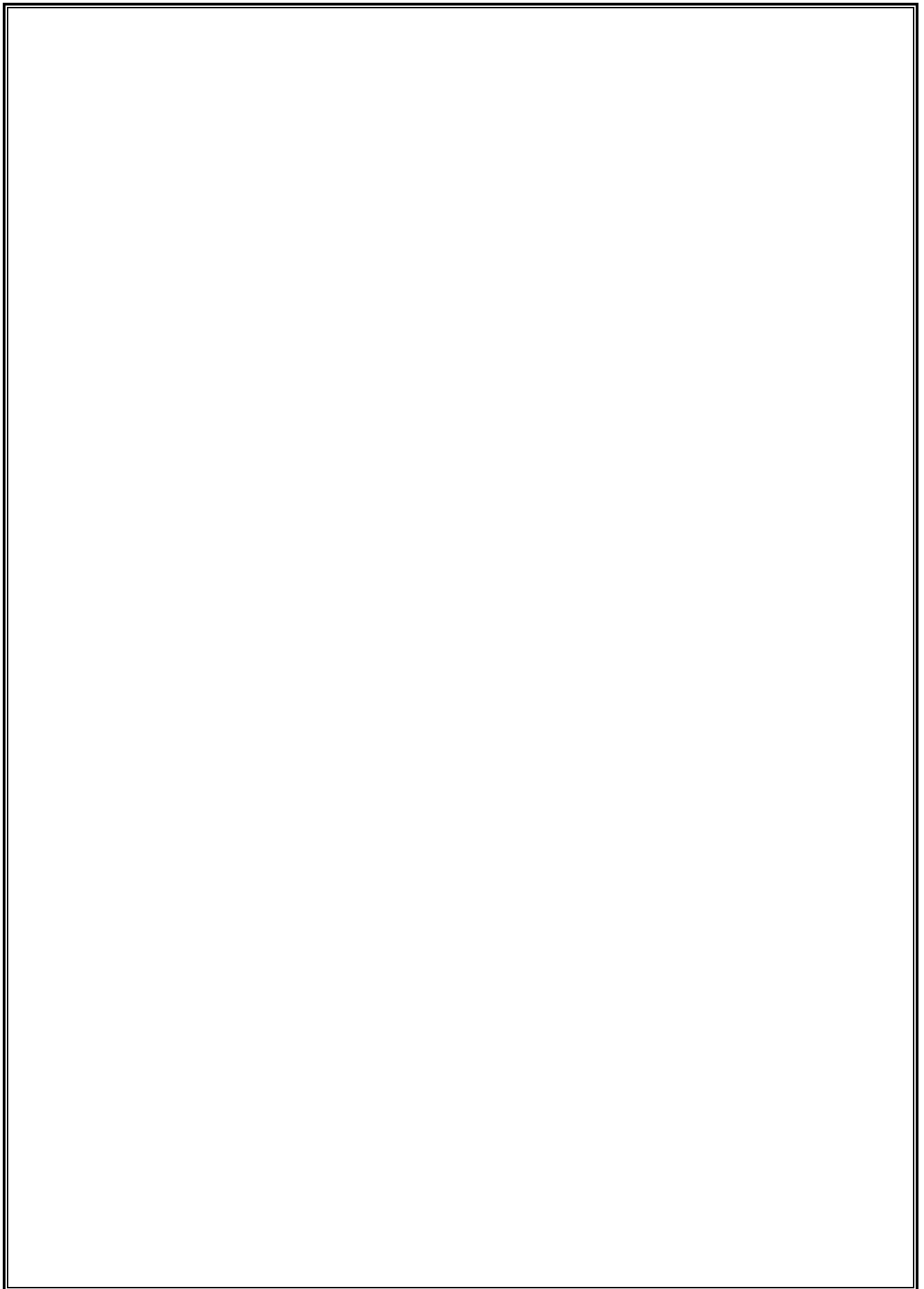


2010 ANNUAL REPORT



SQUAM LAKES ASSOCIATION
HOLDERNESS, NEW HAMPSHIRE



PRESIDENT'S REPORT

During 2010 your organization continued to make significant contributions to the preservation of the watershed thanks to the combined support of our members, volunteers, staff, and board. The committee reports that follow detail accomplishments in each of our four primary focus areas: (1) conservation, (2) government relations, (3) outreach and education, and (4) communications and development.

The committee reports provide the statistics relative to the number of participants in our youth programs, campsite usage (a record year!), boat rentals, community activities, etc. Thanks to your support coupled with tight budget control, we were able to continue these programs and engage in a broad range of other activities that contributed to the protection, preservation, and our continued enjoyment of this wonderful watershed. Highlights for 2010:

- Our campus expanded with the addition of new offices for SLCS and the construction of the Fisher Family Activity Barn.
- Phase two of the Barn project began with planning for a walking bridge and trail connector, septic system, well, indoor winter storage, and the construction of a climbing wall. All designed to allow us to enhance our youth and outreach programs.
- We made progress in our battle against milfoil. Increased staffing and new equipment made it possible for us to reduce fifteen acres of concentration to five acres by removing 3,300 gallons of milfoil.
- The Friends of Mead took over the management of the Mead Conservation Center, ending our eight year role as the USFS Permit holder. During our years of management the center served as quarters for the trail crews who worked with our staff and volunteers. Together they logged over 1,920 hours maintaining our trail system during 2010.
- Rebecca Harvey, our PSU Research Associate, obtained her MS ES&P degree and was promoted to the position of Ecological Manager at SLA. During the year Rebecca conducted public forums focused on the latest environmental issues: Asian Longhorn Beetle; Algae/Cyanobacteria, and the effects of pharmaceutical and personal care products on surface water quality
- We continued working with NHDES, UNH and PSU in our quest to assist the state in the development of a tool for the assessment of the recreational use capacity of our lakes. In addition, we joined with SLCS and PSU to begin the development of a trails master plan.
- Administratively, Peter Wolcott chaired a sub-committee tasked with reviewing and updating our By-Laws.

In conclusion, I want to take this opportunity to thank retiring board members Kathy Wheeler, Chris Williams, and Dan Stack for their service, wish Rebecca Harvey the best as she moves on to begin her PhD, and welcome the four new board members. I also want thank Chris Devine for his twelve years of service as our Executive Director and wish him the best of luck in the future. This is my third and final report to you as board president; it's been an honor serving you and a privilege working with our dedicated board, staff and volunteers.

Respectfully Submitted,

Earle Jenkins
President

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

We began the year on the heels of a successful capital campaign with the goal of providing much needed space to support our youth programs. We broke ground in the spring and by mid-summer we had the new Fisher Family Activity Barn in place, and it is a beautiful structure built of locally harvested timber by local craftsmen. In mid-2011 we finished up some of the ancillary work associated with this project including an indoor climbing wall and water/sanitary infrastructure. Our youth conservation corps volunteers will be putting the final touches on landscaping the area this summer now that the site work has wrapped up.

Last year we saw our third Plymouth State University graduate student, Rebecca Harvey, obtain her masters degree performing research on Squam while gaining applied work experience with us. Unfortunately for us, but great for Rebecca, is that she is leaving at the end of this summer to pursue her doctorate at the University of Vermont, and I do wish her the best. Our fourth student has joined us in early 2011 and he will be researching and developing a tool to assist in lake management assessment and decision making.

Our summer youth programs enjoyed another successful season with 240 children joining us to either participate in learning how to sail, outdoor recreation or volunteering for service. I thank them for all their hard work, smiles, and laughter that make the summers here so rewarding.

Ecologically we continued the battle against the spread of invasive variable milfoil in the watershed. Using grant funds and donations, Brett Durham built version 3.0 of a Diver Assisted Suction Harvest unit and the crews were able to increase plant harvesting by a staggering seven times compared to prior years. We are not done, but infestation has not spread beyond the areas of concern, and we have definitely made some headway. We also provided some assistance to try and manage nuisance level blooms of native algal or cyanobacteria in a few localized areas of the lake. The increased growth in these areas is likely attributed to the extremely wet summers we had in 2008-09 that transported higher amounts of nutrient-laden runoff into the lake. There is not viable solution to manage this nuisance growth, but we pilot tested some pumping methods to remove the algae from the shoreline with some limited success.

Operationally we closed the year well with income on the positive side and our investments recovering. Donations and summer program enrollments, which understandably took a dip during the recession, began to stabilize. Further detail on our financial position is provided in the Treasurer's Report section of this Annual Report.

This is my last report to you as Executive Director of the Association as I will be moving on at the close of our Annual Meeting this year after twelve and a half years at the helm. Reflecting on all that has occurred and been accomplished here during that period is a daunting task I'll avoid here for the sake of brevity and express my appreciation to all the wonderful people with whom I have had the honor of working during this time.

Respectfully Submitted,

Christopher P. Devine
Executive Director

OFFICERS & DIRECTORS

Earle Jenkins, *President*
Peter Webster, *First Vice President*
Sarah Thorne, *Second Vice President*
Maria Furman, *Treasurer*
Tom Enright, *Secretary*

Jane Beck
John Fernandes
Eve Porter-Zuckerman
Daniel Stack
Peter Walcott
Christopher Williams

John Coolidge
June Hammond-Rowan
Rebecca Sinkler
Carolyn Tolles
Kathy Wheeler

STAFF

Christopher Devine, *Executive Director*
Priscilla Bartholomew, *Office Manager*
Brett Durham, *Director of Recreation*
Rebecca Harvey, *Ecological Manager*
Jennifer Walker, *Youth Program Manager*
Rebecca Hanson, *Office Assistant*

COMMITTEES

Conservation
Education & Outreach
Government Relations

Communications & Development
Finance & Asset Management
Nominating

TASK FORCES

By Laws
Research

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

Boating Census
Special Events
Water Quality
Brochure Distribution
Office/Mailings
Trail Adoption
Weed Watchers

REPORT OF THE COMMUNICATIONS & DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

The committee is delighted to report that the communications function of SLA has embraced the multitude of communications avenues available today to reach our constituency. In addition to our website, our long-standing newsletter, *The Loon Flyer*, and newspaper press releases, we now send out an e-newsletter twice monthly, and we have Facebook groups for those interested in SLA and for JSLA alumni.

Annual Meeting, August 7, 2010 This year we held the meeting in our new Youth Activity Barn with over 200 in attendance. At the meeting the barn was dedicated to Tim and Audrey Fisher and family for their leadership in the barn project campaign. True to our commitment to youth, our guest speaker was Amy Seidl, author of *Early Spring: an Ecologist and her Children Awake to a Warming World*.

Winterfest Our tradition of scheduling Winterfest on Martin Luther King weekend proved immensely popular again with over 300 people stopping in to taste chili and participate in a wide range of outdoor activities. The weather cooperated, and we had great ice conditions for skating. This year we also groomed cross-country skiing trails out to Bowman Island, and those making the trek were greeted by hot cider and cookies. Indoors, the chili fest drew hungry testers with discriminating palates.

Pancake Breakfast Memorial Day weekend saw a highly successful Pancake Breakfast with a large increase in attendance. Over 100 people came by to sample our tasty organic pancakes topped with Burleigh Farm maple syrup.

The Communications and Development Committee sponsored a neighborhood “Friendraiser” at a home on Squam with invitation extended to those connected to the northwest area of the lake. The event was hosted by Peter Webster, Susan Smith, Sarah Thorne and Tom Howe.

Respectfully Submitted,

Rebecca Sinkler
Chairperson

REPORT OF THE EDUCATION & OUTREACH COMMITTEE

In 2010, SLA continued our successful outreach and education programs from the past, enhanced our collaborative efforts with area nonprofits, and worked with school and youth programs. The Outreach and Education Committee acts as an advisor and guide in the support and development of educational programming, works to engage members and volunteers, and collaborates with external institutions in the active support of the SLA's programs and initiatives.

Junior Squam Lakes Association (JSLA), in its 55th year, maintained a program of lake and mountain activities for youths in grades three to nine, happily unencumbered by the weather for a change. Once again, and similar to other area camps and schools, the camp saw lower enrollment in the Discovery Group (grades 3&4), nearly full enrollment in the Explorer Group (grades 5&6), and slightly lower enrollment in the Expedition Group (grades 7-9) than in previous years, with a total enrollment of 154 participants, 71% of capacity. The CYSP (Community Youth Sailing Program), led by Garr Corcoran, had 68 participants in this active program of sailing instruction for youth ages 8-16. Squam Conservation Corps (SCC), a program for high school-aged students, was at full enrollment with 21 participants, and helped with numerous projects. The new Fisher Family Activity Barn proved to be a great new addition to the SLA's facilities towards the end of the summer, and the campers had a fun time with their Art for the Barn program. Having received helpful feedback from parents and campers this year, the staff put together a plan to keep that feedback active in 2011 with a readily available survey, which will offer useful and important perspectives as we develop the programs for the future.

Once again, with the generous participation of the M.J. LaFoley Foundation, six scholarships to the JSLA program were presented to students in each school in the lake's five towns. These scholarships are awarded at the recommendation of the schools and granted to youth who exemplify qualities of good citizenship and humanitarianism.

Jenne Walker, Youth Program Manager, and other SLA staff took our collaborative efforts with area nonprofits to new heights this year. They and the Science Center staff are now meeting on a bi-annual basis to compare notes and find opportunities to collaborate on outreach and education efforts. SLA staff coordinated with the NH Lakes Association in providing an educational water quality monitoring program for the AMC's Natural Leaders Program along with an opportunity to camp on Bowman Island. The SLA also hosted the USFS Youth Conservation Corps from the Pemigewasset Ranger District, providing an educational program in invasive plant management.

The SLA staff found many opportunities to work with school and youth groups to provide programming on and around the lakes, in SLA-managed natural areas, and at the schools themselves. This year, the new School & Youth Group brochure, delivered to area elementary and high schools in 2010, generated a lot of interest. The SLA worked on providing programming in water quality and water conservation in conjunction with the Ashland Elementary School's "Go Green" theme, and planned activities for the Holderness Central School's "Environmental Kamp." With Plymouth's Elementary School, the SLA worked to develop an interactive full day program around the theme of water conservation as a culminating event for Earth Week. The SLA also stayed active with local recreation departments, including helping Holderness extend its summer

camp by providing a two full days of programming and coordinating an overnight family event on Moon Island.

We did some adult educational programming as well, including a workshop on the Asian Longhorned Beetle in April. The Outreach and Education Committee is always interested in ideas from our members and community about ways to engage all age groups in learning about and enjoying the watershed.

As ever, we are grateful for the committed support of our volunteers, who inspire us with their ideas and energetic contributions to the SLA's work, and who fuel the spirit of stewardship that makes the SLA and the watershed thrive.

Respectfully Submitted,

Eve Porter-Zuckerman
Chairperson

REPORT OF THE CONSERVATION COMMITTEE

Have you hiked some of the 50 miles of trails around the Squam Lakes this year? Maintaining these trails is one of the most important contributions of SLA and its volunteers. During 2010, volunteers donated 497 hours to trail maintenance. In addition, Recreation Director Brett Durham and the SLA trail crew accomplished a major upgrade on the Wentworth Trail up Mt. Israel by installing stone steps and waterbars. To better plan for trail needs in the coming decade, SLA completed a draft Trails Management Plan, with thanks to lead author, Christian Weber, PSU graduate student and Joan Turley, his academic advisor, from SLCS.

With 995 camping nights in 2010, it was a record year. Another record was achieved by the milfoil control team, removing 3300 gallons of the invasive aquatic plant from the Squam Lakes. SLA Ecological Director Rebecca Harvey completed her thesis about pharmaceuticals and personal care products in Squam area waters and presented it at many community and professional meetings. SLA worked cooperatively with Plymouth State University to develop a list of research projects for which graduate students and funding will be pursued over the coming years. Finally, SLA facilitated the formation of the new Friends of Mead non-profit organization, a group of folks who will be stewards for Mead Base in Sandwich.

Respectfully Submitted,

Sarah Thorne
Chairperson

REPORT OF THE GOVERNMENT RELATIONS COMMITTEE

During 2010 the Government Relations Committee focused on building on its past success with the outreach program to officials of the towns bordering the Squam Lakes. The Committee set objectives for 2011 that included making the meeting with town officials a yearly event and to seek to expand the communications with town officials. The Committee also set an objective to expand the awareness among these town officials of the Water Resource Opportunity Spectrum (WROS) as a management tool not only for the lakes but also for the lands bordering the lakes. The Committee explored the value of promoting an update/rewrite or status report on the 1991 Squam Lakes Watershed Plan. We concluded that while such a project was definitely worthwhile, constraints on the resources available to devote to the project made it impractical to undertake at the present time.

A meeting with town officials was held on May 14, 2010 at which SLA programs and capabilities were reviewed and topics of interest including milfoil management, shoreline protection, zoning and SLA as an educational resource were discussed. The feedback was that this was a useful exchange of ideas and helpful to the town officials. The Committee continued this process by holding a 2011 meeting with town officials on June 14th with focus on the SLA's efforts to mitigate invasive milfoil infestation, including a demonstration by Brett Durham on the operation of the DASH boat used to harvest milfoil. There was also an explanation and discussion of the WROS with town officials, a number of whom had not been aware of this management tool. Following the meeting a copy of the WROS analysis of the Squam Lakes was distributed to each attendee of the meeting. The feedback from this meeting emphasized the value to town officials of the SLA website as an informational and educational resource and generated a number of follow-up activities that will be pursued over the summer and fall months ahead.

Respectfully Submitted,

Peter Walcott
Chairperson

TREASURER'S REPORT

Fiscal year 2010 exhibited some stabilization in economic conditions in comparison to the declines in charitable giving and endowment income that was experienced in the previous two years. Operational expenses were maintained level with the reductions made in response to declines in income experienced during the recession which served to end the fiscal year for us on a positive note. Program income, mainly from our summer youth offerings, continued to lag from belt-tightening in prior years.

STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES

<u>Revenues</u>	<u>Year Ended</u>	
	<u>12/31/2010</u>	<u>12/31/2009</u>
Dues	\$ 132,654	\$ 146,082
Contributions	445,194	193,861
Program Fees	171,349	183,333
Grants	41,600	28,000
Interest & Dividend Income	57,164	50,939
Rental Income	5,360	4,670
Gift Store Income	9,135	6,452
Total Revenue	\$ 862,456	\$ 613,337
<u>Expenses</u>		
General Operations	\$ 219,101	\$ 220,052
Natural Areas	131,581	141,951
Youth Programs	62,146	62,269
Visitors Reception & Information	55,956	56,331
Education	70,131	70,697
Special Events	45,860	44,920
Ecological	33,902	26,591
Land Conservation	-	9,458
Fundraising	994	1,293
Total Expense	\$ 619,671	\$ 633,562
Gain/Loss on Investments	248,063	442,038
Gain/Loss on Sale of Assets	2,148	-
Net increase (decrease) in net assets	\$ 492,996	\$ 421,813

Total net assets of the Association at the close of 2010 were \$6,965,708. Our Investment sub-Committee has actively positioned the portfolio in a well diversified, conservative manner consistent with our market outlook.

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

	<u>Year Ended</u>	
<u>Assets</u>	<u>12/31/2010</u>	<u>12/31/2009</u>
Cash & Other Current Assets	\$ 367,454	\$ 263,675
Conservation Fund	523,325	552,696
Endowment Fund	1,802,924	1,614,140
Land	3,270,397	3,270,397
Buildings	1,333,800	1,038,842
Construction in Progress	-	20,147
Vehicles, Watercraft & Equipment	254,529	251,432
Depreciation	(586,721)	(536,765)
Total	\$ 6,965,708	\$ 6,474,564
<u>Liabilities</u>		
Current	\$ 4,125	\$ 5,978
Long-term	-	-
Total	\$ 4,125	\$ 5,978
Net Assets	\$ 6,961,583	\$ 6,468,586
Total Liabilities & Net Assets	\$ 6,965,708	\$ 6,474,564

Financial statements are audited by Rowley & Associates, P.C. using generally accepted accounting principles for non-profit organizations. I am pleased to report that the SLA has received a clear opinion from our auditors.

Respectfully Submitted,

Maria Furman,
Treasurer
Finance & Asset Management
Committee Chairperson
June 30, 2011



AREA CONSERVATION ORGANIZATIONS

Lakes Region Conservation Trust

PO Box 766, Center Harbor, NH 03226
(603) 253-3301

Preserving our heritage through land conservation in the heart of New Hampshire.

Loon Preservation Committee

P.O. Box 604, Moultonborough, NH 03254
(603) 476-5666

The Loon Preservation Committee exists to restore and maintain a healthy population of loons throughout New Hampshire; to monitor the health and productivity of loon populations as sentinels of environmental quality; and to promote a greater understanding of loons and the natural world.

New Hampshire Lakes Association

14 Horseshoe Pond Lane, Concord, NH 03301
(603) 226-0299

Dedicated to preserving and protecting our lakes for the responsible and equitable enjoyment of everyone.

Squam Lakes Conservation Society

P.O. Box 696, Holderness, NH 03245
(603) 968-7900

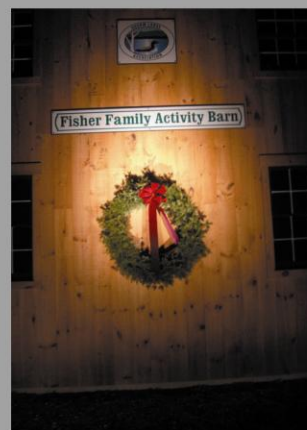
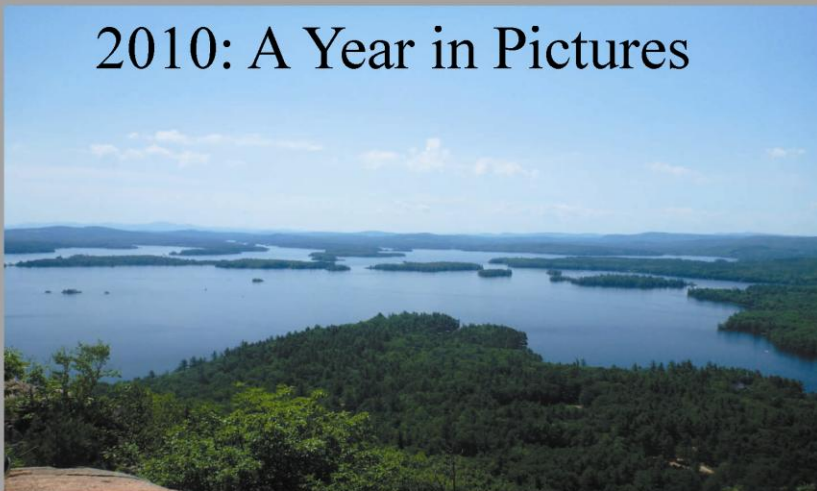
The Society's mission is to preserve the unique quality and character of the Squam watershed by protecting lands for present and future generations.

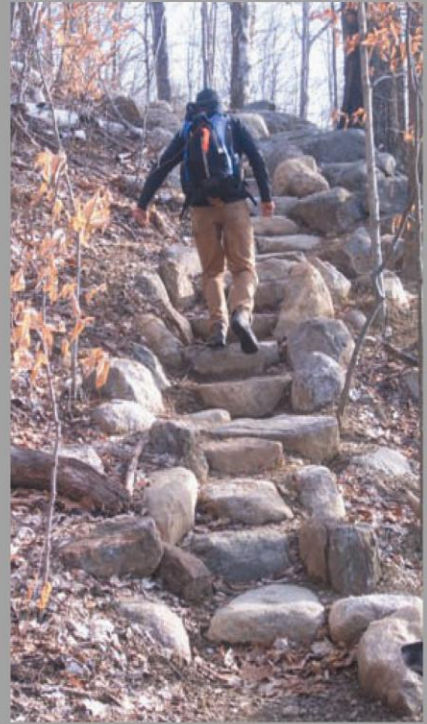
Squam Lakes Natural Science Center

P.O. Box 173, Holderness, NH 03245
(603) 968-7194

Our mission is to advance the understanding of ecology by exploring New Hampshire's natural world.

2010: A Year in Pictures







THANK YOU TO ALL OF OUR VOLUNTEERS!

The Squam Lakes Association appreciates the many volunteers that keep our programs and operations running successfully. The following individuals have supported SLA activities with their time and efforts in 2010 and 2011 (apologies to those who were inadvertently omitted).

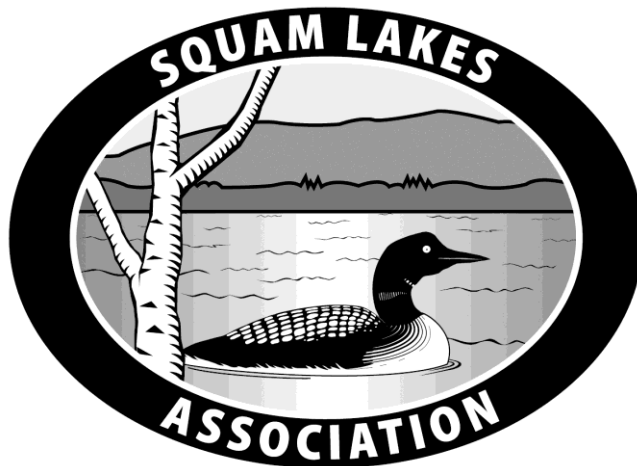
Mike Wood
Julian Coolidge
Dan Stack
Peter Richards
Tisha Smith
Sean Smith
David Martin
Barry Gaw
John Dufrat
Heather Littlejohn
Scott Littlejohn
Bob Shultz
Ken Ruhm
John Fernandes
Bob Snelling
Carol Zink
David Coolidge
Carol Coolidge
Pat Greenfield
Barbara Beal
Tom Beal
David Cutright
Julie Ramsey
Diana Turbayne
Samantha Bauer
Tony Wagner
PJ Blankenhorn
Cliff King
Anita King
Jane Beck
John Coolidge

June Hammond-Rowan
Rebecca Sinkler
Carolyn Tolles
Peter Walcott
Peter Webster
Eve Porter-Zuckerman
Maria Furman
Kathy Wheeler
Chris Williams
Cindy O'Leary
James Elcock
Laurie Beeson
Tom Enright
Scott Wallace
Earle Jenkins
Julie Jenkins
Betsy Whitmore
Bruce Whitmore
Steve Eisenhaure
UNH Trail Crew
Jim Lerner
Charles Therriault
Sarah Thorne
Tom Howe
Jim Colthart
Jackie Colthart
Bryant Tolles
Warren Clark
John Toussaint
Brian Gagnon
Ben Moody

Dan Newton
Boy Scout Troop 23
Mike Burns
Joe Mazzone
Patti Mazzone
Fred Lavigne
Evelyn Mackinnon
Tor Carlson
Julia Coleman
John Grady
Luke Sheldon
Grace Littlejohn
Alexandra Renzi
Haley Lynch
Meaghan Lynch
Katie LaScaleia
Will Fernandez
Roger Stone
Annie Sullivan
Clark Shipley
Emily Sullivan
Michael Stone
Bev LaFoley
Friends of the Sandwich
Range

We always welcome new volunteers! Contact the SLA for volunteer opportunities in the following areas: Boating Census, Special Events, Water Quality, Brochure Distribution, Office/Mailings, and Trail Adoption.

2010 ANNUAL REPORT



SQUAM LAKES ASSOCIATION
534 US Route 3, P.O. Box 204
Holderness, New Hampshire 03245

(603) 968-7336
www.squamlakes.org
info@squamlakes.org