

\$6.00

Chebeague Island Annual Newsletter 1999



Chebeague Island Annual Newsletter 1999



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Chebeague Island Historical Society

Table of Contents

Cover:

This year, the *Chebeague Island Annual Newsletter* features our new recreation center.

So much is happening on Chebeague now with the Island Commons, the upcoming resolution of our transportation dilemma, the Historical Society's renovation of the old schoolhouse, and so much more, it is very difficult to select a single theme. Our selection is certainly not to the exclusion of anything else that is happening on the Island.

However, it is clear that not only has the Chebeague Recreation Center been a major community undertaking over the past six or seven years but, now that it is built, the CRC is providing new resources to all of Chebeague's residents and visitors and is serving the community well.

Related articles about the CRC, its history and programs may be found in this *Newsletter* on Pages 42 and 46.



Foreword	1
Brown-Tail Moths	2
Casco Bay Island Development Association	3
Casco Bay Island Transit District	5
Chebeague Care Resource	7
Chebeague Inn	9
Chebeague Island Council	12
Chebeague Island Grange #576	13
Chebeague Island Hall	16
Chebeague Island Historical Society	20
Chebeague Island Library	22
Chebeague Island School	26
Chebeague Island Yacht Club	35
Chebeague Piecemakers	38
Chebeague Post Office	40
Chebeague Recreation Center	42
Chebeague Recreation Center History	46

Foreword

Again the Chebeague Island Historical Society is gathering and publishing the *Annual Newsletter* of Chebeague Island. The success of this effort depends on the cooperation and assistance of spokespersons of the many Island organizations who have contributed the reports contained here. We wish to thank them for making this publication possible.

Copies of the *Annual Newsletter* are available from the Historical Society by mail, as well as from many retail outlets on the Island and at the Library. A limited number of last year's edition are also available from the Society and can be sent by U.S. Mail along with the current edition for a total cost of \$10.

The 1998 and 1999 *Newsletters* may also be obtained by visiting the *Chebeague Island Annual Newsletter's* website at <http://home.maine.rr.com/chebeague/newsletters.html> and following the directions for downloading the PDF format files, which are in *color!*

— The Editors:
David R. Hill
Beverly S. Johnson
L. M. Passano

Chebeague Transportation Company	52
The more things change... ..	55
Cumberland Mainland and Island Trust	57
Cumberland Town Council	60
Text of 7/16/98 MDOT Letter	62
Text of 3/23/99 MDOT Letter	64
Friends of the Library	66
http://www.chebeague.org	68
Island Commons	69
Ladies Aid	70
Great Chebeague Golf Club	71
Great Chebeague Tennis Club	73
Meals-on-Wheels	74
Recompense Foundation	75
Sanford's Pond	76
Stephen Ross Scholarship Fund	77
United Methodist Church	79
Whalers	81
Chebeague Census	83



Brown-Tail Moths

Our second year of aerial spraying is now over and we will all stock less *Benadryl* in 1999. The chemical used this season was slightly different but hopefully no less effective. From all local reports, there were few webs to cut during late winter, and trees defoliated in past years are recovering nicely. There is little doubt that Cumberland's commitment to the spraying program has been a total success. Unless something unforeseen occurs, we are probably seeing the end of the cycle, and will be infected only minimally from now on. However several of the surrounding towns have either turned the program down entirely or used *Dimilin* over a much reduced area due to residents' protests (Their choice, certainly, so ... happy itching!).

Some unfortunates have been plagued with rashes even this spring. Don't forget: Toxic hairs are in brush, leaves and garden, so precautions are still necessary. If you find an area with new larval damage, please let us know in case this needs further treatment. We owe the Cumberland Town Council a vote of thanks for implementing the "moth cure." Granted, we all paid for it, but the general consensus seems to consider it taxes well spent. The Chebeague Island Council is glad to have helped alleviate such a severe health hazard and hopes that any comparable problem is brought to our attention.

— Louise J. Doughty, Brown-Tail Moth Committee

Casco Bay Island Development Association

The Casco Bay Island Development Association used its January steering committee meeting at the Casco Bay Ferry Terminal for a get-together with the people of the islands and the newly elected legislators representing them. The weather was terrible for travel so Chebeaguers were particularly proud to have their Representative Terry McKenney and Senator Carol Kontos (with the farthest to come) joining Senator Ann Rand, Representative (and House Speaker) Steve Rowe and Representative Ben Dudley, the new Portland representative. After coffee and chat President Virginia Fisher, Great Diamond, introduced the legislators and gave them a brief summary of island life and concerns, such as schools, transportation, brown-tail moths and housing for the elderly. The island people - about 25 in all - joined in with details of their concerns and solutions. Chebeague had another moment of glory as Jean Dyer was able to describe Island Commons, already in operation, while other islands are still in the discussion mode. The legislators were helpful in answering questions and offering to get information they did not have at hand. They thanked CBIDA for arranging the meeting and said how helpful they find such meetings.

CBIDA arranges these affairs after each legislative election.

Those attending received sheets answering the question: What has CBIDA done? with a list of accomplishments and activities over its more than 30 year existence, from the long history of Project Oceanside on Peaks Island culminating in the formation of Oceanside Conservation Trust, the seven year battle for responsible development of Fort McKinley on Great Diamond as a precedent to prevent over-development on other islands, to lobbying the Congressional delegation to support Casco Bay lobstermen against the whale restrictions, sending a letter to Commissioner John Melrose requesting his support for the Chebeague Island landing and parking problems on Cousins Island, and another letter to DMR supporting Chebeague

lobstermen's concerns over the placement of a mussel raft off Bangs Island.

Casco Bay Island Development Association has just completed its 1999 edition of the boaters' pamphlet which will be available at our boatyard and our library. As a bay-wide civic association the CBIDA urges membership from all the islands; the larger the membership the louder the lobbying voice in protecting the islands.

Dues of \$7 for individuals or \$10 for couples may be sent to Ruth Mistark, Cliff Island ME 04019. The steering committee with representatives from all the islands invites the public to attend meetings on the first Saturdays at the Casco Bay Ferry Terminal in Portland.

For more information contact Jean Dyer or Marjorie Rice.

— Jean Dyer



Casco Bay Island Transit District

During the past year, demand for Casco Bay Lines freight, passenger and charter services has grown steadily. The addition of the *M/V Bay Mist* to the fleet in 1998 helped to meet demand and is a welcome replacement for the *Quickwater*, which had proven to be too small to meet rapidly growing demand for regular route service.

Unfortunately, CBL's tour and charter operations (that work to balance the shortfall in CBL's operating budget from regular route operations) were challenged by private tour operators in Casco Bay soon after the arrival of the *M/V Bay Mist*. The Old Port Mariner Fleet ("OPMF") brought a challenge to the Public Utilities Commission ("PUC") alleging that CBL did not charge enough for tour and charter services. While CBL was successful in defending its rate structure through the PUC process, this defense cost close to \$100,000 and the OPMF is now appealing the PUC's ruling to the Maine State Supreme Court. Consequently, the tour and charter revenues have yet to realize their full potential contribution to the CBL revenue stream.

In the spring of 1999, the Department of Transportation announced a 1.2 million dollar redesign and reconstruction of the wharf at Chandlers Cove on Chebeague. This fulfills the Department's commitment to rebuild all of the State piers in Casco Bay. The new pier at Chandlers Cove will be designed similarly to the new facility at Long Island, but will be a timber pier instead of concrete and steel. This project will mean that all of the State piers in Casco Bay will be newly designed and improve access to the islands in general and freight handling in particular.

An initiative to examine how best to move freight in the 21st century is underway coupled with an examination of whether the *Island Holiday* might be refitted to better meet the ever increasing demands that freight handling places on CBL operations. Freight handling is often the cause of delays (especially during the busy summer months) that cause customer dissatisfaction with service. This is primarily a problem with the service to the down-bay islands due to the

volume of freight and the inability to move freight with roll-on/roll-off systems. These factors (coupled with the fact that the down-bay run is essentially a loop serving five islands in which a delay at the first can cause a chain reaction that is almost impossible to stop once begun) has sparked an effort to re-examine how CBL moves freight and how its fleet should be designed to overcome the freight related problems. Moving freight together with passengers is a tremendous savings for customers, but timely service is also a top priority for CBL. There may be increased cost for achieving timely passenger service, but maintaining a timely schedule may also be a priority for which passengers are willing to pay.

— Jim Phipps, Director



Chebeague Care Resource



Island Commons

CCR developed this adult family care home with public and private funds to offer assisted living for those who can no longer comfortably or safely live in their own homes. After the generous donation of a house, we raised over \$350,000 for rehab and the addition of a residential wing.

Island Commons was licensed and opened in December 1998. Cheryl and Darren Hillicoss are Resident Managers. They and employees Angela Weagle and Diane Leon address residents' personal, medical and housing needs with competence and compassion.

Island Commons is unique: It is the first adult family care home on an island; it is the first to be operated by a non-profit corporation (with fundraising opportunities to assure a debt-free operation); it is the first to be developed around local concerns; it is the first to be funded in great part by families, friends and neighbors of future residents; \$75,000 was raised to start an endowment to assure affordability for qualifying residents; volunteers will play a daily part. We are, indeed, proud. And we thank you for your part in our success.

Note: See in addition the independent annual report from *Island Commons* on Page 69.

Senior Lunch

CCR's monthly lunch program has grown by leaps. This year we served an average of 26 meals to attendees each month; an additional 5-6 monthly meals were delivered into the community and 5-7 volunteers joined in each lunch. June Scamman and Jean Whitaker shared the planning and preparation. Mabel Doughty, the silent partner, often cooked, planned shopped, served and washed dishes. We thank these dedicated women for their hours and talents.

Donations accepted at each meal were spent on the next month's major food shopping and needed supplies. The Ladies Aid generously donated space at the Parish House for the lunches. We thank them as well.

Programs such as this just cannot happen without volunteers. Over 40 people contributed food, door prizes,

transportation, entertainment and hours of set-up and clean-up work. Many folks worked on several lunches, some performing several chores. Thank you all.

Community Workshops

These informative sessions have taken a back seat to the above activities this year. CCR will reinstate the program with a workshop on Alzheimer's Disease this coming July.

Library and Health Resource Information

CCR's large collection of health and long term care information will soon be more visible, to be located in *Island Commons*. During the past year, 13 families requested materials on topics such as Alzheimer's care, assisted living options, thyroid dysfunction, housing shelters, nutrition, home care, equipment rental, emergency response systems, mainland volunteer transportation and heart disease. CCR is a first stop resource for health related questions.

— Pommy Hatfield



Chebeague Inn



Greetings. What an exciting year this promises to be.

First of all, we've just completed our first decade of ownership and are eagerly anticipating our next 10 years. This would not have been possible without the support of our many friends and neighbors on Chebeague. We can't thank you enough.

Second, this begins the grand old hotel's 74th year. Yes....for all you old timers...she has stood on the hill and welcomed visitors from around the world since opening on July 4, 1925 and when we close this fall she will have served us all well for 74 great years. We salute the "Crown Jewel of Casco Bay" and prepare for her Diamond Jubilee year.

Third, we are experiencing déjà vu this year. When we opened in 1989 we were blessed with dedicated employees, including Rick Earle and Gary Beauchamp. Ten years later they have returned. Rick and Laurel (Lestan) as Resident Innkeepers and Gary as Managing Director. Doug DiNoia will also be back on a limited basis. Dick and Jan, despite numerous retirements are still representing the Bowden family and shall we say, making suggestions. We can't forget Jane Abrahamson, our stalwart all around employee of the decade. Some of the group that you remembered from last year will be returning.

We do have a new policy in the dining room this year.

Children under 8, accompanied by an adult, will have a special menu and will eat free, yes free, every night all season. We are also eliminating “last call” in the bar. We hope that this will eliminate binge drinking at closing time. We want you all to enjoy the Bounty Pub. We still need to respect the peace and quiet of our overnight guests.

In closing, we'd like to share a portion of a letter written by a Chebeague student for a contest entry entitled “Who has the Biggest Heart?” We are letting the author remain anonymous but we are just too proud to pass this by without sharing part of it with our friends.

“Who has the world's biggest heart? Well for me, that's a fairly easy question. This person may not be looked highly upon by all people, but the people who know him and his personality would agree with me for sure. He has a personality different from anyone I have ever known, a personality I could never forget.

“This person is Gary Beauchamp. I've known Gary since I was a child, but never really got to know him until this past summer. Now that I know him, I will never forget him. Many people dislike him but only because he is gay and has AIDS. He is 39 years old and has had AIDS for ten years. He is an amazing person that words can't express, he would do anything for anyone and would never let anyone down with any intention. As sick as he is, he spends his summers on Chebeague Island, Maine as the manager of the one and only hotel on Chebeague Island, called the Chebeague Island Inn. He is always busy, and always helping someone else, that he hardly has any time to rest.

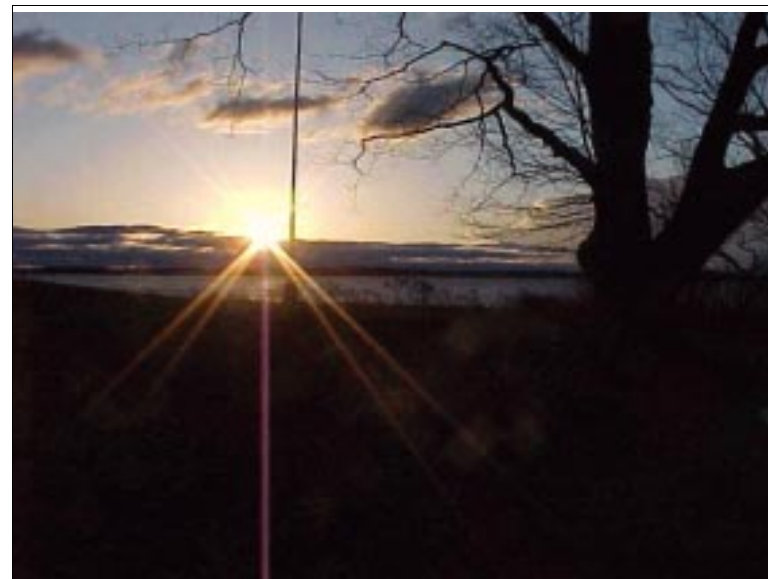
“Gary has not only affected the lives of most everyone who knows him, but also my friends and family, including myself as well. Just by knowing him, I have a whole different outlook on life. I have learned to accept people, whether they are black, overweight, gay, or have a disease, such as AIDS, etc. Chebeague Island is a small community where word spreads quickly. Everyone knows that

he is gay and has AIDS, so most people don't give him a chance. If they gave him just one chance, I'm sure they would feel the same way and could learn something from him. He is a very inspiring person, as well as a smart person. There is no doubt in my mind that he has the ‘WORLD'S BIGGEST HEART!’ “

We salute you Gary.

Thanking you for your continued patronage,

— The Bowden Family



Easter Sunrise, East End Point

Chebeague Island Council

The Chebeague Island Council has had a productive year. We have been able to continue to support the medical facility on the Island, resume our donations, purchase a computer for *Calendar* production, publish a new, revised brochure, sponsor a spectacular Fourth of July celebration, encourage education concerning the Brown-Tail moths and continue our monthly *Calendar* production.

Our Membership Chairman, Cliff Barker, has updated the membership roster. He has organized the mailings.

Gerry Ross, who has tirelessly donated her time to man the Medical Facility, has retired. Joan Robinson has stepped in to fill the position. Gerry's dedication was wonderful and much appreciated! We welcome and thank Joan.

Future plans include going on line for communication and enhancing medical options for the Island.

Officers for 1998-1999:

President	Ester Knight
Vice-President	Ann Belesca
Secretary	Jane Abrahamson
Treasurer	Gail Miller
Three year	Mac Passano, Susie Stavropoulos, Lucy Vaughan
Two year	Nancy Adams, Cliff Barker (Membership Chairman), Louise Doughty
One year	Sam Hunter, Banú KomLosy, Caroline Partlow
Nominating Comm.	Cliff Barker, Sue Burgess (Chairman), Michael Porter, Geoff Summa

— Ester Knight, President

Chebeague Island Grange #576

Everything old is new again.

The following report was found in the Grange archives by Secretary Dianne Calder. It was written by her mother Leah Webber when she was Secretary around 1964:

Highlights of 13 years of the Chebeague Island Grange

Stanley M. Libby, then Principal of Chebeague High School, called a meeting on November 19, 1951 at the High School Building (now the Island Town Garage) to organize a Grange. Thirty four interested people came and by authority of Deputy Littlejohn the obligation of the First Degree was administered to those present. Officers were elected as follows: Master Stanley Libby; Overseer William Hill; Lecturer Ruth Libby; Steward Clyde Bowen; Assistant Steward Larry Bennett; Chaplain Isabelle Mansfield; Treasurer Suzanne Bennett; Secretary Leah Webber; Gatekeeper Richard MacCormack; Ceres Sarah Webber; Pomona Ivy Walker; Flora Gladys Bennett; Lady Assistant Steward Roberta White; Executive Committee members Lewis Ross, Alden Brewer and Waldo Crafts. On November 27th, 62 visiting Grangers came to the Island Hall and conferred the Third and Fourth Degrees on 56 members. The Granges represented were Forest City (Peaks Island), New Gloucester, Presumpscot, Highland Lake, Oak Hill, Cape Elizabeth, Stroudwater, Saccarappa and Bauneg Beg. Forest City Grange presented us with our gavels and staves and Cape Elizabeth gave us our sashes and a Bible. It was a gala evening with over a hundred people in the Hall.

Our next step was to find a meeting place. We asked permission to use the Parish House and it was granted. In 1952 a Juvenile Grange as formed with 18 charter members and Sister Ellen Hamilton was their matron. In 1954 the Grange sponsored a game night once a week under the supervision of Brothers Small and Brewer. The same year Lucy Hill gave us our present Bible and Brother Libby hooked our rug for us. We voted to build a kitchen on to the Parish House. The

materials cost us \$422 and the Grange men did most of the work. In 1955 we got two pitcher pumps and two well points toward putting the water into both the Parish House and the Island Hall. By May 1955 we were in the red to the amount of \$144.

Later in '55, Brother Libby made a new altar and we dedicated it with proper ceremonies. In the same year the Selectmen of the Town rejected our offer of \$500 for the purchase of the former High School building at Central Landing, but in July we reentered our bid and it was accepted. The final payment for it was made in October 1957.

In April of 1955 the Grange was legally incorporated. Two new station tables were made and the next year two dining tables were built. That same year, we put on a Special Supper at Hill Crest Hotel, preceding our meeting, and 205 visiting Grangers attended. We realized \$98.24 for our treasury and that same spring we earned \$160 from our cemetery work. This was our first year to present the Memorial Day program.

In 1956 the Youth Committee originated a game night once a month for the young people, under the direction of Sister Byrle Dyer (O'Neil). That year was a busy one. We worked hard with the committee advertising the Island at the Hartford (Conn.) Show. Do you all remember those hundreds of little fir pillows which we stuffed? We participated in an all-out effort to save our High School and in trying to check the Casco Bay Line's rises in freight and passenger rates. That year we entertained the Falmouth Boy Scout Troop for a dinner.

The next year we started sponsoring the Girl Scout Troop under the leadership of Sister Brewer. We put on a food sale for the benefit of the church treasury and realized \$35.70 from same. In 1960 we purchased our stainless steel table silver and a new 50 star flag for the Grange Hall. We have given hundreds of hours of our time on the various bridge projects, and for several years we participated in the "Toys for Tots" campaign, sending many toys to the Marine Corp for renovations. We have never refused a call for financial help on the Island, and through our efforts three Island boys were able to obtain loans for school from the Educational Aid Fund of the Grange.

No doubt I have missed some of our activities which

should have been mentioned but I am sure that many things that I have written of may have been forgotten by some and that you enjoyed having them recalled to you. I only hope that this Grange - #576 - may be as successful in the next 13 years as it has been in the past 13 years. I am sure that we will all remember many happy times together.

— Leah Webber , Secretary



Leah Webber, a few years after writing the above report

As you can see, not a lot of our activities have changed. We remain dedicated Grangers who are loyal to our community. We'd welcome anyone who shares these ideals.

— Frances L. Calder, Master

Chebeague Island Hall Community Center

This spring we purchased four new tables (not to be rented out), and a new three by five foot commercial type rug for the lobby entrance. With our bingo fund we bought an electric griddle, a stainless steel stock pot, paring knives, four dish pans and a few minor items.

We recently cleaned out the attic, eliminating an overabundance of junk while resurrecting a few forgotten but worth keeping things. The American and State flags are back on the wall - this time with staffs attached.

Last fall, with volunteer help, the back and the east side of the Hall was painted. We are now in the process of doing the front. Then, a flower garden!

For money-raisers, we held several suppers and dances. Presently there is talk of bringing back the Fisherman's Fair; we'll see. Last summer we began selling our third printing of Chebeague bumper stickers. These are a big hit with both Islanders and summer folk.

Bingo starts June 16th. This will be our eighth consecutive year of fun, fellowship and big winnings. Quilting (see also report by Chebeague Piecemakers on Page 38) continues to be held year around with a membership of approximately 15 steady, avid quilters. Another quilt show for this summer is being planned for sometime in August. You don't want to miss this one; it will be spectacular!

Two people have left our Board and we are looking for replacements. Recently Lucy Vaughan had to give up being our janitor. Thank you, Lucy, for a job well done. Anyone interested in filling these positions would be most welcome.

Our rental fees haven't changed much in the past twenty years. They are still \$40, or \$50 if the kitchen is used. One exception: Private dance bands must pay \$75 plus a \$25. returnable deposit, unless, of course, this is to benefit the Hall. Practices, play rehearsals, clinics (inside the Hall) and town affairs are all free of charge. No matter who uses the Hall, they are asked to please leave it in the same condition they found it, and be sure not to leave anything in the fridge.

What do we need? We are in need of extra storage space for our rental items such as tables and chairs. We are anticipating many more suppers, dances and whatever else it takes to build a storage shed of some type. Two other much wanted items are an appropriate sized TV for video shows, and a podium stand for guest speakers. For those interested, our booking secretary Karen Hamilton has obligingly provided us with a complete rundown of events held in the Hall between June 1998 and June 1999, plus the number of times it has been used by each group or individual. This useful data is presented as an attachment to this report (Table 1). The significant role played by the Hall for the Island is self evident. The sustained presence of the Hall and its recent and past successes must be attributed to the entire Island Community. Thank you one and all.

— Sylvia Ross, Secretary



Table 1: Scheduled Hall events from June 1998 to June 1999

CIHCC: Committee meetings	10
dances	2
annual meeting	1
slide show	1
public suppers	3
work - attic cleaning	1
work - painting	4
bingo	13
quilters	21
yoga	156
Whalers - practice	43
- concerts	3
CPA - appreciation night	2
- coffee house	1
Yacht Club meetings	2
CTC meetings	2
C. I. Historical Society meetings	5
Ladies Aid Fair	1
CCR - Fantastic Yard Sale	1
- meeting	1
CRC youth play - performance	2
- rehearsals	7
adult play (Mystery Theater)	4
- rehearsals	3
kid's play - performance	1
- rehearsals	3
adult play (Christmas Pageant)	2
- rehearsals	2
Tap Dancing Rehearsal (for St. Patrick's Dinner)	3
Talent Show	1
Craft Fair (including antique and collectable sale)	3
CBIDA luncheon	1
CBIDA elections	1
Community Immunization Clinic	2
Election Voting, (State or Federal)	3
Fire Department Drill	1

Cumberland Public Hearing (Chandlers Cove)	1
(Marine Resources)	1
Shellfish Commission meeting	1
Food Co-op rental	1
Veterinary Clinic	22
Baby Shower (for Lori Rich)	1
Mary Hayden's Art Exhibit	1
Birthday Party (Kathy MacNeill)	1
Wedding Reception (Debbie and Miguel Tomasini)	1
50th Wedding Anniversary (Bev and Bob Dyer)	1
DARE Graduation	1

Total Number of events: 334



Board of Directors:
Cindy MacNeill,
President; Pat St.
Cyr, Vice President;
Jeanette Hamilton,
Treasurer; Sylvia
Ross, Recording
Secretary; Dianne
Brewer,
Corresponding
Secretary; Karen
Hamilton, Booker;
Jill Hamilton, Julie
Doughty, Ruth

Houghton, Roy Jackson, Darren Hillicoss and Ken Hamilton,
Board Members.

Chebeague Island Historical Society

It has been an exciting year for the Society with the acquisition of the East End School House. The building was named the **Museum of Chebeague History**. It was made “tight to the weather” by contractors Bob Parker and Mike Darling and their crews. They put on a new roof, repaired broken windows, rebuilt parts of the foundation and replaced clapboards. Wayne Dyer put in a septic field and graded the site. Grants were received from USDA, Rural Development and the Recompense Foundation which were used towards this project. Architect Nancy Barbá is drawing up plans for conversion to a museum and archival storage for our collections. A welcoming center and a public accessible rest room will be included in the plans.

At the July membership meeting, Suhail Bisharat, who is currently serving as Advisor for the Preservation of 19th and 20th Century Cairo for the Fulbright Commission, presented a program entitled “Napoleon Invades Egypt.” Based on this successful presentation, Vail Traina and Suhail planned an “insider’s” trip to Egypt in February of '99, as a fund raiser for the Society. Gail Miller made commemorative pins for the group.

In July the Program Committee also offered a cruise on the Islander. Over 50 people enjoyed the trip around Cliff Island with commentary by Roger Berle, and a bag lunch provided by Nancy Chamberlin.

The first edition of “The Sloop’s Log,” a biannual newsletter of the Society, was published in November with the second issue this past May. There was a tremendous, positive, response to our first effort. Some of the articles included were: “The Story Behind the Name” (Sloop’s Log) and “The Way It All Began” by Donna Miller Damon; “Napoleon and the Chebeague 20 Invade Egypt” by Vail Traina; committee reports from Ken Hamilton, Jane Frizzell and Sylvia Ross. Newsletter staff included Dugan Middleton and Jill Malony. Beverly Johnson did an outstanding job putting the newsletter together for publication.

Of course an organization is only as good as its Board and

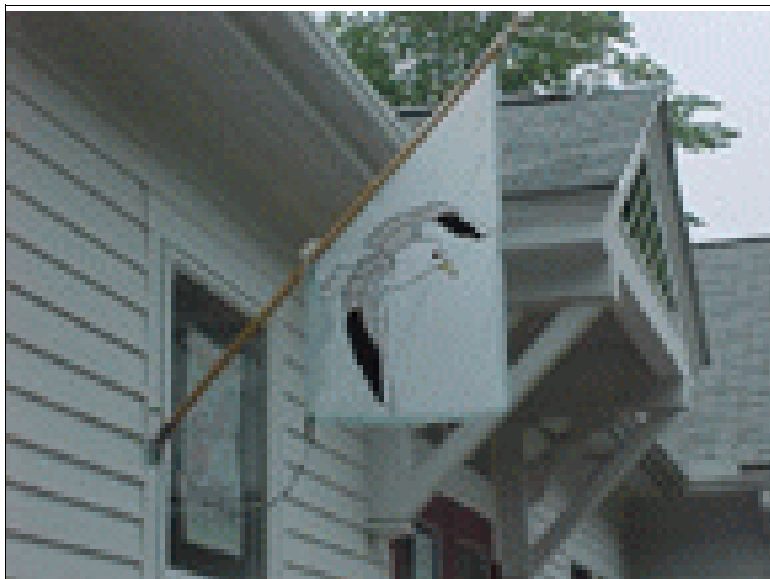
ours was outstanding. Thanks go to: Vice-President Mac Passano, Treasurer Ken Hamilton, Recording Secretary Nancy Sharp, Corresponding Secretary Nancy Chamberlin and Board Members Suhail Bisharat, Richard Bowen, Sue Burgess, Dot Colbeth, Donna Damon, Louise Doughty, Jane Frizzell, Dugan Middleton, Marjorie Munroe, Joan Robinson, Sylvia Ross, Vail Traina and Maggie Vaughan.

— Jill C. Malony, President



Joan Robinson running late for the eight o'clock boat

Chebeague Island Library



1999 will be the ninth in our “new” library. A year to look at all the changes in the collection, how much they are used and what we should be adding, or eliminating, in the years to come. What, if anything, should our future planning be? Meanwhile, here is the report of last year.

Our computerized log shows that 11,355 persons visited our library in 1998 (we assume that there were a few duplications). In circulation figures, 4411 adult books, 4780 children's books plus 4829 combined children's and adult's videos and 2050 periodicals and audio tapes; these all add up to a total circulation of 16,070 items in the 249 days we were open.

The Trustees have been discussing some automation for the circulation system which can be very expensive to initiate and maintain but does have advantages for management. We will be putting out a questionnaire about this in the summer issues of the *Calendar*. PLEASE note and make your wishes, opinions and any experiences you have had in regard to using such a system known to us in this survey. There are definite drawbacks as well as advantages. No communities in Maine serving approximately the same population as we do have



automation at this time. If you want this library to operate just the way it has for the last 30 some year, say so!

We had a wonderful Summer Reading program last year organized and run by Lucy Vaughan with over 50 children participating. The Cobbler's Shop, Island Cuts and Styles, the Rec Center, the Golf Club and Ed's Island Market contributed prize incentives for a 'Round the Island Treasure Hunt ending in a cruise up the bay on the *Marie L.* enjoyed by 11 children who completed the whole reading adventure. Plans are in the works for another program in 1999 and we hope that the response will be as good.

Our Friends group (see report by the Friends of the Library, Page 66) under Beth Howe produced the ever popular and essential biennial *Chebeague Island Directory* in 1998. Copies are still available if you need to replace yours or add another for upstairs or down, here or away. It is a major two year fund raiser that supports library operating expenses. Last minute and subsequent additions and changes have been published in the monthly *Calendar*. Check at the Library for the 1999 Addenda Sheet.



We were pleased to receive funds from the Town, over and above the budget allotment, to allow us to purchase a new computer for public access, Internet use for students, etc.. Rules and regulations for use and sign up sheets for computer time are now in place. We are having some tutoring on it for the Library Staff to enable us to help patrons use it, but we won't be surprised if most summer users are infinitely more experienced than we are. We do enjoy watching the Island Web pages daily and have been pleased and surprised at the success of our "searches."

Tom Bennett from Cumberland's Prince Memorial Library has visited us and we have conferred on ways and means to make the most of each other's collections. A video loan policy has long been in place and we hope to expand into audio tapes and large print books soon. We expect to take advantage of some computer instructions on the Internet at Prince Memorial. Tom is also very interested in cataloging both library's genealogical collections for the benefit of all researchers. We have a new bulletin board at the back carrel for updating genealogical information telling who has computer/print capability that they are willing to share.

We started a new program in the Fall, "Tea and Talk" on

Sunday afternoon once a month with Debbie Bowman as instigator, moderator, etc. We have had from 8 to 12 participants and hope to continue our lively discussions throughout the year. A different author or subject is chosen each month by those present. Watch for dates and come join us.

Trustees:

Al Traina, Chairman
 Beth Howe, Vice
 Chairman
 Dugan Middleton,
 Recording Secretary
 Allyson Smith,
 Corresponding
 Secretary
 Cheryl Stevens, Treasurer
 Bill Armstrong

Nancy Chamberlin
 Donna Damon
 Herb Maine
 Joe Partlow
 Gerry Ross
 Willoughby Sharp
 Will Vaughan
 Jean Whitaker
 Robert White

— Martha O. Hamilton, Librarian



Chebeague Island School

This year the editors have taken the writings from the 3rd - 6th grade's Sunset Trade publication focusing on "What Makes Chebeague Special." They have a way of capturing the flavor of the Island that is difficult to match. Many of the photos in this issue of the Newsletter were taken by the children for their various school publications.

– The Editors

Tyler Putnam, Grade 6

Chebeague Island is diverse in its culture and spirit. People come to the Island and enrich it with new ideas and new ways of doing things.

That is why the Island is so special. It is its own little world in the middle of the ocean, enhanced by outside influence, yet driven by the small community of people who have lived here all their lives.

I, of course, feel attached to the Island, as one would in a town they grew up in. But the Island is different from a town. When you step off that boat you have entered a new realm, full of mystery and enchantment, friendship and sorrow.

A little community, floating in the sea. Attached to, yet detached from, the outside world. That is what makes Chebeague Island so great.

John Summa, Grade 3

What I like about living on the Island is we have a lot of stuff to do, especially in the summer. We can go to the pool and the Rec Center and do a lot of fun programs, and play sports. There are some good places to play on the island. Then there's fishing. People fish either off a boat or off the pier. I don't like that there aren't enough kids on the Island but there aren't too many, either.

It's a really nice place to go swimming or biking. The Island is a good place to explore in the woods. I think it's neat how the Island has so much to do.



Len Bogh, teacher



K - 2nd Grade

Sitting: Megan Munroe, Emma Todd, Amanda Campbell, Caroline Summa, Christy Phipps

Standing: Kathy George, Conrad Birkett, Alyssa Hamilton, Anna Maine, Erik Weagle, Darya Johnson, Arianna Stefanilo, Abigail Bromberg, Hannah Bromberg and Sue Williams

Britny Bernier, Grade 3

Things Around Chebeague Island

Ed's Store: I like to hang out with my brothers and Dustin at the store. Sometimes Ed closes early so we have to go home. There are tasty treats at the store.

Rec Center: I can go into Rec programs and they are fun to do. It's worth spending your money on, if your kids like going to that program.

Beach: What is so cool about beaches is that you can collect stuff and you can make cool things like for instance a craft. This is what is so cool about the beach.

Swimming: Swimming is cool because you can do anything you want to do like back flips and pencil dives and in the shallow end you can do hand stands. It is cool. I like the idea of having a pool on the Island.

Hanging Out with Mom: I like hanging with Mom because we have quiet time and we can watch some movies. It is cool hanging with Mom.



Sue Williams, teacher



3rd - 6th Grade

Sitting: Denis Johnson, Zach Doughty, Mia Taliento, Britny Bernier, Lida Munroe

Standing: Lee Robinson, Christy Bernier, John Summa, Jim Stefanilo, Tyler Putnam, Josh Doughty, George Birkett, Vika Johnson, Katie Phipps, and Len Bogh

Jimmy Stefanilo Grade 5

To me Chebeague Island is special because of all the people who love to come here. There are about 322 people here in the winter and about 2,000 in the summer. When they are here they usually fish, go to the store, and swim at the beach or at the pool.

Another thing that I think is special about Chebeague is that mostly everyone is related in some way. One of the things that related people do is the Huddum picnic party. I especially like the Huddum picnic party because when you go there you're with family. You have a great time there.

The activities that are here are fun also. Most of the activities on the Island are at the Chebeague Recreation Center. I'd say the biggest one is swimming. I like swimming because when I go there most of my friends are there. At the pool you don't just swim. There are swimming lessons, lap swim, and school swim class. To swim in the pool you have to pay



Kathy George, teacher

two dollars to swim each time or buy a pool pass for the summer.

I would recommend coming to this island to anyone.

Denis Johnson, Grade 3

What I think is special about Chebeague are all the places people can go to like the Rec Center. People go to the pool and the store, too! People like to hang out at the store. There's a lot of good food there. The gift shop is special. There's a lot of neat stuff there. The Chebeague Island Cuts and Styles is special, too. When you go there you'll get a good hair cut. There's a little gift shop there.

I think the church is special. People go there to pray. The Islander is special. A lot of people use it to go to the mainland and to go to the Island that has a lot of special places.

Josh Doughty, Grade 3

The thing that makes the Island special is my store and the Rec Center. The store is located at the center of the Island. The library is right next to the store. My grandfather started the store in 1960. We sell produce, milk, bread, and much more. If you are on the Island you can come and mostly get anything you want at my store. What is special to me about my store is that it helps people on this Island. It makes me feel happy that I live right next to the store because when my mom is working I can go out and see her. Some mothers have to go far away to work and some kids don't get to see them. I also like the store because I can get candy.



The Rec Center is special because of the pool. When I go to the ocean I get all sandy and cold. The pool is warm and it isn't sandy. The Rec Center has a lot of fun things to do.

This is why I like the island.

George Birkett Grade 3

I think living on Chebeague is special because I live right

on the beach. I also have an Aquasport with a dodger and fishing poles. I also think it's special because in the summer you can do this and that, and swimming at the Rec Center.



The things that are special that I like best on the Island are biking, running, walking, fishing, playing sports, playing with friends, and going to the store.

The special things that happen with sports are pickups. It could be a soccer game, baseball game, or football game. The best is watching the grownups have a pickup softball game. One of the best things is hoping I'll be going to a birthday party and having mine.

I also like sledding, hiking, and snow boarding, but on the Island I only sled.

I think it's fun when my family has a summer party and invite all their friends from college to camp out in our yard and we have a lobster bake and I get to stay up until after 1;30 am and wake up whenever I want and when it's 8:30 - 9:00 am I can wake everybody up.

Lida Munroe, Grade 3

I think the Island is special because people can go lobstering anytime if someone lets them go along.

To get to the Island we take a boat. Many people work on the boat so people can get back and forth. The people are Darren, Alnah, Kim, Rob, Lindy, Donny, Leon, and Claire.

When you live or visit the Island you can go to the beach anytime you what to. You can find a lot of neat stuff on the beach.

We have a little store on the Island so we don't go to town as much. It is like a supermarket. The store is called Ed's Store.

On the Island is a big forest filled with adventures. You can climb trees and find stuff you haven't seen before.

We have a big gym that we can play in and a craft room and a teen center. These are all part of the Rec Center. Next to the Rec Center is a pool. Everyone swims in the pool.

There is a Bed and Breakfast. It is like a hotel. It is so

fancy. the people that work there are Neil and Vicky. Their kids' names are Mia and Michelena.

I love to live on the Island. There are so many things to do here.

Zach Doughty, Grade 4

There are so many reasons why the Island is so special. One of the reasons is a lot of people enjoy coming here. In the summer there are almost 2,000 people! In the winter there are only 325 people.



This island is so nice and beautiful in the summer, spring, fall and even winter. The spring and the summer are probably the best times of the year, with

all the flowers, and the green trees. All the water around the Island looks so nice with the sunset reflecting off it.

Another thing is that there are lots of kind and generous people. A lot of people do things for other people just because they want to. Some days someone will just bake a pie or something and bring it to your house.

It's also special because there are lots of things to do. Any day you could go for a bike ride, or go golfing, swimming in the pool or ocean, or you could just go down to one of the beaches and watch the birds.

All these reasons are why I think the Island is special, and I bet most of the other people who live here would agree with me.

Christi Bernier, Grade 5

What makes Chebeague Island special to me is being able to do a lot of things on a little island surrounded by water. On Chebeague Island in the winter there are about 350 people, and in the summer there are about two thousand people. This makes the summer really fun because you meet new people and you get to do a lot more things with the summer kids and their families. It tends to get a little crowded at the store, and the Rec Center pool. It's still a lot of fun.

Chebeague Island is very special to me because there's not a lot of traffic, and it's very peaceful sometimes. Sometimes in the summer I see people who are very nice to each other and who enjoy themselves.

It's kind of weird seeing teachers from the mainland come down and swim at the Rec Center, but it's not all that weird! Also in the summer there are a lot of boys and girls who lobster, and you get to take a few home and cook them for supper. The rest you give to people who sell the lobsters, but you don't have to.

I think Chebeague Island is great, because you can do a lot of things and while you are doing what you are doing you have a lot of fun!

Vika Johnson Grade 6

There are lots of things that make Chebeague Island special. The things that I think make our Island special are that we have a Rec Center with a good and big swimming pool, a store, and a lot of other things.

I think it's great that our Island is the biggest island in Casco Bay that doesn't have a bridge. Another thing I like, something I think makes Chebeague or any other island special, is that it has pretty wildlife.

It's really neat that we take a boat back and forth to get our groceries and other things. People who live on the mainland don't have a chance to take a boat every time they go to Shaw's or somewhere else to buy something. There aren't many people here in wintertime but there are a lot of babies and that's really good because I like babies and I like to babysit. The Island looks small but it's pretty big.

I think it's really special that the Island has a really big golf course and a lot of people here like to play golf. I enjoy living on Chebeague Island.

Katie Phipps, Grade 5

What I think is special about this Island is that you know just about everyone. The people you don't know you will meet sometime. Sometimes you will just



be sitting and someone will come up to you and say "Are you such and such?"

The other thing I like about the Island is that you can go up to the Rec. My favorite thing to do at the Rec is to go swimming at the pool. What I mostly do in the pool is play with my friends and practice swimming tricks.

The last thing which makes this Island nice is that almost everyone watches over you and helps you when you are in trouble or hurt.

Mia Taliento, Grade 3

What makes Chebeague Island special to me is that we know everybody on the Island. We are like one big family. People really care about other people. Some of the places I like to go are Vika's, Christi's, the Rec Center, the pool and the store.



I like taking the boat over to Chebeague

Island. The Island is a good place to get to know people and where they live.

My mom and dad and my baby sister Michelena own a Bed and Breakfast on the Island.

Josh's mom and dad own the store. If they did not have the store we would need to take the boat over all the time.

The boat is a good way to get to the mainland and back to the Island, so we can get our stuff and things like that.

This Year with the K-2 Room...

For all of us in the K-2 group, 1998-99 was an exciting and emotional school year. We became Junior Entomologists in the fall and learned about our six-legged friends, the Insects. I learned just how talented this group is at collecting live specimens from the schoolyard – we had a cage full!

The highlight of our year would have to be our trip to Old Sturbridge Village in Massachusetts. The students in grades K-6 worked tirelessly at washing Chebeague Island's many cars at a car wash in October. Thanks to a generous funds-match from

Recompense and incredible community support (even those without cars bought tickets!) the students were able to travel to beautiful Sturbridge, learn “first-hand” about early New England and stay overnight at a hotel (with a pool!) – all for free! The K-2 students used this experience to create their own “village” of Colonial craftspeople at a Colonial Fair in February.

February also marked the arrival of the newest Williams – little Lauren JoAnne was born to Mrs. Williams and her husband Patrick on February 22, 1999. This meant a twelve week leave of absence (in body, not in heart!) for Mrs. Williams from the K-2 students, who were looked after by a wonderful new teacher, Miss Carin Douglass. Miss Douglass taught the students units on Simple Machines and Inventions. Our room was also invaded by hundreds of tadpoles as the students learned about frogs and frog life cycles in a Reptile and Amphibian study.

Unfortunately, the end of this year also marks the end of my time as a teacher here at the Chebeague Island School, as well as that of Len Bogh and Kathy George. The needs of our new family member make the long days on the Island a difficult obstacle. It is with much, much sadness, but many, many fond memories that I leave my Chebeague “kids” the care of our new friend, Miss Douglass. I will carry each one of the children in my heart, secure in the knowledge that, as a teacher, I will never feel as welcome and appreciated as I did on Chebeague Island.

— With great fondness and appreciation,
Sue Williams



Chebeague Island Yacht Club



*Captains waiting for the Bates Island Race:
Jane Frizzell, Tom Rothschild,
Jeff Hahn, Reggie Babcock*

The summer of 1998 was, as usual, a busy one for the Chebeague Island Yacht Club. We had a racing schedule which included nearly every weekend. Two of our races were preceded by picnics at Crow Island and at Bates Island. The club also hosted two “Power Nights.” These events are trips to local restaurants via power boat. Last summer we visited the Spar at Long Island and the Portland Yacht Club. We would love to have more sailors join us for races and more members join us for social events. If you are not a member and would like to be one, please contact our membership chair Peggy Rothchild at 846-4147 or any other member of the club for information. The price is right and all you need is a little dingy.

Race results for the summer of 1998 are:

July 5 - Ocean Race:

- 1st Ricky Tonks in *Quandbaras*
- 2nd Adam Rothchild in *Lyra*
- 3rd Dave Burgess in *Evangeline*

July 19 - Hamilton Beach Race:

- 1st Adam Rothchild in *Lyra*
- 2nd Ricky Tonks in *Quandbaras*
- 3rd Reggie Babcock in *Quicksilver*

July 25 - Double Race Shattuck Cup:

First Race:

- 1st Dave Burgess in *Evangeline*
- 2nd Ralph Ragan in *Ariel*
- 3rd Adam Rothchild in *Lyra*

Second Race:

- 1st Adam Rothchild in *Lyra*
- 2nd Ralph Ragan in *Ariel*
- 3rd Dave Burgess in *Evangeline*

August 1 - 'Round Island Race:

- 1st Adam Rothchild in *Lyra*
- 2nd Reggie Babcock in *Quicksilver*
- 3rd Ricky Tonks in *Quandbaras*

'Round Island Race Small Boat:

- 1st Jamie Freeman in *Tad*
- 2nd Dave Nyhan in *Daphne Rose*
- 3rd Bob Earnest in *Eastwind*

August 8 - Crow Island Race

- 1st Dave Burgess in *Evangeline*
- 2nd Mac Hulbert in *Ariadne*
- 3rd Jane Frizzell in *Jebane*

August 15 - Double Race Hamilton Beach

First Race:

- 1st Jane Frizzell in *Jebane*
- 2nd Joe Ballard in *Quantus*
- 3rd Reggie Babcock in *Quicksilver*

Second Race:

- 1st Jane Frizzell in *Jebane*
- 2nd Jim Lunt
- 3rd Adam Rothchild in *Lyra*

August 22 - Hubble Mug (Bates Island)

- 1st Jeff Hahn in *Ghost*
- 2nd Tom Rothchild in *Lyra*
- 3rd Reggie Babcock in *Quicksilver*

Ash Trophy for Large Boats (overall):

- 1st Adam Rothchild in *Lyra*
- 2nd Dave Burgess in *Evangeline*
- 3rd Ricky Tonks in *Quandbaras*

Small Boat (overall)

- 1st Bob Earnest in *Eastwind*
- 2nd Dick Freeman in *Gritty*
- 3rd Jamie Freeman in *Tad*

Club Champion

- 1st Adam Rothchild in *Lyra*
- 2nd Dave Burgess in *Evangeline*
- 3rd Ricky Tonks in *Quandbaras*
- 4th Bob Earnest in *Eastwind*

Bungle Trophy *

Only their hair dresser knows

* First names are Reggie and Jamie. Lynn was not responsible in any way.

— Jane Frizzell, Vice Commodore



*Bob Jones, Don Soucbek, Lewis Ross and Robert White
on a Christmas decoration mission*

Chebeague Piecemakers

The Chebeague Piecemakers had a busy and sociable year. Last summer the collective quilt that we had made to be raffled to benefit the Recreation Center (see the picture in last year's *Annual Newsletter*) won first prize for a quilt made by a group at the Cumberland County Fair. The drawing was held on a quilting day, October 13th of last year, during coffee break at the Island Market. The winner was Kathryn Hallock and when the name was read out quilter Diane Ash exclaimed that the winner was her mother. The raffle raised \$900 for the Rec Center.

Now, this spring, piecemaker Nancy Hill and artist Beverly Johnson have collaborated on a quilt made up of paintings of Chebeague scenes. It will be auctioned during the coming summer, also for the benefit of the Rec.

Finally, two multi-generational collective quilts are in process. They are both in the Victorian “crazy quilt” style where the squares are made up of irregular pieces of fancy fabrics such as velvet, silk and satin. The squares themselves were probably made between 1885 and 1900 by Lovisa Jane Hamilton Mansfield who ((editor's note: Spelling “Lovisa” is correct; “LoUisa” is wrong)) was born during the Civil War and died in the 1940s. They were given to the quilters by Martha Hamilton to be made into finished quilts. Good causes in need of raffles are the Hall and the Library.

In a multi-generational experience of a different kind, during the winter the piecemakers helped the kindergarten and first grade group from the school make a quilt of their own. They were studying colonial history including crafts. Initially they came to one of our Tuesday gatherings to learn about quilts and quilting in general. Then, later, they came with the cut out pieces of their own quilt to learn to sew them together, non-colonial style, on sewing machines.

In these ways the traditions of quilting are transmitted from generation to generation.

Our activities are not all devoted to sewing and good works, of course. Through the winter we shared many delicious dinners as the commuting quilters who can come only in the

evening joined the day-timers. Our annual trip was again to Keepsake Quilting in New Hampshire where we stocked up on fabrics for quilts to come. We would be pleased to welcome new quilters to the group, either in the summer or year round.

— Beth Howe



Chebeague Post Office

We at the Chebeague Post Office would like to thank all our winter and summer patrons for their support with their purchasing of postal supplies at the Island Post Office. As you are aware, we not only sell stamps but also have a vast supply of postal items such as writing paper, note cards and address labels, just to name a few.



There are many advantages to buying stamps by mail besides just the convenience. It offers more income for our small post office, which in turn allows us to stay open six days a week as a full service Post Office. If you send in a request to me, I will send you an order form and a self-addressed envelope that will make ordering stamps by mail easy and almost painless.

During the summer season starting June 18th and running to Labor Day, our incoming mail will arrive on the Island at approximately 9:30 a.m.. Therefore you will be receiving your mail earlier than usual and any mail going off Island needs to be at the Post Office by 1:00 p.m., Monday through Friday. Saturday will remain the same hours of dispatch as they are now. The mail arrives on the Island at 8:15 a.m. and any mail going off the Island needs to be at the Post Office by 11:30 a.m.

Saturday morning.

Post Office Hours: Monday through Friday, lobby: 7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.; window: 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.; Saturday: 8:00 a.m. to noon.

— Gina Ross. Postmaster

Added by editors:

It must be undue modesty that prevents Gina from telling about the most important development for the Chebeague Post Office; on May 13th, 1999 Gina was sworn in by Barbara A. Patterson, Manager, United States Postal Service for the District of Maine, as the new Chebeague Island Postmaster. In an official ceremony held at the Rec Center attended by family and friends and representatives of Island Organizations, Gina thanked the Postal Service and the Island and promised to carry on the service provided by her predecessors. The three immediately previous Postmasters of the Island, Donna Jordan, Betsey Ross and Shirley Burgess were in the audience (Page 67). Historic pictures of previous Island post offices were displayed.

— The Editors



Chebeague Recreation Center

Much has occurred since the Rec Center officially opened in March 1998. The following is a list of the present officers and directors:

Al Traina, President	Wink Houghton
Gail Miller, Vice President	Eldon Mayer
Beverly Johnson, Secretary	Bob Putnam
David Hill, Treasurer	Jared Smith
Rachel Damon	Vail Traina
Jeanette Hamilton	Erik Weagle
Nancy Hill	Carol White

Former directors during this period were Donna Damon, Glenn Kersteen, Jon KomLosy and Bruce Riddle.

The Board's goal has been to provide many activities, programs and services which are of interest to Islanders of all ages. Many successful programs have been run during our first year of operation, including: Rug hooking, licensed day care, Wednesday night volleyball, Thursday night basketball, hiking trips around the Island and in New Hampshire, "A Chebeague Adventure" program bringing mainland kids to learn about the Island and to meet Island kids, "This and That" the Wednesday afternoon release time program, tap dancing for adults and children, Lobster Camp, Teen Center, etc.. The Whalers (please see report on Page 81) were reorganized under the auspices of CRC and are in full force and voice. Fifty four kids participated in the 1998 swim program. More participants are anticipated in 1999. We are fortunate to have new fitness room equipment which includes a set of individual weight machines from USM Lifeline, a Cybex stationary bicycle and a Cybex Trotter motorized treadmill, all health club quality equipment. We encourage everyone to try it. You will like it!

These programs could not have been as effective without the support of our staff. We have been very fortunate to have Beth Dyer as Director of the Rec Center. Beth has been energetic and generous with her time and talents during this growing and learning period. Neil Taliento, who recently

assumed the position of Program Director, is developing creative, innovative and meaningful programs for the 1999 season. Ken Hamilton has made a major contribution in maintaining the physical plant and the Rec continues to look better every day.



Both the Staff's and the Board's thrust is towards more diverse and high quality programs for the summer and the balance of the year. There will be a sports camp for older grade and junior high school students, with instruction in basketball, baseball and soccer. A photography class given by a USM professor will be offered. Plans are underway for Lifeline fitness programs. Craft classes, such as basket weaving and stamping, are in the works. Many exciting new pool programs are planned for this summer. The pool will be open from Memorial Day to October 1st. In addition to the regular swim classes, programs will include arthritis water exercise class, water aerobics, "Guard Start" to prepare kids for lifesaving, water volleyball and much more. The Casco Bay Y has challenged us to a swim meet for all ages. Please join the swim. We need you; the honor of Chebeague is at stake!

A committee comprised of Gail Miller, Nancy Hill, Lauren Miller and Elizabeth Hill took on the task of designing a truly

distinctive logo for the Rec Center. We hope you'll agree that the blue heron design they selected fills the bill admirably. Our thanks to Elizabeth Hill for doing the final sketchwork.



Besides our scheduled programs there have been a number of exciting and fun events and fundraisers. The Chebeague Tappers made their debut at the St. Patrick's Day Party at the Hall. The Teen Center planned and implemented a highly successful fundraising

weekend in February, a Winter Carnival, the highlight of which was a Polar Bear Swim. Fifteen adults and kids ran into the icy waters of Bennett's Cove. They raised approximately \$2000. In July we had a mystery dinner theater and a music festival. We had an inter-island teen pool party last summer. Plans are under way for another inter-island get together which will include a pool party a barbecue and a dance. A college placement workshop will take place this summer.

During 1999, the Rec Center will have only one major fundraising event, a "Mid-Summer Night's Frolic." There will be a progressive dinner, hosted by 25 Islanders. A fun-filled evening at the Rec Center of dessert, dancing and a live and silent auction will follow the dinner. The Frolic is a community event which is scheduled for July 24th, so mark your calendar and join us for an entertaining and unique evening. Fund raising is essential because only 30% of our annual operating budget comes from the combined funding from the Town of Cumberland and MSAD 51. The remaining 70% must come from user fees and fund raising.

An overwhelming portion of our success can be attributed to the generosity of Islanders. Elda and Russ Gwillim have been particularly generous. Their contributions have allowed

the Rec Center to retire its mortgage and to jump-start our newly established endowment fund. We plan to acknowledge all who have contributed financially and with time to the Rec Center with a donors' plaque, which will be located in the entry hall of the Rec. There will be an individual plaque for Elda and Russ.

We have learned a great deal in our first year of operation, which should contribute to a more diverse and efficient operation in the future. Our staff has been outstanding but I would be remiss if I did not acknowledge the work, time, effort and care of our volunteers. They have put in hundreds of hours, which have resulted in a positive, wholesome and constructive environment for all Chebeaguers to enjoy.

— Al Traina, President



Chebeague Recreation Center History

"It's all about taking the plunge"

In 1993, an informal group of Chebeague parents and concerned residents explored the concept of a community recreation center. After consulting with the architect who designed the Chebeague Island Library, the group abandoned the idea due to the high anticipated cost.

In the summer of 1995, Eldon Mayer suggested that a community swimming pool be built. Don's leadership re-kindled interest in developing first a pool and then a full-scale recreation center funded by user donations, borrowed money, and public funds.



With a generous donation from the Recompense Foundation, the Chebeague Pool Committee was formed in September of 1995. The focus quickly expanded to the more ambitious goal of creating a multi-purpose facility and, reflecting its broader objective, the group re-named itself the Chebeague Recreation Center Committee and formed a 501(c)(3) non-profit corporation. General support from the community followed and endorsements were quickly received from the Cumberland Town Council, Maine School Administrative District #51, the Golf Club, the Tennis Club, the Yacht Club, the Parents' Association, and the Historical Society. Other groups and organizations followed suit with financial and moral support for the project.

In 1996, MSAD #51 voted to donate unused land next to the Chebeague Island School. Meanwhile, Eldon Mayer spearheaded early fundraising efforts with very encouraging results. Sub-committees addressed Long-Range Planning, Site Planning, Public Relations, Fundraising, and Construction.



In order to create a viable recreation facility, The CRC Committee and its sub-committees evaluated the needs of the Chebeague community, from students to seniors, year-round and seasonal residents alike through a community survey which helped to

prioritize the wants and needs of the community, which were then matched against the CRC's resources. It was determined that the Teen Center and gymnasium were the highest priorities, and it was decided to proceed with construction of these facilities, with a swimming pool to follow "some day." "Some day" came much sooner when a very generous benefactor stepped forward to fund the pool.

Once the final "go" decision was made, the first visible evidence of activity on the future Rec Center site was the removal of the old blacktop basketball area which was replaced with a professionally surfaced multi-purpose basketball and tennis court, suitably fenced and landscaped.

The next major effort (along with the Town and MSAD #51) was to install a new backstop on the ballfield and to begin repairs to the field.

To get the building itself underway, a major fundraising effort was launched on Chebeague in the summer of 1996. Better than 90 percent of the Islanders and the seasonal population contributed, and over \$550,000 was raised in less than two years. Every penny helped to make the Rec Center happen and, more importantly, helped to make it *ours*.

Peoples Heritage Bank bent over backwards to provide CRC with a mortgage under its Community Reinvestment Program. The Recreation Center Director Search Committee began efforts to provide leadership for the Center and the

diverse programs planned for Chebeaguers of all ages. The Brunswick pool table and two pinball machines were barged to the Island to help kick off activities in the Teen Room. Final decisions were made regarding the gymnasium floor and other facility elements.



One event which added to the fun of raising money to build the Rec was the Annual Chemical-Free Chebeague Island Music Festivals held in 1996, 1997, and 1998. Nationally famous **Devonsquare** kicked off the first Festival, with **Broken Men** and **Scott Hooper** headlining the following years. They were helped (and often put to shame) by several local talents, most notably Mark Dyer, the Wagoneers, Halfway Rock, Stone Sloop, the Glenlivet Band, Joey Bennett, Peter and Chip Emery, Jessica Doughty, Mark Bowman, In Sync, Frank Haines' New Chebeague Island Band, and the Whalers.



Noted Maine artist Eric Hopkins generously donated an original aerial watercolor of Casco Bay featuring Chebeague Island to the Rec Center fundraising effort. Limited editions of signed and unsigned

prints are still available and the original work will be auctioned at this year's *Midsummer Night's Frolic*. It is stunning.

Contributed or discounted labor and materials exceeded 20 percent of the facility cost and came from companies, organizations, and individuals. Both Preti Flaherty Beliveau &

Pachios and Tompkins Clough Hirshon & Langer donated legal services. Chebeague Sand and Gravel, Jim Stewart's Northgate Inc., Intercoastal Marine Transport, Lionel Plante Associates, Chebeague Transportation Company, Chebeague Plumbing, Main Line Fence, Scott Simons Architects, Hansen Well Drilling, C. M. Bowker Insurance, Bruce Bowman Surveying, and many, many others have come through with free or discounted services. Another long list would



acknowledge the local residents who cleared trees from the construction site. The Thaxter Company did a remarkable job as the general contractor, ably assisted by Tapley Pools of Hermon, Maine.

There was a preliminary grand opening of the new basketball/tennis courts and ballfield on Sunday, July 14, 1996 with a cookout, and an inaugural ballgame. Sanford Doughty threw out the first pitch. This event also celebrated the partnership with Cumberland's summer recreation program.

All the hard work finally paid off when the new recreation center opened its doors to the public on Saturday, February 28, 1998. Finally, Chebeague had built a much needed 6,600 square foot recreation facility housing a gymnasium, exercise room, arts and crafts room, and teen center. Designed to meet the needs of all generations, it also includes a full sized outdoor swimming pool, a kiddie pool, and basketball and tennis courts. And an unexpected bonus is that the swimming pool is Chebeague's most convenient and best fire pond! Costing \$700,000 in cash, with contributed services, equipment, and materials, the Chebeague Recreation Center (CRC) is close to a million dollar facility.

In 1998, the Recreation Center received a \$4,000 grant from the Maine Community Foundation to provide summer staffing for the island teen center. This grant helped the fledgling Rec

Center to realize its goal of providing, among many other things, a place for teens to “hang” during the summer. The Foundation chose to support this program because it builds on the strength of the community by providing an outlet for youthful exuberance.



The CRC even found it possible to sponsor an inter-island teen pool party as a result of this grant.

On February 20, 1999, about thirteen hearty souls jumped in the water at Bennetts Cove at 12:00 noon while

over a hundred people watched. The air temp was 30 degrees, the water temperature 40 degrees, wind chill 15 degrees. So far in counting up pledges we are up over \$1900 to benefit the Chebeague Recreation Center Teen Center! Swimmers pictured in this article are Chris McCollom, Denis Johnson, Lauren Miller, Sarah Steen, Jon Miller, John Emery, Alnah Doughty, Beverly Johnson, Jeff Russo, John Summa, Donna Damon, Kendra McKinnon, and Chip Emery.

1998 was made even more memorable by the generous contribution from Russ and Elda Gwillim which enabled CRC to retire its construction mortgage. That certainly helped, but CRC still needs operating funding. Although CRC receives some operating support from the Town of Cumberland and MSAD #51 and from grants, the bulk of the operating budget is derived from user fees and fundraising efforts.

Listed below are the names of the original committee. Absent are the names of the countless spouses, friends and neighbors who also should rightly be considered to be among the founders of the Chebeague Recreation Center. Our island should be very proud of this remarkable effort and we know that this significant enhancement to our community will benefit Chebeague families for generations to come.

<i>The Chebeague Recreation Center Committee</i>		
Lynda Babcock	Roy Jackson	Jim Phipps
Leila Bisharat	Bob Jones	Bob Putnam
Dick Bowen	Glenn Kersteen	Joan Robinson
Tom Calder	Jon KomLosy	Lindy Smith
Karen Corson	John Layng	Laura Summa
Donna Damon	Allen Malony	Al Traina
Joan Dayton	Bill Marshall	Jim VanFleet
Mark Dyer	Eldon Mayer	Gary Varney
Jeanette Hamilton	Robert McCollom	Carol White
Carrie Hawks	Gail Miller	Robert White
David Hill	Kim Munroe	Lori Wood
Nancy Hill	Carlos Nottebohn	

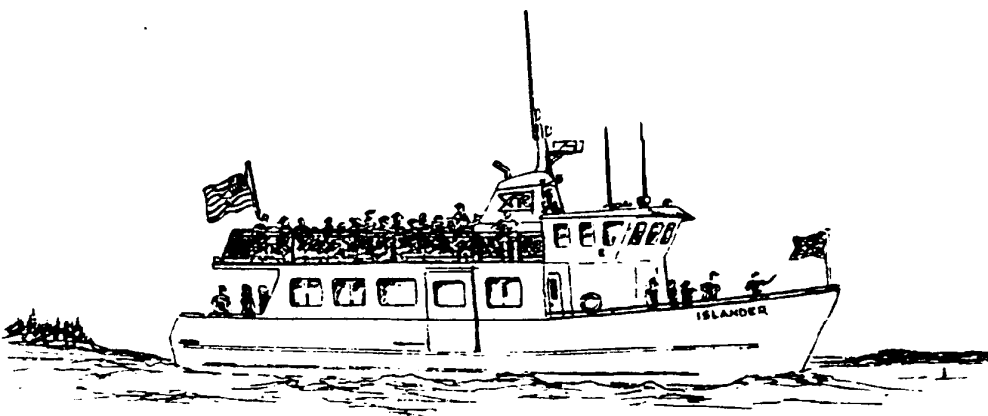
Mission Statement

The purpose of the Chebeague Recreation Center is to provide children, teenagers, adults, and seniors with a facility in which they can participate year round in activities specifically designed to fulfill their recreational and social needs and to enhance their skills and enjoyment. The activities will be conducted in a positive alcohol and drug free environment. The diversity of the programs will benefit the entire community.

— David R. Hill, Treasurer



Chebeague Transportation Company



The Board of Directors thanks our stockholders who attended the CTC Annual Meeting in 1998, personally or by proxy. We appreciate our stockholders' questions, comments, suggestions and support as well. We continue to work hard to maintain and improve on service, keeping in mind your feedback as we do.

Re-elected to seats on the Board of Directors were Donna Colbeth and Ruth Houghton. Newly elected directors were Carol Lynn Davis and Schuyler Grant. Mark Horton was appointed director in late July, following the resignation of Dale Morlock as Director. Glenn Kersteen was also re-elected as Clerk of the Corporation.

The election of CTC officers was held at the Directors' meeting which followed the Annual Meeting. Mark Dyer was elected President; Ruth Houghton and Donna Colbeth were elected First and Second Vice Presidents respectively; Carol Lynn Davis was elected Secretary, and Glenn Kersteen was elected as Treasurer. The Board, on behalf of CTC thanked Ian Brown for his year of dedicated service as President.

Due to the legal costs associated with the Chebeague access negotiations, CTC was forced to implement the first rate increase since 1992. The stockholder tickets were increased \$1. to \$25. per book, commuters also increased \$1. to \$18 per book. One-way fare increased 50¢, to \$5.00 as well as parking rate changes. All parking stickers increased by \$25. And the

daily rate at the Drowne Road Lot increased by \$1 to \$7. The Board was able to hold the current rate for the children's tickets. Barge rates also remained the same.

We added a new vessel to the CTC fleet when we purchased the *Dovekie* to push the barge. We have been very pleased with her ability, increased power (twin John Deere engines) and great visibility from the raised wheelhouse design. Due to her shallow draft, the *Dovekie* can be used on more of the tide, allowing us greater flexibility. The *Chesuncook* served us more than well and went to a good home at Yankee Marina, where Ralph Stevens will restore her and has even promised to make her available, should we ever need a back-up!

As you may know, the Chebeague access issue has been a very time-consuming, grueling and expensive ordeal. We firmly believe the resulting legal expenses have been necessary to preserve this vitally important transportation link for Chebeague Island. The State of Maine has committed to "preserving the vital transportation link" and has expressed willingness to exercise their powers of eminent domain if necessary. However, action by the State on this issue is still waiting for further talks between Cumberland and Yarmouth. Further plans concerning the Blanchard Lot and the Wharf await this process. Please rest assured that we are working very hard to improve and ensure the future needs and expectations of the community. We will not compromise on this goal of preserving our mainland access for Chebeague Island.

We finally have some significant change in the remote parking situation. A parcel of land is in the process of being transferred from the State of Maine to Cumberland on Route 1 in Cumberland. This parcel is in the planning stages for a 300 car paved parking lot for use as the new remote parking lot. Negotiations have been underway with Cumberland to finalize the plans and costs which include: Paved parking for 300 cars; granite curbing (low maintenance); loading zone for baggage; handicapped parking and security lighting. We are very pleased with this development and the great efforts of the Town of Cumberland has expended to assist Chebeague Island's transportation needs.

Once again, at the Annual CTC Stockholder Meeting in July, we will offer a book of ten green "guest" tickets for the

\$25 price of a stockholder book (a \$25 savings). There is a limit of one book per stockholder. This is intended to be an incentive for our stockholders to attend the Annual Meeting. Anyone may use the “guest” tickets.

We have had quite a year of transition at CTC, with the departure of Dave Hill, came the need to fill a huge vacancy and that was done with Claire Ross, who stepped in to a restructured position. Her new title is Office Manager, and she has adapted to this position quite nicely. We are lucky to have her aboard! CTC was also very fortunate to hire Leon Hamilton as a new full-time Captain. He has tremendous experience and ability and has worked in well, doing a great job for the company. We expect a long and fruitful relationship with both of these employees.

This year, CTC is losing three longtime members of the Board of Directors. Glenn Kersteen, Ben Prescott and David Stevens are all stepping down. Needless to say these three have more than contributed to the good of the company and the Island. They will be missed, but we thank them very much and wish them well.

As always we would like to thank all of our dedicated people who work very hard to make the CTC run every day, without whom it would not be as dependable and nice a service as it is.

— Mark Dyer, President



The more things change...

The Editors have chosen to include the following article (recently discovered by Jean Dyer) which was first published twenty-five years ago in the Chebeague Island Newsletter from 1974. It was written by the late Barton Curit who was president of CTC in its third year of existence. Although some of the events may sound familiar, absolutely none of the information presented is current.

— The Editors

WHAT'S NEW ON PARKING

We wish we could tell you that the parking problem is settled and behind us, but we can't do so at the moment. We can only report the facts.

Probably most of you know that our Cumberland Representative Bill Garsoe introduced a bill in the special session of the Legislature to authorize the State Department of Transportation to “take over” some nine acres of Blanchard land on Cousins Island for the development of parking facilities. A hearing was held before the Legislature's Joint Committee on Transportation with about a hundred Chebeague Islanders present. Most of the members of the Joint Committee, including Senator Edwin Greeley, chairman of the Senate Transportation Committee and chairman of the Joint Committee; and Myron E. Wood, chairman of the House Transportation Committee, subsequently visited Yarmouth, Cousins Island and Chebeague to get the picture “first hand.”

We have on good authority that Senator Greeley has advised Representative Patrick T. Jackson, Jr. (Yarmouth-Harpswell), our opposition in Augusta, to have the Town of Yarmouth cooperate and work toward a solution acceptable to Cumberland, including Chebeague Island residents, or the Joint Committee will report out the “take over” bill with its positive recommendation for passage.

This action by Senator Greeley appears to have had some effect on Yarmouth. Jim Pratt, Yarmouth town manager, has approached the Blanchards asking for an option on the land in question. For what purpose we know not! It so happens that the Chebeague Transportation Co. holds a “verbal” option on

this land and has for some time. Mr. Blanchard so advised Mr. Pratt.

Tuesday, February 19, there was a joint executive session meeting of the Yarmouth and Cumberland Town Councils to see if any area of agreement could be hammered out. Officers of the Chebeague Transportation Co. were not permitted to attend that meeting at the specific demand of the Yarmouth group. Nothing new came out of that session! Yarmouth did agree to study the problem further and indicated they would contact the Cumberland Council at an early date.

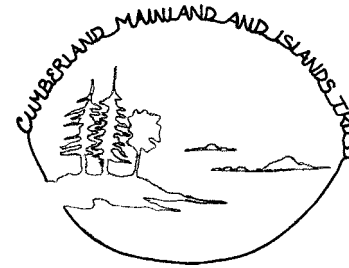
Monday, February 23, the writer was invited to attend an executive session meeting of the Cumberland Town Council to discuss future action, since Yarmouth had made no further moves. It was brought out at that time that Senator Greeley has been asking for a progress report so he can know what action is indicated for his committee. It was concluded that Cumberland has no choice except to request respectfully that House Bill L.D. 2186 be reported out of committee with a recommendation for passage. Only time will tell!

– Barton F. Curit

Epilogue: Mary Louise Smith wrote in the 1976 history text Cumberland, Maine in Four Centuries that "Both times [there was another similar bill introduced in 1975] they [the bills] were withdrawn [by Cumberland] with promises from Yarmouth to resolve the problem."



Cumberland Mainland and Island Trust



The Trust continues to receive strong and growing support from the members of our community. In 1998 we saw the value of our land holdings double from year-end 1997 values, due to newly

contributed properties, including a 39 acre wooded parcel on the Harris Road. The Trust now has a total of nearly 300 acres of "protected" land under its ownership or under conservation easement. We have established a Finance Committee to direct the Trust's assets and investments. These funds will help facilitate future conservation opportunities, support our property stewardship, and continue our conservation education programs.

Completed conservation efforts in 1998 include the receipt of an extensive conservation easement over the 100-acre Payson Estate on Cumberland Foreside, located between Town Landing Road and Wildwood.

Sadly, the town lost conservationist Richard Knight this year. Mr. Knight has for the past 60 years been preserving in a most remarkable fashion the regions of the town known as Knight's Pond and Blueberry Hill. These areas would have been developed long ago were it not for Mr. Knight's tireless effort to keep the spirit of Maine's North Woods alive and protected. His daughter and Trust member Rebecca Leyland was extremely kind in requesting that the Trust be the recipient of gifts in conjunction with his memorial services, and the Trust is most grateful.

BATES CONSERVATION AWARD

In 1996 the Trust announced the establishment of the Bates Conservation Award to be given annually to the individual, organization or business that contributed to the cause of conservation within the town of Cumberland. The 1998 award was presented to Robert Wood for his outstanding commitment

to natural resource projects in the town of Cumberland over the past decade.

MEMBERSHIP

The Trust is a publicly supported, private, non-profit organization and is a qualified charitable organization. Its programs and funding are solely dependent upon the volunteer efforts and membership contributions of the public. We are pleased in 1998 to see our membership grow to 200 families, representing approximately 10% of the households in the town. We are well on our way toward our goal of 25% of the families in the town by 2005.

PUBLICATIONS AND PRESENTATIONS

We continue to publish a semi-annual newsletter (Spring and Fall) about Trust programs and have made it available to other town organizations that wish to include information pertaining to conservation efforts. We also published a 12-page booklet, *Protected Properties*, describing the Trust's 8 properties which was sent to all Trust members.

The Trust sponsored a seminar for large land owners which included presentations by invited experts on the legal aspects of conservation easements and their potential tax benefits.

Four 35-mm slide presentations about CMIT activities, conservation easements, and the growth of the land trust movement were given to the Garden Club, the Cumberland Historical Society, Lions Club, and at the large land owners seminar.

1998

Strong interest continues to develop in the services we can provide to landowners and conservationists in Cumberland. We are particularly excited about unprecedented funding opportunities now available through sister organizations such as the Maine Coast Heritage Trust. We are in a stronger position than ever to raise capital and human resources to help us protect areas of natural beauty for our future generations. If you wish to help with our programs or to stay abreast of current developments, please contact any members of the Board of Directors at any time.

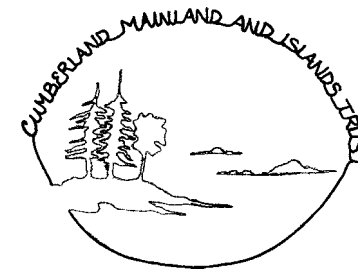
DIRECTORS:

Susan Burgess
Robert Craig
Donna Miller Damon
Kate Hoffner
George M. Hyde
Paul Gianas

Jennifer McAdoo
Michael H. Porter
Margaret Vaughan

DIRECTOR EMERITUS
Stephen W. Moriarty

— Steve Moriarty, President



Decking the halls (see Page 37)

From your Cumberland Town Councilor

As the 1989 Wharf Agreement between the towns of Cumberland and Yarmouth draws closer to its expiration at the end of this year, the attention of the Cumberland Town Council continues to be focused on a permanent resolution of Chebeague's mainland access needs. Following the announcement by the Maine Department of Transportation in early 1998 that the recommendation of the Chebeague/Cousins Transportation Resolution Team would not be implemented because of its assessment that the proposed project could not successfully survive the process of environmental permitting, the MDOT Commissioner has made two significant findings.

On July 16, 1998, Commissioner Melrose advised the Town of Cumberland that "the Chebeague Island ferry is considered by the Maine Department of Transportation to be an essential public service." On March 23, 1999, the Commissioner clarified the position of the Department of Transportation in a letter addressed to both towns. He made it clear that, if the two towns could not come to an agreement between themselves providing for appropriate mainland access for Chebeague, then the DOT would maintain the *status quo*, not only by acquiring the Blanchard parking lot, but also by taking an interest in the Cousins Island wharf and declaring Wharf Road to be a state aid highway. Commissioner Melrose's position is based on the determination that the Department "has an obligation to maintain transportation services for Chebeague as part of our stated public policy to ensure access to Maine islands." The text from both of these important letters is included on the following pages.

Against this background, Cumberland has made numerous proposals in an effort to strike an agreement with Yarmouth. There is much to be done before the end of this year, but we are highly optimistic that our discussions with Yarmouth will result in an acceptable resolution. DOT's role has been extremely helpful and the Yarmouth Town Council has come a long way since our initial discussions. We don't yet know how the remaining details will be resolved, but DOT has announced

that it will give the Town of Cumberland a thirteen acre parcel of land on Route One for the purpose of providing remote parking for CTC ferry passengers. The town expects to construct a parking facility that it hopes will be open for use by CTC customers in the fall of this year.

In addition to transportation, other essential municipal services provided by the town on Chebeague have received attention during the past year. Increased staffing has been provided in the Public Safety Department for police and rescue services on Chebeague. In order to deal with the increased cost of such services, user fees for rescue services were approved by the Town Council in late 1998. The browntail moth control program begun in 1998 was sufficiently successful to permit a scaled back - less expensive - spraying program in 1999.

The Town Council has pursued a growth management initiative for the town as a whole with considerable study and planning over the past couple of years. In May of 1999 the Town Council determined that it needed the guidance of a group of Chebeaguers to advise it on island-specific issues. It initiated the formation of an *ad hoc* committee to study growth management issues on Chebeague with an appropriation of up to \$5,000 for technical assistance from an outside consultant to assist the group in its efforts. The Council has asked that the group report back to the Council by March 1, 2000. The goal is to determine if any changes to the Town's land use planning or other ordinances need to be adopted by the Town Council to manage growth on the Island for the future.

— Jim Phipps, Councilor



Text of 7/16/98 MDOT Letter

State of Maine Department of Transportation
16 State House Station
Augusta, ME 04333-0016



John Lambert, Council Chair
Town of Cumberland
PO Box 128
Cumberland, ME 04021

July 16, 1998

Dear John,

The Chebeague Island ferry is considered by the Maine Department of Transportation to be an essential public service. In the absence of terms and conditions agreed to by the Towns of Cumberland and Yarmouth which allow for the continuation of this service, the Department is prepared to use its legal authority and financing to secure the continued operation of the ferry. In balancing the competing interests of the two communities, the Department will act to preserve the status quo. The status quo means a 165 car parking area on the so-called Blanchard Lot, access to the Lot, use of the Yarmouth wharf for year round ferry operations, continuation of barging at the present location, and a remote parking facility in Cumberland.

I wish to emphasize that an arrangement that is better than simply preserving the status quo seems attainable. However, any alternatives to the status quo will only be acted upon by the MDOT with the mutual consent of Yarmouth and Cumberland. Furthermore, any alternative to the status quo must continue to involve parking at the Blanchard Lot and operations across the Yarmouth wharf. The MDOT is prepared to offer technical support and financial assistance within our means to shape an alternative.

I recognize that this issue has a long history with deeply held feelings in both communities. I would encourage you to accept my challenge that we collectively strive to achieve a result that is better than the status quo in both physical and operational terms but that also is more sensitive to individual and community values.

Sincerely,

/s/John G. Melrose

Commissioner

cc: David Peterson



A seasonal sighting at the Stone Wharf

Text of 3/23/99 MDOT Letter

State of Maine Department of Transportation
16 State House Station
Augusta, ME 04333-0016



Nathaniel Tupper, Yarmouth Town Manager
David Peterson, Yarmouth Town Council Chair
Robert Benson, Cumberland Town Manager
John Lambert, Cumberland Town Council Chair

March 23, 1999

Re: Chebeague/Cousins Island

Gentlemen:

I recently attended meetings with you and representatives from your Towns at which you expressed concerns about numerous issues involving the future of the ferry service to Chebeague Island. This letter is in response to your concerns.

First, we understand that for the last ten years the current Wharf Agreement and the various court orders have set guidelines for parking and ferry operations at the Blanchard lot and Cousins Island wharf. With the impending expiration of both the lease between the Blanchards and Chebeague Transportation Company and the Wharf Agreement, this situation will change. We understand that change of any kind creates uncertainty and fear, especially in this instance where unresolved conflicts have persisted for many years and the truce established by the various court orders and the Wharf Agreement has been uneasy.

The Department became involved in this situation only because we believe we have an obligation to maintain transportation services for Chebeague as part of our stated public policy to insure access to Maine islands. Our goal remains simple – to minimize change to the existing arrangement. We are willing, as we have stated many times, to enhance the current transportation system if the Towns can reach agreements concerning the improvements. At the very

least though, we intend to preserve the use of the Cousins Island wharf to service Chebeague Island and the use of the Blanchard lot for parking.

As to the wharf, we understand that Yarmouth is willing to renew the existing Wharf Agreement under the same terms for another fifty years. We also understand Cumberland's need to have some modification to the agreement that will allow the needs of the Chebeague islanders to be met as circumstances change in the future. We attach for your review a proposed agreement that we prepared for discussion purposes, taking into consideration the concerns of both communities. We invite and are open to your comments, but, by necessity, the time for us to receive them is finite. It is important to arrive at a consensus as soon as possible because absent a continuing Wharf Agreement, we will have no choice but to take the wharf into public ownership and designate Wharf Road as a State-Aid highway.

As to the Blanchard lot, we are moving to secure the continued use of this lot to meet the need for parking for Chebeague Island and Yarmouth residents. Absent an agreement between the towns creating an authority or other governing entity, we plan to lease the property directly to an operator after condemnation under such terms as we feel are reasonable. We recognize the 165 car limit at the property and the scope of permitted barging activities. Our operator will adhere as much as possible to the limitations on shuttle bus operations at the Sewell right of way and to the enumerated regulations (Paragraph 4[a-j]) on daily barging operations set out in the 1996 Court Order unless changing circumstances dictate otherwise.

We look to both communities to build on the progress already made and to continue to work together. Please feel free to contact Ron Roy or Toni Kemmerle with any questions.

Sincerely,

/s/John G. Melrose

Commissioner

Friends of the Library

The major activity of this year for Friends of the Library was the production of the 1998-2000 *Chebeague Island Directory*. The improvements this time were made possible in substantial part by the up to date computer the Library was able to get from Elizabeth Weiss. Not only the text of the phone listings, but also the Yellow Pages could be set on the computer. This allowed the Yellow Pages to be “set” rather than “pasted up” and organized alphabetically like a regular phone book. This was also the first edition of the Directory to list email addresses. The book itself was spiral bound, making it much easier to handle, though we were plagued initially by having missing or misplaced pages in some copies.

Thanks go to many people: Ann Belesca, Dianne Calder, Khaki Habig, Martha Hamilton, Beverly Johnson, Dugan Middleton, Joe Partlow, Mac Passano, Cynn timer Sheketoff, Cheryl Stevens, Elizabeth Weiss and especially Will Sharp who distributed the books to Island businesses and kept track of the receipts.

As usual, the new Directory was launched at the 4th of July picnic. The car advertising it and the *Annual Newsletter* in the traditional parade won the award for the best (though we think, also, probably the only) organizational float. The recipients were very surprised to be presented with a handsome silver bowl to which we added a turned wooden base to provide room for our names, and which is presently on display in the Library.

All told, by the end of the fall season, 122 copies had been given to advertisers and the Town and 637 copies had been sold for a total of \$2541. The advertising brought in an additional \$5610. After deducting the production costs the Directory contributed \$6485.29 to the Library in 1998.

Building on the improved technology for producing the phone book, during the winter Herb Maine also converted the phone book listings to a data base file. This allows them to be used as mailing labels for things like the Friends' annual membership mailing.

In addition to the phone book, the annual membership drive raised an additional \$5622.77. During the summer we had

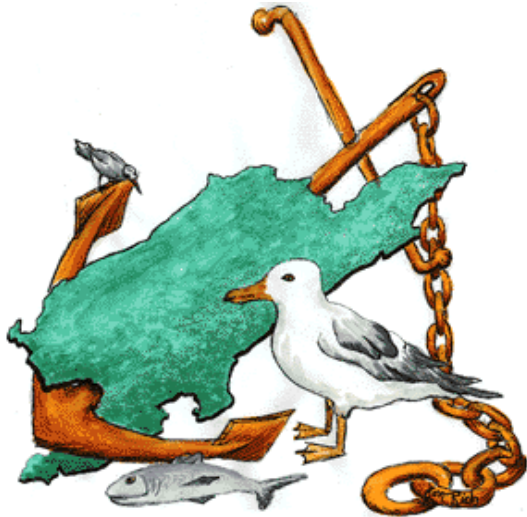
a sociable tea and cakes work party at which volunteers wrote the thank you notes to acknowledge people's donations.

And, as this short note indicates, we are feeling acutely the loss this winter of Elizabeth Weiss, who indeed was a good Friend of the Library.

— Beth Howe, Chair



*Postmasters past and present:
Betsey Ross, Shirley Burgess, Donna Jordan, Gina Ross*



There have been some changes this year in the Chebeague Island website and they have come about mostly from the generosity of the Recompense Foundation.

1. We have a new, easy address – all you need to know now is how to spell Chebeague

and you are there!

2. For people visiting the site you will see a major increase in pictures! In fact I have become more of a photojournalist, which is probably good because my spelling, punctuation, and grammar is atrocious as anyone who reads my page can attest to. Recompense purchased the Sony digital camera which may be used by community organizations and myself. Organizations needing to use it only have to contact me to borrow the camera or have me take the pictures for them.

3. The Recompense Foundation donated money to the site to increase the memory so that we can incorporate all the pictures that I take.

The fruits of the generosity may be viewed in this year's *Annual Newsletter*, which is almost exclusively using photos taken with the new equipment.

— Beverly Johnson, Webmaster



This year has been the inaugural year of *Island Commons*. Renovations to the house donated by the Gilmartins began in June 1998. A five bedroom wing with four half baths, two complete bathrooms, laundry room and two sitting areas was completed in November 1998. Our December open house brought over 100 friends and neighbors, who shared hot mulled cider, cookies and conversation. *Island Commons* staff and Chebeague Care Resource board members gave tours of the house. On December 16th *Island Commons* received its state license as an adult family care home. This meant that Chebeague was able to provide affordable residential and health care to five of its community members in a comfortable, safe and supportive family focused setting on the Island. On January 8, 1999 the first of our four residents moved in. We were able to purchase a van in April with funds from a Community Development Block Grant and an USDA Rural Development Grant. Our new van allows all of the residents access to Chebeague's beaches, water views, library, store and community activities.

Island Commons is a home where Island families come to visit

their friends, grandparents and great-grandparents and join in holiday celebrations, meals and even bingo. When we say family focused we really mean it. There is usually a child watching the TV, playing with toys or in the yard while the adults are visiting. Residents come and go to visit friends and family, and we all share in each other's accomplishments.

A sincere thank you to all who made *Island Commons* possible.

— Cheryl and Darren Hillicoss, Resident Managers

Ladies Aid

Another year behind us and the ladies are busy clearing the Parish House and preparing for our Summer Fair!

We had good turnouts at both the Summer and Christmas Fairs last year. We are grateful to all the folks (who aren't members) who come forth to help out at our fairs and in making our wreaths.

We have been able to contribute to the general fund of the church and have also paid for some improvements to both the Parsonage and the Parish House. We have also given to many worthwhile island and mainland causes.

We regret the passing of three very dear Aid members this year. They are Elizabeth Curit Rush, Madeline Doughty Brewer and Alice Cleaves Blackwell. They were greatly loved by all and will be missed.

Come join us any Thursday at the Parish House. We accomplish a lot and have a good time doing it!

— Victoria Smith, Secretary

Great Chebeague Golf Club



The Golf Club decorated for the season with lights donated by the Recompense Foundation

1998 was a banner year, our 75th anniversary! It was highlighted by a social event commemorating our long history, which was very ably chaired by Robert and Linda White. You would have had to be there to believe some of the wonderfully creative outfits conjured up to conform with our theme of our year of incorporation, 1923.

Our course condition continues to improve under the auspices of Superintendent Bob Jones and Greens Committee Chair, Wink Houghton. You can look for yet more dramatic improvements in 1999, most notably a small pond which is being crafted in the rough alongside number 2 fairway. This will serve not only to add beauty to the course, and thus to the Island, but will also improve drainage on that part of the golf course, AND provide an additional standing reserve well for the Fire Department's use. The pond's creation is being overseen by Bob and Wink, but actually is happening through the interest and generosity of Wayne Dyer who is using his excavating expertise to create, dig out and beautify our pond. We are told it will be up and running come the opening of the Club in May.

Last year we created a new position of full-time Assistant Superintendent in order to help with the workload of golf course maintenance. This was ably filled by Frankie Doughty. We are pleased to announce that in 1999 Fred Martindale will

combine his golf course knowledge and general all around grounds maintenance expertise and become our new Assistant Superintendent.

Another highlight for 1998 was an all time high number of registrants for our Junior Golf Clinics, which are conducted Thursday afternoons throughout the summer at 3:30 p.m.. The Junior Clinic was originated about 10 years ago by Dave Buxbaum and Nicki Wheldon, and its popularity has grown exponentially. Thanks so much to all the volunteers who provide supervision and instruction, most notably Linda White for her contributions, and our new person in charge of the juniors, Ruth Houghton.

There will be a fundraising tournament scheduled for Wednesday, August 11th, and spearheaded by John Thaxter. All profits from this event will go to Chebeague Care Resource. The Club is happy to provide the availability of our course for this kind of event on a financially advantageous basis for Chebeague Island non-profit organizations on a limited basis. We can not always say yes, but if you have a question and/or interest in the possibility of a fundraising golf tournament please contact our Business Manager, Cynn timer Sheketoff.

As with most other golf courses all over the world, our costs have been creeping up, so we have implemented a modest increase in dues and fees for this year. Don't be discouraged, however, as playing our course is still a bargain. And, as always, the year round Chebeaguers are welcome to play at no cost after 5 p.m.

Most of our Island organizations are run by volunteers and the Golf Club is no exception. Through the dedication of many, many people, we have been able to keep our golf course in good shape both financially and physically. The incoming President's job is made particularly easy when the organization that is being taken over is in good shape in the first place. Accordingly, many thanks to Russ Hunter, Past President; Don Soucek, Past Vice-President; and ongoing Treasurer Sky Grant. The Directors, Committee Chairmen and members of the Women's Committee play a vital role in our Club. To all volunteers; thanks, and keep up the good work!

— Bob Buxbaum, President

Great Chebeague Tennis Club

There are some exciting changes in the Tennis Club that non-members should know about, as well as continuing traditions. We still offer two three-week clinics for children every July and August, to be run again this year by our returning Court Keeper- Instructor Jeremy Van Fleet. The littlest kids or beginners should go to the Rec Center hard court, and those in the 3rd or 4th grades and above should go to the clay courts.

Children of non-members are welcome and we require only two things: A new can of balls and flat-soled tennis shoes at the clay courts. Children of non-members may also become summer members for a fee of only \$10., which gives them the ability to sign up for courts between 12 and 2 p.m. weekdays, and to use the courts without charge at other times when they are open and not signed for by members.

Once the season gets going we have a Men's Scrambles every Monday 9-11 a.m., and will revive the Ladies' Scramble if there is interest.

Meanwhile, we have competitive fixed pairs mixed doubles Round Robins scheduled for July 6th and August 10th. The July winners will be designated as Perkins Cup winners for 1999. We soon may have a cup for August as well. Traditional (open, non-fixed pairs) Round Robin mixed doubles will be held July 14th and August 4th, 9-11 a.m..

Fees for non-members singles or doubles are \$10. per hour. Please sign all names on the sheet and put money in the box or give it to the Court Keeper.

— Ron Formisano, President

Meals-on-Wheels

Thanks again to the efforts of our faithful volunteers, the Meals-on Wheels program is working very well on Chebeague. As of this date, we have only two recipients. However, during the past year, we have had as many as six people receiving weekly meals.

Volunteers - Bertha Gray, Marjorie Rice, Joan Robinson and Alice Bowman - pick up the meals in coolers, sort them into individual bags and deliver them. The meals are frozen in microwavable containers with bread and milk for each meal. Meals are sent up once a week - seven meals for each person - on Thursday from Saco by the Southern Maine Area on Aging, via the Casco Bay Lines and arrive on Chebeague at the Chandlers Cove wharf between 11 and 11:30 A.M.

I coordinate the program with people from the SMAA at the meal sites in Saco, Falmouth and Yarmouth.

Recipients should be 60 years of age or older and somewhat housebound or have a need for this service for health reasons. It is suggested that where there is the ability to do so, a donation could be made to the SMAA. If you need the meals-on-wheels or know of someone who might, please call me at (207) 846-4252.

— Ann L. Belesca



Recompense Foundation

The Recompense Foundation is a private foundation established in December, 1991 to engage exclusively in activities for charitable and educational purposes within the meaning of Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code for the purposes of devoting and applying the funds of the foundation a) for the maintenance, preservation, conservation and beautification of Chebeague Island, b) for the relief of the poor, needy, distressed and underprivileged residents of Chebeague Island, including providing funds to tax-exempt, charitable organizations which provide food, shelter and clothing, or basic services to such residents, and providing funds to individuals and families living here who are unable to meet the costs of basic medical, health, nutritional and educational needs, and c) for charitable, religious, scientific, literary or educational purposes.

The business affairs of The Recompense Foundation are conducted and managed by its Board of Directors - Glenn S. Kersteen, Executive Director; Eldon C. Mayer, Jr., Treasurer and Secretary; Joyce Soucek, Director; Gail Miller, Director; Lewis Ross, Director, Roy Jackson, Director, Jonathan KomLosy, Director. During 1998, The Recompense Foundation supported the following charitable activities. A contribution of \$2,075 was made to the Chebeague Recreation Center. A contribution of \$10,000 was made to Chebeague Care Resources. Contributions were also made to the Chebeague Historical Society for \$2,500, the Chebeague Library for \$500, the Chebeague Parents Association for \$90, and an \$90 contribution in support of the Chebeague Community Web site was also made. Finally, \$480 was contributed to Chebeague Island in support of its island beautification program. The Foundation also contributed \$1,000 for the youth mountain adventures program for Chebeague youngsters through the Cumberland Recreation Department.

A summary of the financial condition of the Foundation is available from me. As of 12/31/98, the market value of cash and securities is \$188,220.

— Glenn Kersteen, Executive Director

Sanford's Pond

Once again we had a short skating season on Chebeague. The mild winter weather gave us only 21 days of skating (in 1998-1999). Adults and children enjoyed the season and fun was had by all. As usual Sanford worked hard making sure the ice was the best it could be. He even added more lighting to make night skating even better than before. As always the shed was warm and toasty and Mabel made sure there was plenty to drink. We had plenty of warm skating days and few cold ones. The temperature never seemed to slow down the hard core regulars who frequent the pond. Some days you would find between three and five kids skating to their heart's content, other days there would be 20 or 30. As in years past the sunsets were a beautiful background for all the children taking their final skate before returning home for dinner. As these same tired children would enter the shed to gather their bags and remove their skates you could always hear that famous phrase: "Sanford, when's the pond gonna open?"

Thank you, Sanford Doughty, for sharing with all of us and for teaching our children what giving of one's self really means.

— Frankie Doughty



Stephen Ross Scholarship Fund

I have been asked to review the origin and purpose of the Stephen Ross Scholarship. Therefore, for all the newer people to the Island, the Fund was established in 1964 in memory of Stephen Ross, the son of Gerry and Lewis Ross. Steve was killed in an automobile accident while a senior in high school. The scholarships are available to high school seniors and students commencing their second year of college. The criteria for awarding of scholarships are based on financial need and academic excellence. We award only from the interest generated from the principle. Although our bylaws allow us to use the principle. the committee's consensus has always been to use interest only for awards.

Steve died in 1964. A total of \$1400. started the scholarship. The first two scholarships of \$75. each were awarded in 1968. The gifts we have received since that time have slowly pushed our net worth to \$45,270. Over \$14,000 has been given over the years to 36 students. As one can see, just small donations can eventually add up to real monetary help. I urge all our readers to consider this fund or this cause if you will, at such time as you are able to make a charitable gift. I believe it is a mighty nice feeling to know you may have helped "quick start" some student's career.

We are always very grateful when we are designated as a recipient of money in memory of the deceased. Please keep us in mind if you are making memorial gifts. I want to thank everyone who remembered us this year and in particular those who gave \$100 or more. That includes the Parents Association, Andrew and Gail Todd, Dick and Marianne Brenton, James Leonard, Nancy and Will Sharp, Allen and Jill Malony and the Wessell family. Thank you.

Last year's award of \$1500. went to Chris Towle who is attending the Maine Maritime Academy at Castine.

Only Chebeague students are eligible to apply, Repayment is not required. If there are other questions, any member of the committee will be happy to answer them.

Mabel Doughty, Treas.

Doug Ross

Dianne Calder, Sec.

Sue Burgess

Bill Ross

Hartley Brewer

In these times of major fund raising, I will not appeal for money. I would rather just say that the scholarship is still here, and for those who think the cause is just, remember the address:

The Stephen Ross Scholarship Fund

Route 1, Box 204

Chebeague Island, ME 04017

— Ken Hamilton, President

United Methodist Church



Report from a LARGE church

We are the largest and most active church on Chebeague Island! This would be more impressive except that we are the only church on Chebeague Island. We are a small church by national standards, but in many ways we are very large indeed. Being small has its rewards. Everybody knows everybody, except in the summer. We have introduced name tags during the summer season to help us remember names. Being small also means that people take on many roles in the administration and work of the church. This also helps us be more deliberate about involving new people in the work of the church. In our fellowship, you can't wait for "George" to do it. Each of us knows who "George" is - ourselves.

We continue to nurture our community of faith with the Adult Bible Study, which Gloria Brown conducts every Thursday evening. The church's mission on Chebeague is special and sensitive. We are the only church, and must provide

a church home for a wide variety of denominations and theological dispositions. This is a weekly challenge for me, but one I relish, because it speaks to my image of the church, however small, being truly the faith home of many different people. We continue to “fine-tune” our church's functioning to include everyone.

Despite the financial shortfall which afflicts us each year, we are among the conference leaders in percentage of money given for missions. Out of five hundred United Methodist Churches in New England, we are in the top two percent each year. Through our special offerings as a church, we helped the Ingraham Volunteers in Portland, the Heifer Project which provides farm animals for third world farmers, ice-storm relief, the Bishops' Appeal for Africa, Camp Mechuana here in Maine, Your Choice, the halfway house for teenagers recovering from substance abuse in Hallowell, the Iglesia Metodista of Cuba, the local Center for Grieving Children, UNICEF, UMCOR, and the School for the Deaf/Home for the Blind in Portland. Our vision is larger than this island. But it is focused here. Church members are a vital part of every Island organization. The church's goal is to be the hands and heart of God's love for the whole community, island, state, nation and world.

We face many challenges. Maintaining both an active ministry and beautiful antique buildings is always challenging. We persevere because Jesus Christ is our Savior and our King. We serve and confess a living Christ, through whom all things are possible.

— Robert Leon, Pastor

Whalers

In September 1998, the Whaler's sponsorship by the Town of Cumberland officially came to an end. For some time after, we vacillated between feelings of liberation and uneasiness with our new found independence. Through a lengthy and sometimes complicated process of reorganization, we evolved from that state of limbo into our current affiliation with the Chebeague Recreation Center which, although not perfect, has for now provided us with a sense of rootedness.



*Martha Hamilton
and Ruth Houghton*

We got off to a later than usual start this year, having to postpone our annual Christmas concert (watch for December 1999!) but determination has forever been a Whalers' criteria for admittance, and we're knee deep in preparation for our Summer Concert, July 2nd. On the following Monday evening, we've been asked back to Cliff Island for a performance as well.

Despite our shaky beginnings, we did manage some Christmas and church caroling, and shared the spotlight with the new and beautiful Chebeague Island Tappers at the St Patrick's Day Supper (who we were plenty showed up by). Even forgoing our usual purple attire for green, and changing our name to O'Whalers didn't seem to convince our audience, except for the one chosen few, that we were truly and authentically Irish.

We're hoping that in this coming year we will have regained some strength in numbers and ability, and will be ready to embrace the new century with the same love for community as we have in the last decade. This song, by Shelley Jackson Denham, found its way into my music files over the years, and

was recently unearthed and the Whalers plan to sing and live it always, as our credo:

*We laugh, we cry, we live, we die, we dance, we sing our song.
We need to feel there's something here to which we can belong.
We need to feel the freedom just to have some time alone.
But most of all we need close friends we can call our very own.
And we have found a need to be together.
We have our hearts to give; we have our thoughts to receive;
And we believe that sharing is an answer.*

We remain, respectfully

— The Whalers

Dianne Calder
Carol Lynn Davis
Louise Doughty
Deborah Gordon
Khaki Habig
Martha Hamilton
Ruth Houghton

Banú KomLosy
Diane Leon
Joan Maxon
Eleanor Morse
Joan Robinson
Vail Traina



Dianne Calder and Joan Robinson

Chebeague Census

A quick census of Chebeague was done in January of 1999. There were approximately 340 people on the Island.

WEDDINGS.....

Christopher Le Siege and Debora Pelletier
John Jordan and Catarina Stanford
Robert Parker Jr. and Joyce Gunther
Miguel Tomasini and Debbie Hamilton
Sherman Rich and Kelly Soule
Brian Phipps and Sarah Thomson
Russ Boisvert and Jessica Sharron
Richard and Judith Graves

BIRTHS....

Sarah Elizabeth Mario, to
Martha (Merrill) and Dan Ames

Nicholas Clifford, to
Teresa and Brenton Bennett

Erik John, to
Jessica and Russ Boisvert

Morgan Alexis, to
Abbie (Buxbaum) and John Brooks

Alexis Lynn, to
Trisha Harris and Alex Buxbaum

Avery Lynn, to
Fiona (Shepherd) and Steve Davis

Dylan Earle, to
Julie (McNeil) and Edmund Doughty

Samantha Jean, to
Sarah and Gardner Doughty

Owen Scott, to
Carolyn (Belesca) and George Edwards

Brenna Sue, to
Dawna (Boisvert) and Clayton Foley

Jonathan Daniel, to
Grace and Erhart Groothoff

Isabella, to
Nichola (Shepherd) Gutye

Collin Howell, to
Jane and Clifford Habig

Andrew Robert, to
Sue Speidel and Jeffery Hamilton

Luke Sherman, to
Brenda (Johnson) and David Klenda

Zachery Earl, to
Jane and Tim Le Siege

Amanda Lee, to
Kathy (Hilly) and Blake Maskell

Bradley Richard, to
Debbie (Hamilton) and Ray Milesen

Alena Barbara, to
Melissa and Stephen Porter

Stephen Christopher York, to
Lori (York) and Chris Rich

Victoria, to
Anita and Victor Rich

Sela Raines Arden, to
Darby and Taylor Ricketts

Dakota Robert, to
Donna and Robert Riddle

Jacob Walker, to
Heidi and Alex Todd

Laura Jo Anne, to
Susan and Patrick Williams

DEATHS...

David Hamilton Bailey
Alice Cleaves Blackwell
Victor Bowen
David Bowman
Madeline Doughty Brewer
Harper Brown
Joan Cleaves
Robert Ensign
Ruth Goodrich
Barbara Graves
Bertha Graves
Stephen Graves
Gordon Hamilton
Lida Ricker Hamilton
Beatrice Train Horr
Rev. Nellie Lane
Paul Lakin
George Lowenstein
William Lunt Jr.
Edward MacCormack
Dr. Elliott Middleton Jr.
Frederick Munroe
Mary Harmon Porter
Elizabeth Curit Rush
Alice Thompson
Gordon Trower
J. Elizabeth Weiss

Condolences to the following people who have also lost a loved one:

Mr. and Mrs. Peter Carleton
Ms. Jeanne Chadbourne
Mr. and Mrs. Harold Cleaves Jr.
Mr. and Mrs. Michael Darling
Ms. Carol Lynn Davies
Ms. Elaine Doughty
Mr. Barry Hamilton
Mr. and Mrs. Charles Hilly
Ms. and Mrs. Robert Hunneman
Mr. and Mrs. Allen Malony
Mr. and Mrs. John Maxon
Mr. and Mrs. John Sullivan
Ms. Evelyn Stover

We have two young men who have enlisted in the U.S. Navy. Kevin Fitch, who has been stationed on the Carrier Constitution in San Diego CA, and Mark Magoon who is attending school in Gulfport, MS.

If you have a birth, death or marriage statistic you would like included in the *Annual Newsletter* next year, please contact either of the undersigned.



— Census data provided by Dianne Calder and Marjorie Munroe