

TLIA News

Tripp Lake Improvement Association is a not-for-profit organization whose mission is the well-being of Tripp Lake and its surrounding watershed in Poland, Maine

www.triplake.com

Tripp Lake Improvement Association

PO Box 33, Poland, ME 04274

December 2015

A Letter from the President

By Ron Getchell, Jr.

The end of summer at the lake is always a bittersweet time because the days in October are usually very nice even though the daylight is much shorter and the nights



Vice-President - Andrew Williamson and President - Ron Getchell Jr.

are cooler. It would be nice to stay longer, but ours is a true camp. No insulation whatsoever, so it doesn't keep the heat and we've never really thought of making it a year-round place. It's a nice reminder of simpler times when we were kids out for those few weeks between the end of school in the spring and the beginning of school in the fall. Now all summer things are stored away; the dock sections are stacked up waiting to be put out in the spring. Once the water line is taken in and the plumbing

See Letter on page 5

PUBLIC BEACH EROSION

By Babs Shapiro

Sixteen years ago TLIA worked on education: how to protect Tripp Lake through various methods of buffering... planting bushes, trees and mulching to absorb runoff. One of our projects was the Public Beach. Under direction and advice of the



Public beach erosion showing exposed roots of trees

Androscoggin Soil and Water Conservation District and the State DEP, volunteers from our group as well as student volunteers from Poland Regional High School, did just that. We pitched in and worked together to keep the Beach a viable place for Poland residents. Outhouses were removed and replaced with portable toilets. The main road (Rt. 11) was later repaved for safety purposes and for additional parking. Rubbish pails were installed and emptied regularly, a permanent bench installed as well as signage to advise the public on do's and don'ts.

In the past few years, a lot has changed. I received a call from one of the Poland Selectmen telling us of major beach erosion. Meetings have been held with representatives from the Town and the State, as well as AVSWCD to review and try to solve these problems. Peter Newkirk of the Maine DOT

See Erosion on page 2



Patty Hutchins and mom Ruth Desjardins selling tickets

BOB MARLEY COMEDY SHOW 2

By Lisi Clark

The second annual Bob Marley comedy show, held August 30, 2015 at Harvest Hill Farm was a huge success. Recruited by Winnie O'Donnell, he again donated all proceeds from ticket sales to the Tripp Lake Improvement Association. We're grateful for his generosity and also to Peter Bolduc for allowing us use of his facility to stage the event.

Admit it---the first thing you did after the Marley event was to empty the beers out of your crispah. Right? TLIA members and friends were treated to one belly laugh after the other while "Uncle Bobby" regaled us with hilarious stories, stories about life to which we could all relate. Some of us are hitting the age where we, too, do the "Nana swim" (rubbing water over our arms while we stand in knee-high water.) But none of us wants to be accused of having



See Marley on page 8

Bob Marley



Rick Lundstedt

On the Water

by Rick Lundstedt

Everyone ready for the Winter? Probably not really but it's going to come anyway. Let's just hope it's a little better than last year. This was a bizarre year for water levels. Started out fairly normal (high), dropped all summer as the region was drier than average, then came back up just in time to make dock removal interesting.

Anna and I did a canoe / kayak run with friends of ours Labor Day weekend on the Androscoggin River from the Shelburne bridge to Gilead. The water was the lowest we've ever seen it. Turned out to be more of a social event than a fishing trip.

Also did 2 trips out the outlet. The Spring trip was easy, making it all the way to the Herrick Valley road culvert and then to Mud Pond. The early August trip was pretty scratchy and turned around well short of the culvert. Saw some signs of recent beaver activity on both trips but no new dams across the brook. The beavers were also active near the island.

We took a nice trip on Long Lake, Brandy Pond, to the Songo River and through the locks to Sebago. It was pretty warm for mid-September but too windy to go out in Sebago. Most people were hanging out on the sandbar with some even splashing around in the water. If you haven't yet done that trip definitely consider it for next year.

This isn't specifically lake-related but here's some interesting news regarding the Maine turnpike per their website. Exit 63 Gray interchange will undergo some major changes with a highlight being southbound access. You'll be able to go across Rt 4/115/202 from the present Gray Bypass road to the pike. The construction of the project is anticipated to begin in the spring of 2016 with a completion of the summer of 2017. An overpass over Rt 4/115/202 would be even better but that's not part of the design. Even better would be "Open Road Tolling" at York like there is at Hampton, NH but looks like that is not going to happen.

Back to lake stuff. The Board contracted Scott Williams to conduct a water survey this summer. Will be interesting to see how it correlates to our testing performed by John Laskey and Jack Quinn. Scott's testing is more extensive but there is some overlap.

Enjoy the winter, pray for an early Spring. See you then....On the Water!

Erosion

Continued from page 1

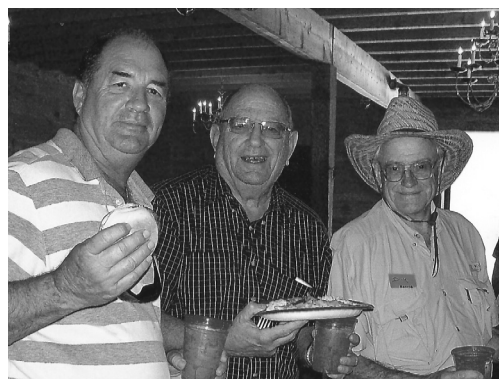
remembered our initial project, and has discussed options with our Town Manager, the Public Works director, CEO and other representatives of our community. Sue Gammon of AVSWCD submitted a report after engineers walked the property. They indicated a serious problem, resulting in possible phosphorous overload to the lake. A photo of exposed roots of a tree indicate overland flow and foot traffic. Jacqui Giasson and Karen Pelletier have represented TLIA at these meetings and reported to the Board.

Our help will be needed next summer when ditching, new walkways and fencing should begin. Mulch and bushes will be added; possible reclamation of sand from the lake will start. All of this will take 1-2 years but should commence asap. Engineers will also determine BMP's (best management practices) for the area. More information in the Spring/Summer Newsletter.



Erosion around the boulders and they are being displaced

TLIA SOCIAL BIG SUCCESS



Scott Hutchins, Mike Shapiro and Dick Harris

"What a party!" sums up the TLIA get-together at Sara and David Struhs' home on the west shore of Tripp Lake on Saturday, August 12, 2015. Predicted rain showers never happened but the party was held in the barn "just in case." Over 75 people arrived for lunch, catered by Sara (hot dogs and hamburgers) with side dishes and desserts brought by members. Ron Getchell, JoEllen Larkin and Rick Lundstedt were the chefs; they also set up the barn the day before, helping Sara carry chairs, tables and grills to the site.

Conversation, happy faces, new members, old friends and neighbors all contributed to a perfect day. We thank everyone who helped, especially our newest board member, Sara Struhs, for generously donating her property and energy for this event. She and David would like to host a fund-raiser next summer, possibly a pancake breakfast, to benefit TLIA. We hope all will attend and support their gracious offer of another party.



Cooking for the crowd. TLIA President Ron Getchell, Babs Shapiro, Linda Friedman and Rick Lundstedt

"I was driving around and around a parking garage in search of an available space. Nothing. Then I noticed a couple walking ahead of me. "Going out?," I called to them.

"No," said the man. "Just friends."

WHERE DO LOONS GO IN THE WINTER?

Once fall turns to winter and ice forms, you may wonder, “Where do loons go?”

In the fall, large groups of loons gather. While they sport their breeding plumage all summer—checkered black and white wings and neck and striped necklace around their throats—during the fall the adults’ plumage takes on a drab gray, white and brown coloring, similar to that of juveniles. Adults usually migrate first. The chicks leave later, once their flight feathers have grown long enough to support their weight.

These heavy birds need long runways to take off. If you’ve ever watched them run awkwardly across the water surface to pick up speed before being able to take flight, you know what I mean. Once our lakes and ponds freeze, they can’t run for lift-off. Consequently, if they stay, they’ll become trapped and perish.

Our loons spend the winter off the coast of Maine and points south, where they to adapt to living in salt water. In the summer, they dine on fish such as yellow perch, trout, and minnows, though they’ll eat anything they can catch. Come winter, their diet consists of cod, mackerel, other ocean fish and crabs.

During the winter, loons group together, riding the ocean waves, diving in the deep water and hunting in the shallows for schools of fish. They tend to defend feeding territories near the shore during the day, but regroup at night. By late winter/early spring, they molt, replacing their dull coat with the beautiful black and white breeding coat. The molting takes at least a month, during which time they are flightless.

Life on the ocean is not easy for common loons. They need to adjust to the stress of a seafood diet and molting while also enduring the rough coastal waters, stormy weather and marine pollution.

Typically, loons return to Maine’s lakes and ponds just after ice-out, sometimes the very next day. How they know when the ice is out remains a question—perhaps they send a member of their group on a reconnaissance mission.

To learn more about these fascinating birds, check out Maine Audubon’s web site at <http://maineaudubon.org/wildlife-habitat/the-maine-loon-project>.

The dentist says, “When was the last time you flossed?”
The patient replies, “You should know, you were there.”

“A Glimpse Into My Life”

By Karen Pelletier



Karen Pelletier

I was asked recently if I would tell a little bit about my life and myself. As I pondered about what I would say and what, if anything, someone would want to know about my journey, I decided what WOULDN’T someone want to know about me?? No, seriously, all kidding aside, I could ramble on about so many things that I could probably fill several pages in this newsletter, as I’m sure all of us on this lake have a wonderful life journey to share. So, why was I asked? I asked myself this question as well. I decided it’s because I am new to the lake and, for those who don’t know, I volunteered and was appointed as the new treasurer of TLIA, since Scott Shapiro resigned and I also took over the Tripp Lake merchandise store. I am hoping to see all of you at the next Annual Meeting at the Ricker Library Community Room on July 9, 2016 at 8 am to meet me, have a coffee and donut, vote for your officers and to find out what’s happening around the lake.

So, here’s a small glimpse into my life. I met the love of my life in May of 1986. Jonathan (Jon) and I will be happily married for 29 years on December 30! We have two beautiful daughters, Kayla, who was born in May of 1988 and Maeghan, who was born in January of 1990. Both girls graduated valedictorian of their class and continue to make us proud daily just by being themselves. Love these girls more and more every day! We also have three little four-legged girls. Delilah is a five-year-old Chihuahua and Fiona and Xena are five-year-old Min Pin Papillions. They, too, fill our hearts with so much joy!

I grew up in Lisbon Falls, Maine and Jon grew up in Topsham, Maine. And, it wasn’t until we purchased kayaks in the spring of 2014 before we realized that Poland actually existed!! Upper and Middle Range Pond was our go-to kayaking spot. Easy boat access made it a simple and stress free place to drop in and paddle around. We quickly realized how friendly people were who were living “the good life” on a lake. And it didn’t take us long to make the decision that we wanted our own little piece of that life.

Jon and I believe everything in life happens for a reason and we believe that we were meant to find a place here on Tripp Lake to meet all of you wonderful people! And, yes, it is my goal to meet every one of you! And with my maiden name being Jordan, it is only fitting that I live on Jordan Shore Drive, right? It has been such a wonderful first summer in our new home. Meeting so many wonderful people and making so many new friendships, we know this is where we are supposed to be.

I was not kidding when I said I wanted to meet everyone! This is the abridged version of Jon’s and my story. So, stop by, bring a beverage and a snack and find out how I almost got arrested at 8 1/2 months pregnant in Las Vegas and why we were without a job during that time. Or, how we were homeless for 4-5 months. Why Jon wanted to have twelve kids when we met. And, how we were married not once, but twice to each other. And, so much more!!

To quote Ralph Waldo Emerson: “Life is a journey, not a destination.” And Jon and I are enjoying the ride!!

Never laugh at your girlfriend’s choices....you’re one of them.

CONGRATULATIONS AND BEST WISHES TO:



Diane Cote and David Beaulé

Paul and Nancy Cote on the marriage of their daughter Diane to David Beaulé. May they have many happy years together.



Sue and Roy Forsberg on the engagement of their daughter Meghan to Peter Accivatti. They'll be married next June at Wolf Cove Inn. We wish them much joy and prosperity.



King residence in Florida



Paul Cote, Diane, Dave and Nancy Cote



Meghan Forsberg and Peter Accivatti

Judy and Dell King on their new home in Port St. Lucie, FL. They'll spend three seasons there and summer at their cottage on Tripp Lake. Enjoy!



Scott and Lindy Shapiro on their new home in Kihei, Maui. Formerly of Maine and Michigan, they've lived in different areas of Maui for over 10 years. Lots of happiness!

HISTORY OF POLAND

By Babs Shapiro

From Poole's History of Poland, 1890

The tome from which I gather so much information was given to me by Ellie Kelley, a former resident of "summertime" Tripp Lake. She thought it a perfect parting gift when she moved to Florida. And it has been. So thanks Ellie, for being the source of so much interesting history.

The eastern coast of our country was discovered in ancient times, over a thousand years ago, by explorers from Northern Europe, known now as Scandinavia, now Denmark, Sweden and Norway. They were expert navigators but were regarded as pirates, ravaging the coasts far and near, committing the most horrid depredations and inflicting all manner of cruelties. One of them, Naddod, called the Sea King for his love of adventure, was driven after a storm to the northeastern portion of North America. Another Northman named Bjarne seeking Greenland, was driven by gales far to the south, to Cape Cod and thence to the shores of Maine and Nova Scotia. Leif's brother Thorwall, discovered Narragansett Bay and Naest (now Nauset) on the Cape, then Boston Harbor. There they were met by three Indians who they slaughtered savagely. This act aroused the whole tribe who retaliated from canoes filled with warriors. One barbed arrow killed Thorwall, who was buried on the promontory of the city of Boston. The other arrows fell harmlessly on the strong oaken sides of the vessel.

See History on page 5

Notes from TLIA July 11, 2015 Annual Meeting

By Sue Barry

The "Bob Marley Event" was successful and well attended again this year. TLIA treasury is in good shape. Fortunately, there have been no problems with loosestrife or other invasive plants this year.

Speeding vehicles on JSD and GSR is still an issue for many.

TLIA Newsletter is still seeking an editor/editors and others to contribute to its continuing publication. Perhaps it's just time to put it to bed, but I hope not.

Sarah Struhs has been nominated to replace Richard Smith on the Board of Directors and Associates and Karen Pelletier will replace Scott Shapiro as Treasurer of TLIA.

Roy & Sue Forsberg continue to offer their Inn to us for our TLIA meetings during the year. Many thanks to both of you.

Ron Getchell offered information about the TLIA grant app process. Any grant apps submitted will be reviewed at the fall board meeting and voted on by members at the annual meeting in July.

There were three grants approved this July. The 1st was a grant for \$500, requested by Don Stover of the Poland Conservation Reserve, to preserve open spaces, purchase easements on private lands, and to provide for steward issues such as markers, etc. The 2nd was a request for \$500 for Parks & Recreation to build trails and maintain them. These trails are suitable for year-round use, but not suitable for motorized vehicles. Russ Seybold and John Mooney of the Fernald Road Assoc. made the 3rd request for \$1,328.36 for Fernald Road culvert replacement.

Kai Anderson & Reese Nickerson, 4th graders at Poland Community School, were selected winners of the Essay Contest Campership program at Bryant Pond's 4-H camp and sponsored by TLIA each spring. The cost for each is \$625, with a portion being contributed by the parents.

Sarah & David Struhs hosted the TLIA annual "summer social event" in August this summer at their home. It was well attended and enjoyed by all.

Jacque Giasson was thanked for updating the Tripp Lake map.

This & That



**The 4th of July Boat Parade
will begin at 10 am at the
Hemlock Campground on July 4th, 2016
and let's hope for a lovely day.**

Letter

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and pump winterized and the shutters go up on the porches, we know that summer is officially over. Now, all that remains is to take care of the leaves that have all come down.

Jo and I moved our bee hive into Auburn and put it in the back yard in a nicely protected spot and, in spite of some of the cold nights we have had, they are still active and gathering nectar and pollen during the warm hours of the day. The honey harvest was small because it's the first year of production, but they were kind enough to provide us with about four pounds. Perhaps next year will be different.

Scott Williams conducted a survey of Tripp Lake in September and a full report will be available next summer. I have asked him to attend our annual meeting next year and he may be able to if it does not interfere with his survey activities next summer.

Director of Parks & Recreation, Scott Segal, informed me in September that Sue Gammon from the Androscoggin Soil & Water Conservation District assessed the erosion issues at the public beach. Stay tuned for more on this, as we get closer to spring and summer, 2016.

Jo and I want to wish everyone the best during the upcoming holiday season. Enjoy time with friends and family and we will see you all around the lake next summer.

This & That

Circle this date on your calendar: July 9, 2016 is the next TLIA Annual Meeting in the Community Room at the Ricker Memorial Library. There will be coffee/ donuts/and bagels w/cream cheese. OJ, too, and other folks to catch up with. See you there.

History

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The Northmen and the Natives used weapons equal in efficiency: this was before the invention of firearms. Yet the Natives far excelled them in the use of the bow and arrow, physical strength, subtlety and courage. In Newport, RI are found the remains of a stone tower, supposedly used by the Northmen for defense. This area had an almost perfect climate. Had the Norsemen been able to defend themselves and establish a colony, they would have. They were far outnumbered and would have been annihilated at once.

Five hundred years later, Columbus discovered the area, after which European countries began laying claim to the North American continent. England, France, Portugal and Spain all sought to colonize areas they discovered. In 1603, Henry IV of France, issued a patent to one De Monte, who explored the east coast. He cruised the shores of Maine, entered Penobscot Bay and the Kennebec River, where he landed, planted a cross and took possession of the country. Due to the hostility of the Natives, he returned to France.

Great Britain soon sent a new ship to explore the coast of Maine, taking possession of St. George (now Monhegan) in the name of James I, King of England. A cross was planted to indicate that the Christian religion was to be established there. From the Island (nine miles from shore) he discovered the lofty peaks of a distant chain of mountains. They hoisted sail and then planted gardens of peas, barley, and other seeds on the mainland. This was the Europeans first attempt to cultivate the soil of Maine. Though Captain Weymouth hoped to establish friendly relations with the Natives, the memory of treachery, kidnapping and outrage could not be effaced by the Natives. Bullets and swords appalled them and all future cooperation proved impossible. Weymouth ascended to the mouth of the Androscoggin and there planted another cross, which indicated Christianity would become the religion of the Natives. The early settlements in Maine were by the Pophams, Gilberts and Gorges, the "Fathers of New England civilization."

The settlement of Poland dates back almost 250 years. Its varied resources have been developed by a people remarkable for their intelligence, thrift and enterprise. It became part of Maine in 1820, then Androscoggin County in 1854. The Bakerstown grant, which encompassed Poland, Minot and Auburn, was changed several times from 1765 to 1787. The names of Jonathan, Moses, Josiah and Edward Little, Moses Bagley, Amos Davis, appear frequently in documents to divide the property equally to settlers. "Each grantee shall build a house...eighteen feet square and seven feet stud at the least, plough...and bring grass fit for mowing 6 acres of land and settle in each town an Orthodox minister, build a convenient meeting house for worship." The document listed about 60 men, all of whom had been officers or soldiers engaged in the expedition to Canada. The first settlers of Bakerstown seems to have been Nathaniel Bailey, then Daniel, both settling in East Poland in 1768, John Newman in 1769, Moses Emery in Minot Corner and several Indians named Swanton, Lazarious, Sabatus, Cookish, Perepol. Perepoles were said to be the last of the once powerful Androscoggin tribe. Settlers and Indians lived peacefully together.

More in the Spring issue about our early settlers and politics in Poland.

TO ALL OUR MEMBERS, NEW AND OLD

We'd like to thank everyone who supports the Tripp Lake Improvement Association with new or continued memberships, with purchases of TLIA merchandise or by volunteering their time and energy to help out.

Your efforts make it possible to monitor the Lake and its watershed so we may all enjoy it for years to come. For those of you who are new to the Association, or those who have



Lorine and Brad Card spending time at the lake



Jesse Faria's daughter visits Maine and catches fish!

questions re: donations or becoming involved in TLIA, please contact a member of the board (listed at the end of the Newsletter) who'll be happy to answer any questions or concerns you may have.

Sincerely,

Karen Pelletier, Treasurer TLIA



Desjardins family reunion



John and Jacqui on the water

2016 TLIA RAFFLE

By Howard Sherman

As funds are needed to accommodate the implementation of grants, education, inspections, signage, etc. by TLIA, we are planning a raffle to help raise money for these expenses and unexpected surprises. I will be organizing the donation of gifts from interested folks and local businesses. We want prizes such as gift certificates or services. Hopefully, these will be collected throughout the winter. Tickets, in the form of booklets, will also be printed...6 tickets for \$5.00 or \$1.00 ea. These will be sold in the spring and summer with raffle winners picked at the 2016 Annual Meeting in July.

Please call me, Howard Sherman, at 781-799-0871 or e-mail violinhw@comcast.net if you'd like to help us out by soliciting gifts or perhaps donating a prize. Prizes could be gift certificates for a restaurant or a service (such as baby sitting, tree cutting, etc.) or just a "fun" gift of decent value which would encourage the purchase of raffle tickets.

Thanks and good health!

ABSOLUTE NEED TO MAINTAIN WATER QUALITY OF TRIPP LAKE

By Howard Sherman, TLIA Board Member

There are too many examples of lakes across the country developing contaminated waters. In September, Lake Champlain and its algae problems caused property devaluation of 34 waterfront properties to the tune of \$50,000 each. (Sept. 21, 2015, Capitol Press Newspaper article.) In St. Albans Bay, Georgia, blue-green algae blooms polluted waters and also devalued 37 properties at \$50,000 each. (Vermont Public Radio, June, 2015.) In Florida, algae blooms polluted the St. Lucie River due to water dumping from Lake Okeechobee. (WPTD News, Stuart, FL., 2013.)

Yes, this could happen to Tripp Lake. Invasive plants such as milfoils and purple loosestrife are brought in by boats or through air-borne seeds. Chemicals from roads, streams and lawns run into the lake.

Therefore we need continuous vigilance of all activities on and around the lake, regular inspections of water quality (which John Laskey and Jack Quinn already do) as well as professionals (such as Scott Williams) to analyze test results. We need programs to educate the community about pollution, to help prevent negligence and neglect.

We need funds for the above steps and for possible legal action. Inspection of old septic systems might prevent point pollution as well. Grants for some projects are already available.

We need TLIA to lead the way towards these goals, with additional support from the citizens of Poland. Raising funds to implement these programs is vital. Thank you for all your support.



Summertime lobsters

Grant Money TLIA is offering limited grant monies to individuals or lake groups (road associations or groups of neighbors) who need financial assistance to make improvements that impact the lake environment. In order to receive a grant you must: 1) Be a member in good standing of TLIA. 2) Document the need for the project as to how the problem negatively impacts the lake. 3) Complete and return the grant application to the President of TLIA by May 15, 2015.

Application for Grant Money

Name/Association: _____

Date: _____ Amount Requested: _____

Description of Project: _____

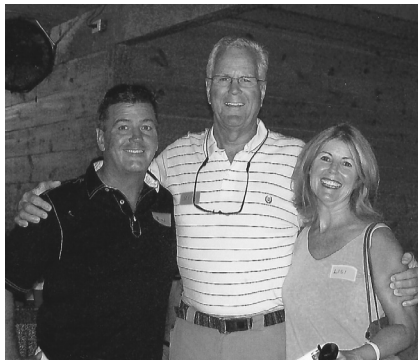
Impact on the Lake: _____

Applications must be received by TLIA board by May 15th for consideration at the annual meeting each year. Applications will be reviewed by the board and brought to the annual meeting for membership vote if all conditions are met.

The Board will review all grant applications at their Spring Meeting and bring their top candidate(s) to the annual meeting for membership approval.



Blue moon over the lake



Brad Card, Sandy Clark and Lisi Clark



Colin Marquis-Boutin, grandson of Claire Marquis building sand cities



Ellen Marquis, granddaughter of Claire Marquis, catches first fish



Sydney Moho, granddaughter of Patty and Scott Desjardins, and her first fish



Ron Getchell & JoEllen Larkin



Campfire on a summer night



Sisters Lisi Clark and Sara Struhs hostess of TLIA Social

NEWS FROM THE WOLF COVE INN



By Sue Barry

A Luxury Maine Cabin rental on Tripp Lake is coming on line in the spring of 2016 at The Wolf Cove Inn. The "Eagle's Nest" cabin will be set 100 feet from the shoreline in a grove of trees. It will be primarily for lodging accommodations, but will also host business retreats. It will be fully handicap accessible with a king bed, flat screen TV, comfy chairs, a fireplace, a walk-in dual shower and it will also be dog friendly. A gourmet breakfast will be available each morning.

Sue and Roy Forsberg are now taking reservations for the spring of 2016. Call for more information at 207-998-4976 or e-mail at info@wolfcoveinn.com.

Marley

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a drinkin' problem. If you keep beer in the crispah, you've got a problem; if you buy a case of beer at Hannaford's and aren't having a party, you've got a problem. We know how hahd the winters really are here in Maine. Of course, the audience was filled with New England Patriots' fans and howled as Bob shared his feelings about Tom Brady and the absurd deflategate debacle. After all, he didn't murder anyone, and he didn't steal anything. Right?

The evening started with great pizza by Harvest Hill, a band and a warm-up comedian, but the highlight of the night by far was the laugh-a-minute entertainment by TLIA's own Bob Marley. He was just plain FUNNY. Not crude, not crass...just funny! Thank you, Bob, for a great evening! You are a true professional and we appreciate your generous contribution to TLIA.



Winnie O'Donnell, organizer of the event

TLIA Officers 2015/2016

President: Ron Getchell, Jr.

rongetchell@yahoo.com
896th Street/Apt 1, Auburn, ME 04210
38 Jordan Shore Drive, Poland 04274

VP: Andrew Williamson

awilliamson@trane.com
114 Abby Lane, Portland, ME 04103
781-844-9963

Secretary: Sue Barry

sueb2@fairpoint.net
5 Garland Swamp Road, Poland 04274
207-998-2580

Treasurer: Karen Pelletier

jonandkar@icloud.com
164 Jordan Shore Drive
Poland, ME 04274
207-319-6172

Board of Directors & Associates

Jacqueline Giasson

jmgiasson1153@gmail.com
34 Jordan Shore Drive, Poland, ME 04274
207-998-2137

Judy King

judyp.king@yahoo.com
12210 Weeping Willow Ave
Port St. Lucie, FL 34987
154 Jordan Shore Drive, Poland, ME 04274
508-272-1372 or 772-345-9307

Richard Lundstedt

rick-anna@comcast.net
91 Berkley St., Marlboro, MA 01752
239 Jordan Shore Drive, Poland, ME
508-481-5528 or 508-308-5054

Howard Sherman

violinhw@comcast.net
15 Saturn Road, Marblehead, MA 01945
83 Jordan Shore Drive, Poland, ME 04274
781-639-8482 or 207-998-8155

Sara Struhs

sara.struhs@hotmail.com
124 Pond Lane, Poland, ME 04274
207-998-2233 or 650-576-9654

Co-Editors: Babs Shapiro, Sue Barry

Photos: Jacque Giasson, Babs Shapiro, Judy King,
Judy Stone, Claire Marquis

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