

F N I L

FRIENDS OF NASH ISLAND LIGHT



NEWSLETTER - SUMMER 2016

Board of Directors

Ann Casey-Graves
Les Coleman
Keith Crowley, Jr.
Harry Fish
Jerry Metz
Gray Miles
Richard Miles
Gail Moorhouse
Tim Moorhouse
John Page
Alf Wakeman

This year's free and public Annual Meeting will be held at 7:00 PM on Thursday August 25th at the Union Church in South Addison. This year we are pleased to welcome Sara Williams of the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service as our speaker. Sara is involved in managing the Maine Coastal Islands National Wildlife refuges. Her presentation will cover management of Little Nash Island. Refreshments will be served and we hope that you'll be able to attend.

Dear Friends,

We're happy to report that the lighthouse coating has continued to hold up well. In addition, the inside still looks good and is dry and mildew free. A bit of upkeep should do it for this year.

Board member Jerry Metz supports our organization in many ways. In particular, he tells the world about Nash Island light in a unique fashion! Jerry is an avid ham radio operator. He writes:

Packing pieces of a portable short-wave station over rockweed and up a sandy beach, setting up a tent, power supply, and deploying an efficient antenna are sweaty chores but the rewards come upon hitting the microphone button and calling into the void, "CQ, CQ, this is NIQLL at Nash Island Light on the Downeast Coast of Maine, standing by for your call..." The response is like tossing bread to seagulls: within a few minutes a squawking wave of call signs chimes in, like a nest full of hungry little birds all chirping at once and you are Mother Bird and they all want your worm!

I've put our lighthouse on the air several times and it's good publicity for Nash Island Light, the Maine Coast, and lighthouses in general. When they're biting it's possible to complete 50 contacts an hour, trading call signs, names, locations, and technical data. Many will mail a confirmation postcard and request mine in return. Just as with fishing, one never knows what will bite.

I'll never forget the time I looked out the door of my tent and saw a strange brown bearded beast walking down the beach. This was no sheep! It was friendly and quite curious. I went out and petted it, and returned to the tent looking for a treat. The billy goat followed and ended up standing inside the tent! Alfie had borrowed some goats to clear unwanted vegetation and this one's mixture of friendliness and curiosity threatened the antenna wires that almost got hooked in its horns.

I'll be out again this summer to spread the word about Nash Island Light and listening for those faint faraway scinating replies. Jerry Metz NIQLL

FNIL, PO BOX 250, ADDISON, ME 04606

GIFTS TO FNIL ARE TAX DEDUCTIBLE WITHIN THE LIMITS OF FEDERAL AND STATE LAWS

Board member Elyse Rudner is a very energetic soul who is committed to getting younger folks interested in the light and hopefully interested in joining the Board. The beautiful cards that Elyse had printed last summer with an inscription on the back in memory of Oscar have recently been reprinted and will once again be for sale at our annual meeting with all proceeds going to FNIL.

As a follow up from last year's presentation, Board Member Alf Wakeman reports: We had 86 lambs on the big island this year and I didn't breed the little island. The sheep had a great winter and we had all the islands sheared by the end of May with lots of beautiful fleeces.

In addition, we once again have our Nash Island Light posters, cards, "Jenny's Island Life" DVD's, T-shirts, sweatshirts, tiles, and hats for sale. Members are encouraged to pick up a decal if they need one. These will all be available at the annual meeting. Should you wish to order a DVD by mail, please send a check made out to FNIL to the address below in the amount of \$25.00 per item, which includes shipping and sales tax. Note cards are \$20.00 for 10, all inclusive. Once again a free poster will be given to anyone making a contribution of \$5 over the cost of membership. Additional posters are available for \$5 apiece (plus \$5 shipping if they are to be mailed).

Your continuing generosity in support of FNIL in any amount is greatly appreciated. Memberships run on a yearly basis. Your dues of \$10.00 minimum will renew your membership. All new members will receive a Nash Island Light decal.

FNIL, PO BOX 250, ADDISON, ME 04606
GIFTS TO FNIL ARE TAX DEDUCTIBLE WITHIN THE LIMITS OF FEDERAL AND STATE LAWS