

The Arrowsic Arrow

Election Follow-up:

Municipal Elections

Following the November 6th election which included a municipal vote (school consolidation) in addition to the state referendum, questions were raised regarding who is eligible to vote in municipal elections and under what circumstances. The Selectmen consulted the lawyers at Maine Municipal Association who informed us that only registered voters in the town are qualified to vote on any municipal warrants. It had previously been our understanding that property owners, whether registered to vote in the town or not, were able to vote on municipal questions which involved the expenditure of town funds. Please be aware that in all future elections, including Town Meetings, voters registered in Arrowsic will be allowed to vote. We are sorry for the confusion.

School Regionalization

Please note that due to the passage of LD910 (the bill to regionalize Union 47 towns with Bath), there will be **ANOTHER election on January 29th** to choose *new* School Board members for the new region. There will be a formal campaign and ballot process, something quite foreign to Arrowsic. Nomination papers are available for interested candidates at the Union 47 office in West Bath with a deadline of December 17.

The Town has been divided into two districts, one including some of Arrowsic, Woolwich and Bath (District 3) and the other including some of Arrowsic and Bath (District 6). Maps of the new "Regional School Unit #1" are available at Town Hall, the Patten Free Library, the Union 47 office and Bath City Hall.

Until the new school unit takes effect July 1, the Arrowsic School Committee will continue their excellent job of overseeing our educational system here in town.

If you feel it is important to have an Arrowsic representative on the new Board, it is vital that all Arrowsic voters participate in the election on January 29th. Voters can request an absentee ballot if they will not be able to get to Town Hall to vote on Election Day, January 29th.

Honors Garden

A few weeks after Lillian Gowen died, Millie Stafford approached the selectmen with a request for planting a hydrangea bush, on town property, to honor Lillian. Out of this request came the idea of an 'Honors Garden'. The Selectmen have asked The Properties Committee to lead the effort in creating such a garden between the Town Hall and the

Little Fire Barn The first planting will be done this coming spring in honor and in memory of Lillian Gowen.

Future plantings will be at the request of individuals who donate a tree or shrub in honor of a friend, family member, or group they wish to honor. One town resident, for example, has offered to donate a shrub in honor of the Arrowsic Volunteer Fire Department members. Donations of money for maintaining the Garden have also been made.

Ann Ater, Millie Stafford and Betty Wilson are leading this effort and have met with local landscape professional to begin the planning and design of the Garden. Included were Sandy Weiss, John Hinds, Jeremy Blaiklock and Mark Jorgensen. As a result of the meeting, Mark donated his and his company's time and talent cleaning up brush, moving rocks, leveling ground and seeding both on the front corner land, as well as around and behind Town Hall.

Those who are interested in helping with the this exciting project and want to volunteer, for maintenance, such as watering, weeding, planting and/or making a money donation for maintaining the Garden, or when you are ready to donate a plant in honor of a friend, family member or group, see or call Ann, Millie, Betty or any selectmen. Ann Ater 443-1519, Millie Stafford 443-5832, Betty Wilson 443 -6970, Larry Wilson 443-6970, Sukey Heard 443-6768, Michele Gillard 442-7443

News from the Solid Waste Committee

The committee is analyzing data regarding the effect of single stream recycling and will present a summary to residents as this information becomes available. Please reduce, reuse, recycle – A few things to remember: 1) Single stream recycle: Don't put recyclables out in plastic bags; plastic bags are not allowed in single stream. 2) Look for codes on broken plastic housewares, tools, toys, clean pots, etc. Separate the coded plastic from metals, wood, and other impurities; then place plastic parts in single stream. Ask for help with disassembly if you need it. 3) Recycle- Identify the recyclables which don't go in single stream and set them aside to recycle properly instead of putting them in trash. (One example- larger metal objects). See the guide referred to below for more examples. 4) Reduce- Buy durable products rather than disposable or flimsy ones. 5) Find new safe ways to reuse products and parts. If you cannot reuse a specific item, perhaps you know someone who can. Donate unwanted items to swap barns, Goodwill, Salvation Army, etc. 6) Household hazardous waste: Try non toxic methods before buying toxic products. To minimize HHW, go in on purchase with friends, use up leftovers when appropriate, and offer leftovers to friends for appropriate use. ***Please remember that the new energy-efficient compact fluorescent bulbs contain mercury; put them with other universal waste and take them to West Bath drop off or Bath landfill.*** The city of Bath published a helpful, comprehensive solid waste guide in September. Look for excerpts in Arrowsic recycling shed or go to www.cityofbath.com and find solid waste in department of public works section of city government. Guide is

fragmented on the website, so you have to look through sections such as: HHW, single stream, etc. Call H. Baker, J. Hinds, R. McLean, or L. Ware with questions.

From The Arrowsic School Board

In the wake of our referendum on school consolidation, we thought it would be helpful to inform you about the implications of LD910 for our community.

Governance

By affirming LD910, the towns of Arrowsic, Bath, Phippsburg, West Bath and Woolwich will now form RSU#1 (Regional School Unit #1), and we will elect representatives to a Board on January 29, 2008. Arrowsic is a part of 2 districts, so we could have 2, 1, or 0 Arrowsic residents on the RSU board. Currently, Francie Tolan (District 3) and Tim Harkins (District 6) have taken out papers to run for the board.

The Arrowsic School Board and the U47 Joint Board continue to carry out their duties until the transition to the RSU takes place on July 1, 2008.

School Choice

All residents of the RSU now enjoy school choice within the RSU. This means that families living in Arrowsic will be able to send their children to any school located in the municipalities that are part of RSU#1. If space is an issue at any school, first priority goes to residents of that municipality, and second to Arrowsic students. With declining enrollment region-wide, it's unlikely that space will come into play in the foreseeable future.

Children who are currently attending schools outside the region will continue to be able to attend those schools, as will their siblings. The tuitioning arrangement for schools outside the region will remain the same, although the portion that is currently funded by Arrowsic will now be the responsibility of the RSU.

Georgetown did not approve LD910, so they are not part of the new RSU. As with any other school outside the RSU, only children who currently attend Georgetown Central School and their siblings may continue to go there at RSU#1's expense.

School Budget

A budget will now be determined for the entire region by the RSU board and approved by a region-wide referendum. Arrowsic's portion of the budget will be based on three factors: 1/3 Property Valuation, 1/3 Pupil Count, and 1/3 Population.

As we get more information we will do our best to report back to the community. Any questions you may have, whether general or specific to your children, please do not hesitate to give us a call. Francie Tolan (Chair) 443-4893, Walter Briggs 443-3285, Tim Harkins 442-8134

Georgetown Central School

It's hard to believe that winter is here already! Unlike last year, we have lots of snow to play in at recess. Drive by any day and you'll surely hear the screams of delight as children sled down the hill out back!

Thank you to Bob and Sharon Trabona for donating the Kousa Dogwood that stands where the birches used to in the garden by the town office doors.' All of our birch trees had to be removed because of birch bores and we had been debating what type of trees to replace them with. The Dogwood has settled in nicely and we know it's going to grow into a beautiful tree!

On November 9th we held a Veteran's Day assembly to honor those who have served our country. Mike Frelk from the Smith-Tobey Post in Bath joined us and spoke to the students about the Healing Fields project in Bath. I hope you got to see the flags that weekend; it was a spectacular sight.

A chess club got started in November, thanks to the interest of Hal Bonner. With David Guise helping out, Hal improved the chess skills of 8-10 students each week. A tournament will be held at the Patten Free Library in mid-December.

Our annual Thanksgiving Dinner was held on November 16th. Kitchen chef Sandi Clark did a wonderful job as always!

You might have noticed a new state flag flying out in front of the school. Mrs. Irving's fifth grade class wrote to Representative Bruce McDonald and asked him if he could donate a new flag to the school because ours was in poor condition.' Representative McDonald was happy to help and we were very grateful!

Many thanks to Nancy Barney, Sarah Kulis, and Lisa Crosby for helping us when our Librarian Megan Fuller left us earlier than we expected for her maternity leave. Without Nancy's help and the work of many parent volunteers, I don't know that we could have managed the Scholastic Book Fair or the many books that needed to be reshelfed!

We welcomed six preschoolers and their parents to school on November 29th for our first Teamwork for Kids night. This monthly activity helps four-year-olds get used to our staff and the school through music, songs, dance, and art activities.

I hope many of you stopped by on the evening of November 30th for a spaghetti supper and dessert auction. Proceeds benefited our sixth grade class who will be canoeing the West Branch of the Penobscot River this spring. Many thanks to the people who helped with the cooking, donated desserts, and helped with the cleaning up. Combined with the summer-fall bottle collections around town, they have now reached their fund raising goal.

As the calendar year draws to a close, I'd like to express our gratitude to the many community members who help us throughout the year. Sometime the help is evident, such as a donated tree or an after school activity. Sometimes the help is more private, such as donated boots for students who do not have a pair, or the money to rent a musical instrument for a needy child who wants to learn. No matter what it is that kids need, someone always comes through for them. For that, we are deeply grateful.

There's never a dull moment around here. Stop by any time!

FROM THE GUIDANCE COUNSELOR

I would like to add a huge thank you to our generous community members that helped us help 13 families for Thanksgiving as well as made the holidays a little brighter this season. A special thanks to the Community Center and Georgetown Recreation Committee for donating toys to families in need.

We are starting archery in January and fishing in February, with a fishing derby to be held on February 15th.

Committee Members Needed

There are or will soon be three vacancies among our town committees that we would appreciate if you would consider as a service to the Town. The Planning Board which meets once a month on the first Monday is in need of an alternate member. The Properties Committee is in need of two new members and meets once a month on the third Tuesday.

The Planning Board alternate is a "bull pen" position that provides an opportunity to learn the purpose, procedures and actions of the Board to be prepared to move up when there is a regular member vacancy. An alternate member attends all meetings and is allowed to vote if there aren't sufficient regular members for a quorum. Please consider helping our town remain a very desirable place to live by volunteering for this important position. Call Roger Heard at 443-6768 if you are interested.

The Properties Committee has the responsibility of maintaining our town buildings and grounds. This committee is responsible for projects like our recent ADA compliance construction, painting contracts, cleaning town hall, small repairs and construction projects, maintenance of furnaces and generators and now the Honors Garden (see "Honors Garden" article).

Present Properties Committee members are Bob and Ann Ater, Millie and George Stafford, Betty Wilson and Doug Ware. Bob and Ann have decided to leave the board this coming June after many years of service. To volunteer, or for more information call any of the Selectmen.

Arrowsic Alewife Restoration Project - Update

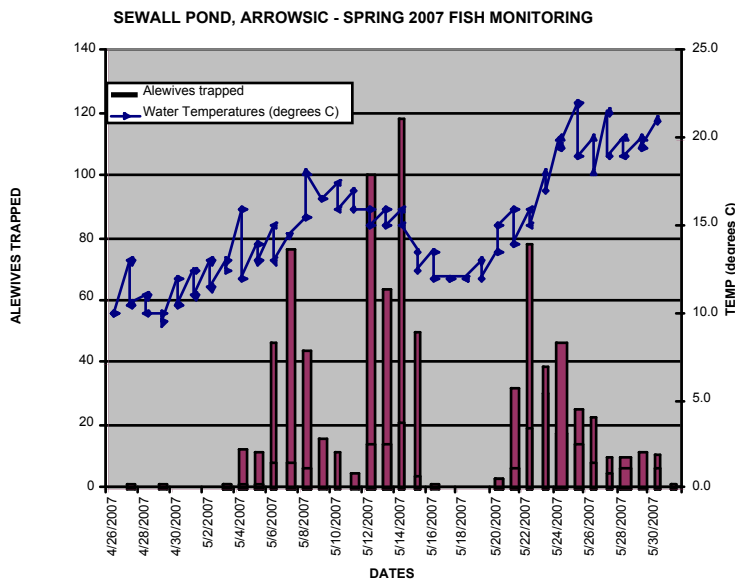
The Arrowsic Alewife Restoration Project was initiated during the fall of 2006. Residents in cooperation with several state and federal groups are working toward restoring the Arrowsic alewife run to its historic level. A summary of the project was given at the Town meeting. This is a brief summary of what has happened since.

From the end of April until the end of May, twelve volunteers sampled the in-migrating alewives. See figure for the results. Last summer several volunteers sampled Sewall Pond for zooplankton (microscopic crustaceans that juvenile alewives feed on) and water chemistry. This past September the same enthusiastic group of volunteers

that sampled adult in-migrating alewives sampled the out going juveniles.

Since the project began fall of 2006 several funding sources (Maine Corporate Wetlands Partnership, US fish and Wildlife and Fish America Foundation) have stepped up in support of the project. *Woodlot Alternatives Inc.* was hired to do a hydrologic survey and design for improved fish passage. Late September members of the Conservation Commission, Planning Board and Select Board meet with representatives of the Department of Marine Resources, US Fish and Wildlife, Army Corp. of Engineers, Natural Resource Conservation Districts, Department of Environmental Protection and Woodlot Alternatives to the review the project and gather the collective expertise of all these individuals. It was determined that Arrowsic residents and the co-habiting critters would be better served to include a mammal passage under Route 127 better as well. At this point the study for a box culvert with internal fish weirs and natural substrate culverts is being done.

There is a poster in the Town Hall for anyone who would like to learn more about the project. Anyone who would like to volunteer for sampling fish, zooplankton or water chemistry, please call 442-7533. It is very fun and you will get to learn a more about fish and your town.



Memories of the Arrowsic Schoolhouse 1917-1925

On August 6, 2007, Roy Ibra Lawrence was interviewed by Laurie Mann on behalf of the

Arrowsic Historical Society concerning his memories of attending the primary school in Arrowsic. A complete transcript of the interview is available from Millie Stafford or the Sagadahoc History room at the Patten Free Library.

Roy Ibra Lawrence is the 2nd of seven children born to Grace and Ibra Lawrence. He was born at home on the Old Stage Road (located about 1 mile south from Town Hall, on the right), on March 25, 1912.

At age five Roy and his sister Mary age 6 started school together so as to keep each other company on the one mile walk to school. Generally, it was a quiet, uneventful walk unless one of the Crosby brothers - who each owned a big touring car - drove by and offered them a ride.

Roy was 9 or ten years old when Maude Heyward the teacher gave Roy a job of starting the fires and sweeping the floor one hour before that start of school; for this he was paid 50 cents a week. The teacher tended the cast iron stove all day. Maude Heyward was from Woolwich and lived with her sister, Mrs. Charles Crosby, at the end of the Mill Island Road. She walked to and from school.

There were daily chores to do before leaving home for school: filling the wood box for his mother's cookstove and filling two 12 gallon pails at the well for her use during the day.

There were generally 28-30 students at school. The typical day would begin at 9am for the students with the teacher ringing a hand bell to call the children in. They'd line up by size, file in, hang coats in the entry and proceed to their desks - youngest in the front row, oldest in the back.

Reading, spelling and arithmetic were studied each day, with history and geography for the eighth graders. One grade would come forward, sit in the front row for instruction or stand for recitation or use the blackboard. Boys and girls were treated equally. The other children would work at their desks with books, pencils and paper supplied by the school.

The Lawrences usually bought sandwiches for lunch in handy 5 pound lard pails. Recess was informal, there was no equipment or teacher-organized games. The pond behind the school was a play area in the winter when it froze. School ended at 4pm. There was no homework because most children had chores to do after walking home.

Roy went on the Morse High School, for which he felt the Arrowsic School had prepared him well. His trek into Bath for which he was allowed one and one half hours time) took him over the wooden toll bridge from Arrowsic to Woolwich and over the Kennebec River on a Maine State Ferry. From his house, it was three and one half miles to the ferry landing in Woolwich. In 1928, the Carlton Bridge replaced the ferry, but most preferred the warm ferry ride as compared to the cold walk over the Carlton Bridge.

Roy graduated from Morse High School in 1929. Both he and his sister Doris graduated from the University of Maine in 1935. Mr. Lawrence lives in Brunswick.

From The Town Clerk

2008 Dog tags have arrived. Residents may come in to re-register their dogs. Residents with dogs six month or older, who are new to town or have a new pet can also license their pet. The old tag and renewal sticker system has been replaced with just tags (in the shape of the state of ME). Dogs will get a new tag, different color each year. Fees for neutered/spayed dogs have stayed the same. Male/female dogs are \$11. Please provide proof of rabies vaccination if we do not have a current one on file.

- Migratory waterfowl regulations have arrived.
- 2008/2009 Ice fishing regulations, effective 2007-3/31/08, are available at Town Hall.
- Change in snowmobile regulations: Snowmobile permanent registration numbers will no longer be required on snowmobiles and therefore will no longer be issued to snowmobile registrants. Instead the state is moving to sticker only system. All snowmobile registrations (even brand new ones) will receive permanent registration stickers. The registration you receive from the town will be the only one you will get. There will be nothing else from the department.

File of Life

The *File of Life* provides critical medical data when an individual is unable to do so. The File of Life form, which lists medications, medical conditions, and contacts is folded into a red plastic pocket with a magnet on it so it can be posted on an individuals refrigerator. In an emergency a first responder need only retrieve the file to be able to access existing medical needs. The form contains sufficient information to allow hospitals to access medical records without compromising any personal information. For more information call *SpectrumLink* 1-800-639-1553.

Arrowsic Trash & Recycling Calendar 2008

| | | | | | |
|-----------|----|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| January | | 11* | | 25* | |
| February | | 8* | | 22* | |
| March | 7* | | 21* | | |
| April | 4* | | 18* | | |
| May | 2* | | 16* | | 30* |
| June | 6 | 13* | 20 | 27* | |
| July | 3 | 11* | 18 | 25* | |
| August | 1 | 8* | 15 | 22* | 29 |
| September | 5* | | 19* | | |
| October | 3* | | 17* | | 31* |
| November | | 14* | | 28* | |
| December | | 12* | | 26* | |

* Denotes that curbside recycling is

picked up in addition to trash

November

Ames, S.
Ater, R.
Bassett, M.
Bertschy, M.
Blaaiklock, W.
Brett, J.
Brummer, K.
Elwell, R.
Elwell, R.
Forsleff, L.
Grill, C.
Harkins, E.
Jorgensen Land.
Kahrl, J.
Lee, D. (2)
Macleod, J.
Mann, J.
Orr, E.
Orr, W.
Rogers, J.
Rogers, R.
Roy, S.
Safford, G.
Schumaker, W.
Starbird, J.
Tarbox, C.
Thomas, K.
Tiee, UTD
Weiss, D.
Woodruff, M.

December

Brawn, P.
Bridge, C.
Brown, P.
Bryant, E.
Chaffee, J.
Chapin, B.
Cossart, E.
Davis, S.
Detwiler, B.
Elwell, F.
Elwell, M.
Elwell, R.
Elwell, R.A.
Fox, J.
Geiger, J.
Giles, S.
Gowell, R.
Kalish, R

Kalkstien, P.
Kane, J.
King, K.
Knowles, R.
Lebrun, L.
Levesque, R.
Mann, J.
Martin, M.
McClure, P.
Patzlaff, G.
Puff, D.
Stuart, S.
Sullivan, M.
Theodore S.
Wood, J.
Woodruff, P.

January

Arsenault, J.
Arsenault, M.
Belleville, R.
Bridges, C.
Briggs, J.
Brown, C.
Burdick, M.
Burke, J.
Carleton, J.
Dearie, W.
Dunn, F.
Gill, D.
Guckenburg, B.
Hardy, J.
Hart, J.
Higgins, R.
Hinds, J.
Robbins Consstruc.
Kalish, R.
Kane, M.
Maley, D.
Maley, K.
Martin, M.
Morse, D.
Neilson, P.
Puff, K.
Santree, R.
Santree, R.
Sullivan T.
Ware, D.
White, J.
Wood, J.

Democratic Caucuses

February 10 at 1pm
Town Hall