

# S.O.S.-MAINE

## SHORELINES

### FALL 2012



### "SHORELINES"

is the official publication of  
SAVE OUR SHORES-MAINE  
P.O. Box 1785  
Wells, ME 04090

#### MISSION:

S.O.S.-Maine's mission is to educate the coastal community about issues that impact Maine's coastal heritage

#### OFFICERS

President: Mike Severance  
Secretary: NEEDED  
Treasurer: Rocky Furman  
Executive Director: Maryanne Foley

#### DIRECTORS

Bob Foley            Parker Dwelley  
Bob Almeder        Barbara Johnson  
Katy Kelly            Ken Lafayette  
Joel Bradley



#### IN THIS ISSUE:

President's Letter            Page 1  
S.O.S at Harbor Park        Page 2  
Maine DEP Appointment    Page 2  
S.O.S. Scholarship            Page 2  
S.O.S. Membership form    Page 3

### *Greetings from the President:*

If the saying that "Time flies when you are having fun." is true, I had a very, very enjoyable summer because the months have just flown by way too fast. It seems summer friends and visitors were just arriving to share with us their fun adventures and challenges.

Always looking for the positive, now I can look forward to our visits to their winter homes in the southern latitudes where lawns and trees will be full of rich greens and gardens filled with vibrant colorful flowers.

Even though our vegetation is now trending toward its dormant season, S.O.S.-Maine is not.

Last evening, a local resident asked me if S.O.S.- Maine is still active. My quick thought was that "active" is not the best description; we are still ever vigilant. I briefly listed all the activities we all were pursuing trying to be kept informed and trying to stay ahead of those individuals and organizations that are funded by public funds (read municipal, state and federal taxpayers' money) and are doing all they can to diminish private property rights.

Remember, that our best resource at keeping SOS Maine vigilant is you, our members. You are our eyes and ears as to the shameful activities in your coastal communities from Kittery to Cape Elizabeth.

If you are a seasonal resident, please ask a representative of your local community association to be on our Board. This will help us keep better informed; and SOS Maine's experience and long history of representing and defending coastal property owners will help your local association, too.

Experience has proven that one individual or one small local association will not be heard and will not obtain action from local, state or federal representatives. SOS Maine has learned that with our larger membership, broader geographical representation and respected institutional knowledge, we have obtained results at hearings, with rules and with laws.

Please continue to support your SOS Maine by spreading the word to your acquaintances about SOS Maine's accomplishments, and help expand our representation.

*Mike Severance*

President  
S.O.S.-Maine



**S.O.S.-MAINE P.O. BOX 1785 WELLS, ME 04090**

[www.sosmaine.org](http://www.sosmaine.org)

# Support S.O.S.-Maine

With July being the start of the SOS fiscal year, we urge you to encourage your neighbors and friends to learn about SOS and MCC at [www.sosmaine.org](http://www.sosmaine.org). Many people who use the Maine shoreline for pleasure are unaware of the struggles of property owners and of those who make a living using this same shoreline.

For instance, it has come to our attention that Connecticut may be considering legislation to ban rebuilding on the shoreline should your home or business be damaged by events such as storms or sea level rise. In addition, pressures from some groups and agencies from federal to local levels that have interests that oppose use of the shoreline to live, work and play spearhead efforts to restrict and/or ban uses of the coastline by anything other than natural habitat.

An article, "To Repair the Shore, or Retreat?" by Lisa Prevost in The New York Times on May 3, 2012 contained the following:

That legislation, proposed by the Connecticut chapter of the Nature Conservancy, called for "a fair and orderly legal process to foster strategic retreat of property ownership, over a period of several decades," in coastal areas subject to erosion or repetitive structural damage.

In that same article, a property owner in Connecticut had this reaction:

The words "retreat" and "orderly legal process" sparked suspicions that the bill was laying the groundwork for the seizure of private homes by eminent domain. Says Mr. Fasano, who owns shoreline property himself, "I thought it was a forced taking by government."

SOS educates the public to maintain and preserve our coastal heritage. MCC promotes public policy to support our coastal resources and people.

If there is success in prohibiting rebuilding on the shoreline, in time, all buildings will be removed, whether private homes or businesses such as marinas, campgrounds, and hotels. This would be a great loss of a way of life for those who work and live on the coastline and for tourists who visit and vacation on the Maine coastline. There would also be a direct economic impact for local communities and the state should such extraneous restrictions gain a foothold.

Should a shoreline building face the inability to be rebuilt instead of being afforded the same rights of any other property owner? Any inland home or business can suffer damage from weather events, fire, or flood and are rebuilt without any fanfare. It could be argued that any man-made structure is not good for the environment in any location.

Along with a substantial tax assessment, flood insurance is dearly paid for by coastline property owners through the federal government, NOT by the federal government. Coastal property owners work hard to obtain and maintain their investments the same as any other property owner. If there is success in removing residential and business structures from the coastline it stands to reason that efforts could then turn to a ban on all recreational activity on the shore as well.

Whether you have had the good fortune to grow up in such a fantastic environment or have vacationed on Maine's coastline increased restrictions will change us all forever. It is our choice to live, work or play here and with care and planning we may continue to do so without life altering or unfair legislation.

We need your support so generations to come can continue to work, live and play in such a treasured environment. Please, consider becoming a member of SOS Maine and/or donating to MCC so our children and grandchildren can make the memories that we all hold dear.

Please encourage your friends and neighbors who love and use any part of coastal Maine to support the efforts of both SOS and MCC to help maintain and protect this resource.

Board members of SOS and MCC are all volunteers. If you have an interest in our efforts and want to participate as a board member please go to the Contact tab at [www.sosmaine.org](http://www.sosmaine.org) or contact any board member. We are always looking for more ideas and more contact with people who have an interest in the Maine coastline. Help us be prepared to meet and challenge unfair legislation and to support legislation that will protect and enhance our coastline

## S.O.S.-Maine Scholarships

Our organization supports local students with annual scholarships. Last spring, the Robert Foley Community Service Scholarship was awarded to Wells High School senior Julian Davila. In addition, two \$500 scholarships went to York County Community College students.

### SOS Booth at Wells Harbor Community Park

For the second year, SOS had a booth at the Wells Rotary BBQ on July 28, 2012 at the Harbor Community Park in Wells, ME. "Then & Now" pictures of Wells Beach were displayed and board members were on hand to answer questions and to hand out membership brochures.

As we did last year, a free raffle was held with the drawing done at 5:30 PM. Congratulations to the winners!

Stephen Oliver, Wells, ME - \$50.00 Forbes Gift Certificate

Robert Stead, Wells, ME - \$50.00 Scoop Deck Gift Certificate

Brook Seeley, Avon, CT - \$50.00 Congdon's Gift Certificate

Katherine Santella, Chester, NH; Cathy Heimlich, Woburn, MA; Lindsey Furman, Wells, ME - SOS Logo Baseball Hat

Sam Walley, Webster, MA; Meg & Mike Edmonds, Sanford, ME; Susan Smith, Kennebunk, ME - SOS Logo Visors

A presence at the drawing was not required and prizes will be mailed to the winners.

SOS has an interest in the entire coastline of Maine. Please encourage your friends and neighbors who love and use any part of Coastal Maine to become SOS members to help maintain and protect these resources.

We send our thanks out to Scoop Deck for sponsoring the tide chart cards!



#### Bob's Clam Hut - Kittery

A huge thanks to the employees and patrons of Bob's Clam Hut for donating their extra change and tips to S.O.S. in June. We value their support.



### Congratulations Bob Foley

Former S.O.S.-Maine President has been named to the Maine Board of Environmental Protection by Governor in June, and appointed the Chairman of The Board in September. The Board is composed of seven volunteer citizen members who are appointed by the Governor and confirmed by the Legislature for staggered four-year terms. Maine has a tradition of providing for public participation in environmental decision-making, and the Board is committed to ensuring an open and transparent process with meaningful and legally appropriate opportunities for public involvement.

# E-LETS

Members of S.O.S.-Maine who submit their e-mail addresses with their membership dues will be included in an internal distribution list. This list will be used exclusively to send important and timely information to members in the form of an email alert.

Please let us know if your email address has changed so that we can update our database. The information can be sent to:

[info@sosmaine.org](mailto:info@sosmaine.org)



## S.O.S.-Maine & Maine Coastal Coalition Membership

The membership of S.O.S.-Maine continues to grow, with over 350 dues-paying members on our mailing list who are receiving this newsletter. We will not be able to mail the newsletter to these individuals in the future, and ask that if you are interested in continuing to receive the newsletter, please become a member of S.O.S.-Maine. There is a membership form below, or you may visit the website [www.sosmaine.org](http://www.sosmaine.org) and print a form for yourself or your neighbor!

The Maine Coastal Coalition is the subsidiary of S.O.S.-Maine, which is able to use donated funds to lobby for the interests of coastal property owners.

S.O.S.-Maine's fiscal year runs from July 1st to June 30th, and membership renewals are sent in August.



S.O.S~Maine  
P.O. Box 1785  
Wells, ME 04090



Yes, we want to be on the S.O.S.-Maine family team. Here's our membership:

\$25 Individual  \$50 Family  \$75 Business  Other \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Yes, we want to be a part of the Maine Coastal Coalition. Enclosed is a separate donation to establish my membership. Our taxable donation is \$ \_\_\_\_\_

TOTAL Amount Enclosed \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Renewal  New Member

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Winter Mailing Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Street Town Zip

Summer Mailing Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Street Town Zip

Phone: (summer) \_\_\_\_\_ Winter \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Please make checks payable to: S.O.S.-Maine  
Mail to: P.O. Box 1785 Wells, ME 04090

Wells, ME 04090  
P.O. Box 1785  
S.O.S. - Maine



207-646-7620

Since 1921



SEAFOOD RESTAURANT & TAKEOUT

Joe Forbes  
Karen Forbes Darling

P.O. Box 99, 04090  
Wells Beach, Maine



**SCOOP DECK**

6 Eldredge Road  
(Just off US Rte. #1)  
Wells, Maine 04090  
(207) 646-5150 (Seasonal)  
Email: [scoopdeck@maine.rr.com](mailto:scoopdeck@maine.rr.com)  
Web: [ScoopDeck.com](http://ScoopDeck.com)

Serving Good Old Fashioned Ice Cream  
Open Daily  
Late May Thru September



ROBERT A. FOLEY

13 MAIN ST./P.O. BOX 358  
KENNEBUNK, MAINE 04043  
(207) 985-3361  
1-800-287-3361  
FAX: 985-7977

VALLEY CROSSING BUILDING  
CARRABASSET VALLEY, ME 04947  
(207) 235-2642  
FAX: 235-2640

**LAFAYETTE'S OCEANFRONT RESORT  
AT  
WELLS BEACH**

*"Where Memories That Last a Lifetime are Made"*

P.O. Box 639 Phone 207-646-2831  
Wells Beach, ME 04090 Fax 207-646-6770