

Maine Legacy

Spring 1998

The Nature Conservancy

Storehouse

A Step
In The Right
Direction For
Public Lands
see Director's Column

Falls Island, Cobscook Bay

Tremendous tides, the highest on the country's eastern seaboard, pour into Cobscook Bay and surge headlong toward Falls Island. A narrow passage between island and mainland separates the inner and outer Bay. Here the ocean waters buckle as, tide in and tide out, there is more water than passage. Rebuffed, the waters swirl backward from the channel, forming two immense eddies before remounting their powerful attack. For hours at a time, the passage is a roiling, churning, reversing falls and one of the major reasons Native Americans called Cobscook Bay the place of boiling waters.

Encircled by turbulent waters, Falls Island lies at the center of Cobscook Bay. This wild and rugged 140-acre island is not only the geographic center of the Bay, but very much at the center of action.

To secure the future of this centerpiece in the Bay's dynamic ecosystem, the owners of Falls Island devised a two-part conservation plan: the couple donated the bulk of the island, approximately 135 acres, to The Nature Conservancy, and then donated a conservation easement on the five-acre parcel they retain. The easement carefully restricts future land use and siting of structures.

After watching over the island for a quarter century, the donors believe it is crucial for people to understand the forces which support the quality and richness of the Bay's marine habitats. They hope that those who think about Falls Island will cast their thoughts beyond its scenic shoreline to the dramatic forces which act upon it and upon which it acts. The Conservancy shares that hope.

To truly know Cobscook Bay one needs to understand the impact of Falls Island. Massive tides entering Cobscook Bay confront this densely forested island head-on twice a day.



Falls Island, left,
and Reversing
Falls above.

TOM RUMPF

The first waves of nutrient-laden ocean water rush between island and mainland in a boil of whirlpools and rips, but more is forced back out to form the pair of large counter-rotating eddies which impact the hydrodynamics and distribution of nutrients throughout the Bay.

The impact of this dominant land form was evident in the findings of Conservancy-sponsored marine eco-

system research conducted between 1995 and 1997. Given the Bay's already convoluted shoreline - with headlands and necks reaching out from opposite shores like interlacing fingers - it would be challenging enough to determine how currents flow. The constriction at Falls Island adds a whole new layer of complexity.

"Our primary interests are in the

Continued on page two

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MAY 04 1998

The Director's Column

by Kent W. Wommack



Maine Legislators Vote \$3 Million for Public Land

As the 118th Maine Legislature addressed difficult budgetary issues this spring, legislators took time out to recognize the outstanding success of the Land for Maine's Future program. A \$3 million appropriation from the general fund garnered overwhelming bipartisan support.

Governor King had introduced a bill

calling for \$10 million in bonding for the program, and a public hearing on the measure brought testimony from all corners of the state. From Caribou to York and from Grand Lake Stream

to Rangeley, supporters presented a string of success stories. But demand for scarce bond dollars forced legislators to make hard choices.

In the end, members of both parties reached the same conclusions: the program deserved funds *now* as well as an invitation to come back when these are spent. When the vote to appropriate the \$3 million came before the House, it passed by the impressive

margin of 112 to 29. It faced no opposition in the Senate.

While this represents fewer dollars than the proposed bond - and far less than the \$45 million price tag the Governor's Public Land Acquisition Priorities Committee placed on meeting the need for more public land - it is both a big vote of confidence in land conservation and a significant step forward. It means that the Land for Maine's Future program, flat out of funds at present, will be able to issue a request for proposals for the first time since May 1995.

With the goals identified by the Priorities Committee for reference, the Land for Maine's Future Board can expect a bumper crop of outstanding proposals. A requirement that the LMFB funds be matched will mean that

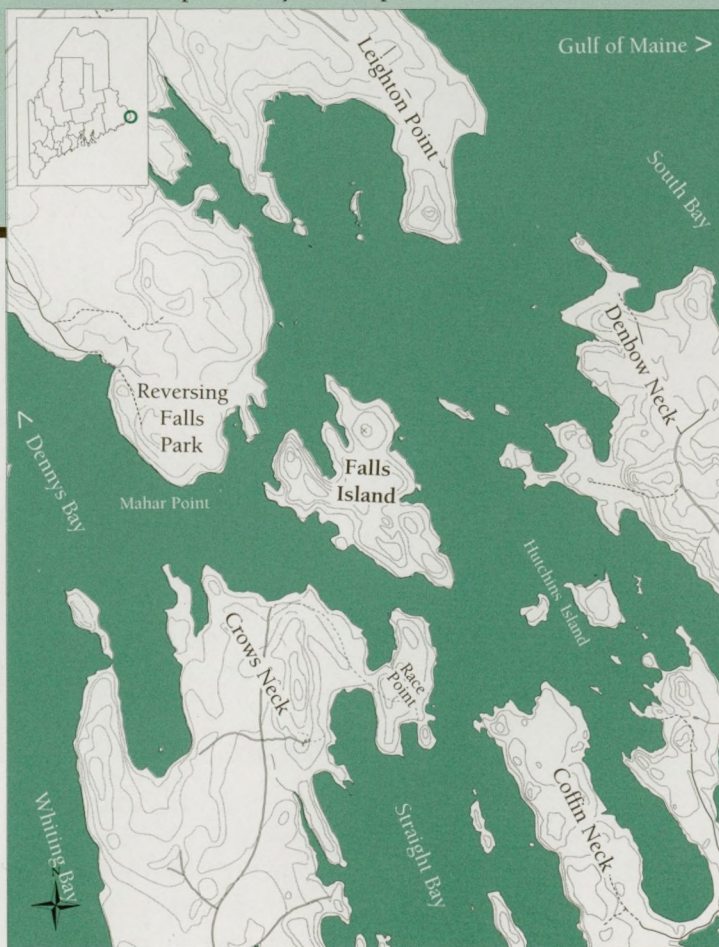
Falls Island

continued from page one

marine ecosystem as well as its terrestrial habitats," says the Conservancy's Jim Dow. "This island, after all, was instrumental in the repopulation of bald eagles in the Northeast (see page three). Of course, conservation ownership will protect both the ecological and scenic qualities. Many people enjoy views of Falls Island from the mainland or as they pass by boat."

Summer to fall, people stand on the mainland shore, at Pembroke's Reversing Falls Park, enthralled by the elemental beauty of the island and in awe of the raw power of water hurtling over unseen ledges. Meanwhile, seals, unfazed by the turbulence, bob in the water, returning the curious gaze of the creatures along the shore.

Where fainter souls might well



NICK BECKER: THE NATURE CONSERVANCY SPATIAL INFORMATION DATABASE\ MAINE CHAPTER

Falls Island is at the heart of the complex hydro-dynamics which support Cobscook Bay's rich marine ecosystem. (For a first hand look, join us for our Annual Meeting on Saturday, September 12.)

retreat, local fishermen power their boats through the fast-running channel. Even with throttles in neutral, they can sweep by on 12 knot currents.

"We are grateful for this generous conservation gift and the thought and

care that shaped it," says Dow. "To assist with these new stewardship responsibilities, the Conservancy has asked the Quoddy Regional Land Trust to share monitoring duties. We welcome another opportunity to work with this local partner."

applicants will need to put their money where their proposals are. That will serve to demonstrate serious private support for these public projects.

This is all good news. While The Nature Conservancy and Maine Coast Heritage Trust worked in partnership to provide lawmakers the information they needed, this was essentially a grassroots success. Hundreds of individuals called and wrote their legislators to encourage their support for more public lands. Their efforts are directly responsible for this success.

As we continue to seek more funding, this example underscores an important lesson: Maine legislators listen carefully when citizens call. They responded and deserve our thanks for a job well begun.

When Maine voters passed the Land for Maine's Future bond in 1987, supporters had high hopes. But even we didn't expect the remarkable success the program has enjoyed. Statistically, we can point to over 63,000 acres

protected at 40 sites in all 16 Maine counties. But it is the quality of those projects that impresses people from so many walks of life.

LMFB projects have protected wildlife habitat, safeguarded threatened and endangered species, preserved working farms, promoted economic development, provided water access, created new trails and improved linkages to old ones, maintained open space, and secured public access to the great landscapes of Maine. Throughout, the Land for Maine's Future Board has chosen well and chosen wisely to work exclusively with willing sellers.

As we celebrate the \$3 million awarded by Maine legislators, let's



BRUCE KIDMAN

Hikers stop to enjoy public land purchased with LMFB funds in Aroostook County.

make sure all our leaders, public and private, know just how well this public/private partnership has worked for Maine, and that we will return soon to seek a truly landmark bond for Maine's future.

Eagles at Falls Island

Visitors to Reversing Falls might well glimpse eagles soaring above Falls Island, as they have for decades - even when there were few to be found elsewhere.

Falls Island has played a central role in the recovery of bald eagles, thanks in large part to landowners who respected their needs for undisturbed habitat. During the worst of times for eagles, those nesting here helped reconstitute a population nearly decimated through the unintended consequences of pesticides such as DDT.

For many years, the island has been one of the most productive bald eagle nesting territories in the state. In 1980 the eagles even topped themselves when they presented a rarity for the

this federally-protected species - triplets!

"When I think of Cobscook Bay eagles," says Charlie Todd, long-time bald eagle biologist for the Maine Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife, "I think of Falls Island first. It's the best of the best."

In the late 1970s when the eagle population in the state was at its lowest, Cobscook Bay produced 30 to 40 percent of the state's eaglets. It served as a distribution center for eagles to the rest of Maine and to nearby New Brunswick, reasserting the species' range in all directions. Today it remains one of 20 regions recognized nationally as eagle strongholds. Over the last 20 years, 19 eaglets have been produced on Falls Island.

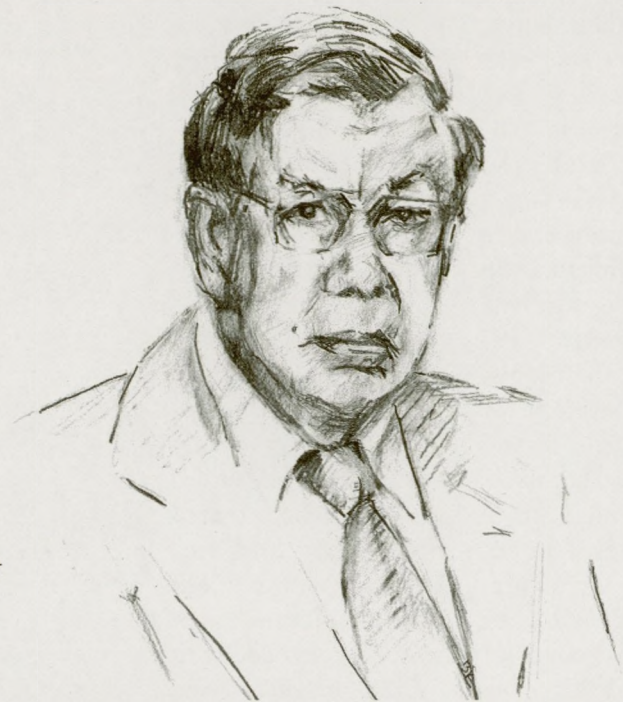
"If all nesting pairs did that," says Todd, "eagles would not be threatened nationwide nor endangered here in

Maine. The secret to this kind of success is the quality of the habitat."

Falls Island not only provides undisturbed nesting sites, but also foraging and wintering habitat. This is essential for eagles "from away" which frequently join the resident pair in winter. Of course, all are attracted by the open water and rich food supply.

Currently about one-third of the known bald eagle nesting territories in Maine have at least partial conservation protection. As efforts continue to ensure the long-term security of the eagle population through habitat conservation, the places that saw the birds through the worst of times and have stood the test of time remain the most important to protect - places like Falls Island in Cobscook Bay.

James Vickery: Collector And Interpreter Of Maine History Leaves His Mark On Natural History



"An all-embracing love of Maine as a place, including its natural environment."

Sometimes we don't know who our real friends are until it's too late to thank them. Such, unfortunately, was the case with the late James B. Vickery III, who had made one gift to the Conservancy during his lifetime in the amount of \$35 - but who has left us a bequest in excess of \$300,000.

James Vickery's generosity is particularly remarkable in light of his modest lifestyle. After graduating from Bates College in 1940 and serving as a staff sergeant in the U.S. Army during World War II, Mr. Vickery spent most

of the following 34 years of his life teaching high school English in central Maine.

While Mr. Vickery taught English, he was primarily a historian. (According to one friend, he declined an initial position as a history teacher because it would have required him to coach sports as well.) In 1973, he received the Historical Preservation Award from the Maine Historic Preservation Commission; in 1983, he received the

Distinguished Service Award from the University of Maine.

Although his written output was modest, Mr. Vickery was noted as an avid researcher and, particularly, as a voracious collector of books, documents and photographs about Maine history. In 1978, Mr. Vickery donated some 3,000 books and other documents to the University of Maine at Orono.

Following his retirement in 1981,

Landowners Choose Conservation

Tatnic Turtle Territory

Abrupt and resonant, the trill of Agray treefrogs echoes through the spring woods. Perched expectantly on tree and shrub branches, these diminutive creatures cannot know how much their human neighbors have looked forward to their chorus, or that

these neighbors have taken steps to protect their habitat.

Spring beckons to life in even the most unlikely places. In southern Maine woodlands, beneath thick crusts of snow, small pockets of water and ice have accumulated over the course of a winter's vacillation between freeze and thaw.

With the arrival of spring, these seasonal pools play a remarkable role in the life cycles of many plants and animals. Warming weather calls forth a host of creatures, including rare reptiles and amphibians. These emerge from hibernation and seek out the "pocket wetlands." Until summer's heat turns these refuges to dusty basins, the vernal pools will team



Blanding's turtles emerge from hibernation beneath the mud of pond or slow-moving stream and head for vernal pools where food and mate await.

with life in a melee of mating and mayhem.

Among the creatures which depend

Mr. Vickery continued to collect historical documents and memorabilia, earning himself a reputation as “a pack rat of history.” According to a friend, Tom Weber of the *Bangor Daily News*, by the time of his death in 1997 “[he] had amassed so much historical material that the walls, floors and furniture of his apartment had pretty much disappeared. Stacks of cartons listed up the walls. There were books all over the kitchen, obscuring the stove, hiding the toaster. They filled the bathroom, too, lining the walls over the tub and the toilet.” A portion of this remaining collection willed to the University of Maine filled 73 boxes.

While Mr. Vickery’s interest in human history was well known, his interest in natural history was largely a private passion. He was not an active outdoorsman or birdwatcher and, in fact, didn’t even own a car. However, according to his executor (and Director of the Maine Historic Preservation Commission), Earle Shettleworth, Jr., Mr. Vickery had a keen interest in nature, especially birds, and had an extensive collection of books on ornithology. Further, as a sixth-

generation Mainer, Mr. Vickery harbored “an all-embracing love of Maine as a place, including its natural environment.”

Bangor attorney (and Conservancy member) Stuart Cohen, Mr. Vickery’s personal representative, says that Mr. Vickery “liked wild places” and “wanted to protect Maine places for Maine people.” Perhaps initially inspired by the Conservancy’s acquisition of 5,000 acres of old-growth or ‘virgin’ forest at Big Reed Pond in 1985, Mr. Vickery became convinced that The Nature Conservancy would be the most effective long-term protector and, especially, *steward* of important lands.

As reported by Tom Weber, “for the last 50 years of his life, James Vickery’s quest was to rescue as many scattered pieces of Maine’s past as he could find and to squirrel them away for the future.” Thanks to Mr. Vickery’s exceptionally generous bequest to The Nature Conservancy’s Maine Chapter, some of those “scattered pieces” will include outstanding examples of Maine’s natural history.

Corporate Conservation Council of Maine

The Corporate Conservation Council of Maine got off to a fast start this past year with 43 Maine businesses choosing to support efforts to increase public lands in the state. This year the Council has set its membership goal at increasing statewide representation to 75 businesses. Council chairman George Campbell feels this ambitious goal is attainable because Maine’s business community cares about the environment and believes in land conservation.

Whether you are part of a large or small business, if you would like to receive information on membership, please call Bridget Chase at (207) 729-5181.

Growing Into It’s Second Year



Moist, dark burrows are home to spotted salamanders but for a week or two in early spring when they converge on shallow water bodies like seasonal pools to mate.

on these vernal pools are wood frogs and increasingly rare Blanding’s and spotted turtles, each of which breed

exclusively in these seasonal wetlands. And among the most important areas for these wetlands are the Tatnic Hills which range through several York County communities.

Electricity only came to the Tatnic area in the 1950s. Visitors from the city are astonished by the character of the area and the pride landowners have taken in their property. That private stewardship has defended this critical wildlife area so far, although it is difficult to predict the future.

The thrill of the treefrog’s trill and the ratchety insistence of the wood frog’s mating call depend on our vigilance.

Thanks to the generosity of Karen Rowantree and Larry Horowitz, 44

acres of forest dotted with critical pocket wetlands will be permanently preserved by The Nature Conservancy. Although Rowantree and Horowitz had several cash offers from individuals ready to transform habitat into house lots, the couple approached the Conservancy. Last December, they offered their Tatnic Hills property to the Conservancy at a deeply discounted price and a deal was struck before year’s end.

“We have such special feelings for the Tatnic Hills,” said Karen Rowantree, who has seen the effects of increased development pressure on the area. “Larry and I wanted do whatever we could to try to preserve such a unique place, and such a unique way of life.”

An ongoing inventory of invertebrates at Waterboro Barrens Preserve has already identified at least 147 different species of spiders - and that's only counting spiders which dwell on or near the ground! Already we've found 26 species never identified in Maine before, and some we believe never before described anywhere. If critters with eight legs fascinate you, check out field trip #10.

1998 Field Trips

Note: Field trips 1- 4 were listed in the winter issue.

5. Ayers Brook by Canoe

Passadumkeag, Saturday, May 30; 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

Break out the canoe and explore the sedge meadow habitat of Ayers Brook Preserve, part of a National Natural Landmark. Besides harboring beaver, muskrat and various migratory birds, the Ayers Brook ecosystem is home to the Tomah mayfly, one of the world's rarest mayflies. Learn about the tremendous diversity of life in this fascinating spring flood habitat with entomologist K.E. "Cassie" Gibbs and biologist Mark McCollough of the Maine Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife. Limit 6 canoes. Moderate.

6. Big Reed Forest Reserve

Ashland, Sunday, May 31; 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

Protecting the largest contiguous old growth forest in the northeast, Big Reed Forest is also the Conservancy's largest holding in Maine. This remote and trackless forest is home to Maine's tallest cedars as well as the tiny Calypso orchid, while Big Reed Pond attracts a great variety of wildlife, including moose and pine marten. Join forester Linda Alverson and Downeast Preserve Steward Doug Radziewicz on a strenuous hike exploring the ecology of the old growth forest. Due to uneven, trailless and mossy terrain, this trip may be postponed in the event of heavy rainfall. Strenuous. Limit: 12.



7. Morse Mountain Geology

Phippsburg, Saturday, June 20;
10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

On the long hike over Morse Mountain to the shore, you'll see mature spruce and pine forest, pitch pine woodland, granite ledges, tidal creeks and salt marshes. Hydrogeologist Kathy Bither and geologist John Creasy will draw on their extensive studies of this area to teach us about the geologic processes that resulted in these various natural communities. Moderate.

8. Great Duck Island

Frenchboro, Saturday, July 25;
10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

Lying eight miles south of Mount Desert Island in the open

Atlantic, Great Duck Island is among the most important seabird nesting sites in Maine. Common eiders, herring gulls, black guillemots and Maine's largest colony of Leach's storm petrels inhabit this enchanting island. If the idea of an open boat trip, off-loading into a small dinghy and wading knee-deep in the surf to reach the island sounds appealing, then this special adventure may be just what you're looking for. Join Captain and Preserve Steward Peter Blanchard aboard the *Ruddy Turnstone* for an unforgettable journey to this unique island sanctuary. Limit: 9; Strenuous..

9. Islands of Blue Hill Bay

Frenchboro, Saturday, August 15; 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

Explore Blue Hill Bay aboard the *Ruddy Turnstone* with naturalist and Conservancy steward Peter Blanchard. Identifying the variety of seabirds, spotting harbor seals, and learning the history and ecology of the islands of Blue Hill Bay will highlight this scenic late summer cruise. This trip should be considered strenuous for those who will find off-loading from the *Ruddy Turnstone* into a dinghy and wading ashore difficult - we expect to enjoy lunch on Pond Island. Limit: 9.

10. Web Spinners at Waterboro Barrens

Waterboro, Saturday, August 29; 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Spider expert Dan Jennings will lead our group on a small-scale safari, hunting for various species of spiders among the pitch pine and scrub oak of Waterboro Barrens. Bring your plant mister to moisten spider webs and make them more visible for observation. Co-leader Nancy Sferra, Southern Maine Preserve Steward, will explain the barrens ecology and the Conservancy's conservation goals at the preserve. Easy (unless you have an advanced case of arachnophobia).

Field Trip Reservation Guidelines

Reservations: A must. PLEASE CALL (207) 729-5181 during business hours. Space is limited to 15 persons per trip unless otherwise indicated and phone reservations are accepted strictly on a first come, first served basis. If space is available when you call, you will be asked to send in the fee. **Fee:** Non-refundable \$15 per person, adult or child. Trips will be held rain, shine or snow - so please dress appropriately. Restroom facilities are not available. Bring a beverage, lunch or snacks depending on the time.



THOMAS H. ARTER

Great Duck is an island of stories: abandoned farm fields, vigilant eagles, storm petrels burrowing into the earth, black guillemots with white epaulets darting out of the rock-piled shores - and a bog in the middle of the island where shipwrecked mariners ...ah but why spoil the story. Join Peter Blanchard on field trip #8 if you want to hear these stories told right.

And Now For Something Completely Free...

Free Guided Walks at Indian Point-Blagden Preserve and Great Wass Island Preserve

Our new Downeast Preserves Steward Doug Radziewicz will lead general explorations of the nature of two coastal preserves. Each walk will be from 10:00 a.m. to 12 noon.

Bring your lunch if you want to extend your visit on your own. Please call Doug directly at 288-2095 to reserve your place.

Saturday, May 23

Indian Point-Blagden Preserve, Bar Harbor

On Saturday, May 23, Doug will be at the Indian Point-Blagden Preserve to guide you through the mature red spruce, northern white cedar and balsam fir forest. Watch for wildlife in the woods and in the water at this very scenic preserve. Moderate.

Saturday, June 27

Great Wass Island, Beals

Doug will lead a second walk along the trails of Great Wass Island, the core of the Great Wass Archipelago. The island boasts bold headlands, a jack pine forest and extensive peat bogs. The oceanic micro-climate gives rise to rare plants, and you may see waterfowl and seals offshore. Moderate.

Also

Free canoe trip on Kezar Lake and the Old Course of the Saco River

Saturday, July 18
10:00 a.m.
to 2:00 p.m.

In cooperation with the Greater Lovell Land Trust, we are happy to make available a free guided canoe trip. Naturalist David Brown will lead our Armada of eight canoes through the lower bay of Kezar Lake to the the old course of the Saco River for a leisurely four-hour trip on a quiet section of the river. Space is limited, so call early: Kathy Sylvester at 729-5181.



BRUCE KIDMAN

Giving and Giving Again

What
Employees
Volunteer In Time,
J.M. Huber Matches
In Cash

On snowshoes in February, they trekked and checked the boundary lines around six and a half square mile Crystal Bog Preserve. Just last September, they had built and stained picnic tables and other facilities at Sebouis River Gorge Preserve, donating the tables, the stain, fees for heavy equipment - and hours upon hours of volunteer time.

These are employees of Huber Resources Corporation, a subsidiary of J.M. Huber Corporation. They are among hundreds of Huber volunteers in Maine, Georgia, Illinois, Maryland, New Jersey, Texas and Tennessee participating in the corporation's Adopt-A-Preserve program. It is a long-term commitment Huber has made to



Huber's Barry Burgason, right, stopped by the Conservancy offices in Brunswick to deliver an Adopt-An-Acre check to Science and Stewardship Director Tom Rumpf.



BARRY BURGASON

Volunteers from Huber Resource Corporation gathered in February to brush out and mark the boundaries of Crystal Bog Preserve. Most of us might wait for balmier weather, but winter -with leafless trees assuring better visibility - is actually a good time for this work, especially on such a fragile, floating bog. Shown here (left to right) are Dan Levia, Gerry Collins, Marie Ford and Jon Ford.

The Nature Conservancy and to its employees.

In addition to other support the corporation provides the Conservancy, Huber donates \$20 to match every hour an employee (or family member or retiree or shareholder) volunteers working to maintain Nature Conservancy preserves. Last year, that meant Barry Burgason, the Huber wildlife biologist who serves as Adopt-An-Acre coordinator in Maine, was able to deliver a check for over \$5,600 to the Maine Chapter. But according to Burgason, there is even more incentive for Huber employees in Maine.

"We feel connected to a number of Conservancy preserves here because they are ecologically significant areas which were owned by Huber and donated to The Nature Conservancy in Maine," he says (4,102-acre Crystal Bog Preserve, 714-acre Sebouis River Gorge Preserve and 265-acre Marble Fen were all gifts of the Huber Corporation).

"The public can be skeptical about large corporations donating land, but I think that by staying involved we demonstrate our real concern for the protection of these areas. And, of course, it doesn't hurt that we have a

great bunch of people up here who enjoy working hard and have a good time together while we're at it. As land managers ourselves, we appreciate the Conservancy's goal of protecting unique natural areas and the methods it uses to achieve it."

That sentiment is echoed in other states as well. "Volunteering gives employees an opportunity to give back to their communities," said a Huber staffer in Tennessee. "As individuals, we are stewards of the earth and we should contribute to the preservation of our environment for the sake of future generations."



BARRY BURGASON

Woodlands Manager Jon Ford and Roads Supervisor Alan Roberts at work at Sebouis River Gorge.

Progress on the Back River

Richard Raven knows the marshes of the Back River. He can draw the most precise maps of his favorite places to go "gunning". For more than 40 years, he and three friends hunted waterfowl on the Back River and the Lower Kennebec, eventually using a small camp on the Back River as a base of operation.

When the four friends bought the camp in 1959, they acquired a one-acre marsh lot along the river as part of the package.

At the end of March, this one-acre marsh lot was donated by Mr. Raven to the Conservancy. It is one of three such lots (or inholdings) in the middle of a 28-acre tract of woodland and marsh that is also owned by the Maine Chapter. Prior to the gift, Mr Raven talked with his co-owners of the property (William Jewell, D.T. Burkhardt, Miriam Cary), and they agreed that a gift to The

Nature Conservancy was the best idea for this wetland. They donated their shares to him and he in turn donated the lot to the Conservancy.

We are grateful to Mr. and Mrs. Raven, Mr. Jewell, Mr. Burkhardt and Mrs. Cary for this contribution to the protection of critical wetland habitats in the Back River.

Across the river in Georgetown, the State of Maine recently completed the purchase of a 5.6-acre inholding at the eastern edge of its 150-acre ownership at Swett Marsh. The Conservancy

assisted the Maine Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife in securing a purchase agreement with owners Douglas and Marilyn Tardif of Florida. The inholding is one of the few remaining undeveloped "camp lots" abutting

this large expanse of highly productive salt-marsh. With this addition, there is now a mosaic of protected public and private conservation land on both sides of the Back River that encompasses more than 550 acres and 8 1/2 miles of Back River marsh and shorefront.



WILL BRUNE

A Cobscook Bay Taxi

Field trips will be offered during the day Saturday, September 12 on and all around Cobscook Bay as part of our Annual Meeting. The Annual Meeting, Reception and Dinner will be held in the late afternoon and evening in Eastport.

With accommodations fairly far-flung, we decided to make what could be a logistical problem into a pleasant opportunity: we will have a water taxi service between Lubec on one side of the bay and Eastport on the other. There will be one trip from Lubec to Eastport in the late afternoon and one returning from Eastport to Lubec after the dinner that evening. No meter. No tipping. *More details next issue.*



BRUCE KIDMAN

Annual Meeting

Cobscook Bay Saturday, September 12

We've gathered this list of accommodations in the Cobscook Bay area for your convenience. Our goal was to be comprehensive, so we are not providing recommendations - other than to note that, beyond camping, space is limited in the area. *Please plan early.*

Bed & Breakfasts: Bay Views, Lubec, 5 rooms, 733-2181 • Breakers by the Bay, Lubec, 7 rooms, 733-2487 • Farmhouse & Antiques, Trescott, 1 room, 733-2496 • Home Port Inn, Lubec, 7 rooms, 733-2077 • Inn at Eastport, Eastport, 4 rooms, 853-4307 • Kilby House Inn, Eastport, 5 rooms, 853-0989 • Little River Lodge, Cutler, 10 rooms, 259-4437 • Lubeckergasthaus, Lubec, 4 rooms, 733-4385 • Milliken House, Eastport, 5 rooms, 853-2955 • Peacock House, Lubec, 5 rooms, 733-2403 • Lupine Lodge, Campobello Island, 11 rooms, 506-752-2555 • Owen House, Campobello Island, 3 rooms, 506-752-2977 • Water's Edge Villas, Campobello Island, 9 rooms, 506-752-2359 • Riverside Inn, E.Machias, 4 rooms, 255-4134 • Todd House, Eastport, 6 rooms, 853-2328 • **Motels:** Bluebird Motel, Machias, 40 rooms, 255-3332 • Crossroads, Pembroke, 14 rooms, 726-5053 • Eastland Motel, Lubec, 19 rooms, 733-5501 • Harris Point Cabins & Motel, Eastport, 18 rooms, 853-4303 • Machias Motor Inn, Machias, 35 rooms, 255-4861 • Morgan's Motel, Pembroke, 5 rooms, 726-3981 • Motel East, Eastport, 14 rooms, 853-4747 • Roosevelt Park, Campobello Island, 38 rooms, 506-752-2922 • Redclyffe Shore Motel, Robbinston, 16 rooms, 454-3270 • **Campgrounds:** Seaview Campground, Eastport, 97 sites 853-4471 • Cobscook Bay State Park, Dennysville, 150 sites, 726-4412 • Sunset Point Trailer Park, Lubec, 25 sites, 733-2150 • Knowlton's Seashore Camp, Perry, 80 sites, 726-4756 • **Motel/ Cabins/ Cottages/Camping:** Robinson Campgrounds, Dennysville, 726-4458 • Shady Pines Motel/Cabins, Eastport, 6 units, 853-2909 • Coffin's Neck Cottages, Lubec, 2 units, 733-7523 • Southmeadow Cottages, Boyden's Lake, 6 units, 853-2322 • Sherrard Farmhouse, Charlotte, 454-2829 • Tide Mill Farms, Edmunds, 733-2110 •

Volunteers

Ready to join the team? We're looking for a **Steward** for our properties in the Greater Mount Agamenticus region of York County. Downeast, we are looking for **preserve stewards** and **easement monitors** for a number of islands in the Great Wass Archipelago off Jonesport. These include preserves on Black, Man, Little Harwood and Knight Islands, and easements on Cows Yard, Head Harbor, Steele Harbor and Seguin Islands. Please call Tom Rumpf at 729-5181 if you can help.

Wish List

We are looking for the following items in good condition. Can you help? please call Theresa McKittrick at 729-5181.

- wheelbarrow/garden car;
- gas-powered weed trimmer;
- heavy duty jumper cables;
- first aid kits;
- chain saw;
- hip chain;
- conference table/chairs;
- bookshelves;
- open equipment trailer (6' to 8' long);
- hacksaw;
- coping saw;
- carousel slide projector and trays.

Thanking

Our sincere thanks to **Edward Fossett, Hugh Williams** and **Fossett Logging** for relocating our Rachel Carson dedication plaque (and the boulder to which it is attached) at the Rachel Carson Salt Pond Preserve in Bristol; **Charles Collins** for providing boulders and heavy equipment to close off a woods road at the Ledgewood Preserve in Georgetown; **Dominic Victor** for donating a pry bar and for sorting insect samples from the Waterboro Barrens Preserve in Waterboro; University of New England intern **Colleen Golden** for her work on a variety of southern Maine stewardship projects; **Karen Herald** for a computer system; **John B. Anderson** for a bush cutter and accessory blades; **Steve Warren** of Rhetoric Technologies for outstanding service and technical expertise; **Candy and Don McKellar** for hosting a potluck dinner at her house following the Huber Corp. workday at Crystal Bog (see page 8).



HAROLD MALDE

Waterboro Barrens Preserve

lot, removing debris and building a fence. On the preserve itself, we'll tackle clearing trails and putting up signs in order to prepare the preserve for its reopening this coming summer. For information and sign-up, please contact Kyle Stockwell at 729-5181 or e-mail at kstockwell@tnc.org.

Waterboro Barrens Preserve, Waterboro

Saturday, May 30, 9:00 am to 3:00 pm.

Spend a day in this unusual pitch pine/scrub oak barrens in York County. We'll be maintaining the boundary lines, which expanded by nearly 250 acres last summer, as well as the network of eminently walkable trails that wind through this preserve. For information and sign-up, please contact Nancy Sferra at 490-4012 or e-mail at nsferra@psouth.net

Dirt under your fingernails, sun on your back and fresh air in your lungs: consider it a total body make-over complements of The Nature Conservancy.

Great Wass Island Preserve, Beals

Saturday, May 9, 10:00 am to 3:00 pm.

The Atlantic Ocean has been working all winter to litter the shores of Great Wass Island with debris, an assortment of plastic containers, soda cans, sneakers and - well - one can't really predict. One year, the ocean contributed a whole whale. Since the weather along the Downeast coast, and particularly at this far eastern headland, is predictably unpredictable as well, please bring a variety of clothing options - rain gear to sunscreen. Thick work gloves are recommended, lunch and plenty of water a necessity. We'll supply trash bags. For information and sign-up, please contact Doug Radziewicz at 288-2095 or e-mail at dradziew@pctech.net.

Two dates! LaVerna Preserve, Bristol

Saturday, May 16, 9:00 am to 3:00 pm.

Saturday, June 13, 9:00 am to 1:00 pm.

Over the course of these late spring work days, we will be dismantling part of an old building at the site of our new parking area. Basic carpentry skills (and a wrecking ball mentality) required. We will also work on our new parking

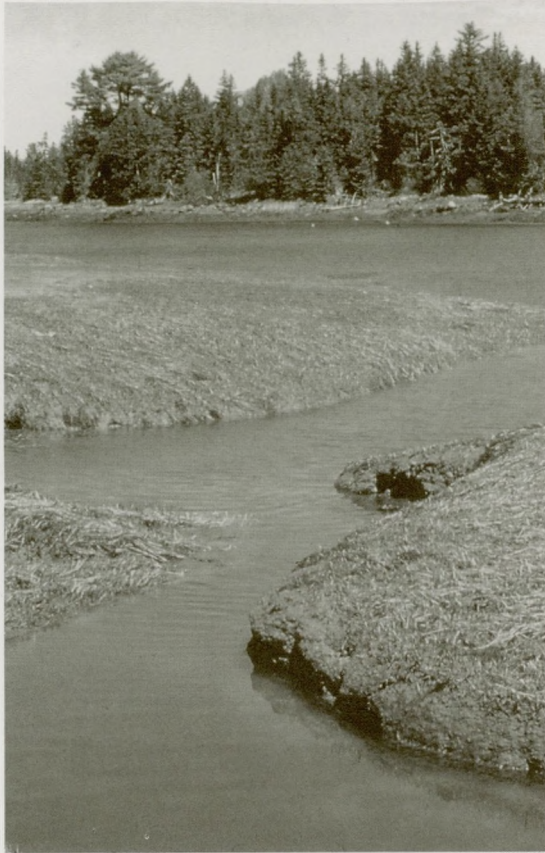
Thanks!

In the last newsletter we said it is never too late to become a part of the success of The Nature Conservancy's Annual Appeal in Maine. Thanks to all those who contributed, whether early or late, we did meet our ambitious \$500,000 goal!

Each of the over 1,300 members who contributed to the appeal was a critical piece of the puzzle. We thought you might be interested in how members helped us reach our goal. For example:

- ❖ 32 thoughtful people took advantage of the rampaging stock market and made gifts of appreciated stock, together contributing over \$25,000 more in stocks than the previous year.
- ❖ At last count, more than 80 members had made gifts of \$1,000 or more. Their support represents a \$75,000 increase over 1996's appeal.
- ❖ A larger number of gifts than ever came in through family-directed charitable funds or foundations.
- ❖ One very generous and ingenious member offered a gift of \$10,000 — if we found a match for it. We did! Response to our search for that match was swift and unstinting. In fact, when all was said and done, the member's original gift had resulted in contributions of \$33,000. Talk about leverage!

Of course, the bottom line remains not the money brought in, but the protected land that it represents at places from Ayers Brook in Passadumkeag to Mount Agamenticus in York. We are truly fortunate to have such committed and generous donors. Thank you very much.



Memorials

Ann Stark Rubin
Mark and Mary Anderson Bernier
Peter W. Cox
Gerry Curtis
Nadine, Shannon,
& Dale Danford
Rosalie A. Green
Jeffrey and Julia Harrison
Veronica A. Locke
David S. Miller
Nathan and Elaine Miller
Steven and Deborah Miller
Robert J. Miller
Brooke Newton
Jack and Pat Prince
Rosalind S. Prince
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Marion Winkelbauer
Frank Feeley
Suzi Feickert
Jeanne G. Feickert
William G. and Margaret
K. McGlasson

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Waldon Pride
Gordon & Laurel Buchmiller
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Mt. Blue Area Garden Club

Bequest

Ellen P. Barber

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Maine Legacy

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Role Model

Barbara Clark didn't set out to be a role model. It was simply a case of the spirit of the individual and the spirit of the organization being in such close harmony.

Following her retirement this past year - after more than 17 years of service to the Conservancy in Maine - this is clear: key values against which we measure ourselves as an organization - commitment to people, continuity of purpose, integrity beyond reproach - are just those she has exemplified so well.

Each of us has the opportunity to make a special impact. Over time, if we show the kind of dedication to our daily duties Barbara demonstrated, our service becomes an enduring contribution. That's something one can learn from Barbara. But, since she is never one to call attention to herself (puckish humor aside), her deeds have had to speak on her behalf.

She began as a volunteer in 1971, came on staff soon after and became indispensable as our Membership Coordinator. In this long-playing role,

Barbara came into daily contact with Conservancy members, acknowledging gifts by phone or in writing with just the right blend of warmth and professionalism.

"I always try to add a personal note," Barbara once said. "I want to make

sure members and donors or others who contact us know how carefully we listen and how much we appreciate their support."

We want Barbara to know that too - and we look forward to getting her notes from time to time.

Lest one fear the Conservancy in Maine is at risk of seeing our years-of-staff-service average plummet, note that

Planned Giving Officer (and former Executive Director) Mason Morfit is in his 21st year; Executive Director Kent Wommack has been on board for 16 years; Stewardship Assistant Jeanne Desjardins and Director of Conservation Planning Barbara Vickery are just behind with 15 years of service each; and Jim Dow, Director of the Cobscook Bay Project, has already logged in 10 years.

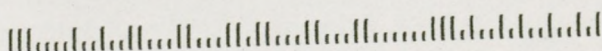
It seems this Continuity of Purpose concept is catching on.



Maine Chapter The Nature Conservancy

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