

SCHOODIC LAKE ASSOCIATION ANNUAL NEWSLETTER 2018

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NOTICE

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WILL BE CLOSED FOR
CONSTRUCTION OF THE
DOCK FROM AUGUST 1
THROUGH AUGUST 31**



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Message from the President

I hope this letter finds everyone enjoying the start of another fun and exciting summer at Schoodic Lake. If you are like me, I'm sure you have been busy cleaning your camp and getting your landscapes re-planted and ready for you, friends, and family to enjoy. Once summer hits its stride, work gives way to playing and relaxing. Your lake association is always trying to remind people that although we all want our camps and lots to look their best, here are some maintenance tips for a healthier Schoodic lake. Limit runoff from exposed soil on your property, especially during rain storms. Soil erosion is the number one cause of phosphorus loading and algae blooms in Maine waters. Minimize your use of lawn fertilizer, avoid "P" Products (P= Phosphorus = Polluting) for cleaning and laundry. Wash your car or boat in an area that will not allow the sudsy water to drain directly into the lake (also laundry and other "gray" water). Please keep our lake's health in mind this summer and we all will benefit.

Tom Sherman, President
Schoodic Lake Association



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ANNUAL MEETING REMINDER

The Annual Meeting of the Schoodic Lake Association will be held at the Milo Town Hall on August 4th at 8:30am.

Nominations to the Board of Directors, Presentations from the Maine Inland Fisheries and Wildlife, and Maine Audubon will be on the agenda.

Milo Town Hall
6 Pleasant Street
Milo, Maine 04463

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56th Annual Fishing Derby

The Fishing Derby sponsored by the Milo Fire Department was again a great success. 36 anglers won prizes of gift certificates and equipment donated by local businesses.

The grand prize, a 2017 Polaris 4x4 ATV was won by Claire Hesselstine and donated by Country Club Polaris.

A total of 770 fish were caught.

Largest fish caught were:

Togue- 27 inches - 6.6 pounds – Paul Anderson
Salmon- 24½ inches – 5.3 pounds – Kyle Feero
Trout- 20 inches – 3.5 pounds – Dustin Snow
Perch-14 inches–1.6 pounds–Darrin Fitzpatrick
Bass- 20 inches – 4.2 pounds – Ken Stone
Cusk- 29¾ inches – 6 pounds – Steve Ferris
Pickereel- 26 inches – 4.5 pounds – Joe Mitchell

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Lost and Found:

As we have all experienced, items can become lost into the water and tend to move to the south end of the lake. If you have lost or found anything, please let us know by contacting us via www.schoodiclake.me or Charlie Weeks at @charlie.weeks1962@gmail.com.

Permanent Water Lines

Residents who plan on installing permanent water lines to draw water out of the lake must seek a permit from LUPC (Land Use Planning Commission) in Greenville (207-695-2466). Prior to a permit being issued by LUPC, an endorsement must be obtained from the Schoodic Lake Association Board of Directors. Please visit www.schoodiclake.me for more information.

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SLA Board of Directors

The Board of Directors is comprised of nine members elected for 3-year terms each on a rotating basis. Three members will be elected at the Annual Meeting August 4th, 2018. Directors must be willing to attend meetings and commit to supporting the mission of the Schoodic Lake Association to Preserve, Enhance and protect. Nominations may be made from the floor at the Annual Meeting, contacting the Association via www.schoodiclake.me, or by contacting Charlie Weeks at charlie.weeks1962@gmail.com.

The current Board members are:

Tom Sherman	Fred Trask
David Walker	Mike Bennett
Charlie Weeks	Robin Mayo
Andrew Walker	Peter Hamlin
Denis Poulin	



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MON-THU...3:30AM-9PM
FRI.....3:30AM-11PM
SAT.....4:30AM-11PM
SUN.....8AM-8PM

Nels Kramer's History of Schoodic Lake

Our first project was assisting with the capture of 4 lake trout to tag for the Milo Fire Department Fishing Derby in 1984. Togue were not very plentiful back then, and it took the better part of a week to capture those fish. I met and spent a lot of time with personnel from the Milo Fire Department, and during those hours together, we wanted to develop some projects to partner on. By the way, we did eventually capture enough togue to tag and the Derby went off without a hitch and none of the \$10,000 tagged togue was caught!

One of the first projects was partnering with the Milo Fire Department in August 1984 to remove numerous log jams and obstructions from the outlet. There was so much debris collected that fish passage was in jeopardy. With the assistance of a group numbering around 20 fire fighters, volunteers and a skidder to winch with, we completely removed the impediment to fish passage.

Kramer, continued:

The next project was smelt enhancement. We moved more smelts and smelt eggs into Schoodic Lake and its tributaries than any other lake in the state. We placed burlaps in a number of donor waterbodies around the region including Cold Stream Pond, East Grand Lake, Seboeis Lake, Nicaous Lake, Deering Lake, Upper Shin Pond and the West Branch of the Penobscot River. After smelts in those lakes laid their eggs on the burlap, we moved the burlaps into Schoodic. The hatching smelts didn't seem to know the difference, and it seemed to work. It didn't seem to make much difference, however, until we stopped stocking salmon for a period of 10 years. That break in salmon stocking was all we needed to get the smelt re-established and the lake on track to grow the best and heaviest salmon in the state.

The smelt population, like any natural fish population, can have its ups and downs depending on condition of smelt spawning habitat. In Schoodic, a large portion of the spawning population utilizes the lake rather than tributary streams for spawning, which is a benefit because we don't have to worry so much about beaver activity in those limited stream spawning habitats. Not only did the salmon benefit, but so did the lake trout population. While lake trout can and will maintain population without the presence of smelt for forage, they do enjoy a feed of smelt like the rest of us do and smelt are the primary forage for sustained growth where they occur.

There were, and still are, togue anglers who didn't agree when we started stocking salmon again, but we are stocking at the lowest rate in the entire state (650 LLS in a 7,168-acre lake). We believe that we can maintain an excellent population of both species for the benefit of all Schoodic Lake anglers.

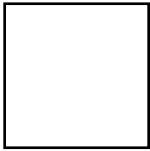
The lake trout are problematic simply because there are so many of them, in large part because of the success of the water level management plan developed with the assistance of the Schoodic Lake Association. We have liberalized the regulations, but quite simply, there are not enough togue anglers anymore and not enough people keeping them to eat. The one message I would like to convey would be **EAT MORE TOGUE – THEY ARE DELICIOUS!**

Because of the abundance of lake trout at Schoodic, the hatchery system adopted Schoodic as the source for lake trout eggs to raise for the lake trout stocking programs throughout the State of Maine. In 2010 and again in 2017, eggs and milt were stripped from approximately 20 adult togue to take to the Governor Hill Hatchery in Augusta.

We trap-net Schoodic most every fall and have seen some humongous salmon and togue in our nets. We also get pictures from anglers both ice fishing and open water fishing showing us that Schoodic is still the place to go for big, big fish.

Nels Kramer is Regional Fisheries Biologist, Penobscot Region, Maine Department of Inland Fisheries & Wildlife

ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED



Schoodic Lake Association
P.O. Box 37
Milo, Maine 04463-0037

ANNUAL MEETING AUGUST 4th AT THE MILO TOWN HALL 8:30 AM

Agenda:

- I. Opening & Welcome, Introduction of Board of Directors
- II. Secretary's Report
- III. Treasurer's Report
- IV. Kevin Dunham, MEIF&W Biologist
- V. Sarah Haggerty, Maine Audubon Conservation Biologist
- VI. Lake View Landing construction and closing
- VII. Open Discussion/questions
- VIII. Adjourn