

The Watershed Watch

The Newsletter of the Pemaquid Watershed Association • Spring 2014

Conservation Easement Protects 153 Acres

In December of 2013 Robert and Roberta McLaughlin of Walpole donated a conservation easement on 153 acres of land in Bristol and South Bristol to the Pemaquid Watershed Association. The land is located on both sides of Harrington Road at its intersection with the Carl Bailey Road, and reaches north very near to PWA's Little Falls Brook Preserve. The land conserved by the easement is a classic Maine saltwater farm with abundant areas of prime farmland soils of statewide importance. Its history of agriculture and animal husbandry dates back to the early days of settlement in the region. The easement will serve to protect significant scenic, ecological, and historic values.

The property has commanding views from the Harrington Road across open fields to the waters of the East Branch of Johns Bay. In its 1991 Comprehensive Plan, the town of South Bristol ranked the property as number one on its list of "especially scenic views" and "points of

(continued on page 10)

Photo by Steve Laurich




Bob and Roberta McLaughlin, with Dustin, and the scenic view from Harrington Road to Johns Bay that will be forever preserved thanks to their donation of a conservation easement to PWA.

PWA is First Maine Affiliate of Keep America Beautiful



In January, Pemaquid Watershed Association became the very first Maine Affiliate of Keep America Beautiful (KAB), the nation's leading non-profit that builds vibrant communities. The mission of the "Keep Pemaquid Peninsula Beautiful"

initiative is to preserve and enhance the natural beauty of the Pemaquid Peninsula by promoting a clean, litter-free environment.

As a KAB Affiliate, PWA will benefit from established programming proven to reduce and prevent litter, increase recycling, and overall minimize solid waste pollution. Plus, PWA now qualifies to apply for grant donations available only to KAB affiliates, such as for various types of recycling containers for the public places on the Peninsula. It is exciting to envision a Pemaquid Peninsula where it is hard to find even a trace of trash on the ground. 

Allen Donation Completes Bass Rock Preserve

In November of 2013, Dr. F. Towne Allen of Centerport, NY, donated a one-acre parcel of land on Round Pond's Back Shore Road to Pemaquid Watershed Association. This acre is of great significance because it is situated between two other parcels that constitute PWA's Bass Rock Preserve. Thus, this gift fleshes out the Bass Rock Preserve to some eleven acres and approximately 1,350 feet of continuous shoreline on Muscongus Bay.

The history of the land transfers that brought Bass Rock Preserve to fruition is a story of family generosity passing between generations. Emily Tuckerman Allen had purchased the land on Round Pond's Back Shore Road in 1972 from her cousins, Bryan and Elfrida Holme. The next year, Bryan and Elfrida donated two parcels they owned on Back Shore Road to The Nature Conservancy (TNC), establishing Bass Rock Preserve; in 2009, TNC transferred ownership of Bass Rock Preserve to PWA. In between the two parcels donated by the Holmes was the lot owned by

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Executive Director's Corner

This is the first issue of *The Watershed Watch* where there are six stories worthy of being on the front page. What a wonderful indicator of our success!

In a snapshot, the six top stories are:

- PWA has protected a huge parcel of beautiful land on the Bristol-South Bristol line thanks to a gift of a conservation easement from Bob and Roberta McLaughlin (pg 1).
- PWA's Bass Rock Preserve is now whole thanks to a gift of fee title from Dr. F. Towne Allen (pg 1).
- PWA is the very first Maine Affiliate of Keep America Beautiful (pg 1).
- PWA has sailed past a thousand members (pg 5).
- We now have a video giving a bird's eye tour of the Pemaquid River (pg 7).
- PWA has received a \$15,000 grant from the Maine Land Trust Excellence Program (MLTEP). MLTEP is a joint project of Maine Coast Heritage Trust and the Land Trust Alliance and is the first of its kind nationally. It is made possible through a generous contribution from the Pew Charitable Trusts and private donors. The purpose of the program is to support and advance the operational quality and sustainability of land trusts in Maine as measured by implementation of Land Trust Standards and Practices. Over this year, PWA will benefit from an intensive program of individualized coaching, training, and consultant services to help us accomplish goals prioritized by a comprehensive organizational evaluation that will be completed in April (see the President's Corner on the next page).

I often use the word "blessed" to describe how so many great things come about for PWA. I truly believe that protecting the environment and encouraging all of us humans to love that which nurtures us is a noble endeavor supported by the highest of powers. Our little corner of Mother Earth, the divine Pemaquid Peninsula, calls us to action, and we who cherish her are happy to oblige. Thank you for joining with me and aligning with PWA to champion her well being and, in turn, champion our own.

☞ Donna Minnis, Executive Director



Sunrise on Muscongus Bay. Photo by Christopher Hayes.



Pemaquid Watershed Association

Mission:

To conserve the natural resources of the Pemaquid Peninsula through land and water stewardship and education.

Community Service Vision:

A protected yet accessible Pemaquid Peninsula where people and wildlife thrive in a pristine and nurturing environment.

Board of Directors

Peggy Drake, President
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Executive Director
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Program Coordinator
Carolyn Shubert

**see page 9 to learn about
ways you can volunteer
&**

**please check the mailing label to
make sure your membership is current.**

President's Corner



Peggy Drake

The PWA Board of Directors is currently engaged in a process called "Assess Your Organization" (AYO). The AYO process is being led by a consultant funded as part of the grant PWA received from the Maine Land Trust Excellence Program.

So far in the AYO process, each Director and staff member has completed an extensive survey developed by the Land Trust Alliance based on the 2004 Land Trust Standards and Practices (S&P). The

S&P cover everything important to running a good Land Trust, from governance and management of the organization to the systems and policies used to protect land. Doing the AYO is helping the Board determine how closely aligned PWA is with the S&P's, but it does not commit PWA to seeking accreditation; that is a decision that the Board has not yet made.

Some specific areas surveyed include Compliance with Laws, Board Accountability, Conflict of Interest, Fund Raising, Land Transactions, and Stewardship. Although the consultant's final report won't be completed for another month, I can preliminarily say that the areas we feel good about are our involved and enthusiastic Board and staff, excellent recruiting, training and utilizing of volunteers, and instituting new policies and procedures to improve our operation. Areas we need to be looking at include stewardship funding and planning for covering the costs of any future defense of our protected properties. Two other areas of concern for us are fundraising in the near term as well as over the longer term and continuing to look at staffing needs.

The final AYO report will identify recommendations and priorities for action, and we will then formulate a work plan. It already has been an amazing process of discovery for us. The work that has taken place in the past has put us in a good position. For those of us who are new to the inner workings of land trusts, it has been a huge learning experience and very exciting to see how well we are doing. I will keep you posted.

✉ Peggy Drake, President
 president@pemaquidwatershed.org
 (207) 563-7025

Peggy Drake

2014 CORPORATE SUPPORT

BUSINESS PARTNERS (\$500+/yr)

Bath Savings Institution —
Bristol Recreational Trail Adoption
 H. M. Payson & Co. — *Party on the Pier Sponsorship*
 Masters Machine Company — *La Verna Preserve Adoption*
 The Contented Sole — *Party on the Pier In-kind*
 The First — *Doyle Preserve Adoption*

BUSINESS MEMBERS (\$100+/yr)

First Federal Savings
 Gosnold Arms, Inc.
 Hammond Lumber
 Hanley Construction
 Lake Pemaquid, Inc.
 Lincoln County Publishing
 Mid-Coast Energy Systems
 Salt Bay Framers
 Sproul's Furniture
 Yellowfront Grocery

BUSINESS STEWARDS (\$50/yr)*

Alewives & Ales Bed & Breakfast
 Cheney Insurance Agency
 Consultox Limited
 Damariscotta Bank & Trust Co.
 Granite Hall Store
 Lakehurst Inc.
 Larson's Lunchbox
 Mexicali Blues
 Michael Alderson Restorations
 Midcoast Yoga Shala
 Mountainside MD Press
 Newcastle Square Realty Associates
 Newcastle Square Vacation Rentals
 Oslo 3, Inc.
 Roy E. Seibel, Jr. M.D.
 Savings Bank of Maine
 The Nature Conservancy
 Yacht Tender, Inc.
 Ye Olde Forte Cabins

* As of fall 2013, the \$50/year Business Steward membership category is no longer available.

EVENT SUPPORTERS

Damariscotta Bank & Trust Co. — *Volunteer Gala Sponsorship*
 Savory Maine — *Volunteer Gala In-kind*
 Yellowfront Grocery — *Ducky Race Sponsorship*

Reserve your tickets now!
563-2196
 (still just \$25 each)

10th Annual

Party on the Pier

Friday June 6
 The Contented Sole

~ live music
 ~ silent auction
 ~ harbor putts
 ~ great food & company



Limnology 101

By Aj Corson

The title of this article is not about branches on a tree, rather the study of lakes and ponds. By definition, limnology is “the scientific study of lakes and ponds (herein, “lakes”) for their biological, physical, and geologic properties”. Compared to rivers and streams, lakes are much more vulnerable to negative environmental impacts caused by human activity. This is primarily because rivers move constantly and flush very quickly, increasing oxygen content and limiting conditions for algal growth.

Lakes are living entities, having a defined age in geologic time. The Earth, containing water, is estimated to be 4.5 billion years old, with the amount of water worldwide remaining essentially the same as the original quantity when the Earth was formed. As humans age, so does the Earth and its lakes. The natural aging process of lakes is called “eutrophication”. When human activity accelerates the aging of lakes, the aging process is called “cultural eutrophication”.

Lakes have been given names for their relative age:

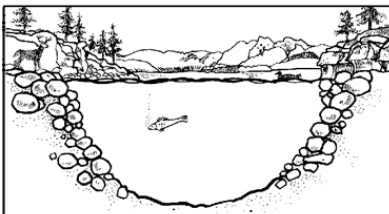
- “Oligotrophic” lakes are considered clear, deep, cold water bodies containing low nutrients (primarily phosphorus and nitrogen), low productivity in terms of fish and aquatic growth (both shoreline weeds as well as microscopic algae). Examples of oligotrophic lakes in Maine would be Sebago, Moosehead, and the north bay of Damariscotta Lake, providing excellent habitat for salmonids (trout and salmon).
- “Mesotrophic,” or middle-aged lakes, contain a higher level of nutrients with moderate fish and aquatic growth, with less clarity or visibility, which is similar to both Pemaquid Pond and Biscay Pond.

- “Eutrophic” lakes have very high nutrient levels, tend to be relatively shallow with abundant aquatic vegetation, high concentrations of algae growth (causing low visibility), and abundant warm water species (bass, pickerel, etc.). Sebasticook and Annabessacook Lakes in Maine are considered eutrophic. In fact, Sebasticook Lake in Newport was so nutrient rich that prior to recovery efforts, algae clogged the lake and gave the lake a pale green color like pea soup.

So, the challenge is to slow the rate of aging (there are no known cosmetic surgeons for lakes, yet). As part of the Water Pollution Control Act, back in the 1970’s the US Environmental Protection Agency funded lake restoration studies, including for a few Maine lakes, in an effort to identify some effective means of reversing or abating the trend toward cultural eutrophication. Results were mixed and somewhat cost prohibitive on a large-scale nationwide basis; however, some techniques were proven in a limited scope. The first order of business was, and still is, eliminating or reducing the harmful negative inputs to lakes. In subsequent articles in *The Watershed Watch* I will explore a number of excellent tools to employ in limiting the aging process of our lakes. 🌿

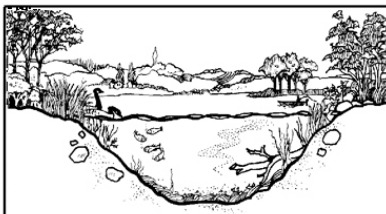
About the author: Aj Corson has a B.S. in Civil (Environmental) Engineering from the University of Maine Orono and is a former Maine Department of Environmental Protection Director of the Division of Water Quality Evaluation & Planning. He is a PWA member and volunteers on PWA’s Land Stewardship Committee and as the Preserve Steward for Little Falls Brook Preserve. He is an avid outdoors enthusiast, avid fly fisherman, and gardener.

Oligotrophic



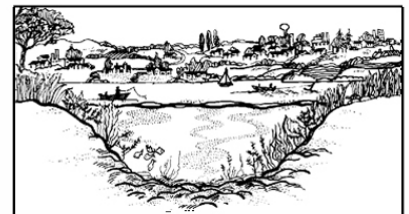
low productivity

Mesotrophic



moderate productivity

Eutrophic



high productivity

Cultural Eutrophication


The enrichment of lakes with nutrients, sediment and algae from human activities, resulting in increasing biological productivity and an acceleration of the natural aging process of the lake.

Images Courtesy of University of Wisconsin Extension

1000 Members!

On December 18, 2013, Pemaquid Watershed Association's membership reached an all-time high of 1001 when Jeff Love and Kathleen Collins of Kansas City, MO, and Pemaquid, ME, joined the organization. From its humble start in 1966 with a handful of residents on Biscay Pond, PWA has grown by leaps and bounds, especially in recent years, more than doubling since the start of 2007 when it had 478 members. The significant rise in the number of members demonstrates that PWA has gained widespread community support and is becoming more and more recognized for the important work it does. Membership dues are PWA's primary source of funding.

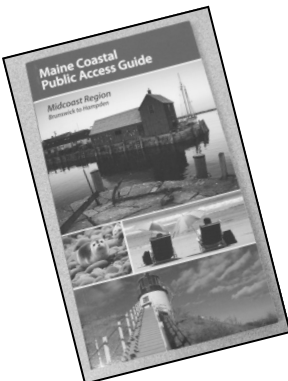
As a prize for being the 1000th member, Jeff will receive a complimentary 2-night stay this summer at the rustic cabin on PWA's Osborn Finch Wildlife Sanctuary in Waldoboro. The 11-acre nature preserve features 300 feet of tidal frontage on the shore of Muscongus Bay. The cabin sits atop a ledge at the edge of the river, with a pocket beach nearby, and is a tranquil retreat.

"Pemaquid Watershed Association has been a lot like the 'Little Engine that Could'," remarked PWA Executive Director Donna Minnis. "Through optimism and purposeful, impactful work, our base of support has skyrocketed. Seemingly impossible goals can be achieved by believing that they can be. What it all comes down to is the fact that people care deeply about this place, the Pemaquid Peninsula, and want to keep it magnificent." Mary Bryant Berger, who has been a PWA Director for nearly a decade and whose father, Dick Bryant, was among the co-founders of the organization said, "Concern for protecting the quality of our ponds and river was the impetus that launched the Biscay Pond Association in 1966. I am sure that those forward-thinking founders would be delighted to know that so many others now living and vacationing on the Pemaquid Peninsula have rallied behind the cause." 

Jeffrey Love,
PWA's 1000th
member, and his
wife Kathleen
Collins.

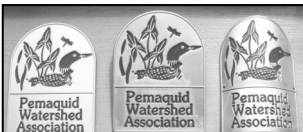


PWA Executive
Director, Donna
Minnis, with the
countdown to
1000 members.



New Merchandise!

- *Maine Coastal Public Access Guide, Midcoast Region, Brunswick to Hampden*, \$8.40 — A guide to endless recreational opportunities in the midcoast region. PWA's Bristol Recreational Trail, La Verna Preserve, Bass Rock Preserve, and the Osborn Finch Wildlife Sanctuary are highlighted, plus 279 other sites! Maps, photographs, and tips are included.
- PWA Metal Crest in three configurations, \$3.00 — as a pin, as a magnet, or as a medallion that can be attached to your hiking stick.
- Walking Stick with PWA medallion, \$21.00 — Handmade, one-of-a-kind walking stick in varnished maple or cherry, leather wrist holder and rubber tip. Can be cut to suit your height.



Launching Season Ten of the PWA Paddlers

*The PWA Paddlers trips are designed to be easy to moderate in difficulty. All paddlers participating in PWA trips are responsible for their own safety, and each participant should determine in advance if conditions are suitable for their skill level. Participation is free and open to the public. Participants must provide their own kayak or canoe, wear a personal flotation device, and submit a standard release form prior to participation. Participants under 18 must be accompanied by an adult. Trips are cancelled if raining. FMI, contact Peter Lawrence at (207) 563-7663, (207) 563-3104, or paddlers@pemaquidwatershed.org. **Only the first 7 paddles are listed below, all of which start at 10:00 a.m. on a Saturday. For the full 2014 schedule, see www.pemaquidwatershed.org/paddlers.html***

- May 24 - Pemaquid River from Bristol Mills to Biscay Pond – From Damariscotta take Rte 130 South ~5.5 miles to the Bristol Mills boat launch (just before the swimming hole and dam); very serene with abundant wildlife. Public rest room; duration 2 hours; optional lunch at Bristol Diner.
- May 31 - Weskeag (Gig) River Estuary, Thomaston - Advisory: This trip involves ocean paddling. Take Rte 1 North to Thomaston. Proceed through town to 2nd traffic light at bottom of small downgrade. Turn right on Rte 131 going past Montpelier mansion on left. Proceed several miles passing RR tracks and “Hoggy’s” gas station on right. Shortly thereafter turn left onto Westbrook Rd and follow it for 1.9 miles to a “T” intersection with Rte 73. Go left across the bridge with the put in across from the reversing falls, Art of the Sea and the Gig store. Porta-potty available; duration 2.5 hours; optional lunch at a local restaurant.
- June 7 - Burnt Island/Boothbay Harbor - Advisory: this trip involves ocean paddling. From Damariscotta take Rte. 27 south 9.6 miles to the Civil War monument in Boothbay. Bear right onto Corey Lane leaving the monument on your left. At the stop sign, go straight past Back River Rd. Next pass Barters Island Rd on your right where you make a slight left and the road turns into Lakeside Drive. Bearing right at the next fork, stay on Lakeside Dr. for 2.2 miles. At the stop sign cross over Rte. 27 and go straight onto McKown Point Rd. Pass Harborfields Cottages on your left and in 0.1 mile see Landing Rd on the right. Turn right down to the town boat launch ramp. You will have to park on the main road after dropping off your kayak. Duration 3 hours to include a picnic lunch (bring your own) on Burnt Island where there is a public restroom. \$2.00 entrance fee on the island.
- June 14 - East Boothbay/Linekin Bay to Cabbage and Negro Islands - Advisory: this trip involves ocean paddling. Take Rte 27 south from Rte 1 toward Boothbay/Boothbay Harbor for ~11 miles to Rte 96 (Ocean Point Rd.) on your left. Follow Rte 96 for ~2.5 miles taking a right turn just past East Boothbay General Store on your right onto Murray Hill Rd. The put in is a short distance down the road on the left; no public restroom; duration 3 hours; optional lunch at the Lobsterman’s Wharf restaurant.
- June 21 – Nequasset Brook & Lake, Woolwich – From Damariscotta take Rte 1 South to Wiscasset to Old Bath Rd (about 1 mile on your right). Proceed on Old Bath bearing right onto Old Stage Rd crossing Walker, Meadow and Delano Roads on your left for ~6 miles. Parking for the put in is a short distance on the right just before the bridge that separates the brook and the lake; no public restroom; duration 2 hours; optional lunch at the Montsweag Restaurant on Rte 1.
- June 28 - St. George & Oyster Rivers, Thomaston - Take Rte 1 North to traffic light in Thomaston turning right on Knox Street and proceed to end (just across the railroad tracks) to a 90 degree right turn and look immediately for the harbor entrance on left. Park on the right by the grassy area just before the Slipway restaurant where we will put-in; optional lunch at the restaurant; public restrooms. Duration ~2.5 hours.
- July 5 - Outer Thrumcap Island, South Bristol - Advisory: This trip involves ocean paddling. From Damariscotta take Rtes 129/130 south for ~3 miles. Rte 129 will split off to the right at Hanley’s Market/Gas Station. Follow Rte 129 into South Bristol and cross over the swing bridge. Go 1.8 miles, with tennis courts on your right, to the fork in the road bearing right and immediately turn right onto Sand Cove Rd. The put in is just down the road with parking on the left. No public restroom. Duration 3 hours with picnic lunch on the island (bring your own).

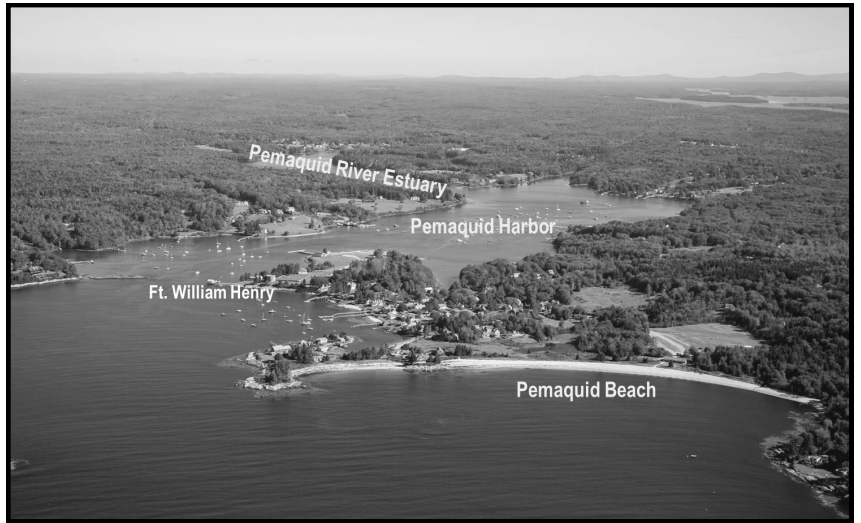


PWA Paddlers on Biscay Pond. Photo by Gail Clark.

"Wings Over the Pemaquid River" Video

In follow-up to the cover story of *The Watershed Watch* from last fall, PWA is pleased to announce that "Wings Over the Pemaquid River", a 6½-minute video of spectacular aerial photos spanning the river system from Waldoboro to Bristol, is now available. The video can be viewed on YouTube: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=weBQsjqYxSc>. Viewers are encouraged to use the suggested tips for viewing the video on YouTube, which include having speakers on and having the image at full screen and high resolution. This will allow a fuller immersion in the magnificent bird's eye view set to music. The video also is available as an LCTV 'Video on Demand' in a format sized for a TV screen <http://www.lctv.org/vod.html> or <https://vimeo.com/85871837>.

The video shows the interconnectedness of the chain of ponds in the 19-miles of the Pemaquid River, including Tobias, Duckpuddle, Pemaquid, McCurdy, Little, Paradise (Muddy), Biscay, Little Biscay, Ross, and Boyd Ponds. From Boyd Pond, the flight winds down to Pemaquid Falls, the Pemaquid River estuary, Pemaquid Harbor, Pemaquid Beach, and Pemaquid Point. 🍃



One of the 24 slides in PWA's "Wings Over the Pemaquid River" video, illustrating the bird's eye view and labelling that help the viewer navigate the path the river flows from its freshwater origin at Tobias Pond in Waldoboro to its saltwater outlet at Johns Bay in Bristol.

Acknowledgements: PWA thanks LightHawk, a non-profit organization that arranges donated flights for groups working on natural resource issues. PWA also thanks pilot Jim Knowles, Dave Cleaveland of Maine Imaging for taking photos pro bono, and Karen Berg for volunteering to guide the route and label and map the photos.

Save the Dates

- April 21-May 30: Crystal McClain art exhibit "Lucid Nature By The Fortuitous Canvas".
- Fri. April 25, 4:30-5:30 p.m.: McClain Exhibit Reception.
- Sat. April 26: Twin Villages Earth Fest PWA litter pickup with a free BBQ.
- Tues. May 13, 10:00 a.m.-noon: Healthy Beaches Volunteer Training at Pemaquid Beach Park. Pre-registration required.
- June 2-July 11: Franciska Needham art exhibit "Maine Coast and Maine Seafood".
- Fri. June 6, 5:00-8:00 p.m.: 10th Annual Party on the Pier at The Contented Sole. Sponsored by H. M. Payson.
- Fri. June 27, 6:45-8:45 p.m.: Puffin Sunset Cruise.
- Fri. July 11, rain or shine: 10th Annual Rubber Ducky River Race, launch at 12:45 p.m. (+/- 15 minutes).
- July 14-Aug. 22: Kathleen Horst art exhibit "Preserving the Beauty".
- Tues. July 15: Beachcombers' Rest Nature Center at Pemaquid Beach Park opens. Touch Tank Tuesdays, Story Hour Thursdays, and Workshop Fridays.
- Wed., July 16, 4:30 p.m.: Annual Meeting at Lakehurst Lodge. Guest Speaker is ecologist Janet McMahon on the 12 Rivers Conservation Initiative.
- Fri. July 18, 4:30-5:30 p.m.: Horst Exhibit Reception.
- Aug. 25-Oct. 3: Midge Coleman art exhibit "Sunlight and Shadow Landscapes of Maine".
- Fri. Aug. 29, 4:30-5:30 p.m.: Coleman Exhibit Reception.
- Sun. Sept. 7, 5:00-7:00 p.m.: Cruise for a Cause.
- Sat. Sept 20, 9:00 a.m.-noon: Coastal Cleanup.
- Oct. 6-Nov. 14: Mary Johnston art exhibit "Wild Moments".
- Fri. Oct. 10, 4:30-5:30 p.m.: Johnston Exhibit Reception.
- Nov. 17-Jan. 2: Elizabeth S. Palmer art exhibit "The Fifth Dimension".
- Fri. Nov. 21, 4:30-5:30 p.m.: Palmer Exhibit Reception.



Thank you to the Damariscotta-Newcastle Rotary for sponsoring 2014 Story Hour at Beachcombers' Rest Nature Center!

Volunteer Spotlight

- **Names:** Christopher Hayes and Diane Holer-Hayes
- **Ages:** 58 and 60, respectively
- **Occupations:** Chris: retired University Professor; Diane: semi-retired Health Care Administrator/Grantwriter
- **How long have you volunteered with PWA?** Chris: 7 years; Diane: 4 years
- **Programs you most often volunteer for?** Chris: I have been most involved with the Courtesy Boat Inspection (CBI) program and staffing the PWA booth at Olde Bristol Days. I love to participate in any opportunity that educates the public on the critical role we can play in improving our environment in Maine. As a Baby Boomer, I am at a point in my life where I want to “give back” to the world I live in. Through the volunteer opportunities of PWA, I have been able to increase the quality of my life by giving back. Diane: I worked at the booth for Olde Bristol Days a few years ago and just began assisting with grant research and writing. I look forward to helping with PWA’s new endeavor with “Keep Pemaquid Peninsula Beautiful”, as I am an avid litter picker-upper.
- **How long have you lived in Nobleboro?** We have spent our summers on Pemaquid Pond since 2000. Our Mapleridge Road neighbors are the most warm, compassionate, and friendly community of friends we have ever experienced. We have treasured every moment we have been able to spend on our little piece of heaven.
- **Favorite food?** Chris: pizza and Chinese food; Diane: Everything! No, seriously, I am truly a foodie. I love all kinds of food, especially vegetables and most ethnic foods especially Japanese and Thai. And, I never found a dessert I didn’t like.
- **Last song you had stuck in your head:** Chris: “Where to now St. Peter” by Elton John; Diane: Smooth jazz melodies.
- **Where did you grow up?** Chris: Cherry Hill, N.J. Diane: My family spent my early years in New York and New Jersey, and we moved to Southern California when I started high school. California was my home for my high school, college and early career and is where Chris and I met. Our move east came when Chris was offered an opportunity to direct a Gerontology Center at Catholic University in Washington, DC.

From there, the East End of Long Island in New York beckoned, and we split our time now between East Quogue and Nobleboro.

- **Dream Vacation?** to the Galapagos Islands
- **Hobbies/interests?** Chris: My passion and love is photography. I take nature and landscape pictures and make cards from photographs. Observing nature in Maine every summer borders on a spiritual experience for me. I love getting up early in the morning when the light is “just perfect” and take photographs of the Maine countryside. Diane: I love to cook and bake and recently have become obsessed with making no-knead bread. I also love gardening, kayaking, and walking our very active yellow Labrador retriever.
- **Favorite PWA memory?** Chris: I am an admitted “voyeur of human behavior”. As a CBI volunteer, I get to meet all types of wonderful people. One early morning, I met an 85-year-old woman who was fishing at the end of the dock at the Nobleboro boat launch. She seemed so enthralled with fishing that I took a photograph of her. Whenever I think negatively about aging, I recall this image of this “young at heart” person. Diane: Several years ago we went with some friends on a PWA-sponsored cruise in the fall up the Damariscotta River. It was a sunny, warm day and the leaves were in their multi-colored beauty.
- **What keeps you coming back each year to PWA as a member and volunteer?** Chris: I continue to volunteer for the CBI program because I truly believe that we are making a difference. We are not inspectors as much as educators. It takes just one single strand of an invasive plant to forever change the lake I have grown to love and appreciate. To this end, if in my capacity as a CBI, I can influence one person to inspect their boat and prevent the spread of invasive plants, I have done my job of “giving back” to my community. PWA is made up of people who are deeply committed to making the world (environment) a better place.

In my opinion, it represents the best values, beliefs, and principles of us “aging hippies”...baby boomers. There is no better volunteer job that requires getting up early, surrounding yourself in nature, and giving back. Diane: I truly believe in the mission of this organization and am fortunate to have an opportunity at this stage in my life to be able to give back. 🍂







Chris Hayes and Diane Holer-Hayes



The Call of the Loon...Volunteer Today!

*Can you spare some time and talent this autumn and winter to help PWA?
Heed the Call...To learn more about volunteer opportunities with Pemaquid Watershed Association,
contact Carolyn Shubert, Program Coordinator, via email or in the PWA office (above Salt Bay Café in
downtown Damariscotta) from 9 to 5 on Tuesdays through Thursdays:
coordinator@pemaquidwatershed.org (207) 563-2196*

-  Party on the Pier, Friday, June 6 – Please help with this major fundraiser!
 - ☐ Ask for silent auction items from area businesses (to be done by May 14)
 - ☐ Donate an item to the silent auction
 - ☐ Sell tickets to the event
-  Courtesy Boat Inspector — Help keep invasive aquatic plants from the ponds in our watershed by educating boaters and inspecting boats going into Biscay Pond and Pemaquid Pond. Choose the two-hour shifts that work with your schedule. Training is necessary, with ample information and support given, plus you'll get a CBI tee shirt or apron to wear. Courtesy Boat Inspectors teach boaters to inspect before and after they float and to remove all plants.
-  Shoreline Plant Patroller – Over the next two years, PWA will be launching into a brand new program to help keep the ponds free of invasive plants. Would you like to “adopt” a section of your pond and kayak or canoe it to check for unusual or suspicious vegetation? Sign up now to participate in PWA’s Shoreline Plant Patrol Program to capture baseline data and to keep out unwanted plants and critters (such as Chinese mystery snails).
-  LakeSmart Screener — Learn the best practices for managing a property to protect pondwater quality. Get trained to be a LakeSmart Screener and visit pondside properties on the Pemaquid Peninsula to conduct initial evaluations of the property and formulate recommendations for improvement. Free training provided, and no previous experience or expertise is required. Being a LakeSmart Screener is a fun way to learn and assist.


New Loon Lovers Membership Program

There is now a new way for you to show your support of PWA’s work. The Loon Lovers Membership Program is designed for those who appreciate the ease and convenience of paying their PWA membership dues via an automatic recurring monthly charge to a credit or debit card. The success stories for monthly giving programs are countless, and the benefits are huge for both the non-profit and the donor.

PWA’s annual budget relies on membership dues, and your participation in the Loon Lovers Membership Program helps ensure PWA’s financial stability. With as low as a \$5.00 per month, you can become part of a predictable, reliable revenue stream that PWA can count on. It’s not only good for PWA’s long-term solvency, it’s cost-effective. It saves PWA administrative costs and it saves you time and money because there are no renewal forms, no checks, and no need for postage.

Having guaranteed income each month will allow PWA to better plan and implement programs and events. This is revenue that PWA can count on to be there every month. For example, your gift of \$5 per month enables PWA to

repair a bog bridge at a preserve. Your gift of \$20 per month covers a season of water quality testing at Biscay Beach or the Bristol Mills swimming hole. Your gift of \$50 per month provides a season of workshops at Beachcombers’ Rest Nature Center.

It’s easy to enroll — simply fill out the form on the back panel of this newsletter and mail it to PWA, or sign up online at www.pemaquidwatershed.org. PWA is using CustomerVault to provide the secure billing service. Changing or cancelling your monthly gift is as simple as contacting PWA. As a gift for enrolling in the Loon Lovers Membership Program, you will receive a benefit book with over \$200 in coupons for area merchants. Reap the benefits of knowing you are helping to protect and conserve the beauty and nature of the Pemaquid Peninsula — sign up to be a Loon Lover today! 

- ✓ Simplifies Paying Dues
- ✓ Saves Time and Money
- ✓ Helps ensure PWA’s Financial Stability
- ✓ Helps PWA to Better Plan and Implement Programs and Events

Conservation Easement

(continued from page 1)

interest." The easement defines a "Viewshed Area" of almost 20 acres within which structures that would interfere with the scenic view from Harrington Road to Johns Bay are prohibited. However, the easement honors the property's long history as working farm by permitting agriculture, animal grazing and vegetation management in the Viewshed Area, so long as they are compatible with the overall conservation purposes of the easement.

The easement includes a special designation of "Forever Wild Area" on a substantial block of acreage bounded by the waters of the North Branch of Johns Bay to the west and the waters of North Creek to the north. In this area, the land must remain substantially unaltered in order to keep intact its high value habitat for tidal waterfowl, wading birds, shellfish and trout, as well as for USFWS Priority Trust Species.

Also articulated in the easement is a "Homestead Area" on the south side of the Harrington Road. The Homestead Area consists of two antique residences situated side by side, each with its own barn, which the McLaughlins have restored over the past 12 years. These historic houses are discussed in H. Landon Walker's *A History of The Families and Their Houses: South Bristol, Maine* (2006), published by the South Bristol Historical Society. The older of the two houses is a "Hall and Parlor" Cape built in 1780 by Robert Porterfield, a Revolutionary War veteran and one of the "pioneer farmers" in the Harrington area of South Bristol. The larger house next door is currently occupied by the McLaughlins and was built in 1843 by Robert Porterfield's son, William, who resided there with his wife and extended family until 1919. Both Robert and William Porterfield, and



their respective families, are buried in the Harrington Meeting House cemetery, which is located nearby.

The substantial balance of the protected property's acreage consists of mixed woodlands containing abandoned foundation sites and a crisscrossing of remnant stone walls. The interior of the property contains habitat designated by the Maine Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife as Deer Wintering Area. The easement has allowances for timber management conducted in accordance with Best Management Practices articulated in a Forest Management Plan consented to by PWA.

Across the Carl Bailey Road from PWA's Little Falls Brook Preserve, the McLaughlins own a 42-acre parcel referred to as "The Meadow Lot" through which Little Falls Brook runs on the south side of the Carl Bailey Road until the brook runs under the Harrington Road before reaching its ultimate destination at the Pemaquid River estuary. The Meadow Lot was not included in the easement grant, as significant portions of the Meadow Lot consist of wetlands that are not now subject to any imminent threat of development.

Through this easement, the property's nearly mile-long road frontage will remain free of development, which is a significant step in preserving the appearance of rural countryside along two of the oldest roads on the Pemaquid Peninsula. In addition to the view


Looking from Harrington Road northerly to Carl Bailey Road in South Bristol, this rural countryside character will be preserved thanks to the McLaughlin's conservation easement

Photo by Edward L. Spencer.

from the roadway, the property's extensive frontage on both the East and North Branches of Johns Bay will be protected, thereby continuing to afford boaters scenic views of an undeveloped and heavily forested shoreline.

"Pemaquid Watershed Association is very grateful to Bob and Roberta McLaughlin for their generous gift of this easement on their one-of-a-kind property. The easement protects wonderful views from inland and from the Bay, as well as important ecological values. We commend the McLaughlin's for their foresight in crafting a gift that allows the land to maintain its historic productivity while remaining a source of beauty and sustenance for wildlife and for all generations to come," said PWA Executive Director, Donna Minnis.

When the McLaughlins acquired the property that is now under easement, it had been posted by the Van Buskirk family since 1957. The McLaughlins have continued that longstanding tradition and have no immediate plans to permit unauthorized public access on their property. As properties protected by conservation easements change hands over time, it always will remain the decision of the current property owner whether or not public access will be allowed.


The McLaughlins were represented in the easement transaction by attorney Rob Levin of Portland, who specializes in conservation-related legal work. 

Allen Donation

(continued from page 1)

Emily Allen, who had since bequeathed it to her three children, Emily Tuckerman "Tuck" Allen, Jr., Rosamond "Roz" Allen, and F. Towne Allen. Upon Tuck's untimely death in 2006, her share was left to her brother. Perpetuating their mother's spirit of land preservation, last year Roz transferred her interest in the Back Shore parcel to Towne, who in turn made a gift of the fee title of the property to PWA.

The Allen family looks to the protected land as a way to preserve open space and the character of Round Pond for the benefit of its residents and visitors. Emily Allen was an ardent proponent of land conservation throughout her life. She was a determined leader in the effort to preserve contiguous farmland in New Jersey, donating much of her family's 500-acre farm in Morris County, NJ, to help form the areas greenbelt and protect its scenic character. Emily was passionate about protecting the open space of the now Allen Wildflower Meadow easement property in Round Pond, situated across the road from the Granite Hall Store. She also had held the vision of donating the Back Shore lot so that it, too, would be maintained in its natural state, helping to protect the shoreline of her beloved Round Pond.

PWA is grateful to Dr. Allen for this gift, and to the entire Allen family past and present for their deep love of Round Pond. This land donation makes it possible for PWA to unify Bass Rock Preserve and offer an expanded trail system to provide greater public benefit and access to the shorefront and panoramic views of Muscongus Bay. 

Memorial & Tribute Gifts

November 2013 to March 2014

In memory of

- ☞ Karl F. Berger, from Mary B. Berger
- ☞ Webster and Elise Van Winkle, from their four children, Webb, Davis, Keith and Barb Van Winkle
- ☞ Bob Huson, Sr., from Lynn & Bob Huson, Jr.
- ☞ Bill and Wilma Watkins, from Mike & Jane Trefren
- ☞ John S. Coggins, from
Nort & Carole Fowler
Steven Ferguson & Jean Vernet
Diana Rigg
John H. Coggins
Ron & Leigh Smith
- ☞ Willard Dunn Libby, from
Thomas & Rachel Armstrong
David & Triss Critchfield
Danielle Tell, Jessica Klein, Corinne Case,
Lialani Courtney, Terrance Neal, Corry
Gadson, and Lisa Schoonmaker

In honor of

- ☞ Lynne and Chris Gilbert, from Lois Dodson

Wish List "Catalog"

Support PWA by "buying" an item from their wish list!

*Partial contributions
are welcome!*

Office Needs:

- Thermal & Cold Laminator (12.5") — \$199.99
- Tabletop Phone Conferencing Unit — \$362.00
- NAS (network-attached storage) server — \$406.99
- Two 8-peg Coat Racks — \$22.99 each
- Portable large-screen Monitor with built-in DVD Player — \$124.99

Other:

- Five Orange Safety Vests — \$29.95
- Heavy Duty Staple Gun with case & staples — \$37.99

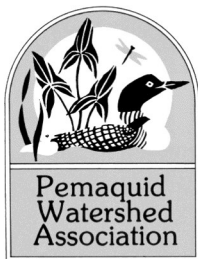
All you need to do is send a check in the amount of the item to PWA at PO Box 552, Damariscotta, ME 04543, and note in the check memo what you are "buying" for PWA.

Have you wanted to help PWA with their Wish List but just haven't had what they've been looking for?

Well, now fulfilling a PWA Wish is easier than ever! Instead of donating the actual item, you can now donate its value so PWA can acquire it! (Of course, we still gladly accept gently used items.)

Wish Grantors:

- ♦ Five in-kind safety cones from George Gross
- ♦ Two safety cones from Phil Averill
- ♦ Four filing cabinets from Cheney Insurance Agency



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www.pemaquidwatershed.org

Photo by Karen Berg



please look closely
at that mailing label...
is your membership current?

is your membership current?
at that mailing label...
please look closely



Sign up for Pemaquid Watershed Association's Loon Lovers Membership Program! (See Page 9)

When you become a Loon Lover, you help provide PWA with a predictable, reliable revenue stream. The Loon Lovers program saves you time and money: no renewal forms, no checks, no postage. In addition, as a gift for signing up, you will receive a benefit book with over \$200 in coupons for area merchants. **It's easy to enroll — simply fill out the form below or sign up online at pemaquidwatershed.org.** To change or cancel your monthly gift, simply contact PWA.

PWA Annual Membership Dues Suggested Levels:

→ **Loon Lovers Membership Program:** a minimum of \$5 per month via credit/debit card.

OR

→ **Regular Membership by check:**

\$25 Individual
\$35 Family
\$100 Patron
\$250 Benefactor
\$500 Sponsor
\$1000 Conservation Partner
\$100 Business Member
\$500 Business Partner

YES! I choose to be a member of Pemaquid Watershed Association!

Name _____

Primary Mailing Address _____

Second Mailing Address _____

Phone _____ E-mail _____

And I want to be a LOON LOVER: ☐ Please enroll me in the Loon Lovers Monthly Giving Program and charge my credit or debit card monthly for \$_____ (minimum of \$5/mo).

Card Type: ☐ VISA ☐ Mastercard ☐ Am. Ex. ☐ Discover ☐ Debit

Credit Card #

• Expiration Date _____ • Zip Code of Billing Address _____

• Signature _____

OR ☐ Enclosed is a membership check for \$_____ (payable to PWA).

Donations are tax-deductible. Thank you for your support. FMI: 207.563.2196

