



THE LAKER

Website: stinsonlake.org
Newsletter of the Stinson Lake Association

Spring 2026 Issue



SUMMER EVENTS CALENDAR 2026

JUNE 9 (Tuesday) – 7-8PM – State of the Lake Webinar – See below for information on how to attend

JUNE 27 (Saturday) - 9AM - Community House & Property Work Day - Please bring cleaning and yard tools to help. If you think you can come and help out, please fill out this [BRIEF Google form](#). It will help us have a better sense of the numbers and allow us to better plan which tasks we can complete. No worries if your plans change.

JUNE 27 (Saturday) – 12 noon – Annual Board of Directors' Meeting - At the community building.

JULY 3 (Friday) – Flares 9:15PM – Flares are available from Mark Herbert, 2310 Stinson Lake Road (Frog Hollow). They are on the honor system and are available for \$4 each. You can find them on his porch. A cannon will blast from the Eastern shoreline (Halls) at 9:15 for lighting the flares!! [Please place a tin pan under flare before lighting to catch the harmful chemical debris and dispose of it responsibly](#) *Tins will be provided at the flare pick up site.

JULY 4 (Saturday) – Boat Parade – 1PM -Meet in the cove or join as the parade passes your shore. Rain date Sun., July 5.

JULY 4 (Saturday) - Memorial Dinner – 5:30 PM– Karen Lewis Schwotzer. Free for Members, \$5 for Non-Members. [Set-up, clean-up and desserts are greatly appreciated.](#)

JULY 11 (Saturday) – Lake Day – 10:00 AM – 12:30 PM See article below for information

AUGUST 1 (Saturday) - Chicken BBQ - 5:30 PM – Tim Lewis (and very important crew!!)
[Desserts and help with clean-up will be greatly appreciated!](#)

AUGUST 7 (Friday) – 5:00 PM Decorate SLA Parade Float for Rumney Old Home Day - Help design and decorate SLA's pontoon float for the Rumney Old Home Day Parade. More info below.

AUGUST 8 (Saturday) – Rumney Old Home Day – 9:30 AM Parade line up

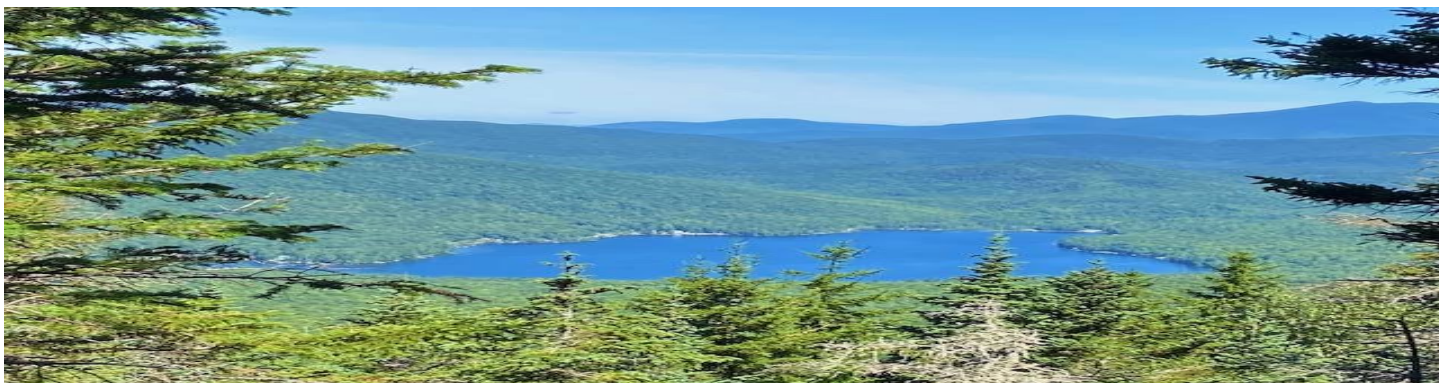
AUGUST 15 (Saturday) - 9:00 AM 12th Annual Stinson Lake 5K Run/Walk – The Harrington Family & Dave Cook of Barn Door Hostel. You may run or walk with others as usual or participate virtually. Choose your preference! For registration and more information, visit runsignup.com/stinson5k. More info below. [8/14 \(4-5PM\) Check-in at Community House](#). Race Day Check-in is 7:45 – 8 :30 AM at White Mountain Ranch (75 Ranch Road), Race at 9:00 AM.

AUGUST 29 (Saturday) – 9AM – Annual Meeting –At the community house –Old business, new business, financial report

SEPTEMBER 6 (Sunday) –Pancake Breakfast - 8-9:30 AM – Jon and Megan Kingsley. [Help with clean-up is greatly appreciated!](#)

TENTATIVE DATES

- **BINGO & Ice Cream Saturday Nights** (7PM) : An SLA member assumes responsibility for the evening's activities and needs to be present. Contact Angel Ekstrom at (603) 726-6582 five days prior to do so (tentative dates are: July 25, Aug. 8, Aug. 22, & Sept. 5). If no member takes on responsibility there will be no Bingo on that date. Consumables are provided by the member(s) taking on responsibility.
- **Ladies of the Lake Luncheons**: Ladies of the SLA community gather once a month for lunch. Locations TBD. Attendees pay independently or may bring their lunch if located at a private residence. Please contact Angel Ekstrom (603)726-6582 or angelekstrom@gmail.com with your name and interest. Further information will be distributed to those interested a week prior to each luncheon date. Tentative dates are: Jul 8, Aug 12 & Sept 9



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Greetings,

With the chance to write my first President's message, I want to say how lucky I feel to be working with such a great group of volunteers who keep our Association moving forward. We now have a beautiful new website (<https://stinsonlake.org/>) that brings everything together in one easy place — membership info, event updates, and even real-time messages if weather forces last-minute changes. We've added more structure to planning both Association events and private functions, we're developing a five-year plan for Community House maintenance and upgrades, and we're getting closer to securing funding for a watershed management plan that will help protect the lake for generations.

Even with the recent streak of rainy weekends, the lake is more than ready for summer. Our loon pair has returned and will hopefully be raising new chicks soon. A Bald Eagle pair is nesting as well and may already have eaglets. The lake has been freshly stocked with Rainbow Trout and Landlocked Salmon — and with any luck, the black flies will call it quits soon.

This year's 4th of July celebrations will be especially meaningful as we mark the 250th anniversary of our nation. We'll have all our favorite traditions, including the Boat Parade at 1pm and the Memorial Dinner at 5:30pm, both on July 4th. Reconnecting with friends and neighbors is always a highlight of the season, and I'm looking forward to seeing many of you around the lake.

Wishing you all a wonderful summer!

Paul Giannasca, President

SLA FACEBOOK PAGE

Just a reminder that we have a **Stinson Lake Association Facebook Page!** This is a new page as of the summer of 2024, not to be confused with the old page with the same name! Click [here](#) to see and "like" the Facebook page to follow us or search "Stinson Lake Association" on Facebook and choose the Stinson Lake Association page with our new logo as its profile photo:



CLICK, EXPLORE, DISCOVER – SLA Website is Live!

The Stinson Lake Association website stinsonlake.org launched earlier this year and is a dynamic solution that provides content for our association members and the community at large. Questions about conservation efforts, boating, permitting, events and more – please check out the site. You can also renew your [membership](#), as well as [donate](#) online



Lake Host Program 2026 Season

For over twenty years Stinson Lake has been participating in the NH LAKES Lake Host program that helps stop the spread of invasive species from one lake to another through the [Clean, Drain, Dry](#) method. This program has been the cornerstone of our efforts to keep Stinson Lake clean and healthy. Thankfully, as of this writing, the lake is still invasive-free, but we know that it will be very difficult to keep the [spiny water flea](#) from entering the lake as it was confirmed in

Newfound Lake last year.

In the early years of the program, we staffed the boat ramp almost completely of volunteers. Over the years, we have become much more reliant on paid Lake Hosts, and this naturally increased our annual cost of the program. Currently, we signed up four paid and five volunteers who will be Lake Hosts this summer. We strive to have ten volunteers, who can commit to a couple of hours a week in July and August. We are very flexible with scheduling, so no worries if you can't commit to every week. Spending time at the boat ramp is a great way to learn more about the lake, meet community members, catch up on your reading, or just enjoy some peace and quiet away from your family.

Paid Lake Hosts will begin working at the ramp on weekends starting Memorial Day through Father's Day, and then we will begin staffing the ramp seven days a week with the help of both volunteer and paid team members.

Make a difference this summer by becoming a volunteer Lake Host. We need you!

Email Janine Mori, Lake Host Coordinator, and say YES to volunteering. valentinerjanine@gmail.com

Lake Host Volunteers Needed

Volunteers are needed to cover Tuesdays and Wednesdays in 2-4 hour shifts. Become a Lake Host and help our community, learn about lake health, meet community members, and enjoy the beauty of the lake. If you are interested, please reach out to Janine Mori, valentinerjanine@gmail.com

Speaking of Lake Hosts

Check out NH LAKES Lakeside Newsletter with an interview of Trevor Tobine, our Lake Host Assistant Manager. [Spring.Lakeside.2026.CTA .pdf](#)

Annual State of the Lake Webinar, Tuesday, June 9th, 2026

Mark your calendars. On Tuesday, June 9th from 7pm-8pm the Conservation and Education Committee will be hosting a Zoom presentation to discuss our latest water quality data, an update on the watershed management planning process, and conservation programs. Please join the Zoom Meeting by clicking on [this link](#).

ICE-OUT: Occurred on April 17th. Ice -in and ice-out dates are routinely reported to NH DES to enable tracking of these key dates over time.

SHORELINE MONITORING PROJECT

Looking for a few more community members to volunteer their docks for the Shoreline Monitoring Project that we are kicking off this year in collaboration with Newfound Lake Regional Association. This simple low-cost project will help us measure the growth of algae around the shores of the lake year over year. Algae will be collected on clay tiles that are affixed to a piece of plywood. These tiles will be zip-tied to docks just above the lake bottom in early June and then retrieved in September. The tiles will not interfere with any recreational activities.

Our friends at Newfound Lake Regional Association will perform the lab portion of our project, as they have facilitated their project for two years now and have the lab equipment necessary for the measurement of the algae.

We need a few more community members who are willing to participate by having a tile affixed to their non-floating dock. Volunteers have no other duty other than provide us with access to their dock to attach and remove the tile.

This is a great community project for all of us to expand our knowledge of the lake's ecology. If you can volunteer, please email Janine Mori valentinerjanine@gmail.com

Here is an article from Newfound Lake on the ending of their second season of shoreline monitoring. [Shoreline Monitoring Wraps Up Second Season - Newfound Lake](#)

LAKESMART PROGRAM

Our lake is facing some real potential challenges – invasive species, polluted runoff, harmful cyanobacteria blooms – all worsened by changing climate. By coming together as a community, we can protect our lake and make it more resilient to these changes. A healthy lake means a healthy community – clean water, vibrant wildlife, and good property values.

LakeSmart, a program of NH LAKES, is a free, non-regulatory, community-powered program designed to help us protect the lake we love. Whether you've been living by the lake for years or are new to the area, LakeSmart offers personalized, practical advice on maintaining a healthy lake through simple landscaping and lifestyle choices.

We have scheduled a **LakeSmart Property Tour Day on Friday, July 31st**. This is your chance to get a free and confidential property evaluation that will help you learn how to make your property lake-friendly.

[Join the LakeSmart Program!](#)

Email Janine Mori, our local LakeSmart Ambassador, today to get a tour on Friday, July 31st. Tours fill up fast. valentinerjanine@gmail.com

RUMNEY OLD HOME DAY FLOAT

Come show your spirit as we Celebrate America's 250th Birthday! We are seeking members to form a parade committee to help design and decorate SLA's pontoon float for the Rumney Old Home Day Parade being held on Saturday, August 8, 2026. The committee members will meet once in July to brainstorm ideas, meet the evening before to decorate the float, and then ride or walk on parade day. This is a fun, creative way to volunteer and help SLA have a visible presence in the Town of Rumney. Please email Janine Mori valentinerjanine@gmail.com, if you would like to help out.

ANNUAL Stinson Lake 5K Run/Walk – August 15

The Stinson Lake 5K Run/Walk returns for its 12th year on Saturday, Aug. 15, at the White Mountain Ranch beach (75 Ranch Rd). Co-hosted by Barn Door Hostel, the race begins at 9 AM and serves as a fundraiser for the Stinson Lake Association's Lake Host Program, helping protect the lake from aquatic invasive species.

The scenic 3.1-mile course on Stinson Lake Road is open to runners and walkers of all ages. Register by July 15 for the \$30 early bird rate and a guaranteed race shirt; shirts are not guaranteed after July 15. Families and groups of four or more receive \$5 off per person when registering together online.

New this year is a Team Challenge, with awards for categories such as Largest Team, Fastest Team, Top Fundraiser, Best Team Spirit, and Most Multi-Generational Team. The race is also inviting families, camps, memorials, local businesses, and friends of the race to sponsor custom course signs displayed along the route for \$100 each. Sponsorship, raffle donation, and volunteer opportunities are also available.

For registration and more information, visit runsignup.com/stinson5k, follow the race on [Facebook](#), or email stinsonlakerace@gmail.com.

MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION

The Stinson Lake Association membership has remained very active during 2025. We had 146 family memberships, 26 individual memberships, 2 complimentary memberships and our special Hawthorne Village membership. **Please join or renew your membership online** at www.stinsonlake.org or, if you prefer, you can print, fill out and **mail** both your **form and dues** using the attached form. It is especially important to make sure we know of any changes in your information.

2026 MEMBER SIGNBOARD: PLEASE READ CAREFULLY!!

The 2026 SLA members sign is all printed and mounted using the 2025 membership forms. Please remember as you complete your 2026 membership forms to be clear as to what name(s) you would like printed for 2027. If you love the name that you currently have on the board, just write 'same' on your form. As always, we respect those who prefer not to have their names and addresses on a public sign. Please indicate that desire on your 2026 forms. I appreciate your attention to this, so the sign is accurate and all are happy with their listing! Thank you!

FRIENDS REMEMBERED

We are sad to report that we lost at least three members of our community.

Gerald "Jerry" Joseph Pomerleau

<https://www.dolanfuneralhome.com/obituaries/Gerald-Joseph-Pomerleau?obId=48182632>

Michelle Faucher

<https://www.carrierfuneralhome.com/obituary/michelle-faucher>

Mary Mirkin <https://www.mayhewfuneralhomes.com/obituaries/mary-mirkin>

MEMORIAL DONATIONS

In addition to general contributions, 2025 Memorial Donations were made in memory of the following:

In memory of 2025 donations:

Ed Dogget

Bob and Karen Bleakney

Richard Marson

Joseph Kolb

Frank and Louise Osmer

Ron Vance

Mike and Rei Lewis

Anne and Ken Trotter

Mary McKinley

Judy Grimes Link

Jay Comenitz

Bob and Jessie Furey

Luke and Toni Lewis

Jean and Win Hollis

Russell Block

James Jovenich

Reigar Tryggstad



Lake Day

Saturday, July 11, 2026

Experience, Learn, and Celebrate the Beauty of Stinson Lake

SLA COMMUNITY HOUSE

10am–12:30pm: Educational Presentations

- **LET'S GET WILD:** Bring the kids and join a Squam Lakes Natural Science Center naturalist to meet some of their **live animal** ambassadors up close and personal. Learn about the natural history of these animals and conservation actions you can take to help their wild counterparts and the places they live.
- **LOONY FOR LOONS:** Let's learn more from The Loon Preservation Committee about these amazing birds who brought so much beauty and love to our community last year with their first successful hatch.
- **PREVENTING BLOOMS:** Hannah Coppola, NH LAKES Conservation Program Coordinator, will help us learn how to identify and help prevent cyanobacteria blooms that can negatively impact lake ecology, recreational activities, and our property values.
- **CREATING BLOOMS:** Denise Greene, Stinson Lake Community Member and Master Gardener, will facilitate our learning of native plants that can help build up the shoreline and beautify our properties.

12:30pm: Lunch

\$10 per person includes Rumney Village Store Sandwiches, Salad, Chips and Drink

*****Cash Only for Lunch*****



FIREWORKS

Fireworks displays have been a 4th of July tradition at the lake for many years. The celebration of our nation's independence; the start of summer; and the joy of reconnecting with friends and family has spurred the enthusiasm for these bursting, spiraling flames of fire. As good lake stewards though, we need to think about the impact of fireworks to the Stinson Lake watershed.

Below is a summary of research on fireworks and the environment as well as some actions that other lake communities are taking to minimize the potential negative consequences of fireworks displays.

How fireworks impact the environment, wildlife, pets, and people:

- Chemicals - Fireworks add chemicals into the lake including perchlorate, nitrates, phosphorus, and potassium. These chemicals increase aquatic plant and algae growth. All contributing to conditions conducive to cyanobacteria blooms.
- Residue - Firework residue introduces heavy metals such as aluminum, barium, copper, strontium, and zinc into the water, which are toxic to aquatic life at high concentrations and can accumulate in the food chain.
- Noise - Noise causes stress on wild animals and pets, and on some people struggling with mental health issues such as PTSD. There is also a potential of causing behavioral issues for nesting loons.
- Debris - The paper, cardboard, and plastic debris from fireworks contribute to microplastic pollution and can be ingested by wildlife, causing injury or death. Potential of landing on boat covers and loon nests.

What other lakes are doing to address the concerns:

- Educating community members on minimizing the negative impacts and providing best practices for lakefront fireworks (see below).
- Hosting community drone and laser shows. Lake Sunapee has a drone show and asks residents to donate funds to cover the expense of the show.
- Prohibiting fireworks at the lake. Chocorua Lake, a 222-acre lake in Tamworth, prohibits fireworks.

Best Practices for Firework Use:

- Launch Angle: Use a steep angle for maximum height to prevent premature fall into water.
- Clean Up: Rake launch areas and retrieve all debris (including unexploded fireworks) from the lake as soon as possible.
- Avoid Runoff: Don't launch near storm drains or onto pure sand/soil that leads to water.
- Water Nearby: Keep water or extinguishers handy for fire suppression.

Best Practices for Flare Use:

- Place a tin pan under flare before lighting to catch the harmful chemical debris and dispose of it responsibly *Tins will be provided at the flare pick up site.

Because of America's 250th birthday, we feel additionally compelled to share this important information. If you are considering launching fireworks this 4th of July weekend, we ask that you please use your better judgment and refrain from launching fireworks at times other than the Independence Day holiday. Happy Summer!