

FNIL

FRIENDS OF NASH ISLAND LIGHT



NEWSLETTER - SUMMER 2024

Board of Directors

Ann Casey-Graves

Les Coleman

Nathan Hendrie

Gray Miles

Richard Miles

Gail Moorehouse

John Page

Elyse Rudner

Alf Wakeman

Wren Wakeman

This year's free and public Annual Meeting will be held at 7:00 PM on Wednesday, August 28th at the Cape Split Chapel. BIG NEWS THIS YEAR CALLS FOR A PARTY! All are invited. Bring your friends and join us for drinks and snacks as we celebrate Dick Miles tenure as President.

Dick Miles is retiring and Alf Wakeman will step in.

Dick has been the passionate, devoted, hard working and enthusiastic president of the Board of the Friends of the Nash Island Light for over 20 years. How fortunate we have been to have had a leader who not only cares deeply about our mission, but has the intellect and practical skills to carry that mission forward.

Over the years, Dick has tirelessly researched the procedures, materials, and applications recommended by the Lighthouse Preservation Act and Maine Lights Program. Dick has been the number one person responsible for the upkeep of the tower with critical support from his family including Board members, Gray Miles and Nathan Hendrie.

Dick, we can't thank you enough.

As Dick steps down, he is grateful and comfortable knowing that Alf Wakeman will be stepping in to lead the work of preserving the lighthouse. "Alf is a wonderful choice to be our new president."

Nominating Committee Report

We are pleased to report that Alf Wakeman will be nominated to be our new President. Although Dick Miles is stepping down as FNIL's President, he will remain on the Board of Directors. Gail Moorhouse, Gray Miles and Nathan Hendrie have resigned from the Board this year after many years of steady and productive service. A special thank you to Gail who has served as our Secretary and major domo these many years. In their places, Kristen Hernandez and Rebecca Starr, both residents of South Addison, are being nominated to the Board to serve three- year terms ending 2027. Elyse Rudner, FNIL's new Secretary, is also being nominated for another three-year term ending in 2027.

Treasurer's Report

Les Coleman, FNIL's Treasurer, reports that during 2023 at total of 53 donors contributed \$4,431 to FNIL. The gifts ranged from \$10 to \$1,000. Total expense during the year was \$14,159 as repair and maintenance of the Lighthouse continued. During the last two years a total of \$33,000 was spent on maintenance and repair. At the end of 2023 FNIL's endowment fund at Maine Community Foundation stood at \$64,324, with \$1,900 in its checking account. Les says that continued support of FNIL's donors is critical to FNIL's ability to maintain the Lighthouse for the long-term.



The Lamb and Sheep Report

This spring on Little Nash Island, 25 lambs were born from 23 ewes and 1 ram. On Big Nash Island 91 lambs were born from 86 ewes and 2 rams (Owen and River). Rams Owen and River will be on Big Nash again, while a new ram, Hyas, will be moved to Little Nash Island for next year's tugging season. There was also one bottle lamb this year: Tripp (short for triplet). Tripp was the runt of this year's only set of triplets and needed a little extra support in his first few weeks. We are pleased to report he is happy and healthy!



The Winter Storms

We are happy to report the tower survived the storms unscathed. However, unprecedented changes to the waterfront landscape resulted from winter storms along Maine's coasts. Notably, Big Nash required major rebuilding of the fence line and corral area, the structure of which is crucial to efficient and effective shearing of the sheep.

A large cleanup endeavor was executed on Big Nash consisting of about 15 volunteers who helped fill an entire contractor dumpster full of trash that had washed up over the past couple of years. Be on the look out for clean ups scheduled for Little Nash and Flat Islands. Volunteers are always welcome.