

7-25-1984

DOC News, July 25, 1984

Maine Department of Conservation

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Recommended Citation

Maine Department of Conservation, "DOC News, July 25, 1984" (1984). *Conservation Newsletters*. 102.
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MAINE STATE LIBRARY NEWS

Volume III - Number 14
July 25, 1984

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GEOLOGY - The "Geodes", comprised of Bob Johnston, Melanie Lanctot, and Andy Tolman, competed in the Pine Tree Triathlon at Colby College on Sunday, July 22.

Andy Tolman and Cheryl Fontaine co-authored a paper on geophysical techniques in ground water contamination investigations presented July 24 in Newton, Ma. at the National Water Well Associations Eastern Regional Ground Water Conference.

LIFEGUARD TO THE STARS - Peacock Beach State Park Lifeguard David Mooers recently joined the crowds at the Great Whatever Race on the Kennebec River, but not as an observer. David was recruited by the Kennebec Valley Chamber of Commerce as personal Lifeguard to Country-Western Star Charlie Pride, who traveled down the river as part of the festivities.

SPECTACULAR RESCUE - Normally peaceful Peacock Beach got a moment of excitement on July 12 when a tired and waterlogged woodchuck swam into the swim area and approached a small group of swimmers. What to do? Lifeguard David Mooers quickly intervened and rescued the tired creature with his Lifeguard helmet. David was assisted by Navigational Aids Technician Chuck Duggins, who removed the woodchuck and released it into its more natural habitat. All in a day's work.

SAILORS - Jim McMullen and family recently took a two week "vacation" (Webster's dictionary: a period of rest and relaxation), a casual sail from Cundy's Harbor in Harpswell to Provincetown, Massachusetts. It took Jim, his wife Linda and their two sons, Matthew, 12 and Jamie, 14, five days to sail a 22 foot O'Day the 130 miles to Provincetown. The crew was "weathered-in" at Kennebunkport for one night and Portsmouth, New Hampshire for two nights. They were out of sight of land for 6 - 7 hours at a time. At one point the little boat was caught in 30 knot winds and 8 foot waves! That experience caused Linda to describe the trip as "not very relaxing". Even Provincetown was a challenge as Jim says "wall-to-wall people and a bit bizarre".

But not all was displeasure. Jim said that the federal park on the Cape, which surrounds Provincetown and other hamlets, was very nice. The family also enjoyed the wildlife observed, particularly the whales. Jim said they were once within 200 yards of a humpback and on another occasion they observed whales breaching (jumping completely out of the water) just 1/4 to 1/2 mile away from their boat.

The return home only took them three "relaxing" days.

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GIFT - According to Walter Gooley, an anonymous donor has seen fit to pay half the cost of a Society of American Foresters educational forestry tour (18 days) to Sweden, Norway and Finland for two DOC foresters. The lucky recipients are Tom Whitworth of the Maine Forest Service and Greg Foster, Bureau of Public Lands. The tour takes place in September. Who said Santa Claus only appears in December!

PICNIC - The DOC softball team is planning its annual outing. It is tentatively scheduled for August 18 at Bang's Beach in Sidney, same place as last year. The outing is open to all DOC employees, their family and friends. Last year's outing was a great success, with softball, volley ball, swimming, canoeing, and a downeast lobster bake. If you'd like to attend, contact Steve Oliveri (2791) for more details. Volunteers to help set up are more than welcome.

ACTING CAPACITY - Charlie Atwater will be acting Business Manager for several weeks while Berthe Berube is on medical leave.

CANOE TRIP - Marilyn Kenyon, Annee Tara, Sheila MacDonald, Jan Saleeby, Ed Beach, Herb Hartman and Marshall Wiebe travelled a portion of the West Branch of the Penobscot River Conservation Easement area last week. The group inspected campsites at Lobster Lake and spent one night at Chesuncook Village.

ARBORETUM DEVELOPMENT - The New England chapter of the Rock Garden Society is planting common rock garden plants at the Arboretum according to Jim McMullen. A Maine Conservation Corps crew has planted rhododendrons as part of a summer Arboretum project.

ANSTAC MEETS - The Appalachian National Scenic Trail Advisory Council will meet at the Country Club Inn at Rangeley September 15-18. Herb Hartman is Maine's representative to the Council.

MOTOR HOME MEETS BOOTH - A motor home struck the control station at Camden Hills State Park on May 22 inflicting \$300 damage to the vehicle and lifting the roof of the building according to Gordon Bell.

ORIOLE ATTACK - Orioles reportedly diving at visitors to Damariscotta Lake State Park appear to have been defending their nesting area. The combat zone was roped off for everyone's benefit.

SURVEY - Neill DePaoli, in cooperation with the Maine Bureau of Parks and Recreation, will conduct survey on the Pemaquid River drainage north of the nationally important state-owned site of the 17th-century village and forts at Colonial Pemaquid in Bristol. Documentary research and preliminary fieldwork proves that there were a number of outlying farmsteads and at least one mill on this river, establishments which date from the 1630's to 1676, or slightly later. This long overdue survey will place the central settlement at Pemaquid, first inhabited on a year-round basis ca. 1625, in its broader geographical context. according to Robert L. Bradley, Phd, Historic Archaeologist for the Maine Historic Preservation Commission.