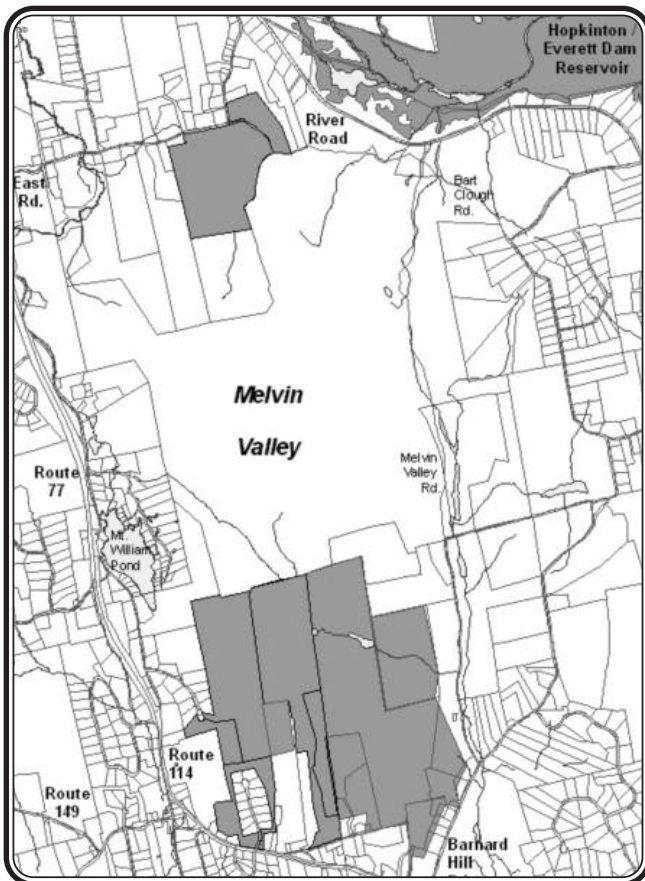


# Piscataquog News

THE PISCATAQUOG LAND CONSERVANCY NEWSLETTER

## Protection & Preservation IN WEARE'S MELVIN VALLEY

by Paula Bellemore and Gordon Russell



**R**oughly 3000 acres rest in a vast valley that lies south of Mt. William in Weare. It carries the local name Melvin Valley. Abraham Melvin, born in his father's homestead on Barnard Hill in 1791, became fascinated with raising sheep in his youth. His intense interest not only brought him the sobriquet of "Sheep Melvin", but combined with his business acumen, it also brought him great wealth. Many of the pasture lines throughout Melvin Valley still hold rusting rectangles of sheep fencing. Since the sheep pastures were abandoned in the 1860s, the lands have resumed doing what they do best – growing trees.

For the first five decades of the twentieth century the valley's trees were cut and cut again. The combination of first and second successional forest growth following these cuts added to a rich and varied combination of habitats throughout the broad valley. Those opportunities have not been overlooked by wildlife. All of New Hampshire's indicator species are sustained in the area – the valley being a core habitat. Today the Town of Weare, the Piscataquog Land Conservancy, and private citizens protect properties across the valley – long a high-priority conservation area in the region.

In 2008, Shawn and Denise Hawkes and their friend and neighbor Rod Wilson together placed nearly 150 acres here under conservation easement with PLC. Now Shawn and Denise have expanded the conservation area, adding 27 acres to the original easement area. The two friends have now placed over 175 acres of land under PLC conservation easement in this remarkable valley!

PLC would like to thank Shawn and Denise Hawkes, and the Town of Weare Conservation Commission and Open Space Committee for their support of this important project. Conserving land in the Melvin Valley area brings great value to the Town of Weare and the greater Piscataquog Watershed region. PLC looks forward to continuing to partner with the Town of Weare and fellow conservation organizations to expand conservation in this key area of historic and ecological value.



### TO CONSERVE

the natural and scenic environment of the Piscataquog River Watershed communities:  
Deering ~ Dunbarton ~ Francestown ~ Goffstown ~ Greenfield ~ Henniker  
Lyndeborough ~ Manchester ~ Mont Vernon ~ New Boston ~ Weare

PLC



## FROM MY CORNER

by Paula Bellemore  
PLC Executive Director

**PLC** is in it for the long haul. This fall PLC will celebrate its 40th anniversary. *40 years!* Over those years board members, landowners, volunteers, and supporters have worked steadily to achieve our conservation goals. Step by step, easement by easement, acre by acre, we've worked to preserve the natural resources of our eleven watershed communities. At times it may have felt a monumental task. I

am reminded of the tale of the Chinese bamboo tree. Even if you've heard this before, please humor me and read on....

When first planted, the Chinese bamboo tree does not seem to grow at all. For the first year, its caretaker watches over it, watering, feeding, and talking to it, but he sees no results. In Year 2 the caretaker puts even more effort into nurturing the wellbeing of the tree. Still nothing. Year 3 and Year 4 pass. Still nothing. For all the time, attention, and effort he puts in there seems to be no growth at all. But, much like PLC, the caretaker is dedicated, he is committed. He doesn't give up – and he is rewarded! In Year 5 the Chinese bamboo tree shoots towards the sky, growing up to 80' tall in just one season!

Did the tree really lie dormant for four years and then suddenly decide to grow? Of course not. The tree was steadily growing – but underground. It was developing a root system strong enough to support its future growth. For 40 years PLC has worked to develop a strong, nurturing root system. For 40 years we have worked steadily to preserve the natural and scenic resources of our region. We've promoted the need for conservation. We've spoken with and educated landowners. We've worked with town boards, statewide conservation organizations, and local land trusts to help build communities that support and encourage the preservation of our valuable open spaces. Certainly we've had our ups and downs, our highs and lows, but still we've soldiered on.

This year I expect to see our 5,000th acre placed under PLC's protective wings. Later this fall we'll unveil an update to our Conservation Plan for the Piscataquog River Watershed, and we'll renew our efforts to preserve those high priority conservation lands that the plan helps us to identify. (You can read a report about the update process and see a map of core focus areas at [www.plcnh.org](http://www.plcnh.org).)

Today we enjoy the fruits of those 40 years of hard work. We are hearing from landowners who years ago first considered conservation after speaking with a member or a board member or after hearing about PLC back when it was still PWA. Those seeds sown over the past 40 years are still there, and they are taking root. In the words of Henry Wadsworth Longfellow:

*“The heights by great men reached and kept  
Were not attained by sudden flight,  
But they, while their companions slept,  
Toiled ever upward through the night.”*

We'll celebrate PLC's 40th Anniversary at this year's Annual Meeting on Saturday, October 16. I hope to see you there!



Photo: Joel Stave

Join NH Audubon biologist and dragonfly expert Pamela Hunt for a paddle around Lake Horace Marsh in Weare, where we'll focus on those beautiful aerial insects, dragonflies and damselflies. Co-sponsored by PLC and the Weare Conservation Commission, the trip will include discussion of the Lake Horace Marsh restoration project in which PLC partnered with the Town of Weare, NH Department of Environmental Services, NH Fish & Game Department, and the Russell Foundation.

**DATE:**

**Sunday, August 15, 1-4 PM (Rain date: Sunday August 22)**

**WHERE:**

**Meet at the bridge on Abijah Bridge Road in Weare**

Space is limited, and preregistration is required. Contact PLC at 487-3331 or [www.plcnh.org](http://www.plcnh.org) to register. Bring water, life jacket (required), canoe, or kayak. If you'd like to come, but don't have a boat, let us know. We'll try to accommodate you.

NOTE: If you miss this opportunity, but would like to help PLC monitor the wildlife that is using the marsh since the water levels were stabilized, contact Margaret at 774-7120 or [margwatkins@juno.com](mailto:margwatkins@juno.com).

# THE MONARCH BUTTERFLY

## Our Beautiful Summer Resident...

Text and photos by Pat Nelson

The life cycle and migration of the monarch butterfly is a wonder of the natural world. We can help by allowing native milkweed, their only food source, to flourish.

The migration cycle begins in spring when hibernating monarchs in Mexico and southern California reawaken, find a mate, begin the flight north, and lay their eggs before dying. This generation lives 4-6 months, but the next three generations live only 2-6 weeks as adults. They begin inside a 1/8" egg deposited on the underside of a milkweed leaf.

Here we host the second, third, and fourth generations – the last of which does not die, but migrates back to Mexico where it hibernates and begins the cycle again the next spring.

To learn more about Monarchs and how to provide habitat, visit [www.monarchwatch.org](http://www.monarchwatch.org) and [www.enchantedlearning.com/subjects/butterfly/species/Monarch.shtml](http://www.enchantedlearning.com/subjects/butterfly/species/Monarch.shtml).



A larva hatches and the black, white, and yellow-striped caterpillar feeds voraciously on milkweed for about two weeks.



When it's about 2" long, the caterpillar attaches its hind end to a branch, then hangs down and molts for the last time. When the fresh skin dries and hardens, it forms a green chrysalis with a gold rim.



10-12 days later, a butterfly emerges to inflate its wings. It lives for about 2-6 weeks, laying eggs for the next generation.

## 10 Ways to Reduce Taxes\* and Make a Gift to PLC!

Part 2 of a 2-Part Series

**Charitable Remainder Trusts (Annuity and Unitrusts)** Donors and spouses can benefit from life-long payments from such a trust. The donor selects the rate of return from these income arrangements and also chooses a fixed or fluctuating annual payment to be made to the designated parties as long as they live. Estate and capital gains taxes may be completely bypassed and you will receive a current income tax deduction based on the age of the income recipient and the chosen rate of return.

**Gift Annuity** In exchange for a gift of cash, stock, or securities, PLC will pay you, you and your survivor, or another person you name, a guaranteed income for life. In addition, you receive a substantial income tax deduction in the year of the gift, and part of the annual payment is nontaxable. Upon your death, or the second to die if so selected, the gift remainder supports PLC.

**Gift of Life Insurance** Insurance is a simple way to make a substantial future gift at a level that might not be possible with a cash gift. Name PLC as the owner and beneficiary to receive the proceeds of a life insurance policy. You will receive a tax deduction for approx-

imately the cash surrender value, thereby reducing your tax liability in the year of the gift. An alternative is simply to add PLC as a revocable beneficiary. You retain the right to change this designation, but in this instance, you receive no income tax deduction.

**Assign PLC as a Beneficiary** on CDs, savings, checking, or brokerage accounts with P.O.D. (Payable on Death) Provisions. You retain full ownership and full control during your life. At your death, the account balance is paid to PLC immediately and without probate.

**Gift of a Conservation Easement** One way to leave a family home to heirs while also ensuring that the land is never subdivided or developed is to place the land under conservation easement. Not only does the family retain ownership of the land, but the easement also reduces the value of the estate, thereby reducing potential taxes. Whether the easement is placed before or after death is a decision to be made in consultation with an estate or tax attorney.

\* Check with your financial advisor or a tax consultant to see what best fits your circumstances.

# plc membership roll

MEMBERS ARE THE LIFEblood OF THE PLC. THANK YOU TO ALL OF OUR SUPPORTERS!

## PISCATAQUOG LEGACY SOCIETY

Members who have gifted land to PLC or included PLC in their estate plans.

Anonymous (2) †  
Roland Barnard †  
Wendy & Jeffrey Baron †  
Paula Bellemore  
Mary Bunting-Smith\* †  
Thomas & Joan Burke  
Jed Callen § †  
Martha Colburn †  
Robert\* & Irene Colburn  
Richard Daggy †  
Florence Dow\* †  
Alison G. Edwards  
Barbara Gannon †  
Melissa Gervais  
Bettina Hackett  
Carol Hess § †  
M. Elizabeth Hughes\* †  
John & Anne McCausland †  
Joseph Millimet\* †  
Pat Nelson †  
Sarah B. Patt  
Pearle Preston\* †  
Arthur Rice  
Lyn Rice  
Gordon & Barbara Russell †  
Joel & Cindy Stave  
George Thomas\* †  
Nora & John\* Tuthill †  
Arthur & Roberta Walmsley  
Lovell Wright\* †

## LIFETIME MEMBERS

Members who have gifted all or part of a conservation easement to PLC

Chuck & Joanne Aubin  
David Brooks  
Jon Brooks & Jami Boyle  
Philip & Virginia Brooks  
Abigail Brooks Long  
Donald & Marjorie Burke  
Tiffany & Dennis Calcutt  
Alexander Clark  
Winfield Clark  
Dr. Judy & David Corbit  
Paul & Deborra Doscher  
Tom Grossman  
Roger Hall  
Shawn & Denise Hawkes  
Craig & Crystal Heafield  
Elliott & Alison Hersey  
Dr. Kathryn Kachavos  
Craig & Terry Knowles  
Jay & Dot Marden  
Susan B. Martin  
Verna Martin  
Shirley Mulligan  
Pam Nalefski  
Dr. Ray Petty  
Eleanor Porritt  
Robert Reeve  
Keith Robinson & Lauren Warner §  
Robert H. Rogers  
Gordon & Barbara Russell  
James & Sara Shirley

Barbara Sholl  
Lillian E. Sizemore  
Hormoz Soheili  
Joel & Cindy Stave  
Patty Sullivan & Martin Gastrock  
Lawrence & Pia Sunderland  
Martha Sunderland  
Guy Swenson & Mary Lindstrom §  
Robert & Laura Todd  
Aasta Torsen & James Robb  
Alicia Walker  
Arthur & Roberta Walmsley  
Bill Wasserman  
Paul Welch  
Carole & Murray Wigsten  
Rod & Evangeline Wilson

## CONTRIBUTORS

Membership Support of \$100 - \$249

R. Leonard & Meredith Allen  
Julie & John Apostolos  
Scott & Laura Arvin  
Barb Beers  
Diane Beland  
Peter & Linda Berg  
New Boston Dental Care, PLLC  
Peter & Nancy Clark  
Rhoda Shaw Clark  
Winfield Shaw Clark  
Thomas & Elizabeth Clow  
Catherine D'Agostino  
Michele Desmond & Kathleen Conroy  
Karen & Randal Dixon  
Lisa Ferro  
Robert French  
Melinda Gehris & Richard Head  
Ellen & Curt Goldsberry  
Paul & Chris Hague  
Robin & Ben Haubrich  
Verne Kaminski  
Addie Ann Lambarth  
Kirk & Judith Leoni  
Matt & Janet Lewis  
Jan McClure & Michael Lehman  
Irving T. & Elinor M. McDowell  
Esther L. Merrill  
David & Maria Merry  
Pat Ann Myers & Carolyn Sheehan  
Diane Padilla & Ellen Musinsky

## CONSERVATIONISTS

Membership Support greater than \$500

Dwight & Cindy Sowerby  
Joshua & Hollis Young

## SUPPORTERS

Membership Support of \$250 - \$499

Cheryl Christner & Tim White  
Michael & Jane Decubellis  
Robert Dodge & Henry Dodge  
Helen & Mike Dutton  
Richard & Sheena Floreani  
Joan & Dana Haley  
Donna Mombourquette & Jim Denesevich  
Tim Taylor & Diana Cooke

\*Deceased † Charter Member § Additional Membership Gift



PLC OFFICE  
603.487.3331

Executive Director  
Paula Bellemore

Membership Coordinator  
Deb Ives

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

President  
Jerry Shinn

Vice President  
Sherry Hieber

Treasurer  
Gail Parker

Secretary  
Mica Stark

Directors  
Len Allen  
Paul Doscher  
Barbara Griffin  
Carol Hess  
David Preece  
Dwight Sowerby  
Bob Stamps  
Bill Tucker

Directors  
Emeriti  
Gordon Russell  
Robert Todd  
Margaret Watkins

Legal  
Counsel  
Jed Callen

Newsletter  
Editor  
Pat Nelson

Newsletter  
Design  
Weber Stave Design

## COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Development  
Jerry Shinn  
Jed Callen  
Carol Hess  
Sherry Hieber  
John McCausland  
Joshua Young

Finance  
Gail Parker  
Len Allen  
Diane Beland  
Randy Parker  
Peter de Roeth  
Dwight Sowerby  
Bill Tucker

Land Protection  
Len Allen  
Jed Callen  
Kim DiPietro  
Paul Doscher  
Ray James  
Pat Myers  
David Nieman  
Graham Pendlebury  
David Preece  
Jason Reimers  
Jason Sachs

Outreach  
Barbara Griffin  
Chris Hague  
Pat Nelson  
Dwight Sowerby  
Cindy Stave

Invasive Species  
Lyn Lombard  
Hannah Proctor

Keeping Track  
Coordinator  
Barbara Thomson

Graham & Pam Pendlebury  
 David & Michele Petersen  
 Dr. Ray Petty  
 Molly A. Poole & James Hands  
 Lake Horace Landowners  
 Corporation  
 Judith Russell  
 Beth Salerno & Tod Ramseyer  
 George Sanderson  
 James & Dan Scott & Julie Kirklin  
 John & Linda Seager  
 Eric & Donna Seidel  
 Mike & Patty Shearin  
 Louis & Sandra Springer  
 Kelly Teevan & Ann Norton  
 Patricia A. Thompson  
 Honorable O. Alan &  
 Barbara Thulander  
 Burr Tupper & Mary Weiss  
 Lowell Von Ruden  
 Margaret Watkins  
 Barry & Lois Wicklow

### **FAMILY MEMBERSHIPS**

#### **Membership Support of \$50 - \$99**

Anonymous (1)  
 Brewster & Elizabeth Ames  
 Maureen & William Arakelian  
 Bob & Cathy Arredondo  
 Susan & David Avery  
 Richard & Sharon Backus  
 Judith Badot & Ronald Cheney  
 Aline Birt & Ken Bevacqua  
 Charles & Martine Bohnsack  
 William & Betty Lou Boisvert  
 Polly Brendle  
 Herb & Rosa Bromberg  
 Gordon & Paula Brown  
 Don & Sarah Chapman  
 Mary B. Clapp  
 Bruce & Cindy Courtney  
 Mary Ellen & Robert Davies Rock  
 Glen & Christina Dickey  
 Amy & Tim Doherty  
 Ellen Dokton  
 Jennifer Donofrio & David Moore  
 George Eastman  
 Bib Elliott & Verna Gregg Elliott  
 David Erikson & Karen Broemme  
 Andy & Wendy Fulton  
 Goffstown Community Garden Club  
 William Gould & Marie Stanger  
 Don & Pattie Grosso  
 Jim Halla &  
 Jeanne Ann Whittington  
 Betsy Hardwick & Jeff Tarr  
 Clay & Terry Harkins  
 Maureen & John Heckman  
 Sherry Hieber  
 Elizabeth & Ralph Holmes  
 George C. Holt & Deb Sellars  
 Dr. J. Beatty & Susan Hunter  
 Nancy & Tom Inui  
 Debra & Stephen Ives

Daryl Johnson  
 Elizabeth & Bruce Johnstone  
 Stephen & Jennifer Judd  
 Joseph & Patricia Kayal  
 Drs. Dwight & Judith Kirkpatrick  
 J. Marcel LaFlamme &  
 Carol Swiech  
 John & Kathleen Lassey  
 Jack & Brandy Mitroff  
 Patricia & Richard Moore  
 Robert & Margorie Moreau  
 Christine & Brian Nase  
 Heidi & John Palmer  
 H. Randall & Gail C. Parker  
 Patricia Pine  
 Deanna & Michael Powell  
 Glenn & Charlotte Price  
 Hannah Proctor  
 Karen & Jim Roach  
 Cynthia & Anthony Roberts  
 Randolph & Debbie Roody  
 Karen & Michael Roy  
 Jason Sachs  
 Jeremy & Carolynne Shinn  
 James & Joyce Smith &  
 Chris Lippincott  
 Joseph & Kelley Spoerl  
 Holly & Mica Stark  
 Betty Straw  
 Ronald & Julia M. Tams  
 Robert & Lorraine Terry  
 Barbara A. Thomson  
 Wilfred & Phyllis Townsend  
 Thomas & Christine Tyrie  
 Peter, Sandi & Nat Van Scoyoc  
 Danielle & Matt Wayland  
 Ellie Weiss & George Carvill  
 Beth, Marty & Hope Widmayer  
 Jennifer & Mark Wilson

### **BASIC MEMBERSHIPS**

#### **Membership Support of up to \$50**

Frances & Abigail Arnold  
 Janet Barry  
 Rev. Florent Bilodeau  
 Jamie Bodwell  
 Frank Bolton Jr.  
 Kanta Connie Bousquet  
 Phil & Marge Bryce  
 Meredith Bunting  
 David Butler  
 Ruth T. & Joan W. Carney  
 Robert & Donna Chase  
 Raymond Clement  
 Ken & Jacquie Colburn  
 Frederick Daggett  
 Heidi Dawidoff  
 Bruce Dennis  
 Dottie Dillon & Bill Dodge  
 Kim DiPietro  
 Jane Doherty  
 Donna M. & Andy Dunn  
 John & Jill Flanders

Suzanne Gilbert  
 Cindy R. Ginn  
 George W. Goodloe  
 Marilyn Greenhalge  
 Jim Hamilton  
 Ann & Zenas Harkleroad  
 David & Edie Harris  
 Jean Heinemann  
 Isabella Britain Hill  
 David & Carol Hulick  
 Ray James  
 Robert Jencks  
 Linda Kent  
 Priscilla Kunhardt & Family  
 Janet R. & Robert M. Lewis  
 Herbert & Deborah Little  
 Ken & Lyn Lombard  
 Dwight & Heather Lovejoy  
 Dick & Ann Ludders  
 Holly MacAdam  
 David MacEachran & Alicia Bergeron  
 Reta M. MacGregor  
 Sue & Robert Makowiecki  
 George & Margaret Malette  
 Diane & Thomas Manson  
 Paul Marsh & Alice Morris  
 Catherine Martin  
 Robert F. Marville Jr. &  
 Mary Lizie  
 Chester Masel  
 Denise, Jillian &  
 Harry McCalvey  
 Judith Morse  
 Bessie Myhr  
 Stephen Najjar  
 Paul R. Nault  
 George Naum  
 Greg & Ellen Neilley  
 Mr. & Mrs. George Newton  
 Mark & Paula Nieman  
 Janet Nixon  
 Thomas Noel &  
 Barbara Uhl Stewart

Laurel Noss  
 Jon W. Nute  
 Dorthea O'Neil  
 William S. Orcutt  
 Jim Orr  
 Martha & Carl Petersen  
 David & Ruth Pierce  
 David J. Preece  
 Burton Reynolds  
 Susan M. Ruggles  
 Agnes Shellmer  
 Jay Smerekanic P.G.  
 Hetty Startup  
 Jerry & Diana Sterling  
 April Teshima  
 Steve & Jackie Tippet  
 Joseph & Corky Trimbur  
 David Trumble & Linda Taylor  
 Susan Weiss  
 Cynthia Wilson  
 Lisa Yesse

### **BUSINESS MEMBERS**

Apotheca Floral Boutique &  
 Tea Chest, Goffstown  
 Country 3 Corners &  
 Woodbury's Garden Center, Weare  
 Granite State Telephone, Weare  
 GZA GeoEnvironmental Inc.,  
 Manchester  
 Henniker Veterinary Hospital,  
 Henniker  
 Studio Buteo, Weare

### **SUPPORT THROUGH GIFTS OF GOODS OR SERVICES**

Baldwin, Callen & Ransom, PLLC,  
 Concord  
 MV Communications, Manchester  
 New England Document Systems,  
 Manchester  
 Summit Communications, Weare  
 Weber Stave Design, New Boston

**CELEBRATING  
 40 YEARS  
 OF LAND PROTECTION!**

**MARK YOUR CALENDAR NOW AND JOIN US AT**

**PLC'S ANNUAL MEETING  
 OCTOBER 16, 2010**

Address Service Requested

## Upcoming Events:

**AUGUST 15** Come on a Dragonfly Hunt

**SEPTEMBER 12** Don't Miss PLC's Lobster Bake!

**OCTOBER 16** Save the Date: PLC's 40th Annual Meeting!

July / August 2010 Volume 22, No. 4

# Piscataquog News

THE PISCATAQUOG LAND CONSERVANCY NEWSLETTER

## IN THIS ISSUE

- |                                            |           |
|--------------------------------------------|-----------|
| <b>Protecting Weare's Melvin Valley</b>    | Page 1    |
| <b>40 Years and Growing!</b>               | Page 2    |
| <b>Join a Dragonfly Watch</b>              | Page 2    |
| <b>Cut Your Tax Burden &amp; Help PLC</b>  | Page 3    |
| <b>Life Cycle of the Monarch Butterfly</b> | Page 3    |
| <b>2010 PLC Membership List</b>            | Pages 4-5 |

## Grant Family Farm Conservation Area Dedication in Weare



On July 7, neighbors, contributors, and friends celebrated with landowner Terry Knowles as she posted the first boundary sign during a dedication of the newly conserved Grant Family Farm Conservation Area in Weare, thus completing Phase I of PLC's Mt. Dearborn Road Project. See cover story in the May/June *Piscataquog News*. (Photos: John McCausland)