

Our Mission:

To protect and improve the watershed of Great Pond and Long Pond through Preservation, Education and Action.

BELGRADE LAKES ASSOCIATION

Spring/Summer 2008

BLA Celebrates 100th and You're Invited

To commemorate our 100th anniversary, the Belgrade Lakes Association plans a summer-long "party" for members and visitors to the region. There will be events and activities that everyone can enjoy. Highlights include the first ever triathlon in Belgrade Lakes (BLT), a special Centennial Raffle to win a 20' pontoon boat, a Lobster Bake, Auction and our 100th Annual Meeting.

Come celebrate with us and join in the fun all summer long! Your participation helps preserve and protect our lakes and the larger watershed around us.

Once in 100 Years Raffle!! (Thank you Hamlin's Marine!)

...valued at just over \$25,000

Only 350 raffle tickets will be sold! The cost is \$100 per ticket or 3 for \$250. Tickets will be on sale in the village until they are sold out or at the raffle drawing August 9th, whichever comes first.



In addition to donating this awesome boat for our Centennial Raffle, Hamlin's will also donate to BLA 1% of the purchase price of each new boat sold to BLA members this summer. We can't thank the good people at Hamlin's Marine enough for their generous sponsorship!

If your business is interested in BLA Centennial sponsorship opportunities, please call the BLA office at 207-512-5150.



10 Things You Can Do to Celebrate BLA's 100th

- Come to a special Centennial Event during the summer — we've got a lot going on, and you're invited! Go to belgradelakesassociation.com for all the details.
- Tell us your story — your memories are a part of BLA history, and we want you to share them on our website.
- Give a BLA gift membership — share your love of Great and Long Ponds by giving a gift to family and friends that will help keep our lakes healthy and beautiful for future generations.
- Volunteer — contact Alan Charles, our Volunteer Coordinator, at bla_org@roadrunner.com or 512-5150 to sign up to be a Courtesy Boat Inspector, Merganser spotter, sell raffle tickets in the village, and more.
- Participate in our LakeSmart program — contact Sue Thierren-Fenn at BLA Office to sign up for a LakeSmart evaluation.
- Buy a \$100 Centennial Raffle ticket to win a 20 foot Pontoon Boat or a \$5 Annual Raffle ticket to win either an Old Town canoe, 3 sections of Shoremaster dock, or a day of guided fishing with Mike Guarino.
- Plant a buffer to reduce phosphorus loading into the lakes. Guidelines available at belgradelakesassociation.com
- Purchase your boat at Hamlin's Marine and Hamlin's will give back 1% of the purchase price to the BLA.
- Attend our 100th Annual Meeting on August 9th at Loon Cove.
- Become a Centennial Member — Join the BLA for \$100 or more and receive a limited edition of photographs of Great Pond and Long Pond.

This keepsake newsletter is being sent as a courtesy to everyone on the BLA list, and we hope you'll come share in our Centennial Fun! In the future, only BLA members in good standing will receive a mailed copy of our newsletter, so Join Today!*





We're All in This Together!

(from BRCA newsletter)

Our Belgrade Lakes Watershed covers approximately 180 square miles and includes portions of 13 municipalities. Cooperation is essential in handling issues of land use and water quality, so the Belgrade Regional Conservation Alliance (BRCA) **Lake Trust** hosted a Watershed Forum last October. The focus was on the makeup of the watershed itself, the severity of water-quality problems, and the tools available to local officials involved with land-use decisions.

The BLA focuses on protecting and preserving water quality in Great Pond and Long Pond, but we cannot do it alone. A member of the **Lake Trust**, we are also committed to working collaboratively with other lake associations and the BRCA within the larger Belgrade watershed to conserve land, provide education and outreach, and improve water quality. To find out more about the **Lake Trust**, go to belgradelakes.org.

Presentations and discussion points are posted on the BRCA website: belgradelakes.org/water. As residents and visitors to the watershed, we're all in this together.

What's Next for Gloeotrichia

By Roger Shannon, Water Quality Chair

As discussed in our fall/winter newsletter, Gloeotrichia — the “green bloom” — has become a problem in Great and Long ponds, and phosphorus is the main cause of its growth. Phosphorus comes with nearly everything that washes into the water, from septic tanks, to lakeshore lawns, to each soil particle eroded from camp roads. There is no quick fix, but the BLA has intensively studied methods used around the country, looking for anything that might help. Two approaches hold some promise, not for a long-term cure, but for some local effect where blooms are the most persistent. These are scheduled for testing this spring and summer if we can meet regulatory and safety standards. The cost is estimated at approximately \$50,000.

Commercial ultrasound machines kill the group of organisms (cyanobacteria) to which Gloeotrichia belongs. These devices may have some use locally in lakes, but little is known about results in open water. Therefore, our tests will look beyond the Gloeotrichia itself to assess the safety for humans and other lake inhabitants.

A less costly and intuitively safer method has been found for spots where the lakeshore terrain is suitable. In those places, it may be possible to *pump* scum safely into wooded areas where it can decompose without bothering humans. The objective is to remove the distasteful biomass and at least a small amount of phosphorus.

These tests are being done in response to members' desire that we explore all avenues of remediation. They will not in themselves provide a lasting cure.

That will require all of us in the watershed to cut back the phosphorus loading of our valued lakes. **Nothing else is so important.**

Therefore, this summer's plans for testing should be put in perspective with the continuing BLA effort to put in place a comprehensive watershed management plan in collaboration with the BRCA Lake Trust, Maine DEP, and Colby College. The final plan will emphasize:

- Reducing phosphorus input to the lakes by:
 - Identifying sources of phosphorus so that loading can be prevented or mitigated;
 - Expanding the LakeSmart Program offered by the DEP;
 - Advocating vigorous observance of the new State ban on phosphorus fertilizers;
 - Education and enforcement of existing shoreline land-use codes.
- Continued search for and testing of specific ways to control cyanobacteria blooms.
- Monitoring of relevant, scientifically valid land and water data throughout the watershed.
- Comprehensive, geographically identified management of those data.
- Dissemination of the resulting information to the wide variety of users in the watershed so that all may contribute to the protection and improvement of our lands and lakes.

Contact our Volunteer Coordinator, Alan Charles, at bla_org@roadrunner.com to find out how you can participate in our Gloeo Watch program.

First-Ever “Aquafest” in August

By Maureen Maslak, BLA Secretary

The Belgrade Watershed Aquafest is a community-wide family event scheduled for **August 29th and 30th** — so save those dates! Festivities begin Friday evening with a cocktail reception (for grown-ups only) at the Belgrade Lakes Golf Course from 5 to 7 P.M. Then, bright and early Saturday morning, an action-packed day starts off with a 5K “Race for the Lakes.” Other activities include a fun run for all ages (and dogs are invited, too), kayak and swimming races, games, T-shirt painting, and a number of prize events for kids in different age groups. There will also be a free raffle with huge prizes and a family picnic/barbecue.

Aquafest is presented by the BRCA to raise funds for the **Lake Trust** to benefit water-quality projects and to improve public enjoyment of our lakes. Sponsorship opportunities are available, and a call to the BRCA office (207-495-6039) will get you all the information you might need — as a sponsor or a volunteer. Registration materials are available from the BLA, or — better yet — register online at belgradelakes.org. There's lots of fun to be had and lots of opportunities for volunteers!



BLA and Camp Runoia Team Up for First-Ever Triathlon

The new Belgrade Lakes Triathlon (BLT) scheduled for June 21st benefits the Belgrade Lakes Association and Camp Runoia Alumni

Organization. A half-mile swim in Great Pond is followed by a 25-mile bike race around Great Pond (traveling through downtown Belgrade), and then a 5-mile run tops off the triathlon. Camp Runoia

will be the staging area for participants, providing overnight accommodations — including dinner — the night before the race.

Tri-Maine, a sports production company in Portland, is handling the logistics for the event. Individuals may sign up for all three legs of the race, or as part of a team. Volunteers are needed, so call the BLA office! To register, or get more information, call 207-221-5420 x 3 or visit the website tri-maine.com. And, to find out about the many sponsorship opportunities that are available, please contact Matti Bradley, BLT Sponsorship Coordinator, at belgradelakestriathlon@yahoo.com.



Thank you to our Centennial Sponsors

Camp Runoia
ColorStorm, Inc.
Day's Store
Darn Tough Vermont
F.A. Rizzo Appraisal
Golden Pond Wealth Management
Hamlin's Marine
Hammond Lumber Co.
Hannaford
Lakepoint Real Estate
LL Bean
Maggie's Bedding Warehouse.Com
Maine Wilderness Tours
M.S. Walker
Valley Distributors, Inc
The Village Inn

BLA Annual Raffle – Another Great One!

This year, the following prizes will be given away in our traditional annual raffle:

Grand Prize: Canoe Package & More - Old Town 16' Guide Canoe, Life Jackets, Paddles, & BLA Centennial Map.

Valued at over \$5,000 - Donated by Gail Rizzo & Pat Donahue Lakepoint Real Estate; F.A. Rizzo Appraisals; Carol Johnson Allstate Insurance; & LL Bean

Second Prize: Three sections of Shoremaster Dock

Valued at over \$2,000
Donated by Hammond Lumber Company

Third Prize: Two nights lodging on Belgrade Stream with full day of guided fishing or sightseeing in the Belgrades

Valued at over \$500 - Donated by Mike Guarino of Maine Wilderness Tours

Drawing will take place at the Annual Meeting on August 9th. Tickets \$5 each - 6 for \$25. To buy your tickets, look for our June mailing, visit Days Store, Lake Point Real Estate or our sales table in Belgrade Lakes most weekends, or just stop in our office above the Belgrade Lakes Post Office.

Calling All Volunteers!

We need your help to celebrate our Centennial and protect and preserve our lakes!!



Here's how you can help:

- Join - become a member and help "protect and preserve" our lakes.
- Be a Centennial Sponsor and sponsor an activity or centennial event.
- Donate an item to Silent/Live Auction at our Annual Meeting - August 9th.
- Continue to be generous in your gifts, and buy plenty of raffle tickets.
- Volunteer your time:
 - Office help — help with mailings, filings, newsletters, and keeping our website and database up to date
 - Sell Raffle Tickets in the Village
 - Participate in a Water Quality Program
 - CBI - become a Courtesy Boat Inspector and help prevent milfoil infestation in our lakes
 - Swimmer's Itch -
 - Gloeo Watch - participate in our Gloeotrichia monitoring program
 - LakeSmart — sign up for a LakeSmart evaluation
 - VLMP — become a water quality monitor for your lake
 - IPP — sign up to be an invasive plant patrol monitor
 - Model Buffer — display our model buffer banner on your property
 - Help out with a summer event
 - June 21st Belgrade Lakes Triathlon (BLT)
 - July 4th car and boat parades
 - August 9th Lobster Bake/Auction
 - August 29th Aquafest



Don't forget to attend our 100th Annual Meeting at Loon Cove August 9th



Introducing the first in a series of "Profiles in the Belgrades" – stories about people & places in the Belgrade Watershed. To submit suggestions, visit belgradelakesassociation.com.



camp runoia

A Summer Tradition on Great Pond

By Pam Cobb Heuberger, Director and BLA Advisory Committee Member

When the New England summer-camp movement came alive in the late 1800s and early 1900s, most of the facilities were for boys. There were few camps where girls could go to escape the heat and pollution of the cities — until two teachers from New York felt called to give girls the same opportunity boys had.

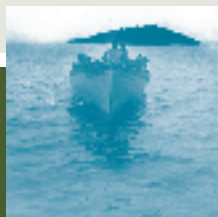
In 1906, Lucy Weiser and Jessie Pond arrived in Belgrade Depot looking for a site on which to start a girls' camp. They secured a rental property near Loon Cove, and opened the gates in 1907 to nine girls for the first season of Camp Runoia. Activities at camp were as daring as paddling around Great Pond, reading classics aloud during rest hour, hiking Mount Phillip, doing needlepoint work, and storytelling.

After several summers on the lake, in 1914 Miss Weiser and Miss Pond purchased the beautiful Wentworth farm on the south side of Great Pond — the current home of Camp Runoia. During the winter of 1915, with the help of local men and draft horses, the women hauled a building across the frozen lake from their leased site to the new property. This building became the kitchen and dining hall for the camp, which ran continuously and soundly for decades under Miss Weiser's supervision.

When Jessie Pond died in her forties, Lucy Weiser hired a teacher from Cincinnati to manage the camp, and Marion "Johnny" Johnson was affiliated with Camp Runoia for over 50 years.

In 1959, the aging Miss Weiser sold the camp to a young couple named Phil and Betty Cobb. They made many improvements to the camp, adding buildings, expanding the dining hall, putting in clay tennis courts, and erecting a horse-riding barn. I bought the camp from my parents in 1996, after working alongside them for six years, and in 2006, Camp Runoia celebrated its centennial season. The following year, 2007, the camp received the Maine DEP's Lake Smart award for living lightly on the land for the sake of the lake. These days, more than 185 girls come each summer to enjoy activities that range from sailing to rock-wall climbing, wilderness camping to drama classes, riflery to photography.

Things have certainly changed!



Mail boat Rainbow, owned by Dan Webster, circa 1950, with Hoyts and Indian Islands in the distance.

Great Pond Mailboat to Resume

(Edited with permission of the Waterville Morning Sentinel)

Shoreline mail delivery on Great Pond is set to begin for the summer on June 15, and will run through September 15. A mailboat has pattered around the summer delivery route for at least 60 years, and Norm Shaw has been the "mailman" for the past four years. "It's the best summer job in the world," Shaw said. "It's fresh air, it's people, everybody you deliver to on the lake – they're happy." Along the 33-mile route, Shaw provides mail to about 100 residents and can take up to four passengers along in his Boston Whaler. "It's just a fun thing," he said. "A lot of people . . . ride it over and over."

To keep mail boat service running on Great Pond, call Norm Shaw at 207-215-7520 for delivery, or subscribe to the Morning Sentinel by calling 1-800-370-5701.

COMMUNITY, COLLABORATION & CELEBRATION

Don't Miss the Action! Here's What's Happening This Summer at the BLA!

SUMMER CALENDAR

MAY

Centennial Special Edition Newsletter

MAY-AUG 9

Annual Raffle/Centennial Raffle Ticket Sales in the Village - Drawings for both raffles will be during the 100th BLA Annual Meeting/Lobster Bake/Auction at Loon Cove on August 9th.

BLA Retail - Mugs, Maps, and many other special items will be available for sale all summer long.

JUNE 21

Belgrade Lakes Triathlon (BLT) - Go to www.tri-maine.com to register or contact Alan Charles, Volunteer Coordinator, at 512-5150 to volunteer.

JULY

Lakes Appreciation Month - BLA celebrates with sailboat races, kayak trips, Lake Days activities and more.

JULY 4

Floats in Boat and Car Parades in Belgrade Lakes

JULY 13TH

Champagne Reception & Movie Night at Waterville Opera House during the well known Maine International Film Festival (MIFF)

AUGUST 9

100th Annual Meeting/Lobster Bake/Auction

- BLA is teaming up with the Belgrade Community Center for All Seasons to celebrate with a Lobster Bake and Auction following our 100th Annual Meeting at Loon Cove. Tickets for the Lobster Bake are on sale June 2nd-July 18th and are \$50 a head or \$375 for an 8 person table. For more information and tickets call: Jessica Moore at 495-3481.

Auction items needed! Contact Polly Beatie at the BLA office to donate before August 1st.



AUGUST 29-30

BRCA Aquafest - For more information call Mary Kerwood at the BRCA at 495-6039.

For all the latest details and events, go to belgradelakesassociation.com or call the BLA office at 207-512-5150.

celebrating community & 100 years of tradition

From BLA Advisory Committee Member Adair Duffus Mulligan . . .

"Karonoko" is one of just three century-old family camps on Wilder Point at the north end of Great Pond. This classic wood-shingled set of seven cottages has united my family for four generations — but it all started in 1901 when the Wilder family of New Rochelle, New York, first pitched their tent in a former sheep pasture. One can only imagine the work involved in keeping up appearances, the women in long skirts and starched blouses with leg-of-mutton sleeves, the men going fishing in bow ties and jackets, and the city-born children running wild. But over the years, the Wilders built several cabins, an icehouse, and a shed, all reflecting Mr. Wilder's training as an architect.



When the Coe family bought the camp in 1925, they contrived a name for the place from the first two letters of their children's names, Katherine, Roger, and Norman — "Karonoko." The Coes added the boathouse, a tennis court, and a maids' cabin, and led quite an elegant life on Great Pond. In about 1938, they sold the compound to Laurence Rice, a member of the 1920s Davis Cup tennis team, who ran it as a boys' camp for tennis and mountain climbing.

My ancestors, Dr. Edward Risley and his wife, Ada (known to us as Paa and Yaya) bought the camp in 1943. Each new generation has learned to swim, paddle a canoe, hit a tennis ball, and water-ski here, and rainy days are still for Monopoly games or a good book. Karonoko has kept our family close for 65 years, shared space and a sense of place uniting us with memories worth keeping.

From BLA Volunteer Coordinator Alan Charles . . .

I've owned a camp on Great Pond for over 35 years. When I found the lot I built on, with a good view of the pond, I never imagined the water would be anything but pristine. Fortunately, there were other area residents — and one man in particular — who had more vision than I and were actively monitoring the water quality of both Great and Long ponds. This man knocked on my door one morning in May back in the late '70s and introduced himself as Ed Mayer. He wanted to make some observations and sample the water in Great Pond, but his boat was still in storage and he asked if I could help him out.

"Camp Under the Pines on Taconnet" (Joyce's Island), 1897. Photo shows Mr. Eliot Spaulding, Miss Edith Joyce, and Miss Adeline Joyce. (Collection of Dorothy Swan Malley).



"Broadway" at Camp Under the Pines on Taconnet (Joyce's Island), 1897. (Collection of Dorothy Swan Malley).

My power boats weren't in the water, either, but I did have a canoe. We loaded Ed's equipment in the canoe and paddled out into the pond, where Ed managed to accomplish his tasks leaning awkwardly over the canoe's gunnels.

Then, for more than 25 years, our paths didn't cross, although his camp wasn't very far from mine. But in 2003, as a volunteer Courtesy Boat Inspector (CBI) for the milfoil program, I was delivering a report to the BLA office when I spotted Ed entering the post office next door. He was in his 90s by then, and I felt like a kid who couldn't wait to tell him that I, too, was now contributing to lakes preservation. To make a long story short, Ed took me to meet his old friend Freddie Weston, who had a boat full of water monitoring equipment. They gave me a crash course in procedures, and later, Ed arranged for me to be certified by the DEP.

Sadly, Ed passed away a few years ago. The next summer I was invited to serve on the BLA board as volunteer coordinator for ongoing BLA activities, including milfoil inspections. Filling a one-hour slot on Mondays at the Long Pond boat ramp was an unassuming 90+-year-old lady named Kay Mayer. . . .

From BLA Members Dave & Kim Malley . . .

Four generations of our family have spent summers at Great Pond. My grandparents, Frederick and Mabel Swan, were married and honeymooned on the north shore in 1895, and years later, my parents were also married there. My grandmother had a special recollection about her wedding day: In the evening, the guests lit candles that were attached to cedar shingles. Each person then made a wish for the newlyweds and floated the candles out into the lake. The sight of all those candles floating on the tranquil lake was a sight to behold!

From BLA Treasurer Scott & Martha Finlay . . .

For years, we drove right through Belgrade Lakes on our way to Sugarloaf, more or less oblivious to what lay beyond the stream in the center of town. Then, on a fateful weekend in the summer of 1989, we decided to stop for a few days at a B&B in the village — the Forecastle Inn, which is now the Belgrade Lakes House. We were

immediately charmed by the town and mesmerized by the serenity of the scenic lake. That very first evening, one of us (we still debate about which one) uttered the words that would change our lives: "Maybe we should check out the real estate listings." But as fate would have it, it was a not-as-yet-listed camp that turned out to be our dream property. Our hosts at the Inn, Pete and Ann McManus, knew the owner, made a call, and got permission for us to see the house. It needed work, but it had all the features we wanted, and before we knew it, we'd bought a camp. We closed that fall, just before the lake froze, and returned to our home in Massachusetts dreaming and planning for spring. When the snow finally melted, we excitedly headed for our new camp — and couldn't find it! I think we drove down every dirt driveway on Point Road to no avail. We had a good laugh about it before sheepishly returning to the Day's Real Estate office and admitting our problem to the agent who had helped us with the purchase. She chuckled, too, then hopped in her car and led us to our new home. That summer, 1990, we happily became part of the Belgrade Lakes community.



Photo taken in 1916. From Sarah Melvin, BLA Advisory Committee Member.

Flora (Foster) Nickerson on Great Pond, Rome, ME. The Nickerson Farm, circa 1798, on the hill with laundry drying in the sun for (probably) Camp Taconnet. Mt. Philip is in the background. The BLA was founded by Summer Folk who bought land from Flora Nickerson, and built camps on what is now called Nickerson Lane. The farm is owned by her Great-grandson, Walter Melvin (and his wife Sarah). The land to the right of her boat-house along the shore is now the site of Doug and Kay McClure's camp, where our current BLA President, Kathy (McClure) Lowell, spent her summer's growing up.

On a summer day in 1908, 6 dedicated fishermen, including BLA VP Polly Beattie's grandfather Mr. Wilder, and his brother-in-law and builder of Maggie Shannon's family camp Mr. Beaver, met at the Myers camp opposite Crooked Island and formed the Belgrade Lakes Association. The organization was incorporated in the town of Rome on July 1st, 1919.

Your history on the lakes is part of our history!

Visit our website at belgradelakesassociation.com and tell us your story!



Thank you to Our Generous 2007 Annual Fund Donors!

Each year the BLA seeks and receives essential financial support through our yearly membership dues and through our fall annual appeal. In order to keep our organization strong, grow our endowment and to continue to provide vital education, outreach and water quality programs to protect and preserve our lakes, we urge that every member, both new and old, makes an additional gift to the Annual Appeal. Thank you as always for all your past support.

The Mr. & Mrs. William & Joan Alford Foundation
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Mr. & Mrs. Bob & Maryann Zozula

Coming in June

A Limited Edition Map

The Belgrade Lakes Association in celebration of its Centennial year has commissioned a limited edition map - A Fisheye view of Great and Long Pond by renowned artist and calligrapher Pier Gustafson of Boston. Pier's extraordinary and often humorous work has graced collections across the country including The Museum of Fine Arts, Minneapolis Institute of Art, The DeCordova Museum, the Hechinger Collection and Gallery Naga in Boston. The map will be signed, hand colored and numbered in a limited edition of 100 and is available for a \$1000 Centennial donation to support the important works of your Belgrade Lakes Association. This work, suitable for framing, is sure to become a family heirloom and keepsake for those who enjoy Great and Long Pond. For more details in coming weeks, view an image of this beautiful map and learn how you can purchase at belgradelakesassociation.com.

Buy Your New BLA Coffee Mug



Check out our BLA retail items this summer, including our new Centennial Coffee Mug!

Welcome 200+ Centennial Members since January!!

This year, in honor of its centennial, the BLA launched a Centennial Member Campaign and as of May 1, 2008 more than 200 members have renewed or joined the BLA for \$100 or more! The Centennial Member Campaign is continuing throughout the summer and we encourage everyone who cares about keeping our beautiful lakes clean and healthy for future generations to join the BLA. Join today as a Centennial Member and receive a special centennial gift - a limited edition set of aerial photographs of Great Pond and Long Pond.

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Ms. Susan Pullen
Mr. & Mrs. Peter & Becky Alter
Mrs. Sylvia Amon
Mr. & Mrs. Yale & Anne Arkel
Mr. & Mrs. Martha & Frank Barkley
Mr. & Mrs. Shirley & P. Putnam Barnes, Jr.
Mr. & Mrs. Michael & Joanne Bernstein
Mr. & Mrs. Charles & Shirley Blood
Mr. & Mrs. John & Mel Bonder
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If you are a Centennial Member, and your name is not shown, please let us know. Thank You.



**Help Us Protect
and
Preserve our Lakes**

Join Today!

FAQ's from the BLA



What is the difference between the Belgrade Lakes Association (BLA) and Belgrade Regional Conservation Alliance (BRCA)?



The BLA is dedicated to protecting and preserving water quality within the Belgrade Watershed, and focuses specifically on issues related to Great Pond and Long Pond. The BRCA is dedicated to conserving the lands, water quality, and natural heritage of the entire Belgrade Lakes Watershed, addressing issues of importance to all seven Belgrade lakes. The BRCA includes two major divisions: a **Land Trust** that preserves land to protect water quality and provide recreational opportunities to watershed residents, and a **Lake Trust** that deals with water issues of concern to all five lake associations within the watershed. The Lake Trust also administers water-quality programs such as the Youth Conservation Corps and the Courtesy Boat Inspection (milfoil) program. The BRCA and BLA work closely together, and with all the other lake associations within the watershed, to achieve their missions. All five lake associations, including BLA, are part of the BRCA Lake Trust, which was formed to strengthen and support all of the associations. Everyone is encouraged to support both their local lake association (BLA) and regional watershed organization (BRCA) so that together, we can make a difference.

Save the Date

Annual Meeting
August 9th



I never see green algae on the lakes. Why is there such a fuss about it?



Blue-green algae (*Gloeotrichia*) has appeared in parts of both Long and Great ponds for the past few years. It occurs only occasionally, apparently when water temperature rises above 72 degrees and there is excess phosphorus in the water column. The algae is a warning sign that water quality is declining and that lake region residents need to take notice of how their actions are adversely affecting the lakes. Phosphorus runoff is the major source of nutrients that trigger the algae's growth, and can be controlled through education and action by the citizens of the watershed. BLA is exploring remediation techniques and working closely with Colby College, the DEP, BRCA, and other organizations to determine exact causes of the algae and how best to deal with it. More information is available on our website.

belgradelakesassociation.com

Thank you Hamlins Marine!!!



BELGRADE LAKES ASSOCIATION

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