

THE LOON

Spring, 2015

Spring is here once again...after another cold, record-breaking winter for most of us. As always, it is good to be thinking of Sebec Lake, ice out, opening camp and another summer of lake memories.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT - President Don Rush

Greetings Everyone!

It's been a very long winter for sure, with lots of snow and sub-zero temperatures. But very soon our thoughts will turn to the spring ritual where we'll open our camps back up for the season. We have yet to see how well our roads have fared over the winter and ensuing mud season, and as always we'll deal with the situation as it presents itself.

ROAD WORK UPDATE:

In the late spring of 2014 we concentrated on bringing in about 60 loads of gravel, which was spread wherever needed on South Cove, Tim's Cove, Bennett Brook and Lakeside Roads. Several large culverts were also replaced. Our plan for this year is to continue along the same way, with the goal of building up a solid layer of gravel to help with drainage and minimize potholing. Tom Crepeau worked very hard during the time when the gravel was being trucked in, making sure loads were dropped in the right area, and that we were getting the amount we paid for! Thank you to Tom for his excellent job of coordination. The roads were graded after all the gravel was brought in, beginning where the pavement ends on Sebec Shores Road. Last year it took quite a while for the frost to work out of our roads, which meant many of us came into our camps later than usual.

CHANGEOVER TO STATUTORY ROAD ASSOCIATION:

At last year's Annual Meeting the vote was overwhelmingly in favor of converting from a Non-Profit status to a Statutory Road Association for TCPOA. This makes it possible for The Association to collect annual road dues from EVERY property owner. The change-over was completed in 2014, and we are

happy to report that dues were collected from all but one property owner of record! This makes it fair for those of us who have been paying our dues regularly, and we will know what funds are available each year in our budget as far as planning our road work. Bills will be sent out this spring for road dues, payable by June 1st.

TOWN OF WILLIMANTIC:

At the Willimantic Town Meeting, they again voted to reimburse us for \$3,000 worth of road work for 2015. This is very much appreciated!

TCPOA WEBSITE:

For those of you who haven't yet visited our website (www.timscove.com), please take a moment to do so. You will need to click on the "Join" link and complete your profile to access most of the material. It's still a work in progress, and hopefully this year we will add much more to it. Businesses can advertise on the website for a yearly rate, and this past year with 7 businesses, the website paid for itself, and in addition we received a check for about \$200! If anyone knows of a local business who may want to advertise, please let one of the Directors know.

TCPOA BOARD OF DIRECTORS:

Tom Crepeau submitted his resignation as Vice-President, and as a Director. As most of you know, Tom devoted many hours to help keep our road system in the best shape it could possibly be in! He wants to be able to have more free time to do what he wants, without the added responsibility of being a Director. Tom and Sharon have both worked tirelessly on our roads over the years, and we appreciate all they have done.

HIGH SPEED INTERNET UPDATE:

Good News! It will finally be available on Tim's Cove. The service will be provided through your telephone (DSL), rather than with a dish. This should provide a good and reliable connection.

I have included below, the North Country Broadband (In collaboration with Premium Choice Broadband) plans and details I received last week for your information. Please feel free to contact me if you have further questions. Telephone: 207-564-2344 Email: rushva@aol.com

Have a wonderful summer every one, and I look forward to seeing you all at the lake very soon.

Don Rush, President

NORTH COUNTRY BROADBAND

Thank you for inquiring about North Country Broadband. After reviewing our coverage area, I have determined that you are within our DSL service area and will be able to receive service. Here is some additional information about our services. After reading the information, if you should have any questions, please contact us and we will be more than happy to assist you.

There is a one-time installation fee of \$99.95 and has a twelve (12) active month contract. The installation fee is due at the time of installation via check or credit card. You choose your service package with the technician after the equipment is installed. We have a paperless billing system so your monthly package fee is automatically charged to your credit/debit card that you would provide to us. The package choices are listed below:

Plan	Price	Speed
Basic	\$44.95	up to 1.5 Mbps (approx. 30x's faster than dial-up)
Express	\$59.95	up to 3 Mbps (approx. 60x's faster than dial-up)
Premium	\$89.95	up to 8 Mbps (approx. 160x's faster than dial-up)
Seasonal Suspension	\$10.00	turned off (up to 6 months per year)

If you choose to cancel your service prior to meeting the 12 active month requirement, there is an early termination fee of \$250.00.

With North Country Broadband, you also have the option of signing up for our VOIP phone service. We are able to port over an existing telephone number, or we can activate a new phone number for the location. If you are looking to have an existing telephone number ported over, it takes 10 business days to complete the activation process. If you would like to activate a new phone number, it will take 7 business days to complete the activation process. There is a one time activation/installation fee of \$49.95, and the residential monthly service fee is \$29.95 per month. The plan provides unlimited nationwide calling, including calls to Canada, and also comes with up to five (5) features including: Caller-ID, 3-Way Calling, Call Forwarding, Call Waiting, and Voicemail. If you are looking to suspend the VOIP service during a portion of the year, we are able to suspend the service up to six (6) months each year, and the monthly would drop down to \$9.95 per month.

If you would like to get set up with our DSL service, just reply to this e-mail with your name, physical street address and telephone number for the location and I'll get things started!

Have a wonderful day. Denise Knowles, North Country Broadband, (207) 876-4000

Treasurer's Recap of 2014 - Julia Flanders, Treasurer:

Thanks to our reorganization to a Statutory Road Association, we collected dues from everyone but one camp, and a lien has been attached to that property. Your 2015 dues invoice has been mailed to you, so look for it. We want to have all dues paid in June before our 4th of July meeting. If you have not received the invoice by the middle of May, please send your \$150.00 dues anyway, to TCPOA, Julia Flanders, Treasurer PO Box 353, Dover-Foxcroft, ME 04426. And of course, if you changed your mailing address or sold your property, please let me or Don Rush know as soon as possible.

Our roads were maintained beautifully last year. We spent over \$16,000 on gravel and grading, and other repair work. The winter was long and snowy, so we will have to see how the spring thaw goes. Please avoid driving the roads during mud season. It will save us from having to spend extra money on repairs to damaged road beds from deep ruts and caved in ditches and allow us to get to grading as soon as the road is dried out.

DUES: 2014 Dues of \$150 (due by June 1st) can be mailed to:

Julia Flanders, P.O. Box 353, Dover-Foxcroft ME 04426

REMEMBER - ANNUAL MEETING - JULY 4, 2015 9:00 a.m.

LET'S EAT!

Starting in May, Farmer's Markets in Maine will begin selling fresh produce, eggs, meat, and other good locally produced foods. Here are a few choice recommendations well worth the trip from camp. But get there early! Most vendors sell out before closing time.

Dover Cove Farmers Market, corner of South Street and Doughty Hill Road. OPENING Saturdays beginning May 23 from 9AM – 1PM, and Tuesdays 2PM – 6PM

Stutzman's Farm stand and Café, open weekends now Friday 10am – 7pm, Saturday 10am – 6pm, and Sunday BRUNCH 10am – 1pm. The farm stand will be open more hours as produce becomes available. The wood fired pizza and all their home made soups are very delicious!

There is a new coffee shop next to the Center Theater, serving top quality coffees and teas, as well as baked goods from Stutzman's Café. Worth the stop when you are in town.

Dexter Farmers Market is on Fridays 9am – 1pm at the P&L Market Parking Lot on Route 7.

Bangor's Farmers Market is on Sundays 11am – 2pm on the waterfront next to the Sea Dog Brewery.

Skowhegan Farmers Market, May through October is Saturday 9am – 1pm, and June adds Wednesday afternoons, 3pm – 6pm. It is located at the NEW Somerset Grist Mill (old jail), corner of Court and High Streets.

And while you are there, stop in at the Pick Up Café, where you can get lunch or dinner, all local foods. Hours are Friday 4pm – 9pm, Saturday 7am – 2pm, and 4pm - 9pm, Sunday 7am – 2 pm You can buy the Maine grown grains processed by the grist mill at the café, also. It is an interesting story so check it out on line: www.maine grains.com

Both Countryside Meats and Herring Brothers carry local meats as well.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS:

2012-2015

Glen Daukas – retiring
Don Page
Jan Waterman - retiring

2013-2016

Julia Flanders (Treas.)
Cheryl Fairbrother
Tom Crepeau - resigned

2014-2017

Don Rush (President)
Mary Ellen Theriault (Sec.)
Marlene Greenlaw

From John Lowe, Head of Nominating Committee –

We will have an election for four Board members at our July 4th meeting. There are two openings for South Cove and two openings for Tim's Cove. These are for 3-year terms. If you would like your name on the ballot (and you have paid your dues), please contact me by June 1st.

Email is best (JL3@psu.edu), but phone is OK (814-238-7594). Even snail mail will work (614 Fraser St., State College PA 16801). If you decide after June 1st, it can still work. There will be a place for write-ins on the ballot.

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P. O. Box 353

Dover-Foxcroft ME -4426

