

THOROUGHFARE

THOROUGHFARE, FALL 2012

CHAIRMAN'S NOTES

I always look forward to the October Trustees' meeting on Roque. It is a beautiful time of year, and the island is bathed in a different light providing yet another array of spectacular colors that are not offered in the high season. It is also a wonderful opportunity for the Trustees to spend quality time together and intently focus on the issues. This year, our agenda was full and covered a broad range of topics. While I will spare you the details, allow me to stimulate you with our observations and decisions.

This past season was a resounding success with more people visiting and wanting to stay longer. From all reports, the Membership thoroughly enjoyed themselves and were well catered to by the staff. It seems as if the high season is getting longer with more Members desirous of extended vacations. While this is great news, it results in occupancy pressure and additional demands on Bruce and the staff. To accommodate the Membership and based on the FAMHOC (Family Housing Ad Hoc Committee) survey results, the Trustees authorized the Committee to enter the design phase, develop a financial model and amend the Master Site Plan to allow for additional family housing.

The increase in demand has posed a challenge to our Manager and staff. It is important to realize what a tremendous job they have done with limited resources, due to the extreme budgetary constraints over the past several years. While Jay and Stephanie have productively completed their first year, it is with great disappointment to have received Doug and Amy's resignation. We wish them all the best in their new endeavors, and have made it clear that we

want to maintain contact and help them to the extent we can. Bruce has hired a new couple, Matt Johnson and Addie Powers. The Trustees have requested job descriptions for all positions be written. Formal review processes for all employees will also be introduced. It is the Trustee's intention to provide an avenue of communication with the entire staff by having a limited and constructive role in everyone's review process.

Given the increased projects needing attention and the obvious requirement for additional resources, the Board has authorized an increase in part time/off island assistance. The primary focus of the contracted help will be on properly supervised construction, house cleaning and painting projects. All these requirements are time consuming and demand immediate and constant work. Some of the recently completed projects include the new Maintenance Shed, Shorey Cove dock pilings, Patton's Cove restoration, barn painting and the chimney work on the Mansion House. I am relieved to

report that the water leak (1500 gal/day) was located and fixed after many meaningful repairs along the way. We dug up the water lines from the cistern to the barn!

All the visitors, projects and staff changes have not thwarted Bruce, Molly and Tanya from assuring that we stay on budget. Understanding that there is still time before we close out the year, I can report that



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Attention Facebookers!

We have created a private Facebook Group. All activity in this group is only visible to group members. If you are on Facebook and would like to be part of the group please "friend" RIGHC Thoroughfare and request to be added to the group.



CHAIRMAN NOTES (CONTINUED)

we are under budget YTD. Hopefully, with an improving economy/markets, we will have additional funds to help finance the necessary resources to meet the anticipated increased demands. Many thanks to John Higgins, Bruce and FINCOM for the work completed on Roque's change in tax status from Tree Growth to Farmland. While Roque and Marsh qualify for the new status, the remaining islands in the archipelago remain in Tree Growth. Until additional changes occur for the out islands, we need to remain compliant under our Forestry Management Plan. We will be required to resubmit a Plan in 2014, when the present one expires. The Trustees agreed it was important to continue to execute our forestry plan and authorized an inquiry to pursue harvesting on Great Spruce (as had been previously identified). Of course, any action will depend on final Trustee approval and lumber market conditions. It is important to remind you that proper management of our natural resources is an integral part of Roque's Mission Statement.

To assist us adhere to the principles inherent in our Mission Statement, the Trustees agreed to add a Farm Advisor to our Outside Board which includes a Naturalist, Forester and Energy Czar. The Farm Advisor will work with our Farmer, Farm Committee, LRP Committee and EMCI to identify a long term rationalization for the Farm. Now that the Farm drives our tax status, it is critical that we rethink the vision of its operation. Ironically, it seems that the Farm has come full circle from being questioned as to its viability to being vital to the economics of our operation.

Next year is an election year and the Trustees are committed to identifying candidates who are ready and willing to serve. Numerous Members have already come forward to join up as a full Trustee or Trustee Observer. I encourage all of you to consider giving a small amount of your time and talent to help Roque thrive. Please contact Randy Mikes and/or respond to the coming correspondence re the impending election. Nick Higgins, Georgia Reath and Tanya Fischer are stepping down due to term limits. Needless to say, that is a lot of firepower that needs to be replaced. I think we can probably convince Tanya to stay on as Comptroller or else we will really be in a pickle. She is responsible for the day-to-day accounting of Roque's operations, and does a terrific job; one that is overwhelming and thankless.

We have made great strides in Conservation and Community Outreach. We are a prominent force in Maine's Tidal Power Initiative (MTPI). Roque was well represented at the most recent MTPI conference in Lubec (see article in this issue) led by our friend, Mick Peteresen, Engineering Head at Univ. of Maine Machias (UMM). Roque will be part of a coalition including the Chewonki Foundation, UMM and the Passamaquoddy Tribe to secure additional grant funding for MTPI. We also look forward to closer ties to Chewonki, which may send supervised students to work on Roque. Roque joined the Machias Bay Chamber of Commerce, though which we may have access to a more attractive group health plan for our employees. Bud Warren, founder of the Tide Mill Institute, made a fascinating presentation to the Trustees about Roque's mill dam in Paradise Cove. Apparently, it is one of the oldest and longest mill dams in the state! He also identified an engineer who could assist in its revitalization, if we were interested. George Herrick and EMCI continue to reach out to prominent authorities who are well qualified and wish to align themselves with Roque to pursue mutual interests. UMM and EMCI are planning a lecture at UMM in Roque's name. Solar power is up and running on Roque supplying the island with 12% of its total requirement. This has contributed to a 33% decline in our electricity cost. Tier 4 financing has enabled us to double our output. While we have purchased another array of panels, they are not yet operational. We expect them to be on line by next spring at the latest. This should result in having solar power contribute to a quarter of the island's electrical needs. I remind you that we are still short sponsorship funding for the next array. Please consider sponsoring a, or another, panel! If so moved, call Tanya Fischer and let her know. Anna Demeo's (College of Atlantic professor) monitor and control work continues on Roque. This November she will add the waterfront, Mansion House and Old Farmstead to the grid. The system she has developed exclusively for Roque has been funded with grant money, and now serves as the model for the Passamaquoddy Tribe and others who will install similar systems on a grander scale (a successful example of how Roque can serve as a small site laboratory for alternative energy technical R&D). Anna's system allows us to monitor precisely which utilities are drawing what amount of electricity at any time of the day. This is a very helpful and basic means to understanding how and where we can conserve power on Roque.

Finally, the the 2015 Committee and the Island Store are our initial forays into finding ways for the Island to contribute to its own cost. We are still working on 2015 initiatives. The Cruising Club of America will be visiting in August, 2013. In turn, they will make a significant contribution to EMCI.

I want to thank Bruce, the staff, the Trustees and all of you for your support. Roque is a very special place with a long fascinating history. With your continued involvement and participation, Roque's future will be bright. The demands and challenges are great, but I am confident that we will persevere and succeed in the necessary and appropriate stewardship of this property. Think differently, become immersed and act now!

Cheers,

Randy G



10 YEARS ON ROQUE—AN INTERVIEW WITH BRUCE AND SELENA

10 years have passed since Bruce and Selena Patterson first stepped onto Roque Island. On a beautiful evening in August, the Thoroughfare sat down on the Farmhouse porch to reflect on their first 10 years. Here is what was said:

Thoroughfare (TFARE): Gilligan's Island, Survivor, or Lost? Which television show best describes Roque on your arrival.

Bruce Patterson (BP): Gilligan's Island to start, Survivor, then...what was the last one? Lost? I do not know that one. We are now onto another show.

Selena Patterson (SP): I have not heard of Survivor or Lost.

TFARE: Remind us all where you were prior to coming to Roque:

BP: We were on another family owned island named Wassaw Island. Wassaw was a 2,000 acre island off of the coast of Savannah. Different than Roque, there were 2 guest seasons and those seasons were much longer. They had a similar membership (80 Members) and very similar sized physical plant. They did not have a farm however.

TFARE: How did you find out about Roque?

BP: We were up in Maine in July and rented a house on the Saint George River. We drove up from Georgia and one evening we were sitting down watching the sun set and Selena said to me: "We are moving to Maine". We went back home, I did a quick search for island manager jobs and Roque popped up. "Should I tell Selena or not?" was my first initial thought. 10 years later, here we are, sitting on the farmhouse porch talking about the first 10 years.



TFARE: Describe your first day?

SP: We arrived in January (laughs). There was no plow and the island was covered in snow. We had to carry everything up to the Manager's house by hand [from the entrance of the Garden]. The water line had just burst in the house so the water was turned off. We had to carry buckets of water to operate toilets and to cook. We wanted to come in the winter to get to know the staff for as long as possible before the family arrived.

TFARE: What are the three biggest changes that you have seen over the past 10 years?

BP: From the family's stand point: consistency. Whether or not it is the same people on island (and there won't always be the same people) the goal is to keep the same atmosphere. Staffing the island with couples and places for couples to live is the biggest change I see.

If I were to list the three biggest changes I would say:

- Consistency [of experience/state of island]
- Housing for the Staff
- A step towards alternative energy.

TFARE: Prior to arriving on Roque, did you have familiarity with alternative energy?

BP: Yes. The other island was off the grid, they were powered by generators and battery packs. Houses were not allowed microwaves, electric coffee pots, hairdryers, electric heaters, and there was one washer and dryer for all houses.

TFARE: Have you ever looked back and regret your decision to come here?

BP and SP: No. (in unison)

TFARE: Describe your favorite times on island?

BP: Spring is exciting, so much to get done. Starting the first of July, family season starts and it gets busy in a different way. But if I had to pick—probably the winter.

SP: Winter. The colors are beautiful. Sometimes [Shorey cove] is iced over—just beautiful

TFARE: Describe a typical day?

BP: Have a plan for your day, start that day at 6am and expect that to change. I always like to be sure that there is staff cohesion, and to be sure off island staff is doing what they are supposed to be doing.

TFARE: Worst part of your job and best part of your job?

10 YEARS ON ROQUE (CONT.)

BP: Best thing about being out here? Watching the kids grow up. It's the kids who were five year olds when we arrived who are now fifteen, it's the fifteen year olds who are now members and coming into the Red House. That is just fascinating just watching the transformation.

SP: The kids are without a doubt the best part. So many kids have been born since we have been here and watching the others grow up.

TFARE: What do you miss most about the mainland?

BP: Conveniences and as we age: proximity to healthcare.

SP: Eating out, food delivery

TFARE: What do you miss least?

BP: People, traffic. Noise. It is nice that we have a house in Brewer so we can get off island. When we are there, we can go to movies, go out for dinner, have dinner delivered! And then we get to get away from it all and come back here. We have always been drawn to remote locations and we love the remoteness of islands.

TFARE: Where did you two meet?

BP: Tampa

TF: When?

BP: Long time ago

TF: What were you doing?

BP: Managing a restaurant and Selena was a waitress

SP: He hired me in 1981 and we were married in 1984

BP: I would never go back to that business

SP: We have worked together for the majority of our married life

TFARE: Many people say that working with your spouse is difficult, why do you think it has worked so well for the two of you?

BP: We understand each other, and we share the same opinion of right and wrong. We see things together.

SP: We also both know how to give each other space.

TFARE: Describe what you have greatest pride about for Roque?

BP: Consistency--bringing consistency to the island. The family now knows what to expect when they come here.

TFARE: Biggest issue that you have had to deal with?

BP: Staffing-providing private housing to retain staff. When I was interviewing for this job, I said that private housing for the staff is a priority. Communal living is not as accepted as it was in the 70s and 80s. People need their space.

TFARE: Lobster, lamb or Lola: what is your favorite Roque meal?

BP: Lobster

SP: Yeah I would say Lobster too.

(Phone rings)

BP: "It's Bruce. Ok, I will be right there" [it is a call from one of the houses requiring assistance with a propane tank]

TFARE: Last question, describe to me your guilty pleasures?

BP: Reading, writing, poker.

SP: I would say reading. I read much more in the winter as there is more time. But reading is definitely my guilty pleasure.

TFARE: Favorite book?

BP: The Hobbit Trilogy. It got me hooked on reading.

SP: A Woman of Substance

With that, we say our goodbyes and as the sun sets on a perfect August night Bruce walks down the hill from the farmhouse to attend to (perhaps) his last duty of the day.



ART OF ROQUE

by *Carter and Peggy Bacon (grateful visitors of Lyn and Randy Goodhue July 2012)*

George Willem Opdenhoff (1807 - 1873) did one thing well: he could paint the Dutch maritime scene. When we entered the beautiful dining room in the farmhouse on Roque Island, Opdenhoff's stunning oil painting at the end of the room grabbed our attention. The painting glows, displaying a breezy, foamy, sunny afternoon, and evoking the well being and security of Dutch society in the mid 19th century.

In the foreground, sightseers aboard an overcrowded *jacht* gape in awe at the painting's main element: a warship under full sail firing a salute as two other Dutch Navy ships approach on the opposite tack. The cannon smoke against the blue summer sky announces that Holland's well-ordered Establishment has matters under control.

But it's just a show. The three military ships with their colorful flags, perfect paint, billowing sails, expert crews and antique weapons have little to do with Holland's prosperity or safety. Their main function is to prop up Dutch commercial interests in the Pacific, half a world away, where the only military opponents are relatively primitive and disorganized Indonesian forces. For European navies, the age of sail is ending.

The arbiter of mid-century Europe can be discerned on the horizon. Emerging from the haze appear the anonymous, somewhat sinister, silhouettes of two steam-powered warships. Only one European power deployed such assets: Britain's Royal Navy. A single broadside from one of these big boys could take out an 18th century style Dutch frigate neat and handy. But such unpleasantness was not required.



Holland's *burghers* might live in the happy belief that their navy, with a history as glorious as England's, guards their prosperous, cosmopolitan world. The wealth of the East Indies might continue to flow into Dutch coffers, and the pretty ships might continue to parade and fire their guns to delight and subdue the people. But for the time being, industrial Britain, and her new ally, France, will decide the things that matter in the Netherlands, without so much as an angry telegram passing between London and Amsterdam. It is the grey presence on the horizon that is really taking the salute from the Dutch Navy.

Mr. Peabody would have hastened to acknowledge that the sources of our peace and of our bounty are not always readily apparent. Opdenhoff's painting is an elegant, gentle reminder.

Ed. note: There is an abundance of interesting artwork on Roque. We love these stories. Please think of us when you are admiring the artwork as the story behind the art is often as interesting as the art itself.

FROM THE LIBRARY

By *George Herrick*

As related by his son George, Joseph Peabody's ship Ranger was attacked by piratical refugees on 5 July 1782 near the mouth of the Potomac River.

My father had no time to clothe himself and he rushed forward in his linen, calling to the crew to seize the boarding pikes. He grasped one himself and with a man named Kent sprang to the bows where they had a fierce encounter with several of the pirates already on the gunwale. The crew had now armed themselves and a desperate conflict took place in the midst of which another boat hove up and began a heavy fire on the other quarter. The 1st mate being employed at the magazine, the command of the deck devolved on my Father, who wearing a white shirt was a distinct mark for a musket in the darkness of night...Perceiving the advantage they had obtained the crew now rushed with their whole force to the other boat, my Father cheering them and crying out "We have sunk one, my boys, now sink the other." The cheers of the crew so alarmed the assailants in the second boat that they dropped astern after a short struggle and both were soon lost in the darkness...From information received afterwards, the refugees had 15 men killed and 38 wounded.

Published in Captain Joseph Peabody by Walter Muir Whitehill (1962)

CONSERVATIONAL THINKING—TIDAL POWER

By Randy Goodhue

Last month I represented the Roque Island Gardner Homestead Corporation (RIGHC) on the "Small Site" panel at the Maine Tidal Power Initiative (MTPI) <http://umaine.edu/mtpi/> in Lubec, ME. MTPI is a cross-disciplinary coalition of institutions focused on the responsible development of tidal power. The collaborators, led by our friend, Mick Peterson, Head of the Dept. of Energy at the University of Maine (he spoke at a past RIGHC's Trustee Meeting on Roque) include other Univ. of Maine departments, specifically Marine Science and Oceanography. The Maine Maritime Academy (MMA) - Marine Engineering and Waterfront Facility, the Tidal Energy Demonstration/Evaluation Center (TEDEC) - Field Test Site, the Ocean Renewable Power Company (ORPC) and Maine Blue Stream round out the collaboration team. The research areas cover resource assessment, environmental assessment, human dimensions, engineering; turbine design and foundations and disciplinary connections. Regulators including the US Coast Guard, Maine Dept. of Environmental Protection, Maine Dept. of Marine Resources, NOAA and Washington County's Congressman Michaud's office were also present. All in all, it was an impressive group and to have RIGHC play a prominent role within the MTPI is very exciting.

After the technical presentations, which concentrated on the research areas, the conference broke out into panels addressing business, regulation and "Small Sites". Dot Kelly of the Pleasant Cove Homeowners was our "Small Site" moderator. Joining me on the "Small Site" panel were Tom Twist of the Chewonki Foundation, Johanna Szillery from SW Cole, Rick Armstrong representing TEDEC/MMA and Matt Lewis of the Passamaquoddy Tribe.

When I entered the Cobscook Community Learning Center to attend the all day session, I was encouraged to see the results of Roque's Monitoring and Control Research that Anna Demeo (College of the Atlantic)

<http://www.umaine.edu/graduate/community/students-spotlight/interdisciplinary-phd-student-1> (Read about Roque Research)

has done prominently displayed for all to see. While most of the conference focused on the recent success of the Cobscook Bay/Eastport project, a successful installation/operation of the first tidal power turbine in the US, there was great interest in the scalability of the tidal power initiative. A critical component of such an effort is how to bring this technology to "Small Sites" like RIGHC. I explained that Roque does not have much to offer in the form of resources. However, where we lack in technical prowess or financial support, we more than make up in our willingness to serve as a laboratory/test site to advance the tidal power initiative. We also offer our keen enthusiasm and interest in serving as a spokesperson in support of the initiative and an active member of the coalition. Not surprisingly, many participants knew of Roque Island; however, I was encouraged as to the significant appreciation and level of support of our involvement. Specifically, the Monitoring and Control Research done on Roque by Anna (refer to picture with poster and app) was highlighted and praised. This critical technology that was developed on Roque will be ramped up on a larger scale and used by the Passamaquoddy Tribe in their tidal power project at Pleasant Bay.

The MTPI was originally funded with a \$5 million grant from the Dept. of Energy (DOE). As this money runs out, Mick is anxious to secure another grant in order to continue the Initiative's good work. He believes that a formation of a coalition of interested and socio/politically correct representatives would be most effective and have the best chance of success in obtaining additional funds for further "Small Site" research. His vision of the optimal coalition includes the Univ. of Maine, The Chewonki Foundation, Roque Island Gardner Homestead Corporation and The Passamaquoddy Tribe. In his mind, this would be a powerful force and could help with the securing of an additional grant to continue this very exciting and important initiative. I am thrilled that RIGHC has been asked to be involved in this initiative/coalition. RIGHC's involvement will be extremely beneficial to Roque's Membership in numerous ways. It is also a fantastic mechanism through which we can give back and be involved in Maine's cutting edge tidal power technology and research.

Roque Island Monitoring and Control

Figure 1: Circuit Load Energy Data
This research began in 2010 with a grant from Maine Space Grant Consortium (MSGC) to develop and model a smart grid on Roque Island. Roque is a family owned island located off of Jonesport, Maine. The island hosts a year round farm with a variety of livestock, three year round homes and three summer homes. The original beta hardware for the project was assembled in Hancock Maine by Elliott Manufacturing. This system, known as Grideye, was installed and tested on Roque Island as well as at a school, a community building and the US Coast Guard station in Southwest Harbor, Maine.

Figure 2: Smart Energy Monitoring System
For the second iteration of the monitoring system (2011), we partnered with Sarant Systems LLC of Cape Cod Massachusetts to leverage their software expertise. The new systems were installed on Roque in the spring of 2012. The next phase of the project will be to implement the control component which will enable loads to be turned on and off based on the availability of renewable energy at any given time.

Figure 3: Roque Island from the Water

Figure 4: Chart of Roque Island

Figure 5: Solar Array on Barn at Roque

Figure 6: Roque Table of Energy Monitoring System

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Circuit column	Real power	Total production	Total consumption	Power usage	Energy capacity	Power usage	Power usage	Power usage	Control status
10000	10000	10000	10000	10000	10000	10000	10000	10000	10000

Figure 7: Monitor loads and renewable energy sources then control loads to match available power when possible.

References: Elliott Manufacturing: www.elliott.com
Sarant Systems, LLC: www.sarant.com

Anna Demeo
University of Maine
College of the Atlantic

INVASIVE SEAWEED CREEPING UP MAINE COAST

By Craig Idlebrook

This summer, divers discovered invasive red seaweed in the waters off of Cape Elizabeth. The Asian seaweed, *Heterosiphonia japonica*, has been making its way up the coast since establishing itself in Rhode Island around 2009, and it has been causing problems for lobstermen and beachgoers along the way. There is concern among scientists that the invasive species could push out native seaweed and damage eelgrass nurseries along the coast.

Divers connected with Northeastern University's Marine Science Center in Massachusetts discovered the red seaweed in Maine waters, said Matt Bracken, a marine biology professor with the university. Though the seaweed had previously been spotted near Maine's southern border, the discovery that it had leapt northward still came as a surprise.

"We had thought that originally we wouldn't find it north of Cape Ann" in Massachusetts, he said.

The seaweed had only come to Massachusetts in the last two years, but it has quickly established itself. A *Boston Globe* story reported that the washed-up seaweed has caused havoc for beach communities north of Boston. It lets off a noxious odor as it decays, officials said. Lobstermen also have reported finding traps clogged with the stuff after storms.

But the larger problem may be how successful the seaweed is at out-competing native species, Bracken said. In some areas, the seaweed has accounted for some 90 percent of biomass. With a natural aquatic range of just below the tideline to a depth of 30 feet, it grows on top of native seaweed and oysters, pushing out native species and clogging their ability to filter the water and clean the ecosystem. It also lodges itself in eelgrass, which is a vital nursery habitat for lobster and many groundfish, Bracken said.

So far, scientists haven't discovered a way to control the seaweed, and natural checks and balances aren't working, he said. Aquatic herbivores, so far, don't want to eat the seaweed. Sea urchins might have aided in beating the seaweed back, Bracken speculated, but their population in the Gulf of Maine is in trouble. Eventually, a species may adapt and begin to control the seaweed, but Bracken and his team is also exploring ways to dislodge the seaweed when it is at its weakest.

"It's plentiful in some times and in some cases," Bracken said. "It goes through boom and bust cycles."

The spread is a concern for Maine's seaweed harvesters, said Shep Erhart, founder of Maine Coast Sea Vegetables. The initial reports of the seaweed's reach seem to indicate that it could affect some of the native seaweed varieties harvested by Maine businesses, while leaving others alone, he said. The seaweed industry is already grappling with the apparent effects of climate change on native seaweed, and this adds another stress, he said.

"This is definitely a threat to the species that are natural," Erhart said.

The seaweed found on the East Coast is actually cloned from the invasive seaweed in Europe, said Craig Schneider, a biology professor at Trinity College in Connecticut. Schneider was the first to discover that the species had landed in the U.S. A taxonomist, he came across the seaweed while walking on the beach in Rhode Island. While it is hard for a layman to tell the difference between this seaweed and others, Schneider noticed a batch of seaweed that looked slightly different than the rest. He took a lab sample and found that it was an exact genetic match for the seaweed in Europe, as the invasive plant reproduces copies of itself asexually. Knowing what had happened in Europe when the seaweed landed there and noting how the seaweed was well established on the outer Rhode Island beach, he knew it needed to be labeled an invasive species right away.

"It was already successful," Schneider said. "It was already here, had been here for years."

An invasive species along the coastline can be much more difficult to control than an inland invasive, Schneider said. Introducing a biological agent to control it can have unintended consequences for the rest of the fragile shoreline ecosystem, and the sheer quantity of coastline makes any control efforts difficult.

"How do you treat something in fairly shallow waters?" Schneider asked. "It's overwhelming."



The above article is reprinted from the Working Waterfront Nov. 14, 2012 issue

ROQUE JOINS THE MACHIAS BAY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

Machias Bay Chamber-Commerce (MBCC) in Machias, ME is a private company categorized under Chambers of Commerce. The records show it was established in 2002 and incorporated in Maine.

Vision

MBCC is a highly involved and respected Chamber of Commerce dedicated to building strong relationships throughout our community.

Mission

The Machias Bay Area Chamber of Commerce's mission is to provide leadership for a healthy and vibrant business environment and to encourage responsible economic growth which respects Washington County's quality of life.

Historic Machias, Maine

Machias was settled in 1763 and is rich in history. Machias is an Indian name meaning "bad little falls". These falls still run furiously today and can be viewed from the park at the bottom of college hill just as you go over the bridge into downtown.

Machias was the site of the First Naval Battle of the American Revolutionary War. Further information on the city's role in the battle is at the Burnham Tavern Museum. The [Margaretta Days Festival](#) celebrates this role in history each June.

Commerce began in the Machias Bay area with the logging, shipbuilding, and fishing industries. Many ship captains' homes have been restored and there are other homes awaiting the special talents of those who relocate to our area.

Known as the "Blueberry Capital of the World", Machias is home to the annual Machias Maine [Wild Blueberry Festival](#). Each August the streets of downtown come alive with delicious food, art, crafts, and entertainment for the whole family.

Sights and Experiences to Treasure

Picturesque harbors dotted with fishing boats, meandering rivers, historic sites pre-dating the Revolutionary War, and bustling classic New England towns create an unforgettable experience for travelers who long to find the traditional Maine way of life.

Your ideal vacation may be a round of golf with an ocean view, a summer crafts festival, shopping for treasures, hiking, swimming, fishing, or just sitting back and relaxing in a quiet place.

Splendid fall foliage and moderate temperatures make the Machias Bay Area an exceptional destination for autumn excursions. Winter brings out the adventurous for cross-country skiing, ice fishing, and snowmobiling.

The University of Maine at Machias offers ornithology workshops, art galleries, and many cultural programs. Other art galleries, theater groups, and special restaurants provide diversion and glimpses of fine local talent.

Convenient day trips can be made to Bar Harbor, Acadia National Park, Campobello Island, Lubec, and West Quoddy Head State Park, where the famous candy cane striped lighthouse is the first place in America to see the sun rise.

Points of Interest

- ◆ Roque Bluffs State Park - Roque Bluffs
- ◆ Jasper Beach - Machiasport
- ◆ Fort O'Brien, Gates and Cooper Houses - Machiasport
- ◆ Burham Tavern Museum - Machias
- ◆ Machias Seal Island (puffin tours) - US/Canada Campobello Island - N.B., Canada
- ◆ West Quoddy Head Lighthouse - Lubec O'Brien Cemetery - Machias
- ◆ Ruggles House - Columbia Falls Downeast Heritage Museum - Calais
- ◆ Machias By Petroglyphs - Machiasport
- ◆ Bad Little Falls - Machias
- ◆ University of Maine Labyrinths - Machias
- ◆ Little river Lighthouse - Cutler Harbor
- ◆ "Old Sow" Whirlpool - Eastport

SOUNDS OF NATURE

By George G. Herrick

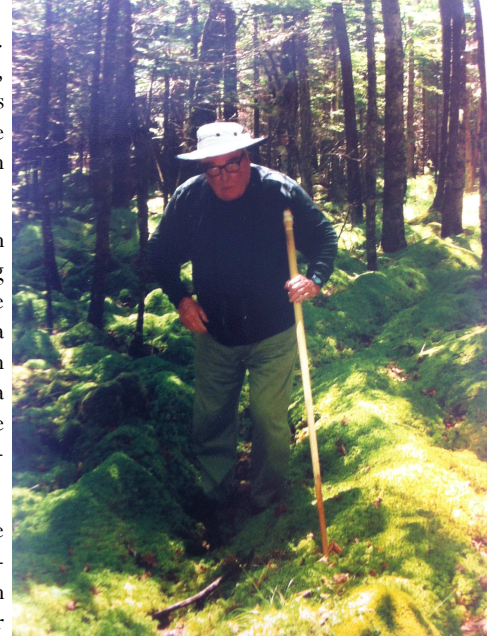
Learning to listen to the sounds of Nature on Roque, and to understand them, can be a joy. One's surroundings have a constant nonbiological signature. Animals hoot, bleat, growl, howl, squawk, whistle and croak, as we know so well. But nature itself is full of noise for us to appreciate. The sonic narrative of nature is full of significant messages; natural sounds are the voices of an ecosystem. All of these sounds are transmitted as waves coursing through the air.

Ocean water makes a cheerful noise as it slaps against the dock. Waves land on Great Beach with a soporific sound we remember from our youth. At Devil's Chasm the incoming waves surge and slosh throwing high the spray. On Little Spruce winter storms lash the waves against the unprotected shore with a roar and rumble. At Bonney Point a "thunderhole" makes an exciting loud noise. Receding waves draining from a pebbly beach give us a sound like shirr. Rain makes a sharpish sound on dry leaves and on pools of water a plopping plop. After a rainstorm our little creeks and the spillover from Mill Pond ripple with a happy gurgling sound. And let us not forget that extraordinary creak of ice that shivers its way across the Mill Pond in winter.

In the forest trees fall down with a crash. The beech trees behind the farm swish and rustle with a wind of fifteen knots or more. Tall trees seem to let out a groaning lament or sometimes a high-pitched squeak when bending under a strong wind. In winter when clad with ice they emit cracking sounds. Their branches snap and swish and strike each other. Their pinecones fall to the forest floor. These sounds are contained in a hilly area but disperse more widely in a flat one. A dry forest may be relatively quiet whereas a wet one lends more reverberation to the habitat. And sounds seem to travel further at night in the woods. Yet there are times also when the "silence" of a forest has an attraction all its own; le silence des grands fôrets of the romantics. Some creatures fall silent when they sense danger, others put out some noise to warn others. Although they are not natural noises, you can hear woodpeckers tapping and wood boring insects chewing on rotten trees.

On the sandy beaches scuffing your feet will produce a singing sound. After the tide has receded bubbles make a sound as they come up through the sand. The wind, of course, makes many sounds: it whispers, whines and whirs; it howls and groans and crashes. And there are mighty claps of thunder, too.

Learning to listen as we walk around Roque will enhance our experience. Landscape is in a sense dynamic: it is alive with sound; it responds to the texture of rock and soil and trees; it is shaped by the elements of weather. Moving through a landscape can be an active experience and a journey of discovery.



REFLECTIONS ON THE SEASON

By Stephanie Gardner

As the wind blows out of the Northeast and our daylight hours have shortened, we sit and reflect our first year on Roque. Before coming to Roque, Jay and I made our living preserving and promoting the education of the "lost arts". The moment we visited this beautiful homestead we knew in our hearts that Roque Island with its natural beauty and preserved past would be the right fit. Last winter's lack of snow made it possible for Jay and I to access many of the island trails admiring the beauty at every turn, never tiring of the breathtaking sunrises and sunsets. As we became more and more familiar with our everyday routine, the days quickly passed into weeks. The farmhouse table began filling up with off island help, entertaining us with many stories and fantastic "down east" humor. While Jays focus was on getting houses ready and the mechanical operations of the island, my focus was making butter and familiarizing myself with the upcoming summer routine.

As the families began to arrive, Roque Island came to life. It was a joy to see everyone's love for Roque. Jay and I felt welcomed with each new family arrival. Some of our fondest summer memories will include kids making ice cream, lobsters on the beach, fairy houses, kite flying and evenings on the farmhouse porch, chocolate covered macadamia nuts (you know who you are), and personal recommendations on readings of Roque Island History. Thank you all and we look forward to another year on ROQUE .

p.s. The cider making day produced ten gallons of very tart, down east cider fondly named "Cider With A Bite". Thanks again to all who helped with the cranking.

RIGHC 2012 PHOTO CONTEST



"Spider web" by Macauley Mikes



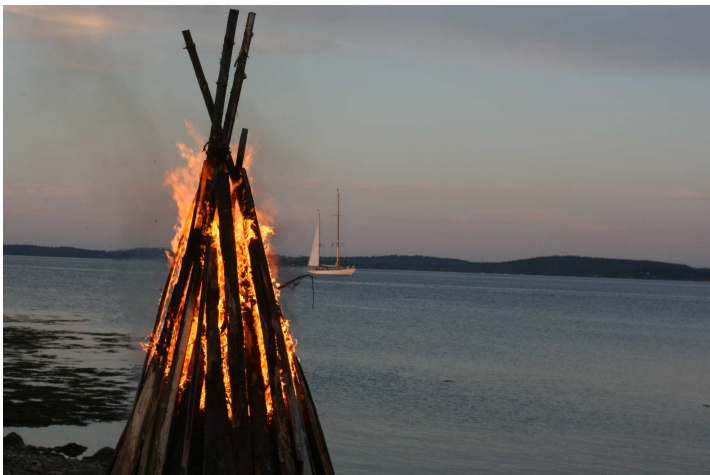
Fish Eye Series Alicia Monks

RIGHC 2012 PHOTO CONTEST



Rose Dana "Pulpit Rock"

Rose Dana "Rainbow over Anguilla"



Rose Dana "Bonfire"

RIGHC 2012 PHOTO CONTEST

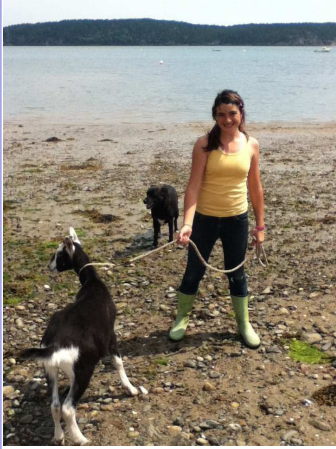


THIS SERIES OF PHOTOS IS A COMBINATION OF SUBMISSIONS FROM GEORGIA REATH AND BOB MONKS. BOTH WERE ON ISLAND AT THE SAME TIME AND TOOK NOTICE OF THIS IMPRESSIVE FRONT. PHOTOGRAPHS WERE TAKEN AT ALMOST THE EXACT TIME YET FROM DIFFERENT LOCATIONS ON ISLAND. PHOTO CREDITS CLOCKWISE(G.REATH, G. REATH, BOB MONKS)



A SUMMER TO LAST A LIFETIME

by Heather E Monks



This past summer while being a fifteen year old I had the opportunity to spend 24 straight days on Roque Island . It was such a unique and amazing experience! I have a Very strong passion for the farm on Roque, and want someday to work as the Farm Intern on Roque Island. At home I ride horses nearly every day, so being with the animals and working with the horses on island is very natural to me.

This summer I was with my dad, Bryan Monks, for six days in the Red House. My Aunt Sandy, (Monks Garson) had invited me to stay with her while her family were in the Monks house a few weeks after my dad had left. Well there was about a ten day period between their stays, and my Dad had simply asked the question to Bruce if I could stay on Roque for that time. Having spent some time with the Farm House crew over the years on our annual visits and as one of the few family members who have gotten up early for morning chores, I thought what a great opportunity to learn and love the farm even more. Amazingly enough, it worked out! Thank you Bruce, I truly appreciate it!!

Soon enough we had our own little farm crew, including Amy, Bo, Audrey and myself. We all worked really hard, and got along famously. My time would not have been as pleasurable without these amazing people.

And what great time we all had together. Well to just give you an idea of a few things I did: Swam with Horses, herded sheep bareback, slaughtered chickens, helped out with chores every day, led pony rides, caught my first fish, fell in love with a goat, got pinched by a lobster, jumped into the ocean almost every day, worked in the garden, baked beet brownies, 3 minute brownies, cinnamon brownies, double chocolate brownies, blondies, (I like brownies) many bareback trail rides, help train a puppy, lived the relaxed life, talked about the meaning of life and our purpose on Earth, had a belly dancing party, help transport guests baggage, collected bird feathers, moved 50 gallons of water to the pigs every day, many parties on the beach, walked the goat, talked and talked and talked... Essentially I did ALOT! Upon our departure many, many tears were shed. I miss it even more now that I'm back into the school life.

I truly wish that at some point I will be able to work on Roque Island, and continue to learn, have great experiences, and wonderful memories; but first and foremost I wish to be a helping hand to whatever and whoever needs it. Someday I wish to enjoy the island even more because of my 24 days on Roque from which I learned so much; and yet there is so much more to understand and learn.

As a future member of Roque Island I believe it is so important to know and understand what it takes to make Roque Island run and how to preserve it the way it always has been. We must ensure the true essence of our wonderful gift for many generations to come.



AS A REMINDER, ALL INTERESTED PARTIES CAN APPLY FOR WORK AS A FARM INTERN. PLEASE VISIT ROQUEISLAND.COM FOR FURTHER INFORMATION AND TO FIND THE APPLICATION.

FLOTSAM

Births

Ava Melania Popkave Gonzalez b. Nov. 8, 2011

Rose Mae Dana b. June 19th, 2012

Phoebe Brier Reath b. July 11, 2012

Milestones

Kitty Montalban – 30 on 1/12

Alex Higgins – 25 on 1/15

Alexander Gardner – 25 on 12/3



Ava's First Trip to Roque



Rose M Dana



Phoebe Reath

IN MEMORIAM

GEORGE PEABODY GARDNER



George Peabody. George Peabody Gardner, formerly of Brookline and Prides Crossing, Massachusetts, passed away at his home in Palm Beach, Florida on May 9th. Mr. Gardner was born in Newton, MA in 1917. Son of George Peabody Gardner and Rose Grosvenor Gardner, he was one of six children. George attended the Park School in Brookline, MA, and continued his preparatory studies at the St. Marks's School in Southborough, MA. Mr. Gardner then went on to Harvard College and graduated in 1939. In 1940, George enlisted in the U.S. Navy and served for six years during WWII where he served aboard the USS Louisville and the USS Quincy. Mr. Gardner was honorably discharged in 1946 as a Lieutenant Commander. He worked in the Advertising Department at the Boston Herald, and the Batten Barton Durstine, and Osborn Advertising Agency. In 1952 he began work at Paine Webber, Jackson, and Curtis and became a general partner in 1955. He also joined the policy committee. He was a director of Arthur D. Little, Kaiman Aircraft Corporation, Barry Controls, Inc., The Wright Line, Inc., Macalaster Scientific Corporation, Instron, Lestoil, W.R. Grace, Oxbow Corp., Stanley Home Products, Inc., and a chairman of United Fruit. Co. and the Wang Center of Boston. George P. Gardner was a Trustee of the Boston Museum of Science, where he was also the President for three years from 1954-59 and was remembered for climbing the Ruth Glacier of Mt McKinley in Alaska with Brad Washburn.

He joined the MIT Corporation's Board of Trustees in 1959, became a life member 1963-1992, was elected to the executive committee 1965-1967, and in 1979 was awarded the "Founding Life Sustaining Fellow" by MIT. Mr. Gardner was also a trustee of the JFK Library, the Institute of Defense Analyses, the World Peace Foundation, the St. Mark's School, and Children's Hospital Medical Center, Boston, and an honorary trustee of The Humane Society of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts. Additionally, he helped to build a multidominational Chapel for the Escuela Agricola Pan Americana Zamorano in Tegucigalpa, Honduras. He became a trustee of Zamorano and remained a critical member of the board for 50 years. At his 55th Harvard Reunion he said, "I can only confirm that the best thing that ever happened to me was a chance meeting 47 years ago at a Ballet performance at the Teatro de Bellas Artes in Mexico City where I met a remarkable young lady, Tatiana Stepanova, a Prima Ballerina for the Ballet Russe, whom I married and who gave me a very close family and a wonderful life." He was predeceased by his beloved son G. Peabody Gardner Jr. and his wife of 63 years, Tatiana Stepanova Gardner. George leaves behind his two daughters, Alexandra and Tatiana, his daughter-in-law, Susan, his one son-in-law, seven grandchildren and six great grandchildren. NYTIMES May 27, 2012

DELORES AMOR MONKS

It is also with great sadness that we share the news that Dolores Amor Monks ("Lola") has passed away November 17th, 2012. Lola was married to George G. Monks, Jr. for 54 years. She is the mother of G. Gardner, Charles, Maria & Alicia Monks. All of her family were with her – as they have been since her diagnoses a year ago.

NEW THIS SEASON!

Roque Centerpieces for the Table or the Mantelpiece

These have been especially commissioned and will be hand made of local materials by Kate Watts (of Dave and Kate). There are two versions and each comes in two sizes.

“Traditional” incorporates balsam fir, white pine, cedar, berries, pine cones and ribbon.



Small: 18"x 18" x 6" \$80



Large: 27"x 16"x 6" \$100

“Coastal” incorporates balsam fir, white pine, cedar, alder branches and mussel shells.



Small: 18"x 18" x 6" \$80



Large: 27"x 16"x 6" \$100

First available ship date is **November 19**.

Last order date **December 14**.

Last ship date **December 17**.

Prices include postage. Billing will be done by R.I.G.H.C.

Kate Watts' contact information: E-mail (preferred) foaoim@myfairpoint.net

Telephone: 207 255-3538 Call if need expedited shipping (at an increased charge).

Address: 147 Schoppee Pt. Rd., Roque Bluffs, ME 04654

The Thoroughfare

C/O RIGHC

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Electronic submissions whenever
possible please!

Deadline is May 15th.