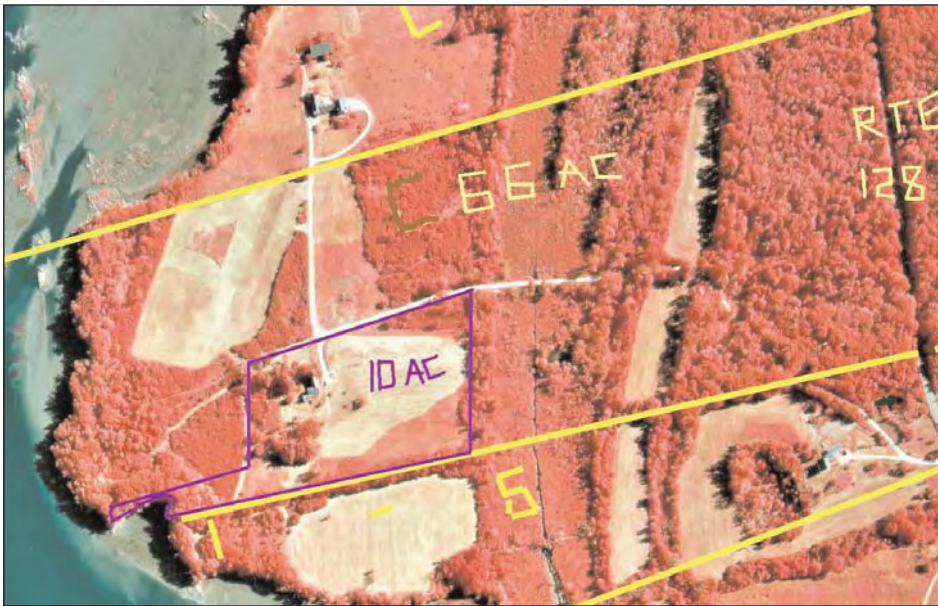


Historic Thwings Point Conservation Property For Sale in Woolwich



Thwings Point Aerial: FOMB

This is probably the most historic property on Merrymeeting Bay and one that Friends of Merrymeeting Bay [FOMB] along with The Nature Conservancy [TNC] worked over a year to protect. It is now owned by TNC. On this site once stood Thomas Ashley's home where Plymouth Colony interests brought many of the Kennebec settlers together on 15 May, 1652 to form the first civil government for the region. It is also the site of Hutchinson's house during the Cork period, ca.1719-1722. Archaeologically/historically it is one of the most important properties in Maine.

The entire parcel is 76 acres and in an area where most of the surrounding properties are protected or in the process of becoming so. The 1850's twin chimney Cape sits on a hill overlooking the Kennebec River. Open fields, large kitchen and dining room with built-ins, wood floors and a Post and Beam ell for future expansion. Set on 10 acres with over 200 ft. of water frontage. Property can not be subdivided.

The conservation plan is to re-sell the house and 10 acres subject to a conservation easement held by FOMB.

The Maine Department of Inland Fisheries & Wildlife plans to purchase the rest of the property in large part to protect bald eagle habitat however purchase of the entire parcel by a private buyer is not totally out of the question. In this second scenario the conservation easement would cover the entire 76 acres and would still not permit subdivision.

The sooner we can make the sale, the sooner conservation assets tied up here can go to work protecting other valuable habitat in the area. Price is \$695K. Please pass this message on to anyone you feel might be interested.

While TNC did list the property with a broker [at reduced commission], we are happy to show it as well and have many more photos available. The broker does have a complete packet on the property. There is a 60' x 20' vented concrete "root cellar" dug into a hill on the property. It's worth it for this alone!!

For more information please contact:

Ed Friedman at 666-3372 or edfomb@gwi.net or Andrea Galuza at 725-8505x1111 or ww.galuzahomes.com

Friends of Merrymeeting Bay 2005 Accomplishments

Media

Print: Approximately 20 articles: Archaeology, Education, DEP Enforcement, Caged Mussels, Land Conservation, Atlantic Salmon Endangered Species Petition, Fish Restoration, American Eel kills, Circulation Study, Outings, Sludge, Androscoggin

Television: Local Cable: Merrymeeting Bay

Volunteers

Minimum 452 volunteer days
138 volunteers

Membership

329 members [43 new members this year]
Speaker Series - 282 people
Outside 2005
[Paddle Series & Walks - 127 people]
Newsletters - 4

Funds Leveraged

\$1,530,000 [land acquisition]

Grants

\$10,000 [staff], \$9,000 [Current Study], \$7,100 [Caged Mussels]

Outreach Presentations

Androscoggin Source to the Sea Trek [20 people]
Calendar Displays, Multi-Town Club Day, Eastern Mt. Sports, Augusta

Education

Two Bay Days [232 students]
Hall-Dale on the Bay [80 students]
Mid-Coast Senior College Kennebec Course-[30 students]
School Visits-15 [382 students]
Critter Visits-17 [250 students]
Web site updates-extensive additions to Cybrary & Friends of Merrymeeting Bay links

Conservation and Stewardship

Total Protected - 116 acres, 6,700' of shoreline

From the Chair: Passages in 2005

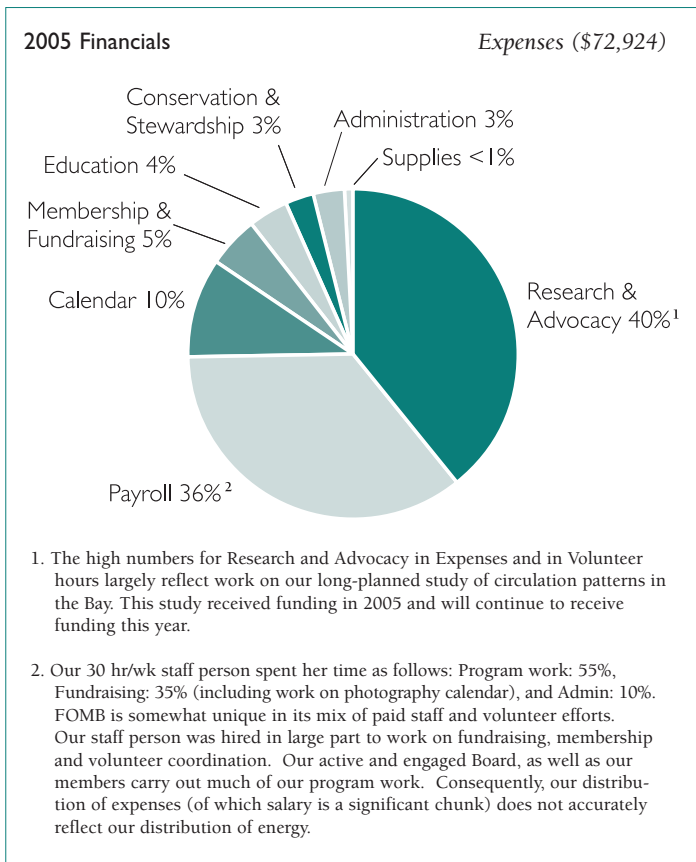
2005 has brought more than its share of mindful passages to FOMB. From the program work standpoint the year was our busiest thus far. Our long-planned Current Study began, using drifting buoys to better understand circulation patterns in the Bay and tributaries. This large project joined follow-up caged mussel work on endocrine disruptors from pulp mill wastewater, an archaeology dig, expanded water quality monitoring, a successful series of summer outings and winter speakers, school outreach visits, ongoing land conservation accomplishments, and continued advocacy work on American eel, Atlantic salmon and Brunswick sludge issues.

An incredible amount of volunteer effort enables our accomplishments. This year 138 individuals put in over 3600 hours of work in support of our goals. FOMB's school programs reached over 700 students, both young and old. Our land conservation efforts protected an additional 116 acres and 6700 feet of waterfront around the Bay. Innovative and transferable research efforts like the Current Study and endocrine disrupter projects continue. We are working on animated visualizations of our drifter buoys while awaiting tissue analyses of caged mussels from our partners at the St. Lawrence Center of Environment Canada.

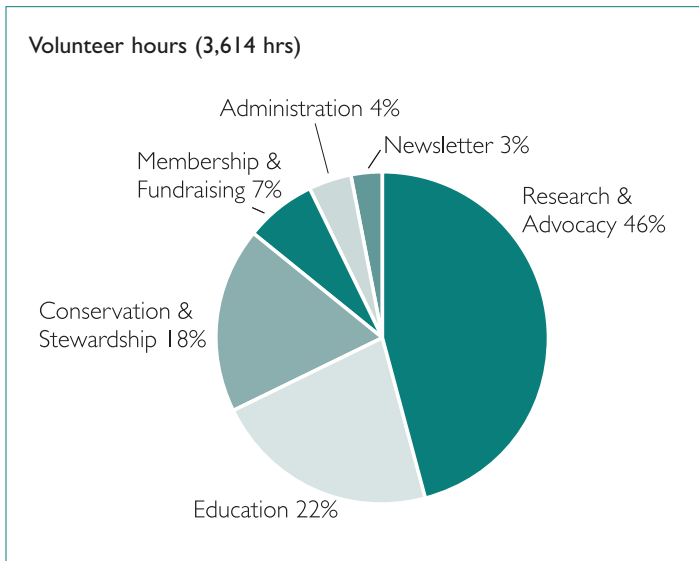
carver Ed Gamble of Brunswick, USFWS Special Agent Tommy Cloherty and of course beloved local artist Bryce Muir, all of whom contributed over the years in various ways, died in 2005 and early 2006. Tommy, working on the front lines of federal fish and wildlife law enforcement, and Bryce, probing the cutting edges of art, music, writing and observation, passed away prematurely but doing what they loved. They leave behind legacies of passion, commitment and accomplishments from which we all can learn, and serve to remind us of how we, as individuals can, and need to, in these trying times, make a difference. They also remind us that we all skate on thin ice. On behalf of all the Friends my heart goes out to the families of these four.

Passing from the banks of the Abbagadasset River to the town of Brunswick this past year was someone sometimes referred to as the Ambassador of Merrymeeting Bay. Very much alive but struggling with the aftermath of some small strokes, a couple of falls, the onset of Alzheimer's and mostly bad hearing aids, is Linwood Rideout. It's difficult to think of Merrymeeting Bay and not think of Linwood. Lin is very engaged and would love your visit or your mail.

Finally, denied upstream and downstream passage around most hydro-electric dams in the state, American eels continue to be slaughtered by the thousands as they seek to migrate on their only spawning opportunity and find the way blocked by spinning turbine blades of steel. Complicit in the continued trend towards extinction of this amazing species are the state and federal natural resource agencies who have the power to provide safe passage but who refuse so far to do so. The Department of Environmental Protection continues to deserve its other moniker, Department of Economic Protection, as it moves on from holding secret meetings with pulp mills to catering to the needs of the hydro industry while actively working against the [in this case fish] species it should be protecting.

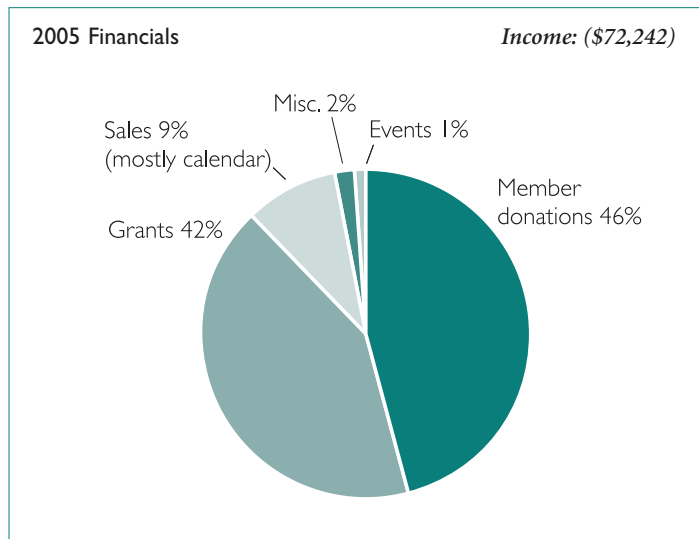


Good friends and some long-time supporters had their final passage this year. Richard Schager of Dresden & Ohio, bird



While the various state agencies [DEP, DMR, and IF&W] are culpable in not fulfilling their obligations, it is direction from the Governor's office that probably is in large part to blame. With a simple call from the Governor to enforce the law of the land these agencies would go ahead and do the right thing. Appropriate leadership is lacking here in the environmental field as in many other areas including creative sustainable economic development, health care and tax reform. Too often forgotten, and sometimes purposefully segregated [divide and conquer], it is our obligation to remember that like the six rivers of the Bay and most ecosystems, our different societal areas are integrally connected as well. We cannot have substantive action, passage, or lack thereof, in one area without affecting the others. Thank you for your continued support.

Respectfully Submitted,
Ed Friedman 2/14/06



2005 Accomplishments *continued from page 3*

Acquisitions [with The Nature Conservancy & Maine Wetlands Protection Coalition]
Leyman/Detweiler - 40 acres, 2500' Abbagadasset R. shoreline, in Bowdoinham
Thwings Pt. Farm- 76 acres, 1600' Kennebec R., 2,600' inland wetland in Woolwich

Stewardship — All easements monitored

Research

Completed & released final report on Sediment Study
Umberhind/Leyman-Detweiler-LMF Archaeological Dig with MHPC
Completed first phases of Circulation Study
Completed field portion of Caged Mussel Endocrine Disrupter Study
American Eel organochlorine & trace metal assay completed
Assisted MDIF&W with bald eagle breeding surveys

Documented willfully ignored excessive uranium radiation on Highlands Property

Water Quality Monitoring – 17 Standard & 4 Fecal Coliform sites

Advocacy (postings, letters, testimony, etc)

- Channel Speed Limit Signs
- Merrymeeting Bay Wildlife Sanctuary Signs
- Land for Maine's Future Bond
- American Eel Protection-Endangered Species Act Comments, BEP Petition
- Kennebec Atlantic Salmon-filed Endangered Species Act Petition
- Dioxin Monitoring Program/Surface Water Ambient Toxics Program
- Fish Consumption Advisories
- Gulf Island Pond
- Kennebec Gravel Mining
- Utah Wilderness Coalition
- Center for Environmental Health & Justice
- Anadromous Fish Re-stocking
- Confiscation of Public Lands
- Brunswick Aquifer Protection Zone-Sludge Spreading
- Androscoggin Upgrade
- Land Conservation Donor Tax Changes-US Senate & House
- Arctic National Wildlife Refuge
- Shoreland Zoning
- Tax Reform/Revenue Generation

Primary Partners

- The Nature Conservancy
- Bowdoin College Environmental Studies
- Department of Environmental Protection
- Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife
- US Fish and Wildlife Service
- Maine Natural Areas Program
- Department of Marine Resources
- Friends of Casco Bay
- Maine Toxics Action Coalition
- Applied Biomonitoring
- Maine Rivers
- Maine Historic Preservation Commission
- Environment Canada
- Maine Coast Heritage Trust
- Maine Wetlands Protection Coalition
- Patagonia Outlet, Freeport
- Grand View Neighborhood Group
- Land Trust Alliance
- Maine ECO
- Androscoggin Alliance
- Friends of Kennebec Salmon
- Maine Maritime Museum
- Mid-Coast Senior College
- Brunswick Pesticide Watch
- Toxics Action Center
- Maine Rural Water Association
- SAD 75