

The Gardiner Sportsmen's Club

P.O. Box 1173, Gardiner, ME 04345

(207)582-3223

July 19th, 2015

All GSC Club Family Members

RE: Club Update

Welcome all,

We want to take a minute to touch bases with you 'all with an event reminder and some additional items as well.

2015 GSC Member-Family Club Outing & Club Cup Fishing Tournament

Please plan on joining us on Sunday, July 26th for the next edition of the GSC Member-Family Outing. The outing will run from 9am – 3pm and once again we will be holding the “Club Cup” fishing tournament from 7:30am – 11:30am. Please try to make this fun free day as it's a chance to meet and visit with new GSC members and rekindle friendships with GSC members and family we haven't seen for quite a while. **A great day of food, fun and relaxation by the edge of beautiful Cobbossee Stream.** Please see the attached for the day's information and a means to RSVP and/or enter a team for the Club Cup. If you have a boat and no team, or if you know of any youth who may want to participate in the tournament and doesn't have a team, please contact Tim at 582-5170 or 615-5229. **Last year we had three teams and while we hope to double that this year, because of the timing, we may have to postpone the Club Cup this year until a later date or until next year's outing.**

QUICK STATS:

- We currently have over 210 paid members
- We've had a great response to Fighting Cancer with Smiles and have been able to give a nice “pamper package” to a young mother in hopes she can take a little time for herself and regroup for a minute during her fight with this disease. We have also raised enough to help one or more others during their battles, and will be seeking candidates. Please feel free to contact Tim at 582-5170 or email; edgeofthestream@roadrunner.com with any suggestions to be held in full confidence.
- We're continuing to go strong with Every Penny Counts and was able to give three bicycles and helmets out to some very happy and deserving young folk in 2014 and three more so far in 2015. That brings the total of bikes given out through EPC to forty-nine (49) since its inception in mid-2008. GREAT JOB MEMBERS!!!
- We had a GREAT time this year with our 8th Annual Hooked on Fishing, Not on Drugs youth event back in June. While it was a smaller turnout than we had expected (eight kids and their families), all had fun and caught fish. We had one young lady who had never been fishing before and by the end of the day, she was casting as well as some of our (wink-wink) more experienced club anglers. Her worms and lures spent less time in the trees than mine have this year, LOL! Thank you to all who joined us and worked with the kids throughout the day.
- While the club and keeping it going is a 100% volunteer and team effort (most times we don't like to single out individuals for their participation because whether it's helping with one event or a multitude of events; or actively being involved as an officer or director, EVERY BIT helps and is appreciated) we are going to mention and thank a few folk (in alphabetical order):
 - The GSC Grounds Crew - Denis Harriman, Rick Hume and Doug Williams for their tireless efforts in maintaining the grounds and keeping the facility in “country club” condition.
 - Felicia Beardsley, Norma Layne and Rod Spearin for the work with the flowers and plants.
 - The Grounds Crew and Curt Malcolm for getting the docks in every year (and Curt for donating new cement mooring anchors for the docks).
 - The Rental Chairperson Lauri Layne and her assistant for doing the fulltime-part-time job of handling the rentals and EVERYTHING that goes with it.
 - The Rental Clean-up crews of Alan McMaster and Rick Hume (days) and Lauri Layne and her assistant (nights).
 - **And everyone else who helps with the club in any manner – the club wouldn't be what it is without your participation...THANK YOU!!!**

“At the edge of Cobbossee Stream”



With the aforementioned, I want to add that we are ALWAYS looking for that next group or generation of dedicated members to grab the reins and help direct the club into the future.

On a personal note, I want to mention that after much discussion and thought, Lauri - GSC Treasurer and I, will not be running for any officer's position at the club beyond 2015, and will be stepping aside at the end of this year in hopes of getting some "new blood" so to speak to get involved and take that next step. Careful consideration of our available time together, and personal events in our lives, has compelled us to make this decision. It should never be confused with a lack of deep love and passion for the Gardiner Sportsmen's Club and its family of members to which we hold so closely to our hearts. Since 2004 when I was enlisted by my dad to help with clean-ups, then be able to follow his and my grandfather's participation as President (being elected in 2006), and then proudly being able to have Lauri get involved as well in 2006 as Financial Secretary – we have worked with some of the best and most dedicated officer and director teams and club members in any organization, hands-down. While hearing stories of other clubs struggling and membership dwindling, ours grew and continues to impress as the years go on. The first meeting I attended included Officers Clint Layne, Fred Thibeau and Bob White, who then took care of club business (just as we do today with the call to order, the pledge of allegiance and all agenda items right down to the meeting adjournment). Maurice Jackson was also in attendance as the only other club member present and ready to play cards after the meeting. In 2004 after the club had gone through many stages in its existence and past its heyday, this group was the norm, not the exception. Once again, **WE** (the club) have come a long way!

Some of the things Lauri and I have been so fortunate to have been a part of during our time with the club:

- A full slate of officers & directors returning
- Renovation of our member area
- Resurrection of the member/family outing
- The resurrection of the pot-luck suppers
- The addition of an arts & crafts fair
- The renewed pride and interest of being a member of the GSC
- Creation of web and Facebook pages
- Renewed member activities such as
 - Cribbage tournaments
 - Pool tournaments
 - Bowling trips (just getting started)
 - Fishing tourneys (& the Club Cup)
- Continued community involvement through
 - Every Penny Counts
 - Hooked on Fishing
 - Supporting Cal Ripken Baseball
 - Christmas & Thanksgiving Baskets
 - The continuation of the Erland Small Memorial Scholarship
 - Hosting the girls and boys from Camp Tekakwitha four times a year
 - Supporting local schools with facilities for special functions
 - Hosting the State Junior Bass Championships

Wow, what a list! Some have succeeded better than others but it all boils down to one thing...club support and participation. That's where it's up to all of us. **WE NEED THAT NEXT GROUP TO WANT TO PARTICIPATE!** Make no mistake about it, it's work and there will be a personal commitment and buy-in needed to continue the club in its positive direction. My passion came from swimming in the compound when I was five or six, playing farm league baseball in the ball field when I was not much older than that, watching my grandparents dance in the hall on Saturday nights, and seeing what the club meant to my family and the community. **Where will your passion come from?** The belief that the outdoors and activities like hunting, fishing and boating are some of the greatest resources our great state has to offer? That the youth in our state are some of the greatest assets our state has to offer and that they should be able to continue learning and experiencing what the outdoors is and what it has to offer? That you want your children and grandchildren to be able to experience the club and what the stream has to offer? Whatever it is and wherever you get it from, find the passion and get involved. We currently have a great team of officers (6) and directors (9) but they can't do it alone. They need help. They need do'ers not just idea people. They need people to take the positions with the intent to make a difference, not just to take a position. They need people to form committees and teams to help support the needed time to take care of and operate the club. Do you have it in you to join in and make a difference? To help shape it's future? If you do, read the mission statement attached – it's up to you how you and your team proceed. No one else is going to tell you how.

We thank each and every member of the GSC for being a part of the family and supporting the club as without any-one of you, the club just wouldn't exist. Like we said; we're always seeking the next "generation" of members to get involved and carry the club into the future as we continue to offer a place for our families to meet and play, and to promote the great outdoor sporting activities Maine has to offer. Let's keep our heritage going strong!

Sincerely,

Tim Layne, GSC President



On August 14th, 1947 the Gardiner Sportsmen's Club was officially organized as a Maine corporation.

As stated in the original papers-

"The purpose of this non-profit organization shall be: to conserve and urge wise use of our natural resources which include stable soil, unpolluted waters, perpetual forests, vegetation, fish, wildlife, scenic and recreational reservations; to improve and restore fish, game and its habitat; to study local resource conditions and to cooperate with the proper authorities in securing conservation plans and measures for betterment to the benefit of all the community; to support sound conservation, and to oppose anti -conservation legislation; to promote good sportsmanship afield, and to conduct ourselves so as to be an example of good and safe sportsmanship; to respect the property rights of others; to pass on to our heirs, the joys and privileges of a better outdoors."



Strong words, and a huge commitment to the local community and its residents.

The ten original officers (President Richard B. Merrill; Vice-President Erland Small; Secretary or Clerk Stanley Small; Treasurer Harley Buzzell; and Directors or Trustees Stanley Allen, Henry Merrill, Stanley Hunt, Walter Clark, Austin Dodge and Edgar MacMaster) had a vision for the make-up and purpose of this storied club, a purpose, that we almost seven decades later as loyal and dedicated club members shall never forget and must work together to carry on. It's up to all of us!

