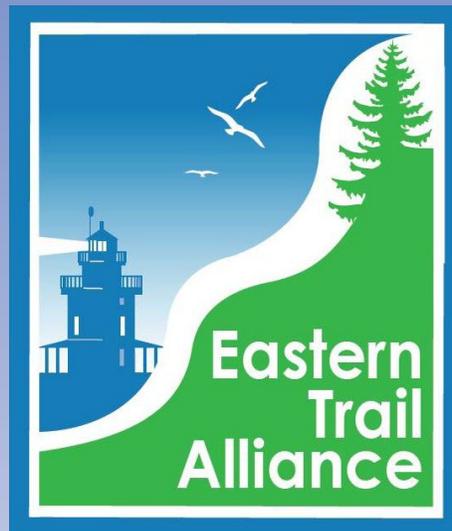


Eastern Trail Alliance

9 May 2013

Annual Meeting
Old Marsh Country Club
Wells, Maine



Embracing the Trail

2013 Annual Meeting Table of Contents

Old Marsh Country Club, Wells, Maine
9 May 2013

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2013 Annual Meeting Agenda

Old Marsh Country Club, Wells, Maine

9 May 2013

Embracing the Trail

5:30 Social time: snacks, cash bar (continues through meeting.)

6:00 Annual Business meeting – ETA President Bob Hamblen

Show of hands how many will be staying for dinner?

Move to accept the minutes of the 2012 annual meeting.

Questions on 2012 year-end financial statement.

Motion to accept Nominating Committee Recommendations. Only dues-paying ETA members may vote.

Renewal of current trustees with 2013 expiration dates:

Bob Hamblen, President and Treas

Bob Bowker, Vice President

Tom Daley

Deborah Erickson-Irons

Rep. Megan Rochelo

Nomination and vote for new trustee recommendations.

Member questions about anything concerning the Eastern Trail?

6:30 approx. Motion to adjourn the annual business meeting?

7:00 Panel Discussion – 30 min

Embracing the Trail

How different communities are responding to the Eastern Trail: their projects, events and plans

John Andrews, ETA founding president

Bob Hamblen, ETA President and ETMD past five-year president

Jim Tasse, Education Director, Bicycle Coalition of Maine (BCM)

Diane Dyer, PE Instructor, Kennebunk Elementary School

Mark Koenigs, OOB Conservation Commission and Connecting Trail Sub-Committee

Ginger McMullin, OOB Conservation Commission and Connecting Trail Sub-Committee

7:30 Dinner – Order from the menu.

President's Report ETA Annual Meeting May 2013

Doing the ETA's Bit for Maine's Economy

With 2012 – and seemingly winter -- now safely behind us, let's glance in the rear-view for a look at where we've been.

Since late 2004 and the opening of the Scarborough Marsh trail, the Eastern Trail Alliance and its running mate, the Eastern Trail Management District, have completed the Desfosses section in Scarborough, opened the Scarborough-Old Orchard Beach section from Pine Point Road to Milliken Mills Road in 2009, headed south to the Biddeford, Arundel and Kennebunk section with a November, 2010 ribbon-cutting, then memorably celebrated the opening of the ET bridge over the Maine Turnpike on September 28, 2011.

May, 2012 saw the opening of the Saco-OOB section, from the Thornton Academy campus to Milliken Mills Road, a project that included the John R. Andrews Bridge over Rte. One. Starting years before any of this, the City of South Portland diligently worked on its Greenbelt, setting an example for other communities as it grew its section of the ET to its current 5.7 miles, from Bug Light Park to the Wainwright athletic complex off Highland Avenue.

Lots accomplished, lots more to do. And with the help of you and other supporters, and ETMD member communities, there's more coming at us. Within the next 45 days MDOT will announce the winners of its latest round of Transportation Enhancement funding, the source of federal dollars that has allowed the design and construction of most of the ET. Applications from the towns of Wells and Kennebunk hang in the balance, faced with stiff competition for those dollars from all over the state.

And with funding from the previous cycle of TE applicants, the Town of Scarborough is tackling perhaps the most difficult single mile of Trail to date: connecting the Desfosses Trail to South Portland by bridging the Nonesuch River, crossing an active Amtrak line, making its way over the truck-trafficked Pleasant Hill Road, then working with CMP to make its way to the Wainwright fields in South Portland.

Big job? They've all been. The payoff? Worth every bit of time and trouble when we see trail users doing their thing. When we're asked about the Trail, and have a chance to share what has been and what's coming. When we see a notice in the paper about Joe Yuhas's next full moon walk. When we hold a public meeting in North Berwick to spread the word and 40 people turn out eager to hear it.



Meeting with Dan Stewart, MDOT
Bike Ped Program Manager



And for the naysayers – and, truth be told, we’re encountering fewer cur-mudgeons than ever these days – we have anecdotes and facts and reports that generally point to a single conclusion: people like trails, they use trails, and they welcome more trails. While sad facts on obesity, asthma, and heart disease get much of the media’s attention, there is a significant slice of our state and country that insist on viewing life much differently.

As recently reported by the League of American Bicyclists, and the Alliance for Biking and Walking, recreational bicyclists number 60 million in this country. Annually, they can be expected to spend \$46.9 billion on meals, transportation, lodging, gifts and entertainment.

The report, entitled “Bicycling Means Business,” delivers the message that trails mean business. A 2009 study done in Minnesota found that walkers/hikers are the most active trail users in the state, followed by bicyclists. The value of goods and services stemming from bicycle riders was calculated at \$261 million, supporting more than 5,000 jobs and generating \$35 million in taxes.

Vermont, population 626,000, realizes \$56 million annually in revenue from bicycle and pedestrian-related businesses, resulting in more than 1,000 jobs and \$26 million in wages. And Quebec reports that bicycle tourists spent an average of \$83 per day in 2005, as compared to an average of \$66 per day by all other tourists.

And this example from the Outer Banks of North Carolina: taking note that bicyclists are an affluent crowd, with half the cyclists visiting the area earning more than \$100,000 annually, and 40% possessing either a master’s or doctoral degree, the region sank \$6.7 million into bicycle infrastructure: paths, shoulders and lanes. The result: an annual 9:1 return on investment. Local government officials and small business owners, take notice!

As you enjoy the ET, know that you are part of a phenomenon being measured, analyzed and embraced for a multitude of reasons, not the least of which are contributing to making Maine a desirable destination and improving our state’s balance sheet. So, the next time someone asks you about the Eastern Trail, share a few facts with them. It’s one more reason that southern Maine is a prime place to live, work and play.

Bob Hamblen
ETA President

The “Bicycling Means Business” report can be viewed at: http://www.bikeleague.org/resources/reports/pdfs/economic_benefits_bicycle_infrastructure_report.pdf.



Riding the OOB section—dedicated in 2012.



**Minutes of ETA Annual Meeting
Old Marsh Country Club, Wells, Maine
May 17, 2012**

Attendance:

Trustees- Bob LaNigra, John Andrews, Jim Bucar, Bob Bowker, Tom Daley, Jim Monroe, Judy Haley, Marianne Goodine, Jim Munroe, Deb Erickson-Irons, Bob Hamblen, Joe Yuhas
Guests: Bruce Wakefield, Carole Brush, Scott Marcoux, Marcia and Bob Cathy, Eric Weis, Larry Rubinstein, Dick Woodbury, Jonathan Goodine, Jonathan Carter, Scott Andrews, Larry Glantz, Tony Barrett, Murray Ingraham, Perry Ellsworth, David Webster, Tracy Ross, Maggie Warren, Dave Wood, Kristen Gould, Liz Vizeau, Ethan Davis, Cookiea Kallock, Charlie La Flamme

5:30 PM Social Time

6:00 PM Annual Business Meeting

1. Welcome and Introductions: Meeting, directed by Bob Hamblen, started at 6:19 PM.

2. Move to Accept Minutes of 2011: Approved by all trustees.

3. Year End Financial Report: Approved by all trustees.

4. Motion to Accept Nominating Committee Recommendations:

Three Year Terms-expire in 2015:

Tim Lambert, Marianne Goodine and Judy Haley

Two Year Terms-expire in 2014:

Jim Munro and Joe Yuhas

One Year Terms-expire in 2013:

Deborah Erickson-Irons and Megan Rochelo

Motions approved by all trustees.

5. Audience Questions :

Questions were asked:

1. Progress of Scarborough connector,

2. Timeline to connect Biddeford to Thornton Academy.

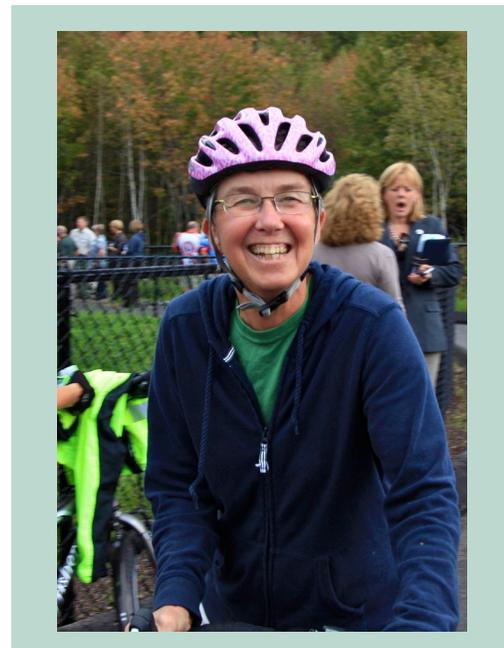
6. Adjournment: General meeting ended at 6:58 P.M

Presentation by ECGA Trail Program Coordinator, Eric Weis: How have other sections of the ECG succeeded and how SETA can succeed.

7:00 PM Panel Discussion by SETA Group: Led by Judy Haley, Deb Irons, John Andrews, Marianne Goodine and Bob Hamblen

Awards: Made to Jim Bucar—volunteer of the year, Tracey Ross for her efforts on the Trail Guide, and Eric Weis

Submitted by: R. LaNigra, May 29, 2012



**Eastern Trail
2012 Treasurer's Report
Expenses**

Eastern Trail Alliance		2012 Treasurer's Report	
		BUDGET-APPROVED	2012 year end
Expenses			\$53,472.27
Newsletter			
Printing	1,800.00	1874.62	
Design	0.00	0.00	
Postage	175.00	253.83	
Total		1,975.00	2,128.45
Office			
Rent	1,950.00	1950.00	
Phone	400.00	371.72	
Supplies & printing	1,400.00	1034.41	
Computer hardware/software/ support	1,800.00	1093.42	
Postage & PO Box, Permit	800.00	692.40	
Credit Card Fees	480.00	746.33	
Misc	500.00	873.00	
staff	32,000.00	40394.48	
Total		39,330.00	47155.76
Board			
Insurance	850.00	923.00	
ETMD & other dues	5,100.00	5115.00	
Audit & tax return	0.00	16.80	
Training/Conferences	200.00	0.00	
Web site	0.00	172.61	
Misc., fees	300.00	103.43	
Total		6,450.00	6330.84
Misc.			
Annual Appeal	500.00	815.29	
Misc., PR awards, Promos, mtgs	700.00	3403.51	
Annual meeting	400.00	657.44	
ME Lighthouse Ride	12,000.00	14156.57	
Print Brochure-ETA	500.00	2100.00	
Trail guide	1,400.00	8716.41	
Kiosk/Trail Enhancements	2,000.00	798.49	
Spring on the Trail	0.00	1811.11	
Kids Mob	0.00	3,225.00	
Total		17,500.00	35683.82
	TOTAL	65,255.00	91,298.87

**Eastern Trail Alliance
2012 Treasurer's Report
Income**

Eastern Trail Alliance 2012 Treasurer's Report		
	<u>BUDGET-APPROVED</u>	<u>2012 year end</u>
Income		
Dues/membership	14,000.00	14650.33
Annual Appeal	2,800.00	4440.00
Misc., interest, ca sales, etc	200.00	254.03
Trail guide sales	200.00	3565.22
Donations	3,000.00	2947.12
Grants	2,000.00	0.00
ME Lighthouse Ride	43,055.00	55633.00
Spring on the Trail	0.00	1975.00
Kids Mob	0.00	2984.47
	<u>TOTAL</u>	
	65,255.00	86,449.17
Surplus	0.00	-4,849.70

Ending Balance		<u>December, 2012</u>
SBS-		
operations	30,848.42	
SBS-kiosk		
SBS CD	15,186.01	48,622.57
KSB	2,588.14	
TOTAL:	48,622.57	

Ending Balance		<u>December, 2011</u>
SBS-		
operations	34,448.86	
SBS-kiosk	674.99	
SBS CD	10,096.25	
KSB	8,252.17	
TOTAL:	53,472.27	

These items not in budget at beginning of fiscal year.



Eastern Trail Alliance
Officers & Trustees
www.EasternTrail.Org

Bob Hamblen, **2013**
President and Treas.
Saco City Planner 347 Ferry Rd,
Saco, ME 04072-2211
bhamble1@maine.rr.com-home
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Bob Bowker, Vice President **2013**
President Bowker & Associates
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rbowker@bowkerandassoc.com

Bob LaNigra, VP & Secretary **2014**
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Retired engineer.

John R. Andrews, President Emeritus
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Retired engineer

Jim Bucar **2014**
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Retired English teacher

Tom Daley **2013**
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Retired educator

Deborah Erickson-Irons **2013**
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***(Year term expires at annual meeting)**
Federal Tax ID number: 01-0523949

Marianne Goodine **2015**
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Judy Haley, VP **2015**
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Tim Lambert **2015**
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207-284-5914; tlambert@maine.rr.com
Texas Instruments, Computer Engineer
Co-owner: Sooper Dogs

Jim Munroe **2014**
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Retired General Dynamics

Rep. Megan Rochelo, Executive Director,
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MRochelo@une.edu
Member Maine Legislature

Joe Yuhas **2014**
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Mobile: 408-6093; Home:283-4487
E-mail: folk44@aol.com
UNE Faculty – Retired

ETA Part Time Office Staff
Carole Brush, ETA/ETMD Executive Director
Scott Marcoux, ETA Communications Coordinator

Larry Glantz, ETA Web Coordinator
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207-284-9260 – office

The ET— Making Things Happen

When I stepped into the interim role of Trail Coordinator in 2008, The ET had completed four off-road sections totaling 10.5 miles. Then, in 2009, thanks to the tremendous support and confidence of the ET Board and member communities, I moved into the role of Executive Director.

Two-and-a-half years later, I am still quite happily enjoying that role— looking back at two more successfully completed projects entailing three bridges, one huge culvert, and an additional 10.5 miles of beautiful trail. Not content with that, the ET is now proposing designs to close a significant gap in Scarborough and to extend the trail south to Kittery.

None of this would have occurred without your support. Thank you.

So it's an exciting, energizing time for the ET. Still, we have miles to go before we rest. With 22 of the 65 miles now completed, our attention turns to growing and managing both the trail and the organization.

We are actively seeking funding to continue the rail south— Kennebunk to Kittery— and to close gaps in Scarborough, and Saco and Biddeford. In addition, as the trail expands, so does its visibility, bringing much more traffic and many “opportunities.”

Once the amazing Turnpike Bridge was completed, The ET phone and email systems went on overtime. I've never experienced such enthusiasm and interest. The volume of inquiries was rewarding . . . and a little overwhelming: “Where does it start?” “Where does it end?” “Can I camp on the trail?” “How about geocaching?” “Can we host an event on the trail?” “Where's the nearest hotel, bike shop, restaurant?” Many other questions poured in—some better left unsaid.

Executive Director supervising
Limerick Rd construction in
Arundel



In 2011, five successful events brought walkers and runners to the trail. Then, during 2012 that number ballooned to a dozen events, including several 5K fundraisers for various causes, a 30-miler from Kennebunk to Bug Light, a half marathon, and a triathlon, some of which put hundreds of participants on the trail. Thus far for 2013, we have requests to host 15 events on the trail, including many repeats from the prior years. The trail, itself, has attracted all this healthy and gratifying activity; little publicity has been required.

That said, in the cause of growing the trail, ETA Trustees and volunteers have actively been spreading our message through various public events: Chambers of Commerce gatherings, “Eggs and Issues” Forums, and Employee Wellness Programs and Fairs at UNE, SMCC, TI, and other corporate sites. The Wells Transportation Center & Wells Chamber of Commerce offered space for a promotional poster. It is our goal to have these promotional posters displayed in all the municipalities along the trail as well as respective Chambers of Commerce.

The ETA continues to provide updated trail history, maps, and literature in our many kiosks and in local bike shops (at their urgent requests) and other retail establishments along the trail. All of these outreach efforts bring new faces to the trail, provide opportunities for local businesses, and increase visibility for our communities.

As we enter a new year, I look forward to “getting out there” even more to spread our message, promote the trail as a proven economic enhancement to our communities, and find the necessary funding to connect the dots and complete this masterpiece of a trail, which the Maine DOT has designated as one of the three trails in Maine of statewide significance!

I welcome your input: always feel free to give me a call at 207-284-9260 or email eta@eastertrail.org. To quote those famous folks, “I am here to serve you.”

Thank you for your past and continued support. Without you, the trail would not be where it is today.

—Carole Brush, Executive Director—

We Build Bridges

Across highways . . .



Across turnpikes . . .



Across marshes . . .



Across rivers . . .



. . . from Bug Light to Kennebunk.

And— soon— south to your town.

Public Relations Report for 2013

The ETA's PR efforts in 2013 have kept pace with that of the previous year. We've added a few new contacts to our list of local media and community relations contacts, including new local radio stations and community relations departments of local companies. Press releases and trail events are regularly shared with our contacts and posted to online community calendars, as well as to the Google calendar imbedded on the ETA website.

Promotion through these outlets has boosted attendance for our monthly Full Moon Walks to somewhere between 30-50 participants on any given walk. In addition, the trail continues to see a large number of events held by outside groups, which themselves have often attracted larger attendance totals since moving their events to the trail. To date, about 15 separate outside groups have announced events to be held on various sections of the trail in 2013. Many of those also can be found on our Google calendar.

Once again, outreach for the Maine Lighthouse Ride will include media contacts outside of Maine, and distribution of MLR brochures to bicycle shops throughout New England. The ride is also listed on the calendar of the Bicycle Coalition of Maine and other partner organizations. These ongoing efforts very likely led to the ETA nearly hitting its 1,000-rider cap for last year's ride, a number we anticipate reaching in 2013.

Word of mouth by itself earns a greater slice of credit with each passing season. It is the odd week that passes without a phone call or email to the office from someone whose friend or relative recommended the trail. Their curiosity piqued, they contact us to learn more, and often become members. Our volunteers at the various company health fairs and family events can attest to the numerous newcomers to Maine who approach us to say, "We just moved here, and our friends told us we really need to check out the trail!" More calls are also coming in from adventure seekers looking for pointers in how to bike all or part of the on and off-road routes between Bug Light and Kittery.

Of course, the trail itself continues to be its own best marketing tool. The Eastern Trail Turnpike Bridge and the John R. Andrews Bridge welcome visitors to the state over Route 1 in Saco. Again this year, we've added about another 400 Facebook page fan, with now over 1,220 individuals playing audience to our updates and reminders and sharing that info with family and friends.

Much has been accomplished through our PR efforts, and much remains to be done to spread awareness and support for this vital community resource.

Keep spreading the word,

Scott Marcoux
ETA Communications Coordinator

Listing of Events 2012 - 2013

Partial Listing of events ETA volunteers led or attended since April 2012. We have tried as much as possible to highlight one or more of the volunteers who led or guided each event, but the kudos are certain to be incomplete. We appreciate the leadership of all our volunteers, always.

2012

April

BCM Great Maine Bike Swap, USM Sullivan Gym, Portland – Bob H., Judy Haley, Bruce W.
Kennebunk Savings Bank presentations – Carole Brush, Deb Erickson-Irons
Hannaford presentation – John Andrews

May

Eastern Trail Clean-up, Saco section behind Thornton Academy – Joe Bureau
Opening Ceremony/Dedication of John R. Andrews Bridge, Route 1 Saco
Eastern Trail Annual Meeting, Old Marsh Country Club, Wells
Spring on the Trail! Bike tour off-road portions of ET – ECG/ETA/CBC/KES/BCM
Snowy Egret 5K Run, ET in Scarborough – Bob LaNigra
EcoDay at Laudholm Farms – Joe Yuhas
Sweetser presentation

June

ET Marsh Walk/National Trails Day – Bob LaNigra
Scarborough Walks – Old Blue Point Road, Jim Munroe
USM Employee Fair
Saco Sidewalk Art Festival – Bruce Wakefield, Scott Marcoux

July

BCM Maine Bike Rally – numerous ETA volunteers
250 Kid Mob, John R. Andrews Bridge, Route 1 Saco
EnviroLogix Health Fair
Scarborough Walks – Old Blue Point Road, Jim Munroe

August

Revolution3 Triathlon, ET in OOB – Carole Brush, Bob LaNigra, many more!
Scarborough Walks – Old Blue Point Road, Jim Munroe
Sappi Paper presentation
Kennebunk Fire Society presentation – Bob LaNigra



Sept

9th Maine Lighthouse Ride – 100+ volunteers
Full Moon Walk, Scarborough Marsh – John Andrews
Prouts Neck Walk, Scarborough – John Andrews
Harvest Moon Walk, SMMC in Biddeford – Joe Yuhas
Biddeford Pool Community Club Bean Supper – Joe Yuhas
Biddeford Middle School Wellness Walk

Oct

SMMC Be Healthy 5K – Bob L., Carole B., Bob H., Bruce W., John A., Jim Bucar
YMCA Harvest Half Marathon, ET at SMMC – Bob LaNigra
Scarborough Marsh Clean-up, ET in Scarborough – Tom Daley, Joe Bureau
Full Moon Walk, Kennebunk Elementary – Joe Yuhas, John Andrews
UNE Health Fairs, Portland and Biddeford – many volunteers!

Nov

Moonlight Walk, Kennebunk Elementary – Joe Yuhas, John Andrews
Baker Company presentation

Dec

Moonlight Walk, SMMC in Biddeford – Joe Yuhas

2013

Jan

Moonlight Walk, SMMC in Biddeford – Joe Yuhas

Feb

Great Maine Outdoor Weekend/Ski, Shoe or Walk, SMMC in Biddeford – Joe Yuhas
Full Moon Ski, Shoe or Walk, SMMC in Biddeford – Joe Yuhas

March

Full Moon Ski, Shoe or Walk, SMMC in Biddeford – Joe Yuhas

April

Scarborough Marsh Clean-up, ET in Scarborough – Tom Daley, Joe Bureau
Full Moon Walk, SMMC in Biddeford – Joe Y., John A., Carole B., Mogens & Donna Ravn
UNE Health Fair – Joe Yuhas, Brenda Edmands
Family Fun Day, YMCA of Southern Maine, Biddeford – Scott Marcoux

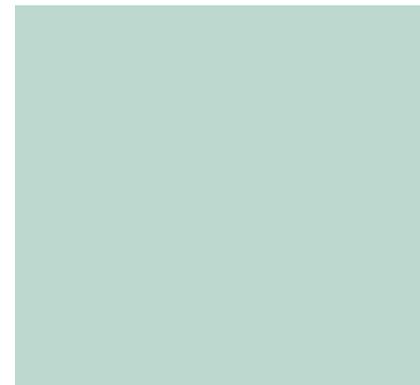


Eventfully,

Scott Marcoux
ETA Communications Coordinator



Full-moon walk, Scarborough to OOB



EasternTrail.org Web Site – May 2013

The Eastern Trail web site at www.EasternTrail.org has continued to grow and extend its reach. It has become a major tool to promote the trail, signing up riders for the Maine Lighthouse Ride and communicating the many stories of how ETA members, Maine residents, and others are building, maintaining, enjoying and promoting the Eastern Trail.

Larry Glantz continues in his part-time staff role to build the content and functionality of the site using the new design that Tim Lambert helped to develop in late 2011. Larry had built the original web site back in 1998, and that early site won American Trails' best local trail website award in 2003.

The site is colorful and easy to use. A menu structure helps you move through the extensive information on the site, and there are many colorful pictures and videos throughout the site to pique viewer's interests in the trail.

Here are some key features of the web site:

- **Latest ETA News** – Left side of front page that displays Breaking ETA news items – the information changes daily if possible, at least several times a week
- **Join Us/Support the Trail** – trying to convince more people to join the ETA, and to contribute money and volunteer time in building and promoting the trail
- **ETA Trail Guide**, available in downloadable color form to print, with a form to order the Trail Guide online, links to PayPal to pay for the Guide by credit card, and links to other trail map resources
- **Maine Lighthouse Ride** - registration links, ride Descriptions, Cue Sheets and Maps, and directions. Also includes pictures and videos from past rides
- **ET News & Documents**, including the latest Newsletter, News Archives (some back to 1997), Key ETA Documents, Trail History, Important Internet Links, Laws and Regulations, and ETA Press Releases
- **About Us** - Lists ET Trustees and Advisors, plus links to the ETA brochure and the Purpose and Needs statement, Pictures of ETA events on the trail, and Videos on and about the trail
- **Events** – Includes a page of scheduled trail events broken down by key sections of the trail, and an ETA events calendar (whole month shown).
- **Eastern Trail Management District (ETMD)** meeting minutes and agendas, policies, and archived documents including meeting minutes going back to 2006.
- **Mobile Site** that provides a simpler and faster loading site for visitors using smart phones, I-pads, tables and other mobile devices.

We encourage all friends of the Eastern Trail to use the website, but also to provide feedback on what works with the web site, and what could be added to the site to make it better. Please forward all ideas to webmaster@EasternTrail.org.

Here are some statistics on the use of the web site:

	Oct. 2012	Dec. 2012	March
Unique Site Visitors	1784	2040	6308
Page Views	43,327	62,016	75,032
Hits of ET Guide Booklet page	725	442	989



Now you can find us
online while relaxing
at your desk— HERE



Latest ET News

One week until the ETA Annual Meeting - Thurs, May 9, 5:30– 8:00 pm. Have you RSVP'd yet?

Mark your calendars and please join us for the Eastern Trail Alliance Annual Meeting, to be held at the Old Marsh Country Club, Wells, Maine ([map](#)). This year's meeting will feature a panel discussion on the history, progress and hopes for the Eastern Trail. All are invited to participate, and to join us in our ongoing mission. We hope you will join us — RSVP by phone 207-284-9260 or by [email](#)

May 27 - Annual Memorial Day Snowy Egret Run on the ET

Event is on the ET in the Scarborough Marsh. Run or walk at one of the most scenic and special places in Maine and support the Scarborough Marsh. The race is sponsored by the Chiropractic Family Wellness Center benefitting the marsh. [Click here for more details and online registration.](#)

National Recognition of the 9/7 Maine Lighthouse Ride

Our [Maine Lighthouse Ride](#) is getting well-deserved national attention on a website titled "[13 Scenic Century Rides](#)." The MLR (slide #10 on the site) is listed as one of 13 rides that "come with scenery you will never forget." This publicity is sure to increase interest in the ride, so be sure to [register early](#) to reserve your spot.

You can't get there from here: Eastern Trail connection between South Portland, Scarborough remains elusive, expensive

That is the title of a new article (May 2) from the Forecaster Online - [click here to read.](#)

Summer Trail Events Being Planned: Monday Morning Walks in Scarborough, June - September

ETA trustee Jim Munroe will lead walks on the Eastern Trail in Scarborough on selected Monday mornings through the summer starting at 9:30 am and lasting 60-75 minutes. More details on our [Events page](#). Thanks, Jim!

More Great Media Coverage of the ETA Full Moon Walks

Joe Yuhas' most recent (February 25) Full Moon Walk is covered nicely in "[Moon Walking](#)" article in the [Kennebunk Post online](#).

Registration Ongoing for the Maine Lighthouse Ride 2013

This year's ride is going to be a great

The Eastern Trail - Southern Maine's Multi-Use Greenway

The Eastern Trail is a 65 mile section of the East Coast Greenway, a transportation-recreation greenway connecting Kittery, in southernmost Maine to Casco Bay in South Portland!

The Eastern Trail is both a trail and a vision. The Eastern Trail has a growing span of off-road sections, as well as a scenic on-road trail that mostly



follows quiet country roads. Experienced bike riders and hikers can enjoy a beautiful journey from South Portland's Bug Light Park on Casco Bay (near Portland) to Kittery's Piscataqua River.

"The trail is humming with energy and events on its newly connected sections, but it's not done growing." Maine Sunday Telegram, Dec. 2, 2012

We invite you to become an active part of our effort to build, enjoy, and sustain this wonderful resource. This website will help you connect to current events, development activities, and other means of engaging with this trail and vision.

If you are new to us and to this site, the following links are a great place to start:

- [Our brochure](#)
- [Recent ET News Flashes](#)
- [The Eastern Trail Guide](#)
- [Our latest newsletter](#)
- [Our Facebook page](#)

Also check out [events that are happening on the trail](#), and then read the news both [current](#) and [past](#). Also, please [sign up for our mailing list](#) so you can keep up with all the events and activities related to the trail.

The Eastern Trail is the Southern Maine section of the East Coast Greenway, a large network of trails that will connect Calais, Maine with Key West, Florida.

The Eastern Trail Alliance is the focused effort to vision, build, promote and use the trail. It includes many supporters from all over (but particularly southern Maine), hikers, bikers, X-country skiers, birders, and other outdoor enthusiasts, dedicated to creating, enjoying and maintaining the Eastern Trail.

Eastern Trail Guide

This comprehensive 28-page spiral-bound booklet outlines each segment of our extensive on- and off-road trail network, providing detailed trail descriptions and maps in crisp vibrant color.

The Guide is available in several ways. One



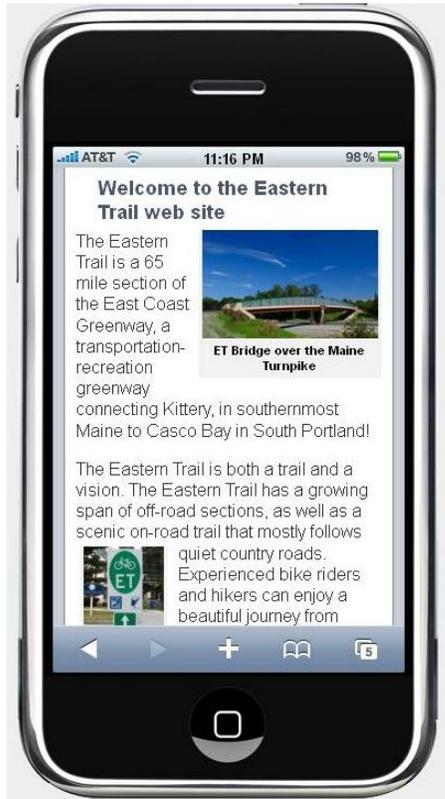
ET Bridge over the Maine Turnpike



John R. Andrews, ETA founder and son John of California at ET's John R. Andrews bridge in Saco, dedicated May 2012



ET Map Guide



Or HERE while
you're active
and mobile

Some of ETA'S Publications of the Past Year

Jim Bucar

ETA 40" x 60 poster" for the Wells Transportation Center- 1/2012

ETA 24" x 16" version of above poster for display in various locations

Fun Map ET ad for inclusion in Southern York County summer tourist guide

ETA brochure, November 2011, # of copies??

2012 MLS brochure, April 2012-- 10,000 copies

Photos of ET subjects and activities that have appeared in our own publications and those of the MaineDOT, East Coast Greenway Alliance, Bicycle Coalition of Maine, other biking groups, municipal publications, and on ETA's website.

Jim Bucar & Mogens Ravn

ETA Fall 2011 Newsletter, November 2012

ETA Spring 2012 Newsletter, April 2012

Many collaborators

Full-Color ET Guide, February 2012

ETMD newsletter, March 2012

ETA Bumper Sticker October, 2011

ETA off-road map folder, Sponsored by Biddeford Savings Bank

Various fliers, inserts for numerous mailings.

ETA Trustees –

Jim Bucar & Mogens Ravn



2012 MAINE LIGHTHOUSE RIDE

by Bob Bowker

The Maine Lighthouse Ride was bigger and better in 2012, with 941 registered riders, a 36% increase over 2011. This year, the century (100 mile) had 294 riders, the metric century (62 mile) had 209, the 40 mile - 278, and the 25 mile -157. The 941 riders pedaled a total distance of 58,000 miles, twice around the earth! Over 25 states were represented at this years' ride.

Once again, the response from the riders was overwhelmingly positive, due mostly to the fantastic support from almost 90 volunteers. Despite some morning fog, the weather was fine and spirits were high. Over 99% of the riders reported a positive experience, and many of the comments praised our wonderful volunteer staff. This year, we did have one rider who was transported to a hospital due to a fall resulting from hitting a pothole. Although we strive to have zero incidents like this, with almost 1,000 riders the odds are not in our favor. (We recently heard from the injured rider and he will be returning for MLR 2013!)

The Maine Lighthouse Ride has become a major source of income for the Eastern Trail Alliance, and has allowed us to add staff and resources to continue to pursue our goal of an off-road greenway in Southern Maine. In 2012, the gross from the MLR was approximately \$54,000. Subtracting expenses for the ride, the ETA netted almost \$40,000 this year.

Unfortunately, due to the increasing size of the ride, several organizations have taken notice and identified some "issues" regarding the ride and its impacts, most notable Southern Maine Community College and the City of South Portland. We will be incurring greater fees and other costs at SMCC, and riders will be diverted around the nicest section of the South Portland Greenbelt due to reported conflicts with soccer and football games on Saturday morning. We have increased the rider fees for 2013 to cover these additional costs, and have capped the ride at 1,000 riders.

Despite some additional requirements imposed on the ride and a slight route change, we are anticipating another wildly successful Maine Lighthouse Ride for 2013. Tell your friends, and register early to get a t-shirt. See you on September 7!



SETA News from the South

This last year there has seen a redoubled effort to further increase awareness of the Eastern Trail in the areas south of the developed off-road trail which presently ends at State Route 35 in Kennebunk. To that end a handful of people have been meeting on a regular basis in that region to achieve that goal. Since Kennebunk and Wells have applied to the state for “Shovel Ready” design engineering for the sections in their towns, the support of the ET was already evident in those towns. Therefore, it seemed logical that the emphasis would be on North Berwick, the next town in the corridor.

We have met informally with a number of residents of NB, to gauge the interest and level of support present. Several of us used an old ET database to telephone NB residents to gather information and enlist support. We have also encouraged attendance at ET events like the Moonlight Walks and made several presentations at local wellness fairs, etc.

Perhaps the most important event was the ET Public Informational Meeting held at the North Berwick Community Center on March 26th. Bob Hamblen and Tad Redway made presentations and John Andrews narrated an ET slide show tailored to the NB audience. Attendance was good, **with nearly 30 people in attendance**, and the group was enthusiastic in its response. The question and answer session was very lively, and it was clear that there was a great deal of interest in and support for bringing the ET to NB. Thanks to all the ET staff and volunteers who put a great deal into the planning and presentations, the evening was a great success. Of special note, Tom Littlefield and Bob Pease, both of NB, did a tremendous job of securing the meeting site and promoting the meeting throughout the town.

The following April SETA meeting was our largest monthly meeting yet, and more importantly the majority of those present were from points south of Kennebunk. We had two new supporters, Shawn and Carl Works, who were at the public meeting, and Tom Littlefield, making three NB residents present. At this meeting we agreed that the next step should be to contact both Pratt- Whitney and Hussey Seating to determine if they could assist us in our efforts. Next, we plan to meet with the NB town officials to explore areas of cooperation and to discuss any concerns regarding the ET passing through NB.

Members of SETA are pleased beyond words that things are progressing so well. The mood of optimism seems to be expanding. We have received a call from the Public Relations Manager at P-W requesting a meeting and have held a very encouraging conference call with ETA representatives. All signs point to support to move south.

As of the writing of this report a meeting between P-W officials and ETA and ETMD have been scheduled to explore ways in which P-W might help in the establishment of the trail in NB. Hopefully we will have additional news to report at the time of the annual meeting.

Jo Yuhas, Trustee

Deb Erickson-Irons, Trustee

A mess now, but remember, “We build bridges”!



It will take little work to turn this rail bed into a beautiful bike & ped trail

