

ISLAND HERITAGE TRUST

The Conservation Land Trust of
Deer Isle and Stonington, Maine, and Surrounding Islands



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Fall 2008

Girl Scout Troop XXXX from Stonington Visits

This past summer Debbie Alley and Lee Fay took Girl Scout Troop # ??? to Settlement Quarry on a merit badge quest entitled "My Community". At the preserve, the girls duly admired the glacial scratches, the pink stripes of the aplite intrusions, and they solved the mystery of those long cylindrical holes in the granite - the bore holes.

The girls admired the view and sat on the granite benches honoring the men of the McGuire family who owned and ran the granite business. Then they switched from "Deer Isle Rocks!" exuberance to tea party best behavior. They went to Mary McGuire's house and listened, spellbound, to Mary's stories of the McGuire family.

We cannot offer you such a personalized tour of the quarry, but you can make the trip vicariously this winter by perusing the new book



View from Settlement Quarry

Ann Flewelling



produced especially for the Trust by Threehalf Press.

Author Marnie Reed Crowell and photographer Ann Flewelling made a year-long series of visits to Island preserves, Marnie sharing stories of the donors or their children and Ann photographing the special features.

In this Issue

New President & Executive Director	P2
Artists helping IHT	P3
Summer Activities	P4
School Outreach	P8
Financial Report	Insert

Stumped for a Christmas present
or birthday gift?
Island Heritage Trust
Memberships are one size that fits
all!

IHT Looks Ahead: New President – New Executive Director

A Conversation with the New Executive Director and President

IHT has experienced dramatic changes during the past year not only in its physical locale, but in its leadership as well. Mike Little has come on board as the Trust's new executive director following an intensive search, and Linda Campbell was elected as the new board president. Together the two hope to implement a vision for the Trust and its future that recognizes the need to maintain a sound fiscal structure as well as to refine IHT's goals to keep pace with the ever-growing complexity of conservation land management. Moreover, both share a belief that the Trust should enlarge its role in the greater island community. In a recent interview the two shared their thoughts about the future of IHT and their respective leadership roles.

Born in Caribou, Maine, but raised in Massachusetts, Mike Little comes to his position at

IHT with significant experience in land management, having worked as a land trust consultant and as executive director of the Belgrade Re-



gional Conservation Alliance. In addition to his degree and work in environmental management, Mike also has worked as a building contractor and carpenter. During his three-year stint as an eel fisherman in Massachusetts, he witnessed first-hand the deleterious effects on the fishing industry resulting from polluted waterways and over-fishing.

Linda Campbell, who hailed from Massachusetts before moving to Deer Isle, works as a land surveyor, these days via telecommuting. Her in-

volvement in IHT has included volunteering and chairing the building and grounds committee during the tumultuous period in which the Trust moved its locale from a rental property in Deer Isle Village to its new headquarters at Heritage House (acquired through the generous donation of Ken and Mar-nie Crowell).

Both Mike and Linda view their roles for IHT as multi-faceted, helping to build communication not only among the Trust's membership, but also with the larger island community. The two feel strongly about making the business of the Trust more accessible and transparent to the membership, in part via improvements in technology. Linda spoke for both in saying, "we're a public trust," and owe it to our members to make our work both "accessible and understandable." Mike emphasized that recent national economic conditions require the Trust to look carefully at its



ISLAND HERITAGE TRUST NEWSLETTER

Mission Statement

The Mission of the Island Heritage Trust is to conserve significant open space, scenic areas, wildlife habitats, natural resources, historic and cultural features that offer public benefit and are essential to the character of the Deer Isle area

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Trustees of IHT

Linda Campbell	President
Bill Haviland	Vice President
Pete Dane	Treasurer
Cathy Hart	Secretary
Brian Clough	Rena Day
Josephine Jacob	Sally Mills
Judy McCaskey	Ann Hooke
Chick White	Anne Beerits
Roger Bergen	Sandy Buxton

Stephen Pace Spring Shower 16x20 inch oil

This painting is being offered first to IHT's members. Please call the office 207-348-2455 if you are interested.

Spring Shower shows a nude looking out a window at a fruit tree in spring bloom. This painting, which Stephen retained in his personal collection, marks a significant turning point in painting career. This 1966 work marks a departure from abstract expressionism to the lyrical style expressing the relationship between people and their environment for which Pace has gained a worldwide reputation.



Spring Shower by Stephen Pace Ken Cro-

This Pace gift to Island Heritage Trust celebrates Pam Pace's indefatigable fund raising as a volunteer on behalf of IHT, the land trust of the island they both so love.



Barbara Southworth

Local Artists Provide Sign Bracket

Artist/blacksmith Doug Wilson generously donated his time and mentored Sarah Doremus and Herm Kidder to make our handsome sign bracket. The bracket artistry with its dancing bird is a delightful statement of IHT's awareness that our artists are eloquent ambassadors for the environment.

An exhibit of the work of Siri Beckman and Doug Wilson was installed in the Heritage House barn for the visit of the Smithsonian Museum's Renwick tour during the month of July. Siri and Doug then gave an eloquent presentation for IHT donors at a reception where the painting donated by Stephen Pace to IHT was exhibited.

How does Island Heritage Trust choose artists for the Barn Exhibition Space? They ask us!
If your work speaks for our island heritage and environment,
and you would like to exhibit in this space
please contact the IHT office at 207-348-2455

Postcards from our Summer at IHT



Camp Kooky visited various preserves with IHT volunteer Michele Dur. Island Community Center sponsors this program for four weeks annually. Michele taught the art of tie-dyeing with natural dyes at Heritage House this summer.

Ron and Lael Stegall once again lent their lovely home for a most enjoyable musical afternoon for IHT

Walks and Talks

Because the Island does not shut down when summer ends, Join us for some winter fun

Island Bird Walks:

Nov 15 9am Heritage House
 Dec 13 9 am Heritage House
 Jan 3 Christmas Bird Count
 (with Downeast Audubon)
 Call for time and meeting places
 Feb 14 9am Heritage House
 March 14 9am Heritage House
 April "Big Night" join us to witness the great Salamander Migration
 call the office to get on the call list
 348-2455

donors. Local musicians Elizabeth Reardon, Charles Hildreth, Dee Immonen, Walter Voigt, Brigitta



Whitehead, Stewart Pearson, and Esther Adams donated their talents to this event.

Shadow Box Boats by Dan Carroll

The Barn at Heritage House



was graced by an exhibition of Shadow Box boats by Dan Carroll. Dan's boats were inspired by the work of the late Clark Hill (father of Judy Hill, beloved trustee and donor of Shore Acres Preserve). Each image is of a specific boat that once sailed New England

waters.

Founding member and longtime supporter of IHT, **Cherie Mason** has donated her Natural History Library to the Island Heritage Trust Reading Room at Heritage House. Giving IHT an instant and extensive library!

A group of books on ethnobotany were donated by **Sarah Doremus**. And **Barbara Seymour** donated a series of field guides.

Volunteers can help IHT!

Contact volunteer coordinator Ellen Rowan at the trust office if you have interest and experience related to:

IHT's new natural history Library- Catalog and manage the generously donated collection of books

Retail - Manage the gift shop, including open hours for Christmas and beyond, inventory and tracking, , order fulfillment for web orders

Office Volunteers

Web review and update

Help get newsletter online

Trail Maintenance and clean-up

Docents to work with school groups

Marlinspike worker Tim Whitten made one of his nautical ropes for us to mark off



the steep narrow stairs from the new Reading Room where Cherie Mason's naturalist book collection is now on new shelves built by James E Bray, Sr., Mike Thompson and Gleason Bray. This able crew has had a hand in Heritage House renovations from the start. Big thanks also to Barter Lumber.

Shop Talk. By the end of the Grand Opening Day sale, we had covered our costs for the new Nature Store inventory. Especially appreciated were

Would you like to receive the IHT Newsletter electronically? Saving paper and other resources, we are getting set-up to offer the newsletter via email. Email IHT at:

iht@islandheritagetrust.org

**In Memorium:
John H "Pete" Peterson
IHT Friend and Trustee**

John "Pete" Peterson, an early and strong supporter of the Island Heritage Trust, died September 21 2008 at his home in Cockeysville MD at the age of 87.

Pete served for a number of years on both IHT's Land and Stewardship committees. His family started vacationing at Spruce Harbor in Oceanville when he was a very small boy, and except for a stint in the Navy he returned every year. His deep love of Deer Isle and his long familiarity with the area made him a particularly helpful colleague for other volunteers with his fund of stories and local knowledge. When it came to encouraging others to consider the public benefits of protecting the scenic and environmental qualities of their land, Pete led by example. He protected his own sizable acreage with a conservation easement.

Pete's boat TANGO was a familiar sight on the Deer Island Thoroughfare. He greatly enjoyed using it to show friends and visitors the local islands, and especially those under IHT's stewardship. He is survived by his wife, Fran (an early and stalwart IHT volunteer), and their four children.

the good deals on binoculars and bird books chosen by our own ornithologists, and the toy animals and Audubon birds. For all the items in the Nature Store, special attention was given to including locally made items – or at least obtained from local businesses. And the species represented in the plush toys and note papers, nature cards and field guides were all actually found in our area! Congratulations

are due to our faithful office volunteers who so successfully navigated the changes from last year to this years expanded offerings
(Continued on p 7)

- Wish List**
Wine Glasses
Bookcase for the Office
Serving pieces and Silverware
Gas-powered Brush Cutter

BEADS AND STRING has arrived in time for the holidays! Only \$20.00 for a memoir about Deer Isle and IHT. Order your copies with this form – or email Island Heritage Trust at IHT@islandheritagetrust.org

I would like to order ___ copies of Beads and String :A Maine Island Pilgrimage
 NAME: _____ Copies of Beads and String @ \$20 _____
 ADDRESS: _____ 5% Sales Tax (ME residents) _____
 CITY: _____ STATE _____ Shipping and Handling - \$3.95/book _____
 ZIPCODE _____ Checks to IHT Total: _____

All proceeds from the sale of this book go to IHT

(continued from page 2)
toward weathering future tough times.” Linda added that among the challenges the Trust faces is to expand its membership, build sound organizational structures for the future, and continue to develop strategic planning. “Now that we have a house, Linda said, we have both an extraordinary responsibility and opportunity.”

Mike and Linda feel strongly about dispelling the misinformation and misperception too often in the public mind about land trusts. “We’re not buying up land, stripping away the tax base,” as many people believe, Mike said. As the land trust movement matures, our vision for the future must shift its focus too, he indicated, noting that it’s important to communicate to the public the contributions made by IHT and other land trusts. In protecting lands we not

only protect pristine areas for recreational use, but we help ensure the protection of watershed areas, he said, allowing for continued shell fishing, for example, as well as species protection.

Mike hopes that IHT will become an integral part of the community, a resource to which people can turn in dealing with issues related to conservation, the environment, and land management in general. He would like to see the Trust become a stronger presence in the schools and increase its involvement in the local community by partnering with other organizations, particularly in issues relating to the working waterfront. Believing that IHT should be a year-round presence in the community, he is committed to keeping the office open in every season, and has extended the popular nature walks into fall and winter, signaling that the Trust’s activity

schedule is intended for more than just the summer visitor population.

Some of Mike’s recent challenges include putting the Trust’s record keeping in order by gathering and precisely identifying all the day-to-day data. While the endowments are well accounted for, Linda said, the day-to-day budget tasks needed to be better organized with tools already in place. Although working on record keeping is not what Mike described as the “glamorous” part of his job, such as doing stewardship work, it is vital to the organization’s fiscal health. We’re engaged in “foundation building,” he emphasized. To that end, Linda and Mike are attending various seminars about topics such as building annual funds and how to manage the financial responsibilities for non-profit organizations.

While managing a land trust has grown increasingly more complex as the conservation movement itself has grown and matured, both Linda and Mike welcome the challenge of helping to take IHT into its next phase of stewardship, by directing their joint efforts toward the ongoing work of protecting the fragile and stunning properties in the Trust’s care.



Barred Island Preserve

Elke Dorr

(Continued from page 4)
 The August family sing along with **Jane McCloskey** was so popular that we hope to have her back next year. Her slides of her father's paintings and tales of growing up in the family that became well known in beloved children's books offered a fascinating evening.

Our next door neighbor, The **Deer Isle-Stonington Historical Society**, has been most gracious about letting us use their parking area and we were pleased to reciprocate. On August 12 the Historical Society filled our barn with people and adorned our walls with framed enlargements of old Deer Isle and Stonington postcards. The occasion was their Annual Meeting and the featured speaker for the event was Kevin Johnson, Photo Archivist, from the Penobscot Marine Museum. Kevin presented an interesting slide show and talk about the 37,000 glass plate images acquired by the museum. Between 1909 and 1947, these images were made into postcards. His presentation featured images from the Deer Isle and Stonington area, though postcards were made of areas all over New England and beyond. The Heritage House barn was filled to capacity for the event and the Deer Isle-Stonington Historical Society has expressed their

enthusiastic appreciation for the use of the space. The enlarged postcards will remain on display at Heritage House, and copies may be purchased from the Historical Society. We were pleased to share our facility with our neighbors.

They also lent us the original Gray's Manual of Botany owned by Ada Southworth for the Victorian Flower Table exhibit and Mickie Flores made several fresh flower weavings to complement the exhibit.

The **Haskell Family** Reunion used the Heritage House barn along with the Historical Society Buildings. With the early photographs, Felsted pot buoy collection, and the ship



shadow boxes decorating the space, IHT celebrated our cultural heritage along with Haskells from around the world.



Tennis Preserve

Elke Dorr

Stewardship

The summer months have certainly flown by this year. Stewardship activities primarily focused on keeping the trails at Shore Acres, Settlement Quarry, and Scott's Landing brush free and passable. With the recent rains from Tropical Storm Hannah and Hurricane Kyle, bog bridging has been an exhaustive effort to keep all those on the trail high and dry. We still have a great deal more to do at the various preserves from brush pile reduction to additional bog bridging over low areas. We are very appreciative of the beach clean up volunteers for Reach Beach at Gray's Cove and Causeway Beach. Both areas have never looked better than this past summer season. While we still have many inconsiderate individuals that think trash is better deposited directly to the environment than the local landfill/transfer station, we can only hope that leading by example and further education will reduce this unsightly mess across all of Deer Isle and the surrounding islands.

Island Heritage Trust Reaches Out to Island Schools

On Thursday September 25, the First Graders from Deer Isle – Stonington Elementary School with teachers Debbie Greenlaw and Beth Lane joined IHT volunteers Lee Fay and Josephine Jacob in cleaning up Causeway Beach as part of the International Coast Week Coastal Clean-up Program. After commenting on how clean the beach was – thanks to other IHT volunteers who took turns patrolling the beach all summer – the students, teachers and parents went to work and filled a trash bag in little over an hour. The debris collected was both from land and sea. From the land, they found soda and beer bottles, food wrappers and cigarette butts. From the water came rope, part of a buoy and miscellaneous bits of plastic and plywood. The most unusual find was a much corroded St. Christopher medal. Tally sheets were collected by coordinator Jo Jacob, and the trash was weighed – 20 pounds! Other classes had planned to participate in the clean-up at other preserves on the following day, but bad weather caused a postponement.



Elementary School Classes Adopt a Preserve:

Reach Beach – First Grade
Scott's Landing – Second Grade
Mariner's Park – Third Grade
Shore Acres – Fourth Grade
Settlement Quarry – Fifth Grade
Barred Island – Sixth Grade
Pine Hill – Seventh Grade
Tennis Preserve – Eighth Grade



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