

The Arrowsic Arrow

News Around & About Arrowsic

Volume 34, Number 2
Spring 2020



Reid State Park (photo by Phil Mason)

Town Approves Broadband Grant

Over one hundred town voters crowded into the Fire House on January 22, 2020 for a Special Town Meeting to approve a \$1.2 million grant and loan from the USDA to construct a fiber optic broadband network to bring reliable high speed internet to Arrowsic.

Due to the unprecedented turnout, selectmen had to move the meeting from the Town Hall. After being elected as moderator, Eloise Vittelli gavelled the meeting to order with a broom head and read out motions to empower the selectmen to accept the grant, securitize the loan, and accept bids to construct and operate the system.

Members of the task force that developed the grant proposal - Ken Hnottavange-Telleen, Don Kornrumpf, and Will Neilson - then answered questions regarding the project: would fiber be installed to every home, how would the system be operated and maintained, and what comparable services were offered by Consolidated?

The motion was then called, resulting in an overwhelming vote of 98 to 5 in favor, whereupon the meeting was adjourned a mere 35 minutes after it had started.



Arrowsic votes (photo by Allison Hepler)

The grant was the result of a five year effort by a group of local volunteers from Arrowsic, Georgetown, and Southport, collectively known as Three Bridged Islands Broadband (3BIB) to research and develop ways of bringing high speed internet to the islands. Finding that commercial providers were not willing to develop such service, Arrowsic resolved to apply for a grant and loan from the USDA to enable to town to develop it itself. While the other towns were not able to proceed at that point, Georgetown has subsequently decided to apply in the coming round of grants, and the two towns will continue to cooperate in the future.

—Tom Spear

Maine Legislature Celebrates Life of Milly Stafford

The Maine Legislature remembered and celebrated the life of Milly Stafford of Arrowsic with a Legislative Sentiment in Memoriam on Tuesday, Feb. 11.

“Milly set the standard and the example for how to get things done and always added a bit of humor as she did,” said Sen. Eloise Vitelli, D-Arrowsic. “She had a vast knowledge of the people and the town she loved and served so well, and inspired many of us to be involved, and to live with compassion, conviction, clarity and wisdom.”

Stafford moved to Arrowsic in 1943 and was an active member of the town, having started the Ladies Auxiliary of Arrowsic Fire Department during World War II, before the fire department was even formed and which purchased Arrowsic’s first pumper and fire truck. Once it was formed, she served as secretary of the Arrowsic Fire Department for many years. In her honor in 2019, Arrowsic christened a new fire truck in her name.

Her minutes also reveal a bit about Milly. After the minutes of the Nov 30, 1980 meeting, Milly added this note: “Just for the record—no member of the Fire Department got his or her deer this year. The excuses were numerous. Let’s hope they are better fighting fires than they are hunting deer.” When the fire chief forgot a regularly scheduled meeting and showed up late, the minutes noted: “The next meeting will be at Chief Alter’s house, March 1 at 6 pm. He may forget, but he won’t be late.”

Her granddaughter had this to say about her Grammy: “She taught me to broaden my mind and would challenge my way of thinking at times to teach me to be a woman of conviction and clarity. She taught me and most of my cousins to hunt. She showed us that you don’t hunt more than you can eat and to honor the animal for their sacrifice. We were taught compassion and wisdom in her way many of us didn’t realize until well into our adulthood.”

“Grammy lived life with perspective my pastor would call discernment. She had a vision and lived her life as such. Her heart was given to us, her passion shared with everyone and those who were lucky enough to have known and respected and adored her.”

Stafford also served on Arrowsic’s conservation committee, school board and long-range planning committee, and she served as the town historian.

A Legislative Sentiment is a significant expression by the Legislature in recognition of civic and public achievements. In attendance in the Senate on Tuesday were her son, Lee Stafford; her granddaughter, Tina Stafford; Arrowsic residents and friends Mike Kreindler and Michele Gaillard; Arrowsic Selectwoman and friend, Sukey Heard; and Arrowsic’s State Representative, Allison Hepler, D-Woolwich.



Dedication of Engine 1 to Milly Stafford



Sen. Eloise Vitelli, Tina Stafford, Lee Stafford, Michael Kreindler, Michele Gaillard, Sukey Heard, and Rep. Allison Hepler

—Eloise Vitelli

From the Select Board

Arrowsic is Looking for a New Codes Enforcement Officer

After nearly 20 years serving as Arrowsic's Codes Enforcement Officer, Michael Kreindler has decided to step down. Consequently, the Select Board is looking for someone to fill this important municipal position. In Arrowsic, the CEO works with landowners to ensure that land use activity and development follow the standards established by our local zoning ordinances in a fair and consistent manner.

We are seeking someone who is interested in the island's quality of life and enjoys diverse challenges that include the technicalities of plumbing and construction as well as issues related to land use and the environment.

This is a part-time salaried position, ideal for someone who is looking for supplemental employment, involving a combination of administrative work, ongoing education and personal interaction. Training and support are available. If you or anyone you know, might be interested in filling the role, please let us know. We are happy to answer all your questions. For more information contact Sheila Spear at admin@arrowsic.org.

And a Deputy Tax Collector

We are also looking for a Deputy Tax Collector. This is a part-time, back-up position, for times when Jon Biehler, the Tax Collector is away. It does not require prior experience, though it requires accuracy with numbers, comfort with computers and, equally important, a positive attitude toward working with people and helping them with their registrations and property taxes. Training will be provided.

If you or someone you know would be interested in being the town's deputy tax collector, please contact one of the select board members for more information. Or come to Town Hall during office hours and see how the whole process works. Jon will be happy to answer any questions.

Maine Birthday Potluck

Come and join us! You are cordially invited to our cabin-fever-reliever-community-dance and potluck party inspired by Maine's 200th birthday on Saturday, March 14th 2020 at the Arrowsic Fire Station at 5:00pm.

A great opportunity to meet members of our community, share good food and listen to the wonderful traditional New England music. Seats will be set up for folks of all ages to watch and listen! Arrowsicans who know say that contra-dance is something you must do at least once in your life! Because it's fun and easy! It is a *country dance*! And it is for all ages and anyone can try it. A caller leads the dancers with simple easy steps to live music by our own "Arrowsic String Band".



Bring your own place settings, including: napkin, silverware, plate, bowl, and cup for your entire family. Let's make this a zero-waste event. To sign up for a dish to bring, go to: <https://tinyurl.com/s2v89lr>.

Arrowsic One of Four Maine Areas Awarded Grants for Broadband

Representatives of the USDA Rural Development program formally announced \$9.87 million in grants to four Maine towns and areas to develop high speed internet services at the Arrowsic Fire House, January 30th.

USDA Deputy Under Secretary D.J. LaVoy spoke of the need to overcome a looming 'digital divide' between urban and rural areas. Noting the crucial role the department's Rural Development program played in the 1930s to bring electricity and telephones to small communities throughout the country, he said the current grants would bring high speed internet to over 4,500 households and 200 businesses in the four areas.



Arrowsic Broadband's Don Kornrump, Ken Hnottavange Telleen and Will Neilson



Gov. Janet Mills

Welcoming the grant, Governor Janet Mills noted: "High-speed internet is no longer a luxury; it is an economic necessity. This significant federal investment builds on the work done by the state to help connect our small, rural communities to high-speed internet and open new doors of opportunity for their residents. As we work to strengthen and diversify our economy, building out our broadband capacity will play an important role and this funding represents another welcome step forward."

Representatives of Senator Collins and King and Representatives Pingree and Golden praised the hard work by the local volunteers who made the grants possible.

Representatives from the four areas, Arrowsic, Monhegan, Roque Bluffs, and a consortium of nine towns in Oxford County, spoke of what the availability of reliable high speed internet will mean for their residents, businesses, schools, and social services.



TV Cameramen from Portland Stations (all photos by Sheila Spear)

Arrowsic was on the news that evening as the event was covered by all the local TV networks and newspapers, including the following:

Portland Press Herald: <https://tinyurl.com/vc76fcb>

Working Waterfront: <https://tinyurl.com/vt4erz3>

Newscenter Main: [USDA announces nearly \\$10 million broadband investment in Maine communities](https://www.usda.gov/press-releases/2018/01/30/USDA-announces-nearly-10-million-broadband-investment-in-Maine-communities)

Maine Public: <https://tinyurl.com/qloypja>

WMTW: <https://tinyurl.com/skvy8zk>

WGME: <https://tinyurl.com/w2jwbwu>

—Tom Spear

History Hiding in the Town's Valuation Rolls

Who'd have thought that valuation books could provide fascinating reading? We took a collection of Arrowsic's documents to Patten Free Library's History Room a year or so ago. They were of historical importance to the town but we felt they would be safer in the library. They include, for example, one authorizing the first town meeting, to be held on "tuesday the 23rd day of March 1841 at ten o'clock in the fore noon", and spelling out the same rules for posting the warrant that we follow to this day. We anticipated that they would probably do little more than gather dust on the shelves, and were grateful to the library for taking them.

We were wrong. The history room's director, Robin Haynes, took a deep dive into the town's Valuation Rolls from the late nineteenth and first half of the twentieth centuries, and revealed some unexpected insights hiding away there. The rolls list the value of land and homes, as you might expect, but did you know that livestock and poultry might be exempted from taxation?

Personal Property	No.	Av. Value	Total Value
TAXABLE LIVESTOCK AND POULTRY			
Horses and Mules,	9	50+	490
Colts, 3 to 4 years old,			
Colts, 2 to 3 years old,			
Colts, under 2 years old,			
Cows,	38	42	1595
Oxen,			
Three years old,			
Two years old,	6	17+	105
Sheep (over 35 in number),			
Swine (over 10 in number),			
Poultry (over 50 in number),	140	.50	70
Total Amount,			2260
EXEMPT LIVESTOCK AND POULTRY			
One year old,	4	12	48
Sheep (to 35 in number),	18	4	72
Swine (to 10 in number),			
Poultry (to 50 in number),	308	.50	154
Total Amount,			274

All Other Kinds of Personal Property	No.	Value
Railroad Stock, Shares		
Railroad Bonds,		
Other Bonds,		
Gas Companies' Stock, "		
Water Companies' Stock, "		
Electric Light Companies' Stock, "		
Other Companies' Stock, "		
Money at Interest,		
Stock in Trade,		
Shipping, Tons		
Small Boats,	3	785
Logs, Ft. B. M.,		
Pulp Wood, Cords,		
Lumber, Ft. B. M.,	1600	1150
Wood and Bark, Cords,		
Estates held in Trust,		
Carriages,		
Tractors,	6	1100
Automobiles,		
Musical Instruments,	9	365
Radios,	27	590
Furniture,		
Finished Products in Mills,		
Unmanufactured Materials in Mills,		
Portable Mills and Machinery,	8 horse engine	375
Other Property,		875
Amount,		
Amount Live Stock and Poultry brought forward,		2260
*Total Amount Personal Property,		7500

Many smaller domestic items were deemed worthy of the tax collector's interest too. Robin noticed the line for musical instruments, which gradually came to include phonographs, then radios, and eventually televisions, and by going through them over the years, she was able to trace the spread of radio and television broadcasting to the homes of our Arrowsic forebears.

As a family historian, among the sources I have loved to find are town records with details of my ancestors. My great grandfather on my father's side was a hairdresser, in Falkirk, Scotland in the middle of the nineteenth century. Old maps, census reports and town valuation records provided the clues I needed to help me to track down precisely in which building on Falkirk High Street he had his business.

—Sheila Spear

Crucial Conversations

An interested group of 16 residents from Arrowsic, Georgetown and Bath attended our **AHA!** meeting at the Town Hall and listened to a presentation by Health Officer Christine Woodman on Medical Advocacy, Durable Power of Attorney for Health Care, Health Care Proxy, and Palliative Care. She also covered such topics as Hospice Care, Physician's Orders for Life Sustaining Treatment (POLST), Advanced Directives/Living Will, Organ Donation, and Medical Aid in Dying.

Palliative Care is designed to ease your pain and other symptoms during a serious chronic illness that is not yet life-threatening without giving up curative treatments. Hospice care, on the other hand, does not attempt to cure the illness but provides comprehensive comfort care and family support.

If and when you are incapable of speaking for yourself during a serious medical situation or at the end of your life, you need someone you can trust to advocate on your behalf. Legal tools are available to assist you in this situation: Advanced Directive for unexpected events and POLST for specific care during an advanced serious illness. These tools help those who care for you to know about your values and decisions.

Challenging topics to talk about for many of us, some may want to prolong life regardless of the possibility of recovery. Others may want to refuse medical measures if the chances of recovery are poor. It is your choice but unless you put it in writing your caretakers won't be allowed to act accordingly.



Informal Discussions at the AHA! Presentation

Christine also offered individual advice and provided the following resources: Legal Services for the Elderly Helpline at 1-800-750-5353, CHANS Home Health and Hospice Brunswick 207-729-6782, Outpatient Palliative Care Drs. DeMars and Dumont 207-373-6125, Brunswick Respite Care 207-729-8571, Spectrum Generations 1-800-639-1553 or 207-729-0475.

Christine added a few book recommendations like “This Chair Rocks”, “Being Mortal”, and “You are Going to Die”. This description may sound gloomy but the atmosphere during our conversation was that of adults looking for crucial information, wanting to take charge of their lives in medical situations. With additional questions please contact Christine at cwoodman@arrowsic.org.

—Karin Sadtler

Picture This?



What's This?

It's the day after a torrential April downpour, and the river swells with snow-melt. As the spring tide reaches its peak, a flood of water covers Route 127 at the Causeway. The Arrowsic Fire Department arrives to manage the traffic of residents and visitors traveling along the only road in and out of town.

Many Arrowsic residents have experienced some version of this. As their tires splashed through the water, they may have even wondered whether it's been happening more often, how high the water rises along the road, if it's affecting shoreline vegetation or what these floods mean for safe passage in the future. (<http://gulfofmaine.kingtides.net/>)

These are all critical questions the Arrowsic Conservation Commission hopes to address with a tide-monitoring project similar to [Harpwell's King Tide Impacts](#).

So far, the ACC has installed five posts on Spinney Mill, Sirois, Mill Island and Indian Rest roads. Four more will be placed this spring along Route 127 by the Causeway and Fisher's Eddy. The locations mark areas where the road has flooded in the past.

These four-by-four wooden posts serve as platforms for taking photographs during high water events, such as king and spring tides and following major storms. Using the posts—as opposed to standing on the side of the road in random spots—helps ensure photos are taken from the same height, place and angles each time. Reliable data is key!

The ACC is seeking volunteers willing to "adopt" a post and take time-stamped photos from eight different angles (conveniently, the platform's cap is an octagon) during peak tide events. Photos can then be uploaded to [the Picture Post project](#). An astronomical tide calendar will be made available to volunteers, and email and text alerts will be sent when a flooding event is likely to occur. Specific instructions on how to take the photos and where to send them are attached to each post, but training will also be provided.

Anyone interested in learning more about the project or volunteering as a citizen scientist should email slrmonitoring@arrowsic.org.

—Jesse McMahon and Clarke Cooper

Democratic Primary Results

Joe Biden	69	Amy Klobuchar	2	Deval Patrick	0
Elizabeth Warren	43	Pete Buttigieg	1	Tom Steyer	0
Bernie Sanders	30	Cory Booker	0	Andrew Yang	0
Michael Bloomberg	13	Tulsi Gabbard	0	other	0

Republican Primary Results

Donald Trump	28
other	13

Referendum Results

Yes	33
No	204

Notes and Notices

Talk on Holt Forest

On Thursday April 9th at 7:00 pm, the Arrowsic Conservation Commission in cooperation with Holt Research Forest is sponsoring a presentation in the Town Hall by resident scientist Jack Witham. A slide show will describe the 37-year research program conducted by University of Maine researchers, highlight some of the significant findings, and provide some insights into future directions for the forest.

Holt Research Forest (HRF) is a 300-acre oak-pine forest located on Old Stage Road and stretches from the Back River to Sewall Pond. Topics will include a brief history of HRF, past and future objectives of the project, the invasion of black-legged ticks, relationship between tree seeds and small mammals, bird response to forest harvesting, deer impacts on tree regeneration and forest floor herbs, climate change considerations, and other topics.



If time and technology permits, we will end the program with a short video about HRF produced by Arrowsic native Charlie Hudson.

—*Jack Witham for the Conservation Commission*

Broadband Update

Since USDA's exciting announcement at the Fire House January 30, the town's broadband task force and Select Board have been plunging into the details of the Arrowsic award. While we await notification from USDA that they've completed the environmental review, the task force is reviewing alternative legal and accounting options for the broadband operations and is also preparing the Request for Proposal for fiber system construction that must be issued once the USDA documentation is signed. A system operator (ISP) and independent engineering advisor must also be chosen. After the environmental review is complete, construction should start within 6 months, but that depends on construction companies' schedules and the responsiveness of the USDA. Lots of documentation and paperwork is involved!

—*Will Neilson, Don Kornrumpf and Ken Hnottavange-Telleen for Arrowsic Broadband*

Arrowsic Scholarship Deadline

Calling all 2019-2020 High School Seniors!

The Town of Arrowsic is currently accepting scholarship applications from high school seniors planning to attend post-secondary education programs this year, including university, college, vocational and trade school options. Eligible students will each receive \$2,000 to be formally voted on at the upcoming Town Meeting. Scholarships are not need based, and gap year students are encouraged to apply.

Deadline for submissions is Wednesday, April 1, 2020. The scholarship application is available online at <http://arrowsic.org/education.html>. For more information or to inquire about making a donation to the Arrowsic Scholarship Fund, please email education@arrowsic.org.

—*Camille Kauffunger for the Education Committee*

Road Posting

The town will be posting town roads sometime in the next month. Posting prohibits trucks over 23,000 lbs GVW. This includes most tractor trailers, concrete trucks, dumpster trucks, heavy equipment truck/trailers, etc. The roads will be posted until late April/early May. Please plan accordingly.

—*Jim Stump for the Roads Commission*

Recycling

The University of Maine Cooperative Extension is currently offering a Greenhouse Plastic Recycling Program. Collection of low-density polyethylene #4 (LDPE #4) clear plastic agricultural plastic will be offered this spring at several convenient drop off locations across the state. This recycling opportunity is free. Please spread the word to local farmers and growers! Click [here](#) for more information.

—*Katie Smith for the ARSWC*

Nurse's Notes

Wow, it is wonderful to see the sun getting brighter! And flu season is still “in session”. To protect against flu and colds, follow these guidelines:

- Cover your sneeze and cough into your elbow. The kids have been doing this in schools for years and it's time for us adults to wise up.
- Wash hands by the golden rule: when you come home, when you eat, when you cook, when you use the bathroom, whenever. The more the better. Soap and water is best. Hand sanitizer if nothing else available. Wash and Rub a full minute.
- Never touch your face, nose, or eyes with bare hands. Use a tissue or even your sleeve to wipe your eyes. Rubbing your eyes after coming in contact with an infected person is one of the most common ways to catch a cold. A virus can quickly spread throughout the body by traveling into the tear ducts.
- Avoid shaking hands; smiles and friendly greetings are fine.

And for Maine CDC guidelines for that other scary virus go to <https://tinyurl.com/yx32bekb>.

CPR training is available to all in the community, at the Midcoast Parkview campus. “Friends and Family,” available through the American Heart Association, is 90 minutes long and costs only \$10 per person. We run sessions every 3 months, and if enough folks sign up, we can hold classes more frequently. Make a difference and become a “Lifesaver.” Call 373-6000 and ask for the AHA training coordinator.

All the best to you, Arrowsic folks! Stay safe and healthy.

—*Christine Woodman, Health Officer*

UMaine Tick Surveillance Program Annual Report – 2019

The University of Maine Tick Surveillance Program has just released its annual report for ticks collected in 2019. The number of ticks they collected surged this year, spurred on by the same cool moist spring that brought a massive decline in brown tail moth populations.

While there are fifteen different species of ticks in Maine, 76% of the ticks collected were deer ticks (*Ixodes scapularis*, 39% of which tested positive for Lyme disease, 8% for anaplasmosis, and 6% for babesiosis, all of which are on the rise in Maine.

The largest number were collected in October-November with a lesser surge in April-June. Most were collected from humans, and were found most often on the legs, torso, arms, and heads. The most common activities were gardening 38%, walking 20%, hiking 10%, playing outside 8%, running and sports 3%, but only 2% hunting/trapping and 3% occupational activities. For the full report, see <https://tinyurl.com/tlnbjj4>.

—with thanks to Paul Schein

Mid-Coast Maine History Lecture Series

A lecture series ‘Celebrating 200 Years of Maine History, 1820-2020’ will be held throughout the year, sponsored by the Bath Historical Society, Kennebec Estuary Land Trust, Maine’s First Ship, Maine Maritime Museum, Patten Free Library, and Sagadahoc Preservation Inc.

March 28: Robin A.S. Haynes, “Reading William Wadsworth’s Diary: Bath in the 1860s,” Patten Free Library at 10:30.

April 18: Earl Shettleworth, Jr., “The Many Faces of William King, Maine’s First Governor,” Patten Free Library at 10:30.

April 21: Candace Kanen, “Thousands of Voices: Seeking the Vote for Maine’s Women,” Patten Free Library at 6:30.

May 7: Amy Cole Ives & Tony Castro, “A Mystery Solved: Reconstructing the Lost Ornamental Paint Scheme at the Winter Street Church,” Winter Street Center at 6:00.

May 11: Anne Gass, “Voting Down the Rose: Florence Brooks Whitehouse and Maine’s Fight for Women’s Suffrage,” Patten Free Library at 6:30.

June 4: Dr. Jeffrey Brain, “The Virginia in Context: The History and Archaeology of Popham Colony and Fort St. George,” Bath Freight Shed at 6:30.

June 11: Margaret Wilson, “Norumbega Navigators,” Bath Freight Shed at 6:30.

FREE TAX PREP – IRS CERTIFIED VOLUNTEERS

SAVE MONEY

at Tax Time



File your taxes for **free** and get information about **classes, savings, and other resources.**

- ✓ If your household income was less than \$56,000 in 2019, you likely qualify
- ✓ Learn if you qualify for the Earned Income and Child Tax Credits
- ✓ Use direct deposit for a faster refund
- ✓ Explore ways to make the most of your money
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Call 2-1-1 or visit cashmaine.org
to find a location near you.

CASH Maine is a statewide collaboration of ten coalitions, comprised of 50 non- and for-profit partners, working together to help empower Maine individuals and families to achieve long-term financial stability.



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Arts

Bos'n (1990-1998)

By

Lesley M. White (1939-2015) 1998

Bos'n was a dog with a certain flair:
He had slanty brown eyes and long white hair.
Though his disposition left some to be desired,
He was a better guard than any man we could have hired.
Sometimes he was loving and liked to snuggle up,
But was brave and dauntless even as a pup.
He ruled the house with an iron paw
And things had to be the way he saw.
At times he would growl when he didn't like the scene
And when he had a rawhide, could be very mean.
He often stole a towel to trade for a treat;
He slept upside-down in his very own seat.
We disparted of hair all around the house;
One night he even caught a mouse!
He would sit on our laps like those little hounds,
Even though he weighed in at seventy-five pounds.
Bos'n went for rides in our "89" truck –
If you wished peace and quiet you were sheer out of luck!
He ran around the back, barking at each car
Letting everybody know that he was the star.
We treated that dog just as a little child –
Like a toddler of two, he wasn't always meek and mild.
But he stole our hearts with his tricks and winning ways;
We'll always remember those eventful "Bos'n Days".



Once Upon a Time

Once, there was a time when I would stay up late,
after we put our son to bed and sit with my wife
curled up next to me either reading, talking or
slack-jawed in front of the TV.

A pretty average American family. Nothing terribly out of the ordinary.
We had a nice home, a healthy child, two cars, good jobs, and good friends.
But sometimes, often it seems, things go off the tracks.
That's what happened, we went off the tracks and it all fell apart.

Those were some hard years filled with anger, disappointment, and deep sadness.
But, in time we all adapted.
She better than me, I suspect, because she is now curled up with another,
and I'm curled up with a cat.
We raised a fine young man, we watched him finish high school and college.
And we've watched him range out on his own to find his own place in this world.

I'm okay with it all, it's called life.

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The Arrowsic Arrow is Arrowsic's independent newsletter, produced through the efforts of volunteers. The newsletter is published three times a year in March, July, and November. The Arrow is primarily distributed via e-mail to all those on the Town of Arrowsic email list or on paper to those who are unable to access them online. The Town covers any costs for paper and postage. All articles and notices are welcome. Notices should be limited to 100 words. The Arrowsic Arrow Editorial Group: Bob Kalish, Karin Sadtler, and Tom Spear. Contact: Tom Spear, tspear@wisc.edu, 386-1475

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