



## **THE PEAKS ISLAND FUND**



*Connecting People Who Care with Causes that Matter.*

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

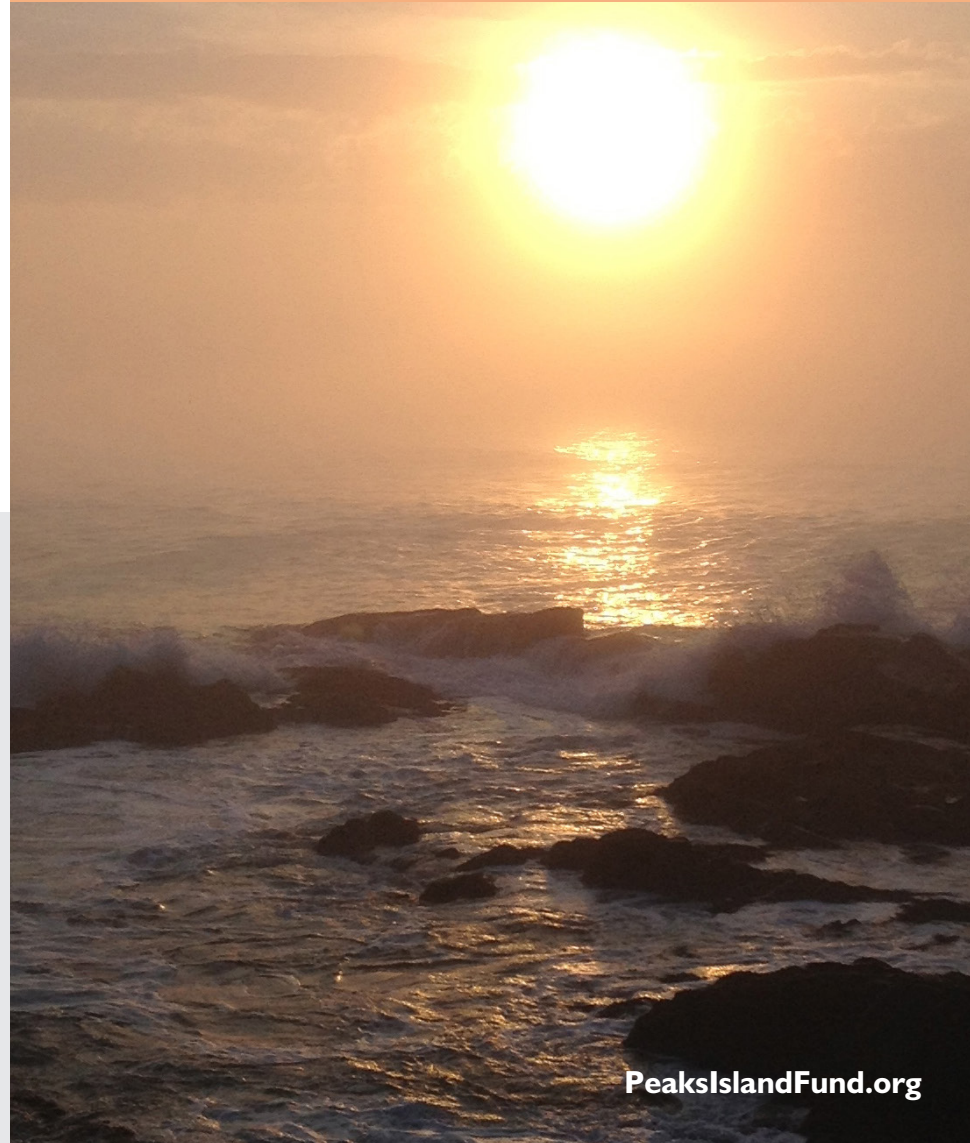
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c/o The Maine Community Foundation  
One Monument Way – Suite 200  
Portland, Maine 04101  
207.761.2440



**THE PEAKS ISLAND FUND**  
*Connecting People Who Care with Causes that Matter*

**2013 ANNUAL REPORT**



**PeaksIslandFund.org**

## Grant to Oceanside Conservation Trust Supports Island Groups

By Barbara Schlichtman - Peaks Island Fund Advisor

People who have battled bittersweet or knotweed, the island version of “bamboo,” can appreciate a Peaks Island Fund grant that had school children removing these nuisance plants, yet more importantly learning about their impact on island ecosystems.



*Bob Bittenbender of Maine Audubon joins Peaks Island Elementary students on a field walk to identify invasive species.*

Oceanside Conservation Trust of Casco Bay received a Peaks Island Fund grant that brought together multiple groups and gave island youth a hands-on experience in dealing with invasive species and land stewardship.

The issue of invasive species goes deeper than merely battling bittersweet in the backyard. Invasive species can threaten an entire ecosystem because the plants don't serve as food for wildlife from the insects up. The plants also harbor ticks and reduce the diversity of native plants, which upsets the natural balance, said Jeanne Gulnick, Ph.D., a Peaks Island resident and an environmental sciences professor at St. Joseph's College in Standish. Gulnick wrote the grant, and said she believes the project was appropriate for the Oceanside Conservation Trust because a land

trust's job really begins after it has acquired the land.

Education about invasive species is a major component to addressing the problem, said Portland Arborist Jeff Tarling. Tarling said he is always looking for creative ways to deal with invasive species because people begin by trying to cut them down; however, they become overwhelmed and give up. When you can educate and provide a hands-on experience, the momentum continues.

At Peaks Island Elementary, the teachers incorporated invasive species into the curriculum to include basic scientific methods, computer mapping skills and island ecology. The students studied the plants and created brochures that Tarling said he will now hand out to the public. Tarling visited the island and conducted a field walk with the students, he said when he came back to the island the students

were experts on the plants and were seeing them everywhere.

Invasive species on the islands requires attention because the islands have many natural areas. If the invasive species are not controlled, they will destroy those areas. Tarling said that Peaks Island's Battery Steele is an “epicenter” of bittersweet, which was introduced during World War II. The knotweed probably came in from soil.

Teacher Cindy Nilsen said the effort represents service learning where students recognized a problem in a community, learned about all aspects of the problem and proposed solutions.

“We intend to continue our efforts to control the occurrence of invasive plant species on our campus and our island by seeking grant monies from outside sources and to maintain the involvement of all our students and their families throughout the school years,” Nilsen said.

Collaboration was an integral part of the invasive species project. Jessica Burton, executive director of Southern Maine Conservation Collaborative and Peaks Island resident, coordinated the project and facilitated all of the groups working together.

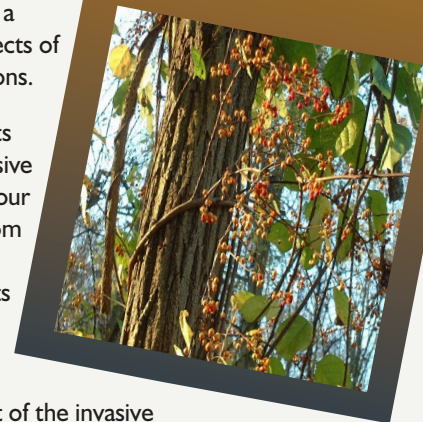
“This was a small project, on a small island, with a small group of people, but the kids saw that the impact could be huge,” Burton said.

The groups that collaborated on the invasive species project are the Peaks Island Elementary school, Oceanside Conservation Trust of Casco Bay, the City of Portland, the Island Institute's Fellow Maggie Small, Peaks Environmental Action Team, Peaks Island Academy and Maine Audubon.

## Oriental Bittersweet

### A Peaks Island Invasive Plant Species

By  
Jonah and Devon



*Bittersweet flyer created by Jonah Green and Devon Daligan.*

## 2013 GRANT AWARDS

### **Brackett Memorial United Methodist Church** **\$6,500**

Friday Tween Nites provides a safe and caring place where youth who attend middle school can socialize, play games, watch movies and spend time with other youth, away from the responsibilities that come with the transition into young adulthood. This program offers our island youth and friends from the city the opportunity to build confidence and healthy social skills at the same time providing our greater community with the opportunity to be constructive guides and not only authoritarian figures.

Utilizing support from adult volunteers and program counselors, participants are encouraged to design, organize and host programs of interest to their peers. Tween Nite will continue to offer dinner, movies, and games as in previous years with two field trips each semester to offer a change of scenery and the opportunity to have fun and learn. The program will also offer short presentations from local experts on the island and include hands-on activities.

### **Fifth Maine Museum and Community Center** **\$8,000**

Four dormers are original to the Fifth Maine building, which dates to 1888, and have not been restored in any way, except for new roof shingles on a few occasions. Restoration of the dormers is the next step in the museum's long-term building maintenance plan. Repairs to the dormers will help to maintain the structural integrity of the building, thus ensuring that the Hall will continue to be available for community activities. It will also protect the local history exhibits in the upper level rooms from water damage.

### **Island Transportation System** **\$5,800**

The Island Taxi continues to provide a vital transportation service for residents and guests on Peaks. ITS has been awarded funds for the maintenance and future cost of operation. In addition, support for the bookkeeping expenses and insurance for the vehicle has been provided for the next year.

**\$43,545**

**TOTAL 2013  
GRANT FUNDS  
AWARDED**

### **Home Start** **\$3,000**

Home Start continues to seek and provide affordable housing for Peaks Island residents. Both rental units and homes for sale have helped life long island residents remain on Peaks. To support that effort funds have been granted to help them with new program development and the ongoing maintenance and insurance expenses of their rental property.

### **Casco Bay Health Center** **\$2,400**

The island health center has begun a new partnership with Maine Medical Center in 2013. To support the needs of the facility, funds have been provided to acquire a portable vital sign cart and monitoring equipment that can be moved from one check-up room to another as needed. This acquisition will be owned by the Health Center.

### **Peaks Island Children's Workshop** **\$5,500**

A new fence is needed to protect children playing out doors at the island early childhood education facility. Replacement costs have been provided to complete this project.

### **Peaks Island School** **\$12,345**

The Peaks Island School has been awarded funds to update and revamp its science and environment curriculum to meet Next Generation Science Standards (NGSS). Utilizing the Island Fellow to help implement the new studies, the school will expand its program to include more experiential learning, field studies of osprey and ducks and field trips. This program puts the island school on the cutting edge of K-5 science curriculum in Maine and provides benefits to all six grade levels of the school.



## PROGRESS REPORTS FOR 2011 GRANTS

### Peaks Island Fund Grants at Work!

#### Children & Youth

**Brackett Memorial Church** utilized its grant of \$10,000 to continue programming for the Tween Nite program, with an average attendance of 16 youth per event. The grant also supported the AftaSchool drop-in program, which averaged between 6 and 10 students through the year.

**Peaks Island School** utilized a grant of \$7,070 to develop and implement Island Tales, which was a program where Peaks Island School students, in partnership with visiting artists and the Fifth Maine Regiment Museum, learned about island history through interviews with island elders.

#### Affordable Housing and Quality Living

**Casco Bay Health Center** installed a digital scale and wall-mounted height measuring device with its grant of \$738, allowing for more accurate measurements that are crucial to evaluating patients' health status and clinical needs.

**Fifth Maine Regiment Museum** utilized a \$2,500 grant toward its efforts to update the existing Coney Island of Maine exhibits, which is hoped to increase the understanding and appreciation of the role of tourism on Peaks Island. This work is continuing through the fall of 2013.

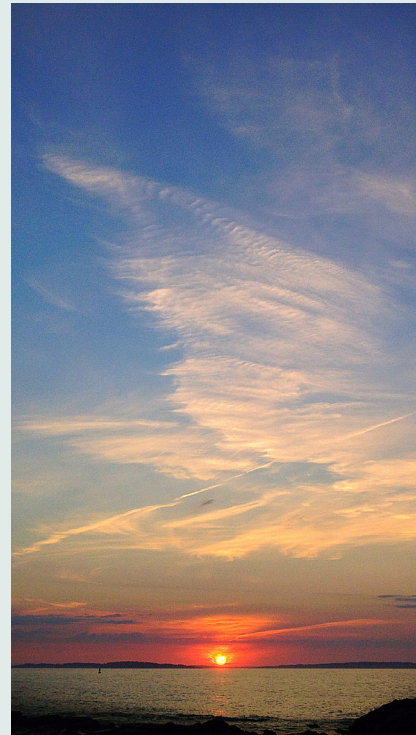
**The Peaks Environmental Action Team** received \$2,000 which was used to develop a weatherization program, providing energy audits to approximately 100 island homes in collaboration with Efficiency Maine and the Island Fellow.

**Peaks Island Tax Assistance** received \$300 which was utilized to support marketing of fund raising events and organizational filing requirements.

#### Economic Opportunities

**The Island Transportation System** was awarded \$7,500 in matching funds to support the purchase of a new and more efficient taxi vehicle, which is in the process of being purchased.

**The Peaks Island Children's Workshop** utilized its \$5,000 grant for staff development and programming to continue to build their expertise in teaching new strategies and concepts of early childhood education, both collaboratively with the Peaks Island School staff, as well as through Southern Maine Community College.



#### Sustainable Environment

**The Ocean Conservation Trust** grant of \$7,200 was used to work collaboratively with students from the Peaks Island School to learn about invasive plant species that effect the island, including skills related to the island ecology, plant identification, basic scientific methods and computer mapping skills. A set of informative brochures about invasive species was developed by the children and published for distribution.

**The Friends of Casco Bay** received a grant of \$3,500 to support collaboration with PEAT and the youth from the Tween Program by labeling island storm drains and distributing educational materials about the importance of storm drain pollution prevention. Programming on BayScaping is scheduled to continue through the summer and into the fall of 2013.

**Peaks Environmental Action Team Community Garden Project** was awarded \$500 to support the installation of a water-saving irrigation infrastructure, which is planned for implementation once the City of Portland has installed a water line to the area.

## GIVING TO PEAKS ISLAND

The Peaks Island Fund supports a sustainable island community by “connecting people who care with causes that matter.” By responding to the emerging needs of our community today, we support the sustainability of island generations in the future. The Peaks Island Fund provides financial support to non-profit organizations who are responding to the emerging needs of our island community. Through annual gifts and the Peaks Island Fund permanent endowment, gifts of all amounts have made the Peaks Island Fund a true community resource.

This perpetual endowment has grown from \$10 gifts to \$10,000 gifts, all made by your friends and neighbors. These are the same people who carefully consider annual grant requests and decide how to do the most good with the funds entrusted to our community. Since 2004, grants totaling almost \$300,000 have been awarded to 24 non-profits, school and municipal organizations. We are honored to sponsor these island non-profit organizations and thank you for continuing to support their efforts.

Anyone who appreciates life on Peaks understands that it is a result of the hard work and foresight of generations of island individuals, families, former residents, and friends. The Peaks Island Fund gives everyone a chance to join that legacy of generosity. The long-term goal of the Peaks Island Fund is to singly support sustainable island living through our permanent endowment fund. Thank you for considering what you might be able to share for the good of the community.

## HOW TO MAKE A GIFT

Make a gift on the Peaks Island Fund Web page on the Maine Community Foundation Web site:

[www.mainecef.org/peaksfund.aspx](http://www.mainecef.org/peaksfund.aspx)

Donate stock and planned gifts, including joining the Legacy Society, by contacting Jen Southard at 1-877-700-6800 ext. 2204, or [jsouthard@mainecf.org](mailto:jsouthard@mainecf.org).

Cash donations may be made by contacting Chris Wolff at 1-877-700-6800 ext. 2210, or [cwolff@mainecf.org](mailto:cwolff@mainecf.org).

### **Mail checks:**

The Peaks Island Fund  
c/o Maine Community Foundation  
Suite 200  
1 Monument Way  
Portland, ME 04101

On behalf of the Peaks Island Fund, island non-profit organizations, and future generations, we are grateful for your commitment to a sustainable island community. Thank you.

## PEAKS ISLAND FUND LEGACY SOCIETY

The greatest gift to sustain our island community is to include a bequest in your will or living trust. By doing so, you are contributing to the growth of endowed funds for our community. Please consider joining the Peaks Island Fund Legacy Society by designating a share of your estate to support your affinity of Peaks Island in a permanent island endowment fund.

In addition to increasing the endowment, we encourage grantees to establish their own permanent endowments to help develop ongoing funding to support annual operating expenses. Peaks Island Fund Advisors and Maine Community Foundation staff are available to assist.

Help us reach our goal of adding 10 new members to the Legacy Society. And if you have already included Peaks Island Fund in a will or planned gift, please let us know.

Thank you to the individuals and families who have become members of the Legacy Society:

Rae Chalmers & Tom McLaughlin  
Deb Chase & John Funk  
Eduardo Daranyi & Ellen Mahoney  
Bill & Nancy Flynn  
Kathleen Hurley  
James Robert Lausier  
Reta Morrill  
Elizabeth Nolan & Ted Kelleher  
George & Cevia Rosol

Mary Ann Sanford  
Betsy Stout  
Peggy Fallon-St. Thomas &  
Bruce St. Thomas  
Michael K. Steinberg &  
Barbara S. Schlichtman  
Perry Sutherland  
John Zimmerman  
Patty & Bill Zimmerman



## PEAKS ISLAND MEMORIAL FUND

July 31, 2012

The Peaks Island Fund is proud to offer island residents a way to recognize and honor deceased friends and family for whom Peaks Island held special meaning during their lifetimes. It is always with mixed emotions that we receive these gifts. Over 300 island residents and friends have contributed to this fund thereby creating a tribute to the memory of the good people listed here...

Marilyn Adams	William D. Jones
Jack & Pat Bach	Rev. Michael H. Kerrigan
Albert F. Baldi	Joy Kilbourn
Hugh T. Barker Jr.	Helen Kilmartin
Liane Beebe	Richard Kinney
Marion Bonn	Walter Krause
John and Gayle Bunton	Irene Logan Kunz
Bernice Burkholder	David R. Ladre and Jennifer Bunton
Joseph Burman	Paul Lafond
Steven V. Callow	Richard A. Lane
Virginia Mae Cantalupo	James Lash and Ellen Tripp
Sarah "Sally" Costello	Robert F. Lausier
Dot Curran	Thomas and Marion Lavery
Marge Hill Davis	Mary Leslie
Kimberly A. Dervis	Douglas MacVane
Catherine Dinan	Delores and George Martin
Richard & Marge Erico	Samuel N. and Martha McCain
Paul and Marge Fagan	Irena McEntee
John and Lorraine Feeney	George Mehos
Dot and John Flynn	Claude and Louise Montgomery
Joseph Frances Flynn	Thomas P. Mulkern
Hawley and Patricia Gleeson	Philip L. Munn, Jr.
Rafael Manuel Gonzalez	Daniel Murphy
Laura Greenwell	Henry Richard Myers
Catherine & John Hannigan	Soo Nam
Margaret Harmon	Shin Soon Num
Jeanne Hogan	Emily Palfrey
Evans Huber	Andy Palmer
Carissa Ireland	Frank L. Peretti



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 Thomas Quigg  
 Elizabeth Pancoast Reynolds  
 Margaret Mary Richards  
 Arthur and Marilyn Ryan  
 Walter Schneller  
 Jonathan S. Seaman  
 Catherine Castle Shaw  
 David Sheppard  
 Matthew R. Simmons  
 Arthur and Jean Snyder  
 Chon Soo  
 William Staples  
 Robert and Dorothy Stevenson  
 Patricia Stulz  
 Ben E. Sutherland  
 Bob Swett  
 Donald C. Thompson  
 Robert E. Toole  
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 Jack Roy Wilson  
 Christina Winter  
 Therese Wynne  
 Kathryn Zimmerman

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 Maggie Small  
 Marilyn Staples  
 Monica Stevenson  
 Betsy Stout  
 Perry Sutherland  
 Lois Tiedeken  
 Mary Toole  
 Bill Zimmerman

### *Peaks Island Fund Emeriti*

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 Isaiah Oliver  
 Macey Orme  
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 Aaron Schuit  
 Tom Snyder  
 Mary Terry  
 Michelle Thresher  
 Phyllis Weintraub

MCF Staff  
 Pam Cleghorn  
 Jen Southard  
 Chris Wolff

## PEAKS ISLAND FUND CONTRIBUTORS

January 1, 2012 — August 11, 2013

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Mr. Paul F. Loring  
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 Mr. & Mrs. Edward F. Walsh  
 Ms. Elizabeth I. Wessoleck  
 Ian & Barbara White-Thomson  
 Bill & Patty Zimmerman  
 John D. Zimmerman





## MAINE COMMUNITY FOUNDATION FUND STATEMENT

January 1, 2012 to December 31, 2012 Peaks Island Fund

Funding Type: Advise · Spending Type: Invested/Income Only

### FUND ACTIVITY

<b>Beginning Balance as of: 1/1/2012</b>	<b>\$ 536,585.96</b>
Contributions	27,311.70
Investment Activity	
Interest and Dividends	3,766.00
Realized and Unrealized Growth Net of Investment Management Fees	64,010.10
Fundraising Revenue	0.00
Other Revenues and Grant Refunds	1,500.00
Disbursements	
Grants and Scholarships	(38,808.00)
Special Program Expenses	(667.72)
MCF Administrative Fees	(8,398.00)
Fundraising Expenses	0.00
Transfers	8,900.00
<b>Ending Balance on: 12/31/2012</b>	<b>\$ 594,200.04</b>

### GRANT BUDGET SUMMARY

The amount available for distribution includes:

- Carryover balance from the previous year
- Current year budget
- Contributions or fund raising proceeds received during the current year that are identified for distribution in the current year.
- Void or return of grant checks issued in previous years
- Less grants paid during the current year

<b>Available for Distribution 12/31/2012</b>	<b>\$ 50,687.27</b>
<b>Grant Budget for 2012</b>	<b>12,340.00</b>
<b>Total Grants</b>	<b>\$ 46,308.00</b>

**LOOK FOR THIS EMBLEM AT ISLAND ORGANIZATIONS!**



This new emblem designates the organization displaying it has received a grant from the Peaks Island Fund to support the organization's efforts.