



FRIENDS OF SEGUIN ISLAND Light Station

www.seguinland.org

MISSION STATEMENT

Celebrating 217 years

*To distinguish Seguin Island Light Station as part of Maine's heritage,
fostering connections with our area history for generations to come.*

Spring/Summer 2013

Issue #57

Meet the Caretakers for Seguin Island Light Station

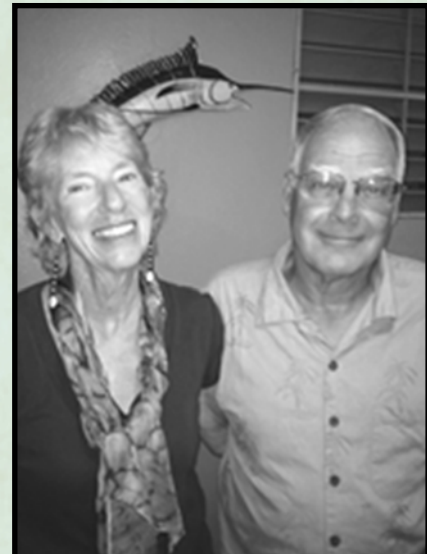
Mary Hillary and Greg Guckenburg say that for many years, they have looked out at Seguin Island from Reid and Pop-ham beaches. One day they hoped to enjoy an opportunity to become caretakers. Love of the world's oceans and islands is only a starting point of their dream; both have a strong sense of outdoor adventure and relish new outdoor challenges. Their long held dream of living at Seguin Island Light will come true in this summer. Follow their adventure at www.seguinland.org

Mary is an RN-CNM who worked locally in Labor and Delivery and Family Planning until retirement in 2009. Greg served as Georgetown School janitor for 10 years, worked at Bath Iron Works as a Maintenance Pipefitter for 20 years and now works part time for the Brunswick Explorer bus. Their two children Alex and Julia, after graduation from Morse HS, attended college out of state, married, settled in the Boston area and now have two young children each. The four grandchildren are the "light of our lives," say Mary and Greg.

Greg served six years as Arrowsic Selectman and three years as Treasurer. He also served a year as Financial Secretary Local 6, BIW. Mary served on the Zoning and Planning Boards of Arrowsic for over 10 years.

Both feel a strong desire to protect open spaces and shore-land with community awareness as well as thoughtful zoning. They have hiked in the Appalachians, Tetons and Sierras. Both are members of The Appalachian Mountain Club and Mary hikes with the Thursday Hikers of Brunswick. For almost all vacations over the years, they choose islands in the ocean.

Their close ties to Midcoast Maine will serve them well as they greet the expected 1500+ visitors to Seguin this summer. All visitors are likely to share Mary and Greg's sense of respect for the sea and its environs, since all visitors must arrive by boat. Greg and Mary intend to expand their knowledge of Maine maritime lore, both to well serve their island guests and increase their ties to Midcoast Maine they love so well.



Mary Hillary & Greg Guckenburg



Mitch and friend—ruff, ruff



Mary & Greg and their grandchildren

President's Notes

You would think we'd have a quiet winter, but that has not been the case! It takes time to get our 'seagulls' lined up for the summer.

The On-Island Committee has been busy making plans for the season. Check out their report on another page. They've been in contact with our summer 2013 keepers and we're looking forward to their coming on-board Memorial Day weekend.

"Autumn Keepers" are also lined up to carry us through the Columbus Day weekend, when we will then close down for the season.

We are upgrading our office systems with a new computer and software. Eric Dolbec is guiding us in these purchases and they will greatly facilitate his work and ability to help all of us.

Eric's days and hours in the office are Tuesday – Friday 9 a.m.-2 p.m.

Our guest quarters were used successfully by members last summer and we are anticipating ten opportunities this coming summer for guests. These overnights are dependent, of course, on the weather and ability of the guests to transport to the island safely.

Halcyon Yarns has produced a fall/winter catalogue dedicated to Seguin Island Light Station. It features their many splendid products and shows many of them on location on the island. We greatly appreciate the foreword in the catalogue and all the exposure Halcyon has afforded us. *Beaucoup* thanks!!!

We also helped alert the Coast Guard to the fact that the light was out in the tower during February and they addressed the issue as promptly as they could. Seguin's power is provided by the Coast Guard through a submarine cable ashore, where it is connected to the power grid. When the power goes out in Phippsburg, so does the power to the island. A battery back-up system on the island is supposed to pick up the load when this happens, and seems to now be working properly.

You may also want to check out the article and associated painting of Seguin in the March issue of Soundings Magazine.

Please read over and enjoy the many other articles scattered throughout the newsletter.

We thank all of you who facilitate the maintenance and improvement to our structures and trails. We hope to see you when you are in Maine again.

Sincerely,
Kenneth H. Young,
FOSILS President



Volunteers of the Year 2012 - First Federal Savings & Loan Employees

Held at the Kennebec Tavern, Bath, Maine

The Board of the Friends of Seguin Island Light Station voted on February 4th of this year to present the Volunteer(s) of the Year Award to First Federal Savings and Loan and their Employees.

It was very clear from the initial discussion that there were numerous examples of how First Federal and their Employees have shown their support for Seguin...first and foremost are the employees themselves. David Platterer is a past President, DD Morong is a current board member as well as Treasurer and Committee Chair for the Events Committee and the Development Committee.

Other employees contribute as well, and the difference they make for our cause is not only in what they do, but how they do it. Described as being "cheerful, accommodating, personable, pleasant, and always asking what else they can do to help". They have assisted in various ways as they copied, folded, and stuffed our 151 Annual Appeal mailing- which allowed us to send it out as scheduled. This mailing generated in excess of \$25,000 of much needed donations! It couldn't have gone out as scheduled without their support.

First Federal was the first corporate sponsor for Summerfest, our third annual held in 2012, and it is our largest yearly fundraiser. First Federal set the bar so we could approach other potential sponsors noting 'First Federal has stepped up'...

First Federal has allowed us to display our memorabilia in their Front Street Lobby to encourage sales over the holidays and other key times during the year

- What Great Exposure! -

The Board of Directors of FOSIL meets monthly in the First Federal board room - a very comfortable and convenient meeting space - one more way they show their support.

To summarize, we appreciate all that First Federal Saving and Loan and their employees do to support our efforts and we are pleased to honor them as our 2012 Volunteers of the Year -Andrew Perry is here tonight to accept the award on their behalf...

May Fair Event - Bath

Saturday May 4th was Bath's May Fair Days and under bright sunny skies FOSIL's set up their table under the tent behind Reny's to spread the word about Seguin Island Light to those who were out and about enjoying the days festivities.

Attendance was brisk and our two board member volunteers, DD and Anne Morong, spent the bulk of the day chatting about the wonders of Seguin Island with those stopping to see our offerings. Some visitors were already familiar with the island and had visited in the past, others were intrigued and vowed to visit this summer.

Our memorabilia sales, donations and membership renewal brought in close to \$200, but more than that there was the opportunity to spread the word about the wonderful work FOSILS does to preserve Seguin and her light for generations to come.

Local Company Sends Seguin Around the World

"Those of you who are already customers of Halcyon Yarns know that Seguin Island was chosen as a backdrop for this year's catalogue. Founded more than 40 years ago by Halcyon Blake in a beautifully renovated 19th textile factory in Bath, the business now has mail-order sales around the world, and distributes catalogues to more than 40,000 customers. Here follows an excerpt from Halcyon's catalogue introduction. We are delighted and honored that our island and lighthouse were recognized in this special way - Ed."

Take a journey...As you can tell, at Halcyon Yarn we care deeply about our community. We truly appreciate the fun and creative group of fiber artists we share our craft with all over the world. We're also very grateful that here on the coast of Maine, home is a place where people come together to help each other live well, support each other creatively and value great craftsmanship. Just as fiber artists share and come together around their craft we celebrate the natural beauty and unique history of our region by sharing our favorite places and stories with each other. Like the best spots for seeing seals or eagles or catching the perfect wave at sunrise... yes, we surf here!

Seguin Island Light Station

A lighthouse you say? An island? What's that got to do with yarn...?

When you sit down to spin or knit, you know the feeling of time slowing down, of connecting to a quieter place. When you begin dreaming up the colors for your next project you recall how the black of branches is silhouetted against a gleaming sky at dusk. When we take the time and care to make something that lasts, be it a quick gift for a friend, a beautiful tapestry, or a future heirloom for a new grandchild we are making more than a pair of mittens - we are knitting a chapter into each other's stories.

In the spirit of sharing our little corner of the world we've done something different this year. As we created our annual Halcyon Yarn catalog we partnered with one of our favorite local organizations, the Friends of Seguin Island Light Station or FOSILS. Located a mere fifteen miles from Halcyon Yarn, the journey to Seguin Island can feel like traveling to another world ... A place where land is in sight, but time is marked by the change of tides and light, where even the air feels different...*continued on page 7*



Halcyon at Seguin Light tower entrance—2012

Visit our website for news and history about the island, the light and more—www.seguinislnd.org



On-Island Plans



Along with staying up on all the routine repairs and maintenance, the On-Island Committee (OIC) has big plans for the season.

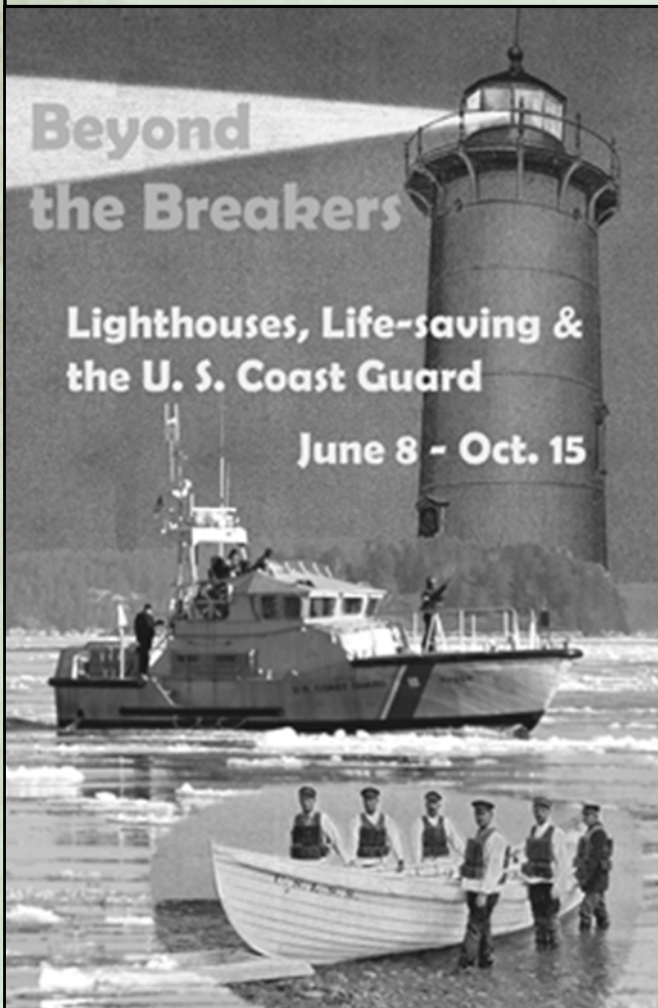
Spring start-up will be the 19th and 20th of May when this year's caretakers and a crew from the OIC will head out to the island and get started the process of opening the island for the 2013 season .

Throughout the season the "Window Warriors" will wrap up repair of a few more windows and then become the "Fascia Warriors" as that project gets tackled, repairing the trim on the Keepers' Quarters.

Doug Sutfin is scheduled for another season of brick pointing on the Quarters, a crew of bushwhackers will continue clearing under the tram, and the oil-house will continued to be upgraded to a bunkhouse for overnight volunteers.

Anyone interested in joining in the fun please get in touch with the OIC to participate in our Wednesday work parties.

Ethan DeBery
Anne Bridgman
Co-chairs - OIC



Join us for this great exhibit featuring Seguin Island Light Station at the Maine Maritime Museum

Summer Events - 2013

Opening Day

Memorial Day, May 27th

Heritage Days Parade

Thursday, July 4th

Summerfest IV

Friday, July 26th

Georgetown Working League Fair

Saturday, August 10th

2nd Annual Art Show

Watch the website for dates!

National Lighthouse Day

Wednesday, August 7th

MITA 25th anniversary

Saturday, August 31st

Closing Day

Columbus Day, October 14th

Island Charters/Ferry

Seguin Island Ferry, Phippsburg — (207) 841-7977

River Run Tours, Bath — (207) 504-2628

Atlantic Seal Cruises, Freeport — (207) 865-6112

HAYVAK Charters, Boothbay — (207) 319-8123

Plan a trip today and relive the memories forever!

Museum/Education Plans Abound

The biggest hope for this coming season is the return of the 1857 Jones, Vickers, Sheffield fog bell to the island. After a three-year search, we have been able to identify the bell and establish our ownership of it. The Coast Guard Properties staff in Washington have agreed that the bell will be leased to us and may be returned to the island to sit on the east side of our Museum location. We have requested government-assisted transport to the island, but the sequestration cutbacks may curtail this effort. However, we will continue to pursue the matter diligently.

Our plans this summer include locating the site of the barn/school house and the blacksmith shop. We will arrange for historic plaques and corner markers on these two structures.

It is also our hope to build a cradle for the remains of the two-piston "donkey" steam engine, the original winch pulling the tram, and place a historic pictured plaque there also. It was wisely decided last summer not to restore the engine as it would prove to be another maintenance challenge for us.

Eric Dolbec, our administrative coordinator, has been researching our historic files in preparation for developing a major website update & power-point presentation for community organizations to further the history of Seguin. We are particularly looking for invitations to tell our story to organizations and schools in Brunswick, Boothbay Freeport, Harpswell, Phippsburg, Woolwich, Wiscasset and any of the surrounding towns and villages.

We already have a tentative date for a presentation at The Georgetown Community Center for Saturday, July 20.

If any of you can make a contact for us, please call the Seguin Office at 207-443-4808 to arrange a speaking engagement.

We look forward to an early June visit to the island from Mike Johnson of the Maine Historic Preservation Commission to approve the pointing of the brickwork that was begun on the main structure and which is planned to continue through the summer, thanks to the generosity of those of you who responded to our recent appeal.

We hope you plan to spend some time in our museum when you visit the island this summer.

*Ken Young,
Museum/Education Chairperson*



Tram workers 1895 (FOSILS archives)



Local Company Sends Seguin Around the World

...continued from page 4

Seguin epitomizes the salty beauty, charm and ingenuity of our coastal landscape and culture. The 64-acre island is a spectacular natural habitat for birds, bats, seals and other native critters, beautiful coastal plants and quintessential Maine geology - even a "cobblestone beach"! Seguin boasts the tall-

est and second oldest lighthouse station in Maine. It's irreplaceable First Order Fresnel lens rises nearly 200 feet above the Atlantic Ocean and has safely guided sailors past the mouth of the Kennebec River since it's commissioning by George Washington in 1795. Seguin's history is rich with stories of families, sailors and perhaps even a few ghosts!

At Halcyon Yarn we admire the FOSILS' mission ... "To distinguish Seguin Island as a part of Maine's heritage, fostering connections with our area history for generations to come." We're thrilled to participate in the spirit of preservation and the hard work so many dedicate to sharing and continuing the history of this very special place.

Most of the photography you'll see in these pages and on the Seguin area of our web-site was shot on Seguin Island and modeled by the very good spirited Halcyon Yarn staff, families and friends - as well as two (volunteer summer) lighthouse keepers! Throughout the catalog you'll discover a series of projects inspired by the natural beauty and fascinating stories of Seguin. These projects were designed and made in collaboration with several Seguin folks, many of whom are talented fiber artists. There are "Seguin Collection" projects for every craft and throughout the coming year for each Seguin Collection item you purchase Halcyon Yarn will donate a percentage to FOSILS. Learn more about visiting and supporting Seguin and see more of the Seguin Collection projects and our wonderful Seguin adventures online at: halcyonyarn.com/seguin

Like the Friends of Seguin, we believe in the work of our hands and in preserving a quality of life that outlasts each of us, made richer in experience with each generation. We believe in the importance of things that stand the test of time - be they a place, a friendship, a memory or a hand-made heirloom...

Life is what you make of it... Make something beautiful, make something that lasts, and most of all, share it with those you love!

From our hands to yours...
Halcyon



A BRIEF PRIMER ON LIGHTHOUSES FOR VOLUNTEER "KEEPERS"

By Jack Graham

(2005 Caretaker at Seguin Island, Maine)

Continued from issue #56

Fresnel Lens. The Fresnel lens is named for its inventor, Frenchman Augustin Fresnel (1788-1827), who first experimented with these multiprismatic lenses that efficiently magnify and redirect light so that the beam from a single oil lamp can be seen miles out to sea. Fresnel was involved with several companies that manufactured these lenses. Others eventually either secured rights to his patents or made similar lenses of their own. These lenses were so superior to the older reflector-lamp systems that they were promptly installed in lighthouses worldwide and were the "state of the art" until the 1950s.

Probably the most well-known firm of French lens makers was Henry-Lepaute of Paris. Many sources consistently list this firm as Henry Lepaute or Henry LePaute, as if Henry were a first name and Lepaute a surname. This is incorrect. Augustin Michael Henry, whose family was a major clock-making family in France, began to work with Augustin Fresnel in 1825, designing the clockworks that would power the revolving lenses for lighthouses. He continued working with the Fresnel brothers, supplying clockworks and later the lenses themselves; he then opened his own factory in 1838. Augustin Henry's mother's maiden name was Paute. Her brothers were the royal clockmakers to the French king since the 1750s. In 1854, Henry requested and received permission to add his mother's maiden name to his, changing his last name and that of the company to Henry-Lepaute - no doubt to further associate his company with the prestigious name of the great clockworks company of the Pautes.

Most of the major manufacturers of Fresnel lenses were French firms; therefore, the majority of such lenses installed in American lighthouses were made in France. The English firm of Chance Brothers of Birmingham, England, made these lenses as early as 1851, and it displayed Fresnel lenses in 1867 at an Exposition in Paris. Almost all lenses in England, Ireland, Scotland, Canada, and other parts of the former British Empire were made by this firm. Chance Brothers lenses are also found in some U.S. lighthouses. Wilhelm Weule made these lenses in Germany - I am not sure how early or if any were in use in the United States. Because lighthouses are found worldwide, there were most likely other makers in other countries.

By the early 1900s, the Lighthouse Service was urging U.S. glassmakers to produce Fresnel lenses for lighthouses. One of the few American firms to do so was the Macbeth-Evans Company of Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. It built smaller lenses (i.e., third-order or less), many of which were installed in Great Lakes lighthouses. Several American companies, notably Corning Glass of New York, also manufactured small Fresnel-style lenses for buoys, railroad signals, and vehicle applications. (The tail-light on your vehicle is a Fresnel lens.) By this time, however, the greatest lighthouse-building period in U.S. history was over so, in fairness to American glass producers, the market just was not there.

Most references list six *orders*, or sizes, of Fresnel lenses, the first order being the largest. This size is most often found at remote coastal locations where the light needs to be seen from a great distance. First-order lenses are typically 10 feet tall and 6 or more feet in diameter - large enough for several people to get inside. The smallest sixth-order light, perhaps 2 feet high, was most often found on pier-heads or along river channels, where it did not have to be seen from far off. A seventh size, called a "3-1/2 order" also was made - most of these are at Great Lakes sites.

The lens at the Makapu'u Lighthouse in Hawaii is the largest at any lighthouse in the United States and is listed as a *zero-order* lens. It has a focal length of 1,330 millimeters, about a third again as long as a first-order lens. It is also referred to as a *hyper-radiant* lens. There are only a few of this size worldwide.

Because lenses were made by different manufacturers, there appears to be no complete "standard" for each size. A first-order lens made by Henry-Lepaute, for instance, may be somewhat larger or smaller than a first-order lens made by another manufacturer. I do not know if all lenses of the same order made by the same company are always the same size. A first-order fixed lens, for example, may have different dimensions than a first-order revolving lens made by the same company. Although actual physical dimensions may differ between lenses of the "same order," what seems to be a more determining characteristic is the focal length of the lens.

Lenses that are listed on the website www.alcc.ws/Lenses/complete_listing.htm consistently show focal lengths as follows, regardless of the manufacturer:

First Order: 920 mm	Second Order: 700 mm	Third Order: 500 mm	3.5 Order: 375 mm
Fourth Order: 250 mm	Fifth Order: 187.5 mm	Sixth Order: 150 mm	

Look for the continuing story...next issue will contain the last of this installment.

Friends of Seguin Island Light Station Gift Giving Ideas

New items include: biodegradable kite, hooded sweatshirts, balsam fir pillow, 100% recycled zing ring, fleece zippered jacket also check out our unique selection of accessories made in Maine.

An array of gifts can be found on our website www.seguinisleland.org or in the FOSILS office at 72 Front Street #3 Bath, Me. 04530.

Another way to help keep Seguin's magnificent light shining is to give the gift of a Membership. What better way to give a gift without the worry of size or color. Do not forget that as a FOSILS Member, you can take a 10% discount off any gift shop merchandise and you are eligible to sign up for a stay in the Seguin Guest Quarters!

"We wish you and yours an enjoyable Summer!"

Dee Perry – Memorabilia Chairperson

New Item for Summer of 2013

90% Biodegradable Kite	\$10.00
100% Recycled Zing Ring	\$2.50
Maine Balsam Fir Pillow	\$8.00
Double Rock Glass	\$8.00



Visit www.seguinisleland.org
To view full color images and
additional gift ideas!

New 90% Bio-Degradable
Kite with Seguin Logo



Friends of Seguin Island Light Station Summerfest IV

Summerfest IV is the Friends of Seguin Island Light Stations major fundraiser each year.

This year's event will be held on Friday evening, July 26th 2013, 5:30pm at the Maine Maritime Museum. This fun event will feature live music, a delicious buffet catered by Byrnes Irish Pub, a lively auction by Joe Bottero and a 2013 Caretakers presentation.

Tickets are \$25.00 each and they include free admission to the Maine Maritime Museum on the day of the event.

Each year we have wonderful items to bid on in our silent auction and the live auction. Past years have included boat trips, days of golf, kayaking, lobsters, boating gear, and artwork from area supporters as well as a highly coveted weekend on Seguin!

Friends of Seguin Island Light Station is a non-profit organization that distinguishes Seguin Island as part of Maine's heritage, fostering connections with our area history for generations to come. We can only accomplish our goals with support from the generous public and corporate sponsors throughout the year.



If you are interested in taking part in this event please contact DD Morong at 442-8711.

Thank you for your consideration!

Friends Of Seguin Island Membership Form

NAME(S): _____ TELEPHONE: () _____
ADDRESS: _____ CITY: _____ ZIP: _____

Enclosed is my (our) contribution for continuing (new) membership in the Friends of Seguin Island, a non-profit corporation, organized for the purpose of maintaining and preserving Seguin Island Light Station and its historic structures.

Membership Levels

First Mate (16yrs or younger)	() \$ 10.00
Captain	() \$ 30.00
Seguin Family	() \$ 55.00
Assistant Keeper	() \$ 100.00
Lighthouse Keeper	() \$ 250.00
Commodore	() \$ 1,000.00

Credit Card # _____

Expiration Date: ____ / ____

Signature: _____

☐ Yes, I would like my newsletter emailed

Revised June 2012



Thank you very much for your support!

FOSILS Board of Directors • • 2012-2013

Ken Young – President
Fred Kahrl – Vice President
Anne Morong – Secretary
Deanne Morong – Treasurer

Jim Bennett • Kevin Crosman • Ethan DeBery
Dee Perry • Clark Labbe • Joyce Pye
Cyndy Carney • Nat Hicks • Barbara Paiement
Ellen Womer • Peter Bacon • Tom Morong

PLEASE HELP US REDUCE COSTS!

We are going green and saving the trees, as well as the island. In one effort we can reduce postage and paper by emailing you the newsletter.

Contact us at: membersemail@seguinland.org
with your email address.



Thank



You!



**Summerfest IV 2013
Annual Fund Raiser**

*Friday, July 26, 2013
5:30pm – 9:00pm*

Benefit for Seguin Island Light Station
\$25/person Celebrating 217years

*Maine Maritime Museum in Bath
Cash Bar - Live music
Buffet Dinner - Live & Silent Auctions*

*Advanced ticket purchase includes Maine
Maritime Museum admittance!*

FRIENDS OF SEGUIN ISLAND, INC.

72 Front Street, Suite 3, Bath, ME 04530

Telephone: (207) 443-4808

Office Manager - Eric Dolbec

keeper@seguinland.org www.seguinland.org



Friends of Seguin Island
72 Front Street, Suite 3
Bath, ME 04530-2657