



# Watershed News

THE PISCATAQUOG WATERSHED ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER

## OUR MISSION

TO CONSERVE THE  
NATURAL AND SCENIC  
ENVIRONMENT OF  
THE PISCATAQUOG  
RIVER WATERSHED  
COMMUNITIES.

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Volume 17, No. 5

September / October  
2005



## 35 Years...and Counting!

By Margaret Watkins

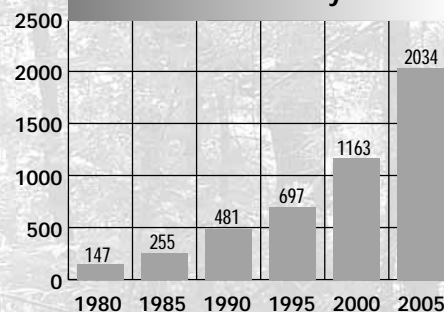
Five years ago the PWA celebrated its 30th anniversary. In that anniversary issue we published a chronology of highlights from the PWA's first 30 years. There were many highlights, and they reflected a sustained commitment to watershed protection, from water quality monitoring and land conservation to education and state legislation.

**At 35, the PWA has more firsts to report** – the first paid staff and centralized office (2001), development of a comprehensive *Conservation Plan for the Piscataquog Watershed* identifying conservation priorities (2004), the first of what we anticipate will be several “headwaters projects” that focus on protecting contiguous properties and significant portions of tributary stream watersheds as outlined in the *Plan* (2005), and the first full-time paid staff (2005).

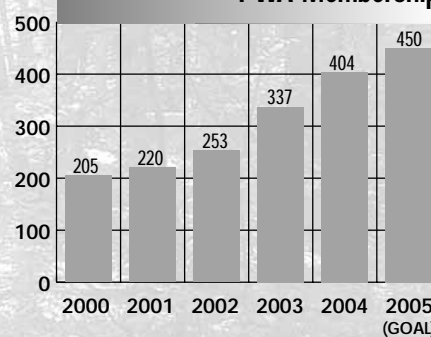
All the PWA's core programs have expanded over the past five years. PWA trackers monitor wildlife activity in three new areas. The Purple Loosestrife Awareness Committee has morphed into the Invasive Species Committee with a broader focus. Water quality monitoring includes *E. coli* testing as well as traditional physical and chemical parameters; an extensive baseline on water temperature has been established. The PWA is involved with more land conservation projects than ever before. The two accompanying graphs tell a fraction of the story.

These changes are happening in a context of growing population pressures, development, and a changing landscape. The PWA's response has been to increase staff capacity as quickly as possible and to engage people in our work in as many ways as possible. In this way, the PWA can look forward to even more conservation successes to celebrate at 40!

Total Number of Acres Protected by the PWA



PWA Membership



## A Gift That Lasts

Paul Doscher puts up a PWA easement sign on his property in Weare, one of 11 conservation properties totaling 442 acres protected in Weare by the PWA.

Paul and his wife Deborra hosted a Walk in their Woods as part of the PWA members' day celebration (see page 5). The gardens, Christmas tree plantation, and certified Tree Farm were inspiring to see.

**PWA OFFICE**  
(603) 487-3331  
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**Director of Operations**  
Paula Bellemore

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Hannah Proctor  
**Keeping Track**  
Barbara Thomson



**FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S DESK**  
by Margaret Watkins

**At the 35th Annual Meeting, the PWA says "good bye" to two valued members of the Board, Jed Callen and Pat Nelson.**

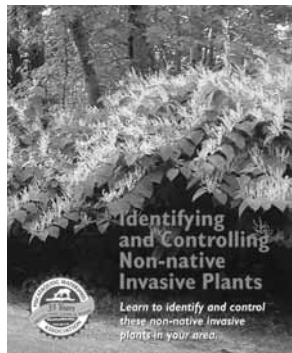
During the past 3 years under Jed's leadership as Board president, the PWA has seen many changes. Some are described on page 1. In addition, the PWA has attracted new talent to the Board, which has expanded to 10 members; attracted new funding sources to support our work; doubled the membership; and added a new focus on governance – all changes that will build a more sustainable organization. Jed has served on the Board for 14 years and has come to the end of his second 3-year term. We will miss his sense of humor and undaunted appetite for new challenges. When Pat Nelson first joined the Board 5 years ago, the Board met in Board members' homes. Her initial diffidence quickly gave way to fresh ideas and insightful recommendations. As editor of *Watershed News*, Pat has created an informative newsletter of consistently high quality. Many

members have conveyed how much they enjoy reading it, and we have Pat to thank. Pat has also involved others in PWA activities, initiated the first PWA photo contest, and has been responsible for some of our best in-house photographs.

Both Jed and Pat have made a huge difference to the PWA, and their Board participation will be missed. While stepping down, however, they are not stepping away. Jed intends to remain an active member of the open space and development committees and provide continued legal advice. Pat will continue as editor of *Watershed News* and as a member of the Outreach Committee.

In this newsletter you will read about other contributions talented, committed individuals are making. Invasive species gurus Lyn Lombard and Hannah Proctor announce a new PWA brochure and an upcoming talk. Landowners, local advocates, and conservation organizations are giving life to the Headwaters Project 1. PWA members Joel and Cindy Stave are highlighted for their work with the PWA. New and renewing members support the PWA financially. There are many ways to be a force for conservation of this special place we call the Piscataquog Watershed, and collectively they make a lasting mark.

## INVASIVE SPECIES TAKE FRONT STAGE



Here's an easy, fun way to find out about invasive plants in your neighborhood. **Join the New Boston Conservation Commission for a program on Invasive Plants presented by Lyn Lombard and Hannah Proctor on Wednesday, October 12, 7:30 PM at the Community Church of New Boston.** Fall samples of many of the plants discussed will be available for hands-on recognition. Learn why invasives are such problems, how to control them, and what plants make good garden substitutes. Also, **pick up a copy of the PWA's colorful Invasive Species field guide**, hot off the press. The guide was funded in part by a grant from the New England Grassroots Environmental Fund.

New Invasive Species field guide, with text and photos by Lyn Lombard and Hannah Proctor. Call or stop by for a copy.

## PWA Receives Settlement Funds

In a thinking-outside-of-the-box approach to mitigation for significant water quality violations, the NH Department of Environmental Services awarded PWA \$60,000. In providing these funds, the DES acknowledged PWA's leadership role in watershed protection. The Board has earmarked the funds for the PWA's land protection work.



Berries on a viburnum, a shrub native to New Hampshire. Photograph by Cindy Stave

# Wildlife Habitat

## A HEADWATERS PROJECT 1 FOCUS

By Margaret Watkins

Over the past six months, the Headwaters Project 1 has been gaining momentum. The PWA is helping to lead this ambitious partnership whose goal is to protect 1500 acres of critical wildlife habitat within a 20 square-mile corner of the watershed drained by three tributaries to the South Branch – Brennan, Cold, and Rand brooks.

Through this Project, conservation groups, town leaders, and landowners in the three Headwaters Project 1 towns, Frankestown, Greenfield and Lyndeborough, are pooling resources to conserve lands that together represent some of the richest core habitats remaining in southern New Hampshire. One of these properties straddles Frankestown and Lyndeborough. Salient natural features on this 108-acre, undeveloped, forested property are its steep slopes and streams. From an elevation of 620' at the lowest point in northern portions of the property, the land rises towards the south to 920' elevation. These hillsides are the foothills of Rose Mountain, the watershed's second highest hill (*summit: 1,720'*). In the spring, seven streams cascade down the hillsides to Rand Brook, which flows through the property. With frontage on two

town-maintained roads, the property is highly visible, accessible, and vulnerable to development. Even limited development would irreparably degrade the habitat for certain wildlife species.

Recent logging of the property has created excellent browse for deer and moose, which are common throughout the property. All the key indicator wildlife species used in the PWA's wildlife tracking program – bobcat, fisher, mink, otter, bear, and moose – use the property. This broad assemblage of indicator wildlife attests to the land's natural attributes, its relative remoteness, and the ready access wildlife have to water.

The property connects two conservation parcels. Its protection will create a conservation corridor totalling 451 acres and may well leverage additional conservation action.

**For more information, contact Margaret at 603-487-3331.**

**Through this project, conservation groups, town leaders, and landowners in...Frankestown, Greenfield and Lyndeborough, are pooling resources to conserve lands that together**

**represent some of the richest core habitats remaining in southern New Hampshire.**



## Is your membership due for renewal? Please renew right away!

And tell a friend about the PWA! We depend on your support!

Does your company have a **Matching Gift Program**? The PWA qualifies for matching gifts!

Ask your Human Resources Department about this or other charitable gift programs that might benefit the PWA!

### REGULAR MEMBERSHIPS:

- ☐ \$250 Watershed Guardian ☐ \$100 Supporting ☐ \$50 Contributing ☐ \$30 Family ☐ \$20 Individual ☐ \$10 Senior/Student  
☐ My check made out to PWA is enclosed.. ☐ Bill a regular membership to my credit card.

Credit Card Number: \_\_\_\_\_ Expiration Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Name as it appears on card: \_\_\_\_\_

### SUSTAINING MEMBERSHIPS: **Membership fees are billed to your credit card monthly (minimum \$10 per month).**

- ☐ Please bill a sustaining membership donation of \$\_\_\_\_\_ per month to my credit card.

Credit Card Number: \_\_\_\_\_ Expiration Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Name as it appears on card: \_\_\_\_\_

### YOUR MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL:

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

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

Town: \_\_\_\_\_

State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email address (optional): \_\_\_\_\_

### SPREAD THE WORD! GIVE A GIFT MEMBERSHIP:

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

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

Town: \_\_\_\_\_

State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email address (optional): \_\_\_\_\_

ALSO SEE REVERSE SIDE. THEN RETURN THIS FORM WITH YOUR PAYMENT TO:

**Piscataquog Watershed Association • 5A Mill Street • New Boston, NH 03070**

**THANK YOU FOR YOUR CONTINUED HELP IN PROTECTING THE WATERSHED!**

# MEET PWA VOLUNTEERS *Joel and Cindy Stave*

by Emily Hague

Soon after Joel and Cindy Stave moved into the watershed six years ago, they were introduced to the PWA by friends who initiated PWA's Keeping Track program. Joel and Cindy began tracking with Gordon Russell and were pleasantly 'evangelized', as they put it, into becoming dedicated members. Joel and Cindy both feel strongly that land conservation is an excellent cause in the face of increasing development in the watershed.

Joel is a software engineer by day and a winemaker by night. He enjoys making wine from local fruits, including apples, blueberries, raspberries, and strawberries. Joel remains a core Keeping Track volunteer, where he can also utilize his talents for macro photography. Joel also updates the PWA webpage and has provided computer assistance in the PWA office.

Cindy is a self-employed graphic designer and principal of Weber Stave Design, LLC. She applies her creativity to the layout of *Watershed News* and also serves on the PWA's Outreach Committee. In her leisure time, she enjoys gardening, especially in her new shade gardens designed by PWA member Lyn Lombard,

using native plants such as viburnum, serviceberry, bunchberry, and wild ginger.

Joel and Cindy both monitor easements for the PWA and help set up and cater at annual meetings. In addition to their extensive volunteer activities, Joel and Cindy are in the process of placing a PWA conservation easement on their 16-acre property, which includes northern hardwood and softwood forests and a large beaver pond. Joel and Cindy are especially excited about preserving this land because it abuts several other conserved parcels that together will help protect the beaver pond and surrounding uplands from development.



Joel and Cindy Stave stand on the dam that forms the large beaver pond on their property.  
Photograph by Pat Nelson.

*Emily Hague is an MS Candidate in Resource Management and Administration at Antioch New England Graduate School. Last year she was funded by the Russell Foundation to catalog natural features at PWA's Tuthill Woodlands Preserve and in the Headwaters Project I area. This year PWA supported Emily's resource inventory on Rose Mountain.*

## WE STILL NEED

Padded folding chairs for the office • Fireproof file cabinet • Small wooden sign for outside PWA Offices

## VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

Interior Painting (trim & walls) • Committee members to plan for 2006 Art Sale to benefit the Headwaters Project I

## PWA Feedback Form

Let us hear from you – anytime! Please share your news and ideas with PWA.  
You can write to us at the address on the reverse or email us at [pwa@pwa-nh.org](mailto:pwa@pwa-nh.org).

### I'D LIKE TO HELP WITH:

- |  |   |  |   |
|--|---|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Keeping Track | <input type="checkbox"/> Water Quality Monitoring | <input type="checkbox"/> Easement Monitoring | <input type="checkbox"/> Invasive Species Control |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Fundraising   | <input type="checkbox"/> Outreach                 | <input type="checkbox"/> Special Projects    | <input type="checkbox"/> Office Work              |
- ☐ Please send me \_\_\_\_\_ PWA brochures for my neighbors and friends.
- ☐ I want to support the PWA in other ways (for example, lead a walk, blaze a trail, write an article, provide publicity, write a grant, do research, raise funds, volunteer to aid school programs, host a local information meeting, etc.).

### PLEASE SPECIFY YOUR INTERESTS:

### I WANT TO LEARN ABOUT:

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Ways to protect my land.                | <input type="checkbox"/> Remembering the PWA in my will. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Making a major contribution to the PWA. |  |

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT. YOU ARE THE PWA!



Scenes from the PWA's

# 2005 Members Picnic!



Tim White, flanked by Dona & Gerry Fairbairn, enjoys some post-lunch relaxation before taking on the bocce court.



PWA President Jed Callen inducts "Chance" Nixon into the PWA's Canine Chapter.



Members & friends gather for a morning tour of Windcrest Farm in Weare, newly protected by a PWA Conservation Easement thanks to owners Paul & Deborra Doscher.



Janet Nixon chats with PWA Director of Operations, Paula Bellemore, at the 2005 Annual Picnic. Janet hosted the picnic at her lovely home in New Boston.



Lyn Lombard enjoys a swim with her grandson, Jack Lombard.



Jack Lombard demonstrates naptime, water-lovers style!



Board Member, Chris Conroy, enjoys his picnic lunch.



Margaret Watkins, PWA Executive Director, chats with Karen Salerno, Rosemary Conroy and Cheryl Christner before lunch.



PWA members Paul & Chris Hague, Emily Hague, Jonah Erikson, Randy & Gail Parker Ben & Robin Haubrich finish their picnic feast.



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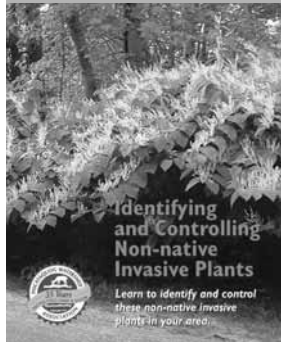
Address Service Requested

### RED STRIPE ON YOUR MAILING LABEL?

It's time to renew your membership!  
Please use the form on page 3.

NON-PROFIT ORG  
US POSTAGE  
**PAID**  
GOFFSTOWN, NH  
PERMIT NO.10

## INVASIVES SPECIES TALK



Wednesday, October 12  
7:30 PM at the  
Community Church  
of New Boston

See page 2 for details

### Welcome to Our New Members! (as of September 1<sup>st</sup>)

Sue Bonitatibus	New Boston
Carolyn Gagnon	Goffstown
Charles Levesque	Antrim
Jim & Tracy Machakos	New Boston
Burton Reynolds	Lyndeborough
Beth, Marty & Hope Widmayer	New Boston
Gerry & Julie Williams	Dunbarton
Lisa Yesse	Goffstown

\* denotes extra contribution  
\*\* denotes contribution of \$100 or more

### Member Renewals (as of September 1<sup>st</sup>)

Robert Beaudet	Manchester
Kanta Connie Bousquet	Goffstown
Michael & Sandra Boyko**	Weare
Donald & Marjorie Burke	Weare
Andy Cadorette & Reta Chaffee**	Goffstown
Janet & David Chamberlain*	New Boston
Amy & Tim Doherty	New Boston
John & Jill Flanders	Weare
George & Kristi Fullerton*	Goffstown
Adam Garretson & Stephanie Silverman**	New Boston
Joan & Dana Haley**	New Boston
Thomas Hanley	Goffstown
Ellen Hill	Francetown
Lake Horace Landowners Corporation**	Weare
John & Anne McCausland**	Weare
Kevin McLarnon & Barbara Sholl	New Boston
George Naum	Manchester
Dorothea O'Neil	Weare
Michael Palmer**	Swampscott, MA
Andrew & Karen Paul*	Francetown
Randy & Gail Parker	New Boston
Thomas & Patricia Pine*	Exeter
Pamela & David Ryan	Goffstown
James Scott & Julie Kirklin**	New Boston
Oscar & Elizabeth Straw	Weare
Paul Susca, Peg Lopata & Family*	Francetown
William Tiffany*	Weare
Art & Marjorie Titus*	Hamburg, NY
Margaret Venator**	Dunbarton

### Business Sponsor

Partner (\$100 - \$249)

New Boston Hair Design	New Boston
------------------------	------------

### Thank you! to...

**Town & Country Reprographics** for printing 75 copies of our new Invasives Species Flyer on Japanese Knotweed which has been distributed to area Highway Departments!

**Jennifer Brown at Brown Graphix**, Goffstown for donating new PWA Direction Signs which were put right to use at the 35th Anniversary Annual Meeting!

**Gail Parker** for painting the new PWA sign and to **Steve Young at New Boston Hardware** for donating the paint!

**NH Department of Environmental Services** for covering *E. coli* laboratory costs!

**Please let these organizations  
know you appreciate their  
support of the PWA!**



A stash of acorns. Photograph by Cindy Stave

