Lake Drive Association (LDA) annual meeting was held online on July 12th. This year we did a major upgrade to Lake Drive, taking down dead and hazardous trees, improving drainage and reinforcing the roadway.

We have new neighbors this year as well: Chuck Kohrer and Karen Kradel, who bought their house from the Berks.

If you are interested in nature, this year we have seen mink, red fox, grey fox, bear, raccoon, opossum, chipmunks, white-tail deer, rabbits, woodchucks, etc. Laura Beasley (president of LDA) has documented 65 bird species on Lake Drive.

To help people through the pandemic, Bill Koff founded www.TinyTeahouseYoga.com Connected Community which offers 30 free yoga, exercise and meditation classes online each week with 300 members participating. It broadcasts daily from Lake Drive and is open to everyone. — *Bill Koff*

Laurel Hill Association

In our last major pre-pandemic event, we had a very successful annual meeting at the Stockbridge Library in mid-February. Our speaker, Mike Beck, the executive director of the Berkshire Botanical Garden, provided a fascinating and informative talk on the history and current developments at the garden.

One development that will be visible to the public is LHA's new, updated website. It's gorgeous—check it out at <https://laurelhillassociation.org/>. Also gorgeous are new signs coming soon to many of our trails. If you're not familiar with our trails and properties, you can learn more on the website.

In furthering LHA's mission of improving the quality of life and the environment in Stockbridge, we overcame the challenges of social distancing to mount a successful road clean-up program for Earth Day.

As drought conditions recently settled over the commonwealth, we were also able to recruit volunteers to water flowers in downtown Stockbridge. With great regret, we have canceled Laurel Hill Day for the first time in years because of the public health risks created by the pandemic, but we hope to have an event for the community in the fall. Stay tuned.

Patrick White was a valued member of the Laurel Hill Board and our representative to the SBA until he was elected as a Stockbridge selectman. It's a big loss for LHA because Patrick contributed to our mission in so many ways, but we're confident that our loss is the town's gain and that Patrick will be a force for good in his new role.

Mahkeenac Heights

For all Mahkeenac Heights residents, our verdant paradise has been enjoyed for many seasons. This year it has also provided a haven for people seeking refuge from the Covid-19 pandemic. The Abraham and Monel families have been here since mid-March and are glad to be healthy. Others came later.

We have new neighbors who are diverse and talented and whom we welcome. Paul and Lucy Malatesta come from New Jersey and are busy improving the cottage they purchased. Paul is a project manager and Lucy a child advocate associated with the courts. They have strong ties with the Berkshires.

Shelley Camhi comes to us from Queens, New York. She is a print art director who has designed at New York City newspapers and magazines and is currently at the children's publisher, Scholastic.

Rachel and Rich Sobel are second-generation homeowners. Rachel is Marty Bookspan's daughter, and spent part of each summer in Stockbridge. Rachel is a clinical social worker and education planner and has a doctorate in counseling education. Rich is a psychiatrist in Philadelphia and a former member of the Tanglewood Festival Chorus (in the 1970s). He has strong ties to Stockbridge.



"Visit from a Cloud"

Photo by Andy Gold

While many of us have renovated our houses, we now have a new house built by Rick Esposito. Rick is an interior designer from Miami, designed his own home and is a sculptor.

Our Heights community remains our refuge and our delight. — *Lorraine Abraham*

Mahkeenac Shores

This year, Mahkeenac Shores, like our entire country, is much affected by the Covid-19 pandemic, which impacts all of our lives. Thankfully, no one that we know of in our immediate community has become infected, and hopefully that will remain the case as the year progresses. Outwardly, all looks the same this year at the Shores. The lake is glorious, and our cottage community looks as pretty and inviting as ever.

The season started early, with several homes occupied in early spring, or as soon as water was available from the communal water company. Several homeowners have family visiting, with children out of school or camp, and are often working from home. We have always been a multigenerational community, and that continues.

With Tanglewood and most other cultural institutions closed for now, we rely more than ever on interactions, support from our loved ones, friends and neighbors both at the Shores and in our primary communities, and we also fully appreciate the pleasure derived from our natural surroundings here in the Berkshires.

The many opportunities to see streamed performances from the Boston Symphony and other venues have done much to maintain our connections to the artists who mean so much to us and uplift our spirits and hope that they will once again be active in the near future. Stay safe, everyone, and enjoy the summer! — *Ron Kaprov*

Mahkeenac Terrace

Mahkeenac Terrace residents continue to enjoy the beauty of the Bowl and the great gifts of the environment we live in. The impact of the SARS-CoV-2 pandemic on this summer's activities has been profound. We hope that all of our Stockbridge Bowl community remain safe and healthy.

We welcome the Deres family who moved into the Terrace, and they and their children are active participants in our community.

Our community is committed to the restoration of the Bowl and the environs to good ecologic health. The Terrace has undertaken an effort to improve safety for those walking through our community by installing new road signs and a mirror to keep pedestrians safe. The Association has embarked on an effort to reduce the impact of invasive plants on some of the common properties. We have removed several dead or dying trees and cut back underbrush and many of the invasive vines in an attempt to reduce the burden of these plants on the Bowl ecosystem. The cyanobacterial bloom and management of the destructive Milfoil have created an important awareness of the need for community participation and stewardship.

Our Association is led by our President, Louis Korman, Vice President Peter Kaim, Treasurer William Bakke and Secretary, Matt Bialer. Many of our residents have completed home renovations and the neighborhood is really looking great! We are all so lucky to be able to live in such a special place. — *David Brause and Louis Korman*

Tanglewood

Although the live summer performance schedule at Tanglewood has been cancelled for 2020, The Tanglewood Online Festival is going strong. The BSO is offering a variety of free and paid online video and audio streams. Online classes and performances are also available throughout the summer from the Tanglewood Learning Institute. Check BSO.org for Tanglewood Online and TLI information. The Tanglewood grounds will still be open in a limited capacity for visitors from July 5 through August 23, with social distancing and CDC-recommended health protocols in place. Visits will require advance registration. — *Joan Cohen (from Tanglewood website)*



"Winston, of MahKeeNac Shores" Photo by Ron Kaprov

We are saddened to report the passing of our beloved neighbor Ed Darrin. Edward was one of the original organizers and members of the Lenox Chamber of Commerce. He held membership at the Stockbridge Golf Club.

He was past treasurer of the Stockbridge Bowl Association for many years. He was appointed to the Town of Lenox Insurance Commission and was on the Board of Directors for the Berkshire Center for Families and Children.

For many years he enjoyed being in charge of water safety for the annual Josh Billings Runaround on Stockbridge Bowl. Edward loved local history and sharing his knowledge with others, however his greatest passion was orchestrating his annual 4th of July fireworks display and making his famous "Clams Diane."

He is survived by his beloved wife Diane, his daughters and grandchildren. He will be missed.



New Board Members

Phyllis (Patti) Klein, *Chair, Governance (Nominating) Committee*

Update on Election of Board Members and Officers

New board members are elected by the SBA members at the Annual Meeting, which was held last year on August 3, 2019. The board is comprised of 12 Organization Directors (chosen by their organizations) who have terms of up to three years, depending on the vacancies available, and up to 15 Individual Directors, who also have terms of up to three years. The Governance/Nominating Committee seeks candidates who are both committed to the goals of the SBA and bring the skills needed to help the board fulfill its responsibilities. Nominations from any SBA member are reviewed along with those proposed by board members. The board then votes on proposed candidates, either for renewal terms or as first-time members, and submits the Governance/Nominating Committee Report to the SBA membership at the Annual Meeting.

At the August 3, 2019 meeting, the proposed members of the new Class of 2022 were all renominated. All agreed to be proposed, and all were elected to three-year terms: Beachwood, Canyon Ranch, Kripalu, and Lake Drive Association. The representatives for all continued on the board. Lake Drive Association, however, replaced Michael Nathan, who became an Individual Member, with William (Bill) Koff. Bill jumped right in by using his IT skills to assist us in finding a new and better conference calling system.

Individual Directors Laurie Dubner, Richard Gerszberg, Richard Seltzer and Peter Strauss were reelected to three-year terms and became members of the Class of 2022. We were very grateful that Michael Nathan joined that class.

Vice-President Patti Klein, Secretary Laurie Dubner, and Treasurer Richard Gerszberg were reelected to two-year terms (expiring in 2021).

In the summer of 2019, Paul Monachina was elected by the board to fill a one-year vacancy in the Individual Director Class of 2020. We welcomed Paul to our August board meeting; he is a resident of Lee who kayaks regularly on the Bowl.

Biographies for Bill, Paul and Michael are on the following page. The full list of board members and officers can be found on the back page of this Newsletter.

We are grateful to our volunteer board for their engagement in the Lake issues we are trying to resolve and for providing the “people power” for the many projects we undertake, including support (financial and otherwise) to the Town in its various lake-related projects, as well as funding for the Invasive Species/Zebra Mussel boat wash at the Stockbridge Bowl Boat Ramp on Rte. 183. We also support the stewardship of Bullard Woods and Kunikiwat Island, the SBA-owned properties on the lake.

We seek Board members who can assist our organization in a variety of ways, attend our mainly spring-fall monthly meetings and hold a position as either an officer, chair or participant in one of our various committees. Now more than ever, with the many challenges we face in keeping our lake and properties safe and healthy, the personal commitment of time by board members, and the willingness of our member organizations to support our activities, are essential for a volunteer not-for-profit organization like the SBA. We are always in need of helping hands and new ideas.

Phyllis (Patti) Klein, Chair
Governance Committee
pannklein@yahoo.com



"Caught in the Rain"

Photo by Andy Gold

William (Bill) Koff, retired as VP and Chief Technology Officer of Computer Sciences Corporation (CSC) after a 40-year career as a consultant and executive in the computer consulting and services industry. His responsibilities included heading up the Global Research, Methodology and Executive Education organizations. Bill holds a BA (Philosophy) from Boston University and an MS (Computer Science) from Polytechnic Institute (NYU). Bill and his family have had homes in Stockbridge for the last ten years and became part of the Lake Drive Association three years ago. Bill enjoys yoga, swimming and rowing. At the beginning of the current crisis, Bill founded www.tinyteahouseyoga.com Connected Community which offers 30 free yoga and exercise classes a week. Connected Community broadcasts live, on line, from Lake Drive.

Paul Monachina, born and raised in Pittsfield, came to Lee as a freshman and has lived there his whole life. Paul worked at a paper mill for 25 years, taught social studies for two years, and carried mail in Lee for another 17 years until he retired in 2016. A student-athlete and later in life, an avid runner, his knees finally went, and he found a new obsession-kayaking. He has been paddling on the Bowl for about 13 years and has been in the Josh Billings about 20 times.

"Over the years, I've noticed the subtle changes to my favorite body of water and have been increasingly worried about the condition of the Bowl-namely the weed problem. When I was asked me to consider being part of the SBA, I was thrilled. I hope that I can help when I can and try and learn more about what the SBA is doing to prevent this lake from its inevitable fate- if nothing is done.

As part of an ecology class I took at BCC, we went to the Marian Fathers bog and learned that it was once a functioning body of water! Several lakes and ponds in Massachusetts have already succumbed to exploding plant growth and eventually have turned to marshes and bogs. Laurel Lake in Lee and Lenox is rapidly failing because of either a lack of interest or worse-ignorance! I do not want to see that happen to the Bowl."

Michael Nathan a full-time Stockbridge resident and co-chair of the Town's Stockbridge Bowl Stewardship Commission, has been on the SBA board for over 12 years as the Lake Drive Association representative. After election by the SBA membership at the SBA Annual Meeting in August 2019, the SBA board welcomed him to a three-year term as an individual director.

Capital Campaign

Thank you for your generous contribution to the Save Stockbridge Bowl Campaign to protect the lake for our use now and for future generations. The Stockbridge Bowl Association will continue to direct its efforts to the challenges of maintaining the viability of this treasured lake.

If your name has been inadvertently omitted from this list, is misspelled, or is in an incorrect category, please let us know by contacting the SBA at P.O. Box 118, Stockbridge, MA 01262.

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Pat Kennelly, Membership Chair

Listed below, and continued on the next page are the names of those who have supported the SBA from June 1, 2019 through May 31, 2020. If your name appears below, thank you for your support of the stewardship of the lake. Your membership dollars support monitoring the lake's water quality; managing our 55 acres of Bullard woods, including the grooming of hiking trails and removal of invasive plant species; maintenance of Kwuniikwat Island; hosting the SBA Annual Meeting; and publishing this newsletter!

If your name has been inadvertently omitted from this list, is misspelled, or is in an incorrect category, please let us know by contacting the SBA at P.O. Box 118, Stockbridge, MA 01262.

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Membership in the Stockbridge Bowl Association is open to any individual, family, or organization wishing to preserve and protect the lake. You may become a member by sending your dues/contribution payable to Stockbridge Bowl Association, P.O. Box 118, Stockbridge, MA 01262.

- Yes, I would like to celebrate the beauty of the lake and support its preservation.
- Eagle: \$1,000+ Egret: \$500-\$999 Blue Heron: \$250-\$499 Trout: \$100-\$249 Turtle: up to \$99
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"Picnic"

Photo by Rebekah Zinavage



"Sunset on the Bowl"

Photo by Andy Gold

STOCKBRIDGE BOWL ASSOCIATION



Stockbridge Bowl Association
P.O. Box 118
Stockbridge, MA 01262