



Dear Three Mile Community:

November 2011

As the new Chair, I want to first thank Will and Joy for a wonderful summer at camp! I spent many weeks at Three Mile as a kid, three summers on the Croo, and now have seen both of my children Croo under Will and Joy. It is a pleasure to work with such outstanding managers of our island.

A few weeks ago, some fifty volunteers worked, dined, and got wet putting the island to bed for the winter. At the same time, also as volunteers, the Committee, along with staff and a Croo representative, met and collaborated on the needs of the camp. The two groups mixed and exchanged ideas, and generated new projects.

Three Mile Island Camp, which we all love and cherish for similar reasons, owes its very existence to volunteerism. Nancy Grant, who just finished four years as TMI Committee Chair, volunteered countless hours in keeping the Committee and the island going. While the Committee will miss her brilliant, focused and wonderfully intuitive leadership, I will miss her guidance. Fortunately, for us all, she isn't done! She continues to work on our Rec Hall renovation and on an institutional archiving project.

There are other volunteers worth noting. Stroker Rogovin led a work week in September during which 13 members of the TMI community completed 325 hours of work installing and staining new cabin decks, taking down troublesome trees, and maintaining our tools. This marks the 20<sup>th</sup> year of this institution! Stroker also runs the opening weekend cabin roofing each June - usually the group roofs two camper cabins; this year they roofed the cook's cabin. Further, since 1985 Stroker has dedicated a week each summer training the Croo in maintenance, tool upkeep, and important TMI traditions.

Marge Holland, former Croo, TMI Committee and AMC Board member, spent two weeks leading a group of volunteers in our decadal plant survey. The volunteers enjoyed overlapping on the island their first week with our new "Miles of Music Camp" and another week with the Week 1 campers. Marge, and Bat Clapham, former Croo and longtime TMI volunteer, who are both botanists, will complete the statistical study. It will be available on our website.

The list of TMI contributors goes on, but there are a few more that I need to mention. Dinty Child, our off-season manager, also coordinated maintenance all year and is directing the Rec Hall project. Larry Barker, who assists in numerous capacities, is in charge of getting the well-water going each spring; Jay Maciejowski, a forester by training, along with Rick Tjader and Joan Gulovsen, has managed the tree program for years, keeping the cabins and paths safe. Bob Armstrong supervises the Clivus updates. Jack Tricky has been our go-to person for facilitating

numerous projects, from the new electric service to the upcoming Main House roof. Benji Fisher maintains the website all year.

But it is also the countless hours that many of you contribute: helping with Opening Weekend, Closing Weekend, editing a new TMI cookbook, working in Little Kitchen on Croo Night Out, fixing things while on your vacation, and donating needed goods or funds for the same. It is all of these contributions -- our culture of volunteerism -- that preserves the specialness of our community.

When Nancy honored me with the request to be Committee Chair, it is with that spirit in mind that I accepted. It is an honor to work with such talented and devoted TMI volunteers and a privilege to be an active part of the TMI community.

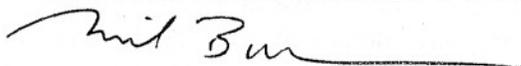
What are the Committee goals? First, I want to point out that the Committee under Nancy completed a goal that took longer than any goal in TMI history. Since the first mention in the 1987 minutes, TMI has sought its own parking lot, with formal bids for land starting in 1990. Over the past several years, the combination of the acumen of former Treasurer Mark Giglietti, the leadership of Nancy Grant, and the tireless work of former Croo and current Committee member David Carpenter, resulted in the purchase of a parking lot on Lovejoy Sands Road. What a legacy this all-volunteer group provides!

The immediate goal, of necessity, is a complete renovation of the Rec Hall. Built in 1966 for about \$35,000, the building has hosted more square dances, ping-pong tournaments and card games than any other building on Lake Winnepesaukee. Yet the time has come for a major overhaul. Integrating camper input with architectural and engineering design, the Committee has an impressive, albeit simple, upgrade planned. The design keeps the integrity of the building but adds a wider and shaded deck, better sound insulation, doors that fully function, an up-to-date wheelchair ramp, and is guaranteed to keep the Virginia Reel going for generations! The cost, however, will be more than \$35,000. We will be working on permitting and financing this coming year.

This year's other projects include building new dining tables and replacing the Main House roof. The Committee and staff will seek input on how to best integrate the off-island world with our island focus of simplicity. More than ever we want your thoughtful contributions about such things as: how to balance technology use on the island with our tradition of simplicity; how to use our website to educate our community and others; and where can we make a greater impact towards sustainability at Three Mile?

In closing, thank you to all who contribute a week, a weekend, or even a Little Kitchen shift. Your help is appreciated. For anyone who wants to join in the fun, welcome!

Have a safe winter and I hope to see all of you back on the dock.



Neil Burns  
TMI Committee Chair