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# The Thoroughfare

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## A VISIT TO SALEM

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A family group, organized by Ellen M. Higgins, met at Glen Magna Farms, the Joseph Peabody House in Danvers, on Saturday, May 11, 2002. The participants were George, Charlie and Maria Monks, John Sr., Ellen J. and Joe Higgins, Charlotte Alexander, Jennifer Donaldson, Nick, Rosa and Phil Higgins, Kate, Kate (jr.) Gonzales and boyfriend, Vinny, and Ellen Monks Higgins. Joseph Peabody purchased this inland property during the War of 1812, just as Salem's commercial ascendancy began to fade. Although the sailing industry had survived the French and Indian Wars and the American Revolution, the War of 1812 and the Napoleonic Wars forced an end to that era.

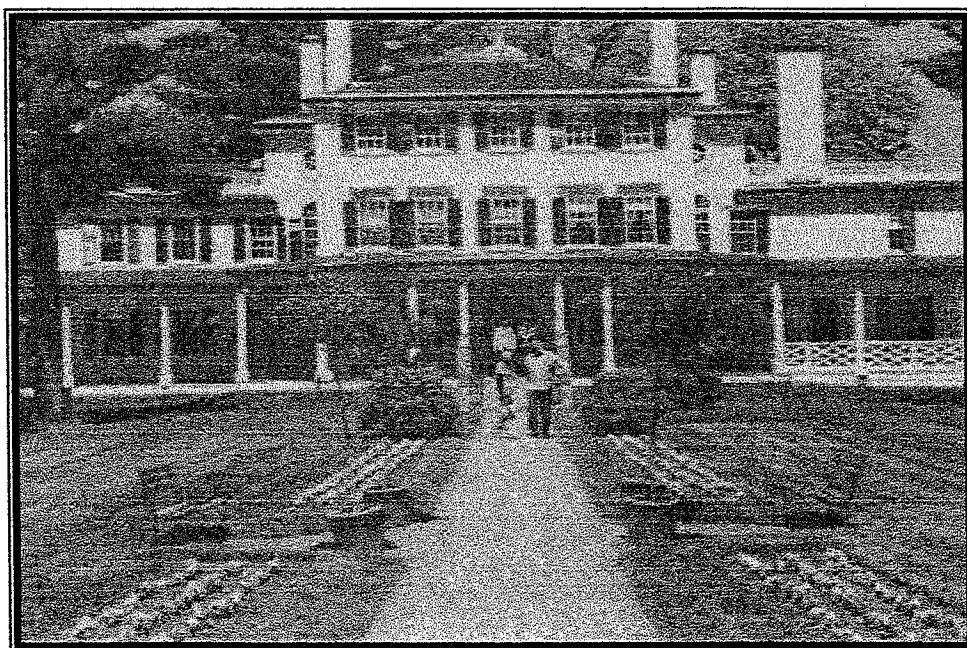
Our tour began in the foyer, the heart of the mansion, where we learned of the development of Glen Magna from a Danvers farm to an historical landmark. Joseph Peabody made Glen Magna into a retreat at the end of his career. The Peabody and Endicott families continued to embellish the property throughout their 144 years of ownership. As we stood in the foyer we learned of architectural additions to the Federal-style mansion by Peabody descendants, and of memories my grandmother had of arriving at the Farms as a young girl. Our group meandered through the adjacent drawing, smoking and dining rooms, the library and small parlor noting portraits on walls that had the recognizable features of our ancestors and inquiring of the whereabouts of much of the original furniture, presumably passed down to succeeding generations.

Some of the more adventurous in our group quickly made their way to the upper floors, exploring bedrooms, the upstairs library museum and passages through the maid's quarters. The library-museum contained a plethora of photographs, texts, and quotes from writings depicting an era of black-tie dinners served on silver platters to a large family, where children ran around and danced across the long

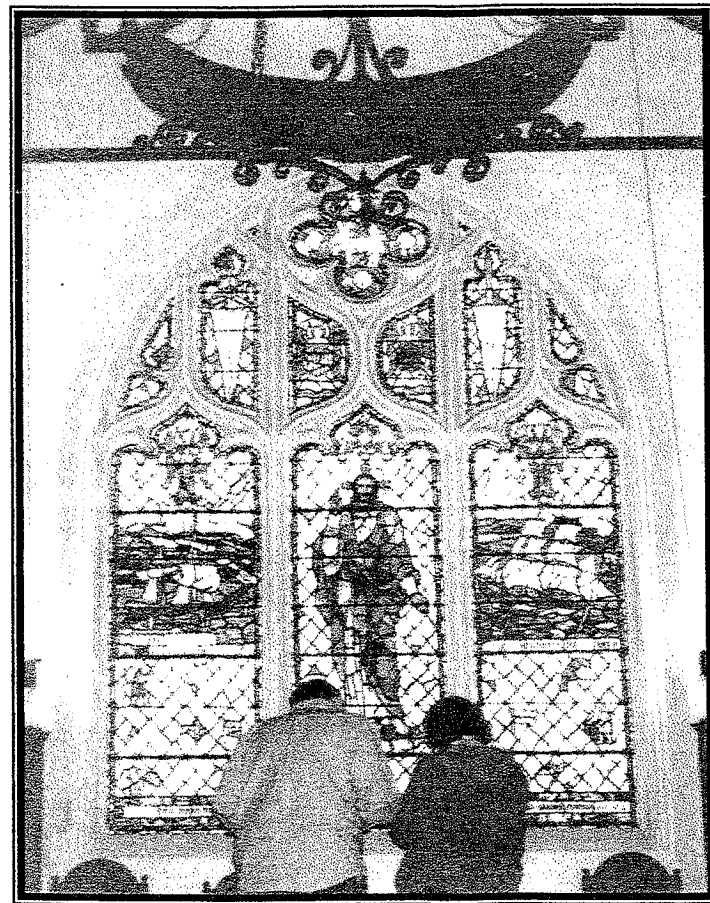
dinner table after meals and guests were taken aback that such a lavish way of life would be considered "simple" by their hosts.

We next visited the gardens for which Ellen Endicott received the Hunnewell Award in 1926 from the Massachusetts Horticultural Society. The most prominent features are the MacIntire Tea House that leads into the brick-walled rose garden; the Peabody Gazebo, separated from the back porch of the mansion by the long and narrow path of the Old Fashioned Garden; and finally, the romantic Cushing Pergola, consisting of marble columns lined up in two rows, covered by wisteria that sweeps over and about the columns. Other features include the Lover's Walk, a less conspicuous path that lies just beyond the Peabody Gazebo, and the Flower Garden designed by Joseph Chamberlain, (husband of Mary Endicott and British politician), in the Italianate Style, which still remains true to its original design. It is bordered by a barberry hedge, rustic cedar posts covered with climbing roses and a rustic cedar pergola. The Historical Society of Danvers is in charge of the preservation of the property.

On our way to the waterfront in Salem we visited Blake Chapel at Harmony Grove Cemetery. Inside the simple



chapel we discovered a beautiful stained glass window that was installed as a memorial to Joseph Peabody in 1922, with contributions from 157 of his descendants, among whom we recognized the names of Olga Eliza Gardner (Mrs. George Howard Gardner), George Gardner Monks, John Patrick Monks, Olga Monks, George Peabody Gardner Jr. and Isabella Stewart Gardner. Charles J. Connick of Boston designed the window in the style of the 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> centuries. The three panels in the window relate to the idea of commerce in Salem. Words from the 107<sup>th</sup> psalm are depicted across the top. Symbols of ports to which some of Joe's 83 vessels sailed can be found on the panels. Symbols include a pagoda, a parrot and a bearer of goods, as well as the Peabody coat of arms and house flag. The central panel depicts Christ walking on water and the other two, a ship leaving port and a ship arriving. One will also notice the halberd, an item brought over by Lieutenant Francis Peabody of London circa 1635,

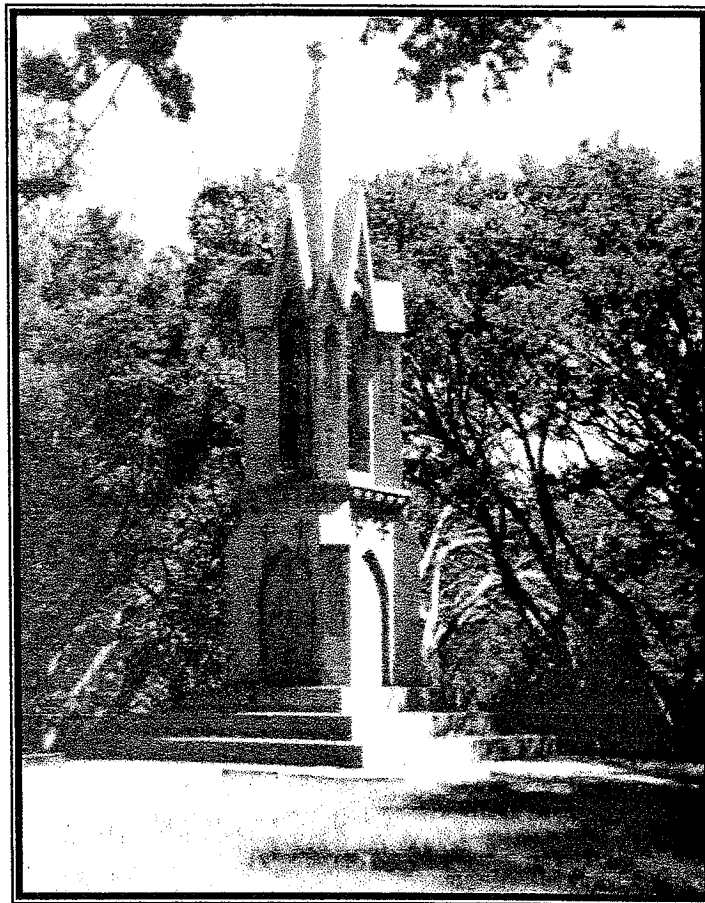


**The Stained Glass Window at Harmony Grove designed by Charles Connick of Boston**  
George and Maria Monks delve into the history embedded in the panels.

and a boarding pike, an item from one of Joe Peabody's adventures on board ship during the revolutionary war around 1782. Both of these items are presumably still in existence and in the hands of one of his descendants. We picnicked by the memorial where Joseph Peabody, his wife and all of his sons are buried. Nearby headstones marked the graves of other descendants.

Next, our pilgrimage brought us to the once bustling port of Salem where we toured the Peabody-Essex Museum, which is currently being enlarged, and looked at paintings depicting whale hunts and ships caught in turbulent waters. To close out this day appropriately we walked down to the piers, where we all tried to piece together the tidbits we had learned, while imagining the era when Salem's port was alive with the commerce that brought back luxuries and adventurers from the most exotic parts of the world.

-Ellen J. Higgins



**The Peabody Tomb,**  
49 Harmony Grove Cemetery  
Joseph Peabody of Salem  
1757-1844

## ROQUE ISLAND—

### *Rosa Rugosa*

George G. Herrick

**Y**ou cross many thresholds on the way to Roque Island. Each one brings the goal closer and prepares you for the arrival. We recompose ourselves and adopt a new persona the closer we get. We need to be in the right frame of mind when we arrive. The theory of liminality is about entry into a new or sacred place.

Crossing the Washington County line may start the process. With the right hand turning in Jonesboro we can almost taste it. The first view of Roque across from the Roque Bluffs Golf course prompts a cheer. Then, at last, down the hill and along the beach at the State Park. On our left hand side there is a massive bank of *Rosa Rugosa*, in full flower if it is the right time of year.

But it has not always been so. In the Roque Bluffs Community Hall there is a painting by Jan Schenz, dating perhaps to the 30's or 40's, revealing that there was no *Rosa rugosa* there at that time. Can it be possible that in so short a time we could create such a beautiful natural asset on the island? Clumps of the plant seem to be flourishing in front of the Red House and near the dock. Last fall a new area was planted near the shore and the plants are thriving. We should encourage it to colonize other areas.

Native to Northern China, Korea, Japan and Turkistan, *Rosa Rugosa* (or the beach rose) was cultivated as an exotic species in 18<sup>th</sup> century European courts. It was introduced in New England around 1770. It now flourishes from New Brunswick to New Jersey. The botanical name translates as wrinkled roses and they are sometimes called salt spray roses or sea tomatoes. Lovely and fragrant, the shrub is also sturdy, drought resistant and salt tolerant. It can even make a stout, impenetrable hedge. It is useful in preventing beach erosion. It provides shelter and food for a variety of birds.

Best of all the petals and the fruit (pulpy hips that look like small tomatoes) are edible. Fresh petals can add color to a fruit salad or be made into Beach Rose sugar, delicious in iced tea. And the fruit, which are twenty times higher in Vitamin C than orange juice, can be made into Rose Hip jam.

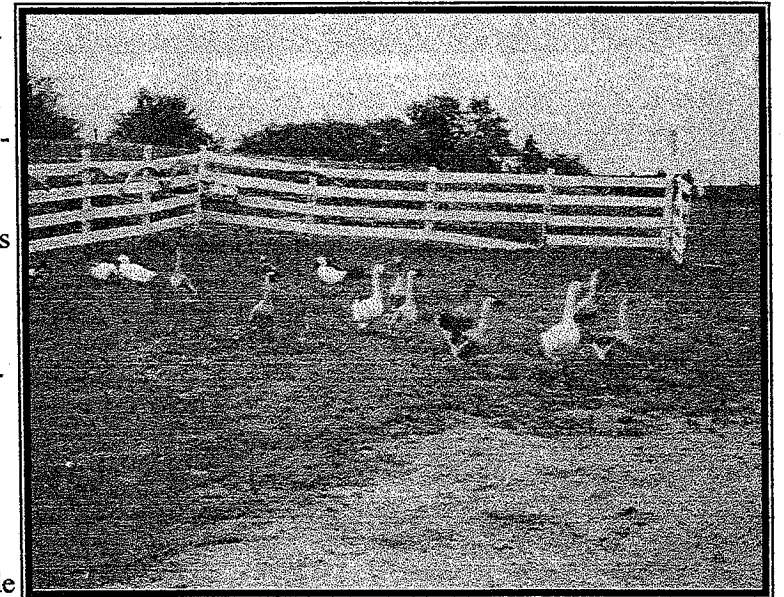
## The Kitchen Cupboard

### Rose Hip Jam

- 4 qts. Rose hips with black ends removed
- 3 1/2 cups of sugar (approximately)
- Water to cover.

**S**ather the rose hips after the first frost. Wash. Cover with water and simmer until very soft. Press through a food mill; then through a finer sieve or a mesh bag. Cook the pulp down until thick (thicker than heavy cream). Add the sugar and check the taste; add more if necessary. Cook over high heat until it has a jam like consistency; keep checking with a spoon: the fruit have enough pectin on their own to jell without adding anything. Put into sterilized jars. Makes one quart.

## Barnyard Tales



After the death of a good friend, recently, a lonely goose decided to adopt one of the ducklings for company.



## News From the Island

A major summer project was the replacement of the foundation and repairs of the floor and walls of the pig pen and bull pen lean-to on the north side of the big barn. Chris McCormick was the carpenter in charge, but Don, Tom, and others gave a helping hand. Tom and Jesse harvested logs, and Don did considerable lumber sawing with the WoodMizer to provide construction materials.

Chris McCormick and a helper re-shingled the roof on the sheep barn, and they are in the process of constructing a new cupola on the roof.

Most of the garden fence at the Gardner House received a new coat of paint, and looks very nice.

The septic tanks were re-pumped as part of a drainage field maintenance plan, and are all set for a year or two.

All five houses were sprayed in August with a residual insecticide to control the cluster fly problem, as the flies try to return each fall for hibernation in the houses.

A mechanic (Dave Goodridge) was on-island to replace the clutch in the older tractor, a steering shaft bearing in the barge, brake cables on both the Toyota and the Mule, and repair the 4-wheel drive and hoist on the dump truck.

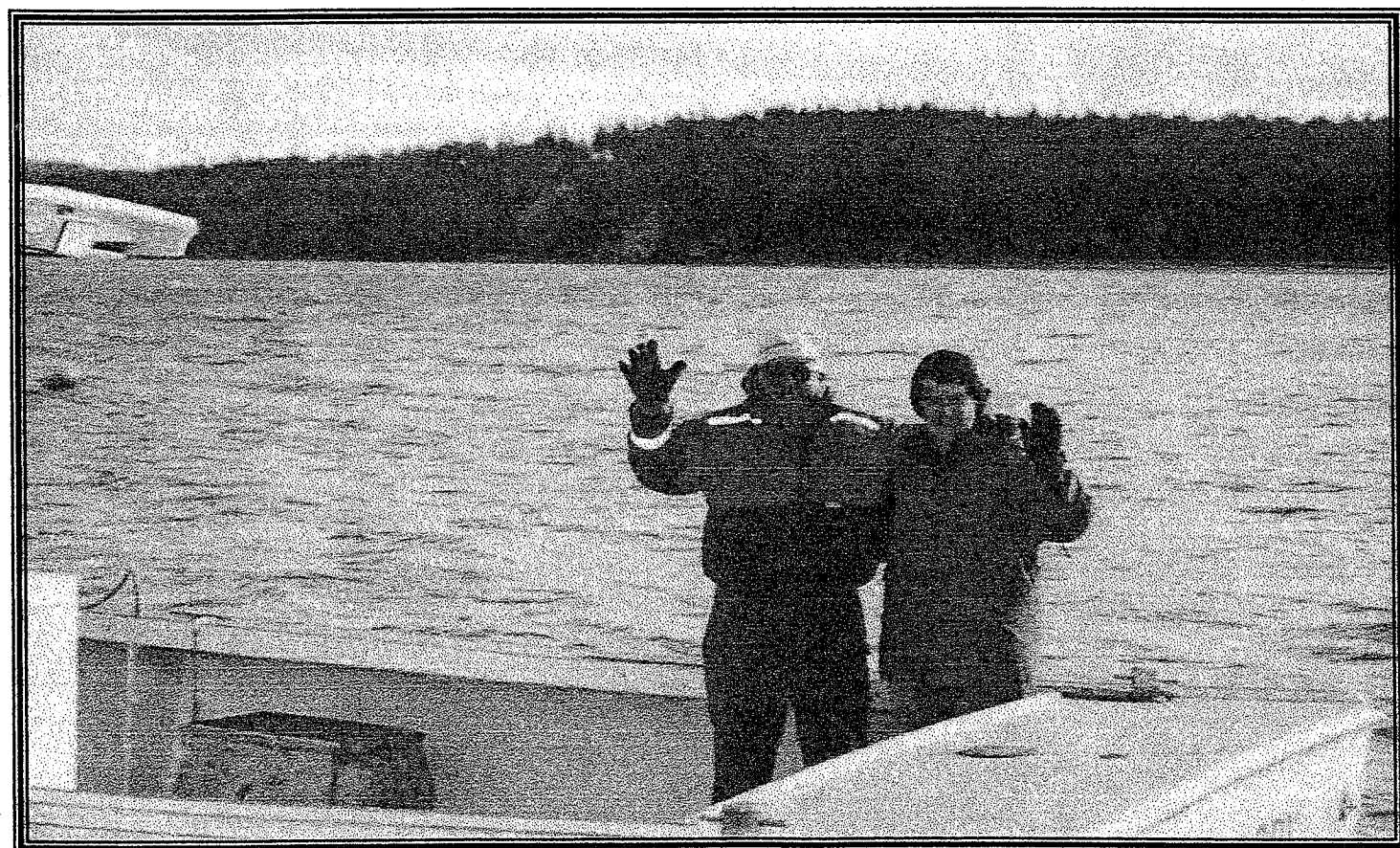
Several meetings were held with a potential wood harvester (Russell Manchester) and we believe the details are falling in place for a thinning harvest and the removal of beetle infested trees in the Bonney field and Patten Cove areas this winter.

Most of you know that Doug and Amy left during the summer to take other employment. Don Parker, our boatman, is currently undergoing chemotherapy for a growth found in his back.

My five-year term as island manager will be ending in October.

Gloria and I have both greatly enjoyed working here at Roque Island and meeting and making friends with both family and guests. We will certainly miss seeing you in 2003, but are confident that an able and friendly staff will be here to greet you and take care of your island needs.

*Ed Harriman*



## Chairmen's Notes

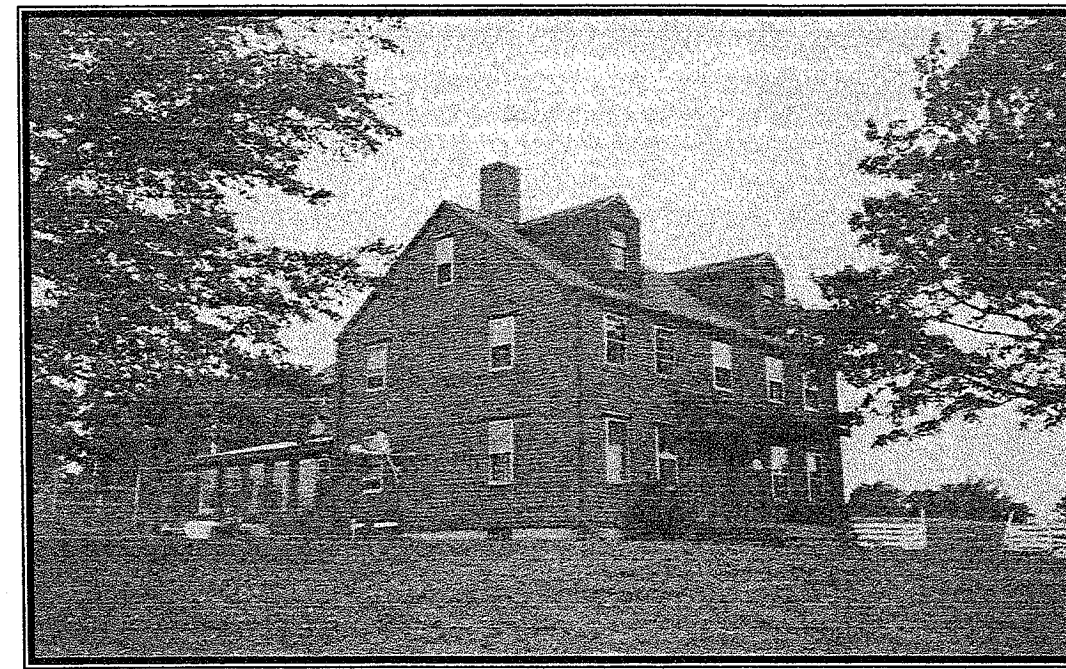
The summer has proven busy and much change is in the air - once again, we are extremely thankful to the hardworking staff for making the season a successful one.

News of note follows:

- We are close to signing a contract with a local logger, Russell Manchester. He and his crew will be doing both selective and patch cuts, along the Patten Cove Road in the vicinity of Bonney Field. This is the most critical area right now due to the spruce bark beetle infestation of a number of the old

rees. Our forester, Theresa Davis, will be liaison to the loggers. Tom Nelson, the Farmer & Land Manager, will also participate in overseeing the operation. Due to the thin soil in some of the outlined areas there will be managed patch-cutting because selective cutting in these areas would most likely create extreme blow-downs with the ultimate, visual effect of a devastating clear cut! Evidence of this occurring in the past was found in the Jottings. Selective cutting is being done wherever is possible.

- Much to our disappointment, Doug & Amy Dodge resigned in early August. They are both pursuing new careers on the mainland in Jonesport. They had worked at Roque six and five years, respectively. Clearly, their talent and dedication to the Island will be missed by us all.
- The Manager Search is moving ahead with excellent response from advertisements posted throughout Maine. The internet has also brought a number of applicants from throughout the country. In the meantime, Ed Harriman is staying on through the fall. Ed is supported by an excellent staff: Tom Nelson (Farm & Land Manager), Jesse Babonis (Tom's assistant), Lynne Smith (acting Cook and House Manager), and Don Parker (Boatman).
- The Trustees have not met since the last edition of THE THOROUGHFARE so some of the same issues remain on



**New Dormers on the Farmhouse**

the docket to be reviewed during the annual Trustees meeting at the Island: (1) nominations/elections committee findings on current trustee selection and election system, (2) policy on visiting groups, (3) review of the Long Range Plan, (4) discuss our mission regarding charitable contributions, (5) update on aquaculture application (6) review natural resources mission.

- We are looking for more participation on the Natural Resources Committee. It provides an extremely important role in the mission of the Island and its surroundings. It is a forward-looking group that works tirelessly on the conservation of the archipelago and through its close work with EMCI, the region. Anyone with a naturalist bent who would like participate in reviewing annual projects, etc. please contact the Natural Resources Chair, George Herrick (202.337.1799).

We wish you all a great fall and look forward to seeing you at the Annual Meeting on November 24<sup>th</sup> in Brookline.

*Cheers,*

*Ari Gregg and Chris Cutler (CO-CHAIRMEN)*

## Flotsam

- The New York Yacht Club cancelled it's August visit to island waters because of fog and lack of wind.
- Deciding not to wait any longer Olga Isolabella Gregg (nickname: Leyla) took matters into her own hands and arrived two weeks early on September 19th at 9:30. She weighed 7lbs. 2ozs., and was 21 inches long. A little girl was a complete surprise to all!!! Mother and daughter are doing well.
- On Saturday, June 8th, 2002, Jesse Donaldson and Katherine Smith were married in the grove on Roque Island, eight years after they were freshmen together at Carnegie Mellon. This occasion was definitely deja vu for those of us who were present at the wedding of Jesse's parents, John and Jennifer Donaldson, in the same grove on May 6th, 1974. The weather cooperated and the wedding day was celebrated in brilliant sunshine. Apple blossoms and lilacs perfumed the air, family friends played wonderful music on the cello, guitar and flute, the guests sang "Tis a gift to be Simple" and the kites flew in chorus. The bride was radiant in a dress she both designed and made, the groom hammered and cast their wedding rings. Katherine's family came in from California, Michigan and Oregon and contributed so much to the festivities including the Roque initiation of digging, washing and shucking clams. All of the feasts were Island based, crowned by the gingerbread wedding cake, festooned with apple sauce, whipped cream and apple blossoms. To quote the groom, "my perspective is that our plan for a wonderful time with loved ones and a short and sweet ceremony worked brilliantly".
- On September 28, 2002 Hilary Gardner married David McDonald of Atlanta, GA. The wedding took place at the summer home of her grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. George P. Gardner, in Pride's Crossing, MA. Among family in attendance were her cousins Tatiana Papanicolaou as Maid of Honor, Alexandra Papanicolaou and Tatiana Smith as Bridesmaids; Gus Gardner, the Bride's brother, was one of the Groomsmen, while her little cousin, Earl Smith had the ceremonial task of bearing the ring. The couple will reside in New York City.




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### "Haste to the Wedding"

Jesse and Katherine Donaldson's marriage at Roque this summer turned out to be a "serendipitous" and "joyful" event which echoed the marriage of Jennifer and John Donaldson in the same spot decades earlier.

Also by coincidence, the same piece of Celtic music played at the conclusion of the ceremony was that played at the conclusion of Jennifer's and John's.

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## THE LIBRARY CORNER

### *Shore Birds*

Allen, Arthur A., The Golden Plover and Other Birds, (1939)

Bodsworth, Fred, Last of the Curlews, (1995)

Dick, John Henry, A Gathering of Shore Birds, (1960)

Elliot, Daniel Giraud, North American Shore Birds, (1895)

Hale, W.G., Waders, (1980)

Hall, Henry Marion, A Gathering of Shorebirds, (1960)

Harrington, Brian, The Flight of the Red Knot, (1996)

Hayman, Peter *et al.*, Shorebirds, (1986)

Hoskins, Eric, Waders, (1983)

Matthiessen, Peter, The Shorebirds of North America, (1969)

Sanger, Margerie Bartlett, Checkerback's Journey. The Migration of the Ruddy Turnstone, (1969)

Stanford, J.K., The Awl - Birds, 1949

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## From The Archives

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**M**ore from our stern ancestor, Samuel P. Gardner, to buck us up for our return to more serious pursuits. The passage below is from a letter to his son John Lowell on his return to Harvard College in September 1819:

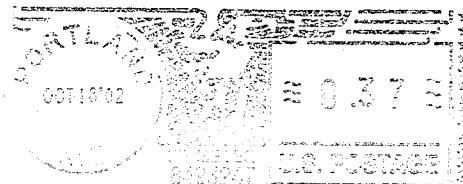
"I shall now endeavor to repeat the advice which I gave you a few days since... The industrious man has by far the easiest lot in life for even his labours afford him pleasure, but the idle man is distracted by every effort he is obliged to make. The labours of life are not hard where people have energy enough to encounter them - but they are almost intolerable to those who give way to their slothful feelings... Next to idleness I would caution you against wasting your time in trifling pursuits, such as reading books of mere amusements... fortunately you have no taste for music or painting, or I should enter my caveat against them."

There are also strict admonitions on the subjects of gambling, tobacco, alcohol, and the "society of the vicious, the idle and the vulgar". We have spared you some of the sermon...

*-The editors*

## The Thoroughfare

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**Deadline for next issue: January 17, 2003.  
Please contact Nina Herrick with any questions or ideas for  
contributions.**