

## A WARM WELCOME AND THANK YOU TO ALL OUR NEW 1999 MEMBERS:

From Bath: Al Mesrobian, Peter and Sharon Robohm, Stephen and Joyce Wilson; from Bowdoinham: Steve Bernier, Dwight and Heather Blease, Hank Ogilby and Susan Drucker, Nancy Drucker, Pamela Hanson, Henry and Joanie Mitchell, Terry Murphy and David Phinney; from Brunswick: Daniel Atkins, Susan Blair, D. Nagler and C. Brzoza, Beth Bullock, Edgar S. Catlin III, Jennifer Cost, Will Everitt, Louise Gardiner, Paula Greenlee, Chris and Dianne Gutsher, P. D'Alessandro and J. Montgomery, Craig S. and Suzanne Johnson,

Zona King, Joan Llorente, Bill and Paige Mangum, Burnham Martin, Ralph Keyes and C. McKenna, Robert Muller, Richard and Beverly Nickerson, W.G. Pinfold, Priscilla Seimer, Ann Spencer, John and Sherrye Trafton, Jean and Kenneth Walbridge and Elihu York; from Dresden: Jan Goranson, Peter Lincoln, Shirley Watkins, and Keith Reece and Nancy Whatley; from Harpswell: Leon and Kay Ogrodnik, Jan and Clarence Richards, and Charles Woodman; from Topsham: Christopher Dwinal, Kathleen Greer, Michael and Mary Imrie, Lisa Tessler and Mark Ireland, Karen Peterson, Kathryn

Ruth, Lester and Nancy Steffens, Mike Steitzer and Susan Chadima, and Denise and Sheldon Tepler; from Woolwich Randolph Doak, E. Blaiklock and K. Madden, Lauren Mofford, James and Michelle Rines, and Julie Erb and Herb Thomson; Dennis Purington from Belgrade; Sara Amato from Bowdoin; David McKinley and Leslie Badham from Dartmouth MA; Jim Gill from E. Winthrop; Hilary Neckles from Hallowell; Marcus Parsons from Newton MA; Doug Clopp from Portland, David and Marilyn Tilton from Richmond and Judith and David Falk from Washington D.C..

## 1999 ACCOMPLISHMENTS

We welcome your participation on any of these committees.

### Education

1. 1998-1999 Speaker Series completed, 1999-2000 Speaker Series well underway.

2. Hands Around the Bay - Held a "Merry Meeting on the Bay" day last spring at the Chop Point School. Over 220 elementary school children from 10 area schools attended.

3. Website - continued work on our website <http://www.col.k12.me.us/mmb/>

### Research

1. Received \$24,500 from the Outdoor Heritage Fund through the State

Planning Office to "Assess Merrymeeting Bay Aquatic and Upland Habitat Changes Over Time." Study is nearing final phases. Join us at the April speaker series to hear the results.

2. Began a water quality monitoring/testing program at six sites around the Bay. Partnered with Trout Unlimited to monitor even more sites on the Kennebec above Augusta.

3. Developed a proposal for contaminants survey of fine sediments around the bay. Analysis funded [\$20,000] through Surface Water Ambient Toxics Program of Maine DEP. Samples submitted to Maine DEP by FOMB in December.

4. Continued Current Study efforts including attempted completion of 1998 study, initial data gathering with USGS team, type testing of equipment for possible radio transmitter/drifter study with aerial tracking.

### Advocacy

1. EDWARDS DAM REMOVED!!!!!!!  
2. Testified before the State Legislature regarding Toxic Use Reduction, Mercury Reduction and Land Acquisition legislation. (50 M passed by the voters last November)

3. Continued work with the Maine Toxics Action Coalition. Outreach work including informational material to health care providers on the dangers of eating toxic Maine fish.

4. Posted fish consumption advisories around the Bay.

5. Worked with a new river advocacy group: Maine Rivers

6. Co-sponsored a conference on spirituality and environmental stewardship.

### Conservation and Stewardship

1. Continued outreach program to landowners around the Bay.

2. Continued work on easements around the Bay.

3. Protected approximately 100 acres to date.

4. Helped pass the 50 million dollar land protection bond.

5. Worked with Maine Wetland Protection Coalition.

### Membership and Fundraising

1. Published four issues of our newsletter.

2. Night on the Town Fundraising Raffle Completed.

3. Successful first Annual Appeal [THANK YOU!]

4. Merrymeeting Bay Cleanup - All together we have removed over 17,000 pounds of debris from the shores, woods, and roadways over the past four years.

5. Coordinated the local leg of the annual Androscoggin Source to the Sea Trek and incorporated three days of paddling on a segment the Kennebec.

6. Hosted the kick-off celebration of Maine Rivers at Chop Point School.

Winter 2000  
VOL. 10, NO 1  
January, 2000



### Merrymeeting News

is the newsletter of Friends of Merrymeeting Bay, P.O. Box 233, Richmond, Maine 04357, and is published seasonally.

Merrymeeting News is sent to FOMB members and other friends of the Bay. For information call Ed Friedman, Chairman 666-3372.