

TLIA News

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

WWW.TRIPLAKE.COM

TRIPP LAKE IMPROVEMENT ASSOCIATION

SPRING 2008

Letter from the President

Thomas J. Dean

Welcome back to Tripp Lake and the warm weather. And, to those who are year round residents, thank goodness the snow is gone.



A lot has taken place in Poland during the winter months that will have an effect on the town of Poland and Tripp Lake for years to come. A comprehensive plan (the "Plan") was revisited and updated by concerned citizens of Poland that will act as a road map of what the town will look like in the future and protect the beauty of the town and its resources.

Being involved with members of the Tripp Lake Improvement Association, reviewing the comprehensive plan and listening to concerns of my neighbors makes me look at our world here in Poland differently. One of the greatest resources identified by the Plan was the lakes and ponds of Poland. This finding is consistent with the findings of the Brookings Institute which completed a study of Maine to help chart its future and noted "the state must invest in what matters—the state's outstanding quality of place...." The better the comprehensive plan the better will be the quality of place. This isn't a new idea; in fact tourists have been coming to Poland for its scenic ponds and gentle hills since the 1850's when the St. Lawrence and Atlantic Railroad first served the area.

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ON THE WATER

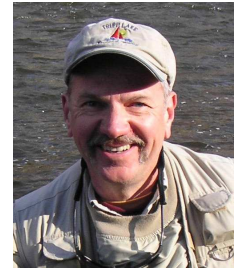
by Rick Lundstedt

Another nasty winter by the books; prime time for the lake is approaching fast. We'll be getting another late jump on the season with Memorial Day being the "big" weekend. I only got to the lake once all winter and then took the easy way out, staying with Richard Smith. His place was toasty with homemade chili all prepared....it seemed like an easy decision!

Anna had another knee operation in January that took her out of commission for winter activities and an "escape" vacation. Friends of ours (Karen and Rick Roth) were heading to Belize for a return trip to Coco Plum Island, March 27th. They asked us if we could join them. Anna was due to go back to work April 1st, couldn't risk blood clots and couldn't walk on soft sand for another couple of months. Since my nursing duties would be completed and she would be back working, Anna convinced me to go. It didn't actually take much coaxing since we had already heard of their last year's trip. The pictures we saw and the fish stories Rick spun were enough to convince me!

Coco Plum is a sixteen-acre island ten miles off the coast of Belize in British Honduras. You fly into Belize City, take a hop flight over the jungle to Dangriga, then a half hour boat ride to the island. Your first rum drink (but probably not your last) is prepared as the staff and guests exchange complimentary introductions. What you may not realize at the time is that these folks can become some of your best friends as the week progresses...pretty cool! Accommodations are stand-alone cabanas at the water's edge, each with one or two bedrooms, sitting area, bathroom, and porch with hammock. Rooms are crystal clean, complete with water cooler and a/c.

Karen was content relaxing on the beach with a good book, occasionally taking a dip when the mood struck. Rick is about as avid a fisherman as I am, so you know where our focus was! We fished for bonefish and permit daily by



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CALENDAR OF EVENTS

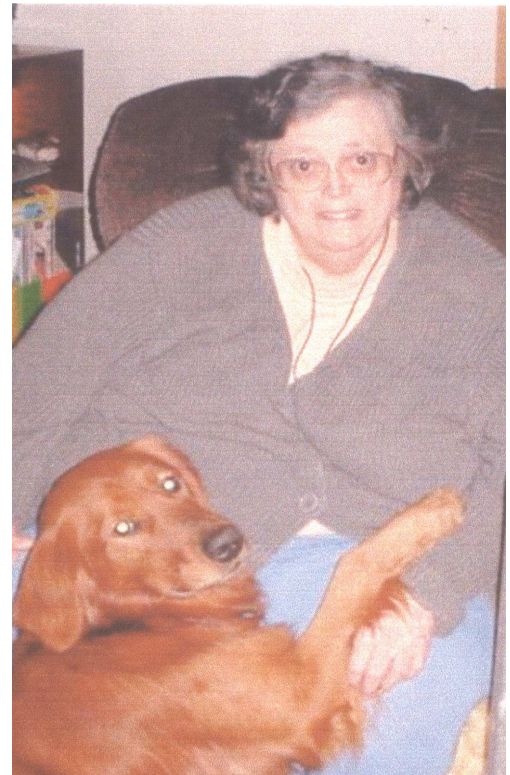
Tripp Lake Store/998-4389 TLIA Merchandise. Call before you go to be sure. 89 Meguire Hill Road (next to Laskey's)	
Men's Card Club/call 998-3276 154 Jordan Shore Drive	Wednesdays/7 PM
Red Hats/call 998-3276 154 Jordan Shore Drive	June 28 th /11 AM
July 4th Boat Parade Beginning @ Hemlock Campground	July 4 th 10 AM
TLIA Annual Meeting @ Poland Library/come for coffee/8:30 AM	July 12 th 9 AM
3rd Annual 5K Road Race	July 27 th
Bird Watching/Recording	All summer
Beach Clean-up Day/call 998-8155	July 13 th 8 AM

"IT'S LIKE COMING HOME"

By Sue Barry

I have been acquainted with Harriet Doolittle over the last several years through the amusing and interesting articles that she writes for the TLIA News and, more recently, through working with her as Babs and I put the newsletter together each spring and fall. This winter, as I pondered who might be my next "victim" to interview, it occurred to me that you readers might enjoy getting to know Harriet a little better. So I e-mailed her to ask if she would be willing to answer some questions about her life and times. She was and through the miracle of electronics, ergo, following is the culmination of her answers.

Harriet was born on the Ides of March 1937 in Philadelphia, PA. She has no siblings. She grew up in Chester, PA and attended that school system from Kindergarten through 12th grade. Following graduation she attended Pennsylvania State University to prepare for pre-veterinary medicine and then went on to the University of PA for her veterinary school education. She explained, "In 1957 it was very difficult for a woman to get accepted into a veterinary school. I was fortunate to be a resident of PA and the University of PA was one of the most liberal about admitting women. There were a number of schools that would not admit women. Now the pendulum has swung and about 50%-75% of all classes are women. It is still difficult to get into veterinary school, but at least the difficulty is equal." She went on to say that she recently read that the ratio of women and men practicing veterinary medicine is now about equal. Harriet's love for animals and her strong desire to have a career that would allow her to work with them fueled her determination to be accepted at veterinary school.



Harriet and Copper

For 29 years Harriet worked at Camden County College in Blackwood, NJ. She taught a course called *Techniques for Veterinary Assistants* that she created and developed for veterinary technicians. Students graduate with an Associate's Degree in Applied Science, sit for State Boards, and work under the supervision of veterinarians in many types of practices, research, and in academia.

I asked her how she came to own the property on which her beloved log cabin sits. I was rather curious because during my teens, I spent quite a bit of time over there. We called it "the point." Back then, it was pretty much a vacant lot owned by Bill & Althea King, who were friends of my folks. It is a beautiful spot and I have memories of learning to water ski and enjoying wonderful cookouts. Harriet said she found the property while in Poland teaching her *Veterinary Assistants* course at the Job Corps on the site of the former Poland Spring Inn. While there she met Phyllis Smith, another teacher in Harriet's vocational cluster. She and her husband, Steve, also owned a real estate business and were partnered with Bill King. Through their Job Corps association, Phyllis, Steve and Harriet became close friends and Harriet would go with them to look at various properties to list or that were for sale. When they learned that Bill & Althea were selling their land on Tripp Lake, Steve encouraged her to buy it, and she did. After Harriet began teaching at Camden County College, her fondest dream was to build a summer place on the property so that she could spend her summer vacations here on the lake. She said Tripp Lake is her "natural home" and added, "You can call it karma or what you will, but when I arrive in Poland each May, it's like coming home." In the mid-70's she contacted Irving Groves, a Poland resident and owner of the Poland Mining Camps, to see if he would be willing to build a place for her. She had seen the log cabins at his mining camp and really liked them. He agreed to go ahead with the project. During the construction he combined the log cabin design with two smaller buildings that were on the property, and then added a deck to pull it all together. She said, "We started in 1976 and finished in 1984. He worked at it when he could and I paid him when I could and the two things blended well and here I am with a three-season home on Tripp Lake."

Harriet rode horseback for a number of years, bringing her Appaloosa to Maine when she first began coming here. She also enjoyed swimming, canoeing, boating and especially walking her four-legged friends. At this time she is writing her life story for "friends and family—no thoughts of publishing—just for fun. And before I forget it all!" Needless to say, Harriet has two dogs. One, named "Spright," is a Bouviers des Flanders and a gift from a friend who raises them. "Copper" is a 7-year-old Golden Retriever and the sixth Golden she has owned. I asked if they travel well and she said they ride very happily back and forth between Maine and Pine Hill, NJ, where she lives.

The three of them are due back here on May 18th, 'God willing and the crick don't rise.' And I say, "Welcome home!"



CORPORAL JOE HUGHES

By Didi Hughes

Many people have asked us how our son, Joe, is doing since he became a star on the front page of the last TLIA News. In November he finished his first tour in Iraq and, fortunately for us, they come through Bangor on their way back to Camp Pendleton, so we got to go and welcome the troops back. Duke, our lab/husky, came along and wore his Marine bandana and everyone loved him. Our daughter, Jessica, came along, too. We also had another chance to experience the most wonderful people: the Maine Troop Greeters. What special people they are! People of all ages, some are as old as 90, who meet and greet every military flight in and out of Bangor, no matter what time, day or night. They give the guys cell phones to use to call home, some treats and they shake every hand, even giving Bibles to those who want them on their way to war. As the troops head for Iraq, the greeters wish them well and promise to be there when they return and, true to their word, they are. It really makes a difference to these guys.

Before leaving Iraq Joe was promoted to Corporal, which we were all pleased about. He is now training to become a Collateral Duty Inspector on the Hueys and Cobras. He will be heading back to Iraq again sometime later this year but, hopefully, will get back here for a visit first.

As many of you may have noticed, the yellow ribbons were only down for a short time at our house. Zack Reed, our son-in-law, left in early December on his second deployment. He is a captain in the Army and since arriving in Iraq has been given command of 2-11 Bravo Battery and will be given command of two more platoons soon. He is hoping to be accepted into a program at Georgetown University where he will work on his second Master's degree when he completes his deployment. He left December 2007 and won't be back until March 2009. His wife, our daughter Becky, stayed at their home in Hawaii and has taken charge of the FRG, the wives and families of the men and women serving under Zack. She seems to enjoy the work and it sounds like they are both doing a great job.

Editor's note: We owe a debt of gratitude to this wonderful family.

3RD ANNUAL 5K ROAD RACE/WALK

by Jamie Rothfus

This year's 5k race/walk will take place on Sunday, July 27th. The race registration can be done in a couple of different ways this year. Those who are interested can register on line with www.active.com and search for the "Tripp Lake 5K Race by the Lake," or fill out the form below and send it to Dick Barry at 5 Garland Swamp Road, Poland, ME 04274. I am also looking for sponsors or donations for the race. Monetary donations are also welcome. If you are interested in sponsoring the race (your name will be put on the T-shirts), or if you are willing to donate prizes for the raffles, please contact me at the race website: Tripp5k@yahoo.com. I look forward to seeing you all there! Start training!

Entry Form 5K Run by the Lake

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State _____ Zip Code: _____

Age day of race: _____ Sex: M F FEE: \$20.00

If you are under 18 years on the day of the race you will need a parental signature due to road race insurance requirements.

I understand that running or walking is a potentially hazardous activity. I should not enter and participate unless I am medically able and properly trained. I agree to abide by any decision of any race official relative to my ability to safely complete the event. I assume all risks associated with participating in this event including, but not limited to falls, contact with other participants, effects of weather, including high heat/humidity, traffic and conditions of the road, and all risks are known and appreciated by me. Having read this waiver and knowing these facts and in consideration of your accepting my entry, I, for myself and anyone entitled to act on my behalf, waive and release the Tripp Lake Association and the Poland Recreation Department and any sponsors of this event, their representatives and their successors, from all claims or liabilities of any kind arising out of my participation in this event.

Signature: _____