



# Reflections

FALL 2014

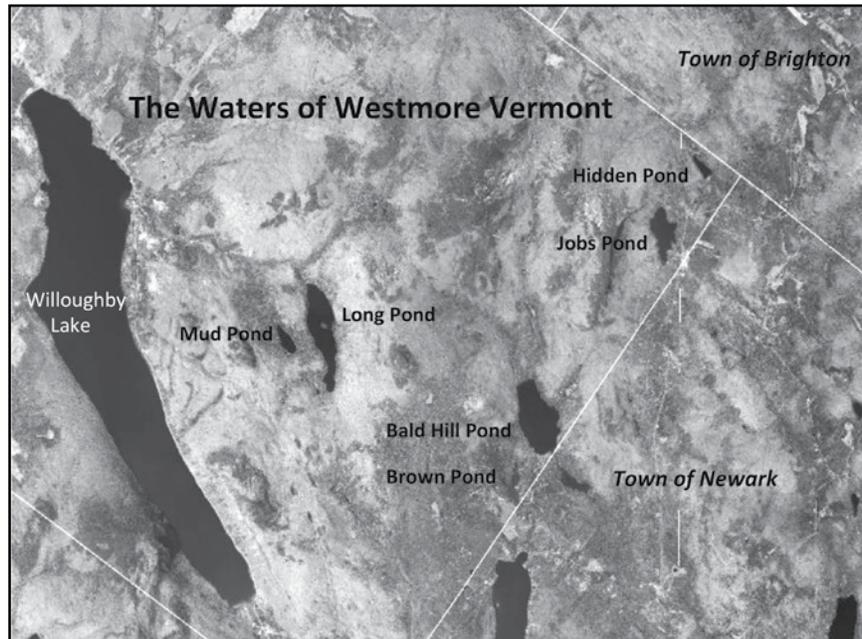
Westmore Association, Inc. Newsletter

Number 45

## Westmore Ponds

*By Art Brooks*

When one thinks of Westmore, one's thoughts most often turn to images of Willoughby Lake. But did you know that the Town of Westmore also includes six other water bodies within the boundaries of the town? These are: Long Pond (76 acres, 74 feet maximum depth) Bald Hill Pond (104 acres, 42 feet maximum depth) Job's Pond (39 acres, 18 feet maximum depth) Brown Pond (15 acres, depth not recorded) Mud Pond and Hidden Pond. The map below shows the location of each of these Westmore ponds. Each pond has its own physical characteristics and natural beauty. Additional information on the size, type of access, the availability of depth charts, and fishing regulations may be found at: <http://www.vtfishandwildlife.com>. Hidden Pond is not listed on that website, but is 11 acres in area with no public access. There are 11 Mud Ponds in Vermont, but Westmore's is not listed. The area is estimated to be about 12 acres with no public access. The accessible ponds are fascinating to explore by canoe or kayak. Make it a project to visit and appreciate these serene settings and pristine ponds.



### **ANNUAL FAMILY MEMBERSHIP**

**Please use the enclosed form & envelope to 're-up' and send in your dues for the coming year!**

OR

**Visit [www.westmoreassociation.org](http://www.westmoreassociation.org) to renew your membership**

***If you missed paying in 2014 – it's not too late to renew!***

Just add it to 2015's and mail it off. Remember, any amount over the basic dues can be legally taken as an income tax deduction. Many thanks for your vital, timely, continuing support.

Questions? E-mail Bruce Tanner at [bruce.tanner50@gmail.com](mailto:bruce.tanner50@gmail.com)

***THANKS!***

# Westmore Association Scholarships

Due to the generosity of our members and a foundation, the Westmore Association was able to provide \$1,000 scholarship to six college-bound students. They are: Brittany Chase, first year, Johnson State College, early childhood education; Danika Gallup, senior, St. Michael's College, French and psychology; Clark Hayden, first year, University of Maine – Farmington, outdoor education and business administration; Veronica Hayden, junior, Albany College of Pharmacy; Matt Morin, Johnson & Wales University in Miami, FL, sports and entertainment management with an emphasis in golf management and Tyler Valley, sophomore, Lyndon State College, music and business.

*Congratulations and best wishes for the academic year!*



*Veronica Hayden, Danika Gallup, Clark Hayden, Tyler Valley, Matt Morin*

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## 2014 – 4th of July Boat Parade

*By Doreen Allen*

Overcast skies didn't keep the fifteenth annual Willoughby Lake Fourth of July Boat Parade from casting off the shores of Crescent Beach, led by the Westmore Association-decorated pontoon boat with Gary Seslar and Doreen Allen on board. Seven boats and one canoe joined the parade, with a theme of "A Moment in Vermont History."

First place went to Barry and Carroll Guitar and Art and Anne Brooks on their creatively decorated Rum Runner boat, with participants dressed in 1930s attire, depicting Vermont bootleggers.

Second place went to the Sparks Family, with "Skiing in Vermont: First Rope Tow, Woodstock, 1934" with Steve, Stephen, Emmaline, Eliza, Julia, Madeline and Samantha on board, displaying their vision of the first rope town in the United States.

Third place went to the Willoughby Lake Monster boat with participants Uma and Ethan Swift and Meredith, Aidan and Peter Phinney, and Willy in tow.

Other entrants included "The Last Log Drive, 1915," "Willy the Lake Monster," "Vermont State Flag," "Ida May Fuller, 1940" (the first ever recipient of a Social Security check and a Vermonter) and the 1986 Vermont Senate ruling on research on Vermont lake monsters, particularly Champy.

Thank you to all of the parade participants, the judges who were gathered on the Morville's dock, and the folks who lined the lake to cheer on the boats.

The theme for next year will be "Cartoons on Parade."



# Echoes from the Past

In On Monday, July 7 about 25 Westmore residents attended a ceremony at the Town Clerk's office to remember and honor P. M. (Bun) Daniels, Westmore Town Clerk from 1927 to 1975. A plaque, inspired by Wayne French, pictures Bun with a profile by Millie Davis. At the ceremony, friends and neighbors fondly recalled stories illustrating Bun's honesty, integrity, dedication, kindness, friendship, generosity and humor. The plaque is on display in the Town Clerk's office. Bill Julian wrote the following profile in the Fall 1992 Reflections. Bun Daniels died in May of 1997 at the age of 92.

“Ever wonder how Bun got his nickname? Curiosity caused me to query Bun recently and here for your edification is the “long and short” of his explanation. It all started circa 1850 when Welcome Daniels opted to ply his shoemaking trade in Westmore. At the outset of the Civil War, Bun's father, Warner C., was born here.

In the early 1890s, W. C. and his wife Clarabelle acquired the general store. W. C. also served as Postmaster until his death in 1915 while Clarabelle served as Town Clerk and helped run the store while watching over and rearing five children.

From his birth in 1905, young P. M. was the “apple of his Dad's eye” and soon become known as “Honeyboy” and subsequently “Hon” for short. Along came World World I with the Huns, so the minister tactfully started to call him Bun as has everyone else for all these years except for the late Governor Lee Emerson to whom Bun was always “Hun.”

With his sobriquet firmly established, let's follow along with Bun starting with the Westmore school house days. His recollections of the three R's are not as graphic as his descriptions of the typical 3 B school....”box stove, blackboard and backhouse.” Buns says he was exposed to further education in Orleans, followed by a year at Baypath Institute in Springfield, MA which was about as far from Westmore as Bun cared to be, then or now.

As time went on, Bun shared more and more of the Town Clerk's and store's operations with his mother until 1939 when the store was sold. Bun, Mom and the town records moved across Mill Brook to the farmhouse where he lived until Bun's Shanty was built in 1969.

In the early 1940s Bun built the four cabins which were known as “Bun's” and he developed a large following year round.

Ardent fishermen were not bashful about banging on Bun's door for licenses regardless of the hour of day. One after-hours couple in quest of a license were startled when Bun asked from habit if they wanted a 3-day, 14-day or Seasonal license. The couple responded that a wedding license for at least a season was what they had in mind.

As the years rolled along, Bun maintained both the town records and his sense of humor. Close cronies included Harry Quimby, Chick Hardy, Gerald Perkins and out-of-staters like Ralph Isselee and Louis Chinella, who vacationed at Bun's Cabins. Whether fishing, hunting or helping Bun build the only concrete wall in town, all enjoyed his stories and a slug of his baked beans.

Bachelorhood seemed deeply ingrained until the summer of 1973 when Bun and Helen (a long-time Willoughbyite) started “viewing the sunsets” and “sharing sustenance” at nearby restaurants. After 69 year of “batching,” Bun opted for the “good life” and a “good wife” in 1974.

In 1977 Bun officially retired as Town Clerk, thus ending nearly ninety uninterrupted years of service by mother and son....quite an achievement!

Since then Bun and Helen continue to enjoy “the good life” and their many friends, both old and new. Bun still maintains a diary and is the local authority on “ice in” and “ice out” revelations plus other information that he is too discreet to disclose. His stories, like himself, are legend and surely should be recorded if only in his diary.

It's always a treat to reminisce with Bun as he recounts the colorful events of yesterday. May such opportunities be available to his many friends and admirers for years to come. P. S. For those curious about the P. M. initials, I'm told they stand for Poor Miserable Daniels, but further verification seems warranted.



Wayne French, left, presents a plaque to Town Clerk Greg Gallagher, right, honoring P. M. (Bun) Daniels, Westmore Town Clerk from 1927 to 1975.

# New Board Members



*Betsy Plume*

I was introduced to Lake Willoughby in the early '90's by my brother and sister-in-law, Stephen Plume and Martha McDaniel. Since my retirement in 2007, my husband Ken Rainey and I have spent summers on the lake at Stephen and Martha's camp Trail's End. Our children and grandchildren love visiting Lake Willoughby, and have made years of wonderful memories.

I am a charter member of the Ladies' Auxiliary of Kens for Cans, an effort started by our friends Ken and Irene Salerno. The Kens and Irene and I, along with anyone else so inclined, pick up redeemable cans and bottles (as well as other litter) as we walk along Route 5A and Old 5A. We have banked more than \$20 over the past two years. The proceeds will go to a worthy cause, yet to be determined, aimed at discouraging the practice of flinging trash out of cars passing through our corner of paradise. Membership is open to all. Ideas for a team t-shirt are warmly encouraged.



*Pam Kennedy*

My husband, Bob, discovered Willoughby Lake on a bicycle tour and brought me here – also by bicycle – twenty years ago. It felt like home and we took every opportunity to visit, finally buying our little home on the windy hill looking over the lake in 2007.

After living and raising a family in central CT we began thinking about what the next chapter of our lives might bring. While we thought about several scenarios, living full time in Westmore grew more and more appealing. Once the decision to relocate was made I looked for a position in education and found one – a year early! My years at the North Country Supervisory Union were a great experience and a good transition to life in the Northeast Kingdom.

Now that I have retired I am interested in ways to be part of the Westmore and NEK community. I took the Master Gardener Course offered by the UVM Extension Service and am busy planning and making gardens. Bob promises a greenhouse next year! We have already made wonderful friends and find each day one filled with the natural beauty that surrounds us. I look forward to serving on the Board and supporting the work of the Westmore Association in any way I can.



*Phyllis Parrott*

My parents, who were both teachers in the New York City area, bought the existing adult and family camp on Job's Pond in the 1947-1948 timeframe. They turned this into a summer camp for teenage boys and girls mostly from the New York Metropolitan area and ran it until 1963. They then converted the camp into seasonal light housekeeping cabins for family and friends which I still run today. I have spent every summer on Job's Pond since I was born, plus numerous additional weekends and holidays, as do my son and his family. In 1999 I built a home on the camp land and in 2005 became a permanent resident of Vermont. I am the only full time resident on the pond. As such I watch over it for water environmental issues, whether it be a breach in the dam or fish anomalies with warming waters or the health of the loons and associated wildlife, or cleaning up cans and bottles and other associated trash in the lake area.

I graduated from the University of Vermont in 1969 with a Bachelor of Science in Mathematics and a minor in Chemistry. At that point I started working for the Bell System and did so for 40 years until my retirement. This included through divestiture for AT&T,

New England Telephone, NYNEX, Bell Atlantic and Verizon and also as an engineering consultant. My positions were mostly as a manager in the Engineering Department in the transmission engineering, network planning, plant extension, economic forecasting and regulatory disciplines.

Watching the Bell System break up and go from a regulated industry that truly cared about its customers and even had recycling back in the day before anyone thought about it, to a competitive environment where quarterly results and cutting costs were more important than anything else, I have become acutely aware of the importance of maintaining and nurturing the environment in which we live in order to save it for our children and grandchildren. Westmore, in Vermont's Northeast Kingdom, is an excellent place for practicing this philosophy as well as enjoying all that the area has to offer.

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# Second Ice Cream Social

*By Anne Brooks*

The Ice Cream Social, our primary fundraiser for 2014, was scheduled to take place in the park on July 27th under sunny skies. Garden hats and tents might have been required to shield us from the blazing sun. But No! Mother Nature threw a curve ball. So we set up in Fellowship Hall and served ice cream from the kitchen.

The Silent Auction was a big hit and folks were wonderfully generous, both with their contributed items and their bids. There were theme baskets, handmade items, a sea kayak, and an entire picnic from the Willoughby Lake Store.

The Bake-Off was won by Malcolm Morville with his chocolate toffee crunch. A well-deserved triumph.

Alan Greenleaf and the Doc were invited back for a repeat concert of their toe-tapping NEK music. But No! Alan went flying over the handle bars of his bicycle and landed in the hospital so lively music was supplied by the Doc and Donovan, a young guitarist.

We raised almost \$2,000 in spite of the curve balls and it was a very fun Sunday afternoon event. Be thinking about the Time & Talent Auction next year!



*Our super scoopers: Ray Lanier, left, and Gary Seslar, right.*

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## 2014 Greeter Program Report

*By Ray Lanier*



The Westmore Association, in partnership with the Town of Westmore, conducted the 2014 Greeter Program to educate boaters and check boats launched and retrieved from the Fish & Wildlife Access Area on Willoughby Lake. The program was managed by Ray Lanier with help from Gary Seslar. In addition, Art Brooks tabulated the initial data collected by the greeters; Phyllis Parrott will finalize the data that will be forwarded to the State of Vermont Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) for analysis. The program this year ran from the Memorial Day weekend to the weekend after Labor Day. Returning Greeters were Bruce Rumball, MaryLiz Riddle and Beth Torpey. Penelope Newcomb was a new hire this year as an alternate greeter. The greeters were employees of the Town and worked two shifts on Wednesdays and Thursdays from 4:30 AM to 8:30 AM and 3 PM to 7 PM and three shifts on Fridays and weekends from 4:30 AM to 7 PM. This allowed for 59.5 hours of coverage per week as well as coverage on holidays that fell on Mondays and the 4th of July. The preliminary analysis of the greeter data had not been tabulated by the time of this report so I am not able to report on the number of boats that were encountered

by the greeters. However, I know that several boats that were being retrieved from the lake had milfoil either on the boats or on their trailers. Also, at least one boat being launched had Eurasian Milfoil which was removed by our greeters before being launched. Samples of Milfoil or native non-invasive plants were also removed by our greeters as it is illegal to transport any plant from a body of water. Once again this shows that the program not only protects Willoughby Lake but also protects other lakes where the boaters were going to next. As in past years, a major part of the program involves the education of boaters about the problems caused by invasive species such as Eurasian Milfoil, Zebra Mussels, and a new invasive, Spiny Water Flea (which was found in Lake Champlain this year) while also checking the boats and their trailers. Again the Association will seek grants to offset some of the program cost for next year, even though we have not been successful in past years in obtaining a grant. I will provide a detailed Greeter Program report for the President's Newsletter in the Spring which will describe the total number of boats encountered and the cost of the program.

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# Milfoil Project

By Bruce Tanner

For the sixth year in a row, the Westmore Town Selectboard awarded the contract to suction-harvest the European Water Milfoil infestation in Willoughby Lake to A & E Commercial Diving Services of Manchester, VT. The harvesting season ran from July 21 – October 7, 2014.

Permits from the State for bottom barrier emplacement in the area south of the WilloughVale Inn were obtained this year and the barriers were installed at the end of the harvesting season. In addition, older barriers installed in the boat launch area were removed, as per State regulations. Bottom barriers are necessitated in areas where lake bottom conditions hamper suction-harvesting methods.

As of the mid-project report, 707 buckets (18/20 gals. each) over a period of 21.5 days were harvested, a significant increase over the previous year and one of the highest totals ever harvested by A & E in Willoughby Lake.

During the Westmore Association's annual meeting on July 21, Chris Sheldon, A & E owner-operator, narrated a brief video of the suction-harvest method and answered members' questions. Preceding the video, Ann Bove, from the VT Dept. of Environmental Conservation and head of the aquatic invasive species program for Vermont, gave an overview of the many challenges facing the State with respect to aquatic invasive species. Although not yet found in Willoughby Lake, other invasive species are already present in other Vermont water bodies and pose a potential threat to Willoughby. We must remain ever vigilant and continue to support the Town in its efforts to mitigate any nuisances appearing in Willoughby or other Westmore water bodies. Portions of your Association dues and generous donations go to help address this important program to control the Milfoil infestation and prevent other invasives from appearing.

A final report summary will be forthcoming in the President's Newsletter in the Spring, 2015.

**CHECK OUT OUR WEBSITE:**

**[www.westmoreassociation.org](http://www.westmoreassociation.org)**

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