

To our friends on and around the lake,

It's been a cold and snowy winter so far. The snow started in December and keeps on coming, with well over six feet as of end of February. And it's been cold, with below average temperatures for most the month. But, there are some pleasures to be found in the quiet of the lake, with rosy sunsets that can still warm you... and knowing that spring is on the way!



Communications

We are taking a different approach this year in how we communicate with those around the lake. We'll do a series of shorter letters (like this one) and encourage people to use our website, www.watchiclake.org for the latest and more detailed information.

Watchic Lake Association Survey – Your Thoughts Requested

Our mission is to improve, protect, and preserve the lake's water quality and fragile ecosystem. To make this happen, we need to work with you, and would like to better understand your issues, concerns and suggestions regarding your enjoyment of the lake. Please take 10 minutes to complete and return the attached survey by April 30 – and be entered for a chance to **win a new iPod Nano 7th Generation**. Information provided in this survey is for business use of the WLA only.



Watchic Lake Association Membership

We encourage all existing members to renew, and new property owners and others to become members and support our efforts to protect the lake. You will find the 2015/2016 membership form attached.

After much discussion, we have decided to raise our annual dues from \$25/member to \$35/member. This new annual fee is in line with other Maine lake associations (over 60% have fees above \$25) and is needed to cover the regular expenses of maintaining the dam, monitoring water quality, and communicating with members.

Getting Ready for Spring

Keep in mind that when spring arrives our six feet of snow will melt, creating an equivalent of 6 inches of rain. Please consider the snowmelt runoff when clearing driveways, roads, and walkways. Managing snowmelt is similar to managing rain runoff. See "[Help protect the lake](#)" on the WLA website.

Depending on the spring weather, the Dam will be closed about April 1 or around ice-out if that is earlier. The water level will then rise approximately 30 inches over the following two weeks. Details will be posted to the WLA website.

Stay warm – we know spring is on the way! I look forward to seeing you all at our Annual Meeting July 11th at 9:00 a.m. at the Standish Town Hall Council Chambers, and wish you a wonderful season on the lake.

Patty

Patty Guenther