President’s Report

September arrived on Cliff Island with that wonderful dry, clear air that our family used to call “back to school” weather. As this is being written, though, we are warily eyeing a hurricane heading up the coast.

This summer saw the closing of Finestkind, the island general contractor that for the last 23 years has been such an important part of life on Cliff Island for so many of us. It will be missed. For those of us who have lived most of the year very far from Cliff Island, the work of Roger Berle and the Finestkind team quickly became an essential element in our way of life here. For the many things we could not do ourselves, and could not do by remote control, there was Roger, Dale, Barney, Dave, Gary, Marianne, Mark, Karen, and many of our sons and daughters. We thank them all. And most of all, we thank Roger, who persevered and sacrificed for so long to keep this vital asset up and running for all of us.

In June, Sally Howard took on the job of heading the deer committee. The committee, including representatives from the City of Portland and the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife, met with the community in June to evaluate the first two years of the program and to decide where we go from here. One thing was immediately clear. The community’s gratitude for the hard work and selfless dedication of Earl and David MacVane over the past two very cold winters is huge. They have done a terrific and difficult job for us, and they will be hard at it again this winter. We ought to take every opportunity to say thank-you.

On September 1, the Portland Zoning Board of Appeals approved the city’s application to build a barge landing on the “Land Associates 2” site. This was an important victory for the island community. After many years of talk and two years of careful study and analysis, Land Associates 2 emerged as the only viable location for this essential service. And after extended study and discussion, the Cliff Island community voiced its overwhelmingly support. The Zoning Board of Appeals resolved every issue before it in favor of the community’s position, and every one by a unanimous vote.

The ZBA decision is an important step forward, but this battle is far from over. Those opposing the site chosen by the community, the city, and the expert consultants who helped all of us work through the process apparently will challenge the decision in court, and they appear to be well financed and very determined. There also are a number of regulatory proceedings to complete, and we can expect the same determined opposition there. We will need a concerted, vocal effort by the Cliff Island community to see this through and protect this vital island service.

Finally, all of us should take the time to express our appreciation for the excellent work Steve Little has done for the past three years as president of the Cliff Island Association. The island has confronted a number of difficult issues in these years. Steve’s strong and steady leadership has given the community strength and confidence, and his sound judgment and sense of fairness have often been the crucial element in getting through a crisis. We salute him.

Larry Sharp
CIA President
ISLAND READERS

The Island Readers have enjoyed another summer together reading and interpreting the selections for June through August. In June we gained insight into autism (Asperger’s syndrome) and the impact on those close to the situation. July provided a chilling glimpse of the effects of religious fundamentalism gone amok. Our August selection was a change of pace in which a different viewpoint facilitated a fresh and issue filled look at the Land of Oz and our assumptions about the Wicked Witch of the West.

Recent and future paperback choices are listed here for those who wish to join the monthly gathering. The Cliff Island Library Association will obtain two copies of each book so that we should have enough copies to satisfy all.

Island Readers Selections-2005-2006

Jun-05  The Curious Incident of the dog in the night  
         by Mark Haddon

Jul      Under the Banner of Heaven by Jon Krackour

Aug      Wicked by Gregory Maguire

Sept     Devil in the White City by Erik Larson

Oct      Power of One by Bryce Courtnay

Nov      White Teeth by Zade Smith

Jan-06   Dreams from my Father by Barack Obama

Feb      Man and Superman by George B Shaw

Mar      Alexander Hamilton by Ron Chernow

Apr      The Master by Colm Toibin

May      The Sound and Fury by William Faulkner

SECESSION ?!

A series of meetings were then scheduled: with General meetings alternating with Committee meetings every other week, to encourage the public’s involvement. These have now continued into September. All meetings are open to the public and welcome all participants. The purpose of the meetings is, as indicated by the mission statement: TO COLLECT AND ANALYZE DATA TO PRESENT TO THE COMMUNITY IN ORDER TO ALLOW FOR AN INFORMED DECISION.

Now that some of the questions have been formulated and some data analyzed this information needs to be shared. It will be presented in three forms: ongoing public meetings (Tuesdays at 7:30PM at Hall), mailings to registered voter households and e-mails to Bobby Howard’s e-mail list. Copies are available to anyone who makes a request.

Your every question is important to this process of informed decision making. If you are unable to attend meetings and have questions the following people have agreed to deliver them to the meetings: Bobby Howard for e-mail (Bob@cliffisland.com), and Cheryl Crowley for paper copies (POB 11 / Cliff Island, ME 04019). Don’t hesitate to contact us.

Book Announcement

Rimbaud, Jean Nicholas Arthur Rimbaud: Complete Works, Selected Letters, a Bilingual Edition. Translated and with an Introduction and Notes by Wallace Fowlie. Updated, Revised and with a Foreword by Seth Whidden. 496 p., 6 halftones, 7 line drawings. 6 x 9 1996, 2005

“Wallace Fowlie’s translations are among the best that Rimbaud has received in any language: complete, parallel, and, above all, faithful - a perfect aid for those who know some French but not enough to read Rimbaud without help. While Fowlie’s book never lost its seductive powers, research has moved forward in bounds, improving knowledge of Rimbaud’s manuscripts and of his literary, historical, and ideological references. Thanks to the discreet, astute, and erudite presentation and modifications provided by Seth Whidden, America’s foremost Rimbaud scholar, Fowlie is back on the map in an up-to-date and accurate edition that will be essential reading for students, poets, teachers, and rock-stars alike.” -- Steve Murphy, editor of Rimbaud’s four-volume Œuvres complètes.

Seth Whidden (Giles) is an Assistant Professor of French at Villanova University and coeditor-in-chief of Parade sauvage, the scholarly journal of Rimbaud studies.
OBITUARIES

James MacVane
June 23, 1932—February 24, 2005

James W. MacVane was born and raised on Cliff Island, Maine to Paul E. and Phyllis Boyce MacVane. Growing up he helped his father with the lobster fishing business. He learned to pilot boats at a very early age.

Jim graduated from Portland High School and immediately joined the Air Force. He proudly served four years during the Korean War. While in the Air Force, he met and married his loving wife, Lorraine Follett MacVane. Their first home was in Auburn, California. They moved back to Cliff Island where they lived for 2 1/2 years before returning to Citrus Heights.

James was preceded in death by two daughters, Linda and Wendy as well as his parents, Paul and Phyllis MacVane and a son-in-law, Dan Nahmens.

He is survived by Lorraine, his wife of 50 years, three daughters, Deborah MacVane-Shimek, Ginny Nahmens and Gayle Sanders, many grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

He is also survived by siblings, Paul E. MacVane, Jr., Jeanette Hamilton, Judith Thibodeau, Gordon MacVane, Gary MacVane, Paula MacVane and many loving nephews and nieces.

YOU ARE STILL HERE

When you left this earth for the other side
I wanted to go with you as I cried and cried.
Then I curled in a ball and shook with fear
What would life be like without you here?

Could life ever be the same? The answer is no!
Familiar things where ever I go. The same to others.
But not to me, for without you here how could it be?
Your love and laughter made the ordinary seem new.
Without you my sun is gone as my world turns blue.

And then one day I realized, you are not gone
For I keep you inside. You come to me often,
In my heart and mind. In my dreams you are
Often by my side.

You guide and protect me throughout my day.
You have not really gone away.
You will always be with me, not like yesterday.
You are still here, just in a different way.

By Lorraine MacVane

Paul Herbert Ridley-Tree
29 December 1916—10 August 2005

Remembering Paul Ridley-Tree

Gentlemally, Gracious, Polite, Caring, Giving.
These five words are a start, but they can’t begin to capture the life of Lord Paul Ridley-Tree, the Montecito businessman and philanthropist who died on August 10 at age 88 of lung cancer. Our hearts go out to Lady Leslie Ridley-Tree and other family members for their loss.

Our Community will miss his charm and dignity. He’s left behind a legacy a one of Santa Barbara’s most generous philanthropists that will live on in the countless groups and people he and his wife have helped.

Many of the couple’s donations went unheralded in the press. Time and time again, you could count on the couple to quietly step up to help with projects that may never have been completed without their assistance.

The Ridley-Trees since the ‘80s have given about $30 million to education institutions such as UCSB and City College, to institutions such as the Santa Barbara Museum of Art and the Santa Barbara Zoo, and to nonprofit groups such as Eastside Neighborhood Clinic and Casa Esperanza homeless shelter.

They donated $10 million to the rebuilding of Santa Barbara Cottage Hospital.

As Ron Werft, president and CEO of Cottage Health System noted:

“Paul Ridley-Tree is an inspiration to all of us in so many ways. He possessed an unusual combination of intellect, compassion, generosity and a huge capacity for love and devotion to Leslie, to friends and our community. His positive impact on Santa Barbara will outlive our children’s children.”

It certainly will.

Santa Barbara News-Press—Our Opinion
Thursday, August 25, 2005
Hear and There

Hailey, Lillian, and Laini Frager proudly announce the birth of their baby brother, Eli Edward. He was born four weeks early on August 28, 2005 at 2:55am at Mercy Hospital in Portland. He weighed 5lbs 11oz and was 19in long. His parents, Farrah (Pitkin) and Paul Frager, are also very happy about the their new addition.

On August 20, 2005, Steve Little, a Commander in the Coast Guard Reserve assumed the position of Commanding Officer of the Coast Guard’s newest Port Security Unit, PSU 301, based out of Cape Cod, MA when the unit was officially commissioned at a formal ceremony. The unit’s mission is to deploy on 96 hours notice to any location in the world to provide protection to US and allied forces deploying for military and humanitarian missions. The unit, made up of 146 men and women, deploys with 6 heavily armed highly maneuverable boats which make up the last line of defense between terrorists and their targets, be they ships or port facilities. Steve is pictured here "inspecting the troops" with Vice Admiral V. Crea, Commander, Coast Guard Atlantic Area who presided over the ceremony.

Ed and Molly Scheu had some great sailing in Sweden in July, followed by a family reunion of western cousins in Jackson Hole, Wyoming. Travel east, travel west, Cliff Island is the best..

Tori Marsh and Ali Marsh are both attending the Maine College of Art in Portland this fall. Tori is beginning her junior year and Ali is entering as a freshman.

On September 2nd, Brian Swirsky MD and a dear friend organized a medical relief team of eight to go to Mississippi. Within 24 hours of deciding to go, they amassed a huge amount of disaster relief supplies from a few hospitals and local private physicians. The Argent Funds Group of Greenwich, CT donated a large private jet to transport them with the supplies as well as a satellite phone because when they went, communication by cell phone was unreliable. They based themselves out of Gulfport Memorial Hospital and teamed up with an ambulance crew from Missouri, and a local Red Cross person from the area who knew where to find groups of people who couldn't get to the hospital or shelters. Many people wouldn't leave their devastated and condemned homes because if they did, they wouldn't be allowed to return. Each day the docs left with the ambulance and a box truck full of medical supplies and helped over 100 people a day and even saved a few lives on the spot - at one point there was a bit of emergency surgery happening in the truck on a chiropractor's table! The need was so overwhelming... people were amazed and thankful that it was instant competent care, no charge, and no forms to fill out for medical care!
CLIFF ISLAND ABC
By Annie Tritt

A is for Anna, who gives us our mail
B is for Bruce, who puts fish in the pail
C is for the Cove, where we have lots of fun
D is for Dave Crowley, who's always on the run
E is for Eleanor's Sugar Shack, tiny and sweet
F is for Flagpole, where we kids always meet
G is for Gary, who keeps the roads clean
H is for Hope, where the peacocks like to scream
I is for Island, close to paradise
J is for Justin, the A.C.E. girl so nice
K is for Kim, slim as a seal
L is for lobster, our favourite meal
M is for Maura, the librarian, who gives us ice cream
N is for North point, where the water is so clean
O is for O'Reilley, who have lobsters on their float
P is for Paul, who goes and meets every boat
Q is for quiet like it mostly is here
R is for raindrops, which fall on the dear
S is for school next to the playground
T is for taxi and Chester, who drives us around
U is for U who love to come
V is for Victoria and Julian, her son
W is for Wake, which we kids find so cool
X is for X-tra fun, which we have in the tidal pool
Y is for Yard Sale, at Mrs McKone
Z is for the end of this long poem

Dustin Bays, grandson of Charlie and Sandra Green, made first chair tuba player last spring in the South Carolina All-Region Clinic band. The band consisted of 9th and 10th grade students who, through a series of tryouts, made it to the top spots in their regions. Dustin is now in the 10th grade at Walhalla High School and continues to play the tuba as well as various other instruments. He also raised over $1,000 for his J.R.O.T.C. by doing 300 push ups in one hour.

Also, granddaughter Amanda Green finished her first year at Colby Sawyer College on the Dean’s list and in the top 5th of her class. She is currently attending Edinburgh University in Scotland.

Their granddaughter Christa Guild was selected by her school, last May, to have her art work displayed at a weekend artist’s tea in Sudbury, MA and also at the Worcester Art Museum for a month. She was in the 8th grade at this time.

Dear Friends,

After much thought and prayer, I've decided to become a candidate for the United States Congress in Connecticut's 1st Congressional District. I wanted the Cliff Island Community to be among the first to know, even before I make my official announcement in the next few weeks.

I will be running as a Progressive Republican. So, What's that, you might ask? While it's not a new category or even a new political party, it's certainly a term that needs to be dusted off and returned to its former glory. Theodore Roosevelt was a Progressive Republican and I draw much of my inspiration from him. In many ways, I feel that I have more in common with the Progressive Republicans at the turn of the 20th Century than I do with Republicans at the turn of the 21st. So my campaign for Congress isn't just about running for a particular seat in Congress, it's as much about reclaiming the soul of the Republican Party which I believe has lost its sense of direction.

The other main reason I want to embark on this uphill climb is that I've got this gut feeling that won't go away and over the years I've learned that when my gut talks, I had better listen. Maybe you feel this way too. From what I can tell, most people, Republicans and Democrats alike, are very upset about the behavior of our elected officials. The angry exchanges, the bitter partisanship, the inability to acknowledge that those with whom we disagree are as deserving of dignity and respect as those with whom we agree. I see this inappropriate, juvenile behavior being played out, not just in the halls of Congress, but at all levels of our society: in our churches, in our youth sports activities, in our schools, and yes, even on our beloved Cliff Island.

It's shameful behavior and my gut tells me that most Americans secretly hope that somewhere, some average, no name John Doe or Jane Doe will step forward, act like a mature adult, and become that public person everyone can trust: Republicans, Democrats, independents... Everyone. When was the last time that happened? But my gut tells me that no matter what your political affiliation, you long for a time when the political grown ups will act like adults, put the political kids in time out and be willing to call our nation to an ethic of self sacrifice instead of self aggrandizement.

Can I be that guy? Who knows. Is this just my inflated ego having a field day? Perhaps. But I'll never know if my gut feeling is right unless I move forward, in faith, and throw my hat into the ring. So here goes!

Now it's time for the reality check! I'm going to need at least a million dollars to make this a viable campaign. No Kidding! But I think the Cause is worthwhile and I hope you feel that way too. But I also feel like I'm charting some new territory here and that's very exciting. So no matter if you are a life long Republican or a life long Democrat, Connecticut resident or a resident of any other state, I need your support to begin this new thing and move this campaign forward. Can you help me? Please send your contributions to:

MacLean for Congress Committee
P.O. Box 82
East Hartland, CT 06027.

If my website is not up and running by the time you get this mailing, I hope to have it up within a few days. I'll get the URL out to you as soon as I secure my domain name.

Thanks, Scott MacLean
Tennis Club Update

Who remembers that rainy part of the summer?? After that soggy beginning and a very late set up of the court, the weather turned gorgeous with a lot of activity courtside. We had a record 58 memberships of individuals and families. Many generous contributions, combined with dues, have served to begin to rebuild our treasury after the new fence expenditure. WE shall now be able to purchase our next season’s har-tru. Dues were paid responsibly, and procedures went more smoothly than usual. Thank you, all of you.

Next year, I would like to implement a sign up procedure for people looking for partners with whom to play. This would help renters who are here for short times or individuals who are searching for partners to accompany them on the court. We shall give it a test run.

A final note- when you arrive to see this court playable, you must have a hard time imagining what it takes for it to go from a puddle with weeds and ruts to a court with lines, net and a good surface. It involves a lot of hard work to lay 2 tons of har-tru, measure and lay lines, then rolling and sweeping for days. Some of this time is donated by NON-tennis players as our crew is small. Please join me in thanking everyone who makes this court available to our community!

We shall see you all next summer.

Kris Saunders

Fire Department Report

There have been a host of short but significant items I should mention for this report. I hesitate to recognize that this year has brought extraordinarily low incident numbers. Both Medical and fire calls were at record low numbers. I certainly hope that by mentioning this, we won’t be inundated with calls to make up for lost time.

This summer ACE recognized the commitment of the Volunteers on Cliff who provide Emergency Medical Assistance to the residents of Cliff. The Cliff Island Volunteer Fire Department is honored to be recognized with the group of Health Care Professionals during this ceremony. My thanks also go out to Dr. Bob Kramer, Peg Akers, Dr. Potter(s), and those other professionals who have unselfishly contributed to the care of our neighbors.

We would like to welcome Cliff Island Fire Department’s newest member Seth Whidden (Giles). We were able to break him in with one of our only medical calls coming only days after he was issued his pager.

Portland Fire Department is using an on-line training program to keep EMS licenses current. On Monday night several of our volunteers attended a class on the use of this training which has been extended to the island volunteers. The Program comes with training manuals, study questions and DVD multimedia for each chapter of study. Classes may be completed at each individuals own pace. I am enthusiastic that this program will make the upkeep of the volunteer’s licenses.

Finally, I would like to again remind all that 911 works on Cliff Island. I know there has been a hesitation to use it because there is the concern that the “sirens will go off and everybody will show up”. The sirens do not necessarily have to go off with the use of 911, it is the discretion of the dispatcher who can choose to simply page out the volunteers, or if the situation seems serious will sound the alarm to expedite the quickest, fullest response. The most compelling reason to use 911 is that it coordinates the whole EMS system. The ambulance responds to the Rescue boat and they start to the Island while the volunteers on the island are dispatched to the emergency via pager.

At any point during the incident the process can be interrupted and those units that are not needed can be returned. The time saved getting assistance can be significant, so please, if it is an emergency call 911 first.

Thank you for letting us serve you, Chief Crowley

Notice to People who Rent their Homes:

On my morning walks, I have observed cartons full of returnables by the roadside on trash day. When these do not go into the recycling bins, the school loses an important part of its revenue. Please post in your houses that these should be deposited at the school or by the Hall. Arrangements could be made for pickup through ACE or a school parent if necessary. Thank you. Kris

Kelly’s Creations

Jewelry, slates, scarves, shawls, afghans, and more.
Special orders welcome!

Kelly O. Profenno
Freeport, Maine
207-865-1227
kogdp@suscom-maine.net
Kids Page

I recommend this book it is a great book!
By Connor Lent

This is what it is like in Mexico. Monarchs go to Mexico for the winter.
By Dylan

In the aquarium at our school we have two Monarch chrysalises.
by Olivia, Cade and Julian

Monarch BUTTERFLY
by SAMANTHA CROWLEY

Once upon a time my sisters and I found a meadow. We were out walking and saw an apple tree in this meadow. We played there until a group of butterflies, and their leader, flew over us. They also flew over all the flowers in the meadow. They were headed to Mexico.

I knew from books that they were heading for a long rest in the trees in Mexico. We watched them fly overhead. When they were past we went home and told mom about the butterflies.

The next day we went back. There were no butterflies that day, just red juicy apples.

(In the picture try to find my sisters and me.)
PTC Report

We are looking forward to a new school year. We have 7 students this year with the addition of Julian Bernard and Olivia Crowley. We are pleased to welcome them into our school. We also have a new Principal this year, Ms. Kelly Hasson. We are looking forward to working with her and all the other teachers and specialist that come and spend time at the school.

Thank you everyone who purchased our tote bags, blankets, youth sweatshirts and note cards at the craft fair. We still have some available. If you would like to buy additional items please contact Cheryl Crowley at cherylcrowley@netzero.net or (207)766-2651.

We want to thank people for donating their bottles and cans. We appreciate your continued support. Also, thank you to everyone who stopped and helped us sort the bottles and cans. We already miss our summer friends!

Hope you all have a good fall.

Cliff Island PTC

Narnia in America

By Jessica Griffin

Back in Naria is a far away place where animals can talk and mythical creatures are real. One day a prince named Caspian and his gang of dwarfs, giants, fauns and talking animals were walking in the woods when they all suddenly fell into a time portal!

After going through a twisting vortex of color and time they landed in America in 2005 at a MacDonald’s drive through. They guy in the window said to Caspian, “What would you like sir?”

“What would I like? I WOULD LIKE TO GET OUT OF HERRREEE”, said Caspian!!!!!!

“would that be debit or cash,” asked the guy in the window. Then Reepacheep said “I’ll have a cok?”

“Its coke rodent” said the guy in the window. Then the manager came out and said “only cars at the drive through and you’re holding up a line!!!!!”

“Come on men let’s go somewhere else,” said Caspian.

Next they went to a Dell computer store, they all walked in and Caspian said “what are these things”?

“I don’t know?” said Reepacheep. Then the manager came over and said “they’re computers.” Then Reepacheep said “con-po-er?”

“No computer,” said the manager. Then all the mice including Reepacheep started saying “con-po-er con-po-er con-po-er!” That’s when they decided to leave.

Caspian did not like the con-po-er or the cok. But still did not know how to go home. Then out of no where Aslan (the kind of Narian who is a lion) gave Caspian red slippers and said “click you heels 3 times and say I want to go home.” Then Aslan left.

Then Caspian put on the slippers and clicked his heels 3 times and said “I want to go home!”

Then they were all in Narnia again! And they cheered “YYYAAAAAYYY!!!!!!!!!”

And they all lived happily ever after and then never fell in a time portal again.

The End

CBITD

The Winter Schedule goes into effect on Tuesday, October 11th. Schedules are available at the ticket office or you can view them on-line at the CBITD website.

www.cascobaylines.com
email: information@cascobaylines.com
Phone (207) 774-7871 Fax: (207) 774-7875

Contact Susan Williams at SusanW@cascobaylines.com to be added to the CBITD emailing list and receive their news updates electronically.
John Coyle

As of May 2005 John Coyle has been on the earth for 88 years. I thought it was high time we raise our voices in tribute to John, so I asked people to write me with their thoughts and fond (or not so fond!) memories. I had some wonderful responses (my apologies to all for not submitting this in time for the earlier Seagull):

Alice and Leo Carter write:
“The occasion of John Coyle’s 88th birthday provides a good reason to wish him well and to thank him for the many stories he has told us. John summered in our house on Fisherman’s Cove with his sister (Anne Howard) and parents. One year he stayed on in the un-winterized house, and built the fireplace and chimney that we still use. He also explained that a small shed on the property was called the “pest house” by his parents because it provided a space for their bright and lively children. If you want to understand how to write an algorithm to calculate an exotic mathematical function, or what the ancient Chinese thought about war, ask John, because he really knows!”

Joanne M. LaPomarda writes:
“I’ve been thinking about what I want to say about my memories of John Coyle and there are so many that it is hard to choose one moment. I also don’t want this to sound like John is no longer with us and will never come to Cliff Island again, cause I very much hope to see him [here].

When I moved to Cliff Island in 1986 the first real friendship that I formed was with John’s daughter, Sarah, and we have been very close friends ever since. Consequently, every summer thereafter I spent every spare minute at the Coyle Cottage with Sarah and her father, John. There were the times in the yard with lots of family and great conversation. The times on the beach with Sarah, the summer I took care of my granddaughter, Allannah, and introducing Allannah to John and how kind he was to her. All the dinners where we sat around the kitchen table and ate great food, drank lots of wine and talked for hours & hours and, of course, John was always sitting in “his chair” sharing in all that was going on.

I loved talking with John. It was like referencing a History Book only more accurate and more detailed. He also tried to teach me how to use my first computer and talked to me a lot about astronomy and the computer program his was trying to put together for teaching people how to navigate by the stars when sailing. Of course, it was all way over my head, but it was so interesting to listen to him and feel his passion and excitement for science.

As years went by, John even trusted me to give him a haircut and I think those were some of my most special memories. Sitting on the porch, feeling the warm breeze & the sun on our faces and talking, talking about anything and everything. It was so special and he always was so pleased with the results of his haircut, which made me feel very privileged and proud to be of help to him. Well, the memories are endless and I could write a small book, but won’t and will end by saying that if I could have asked God to fashion a father for me, I would have asked him for John Coyle!!”

Jo Davis writes:
“I remember asking John Coyle how to make a sail for Joe’s punt. In a patient manner he explained the yards of material I needed, the degree of cutting, waxing of thread and finally offered his house and treadle sewing machine. Having confidence in his instruction he left me to stitch as he read on the porch. Hour after hour of stitching and reading, he ambled in to inspect the progress. Puffing on his pipe he said, "Not bad." I’m told Norman Black said as we sailed past his Greyledge, ‘That’s a fine sail on Joe’s boat.’ From this land lover I thank you John for getting us through brisk breezes and turbulent waters.”

Eva (Sahmel) Alming writes:
“I like to think about a wonderful summer day in 1949 sailing on John Coyle’s 40 foot yawl together with several others, including Perley Pitkin (Frank’s father), my mother (Margaret Sahmel) and Helen Potter (mother of Molly, Ben, Paul and Grove). We boarded the boat at 10:00 a.m., and were given a piece of sandpaper to sand the deck in the area where we were sitting. We were happy. What a wonderful sail we had.

As we were nearing home, we were becalmed behind Hope Island. It was 5:00 p.m., and some people had a dinner engagement and were wondering when we would be home.

The boat was gently going nowhere. “John!” someone said, “Don’t you have an engine on this boat?” “Yes” said John, “But I only use it in an emergency”. We all laughed. John is always calm and unruffled. He then proceeded to take out many S.S. Pierce cans of delicious food for us to eat. We were happy, but still wondering when we would be home. Would you believe, we did get back in about 2 hours, hardly moving, but moving slowly. We never did use the engine. What a memorable day! Happy Birthday John!

Ellen McGregor writes:
“John Coyle is my father-in-law because I married his step-son, Doug. I met Cliff Island because of John’s connection to it – for that I am grateful! And because John is so well loved by Doug – for that I am also grateful. Happy Birthday, John! We love you!”

Marshall McGregor writes:
“I first met John Coyle when, as a 12-year-old boy, my mother called me downstairs to meet her new friend. It was in our old brick row house in Washington, D.C.’s Capitol Hill neighborhood. There in the easy chair sat this tall professorial-looking man with deep eyes and bushy eyebrows. On his lap, he cleaned his ever-
present pipe. He was the most interesting person I’d ever met! He had memorized endless amounts of poetry and had a bottomless reservoir of stories. He talked about taking the steamer from New York to Portland in the 20’s. He’d talk, in general, about the cold war and nuclear gamesmanship between the super-powers. For anyone who wanted to listen, he was a teacher like no other - especially if you liked science and physics and culture. He showed me how to build a generator for a 7th grade science project. He taught me about respect for one’s neighbors and for the cultures of the world. Most of all, he clued me into a mystery about our world - about how one can endeavor to have a place in it, to gain sustenance from it, to enjoy it - and have the smallest negative impact as possible. The most memorable example of this, and one that is famous at least within our family, recalls the genesis of our “seawall”. As the erosion of the point and beach off the house continued in the early 70’s, it was obvious that something had to be done. Many suggested pilings and a bulkhead wall. John told me that the bigger the confrontation one challenged nature with, the bigger and more certain would the failure of the attempt be. John believed that one must understand nature, yield to it and compromise its force if one was to get it to cooperate. John would think for hours, days and weeks to come up with a natural, seamless and sensible solution to difficult problems. Every problem, according to John, had somewhere a natural and diplomatic solution. And that included the seawall. So, he noticed that our beach at that time had large amounts of large trawler nets that washed up. There were long driftwood timbers. There were rocks. He lectured me about the waves being energy transported from one place to another and that there was a big price to pay for trying to absorb that energy all at once. He counseled that one should try to get the waves to dissipate their energy gradually before it met the eroding shore. The way to that, he said was to create a cribwork of timbers on the upper beach, bolted together. The found netting would be laid across the timbers and nailed in place. Loose rocks and boulders would be piled up in the crib work with sand and seaweed in the upper parts farthest from the sea. As the sea would wash through the system, the netting, with the rocks piled on, would hold the cribbing in place and keep the smaller rocks from washing away. The sand and seaweed would be protected from most waves. The seaweed would hold the sand and rainwater in place and make fertilizer for the grasses and bushes that were to follow. When the storm tide was high, the lower cribworks and rocks closest to the sea were submerged. The waves would approach, heap up and break, ending its foamy life just before it reached the bushes. The roots of the bushes and grasses, by the way, played a part by holding the seaweed and sand and soil together. And do you know what? That "seawall" is still there, working exactly as John predicted and has protected the land behind it ever since. If you understand that story, you can understand what drives this remarkable man. Whether it was protecting a beach or protecting the nation and the world from nuclear holocaust, he applied the same principle - understanding reality and sensitively working with it. We could use more John Coyle in this world.”

Doug McGregor writes:
“I have really been blessed in life to have in John Coyle a second wonderful father. He is without a doubt the most patient individual I have ever met. And infinitely fair. As long as I have known him he has taught us to observe principles of balance, harmony, humility, fairness, kindness, humor and intellect—the same as he sought in his professional life, his personal life, and in his relationship to nature. In addition to that, I learned from him so many interesting and useful things: how to tie knots, principles of electricity, how to fix all things mechanical and electrical, how to sail, how to address and solve problems, coping with adversity. These are life lessons I use every day, and I am forever grateful to John for these gifts, the gifts of a man to a boy, the gifts of a father to a son. I plan to pass them on to my son. Thank you, John, for everything.

Profenno Way
Freeport, Maine 04032
(207) 865-3920
proent@suscom-maine.net

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ALL use of the Hall MUST be scheduled

And if your usage will extend for more than one day, each of the days (and time of day) it will be used must be scheduled and approved. This helps us keep tabs on the condition of the Hall as well as avoid double bookings.

Thanks.

Please call Steve Little (766-2130) for scheduling.
Cliff Island Historical Society

At its annual meeting last month the Cliff Island Historical Society membership approved a formal Collection Policy. The CIHS Collection Committee wanted everyone to know what that policy is to help with any future gifts. Here it is:

Cliff Island Historical Society Collection Policy

I. Acquisitions
(a) Acceptance of items by the CIHS shall be governed by the mission of the Society: to collect, preserve, and make accessible those objects, antiquities, documents, oral histories and other educational and cultural items pertaining to the unique and special history of Cliff Island, Maine. Such items will include, but not be limited to, artifacts, photographs, and documents related to the work and domestic life of the island during the full course of its existence. Items related to the current life of the island that may be of historic interest in the future will also be collected.
(b) All items accepted by CIHS shall be in the form of gifts, donations, or bequests. For each gift donors shall receive a Deed of Gift signed, whenever possible, by a member of the Collection Committee or else by a member of the CIHS. Upon returning the Deed with his or her signature, the donor will also receive a formal Acknowledgement signed by the President. The Society will not purchase items for its collections.
(c) Whenever possible, donated objects or artifacts should be accompanied by information as to their provenance, history, and/or relevance to the CIHS mission. These data need not be texts but should be convertible into texts by the Society.
(d) Works of art in any medium will normally be accepted only if they pertain to the history of, or have potential historical value to, Cliff Island. While the artist need not be a resident or frequent visitor, works by those with a long-time association with the island will be given special consideration.
(e) Donors may not place any restrictions on gifts, which will in every case become the exclusive property of the CIHS, subject to its obligations as stated below. Since it will not be possible to display all items at a given time, the Society cannot guarantee the display of any item, nor that all items in a single donation will be displayed together.
(f) Ordinarily, duplicate items will not be accepted, though there may be exceptions according to the nature or merit of the item.
(g) Monetary value shall not be a consideration in accepting items, except in cases where a high monetary value may place too great a burden of responsibility on the Society.
(h) The CIHS will make the utmost effort to preserve and protect all items in its collection. The Society will not accept gifts it cannot care for responsibly.

II. Deaccessioning:
Items shall be accepted by the CIHS with the expectation that they will remain part of the collections. However, the Society retains the right to deaccession any item in its collection. Items will be deaccessioned only upon the recommendation of the Collections Committee and with the approval of the Board of Trustees. Reasons for deaccessioning include, but are not strictly limited to, the following: duplication, deterioration beyond the point of usefulness, failure to fall within the present scope of the CIHS’s mission.

III. Lending and Borrowing:
Normally, items in the collections of the CIHS will not leave the Society’s domain on loan, nor will borrowed items be displayed by the Society. Exceptions to this policy shall be at the discretion of the Collections Committee, as approved by the Trustees. Lending will occur only when the integrity and safety of the items can be reasonably assured. Borrowing shall always be at the acknowledged risk of the lender.

IV. The Collection Committee:
(a) The Collection Committee shall consist of three or more members of the Society appointed by the President. Terms of members of the Committee will be determined by the President, in consultation with voting members of the Society.
(b) All normal business of the Committee shall be conducted at meetings scheduled by its Chair and announced by her/him reasonably in advance of the meeting time. The Chair will make every effort to accommodate the schedules of all its members.
(c) The Committee has the responsibility of accepting or rejecting proffered gifts, donations, and requests. In cases where there is substantial disagreement about a proffer, the Chair may refer the question to the officers or Trustees of the Society.
(d) Any member of the Committee is deputized to accept gifts for the Society when it is not possible or practical for the Committee to meet as a whole, so long as such items fall within the guidelines outlined in Section I above. In the event that no member of the Committee is available, gifts may be accepted by any member of the Society, subject to the same provision.
(e) The Committee has the ultimate authority and responsibility to interpret any item in the foregoing policy statement. It may also from time to time recommend to the Society changes in this policy suggested by the evolution in the CIHS mission.

September 1, 2005
Cliff Island Historical Society
PRESIDENT’S ANNUAL REPORT
AUGUST 17, 2005

Wow! What an exciting and profitable summer for our society, mainly due to Mary Ferer’s tireless efforts in our gift (museum) shop. Also, a great deal of thanks goes to Alice Carter along with Flo Britton and Leo Carter, who transformed our newly painted room into a real museum room with wonderful historical displays and artifacts for all who visit to enjoy. And thanks goes to Bob Howard, who created another computer arrangement for all to view those old time photos, etc. when visiting the museum room.

Chester Pettengill’s exciting rock sculpture has been another great fund raiser for the society this summer. The winner was Connie Jordan, a friend of Mary Ferer’s from South Portland. Look for a book illustrating Chester’s great works of art rocks and pot buoys to be on sale next summer in our gift shop.

None of us had any idea how very popular the buoy tees, denim shirts, vests, sweatshirts, and canvas bags would be! The best fund raiser ever on Cliff Island! I’m sure many people did their Christmas shopping early. Look for an order blank for these items in this issue of the Seagull. Many thanks go to Kate Spiller, from Albany, New York, who visits here every summer, for making it possible for us to order these items.

I am impressed at how much scanning of old photos and artifacts has been done all winter by Alice Carter, Diane Little, and most recently by Everett of the Lea family.

Artis Bernard continues to do an excellent job with oral histories, while John Bernard has perfected a great collections policy and forms for gifting to fill out and receive when bestowing an historical treasure to us.

We have had a lot of volunteers this summer, especially people working in the gift shop, and we are very grateful to them.

Our secretaries, Carole Jellison and Maura Chadbourne have been terrific, and our treasurer, Ellen Struble, has been outstanding.

What more can I say? It has been a great three years, along with Alice Carter, getting this exciting venture started and underway for future generations to enjoy. I am so grateful to have been a part of it. History is so important to our future.

Respectfully submitted by
Pam Anderson, President (2002-2005).

Postage Stamps
Remember to help our community by buying your postage stamps from the Cliff Island Post Office. If you can’t be here in person, you can purchase them by mail.
Contact Postmaster Anna at 766-2051

Finestkind Business/Office Services readily available
- Copying
- Fax (in and out)
- Notary Public

Call Roger @ 766-2827
Or, just stop by...
Cliff Island Historical Society

“The Buoys of Cliff” Merchandise Order Form: All proceeds benefit CIHS!

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<th>Color/Size/Details</th>
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<tr>
<td>PIGMENT-DYED CAPS (LP101)</td>
<td>Six panel low-profile washed pigment-dyed cap/adjustable leather strap, embroidered buoy logo.</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Colors: Nautical Red, Coral, Khaki, Stone, Olive, Periwinkle, Terra Cotta, Mustard, Cactus, Midnight, Baby Blue</td>
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<td>CANVAS BOAT BAG (HS601, HS602)</td>
<td>Natural canvas with black canvas trim, embroidered buoy logo. Large bag has outside pocket.</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Large $30/Medium $24</td>
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<td>FLEECE VEST (similar to HS149)</td>
<td>Black fleece vest, full zip, embroidered buoy logo on left chest. Unisex sizes S-2XL</td>
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<td>NEW ITEM! QUARTER ZIP FLEECE (similar to HS148)</td>
<td>Black fleece, quarter zip, embroidered buoy logo on left chest. Unisex sizes S-2XL</td>
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<td>DENIM SHIRT (HS150)</td>
<td>Chambray (light blue) color, button down collar, pocket, embroidered buoy logo on left chest. Unisex sizes S-4XL</td>
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<td>NEW ITEM! DESERT WASH CREW NECK SWEATSHIRT (DW310)</td>
<td>100% cotton, desert-wash colors, embroidered buoy logo on left chest. Unisex sizes S-2XL</td>
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<td>Colors: River Rock, Stetson, Midnight, Amethyst</td>
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<td>NEW ITEM! DESERT WASH SHORT SLEEVE TEE (DW115, DW450 youth)</td>
<td>100% cotton, desert-wash colors, embroidered buoy logo on left chest. Unisex sizes S-2XL Youth sizes S-L</td>
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<td>Colors: Blue Sage, Desert Poppy, Prickly Pear</td>
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<td>NEW ITEM! DESERT WASH LONG SLEEVE TEE (DW120)</td>
<td>100% cotton, desert-wash colors, embroidered buoy logo on left chest. Unisex sizes S-2XL</td>
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<td>Colors: Blue Sage, Desert Poppy, Stone</td>
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If you would like to view similar items, visit [www.nesclothing.com](http://www.nesclothing.com), click on product catalog, and enter product # in parentheses above.

Name: ________________________________ Telephone: ________________________________
Address: _____________________________________________________________________
City: __________________ State: ______ Zip: ____________

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| SUBTOTAL | |
| SHIPPING/HANDLING | |
| TOTAL AMOUNT DUE | |

SHIPPING & HANDLING (bagging of each item, boxing, shipping via UPS)
Up to $50: $10 $51-100: $12 $101-150: $15 $151-250: $18 $251+: $20

Please mail with check (payable to Kate Spiller) for total items plus shipping:
Kate Spiller 24 Home Avenue, Albany, NY 12208 Questions: Call Kate at 518.437.1498

PLEASE NOTE: DEADLINE FOR HOLIDAY ORDERS IS DECEMBER 9, 2005.
**Dues - Rates**

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<td>Patron</td>
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Mail dues to: Treasurer
Cliff Island Association
Cliff Island, ME 04019

Ads for the Seagull are:

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<tr>
<td>Full page</td>
<td>$80.00</td>
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<td>Quarter page</td>
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<td>Eighth page</td>
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We can scan camera ready ads or business cards. Mail money for ads to the Treasurer (not the Editor).

Please mail ads to: Seagull Editor
Cliff Island Association
Cliff Island ME 04019

**Cliff Island Association**

**Officers**
Larry Sharp, President
John Bernard, Vice President
Mary Ellen McNitt, Secretary
Cindi Gildard, Treasurer

**Board Members**
Bob Kramer (‘05)
Jim Coull (‘06)
Mac McKone (‘06)
Gary MacVane (‘08)
Mark Lombard (‘08)
Bob Howard (‘08)
Will Lent (‘06)

*The Seagull* is a publication of the Cliff Island Association.

**Diane Little:** Editor (cliffiland@netzero.net)
**Bob Howard:** Printing.

Collating: Whoever is in the wrong place at the right time.