
SPRINGY POND ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER

Volume 2, Issue 1

Summer 1997

Association Issues Newsletter

A different means of communicating Association business

J. Todd Sekera

President

Welcome to the second volume of the Springy Pond Association Newsletter. Dave Pelletier produced the first volume of the Newsletter shortly after the Association was founded. The purpose of this newsletter is to inform members of Association business and to discuss topics of interest regarding Springy Pond. For those who have never attended our annual meeting or contributed to the Association, we welcome you to do so. The primary purpose of the Association is to collect funds for maintenance of the Springy Pond Road. Although membership is voluntary and payment of dues is not required, please remember that maintenance of the road is the responsibility of Springy Pond property owners. This task is most easily accomplished if everyone contributes his or her fair share.

We have not held our traditional annual meeting for two years due to lack of a volunteer host for the 1995 meeting and adverse weather conditions forcing the cancellation of the 1996 meeting. Our annual meeting is tentatively scheduled for Saturday, July 26, 1997. If we have no volunteers to host the annual meeting, then the 1997 Association business will be communicated via a future newsletter. In future years, this newsletter may serve as a substitute for the annual meeting and as a means of communicating Association business. I would appreciate hearing from you with your questions and comments concerning topics discussed in this newsletter and with ideas for possible future newsletters. I may be contacted by phone (947-5372), mail (241 Silver Road, Bangor, ME 04401), or by email (springyp@aol.com).❖

MDIFW Continues Fish Stocking Program

New species introduced

A new fish species has been introduced into Lower Springy Pond. In the spring of 1995, 200 ten to twelve inch splake were stocked by the Maine Department of Inland Fisheries

and Wildlife (MDIFW) on an experimental basis. The MDIFW has instituted splake stocking programs at other lakes throughout Maine with success, including Mopang, Beddington, Toddy, and Jacob Buck in this area. The name splake is derived from speckled trout (a common name for brook trout in New York and Ontario), and from lake trout (togue). Splake are hatchery produced hybrids from lake trout eggs and brook trout milt. These fish are reared at Governor Hill hatchery in Augusta for Maine stocking programs.

Since splake are hybrids, their habitat preferences, which Lower Springy Pond possesses, are somewhere between those of their parents. Although the small volume of cool, well oxygenated water in Lower Springy Pond is not ideal for salmon growth, splake are more tolerant of these conditions. Splake, unlike other salmonids, will feed heavily on small yellow and white perch in addition to typical foods such as smelt. Since these species are present in Lower Springy Pond, it is anticipated that the splake will have an adequate forage base to sustain an acceptable growth rate. Although splake can spawn and produce viable offspring, there have not been any documented cases of splake reproduction in Maine. Currently, the only way to sustain the population is by continued stocking.

The landlocked salmon fishery in Lower Springy Pond has been marginal since their introduction in 1969. The salmon stocking program has been discontinued until the relative success/failure of the splake program has been evaluated. MDIFW biologists indicate that growth of splake into the 2 to 3 pound range would be considered a success.

The following table summarizes minimum length and daily limit regulations in Lower Springy Pond. Please refer to the current MDIFW fishing law book before heading out on the water.

SPECIES	MINIMUM LENGTH	DAILY LIMIT
Salmon	14"	2
Brook Trout	12"	2*
Splake	12"	2*
Pickeral	none	10
Other	none	none

*only one fish may exceed 14"

Due to a statewide shortage, no splake were stocked in Lower Springy Pond in 1996. As a substitute, 200 brook trout were stocked. It is expected that future brook trout stockings will be limited. The splake stocking program was scheduled to resume with a stocking of 200 fish last May. These fish will have an adipose (the small fleshy fin in front of the tail) fin clip.❖

Water Quality Monitoring

Program continuing since 1994

A water quality monitoring program was initiated on Lower Springy Pond in 1994 and has continued through the present. No monitoring program has been instituted at the Pond in the past. Secchi disk transparency and temperature/dissolved oxygen profiles were measured throughout the open water season. Samples for pH, conductivity, total dissolved solids, alkalinity, color and total phosphorus were taken in late August. The data collected has been forwarded to the Maine Department of Environmental Protection (MDEP) for inclusion in the statewide database.

With only three years of data, long term water quality trends cannot yet be determined. However, the dissolved oxygen levels and secchi disk transparency measured in 1996 do differ from levels measured in 1994 and 1995. This may be attributed to the large amount of rainfall we had this past year. It appears that the water quality in Lower Springy Pond is above average when compared to other Maine lakes with similar testing programs. Data collected by the Bangor Water District from Floods Pond and Beech Hill Pond this past summer indicates that the water quality in these two lakes is comparable to Lower Springy Pond.

The testing program is scheduled to continue in 1997. Reviews of Lower Springy Pond water quality data will be presented in future newsletters.❖

BWD Sells Shorefront Property

Bangor group submits highest bid

After Bangor Water District was formed in 1957, Legislative Charter granted it in 1958, in addition to Floods Pond, the rights to draw water from Beech Hill Pond and Lower Springy Pond. In 1959, the District purchased approximately 6.9 acres of land with 1,500 feet of shore frontage on Lower Springy Pond for the purpose of constructing a pumping facility if future demands required the development of an additional water source. The nature

of the District allowed it tax exempt status from the Town of Otis. As the District's land holdings increased over the years, the Town became concerned with the loss of taxable property. In 1995, the Town and the District reached an agreement. Part of that agreement was for the District to relinquish its water rights to Lower Springy Pond and to sell its shorefront property on Lower Springy Pond.

Bangor Water District's water rights to Lower Springy Pond were relinquished in the summer of 1995 when the Legislature approved amendments to the Charter. The District then offered the property for sale by sealed bid. In October 1995, the bids were opened and publicly read. The bids were as follows: Bruce Brookings - \$1,101, M & S Realty Trust - \$22,100, Stockade Group - \$45,000, and John Morrison - \$17,010. Stockade Group purchased the property from Bangor Water District is currently listing the property with J. F. Singleton Co. of Bangor. They have been looking at the possibility of subdividing the property, but plans were on hold due to a Town of Otis moratorium that prohibited new construction within 1000 feet of the shoreline. The moratorium was supposedly lifted last month.❖

Road Commissioner's Annual Report

Excellent condition of road due to efforts of Dave & Dave

Our Road Commissioner, Dave Brooks, has continued to successfully coordinate road maintenance. As we all can see, he has done an excellent job.

In 1994, extensive repairs were done by Sanzaro Construction on the bridge near Lyford's camp. Washouts on the surface of the bridge had narrowed the traveled portion of the bridge significantly. Repair included laying large logs along the shoulders of the bridge and positioning of boulders to hold the logs in place. Fill was then added to the bridge surface between the logs and was graded to

promote surface runoff. The repair has held up quite well over the last three years. Also in 1994, Sanzaro Construction improved the hill between the two gravel pits. The road surface, having been subjected to many years of washouts, had become very rough and was difficult to grade. Repair included removal of the old wearing surface and placement and compaction of new material. Grading of the new surface promoted surface runoff. Wayne Bragg, a former camp owner on the east side of Lower Springy, used his own equipment to grade the road to the east of the sign on many occasions.

In 1995, Sanzaro Construction was contracted to haul over 10,000 cubic yards of borrow material for the construction of the Bangor Water District's Ozone Treatment Facility near Floods Pond. During this project, Sanzaro Construction maintained the portion of road between their gravel pit and the Floods Pond road by grading, hauling in fill on various portions of the road, and ditching in some wet areas at no cost to the Association. The portion of the road from their gravel pit to Route 180 was also maintained at no cost to the Association.

In 1996, a culvert at the small stream that drains into Upper Springy Pond (located between the two gravel pits) was upgraded. During periods of high runoff, especially during the spring, the existing culvert could not handle the increased volume of water flowing in the stream. As a result, the excess water flowed over the surface of the road and caused extensive washouts. The upgrading included placing an additional culvert adjacent to the existing one and regrading the road in the vicinity of the culvert. The Association purchased the new culvert and Sanzaro Construction provided installation at no cost to the Association. Repair was also done during 1996 along the road south of the Floods Pond Road intersection. Repair included filling some low areas where water would collect and some grading. A culvert located near Tom Duffy's camp was also replaced.

Sanzaro Construction purchased a used grader not long ago. Fortunately, they have graded the road on several occasions at no cost to the Association. We wish to extend our sincerest thanks and appreciation to Dave Sanzaro of Sanzaro Construction for his continued efforts in maintaining the road. The road has been in excellent condition the last few years due to Dave's efforts.

This year to date, Sanzaro Construction has cleared trees along the shoulders of the road to improve visibility, done some ditching to improve drainage, placed fill on many areas of the road, and has graded the road several times. Planning of future projects will depend upon our treasury balance.❖

Treasurer's Annual Report

Current balance is unusually low

We wish to thank John Berry for his four years of service as Treasurer. He spent a great deal of time corresponding with the IRS. Todd Sekera is currently acting as Treasurer until we find an able volunteer. Our income and expenses for 1994 through 1996 are as follows:

1994

Beginning balance	\$1167.01
Internal Revenue Service	(\$4.28)
Sanzaro Construction (bridge)	(\$292.50)
Wayne Bragg (grading)	(\$50.00)
Sanzaro Construction (hill)	(\$800.00)
Deposits (dues)	\$340.00
Interest	\$30.47
Ending Balance	\$390.70

1995

Beginning balance	\$390.70
Internal Revenue Service	(\$4.57)
1994 Picnic supplies	(\$21.21)
Deposits (dues)	\$160.00
Interest	\$12.72
Ending Balance	\$537.64

1996

Beginning balance	\$537.64
Internal Revenue Service	(\$1.91)
John Harris (culverts)	(\$360.00)
Dave Brooks (collar)	(\$14.00)
Check service charge	(\$1.00)
Deposits (dues)	\$410.00
Interest	\$12.16
Ending Balance	\$582.89

We have expended \$520.00 so far this year on road maintenance, and our current balance is \$66.56. Dues for 1997 are \$15.00, or any affordable amount, payable to Springy Pond Association. Payment can be made at the annual meeting (if one is held). If you are unable to attend this year's meeting, or if the meeting is cancelled, you can submit your payment to Todd Sekera or Dave Brooks until we elect a new Treasurer. Please make an effort to contribute to the Association.❖

Association Merger

Potential merging of two Associations not likely

As most of you are probably aware, there are two associations on Lower Springy Pond. The Springy Pond Association was established in 1968 to collect funds and provide coordination of road maintenance. It is an informal organization with no established bylaws and optional membership. The Springy Pond Campowners Association was established in 1991 when Diamond Occidental Forest, Inc. sold its leased camp lots in Otis. This is a formal organization where membership is required and documentation is filed with the Hancock County Registry of Deeds.

Members of the Springy Pond Campowners Association have expressed interest in merging the two Associations. Mr. Robert E. Murray, Jr. of the law firm Rudman & Winchell in Bangor agreed to review the Declaration of Covenants, Conditions, and Restrictions and the Bylaws of the Springy Pond Campowners Association. Mr. Murray provided an interpretation of these documents relative to merging the two Associations. Mr. Murray indicated that because of the nature of the conveyances by Diamond Occidental Forest, Inc., it becomes extremely difficult, if not impossible, to simply add other lots or members to that same Association. Mr. Murray also indicated that the alternative to trying to add

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ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

more members to the Springy Pond Campowners Association, is to maintain the separate Springy Pond Association to which all Springy Pond campowners can more easily belong. Although this may involve some duplication, the obstacles to creating only one association, under current circumstances, may be too difficult to overcome.❖

Meeting Minutes

1994 Annual meeting

The 1994 meeting was held on July 30 at the Sekera's camp. Thirty-one people were in attendance. The Treasurer (John Berry) reported an account balance of \$884.78. Our account was transferred from Peoples Heritage Bank to Bangor Savings Bank for added convenience to the Treasurer. Expenditures were \$292.50 for bridge repair and \$50.00 for Wayne Bragg. A discussion of trash being left at the end of the road before Monday morning resulted in no solutions. Todd Sekera is checking the Lower Springy Pond water quality and compared to other lakes in the State, it is better than average. Buddy Murray is reviewing the bylaws of the association in Otis and indicated that it doesn't look as though its possible to dissolve that association. If Diamond Occidental Forest, Inc. or D&D Realty Trust wanted to dissolve the association, they could. Todd Sekera is continuing to research the situation. Election of Officers: Edith Brooks - Secretary, John Berry - Treasurer, Dave Brooks - Road Commissioner, and Todd Sekera - President.

