



# Webster Lake Association Newsletter

Summer 2015

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Catch up on George and Martha's latest adventures.

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## Beach Party

Bring the people of Webster to the Beach for an evening of food, music and good old fashioned fun under a big tent.

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## Golf Tournament

Read about the 10<sup>th</sup> Annual Golf Tournament. A surprise is planned.

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## Message from Jason Piader President of the Webster Lake Association

I hope that everyone is having a relaxing and peaceful summer on beautiful Webster Lake. The WLA, this summer, has continued the work of promoting, protecting, and preserving the Lake through a number of different community events, and an awarded grant.

First, the WLA conducted "The Beach Party", on June 20<sup>th</sup>. The Beach Party exposed people to Memorial Beach, and allowed the WLA to more actively engage with the broader community.

Second, the WLA successfully conducted the "cruise" portion of the "Book-a-Cruise" event, for Webster school children who completed the summer reading at the Corbin Public Library, in Webster. Numerous WLA members donated use of their pontoon boats, and time, on August 5<sup>th</sup> to take over 300 school children for a free tour around the Lake. The children were able to take in the sights of the lake, and even view the resident bald eagle family on the lake.

Third, the WLA was awarded \$125,000 from the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, through Amendment 251 of the Fiscal Year 2016 Budget. The money will be used by the WLA to restore open water conditions to Sucker Brooke Inlet Cove, and for various other environmental enhancements. The amendment was put forth, and supported, by Sen. Ryan Fattman and Rep. Joseph McKenna. The WLA is immensely thankful for their support of Webster Lake.

Lastly, the WLA has engaged in the environmental initiatives of herbicide treatment for aquatic invasive weed species, and water testing. Invasive weed treatment occurred on July 1<sup>st</sup>, and targeted variable milfoil and fanwort, both of which are considered to be invasive weed species on the Lake.

Water testing has occurred twice during the 2015, with volunteers measuring clarity, turbidity, and chemical values of the Lake water, and all streams flowing into the Lake. One additional test is scheduled for the fall.

The WLA has experienced a busy summer of activities on the Lake. I would like to thank the current WLA Board of Director members for their hard work during 2014-2015 season, all members who graciously volunteered their time for "The Beach Party", all members who volunteered their time, and pontoon boats, for the "Book-a-Cruise" event, and the WLA water testing team. The WLA is not possible without your support, and the WLA would not be able to continue to keep Webster Lake beautiful without your efforts!

Sincerely,  
Jason Piader Esq.  
President, Webster Lake Association



## Summer on Webster Lake

**Calendar of Events**  
**Saturday, Aug 29<sup>th</sup>**  
**Sunset-Full Moon**  
**Lake Paddle**  
**Sign-in Time 6:00-**  
**6:30PM**

**Saturday, Sept. 19,**  
**WLA Golf**  
**Tournament**

**Sunday, Oct. 4,**  
**2015**  
**Walktober Event**  
**Paddle on Webster**  
**Lake**  
**Time: 1:00-3:00 PM**



# Webster Lake Eagle Update

By  
Al Huefner

*2015 has been another year of success with Martha and George hatching and raising two chicks.*

*Female-Betsy, Male - Ross.*

## Webster Lake Eagles

2015 has been another year of success with Martha and George, our adult pair, hatching and raising two chicks. This makes 5 young eagles they have raised here on Webster Lake. One of the chicks had a close call when the young male fell out of the nest about 3 weeks before it would normally have flown. It was found on the ground and appeared to be favoring its right wing. It was captured and taken to Tufts Wildlife Center to be checked out. It was found to be maybe bruised but otherwise OK and was weighed, banded, and returned to the ground near the nest. The risk of putting it back in the nest was felt to be too great because it may have caused the remaining chick to jump from the nest to avoid the climber. The young eagle spent the next 2 weeks figuring out how to get back up to the nest. It was spotted going up the steps onto the deck of a nearby house. From there it flew-jumped up to the railing and then up to the roof and then up to the top of the chimney. From there, it flew-jumped to a nearby tree and worked its way up the trees by fly-jumping between tree limbs until it was able to get back to the nest. It then stayed in the nest and was the last of the two chicks to take flight. The parents brought it food while it was on the ground. Once it was close to the nest, they flew over it with food for it to see which they took to the nest to coax it the final distance to the nest. It worked!

In a naming contest to name the chicks, the names that got the most votes by a wide margin were: Female-Betsy, Male - Ross. Betsy and Ross are now the same size as their parents and are often seen around the lake as they undergo training from their parents on how to hunt and feed themselves. This skill is critical since only 50% of young eagles survive their first year of life. Falling from the nest, and starvation during the first winter they spend on their own are the two greatest risks they face. They will typically leave their parents to go out on their own when they are 20-23 weeks of age.

When they leave, Betsy and Ross will each go their own way and will spend the next 2-3 years roaming around checking out possible future territories. At age 3-4, they will reach maturity and the feathers on their heads will be replaced with the white features of mature adults. They will take mates, select a territory, build a nest, and start the cycle of raising their offspring. Today, there are over 50 mating eagle pairs in MA, up from none about 40 years ago. While eagles have been known to travel as much as a 1000 miles, most young eagles settle within 250 miles of their birthplace. Freedom born in 2013, the very first eagle to be born on Webster Lake in over 100 years, was identified by an eagle watcher on May 9<sup>th</sup> of this year on Caswell Island on Bow Lake in Stafford, NH some 120 miles from Webster Lake.

Below are the key dates marking the progress of this season's pair of young eagles:

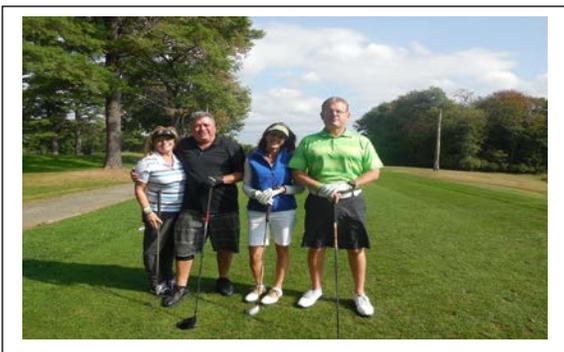
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|--|---|
| First Egg Laid   | March 12 <sup>th</sup> , 2015                                     |
| First Egg Hatched  | April 21 <sup>st</sup> , 2015                                     |
| First Chick Photographed   | April 29 <sup>th</sup> , 2015                                     |
| Two Chicks Photographed  | May 4 <sup>th</sup> , 2015  |
| Male chick fell out of nest                                      | June 19 <sup>th</sup> , 2015                                      |
| Male Weighed, Banded, Released<br>Band K/Z, Fed Band 0709-02109) | June 22 <sup>nd</sup> , 2015 (9wks old, 7.1lbs, Ma                |
| Male Limb-Hopped back up to nest                                 | July 6 <sup>th</sup> , 2015                                       |
| Female Eagle First Flight<br>weeks old)                          | July 9 <sup>th</sup> , 2015 (Not Banded), (~11.5                  |
| Male Eagle First Flight<br>old)                                  | July 11 <sup>th</sup> , 2015 (Banded), (~11.5 Weeks               |
| Expected Departure Time<br>of age                                | Sept 8 <sup>th</sup> to Sept 29 <sup>th</sup> will be 20-23 weeks |

### **10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary WLA Golf Tournament**

Please join us for the 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the WLA Golf Tournament on Saturday, September 19<sup>th</sup>. Come and play a round or attend the evening festivities. Golfers will enjoy a round of golf with cart, lunch, cocktails and dinner. Or if you are not a golfer join us at 5:30 PM for Cocktails and Dinner and celebrate the winners. We will have two raffles: one Chinese with many choices of items and gift certificates as well as a regular raffle with large items. The Tournament is at Thompson Speedway Golf Course. We look forward to seeing you there. For registration information please go to the WLA website

<http://www.websterlakeassociation.org/>

and click on Golf Tournament. For information concerning the tournament you can reach Cathy Pokorny at [cathyp@jhpokorny.net](mailto:cathyp@jhpokorny.net)





## *Beach Party at Memorial Beach- June 20th*

Out of one small idea came a big night for the town of Webster. Jason, the President of the WLA, had an idea to bring the people of Webster to the Beach for an evening of food, music and good old fashioned fun under a big tent. And so the planning began. The town administration was contacted to find out if they were interested in co-sponsoring this event and they were, so the Webster Lake Association and the Town of Webster came together to put together a free event for anyone and everyone.

Part of the WLA's mission is "to strengthen and unite the community through recreational, social and civic activities" and this was a perfect event to help fulfill this part of the mission. (You can read the complete mission statement on our website).

As the day approached, the weather forecast was looking a bit ominous, but knowing we had a tent, we knew nothing could hold us back from having a successful evening. The tent was put up, the tables and chairs arrived, the beer truck was driven inside the tent, the food vendors set up and the volunteers spent a good part of the day getting things ready. The event was planned for a start time of 6 p.m., but people started showing up at 5 p.m., and they just kept coming throughout the evening.

A 50/50 was planned, a WLA membership table was available for new members to join, the Boaters' of Webster Lake had a sign-up table and the event was scheduled to end at midnight with Tony Funches and Tom Revane playing the entire time. Even though we had a sprinkle or two and a foggy, damp, cool evening, everyone had a great time.

The music was playing, kids and adults were dancing, people were sitting on the beach enjoying the beauty of our magnificent lake, tables were full of friends and family, people were milling around talking and singing out loud to the old and new "tunes", everyone was enjoying a bite to eat and a few libations....it was truly a beach party!

One small idea turned into one big, fun and special evening for all the people of Webster.

Thank you to everyone who came out to enjoy the evening and welcome to the new members of the WLA who joined that evening.