This is probably the most historic property on Merrymeeting Bay and one that Friends of Merrymeeting Bay [FOMB] along with The Nature Conservancy [TNC] worked over a year to protect. It is now owned by TNC. On this site once stood Thomas Ashley’s home where Plymouth Colony interests brought many of the Kennebec settlers together on 15 May, 1652 to form the first civil government for the region. It is also the site of Hutchinson’s house during the Cork period, ca.1719-1722. Archaeologically/historically it is one of the most important properties in Maine.

The entire parcel is 76 acres and in an area where most of the surrounding properties are protected or in the process of becoming so. The 1850s twin chimney Cape sits on a hill overlooking the Kennebec River. Open fields, large kitchen and dining room with built-ins, wood floors and a Post and Beam ell for future expansion. Set on 10 acres with over 200 ft. of water frontage. Property can not be subdivided.

The conservation plan is to re-sell the house and 10 acres subject to a conservation easement held by FOMB.

The Maine Department of Inland Fisheries & Wildlife plans to purchase the rest of the property in large part to protect bald eagle habitat however purchase of the entire parcel by a private buyer is not totally out of the question. In this second scenario the conservation easement would cover the entire 76 acres and would still not permit subdivision.

The sooner we can make the sale, the sooner conservation assets tied up here can go to work protecting other valuable habitat in the area. Price is $695K. Please pass this message on to anyone you feel might be interested.

Ed Friedman at 666-3372 or edfomb@gwi.net or Andrea Galuza at 725-8505x111 or www.galuzahomes.com

For more information please contact:
From the Chair: Passages in 2005

2005 has brought more than its share of mindful passages to FOMB. From the program work standpoint the year was our busiest thus far. Our long-planned Current Study began, using drifting buoys to better understand circulation patterns in the Bay and tributaries. This large project joined follow-up caged mussel work on endocrine disruptors from pulp mill wastewater, an archaeology dig, expanded water quality monitoring, a successful series of summer outings and winter speakers, school outreach visits, ongoing land conservation accomplishments, and continued advocacy work on American eel, Atlantic salmon and Brunswick sludge issues.

An incredible amount of volunteer effort enables our accomplishments. This year 138 individuals put in over 3600 hours of work in support of our goals. FOMB’s school programs reached over 700 students, both young and old. Our land conservation efforts protected an additional 116 acres and 6700 feet of waterfront around the Bay. Innovative and transferable research efforts like the Current Study and endocrine disrupter projects continue. We are working on animated visualizations of our drifter buoys while awaiting tissue analyses of caged mussels from our partners at the St. Lawrence Center of Environment Canada.

Good friends and some long-time supporters had their final passage this year. Richard Schager of Dresden & Ohio, bird carver Ed Gamble of Brunswick, USFWS Special Agent Tommy Cloherty and of course beloved local artist Bryce Muir, all of whom contributed over the years in various ways, died in 2005 and early 2006. Tommy, working on the front lines of federal fish and wildlife law enforcement, and Bryce, probing the cutting edges of art, music, writing and observation, passed away prematurely but doing what they loved. They leave behind legacies of passion, commitment and accomplishments from which we all can learn, and serve to remind us of how we, as individuals can, and need to, in these trying times, make a difference. They also remind us that we all skate on thin ice. On behalf of all the Friends my heart goes out to the families of these four.

Passing from the banks of the Abbagadassett River to the town of Brunswick this past year was someone sometimes referred to as the Ambassador of Merrymeeting Bay. Very much alive but struggling with the aftermath of some small strokes, a couple of falls, the onset of Alzheimer's and mostly bad hearing aids, is Linwood Rideout. It's difficult to think of Merrymeeting Bay and not think of Linwood. Lin is very engaged and would love your visit or your mail.

Finally, denied upstream and downstream passage around most hydro-electric dams in the state, American eels continue to be slaughtered by the thousands as they seek to migrate on their only spawning opportunity and find the way blocked by spinning turbine blades of steel. Complicit in the continued trend towards extinction of this amazing species are the state and federal natural resource agencies who have the power to provide safe passage but who refuse so far to do so. The Department of Environmental Protection continues to deserve its other moniker, Department of Economic Protection, as it moves on from holding secret meetings with pulp mills to catering to the needs of the hydro industry while actively working against the [in this case fish] species it should be protecting.

Good friends and some long-time supporters had their final passage this year. Richard Schager of Dresden & Ohio, bird

Volunteer hours (3,614 hrs)

Research & Advocacy 46%
Conservation & Stewardship 18%
Education 22%
Membership & Fundraising 7%
Newsletter 3%
Administration 4%

2005 Financials

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Expenses ($72,924)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Conservation &amp; Stewardship</td>
<td>3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Education</td>
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<td>Membership &amp; Fundraising</td>
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<tr>
<td>Supplies</td>
<td>&lt;1%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Payroll</td>
<td>36%</td>
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1. The high numbers for Research and Advocacy in Expenses and in Volunteer hours largely reflect work on our long-planned study of circulation patterns in the Bay. This study received funding in 2005 and will continue to receive funding this year.

2. Our 30 hr/wk staff person spent her time as follows: Program work: 55%, Fundraising: 35% (including work on photography calendar), and Admin: 10%. FOMB is somewhat unique in its mix of paid staff and volunteer efforts. Our staff person was hired in large part to work on fundraising, membership and volunteer coordination. Our active and engaged Board, as well as our members carry out much of our program work. Consequently, our distribution of expenses (of which salary is a significant chunk) does not accurately reflect our distribution of energy.
While the various state agencies [DEP, DMR, and IF&W] are culpable in not fulfilling their obligations, it is direction from the Governor's office that probably is in large part to blame. With a simple call from the Governor to enforce the law of the land these agencies would go ahead and do the right thing. Appropriate leadership is lacking here in the environmental field as in many other areas including creative sustainable economic development, health care and tax reform. Too often forgotten, and sometimes purposefully segregated [divide and conquer], it is our obligation to remember that like the six rivers of the Bay and most ecosystems, our different societal areas are integrally connected as well. We cannot have substantive action, passage, or lack thereof, in one area without affecting the others. Thank you for your continued support.

Respectfully Submitted,
Ed Friedman 2/14/06

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**2005 Financials**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Income: ($72,242)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sales 9% (mostly calendar)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Grants 42%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Misc. 2%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Events 1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Member donations 46%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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**2005 Accomplishments** continued from page 3

Acquisitions [with The Nature Conservancy & Maine Wetlands Protection Coalition]
Leyman/Detweiler - 40 acres, 2500’ Abbagadassett R. shoreline, in Bowdoinham
Thwings Pt. Farm- 76 acres, 1600’ Kennebec R., 2,600’ inland wetland in Woolwich

Stewardship — All easements monitored

**Research**
Completed & released final report on Sediment Study
Umberhind/Leyman-Detweiler-LMF Archaeological Dig with MHPC
Completed first phases of Circulation Study
Completed field portion of Caged Mussel Endocrine Disrupter Study
American Eel organochlorine & trace metal assay completed
Assisted MDIF&W with bald eagle breeding surveys

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**Documented willfully ignored excessive uraninite radiation on Highlands Property**

**Water Quality Monitoring** — 17 Standard & 4 Fecal Coliform sites

**Advocacy ( postings, letters, testimony, etc)**
Channel Speed Limit Signs
Merrymeeting Bay Wildlife Sanctuary Signs
Land for Maine’s Future Bond
American Eel Protection-Endangered Species Act Comments, BEP Petition
Kennebec Atlantic Salmon-filed Endangered Species Act Petition
Dioxin Monitoring Program/Surface Water Ambient Toxics Program
Fish Consumption Advisories
Gulf Island Pond
Kennebec Gravel Mining
Utah Wilderness Coalition
Center for Environmental Health & Justice
Anadromous Fish Re-stocking
Confiscation of Public Lands
Brunswick Aquifer Protection Zone-Sludge Spreading
Androscoggin Upgrade
Land Conservation Donor Tax Changes-US Senate & House
Arctic National Wildlife Refuge
Shoreland Zoning
Tax Reform/Revenue Generation

**Primary Partners**
The Nature Conservancy
Bowdoin College Environmental Studies
Department of Environmental Protection
Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife
US Fish and Wildlife Service
Maine Natural Areas Program
Department of Marine Resources
Friends of Casco Bay
Maine Toxics Action Coalition
Applied Biomonitoring
Maine Rivers
Maine Historic Preservation Commission
Environment Canada
Maine Coast Heritage Trust
Maine Wetlands Protection Coalition
Patagonia Outlet, Freeport
Grand View Neighborhood Group
Land Trust Alliance
Maine ECO
Androscoggin Alliance
Friends of Kennebec Salmon
Maine Maritime Museum
Mid-Coast Senior College
Brunswick Pesticide Watch
Toxics Action Center
Maine Rural Water Association
SAD 75