

LAKE DAMON NEWSLETTER

OCTOBER 2025

Dear Readers,

I can't believe fall has arrived and we only have a few weeks left before our family closes up our camp for the season. I am very envious of you all who can enjoy all four seasons at the lake.

The board continues to meet over the winter and I would like to urge you to join in person or via zoom to stay in the loop and connected to what the board is working on.

Best,
Christine



Just a friendly reminder that your
annual dues are due on 10/30/2025

Next Board Meeting

Date: October 11th

Location:?????

Time: 10am

2025/2026 LDC BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Aram Flores - President
Cynthia Burr - Vice President
Cassandra Celatka - Clerk
Susan Zuroff- Treasurer
Carol Blanchard
Allyson Brown
Matthew DiRocco
Arthur Doty
Ginger Dubois
Ethan Fenn
Robert Gosselin
Marianne Hoag
Sherrill Redmon
Steven Stathis
Christine Willis

2025/2026 Committees Members

Land Committee

Carol Blanchard - Chair
Steven Stathis
Ethan Fenn
Sherrill Redmon
Janet Scully

Dam Committee

Matthew DiRocco - Chair
Bruce Schwartz - Dam Master
Cynthia Burr

Lake Committee

Robert Gosselin - Chair
Allyson Brown
Arthur Doty
Steven Willis
Dwight Baghdoyan

Buildings Committee

Christine Willis - Chair
Marianne Hoag
Ginger Dubois



Dam Committee

Our engineer, Dave Battista, has received the geotechnical boring report and is forging ahead with the final dam design. Once that is completed (hopefully later in the fall) we will be able to apply for construction permits as well as receive a construction cost estimate from Dave.

The Damon grant writing team is beginning to review the Mass Dam and Seawall construction grant application. If we are fortunate enough to be awarded a construction grant it will offset what will be a substantial construction cost so please keep up to date on your dam assessments so when the time comes we are prepared to proceed. There is no guarantee of a construction grant award so we need to be prepared to do this on our own if need be. THANK YOU !! to all our stock holders for contributing and supporting this effort to bring our dam up to modern specifications and thereby preserve the integrity of the pond for us to enjoy as well as future generations.

For a more thorough description of our journey to fix the dam, be sure to read Mike Frost's newsletter entry about "old gent Damon" this month.

Land Committee

Berry Patch

The blueberry patch (henceforth known as the "Berry Patch") has made a nice recovery after it was mowed down earlier this summer. Two volunteers, Bobbi and Fiona, helped to mark it off. We were amazed at the concentration of swamp dewberry, technically called a sub-shrub (groundcover). You might have it in your yard; I see it near my dock. It sends out red shoots that attach to the ground and can trip you. There were thousands of little berries on the swamp dewberry. The flowers of this plant are visited primarily by bees, and the fruits are eaten by many species of songbirds and mammals.

Interspersed in this area was not just low and high bush blueberries, but other shrubs that are important to wildlife. There were many arrowwood viburnum. Another shrub we found was white meadowsweet, or white spirea. These plants attract pollinators, songbirds, butterflies, and host some caterpillars. Birds need caterpillars for food! For example, chickadees have one brood each spring that can stay in the nest for up to 16 days and require as many as 9,000 juicy caterpillars. If you visited local plant centers such as the Native Plant Trust in Whately, (and if the LDC shrubs were allowed to grow more than a few years before being cut down), they would cost you \$45.00 or more.

The Berry Patch also includes Velvetleaf Huckleberry, which is a more northern blueberry plant. There were other trees that can be maintained as shrubs, such as Serviceberry. This tree flowers early, a bonus for bees, and the tasty berries support numerous butterfly and bird species.

The job of the Land Committee is mostly focused on the roads, mowing, and dead trees. All very important tasks! The Lake Damon Corporation Bylaws, Article 1 Section 3. states:

The purpose of this Corporation shall be to promote (list of fun activities) and the scientific study and propagation of harmless wild animal life, etc. (please see bylaws for full list of the purpose.)

It is a pleasure to be able to spend even a small portion of time in assisting wild animal life during this difficult period of climate change. We need all the caterpillars, moths, butterflies, bees and other insects that flourish in the berry patch.



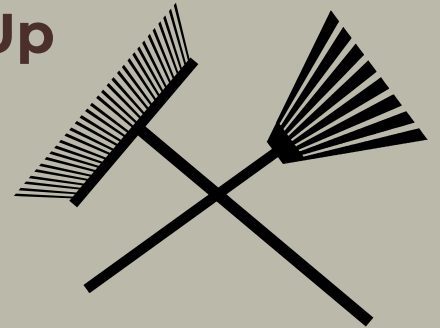
The Farm House Clean Up

When: Saturday, October 11th

Time: 1pm

Where: The Farmhouse

The buildings committee will be hosting a fall clean up of the farmhouse after the board meeting on October 11th. With many hands these tasks should take less than an hour. Bring gardening gloves and weed wackers/ gardening tools!



Land Committee Hike

When: Sunday, October 12th

Time: 2pm

Where: North end of Don Emerson Road

Join the land committee on a guided hike of the trails on the old Terry property. These trails, used to be on private property but, Ethan recently purchased this land and is making the trails available to stockholders.



Craving a Little Peace and Joy in Your Life?

Day: Saturday, November 1

Time: 10:00 to 12:00

Location: Chesterfield Community Center, 400 Main Rd

Come and discover with Roslyn new ways to use writing, drawing, humor, self-compassion and more to bring greater peace and joy into your life and relationships. With guest appearances by the dolphins and whales!

Presenter: Roslyn Malkin. Ph.D. Roslyn is a personal and spiritual mentor, author, family business consultant, world traveler, and lover of bad puns. Visit: liveyourgreatness.net

Free Workshop for ages 16 to 106. Light snacks and beverages will be provided. Optional: Bring a small object to help create our sacred space.

**THANK
YOU!**

Many thanks to the nameless Bray Rd person who cut up the intruding tree that Marianne Hoag had trimmed to allow passage.

Many Damon Ponders step up to help without calling attention to themselves. Don Emerson Rd had a recent rotten tree/ downed `wires situation in the road with possible danger. Carol, Janet and Peter Scully stepped up to make sure people were safe. Come to find out, the wire had not only been ripped from the house, but also ripped out of the electric panel!

Again, appreciation to those who step up in situations that need decisive action.



Affairs Of Import

By: Mike Frost

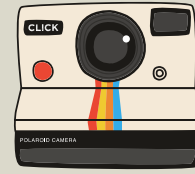
Once upon a time in a peaceful land not far away, there lived a languid old gent named Damon. For 100 years he quietly provided joy to those around him and a safe home for all the creatures he attracted, asking very little in return. Over the years he weathered many storms and his health was seldom an issue, until a brief but tempestuous affair with a certain Irene left him with a prodigious gash in his, well, outflow tract. The surrounding community was gravely concerned as life was gushing out of him by the minute. Industrious beavers desperately tried to stem the flow with sticks and mud, but their earnest efforts were in vain. A heroic team of bipeds quickly mobilized and with mighty machines and the best available materials performed an emergency operation to close the gaping wound, stop the leak, and save a life. Full health quickly returned and there was much celebration, camaraderie, and slapping of tails in gratitude. Everyone was rewarded with many more years of peaceful enjoyment and happiness. Damon seemed rejuvenated and continued to age gracefully as before.

Then, a dozen years later, an insidious incontinence was discovered from Damon's nether regions, and it was slowly worsening. The beavers and the bipeds were equally perplexed by this unexpected turn of events, so specialists were consulted, measurements were made, meetings were held, heads were scratched, biopsies were taken and sent to laboratories for testing. It was finally concluded that no amount of crushed rock, mud, Leak-Stop or FlexSeal would stem the flow this time. The experts opined that a permanent cure would require a complicated operation by competent professional operators to replace the failing outflow system with modern materials and technology. With meticulous planning and proper execution the long term prognosis was declared favorable. But all the planning, permitting, procurement and placement was predicted to be expensive. Very expensive. Gastronomically expensive! Poor Damon did not have insurance coverage for such an operation, no gold shares to sell, no rich uncle to lean on, and government grants were drying up faster than the beech tree leaves along Bray Road. Those close to Damon gathered to make an important choice: ignore the leak and watch their beloved friend waste away to nothing, or make the fiscal sacrifices necessary to let Damon live. They consulted experts, they consulted each other, and they consulted their hearts. They chose life, no matter what the cost.

The reconstruction was taxing, messy, but eminently successful. Damon recovered and repaid them handsomely with another 100 years of peaceful enjoyment and happiness, and a safe home for all the creatures he attracted. The End.



Red Fox, September 2025- Carol



Share your pictures with the
community!
You can email them to
cscatko@gmail.com



Sandhill Cranes - Janet
spotted (and heard) in September by the island.
They were extremely noisy and brought many
people outside to see what was happening.



Sandhill Cranes- Christine



Sunset- Janet



Possum #7 September 2025- Carol