Sixty years is a long time. In 1954, when the Maine Lobstermen’s Association was established, no one had a computer in the house. Man had not walked on the moon. Polio was still a dreaded childhood disease and Sen. Joseph McCarthy’s hearings were in full swing. Dwight Eisenhower was President and the population of the United States was slightly more than 163 million people, compared to 317 million today.

The MLA was formed in 1954 largely due to the efforts of one man – Leslie Dyer. A Vinalhaven fisherman, Dyer thought that if lobstermen could get together and see themselves as part of something bigger, they could become a force to be reckoned with by lawmakers and dealers alike.

Dyer traveled the coast back in 1954 talking up the idea of a unified lobstermen’s group. In an interview with David Taylor in 1974, Dyer recalled some of
August is here and with it the dog days of summer. The phrase is associated with the "Dog Star" Sirius, which the Romans linked to the long hot days of late summer. Here in Maine, August is marked by a southwesterly breeze and the presence of offshore fog. And by the influx of shedder lobsters, which lobstermen eagerly await each year. This year's shedders are reported to be following a pattern more typical of years past, which will likely make August a busy month for lobstermen.

This month in Landings we take the opportunity to mark the 60th Anniversary of our sister organization, the Maine Lobstermen's Association (MLA). It was 1954 when a group of Downeast lobstermen decided that it might just be a good idea to band together. They hired Vinalhaven lobsterman Les Dyer as their first president and quickly became a force to be reckoned with on the coast. Sixty years later the MLA is going strong, despite the increasing complexity of the lobstering world. As part of its celebration, the MLA is holding a drawing for members who join by September 15 to win $1954!

We meet long-time MLA member Buzzy Kinney, who has been active in the lobster fishery for many years. One of the founders of the Spruce Head Co-op, Buzzy talks about how he came to believe that being a part of a group could accomplish more than speaking up on one's own.

MLA’s Navigator, April Gilmore McNutt, provides some helpful information for those who are struggling with how to use their health insurance policy now that they are paying for it. Whether it is finding a doctor or understanding how your policy works, April walks you through the steps of turning your health coverage into health care.

We also introduce the new executive director of the Maine Lobster Marketing Collaborative, Matt Jacobson. Jacobson has had a dynamic career in the Air Force, in railroads, and as the head of Maine & Co., a nonprofit organization that helped bring major companies to Maine. He talks about his work and the opportunities that have come his way over the years, and his motivation for taking on the challenging job of building demand for Maine lobster.

Geoff Irvine, executive director of the Lobster Council of Canada, gives an overview of the many activities taking place in the Maritime Provinces. The Council has created a brand for Canadian lobster and is working with provincial Legislatures to create legislation necessary to provide a penny a pound levy on lobster in order to fund a region-wide marketing program.

Landings taps into the deep pride that so many have in Maine's lobster industry. Columnist Christina Lemieux writes of the unbreakable link between lobstermen and their families. Daughter of a Cutler lobsterman, Lemieux points out the value of working hard when one is young, and the benefits which that work has given her as an adult.

Landings also delves into the different ways in which value can be added to the lobster landed in Maine. An entrepreneurial woman in Friendship, wife of a lobsterman, has found a sales niche that has turned into a howling success.

The Cranberry Isles Fisherman's Co-operative has also taken a step out into the marketing world, creating a new company to sell their lobster online. Little Cranberry Lobster is branding and marketing their lobster, and educating customers about the lobster industry and local fishermen.

In this issue you will also meet Clayton Howard, a Damariscotta lawyer who has served Maine’s fishing communities well for more than 40 years. Howard was instrumental in creating many of the state’s fishermen’s cooperatives, and has staunchly represented lobstermen individually and through the MLA over the years.

Landings also explores Operation Game Thief (OGT), which provides a confidential 24-hour, seven days a week hotline to call in tips about fisheries violations. Individuals may also file a tip on a secure Web site. OGT has been used by Maine’s Inland Fish and Wildlife Service, and is now being used by Maine’s Department of Marine Resources. Finally, in our continuing series “Voices” we hear the words of a Swan’s Island fisherman, Normie Burns. His reminiscences remind us that despite all that appears to be changing so rapidly in our world, some things, such as family, the respect of one’s friends and appreciating the quiet beauty of Maine, do remain the same.

I hope you enjoy this issue. We welcome your feedback and contributions.
MLA’s 56-Year-Old Consent Decree is Removed by U.S. District Court

By MLA Staff

On July 21, 2014, United States District Court Judge D. Brock Hornby signed an order terminating the Final Judgment entered into on August 5, 1958, imposing a consent decree against the Maine Lobstermen’s Association (MLA). The consent decree was based on a court finding that the MLA had engaged in price fixing, a violation of the Sherman Antitrust Act. The MLA worked with the U.S. Department of Justice (DOJ) over several years to make the case that the consent decree was no longer necessary and did not serve the public interest. The DOJ concurred with the MLA.

On June 25, the MLA had filed a motion in United States District Court for the District of Maine, unopposed, requesting termination of the final judgment. The Department of Justice filed a memorandum in this court supporting the MLA’s request.

Judge Hornby heard arguments from MLA counsel, Mary Anne Mason of Washington, D.C.-based Crowell & Moring, and DOJ counsel, Michele Cano, on why the court should remove the consent decree. During the court proceeding, Judge Hornby underscored the importance of the lobster industry to the state of Maine, the rich history of the MLA case, and the importance of this ruling to the state of Maine. Judge Hornby also talked about the esteemed career of Judge Gignoux, who imposed the final judgment on the MLA during his first year on the bench in 1958. After inquiring whether any adverse public comment or other information had been received by the DOJ, Judge Hornby concurred with the MLA and DOJ that termination of the decree would be in the public interest.

Judge Hornby issued a signed order from the bench that states, “The Court having received the motion of defendant Maine Lobstermen’s Association, Inc. (‘MLA’) for termination of the final judgment entered in this case on August 5, 1958 (“Final Judgment”), and the United States having represented to the Court that it has no objection to the motion, and the Court having considered all papers filed in connection with this motion, and the Court finding that it is in the public interest to terminate the Final Judgment, it is ordered, adjudged, and decreed: ‘That said Final Judgment is hereby terminated.”

“I felt like I was part of history to be present when this legal judgment, in place for nearly 60 years, was vacated,” said Patrice McCarron, MLA executive director. “It really is a breath of fresh air for the MLA.”

The MLA completed a strategic plan in 2009 which included reorganizing from a cooperative organization to a non-profit trade association, which better fits the MLA’s mission. Dissolving the consent decree will allow the MLA to move forward with this goal.

In 1979, the Department of Justice (DOJ) adopted a policy calling for consent decrees to sunset within ten years of entry. The DOJ would work with parties seeking to modify or terminate decrees entered prior to 1980 that contain no sunset provision where terminating them appeared to be in the public interest.

“In the case of the MLA, the consent decree has long ago achieved its purpose and is no longer needed to achieve compliance with the U.S. antitrust laws,” said Mary Anne Mason. “Moreover, the lobster fishing industry has changed fundamentally in the more than five decades since the Final Judgment was entered. During that time, federal and state environmental, economic, and fisheries management regulations have fundamentally altered the industry.”

The role of the MLA as an organization has evolved in response to these changes. The present MLA has no involvement in the commercial harvest, sale, or distribution of lobster. Rather, the MLA is a trade organization dedicated to advocacy for a sustainable lobster resource and the fishermen and communities that depend on it.

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I was so pleased to see that the organizer of this year’s Maine Lobster Festival chose to honor Maine’s hard-working lobstering families with their festival theme, Lobster Living: Celebrating the families behind the industry. Lobster fishing is, and always has been, a family affair. For my brother and I started working on the ocean. pack his lunch before he headed out She also woke up with my father at Booth’s Canning Company in Lubec. fetching truckloads of sardines from made the much-dreaded bait runs — and I were old enough to take over ed my father’s buoys until my brother played crucial roles in making his en- ther was always the captain—of the sternman.

I have always been fascinated by the familial aspects of lobster fishing. I not only dedicated the book I published in 2012 to the lobster fishing families of downeast Maine, but as I was writing the book I also researched the roles wives and children play in the lobster harvesting process. Of the downeast Maine fisher- men I surveyed, almost 80% have their children help out on the boat. I find this an amazing figure. We live in an age where many children do not know what their parents actually do for a living and more than 50% of the nation’s young workforce has never held a basic, paying job, according to a Bureau of Labor Statistics survey in 2010. The offspring of lobster fish- men, on the other hand, grow up en- gaged in the industry and idealizing their seafaring fathers. Your average pre-schooler passes the day play- ing princesses or Fireman Sam. The children of lobstermen ‘play’ lobster fishing in old skiff s parked in their parents’ front yards. By the time they graduate grammar school, many of them are fishing a small gang of traps from an outboard boat under the guidance of a father.

Even if they don’t go on to become full-time fishermen, these children enter adulthood equipped with cru- cial life skills needed to thrive in the mod- ern working world. While my brother has become a full-time lobster fisher- man, I work at an advertising agency in London. It is a long way from the shores of Cutler and the stern of a lobster boat! Should spend some time working on environment. Perhaps more children are entering the lobster industry for four genera- tions and she worked as a stern- man for her father. While her current career in advertising has taken her from Maine to London, she remains committed to the Maine lobster in- dustry through her writing, including her book How To Catch A Lobster In Down East Maine and her blog, MaineLobster.com.

Christina Lemieux Oragano grew up in Cutler, where her family has been in the lobster industry for four gen- erations and she worked as a stern- man for her father. While her current career in advertising has taken her from Maine to London, she remains committed to the Maine lobster in- dustry through her writing, including her book How To Catch A Lobster In Down East Maine and her blog, MaineLobster.com.

The offspring of lobster fishermen ... grow up engaged in the industry and idolizing their seafaring fathers.
Richard “Buzzy” Kinney, 73, of Spruce Head wasn’t always a lobsterman. He started out in 1960 working in a Rockland auto garage for $55 a week. “I didn’t own a car. My father drove me in on his way to work (in another garage). I had a daughter and a son, and I would just get caught up on bills and another kid would get sick. So after a few months, I asked for a raise,” said Kinney. “They gave me $3 a week more.”

That’s when he decided there had to be more to life and making a living, so he joined his father-in-law shearing sheep on Metinic, Big Green and Wooden Ball islands, and fishing the north end of Metinic. “Once you’ve worked outdoors and made a reasonable living, it’s hard to go back indoors,” he said. In 1970, he went to fish off Criehaven (Ragged Island) with his father-in-law and eventually bought out his share. Back then Kinney and his wife Eleonor and the children lived in a camp that was owned by his grandmother, but leased to Spruce Head Lobster Company. Later it became the site of the Spruce Head Fishermen’s Cooperative.

Kinney was there at the start of the co-op. “Around 1972, John Matheson was working for Sea Grant. He had graduated from Maine Maritime. He found me and talked to me about starting a fishing co-op,” said Kinney. “He took me to Stonington. We drove down in a Chevy Vega—the worst car in the world.” Later they called a meeting in the community hall in Spruce Head to see if there was interest in a coop. “My brother, Chad, had taken a Dale Carnegie course,” Kinney recalled. “He told me not to say ‘I’ but to say ‘we,’ so I tried to limit the use of ‘I’ during the meeting. We had 35 people who put up $200 to start the co-op.”

The co-op hired a bookkeeper, but things didn’t turn out quite right and so they decided to take the books to an accountant. “He was going to charge us $7,000 to $8,000 to fix it,” Kinney reported. “That’s when we found out about SCORE [which provides free business advice].” Norman McKenzie from Owls Head helped us negotiate and work with the accountant to fix it. What I learned is you can manage your own money, but when you have 40 fishermen, it’s a different ball game.

The co-op members decided to hire a business manager. “Robert Baines, Sr. [MLA board member Bob Baines’s father] was our neighbor. He was retired then, but he had worked with the Port Authority in New York.” Kinney continued. “They have all kinds of vendors there and he had to keep track of them. He put us on the right track,” Baines Sr. continued as the co-op’s general manager for more than 20 years. “He set us on the right road. We learned you can’t pay out all your profits. Baines set us up right. He was a firm leader.”

During its history, the co-op has kept the majority of its membership. “We buy several days each week then returns to Spruce Head. Photo by Nancy Griffin. Continued on page 23
By April Gilmore McNutt

Where! You certainly needed a lot of information in order to enroll in the health insurance program this past year. And now there’s more that you need to learn in order to make best use of your health insurance policy. You likely have many questions, such as: How do you use your insurance once you have it? How do you make sure your visit is covered, and make the most of your appointment time spent with your doctor?

That’s why The Center for Medicaid and Medicare recently launched a new nationwide initiative called Coverage to Care, to help consumers and all the newly insured get the information they need to know about their health insurance.

I’m sure we all agree that the process of enrolling in a health insurance plan can be overwhelming. It’s a big expense to pay each month, yet we know we need it to stay healthy and be ready for those “what if” situations. Over 44,000 Maine residents signed up for coverage during the open enrollment period that ended this past March.

Under the Affordable Care Act, all new plans must offer preventative services. Some plans offer preventative services at no cost such as colorectal cancer screening; flu shots and vaccinations; blood pressure and diabetes 2 screenings, just to name a few. And there are many other preventative services for adults and children that you may not realize are available.

Chronic diseases – such as heart disease, arteriosclerosis (which causes strokes), cancer, and diabetes – are among the most prevalent, costly, and preventable of all health problems. According to the Centers for Disease Control, 25 percent of all deaths in Maine in 2005 were due to cancer and up to 60 percent of deaths from colorectal cancer could be prevented if persons aged 50 and older were screened regularly. Access to high-quality and affordable preventative measures is an essential step in saving lives, reducing disability, and lowering costs for medical care.

Lots of people shy away from visiting a doctor because they suspect something is wrong and don’t want to hear bad news. That’s why these preventative care services are so important. They allow a doctor to identify a problem early so it’s easier and less expensive to address it. Most ACA plans offer a 24-hour, seven-days-a-week Nurse Line so you can call your insurance company anytime you have questions and need professional advice. Some plans offer three free visits for behavioral counseling and tobacco cessation services including nicotine replacement therapy at no cost to the plan holder. Some provide health programs with registered nurses, dietitians and therapists as health coaches to help you find the information you need to make the best medical decisions for you and your family.

Every health insurance policy comes with a “summary of benefits” which explains the cost of covered benefits, what the provider will pay for certain services, coverage limitations and exceptions. It also explains your plan deductible, co-pays and the co-insurance portion of services your provider will share with you. It is important that you read through this summary so that you understand how your health insurance plan works.

Knowing where to go for health care and finding a provider who works for you is also important. Every insurance provider has a “network” which is the group of hospitals and doctors with which the provider contracts. As the insured, you want to stay within that network to avoid paying out-of-network rates for services. Your insurance provider or an insurance Navigator can help you find a local doctor in your network.

If it’s your first time seeing a new doctor, call the office to find out what you need to bring with you to your appointment time. If you’ve been assigned a doctor from your insurance provider with whom you’re not comfortable, you may have options to change doctors. If you need to see a specialist, you may need a referral from your doctor before you do so in order to have that cost covered by the insurance provider. If you are not sure, simply call the number on your insurance card and speak with a representative from your insurer.

Medications and prescriptions are also a very important part of your coverage. Understanding what’s covered under your policy is crucial when choosing a plan. Prescriptions are typically put into four tiers ranging from generic to specialty. If you find that your specialty medication is too expensive, ask your doctor if there is a generic version that you could use instead, or if the pharmacy offers a discount program or savings club on monthly purchases. You may be able to buy a three-month supply to avoid paying multiple co-pays. There are also resources to help pay for prescriptions outside the pharmacy. Call your pharmacy or insurance company to get help connecting with available resources.

If you’re uninsured and missed the open enrollment deadline, you may still be able to sign up for coverage before the next open enrollment period begins in November. Call the MLA to see if you qualify for the Special Enrollment Period.

We all want to live a long and healthy life, so ask for help from your provider or contact a health insurance Navigator to learn how to make the most of your health insurance coverage. And if you have questions about how your plan works, you’re looking to enroll in a new plan or questions about using your current health insurance, please call the MLA office and we will help connect you with the most appropriate resources.
Maine Lobstermen’s Association

Advocating for a sustainable lobster resource and the fishermen and communities that depend on it since 1954.

President: David Coursen
So. Thomaston, 207.594.7518
1st VP: Tom Dear
Bass Harbor, 207.288.9846
2nd VP: Kristan Porter
Curlew, 207.259.3306
Sec/Treasurer: Arnold Gamage, Jr.
So. Bristol, 207.644.8110

Directors
Bob Baines, Spruce Head, 956.0177
Dwight Carrier, Beals, 497.2895
Gerry Cushing, Port Clyde, 372.6429
Jim Henderson, Camp Ellis, 468.4363
Robert Ingalls, Bucks Harbor, 255.3418
Mark Jones, Boothbay, 633.6054
Jason Joyce, Swan’s Island, 526.4109
Jeff Melvill, Islesford, 244.4187
Tad Miller, Machias, 372.0941
Valerie Spear, Yarmouth, 846.9279
Jay Smith, Nobleboro, 563.2508
Craig Stewart, Long Island, 846.3158
Elliot Thomas, Yarmouth, 846.6201
John Williams, Stonington, 367.2731
Donald Young, Cushing, 354.6484
Jack Young, Vinalhaven, 863.4905

Staff
Executive Director
Patrick McCarron
patrice@mainelobstermen.org

Navigator
April Cunliffe McNeil
aprilj@mainelobstermen.org

Executive Assistant
Sarah Paquette
sarah@mainelobstermen.org

Maine Lobstermen’s Association
203 Lafayette Center
Kennebunk, ME 04043
info@mainelobstermen.org
207.967.4555
www.mainelobstermen.org

MAINE LOBSTERMEN’S ASSOCIATION UPDATE

This year the MLA is celebrating 60 years of service to Maine’s lobstermen. This anniversary is truly staggering if you think about it. Existing for six decades is a feat in and of itself. But when your job is to remain a cohesive and effective organization while representing a group of staunchly independent businessmen spread across 3,500 miles of coast, keeping the doors open for 60 years is a true accomplishment.

There’s no doubt that the MLA has had its ups and downs over the years. But I would challenge anyone to disagree with the fact that because of the MLA the Maine lobster industry is in much better shape than it would have been otherwise. During 60 years, many issues related to lobstering have come and gone. Some have been easy to resolve, many more have been controversial and others have been painful. A lot of people, including lobstermen, have disliked the MLA position at different times. But regardless of which side of an issue you stand on, you can always count on the MLA to be honest, transparent and accountable for its actions. And I don’t say this lightly.

When your work is highly political and often controversial and it can affect people’s lives, you must pay attention to how you conduct yourself. The MLA has never forgotten why it was formed or who it is here to serve. We have never taken on work that does not directly benefit or affect Maine lobstermen and we have never missed our members. After all, the ends never justify the means. We are the oldest and largest fisheries organization in the state but still, the MLA has remained relatively small and certainly pretty nimble over the years, avoiding the trap of evolving into something other than what we were created for in the first place.

The reason for that is simple – the MLA always has been and always will be a membership organization. If our membership is strong, the MLA is strong. If it were not, there would cease to be an MLA. Looking back over the decades, it’s clear that the MLA has been blessed with loyal members who have repeatedly elected a very strong board of directors to lead the organization. It is because of its members and the people they elect to the board that the MLA has always been a leader with a clear vision that balances the needs of the industry’s present-day needs with the goal of securing a strong lobstering future.

It’s hard to put a finger on it, but somehow the MLA has had its ups and downs over the years. But I would challenge anyone to disagree with the fact that because of the MLA the Maine lobster industry is in much better shape than it would have been otherwise. During 60 years, many issues related to lobstering have come and gone. Some have been easy to resolve, many more have been controversial and others have been painful. A lot of people, including lobstermen, have disliked the MLA position at different times. But regardless of which side of an issue you stand on, you can always count on the MLA to be honest, transparent and accountable for its actions. And I don’t say this lightly.

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It’s hard to put a finger on it, but somehow the MLA has consistently found energetic and thoughtful men and women to serve. As a result, the MLA board has represented lobstermen and harbors from throughout the coast since the day it was organized. Gather lobstermen from all parts of the coast at a table, and you can be sure that when the dust settles, the consensus in the room will be to do what is good for the industry as a whole. While each person is guided by his own experiences and the needs of his community, board members show a tremendous respect for another’s point of view. After all, they share a mutual aim: to make sure that the opportunities they have enjoyed, to make a living on the water independent of any corporate

This year, the MLA also is offering an opportunity for sternmen to join, and for our members to receive a discount by joining for multiple years. All members will receive MLA’s 60th Anniversary hat and bumper sticker. Look for your membership application in the mail, or on page 11, and be sure to JOIN TODAY!

YOU COULD WIN $1954!

It is time to renew your membership or become a member of Maine’s oldest fishing organization!

This year is a big one for MLA as we celebrate 60 years of service to Maine’s commercial lobstermen. Without our members, there would be no MLA. To thank you, the MLA is offering members a chance to win $1954! All you have to do is renew or join by September 15th. This year, the MLA also is offering an opportunity for sternmen to join, and for our members to receive a discount by joining for multiple years. All members will receive MLA’s 60th Anniversary hat and bumper sticker. Look for your membership application in the mail, or on page 11, and be sure to JOIN TODAY!
MAINE LOBSTERMEN'S ASSOCIATION UPDATE

SINGLES ARE NOT BANNED!

Under the new whale rules which go into effect in June 2015, singles are NOT banned. The Bangor Daily News incorrectly reported on the new rules in June, leading to confusion about what the new rules require. Under the new whale rules, there are no new regulations for gear fished in Maine state waters inside the exemption line. So, if you fish in an area exempt from the linking line rule, you are exempt from the vertical line rules.

Summary of Maine's Vertical Line and Gear Marking Rule Implementation June 1, 2015

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<th>Area/Zone</th>
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<th>Gear Marking</th>
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<td>12&quot; mark (red)*</td>
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</tbody>
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Patrice McCarron summarized the final whale rule which includes minimum trawling up requirements and gear marking outside the exemption line. There are no new measures for lobstermen fishing inside the exemption line. Overall, the MLA has gotten positive feedback on the final rule, with only a few areas of concern including the omission of several islands from the ¼ mile island buffer, the ability of some vessels to fish large trawls outside 12 miles, and the expanded gear marking requirement.

The MLA Board voted unanimously to direct McCarron to complete the federal paperwork to apply for two exemptions under the whale plan. First, MLA will request that the Metinic Island group, Wooden Ball, Seal, and the Maine portion of the Isles of Shoals be included in the ¼ mile buffer allowing them to fish singles around the islands. Secondly, MLA will request the creation of a safe trawl equivalency for vessels that believe that they cannot safely fish the 15-trap trawl minimum beginning at the 12 mile line. MLA will request that NMFS create a process for lobstermen to apply for a safe trawl equivalency which would allow them to fish no less than 10 trap trawls in this area.

The DMR Commissioner invited representatives of lobster industry groups to meet with him this month. Patrice and David Cousins represented MLA and were joined by representatives of the Downeast Lobstermen’s Association, Southern Maine Lobstermen’s Association and the Lobster Union. The Commissioner used the meeting to discuss the final whale rule, DMR’s approach to develop a lobster fishery management plan and the agency’s growing concerns about drug addiction leading to serious enforcement cases.

The Maine Lobster Marketing Collaborative announced that they have hired Matt Jacobson to serve as Executive Director. He is expected to begin work later this summer.

DMR Marine Patrol has reported that the passenger vessel Nova Star, running between Portland, ME and Yarmouth, Nova Scotia, has agreed to run on a set track running from east to west at the following coordinates: WP #: 15. N43 37 W070 29 WP #: 16. N43 37 W069 29 WP #: 17. N43 40 W068 42. Nova Star representatives have stated that the vessel will not stray more than 25 meters on each side of this line. MLA Directors have not heard of any issues with lobstermen losing gear to this vessel since the Nova Star committed to maintain this set route.

The MLA remains in communication with NOAA over the operational plan for the hydrographic survey vessel, Ferdinand Hassler. The boat will not work in Maine again this year, but may return in the winter of 2015 to see if they are able to survey during the winter months.

MLA is assisting Miranda Rogers, a Tufts University medical student and daughter of an Orrs Island lobsterman, in circulating a medical survey to fishermen. Miranda’s research focuses on gaining better understanding of the health needs of Maine fishermen in order to improve access to health care. MLA continues to work with Fishing Partnership Support Services to apply for funds to continue to support Maine lobstermen in exploring health insurance options.

The MLA membership renewal will go out in late July. MLA is celebrating 60 years, and will offer a drawing to win $1954 for those who join or renew before September 15. All 2014-2015 members will receive a membership card, bumper sticker, hat and business discounts. MLA will also issue a press release to promote this anniversary in local papers.

MLA staff had a busy month dealing with press on a variety of issues including the outlook for the lobster season, ocean acidification, whale rules, and seafood advisories for mercury. MLA works hard to ensure that Maine's lobster industry maintains a positive image in the mainstream media.

The Bait Report

2014 Herring Catch and Quota

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Area</th>
<th>Quota (as of 7/24)</th>
<th>% of quota</th>
<th>2014 quota</th>
<th>2013 quota</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Area 1A</td>
<td>5,161</td>
<td>15.63%</td>
<td>33,031</td>
<td>24,826</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Area 1B</td>
<td>4,733</td>
<td>16.46%</td>
<td>2,878</td>
<td>4,362</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Area 2</td>
<td>10,315</td>
<td>35.86%</td>
<td>28,764</td>
<td>22,146</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Area 3</td>
<td>21,833</td>
<td>55.39%</td>
<td>39,415</td>
<td>38,146</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>42,042</td>
<td>40.39%</td>
<td>104,088</td>
<td>89,480</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Data from the NMFS Weekly Atlantic Herring report
Framework 2 imposed seasonal restrictions on Areas 1A and 1B. As a result, Area 1A opened on June 1, and Area 1B opened on May 1 and was closed on May 24. Area 1A percent of quota includes current ME state-only vessel herring landings.

Continued on page 9
The Massachusetts Lobstermen’s Association announced that they reviewing their participation in the weekly lobster price report. The MLA Board voted that MLA staff in Maine continue to collect and distribute lobster, bait and fuel prices for our members. In the interim, MLA members will not receive prices from Massachusetts or the Weekly Market Demand and Supply Update.

The MLA has been approached by a Maine processor about Maine’s competitively disadvantage relative to Canada on undersized lobster. The MLA Board strongly sympathizes with this issue, but needs more information on the cost and benefits to the Maine lobster industry of potential solutions. The MLA will again provide lobster for an annual lobster bake to thank our legal counsel for a new bounty representation of the MLA.

The Directors discussed the status of the lobster season, with all areas of the coast reporting slow landings. Some sheds have been seen very close to shore and in the rivers. While the lack of cash flow has been frustrating and concerning for many, there was a strong sense that Maine will have a strong lobster season. The next MLA meeting will be held in September.

**LOBSTER ADVISORY COUNCIL**

The Lobster Advisory Council (LAC) met in July after a nine-month break. The July meeting brought many new faces to the table as Commissioner Keliher made new appointments for all of the non-zone seats. The LAC is comprised of 13 members: 7 zone council members and 6 appointed by the Commissioner. These non-zone council representatives are: A John Drouin, B Jon Cosier, C David Tal, D Josh Miller, E Andrew Hawke, F Jeff Putnam, G Steve Taylor. The Zone councils will accept nominat і on and vote for their LAC representatives this fall.

The non-zone members appointed by the Commissioner are as follows:

- Downeast Harvest, Genevieve MacDonald (replacing Nick Lemieux)
- Midcoast Harvest, Bob Baines
- Western Harvester, Marshall Spear (replacing Elliott Thomas)
- Eastern Dealer member: Pete Daley (replacing Dana Rice)
- Western Dealer members: John Jordan (replacing Pete McAleny)
- General Public member: Terry Savage (replacing Ted Hoskins)

The LAC discussed a wide range of new business. Much of the meeting focused on defining the LAC’s role as the DMR develops a fishery management plan (FMP) for lobster. Deirdre Gilbert, DMR’s Policy Director, provided an overview of developing an FMP and explained that the law requires the DMR to develop the FMP for lobster. Deirdre Gilbert, DMR’s Policy Director, provided an overview of developing an FMP and explained that the law requires the DMR to develop the FMP for lobster.

The LAC received the following updates:

- A description of the relevant fishery;
- Clearly articulated management goals and objectives;
- An ecosystem-based characterization of each species under consideration; and
- Any recommendations to achieve goals and objectives;
- Current management measures;
- Any available information regarding stock status;
- Findings of current research and future research needs; and
- Any available information regarding stock status.

At its meeting, the LAC took the following actions:

- Voiced no opposition to Swan’s Island going to the Legislature to request increasing their trap limit from 550 to 600; however, the LAC did not take a position on this issue.
- There is concern that the current 3x3 mesh biodegradable vent is not large enough to allow oversize lobsters to escape; the LAC was asked to support a proposal to increase the mesh size to 4x4 or larger. The LAC tabled the discussion requesting more information on a range of options which could address this issue.
- Genevieve MacDonald was nominated to represent the LAC on the Commercial Fishing Safety Council.
- The LAC selected a nominating committee to nominate LAC Chair for election at the next meeting.

The LAC received the following updates:

- Matt Jacobson has been hired as the new Executive Director of the Maine Lobster Marketing Collaborative. Marianne Lacroix provided a brief update on the MLMC’s activities.
- Sarah Cotnoir provided a summary of the new whale rules. She emphasized that there are no new whale rules inside Maine’s exempted waters. The rules go into effect in June, 2015, and include minimum travel requirements starting at the exemption line and moving offshore, and also require more gear marking. Lobstermen fishing across lines must abide by the most restrictive rule where they are fishing.
- Commissioner Keliher raised the issue of drug addiction leading to severe fisheries violations. The LAC discussed the ideas of requiring mandatory drug testing to obtain a license or random drug testing to maintain a license. Col. Fessenden of the Maine Patrol clarified that laws are in place to deal with anyone operating under the influence. There was strong consensus that drug addiction is a serious problem that has broad impact on the industry; however, there was no consensus on how best to deal with it.

- Commissioner Keliher stated that he is speaking regularly with Canadian officials to ensure that both Maine and Canada are accurately informed on the status of the lobster fishery on both sides of the border.
- Maine has formed a Green Crab Task Force, and changed laws and regulations to ease requirements on the harvest and sale of green crabs.
- Col Fessenden reported that Marine Patrol is down several officers, and southern Maine continues to be understaffed. The DMR has offered jobs to six strong candidates; two will be able to start immediately while four will need to go through the academy. Marine Patrol will be spending more time patrolling the Gray Zone as there has been an increase in Canadian fishing activity. He also emphasized that replacement tags are issued in lots of 20 and are only issued as traps are lost. The system is not intended to issue all 80 replacement tags at once. Lobstermen must sign an affidavit, but local MPOs no longer need to sign off on it.
- The Maine Legislature created an Ocean Acidification Task Force and appointees have been named; they will meet in August. Dredging projects are moving forward in Scarborough and Yarmouth. The DMR continues to monitor closely the proposal for the Searspot Dredge Project and plans to schedule a public hearing in the affected area once the water quality certification permit is filed with Maine DEP. The Searspot dredge has not yet been funded by Congress.
- DMR is cleaning up its regulations contained in Chapter 25 to convert all Loran references to Lat/Lon. This will also include a review of lobster trap limits to ensure that these do not conflict with new vertical line rules.
- Steve Taylor, Zone G rep., stated that Zone G plans to submit a bill to require those on the waiting list to renew their interest in staying on the list annually and to require any new entrants to the zone to start at 300 traps.
Become a member by SEPT 15th for your chance to WIN $1,954!

To enter:
• Renew or join MLA by September 15th

Improve your odds of winning!
• Join as a Highliner & get 2 tickets
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Through the years, the MLA has had your back.

1950s & 1960s: The Beginning

1970s: Taxes in the Forefront

1980s: Lobster Management Begins

1990s: Maine Lobstermen Expand their Voice

2000s: Whales and Bait

2010s: Complexity at Every Level

MLA MEMBERSHIP FORM
Mail with payments to MLA, 203 Lafayette Center, Kennebunk, ME 04043

Individual Membership Levels:
☐ Highliner $250
☐ Harvester $150
☐ Harvester Family* $225
☐ Jr/Sr Harvester $75
☐ Friend/Sternman $50
☐ First-time Member $100

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☐ Join for 3 years $_____
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Take off $10 for each year joined!
(Ex. Harvester for 3 years: $150 - $10 = $140/year; 3 years = $420)

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☐ Select Discount $275

Additional Contributions:
☐ Donation $_____
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Separate check payable to MLA LDF

Please Print
Name:________________________________________
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Boat Name:_________________
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Maine Lobster Leadership Program

The MLA has been successful in gaining support from thousands of lobstermen over the years. Without that support, the MLA would not exist and its voice would not be credible.

Thank you for 60 years of support.

The MLCA grew out of the desire by lobster community stakeholders to educate the public about Maine’s lobstering heritage, support scientific research to further the industry’s conservation ethic and stewardship of ocean resources, and provide charity to distressed fishing families.

MLCA is a 501 (c) (3) non-profit organization which achieves its charitable mission through programs in education, research and charity.

1954-2014: MLA IS 60!

1954: The Beginning

The MLA has been successful in gaining support from thousands of lobstermen over the years. Without that support, the MLA would not exist and its voice would not be credible.

Thank you for 60 years of support.

1980s: Management

2000s: Whales & Bait

2014: Still Strong

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By Shelley Wigglesworth

Clayton Howard’s involvement in the fisheries and lobster industry dates back over four decades, starting in 1970, when he was an Assistant Attorney General working in the State House in Augusta. In addition to representing a number of state agencies and the Secretary of State’s office he occasionally represented corporations, some of those being fishermen’s cooperatives. Eventually he decided to leave the public sphere. “In 1971, I set up my own private law practice in Damariscotta and for the next 43 years formed the majority of lobster co-ops currently operating in the state of Maine,” Howard said.

Those co-ops organized or represented by Howard include: Bucks Harbor, Beals-Jonesport, Vinalhaven, Port Clyde, Spruce Head, Islesford, Friendship, Heritage, New Harbor, South Bristol, Georgetown, Cundy’s Harbor, Pine Point and the Maine Association of Cooperatives.

Howard discussed the progression of his involvement with Maine commercial fishermen and the Maine Lobstermen’s Association over the decades. “At the time I was beginning to represent lobstermen, over 40 years ago, the difficulty for younger fishermen, over 40 decades. “At the time I was beginning to represent lobstermen, over 40 years ago, the difficulty for younger fishermen, over 40 decades. “At the time I was beginning to represent lobstermen, over 40 years ago, the difficulty for younger fishermen, over 40 decades. “At the time I was beginning to represent lobstermen, over 40 years ago, the difficulty for younger fishermen, over 40 decades. “At the time I was beginning to represent lobstermen, over 40 years ago, the difficulty for younger fishermen, over 40 decades. “At the time I was beginning to represent lobstermen, over 40 years ago, the difficulty for younger fishermen, over 40 decades. “At the time I was beginning to represent lobstermen, over 40 years ago, the difficulty for younger fishermen, over 40 decades. “At the time I was beginning to represent lobstermen, over 40 years ago, the difficulty for younger fishermen, over 40 decades. “At the time I was beginning to represent lobstermen, over 40 years ago, the difficulty for younger fishermen, over 40 decades. “At the time I was beginning to represent lobstermen, over 40 years ago, the difficulty for younger fishermen, over 40 decades. “At the time I was beginning to represent lobstermen, over 40 years ago, the difficulty for younger fishermen, over 40 decades. “At the time I was beginning to represent lobstermen, over 40 years ago, the difficulty for younger fishermen, over 40 decades. “At the time I was beginning to represent lobstermen, over 40 years ago, the difficulty for younger fishermen, over 40 decades. “At the time I was beginning to represent lobstermen, over 40 years ago, the difficulty for younger fishermen, over 40 decades. “At the time I was beginning to represent lobstermen, over 40 years ago, the difficulty for younger fishermen, over 40 decades. “At the time I was beginning to represent lobstermen, over 40 years ago, the difficulty for younger fishermen, over 40 decades. “At the time I was beginning to represent lobstermen, over 40 years ago, the difficulty for younger fishermen, over 40 decades. “At the time I was beginning to represent lobstermen, over 40 years ago, the difficulty for younger fishermen, over 40 decades. “At the time I was beginning to represent lobstermen, over 40 years ago, the difficulty for younger fishermen, over 40 decades. "Th e theory that the IRS was that armed with this information, IRS agents would invite fishermen in for an informal audit where they were asked to sign an affidavit under penalties of perjury as to all of the dealers that they sold to during a given tax year," Howard said. "The IRS was encouraging lobstermen to make statements in writing that could be the basis for charges of criminal tax evasion and/or perjury without any disclosure to these people that they had a right to have an attorney present along with other constitutional protections." He added, "Shortly after exposing to the press the practice of inviting fishermen in to sign affidavits, IRS did discontinue the practice and all of the audits that I handled [for fishermen] were ultimately resolved without criminal prosecution." It was during this time that the Maine Lobstermen’s Association invited Howard to serve as its legal counsel.

Howard also serves as the clerk for the MLA board. "I can’t imagine the MLA holding its annual meeting without Clayton at the head table. He brings so much skill, passion and institutional knowledge and has been there to get the MLA over some tough hurdles over the years," commented Patrice McCarron, MLA’s executive director.
the difficulties getting lobstermen to become members. "Some of the old-timers were afraid they were going to have to give up some individual rights. The main thing was to convince these lobstermen that our industry was run by the monopoly of a half dozen big dealers," he said.

Getting lobstermen to work together remained a daunting challenge for Dyer throughout his time as MLA president. "Lobstermen are the most independent breed of people on the face of the earth. They're so damned independent that anything you propose to them that's new or different, they want nothing to do with it."*

Yet over the years, the MLA has successfully brought Maine's independent lobstermen together to tackle the issues that affect them individually and as a fishery. Whether it is in Augusta or in Washington, D.C., the MLA makes sure that Maine's lobstermen are heard by those who make the laws. Issues in decades past may have focused on such things as a lobster's legal size or escape vent design. Today's issues, however, cover the waterfront, from federal regulations based on the Marine Mammal Protection Act and the Clean Water Act to marketing and promotion of the state's signature seafood.

"It's crazy," explained David Cousins, MLA president since 1991. "Whenever you turn around there's another thing coming at you. We have to be there when the decisions are made. In fact, we have to be there before the decisions are made if we want to keep this industry going for the future."

Dyer's observations about Maine lobstermen remain true today. Lobstermen remain a difficult group to organize but still have much to gain by working together. Despite the challenges presented by such an independent group, the MLA has been successful in gaining support from thousands of lobstermen over the years. Without support from lobstermen, the MLA would not exist and its voice would not be credible.

Sixty years is a long time for any organization to thrive and is worth celebrating. To mark its 60th Anniversary, the MLA is thanking our members by offering a drawing to win $1954 for those who join or renew by September 15th. Help MLA celebrate its many years of success by joining today!

**THE MAINE LOBSTERMEN’S ASSOCIATION TAKES A WALK DOWN MEMORY LANE!**

| 1950s and 1960s: The Beginning | MLA convicted by a federal judge for lobster price fixing. Six lobster dealers plead no contest. MLA pressures the Maine Legislature to make lobster a trap-only fishery. |
| 1980s: Lobster Management Begins | MLA pushes NEFMC to include Maine's lobster conservation measures in first management plan. The Council prohibits possession of v-notched lobsters, but increases lobster gauge to 3-5/16 inches. MLA persuades the feds to halt gauge increase at 3-1/4 inches. MLA begins its annual V-notch survey to document its conservation value. MLA pushes Maine Legislature to maintain maximum gauge. |

**MAINE Lobstermen's Association, Inc.**

**MLA MEMBERS DISCOUNT DIRECTORY**

**Acuctech Marine Propeller, Inc.** Dover, NH — 20% off propeller repair; Discounts vary by manufacturer for new propellers, shafting and other hardware.

**Aikido Bay, Inc.** Portland, ME — No annual fees for 2014. 10% off annual fees in 2015.

**Applied Refrigeration Services** Windham, ME — $250 off new installations.

**Bessy Bait, LLC** Seabrook, NH — $5 discount per drum on multiple drum purchases (must show current MLA card).

**Coastal Hydraulics** Seabrook, NH — 10% discount on all in stock items for MLA members.

**Commercial Fisheries News** DMR Dyer declared annual subscription rate for $18.75 with MLA membership noted on check.

**Craig's All Natural** Durham, NH — 10% discount on all Vicinex cutlery.

**Friendship Trap Company** Friendship, ME — 5% off list price on traps at the Friendship store.

**Hews Company** South Portland, ME — 10% off all hydraulic components and Cable Craft cables in 2014.

**Law Office of J. Scott Logan, LLC** Portland, ME — 20% discount on foreclosure defense and bankruptcy legal fees.

**Maine Camp Outfitters** Sunset, ME — 10% off all apparel and promotional products.

**Maine Lobstermen's Association** Kennebunk, ME — 10% off to harvesters on MLA merchandise.

**Maine Maritime Museum** Bath, ME — Free admission to MLA members.

**McMillan Offshore Survival Training** Belfast, ME — 10% discount on USCG Drill Conductor training.

**Mount Desert Oceanarium** Southwest Harbor, ME — Free admission for commercial fishermen and their families.

**National Fisherer** North Hollywood, CA — Special annual subscription rate.

**Nicholas H Walsh, PA** Portland, ME — 25% off legal services.

**North Atlantic Power Products** Exeter, NH — 10% off service repairs of twin disc transmissions.

**Penobscot Marine Museum** Searsport, ME — Free admission for MLA members.

**Sawyer & Whitten Marine** Portland & Rockland, ME — 10% discount from regular MSRP pricing (doesn’t apply to sale items)

**Sea Rose Trap Co.** Scarborough, ME — 5% off trap list price when you show your MLA card.

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**SW Boatworks** Lamego, ME — Show MLA card to receive $500.00 discount on a new hull or top.

**Weathervane Seafood Inc.** Kittery, ME — 10% off retail and mail order purchases. Just mention you are an MLA member. 1-800-914-1774.

**Winter Harbor Fishermen’s Coop** Winter Harbor, ME — 10% off fresh picked lobster meat.

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*MLA continued from page 1*
They say that necessity is the mother of invention. But in the case of Patricia Havener, wife of Friendship lobsterman Greg Havener, her invention—Lobster Treats for Salty Dogs—came not from necessity but from several salvaging dogs.

Greg and Pat recently had taken part in the Trade Adjustment Assistance (TAA) program offered through the Maine Lobstermen’s Association (MLA). The program showed lobstermen and family members the economic value of doing more with lobster than just selling it to a dealer. The workshops got Pat thinking about what else could be done with her husband’s catch.

“We had some friends visiting that summer [2012]. We ate lobster outside and then the dogs climbed all over the picnic table to get to the lobster. I thought, ‘Aha!’” Pat recalled.

Lobstermen like her husband had grown very discouraged by the price paid for their lobster since the economic downturn of 2008. In 2012, the price took another tumble due to the unprecedented landings that year. “They were catching a wonder—came not from necessity but from necessity; they say that necessity is the mother of invention. But in the case of Patricia Havener, her invention—Lobster Treats for Salty Dogs—came not from necessity but from several salvaging dogs.

Good dog! Good treat! Photo courtesy of P. Havener.

To Report A Violation

The more information that you can supply, and the more specific you can be, the better the chances are for apprehending a violator. Here are some of the things to look for:

Names of suspects, along with as complete a description as possible; physical descriptions of violators; type of violation, when and where it occurred.

Provide all of the information you can:
As exact a location as possible; Number of suspects; Clothing worn; Vehicle description, including type, year, color and license number.

---

**FRIENDSHIP ENTREPRENEUR’S LOBSTER PRODUCTS A CANINE HIT**

By Melissa Waterman

Lobster Treats for Salty Dogs now come in a gluten-free variety. Photo courtesy of P. Havener.

Pat researched some basic recipes for dog biscuits. “I played around with the recipe a bit. My sister, Ellen, came up with the name,” Pat said. She and Greg invested the money received from the TAA program in ingredients and packaging. With her recipe perfected and a catchy name, Pat premiered the Lobster Treats for Salty Dogs at the summertime Rockland Farmer’s Market in 2013. The biscuits were a hit.

So Pat started going to pet supply stores and other locations, peddling her lobster dog treats. “I would give them samples. When you open the bag you can smell the lobster. Really, people were so kind to me,” she said.

Pat bakes her dog biscuits in simple shapes and very dry so that they do not crumble. A dozen regular biscuits cost $7.95. And the treats now come in a gluten-free variety too.

“I was selling them at the Rockland market last year and people were disappointed that they weren’t gluten-free. So I came up with a gluten-free version,” Pat explained. The gluten-free lobster treats are made with garbanzo bean and brown rice flour rather than wheat flour and canola oil rather than corn oil. Pat also makes a smaller-size biscuit for people who have smaller dogs or who are watching their dog’s diet. Lobster Treats for Salty Dogs can now be found in 23 stores in Maine, Massachusetts, and New York.

Greg Havener is a strong supporter of his wife’s venture though Pat admits that he wasn’t entirely enthusiastic at the start. “He was quite horrified. We were picking lobster one evening and he held up this beautiful claw and said, ‘I can’t believe you are going to feed this to a dog. But he’s come around. And it’s so much fun!’

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The more information that you can supply, and the more specific you can be, the better the chances are for apprehending a violator. Here are some of the things to look for:

Names of suspects, along with as complete a description as possible; physical descriptions of violators; type of violation, when and where it occurred.

Provide all of the information you can:
As exact a location as possible; Number of suspects; Clothing worn; Vehicle description, including type, year, color and license number.

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**Superior Blocks, for the LONG HAUL**
While I was there [in Boston] I was approached by the St. Lawrence and Atlantic Railroad and asked to run that railroad. Jacobson continued. The St. Lawrence and Atlantic Railroad is a short (157 mile) railway line that connects with the Canadian National Railway. The company, based in Auburn, Maine, was not doing well.

“I’m a little competitive. I like to challenge myself and I like to win.”

“Well, it was a gamble,” Jacobson said, reflecting on his decision to take the job. “It was sinking. But I was 36 years old and I thought, what the heck. ”

In 1992 he resigned his commission and took a job with a railroad company in Jacksonville, Florida. “Someone I had met in the Air Force sent me a note saying that they were hiring. It was funny, I couldn’t read his writing and did all this research on a different company. Turns out the company he mentioned was CSX,” Jacobson said. At the time Jacobson joined CSX, the railroad company was moving into intermodal transportation. It had acquired the Sealand Company, which transported containerized goods by sea. Jacobson first worked as a liaison to the smaller regional rail lines that comprised the CSX system. He then moved to Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, and Boston, Massachusetts, to work on integration of Sealand into CSX.

“While I was there [in Boston] I was approached by the St. Lawrence and Atlantic Railroad and asked to run that railroad,” Jacobson continued. The St. Lawrence and Atlantic Railroad is a short (157 mile) railway line that connects with the Canadian National Railway. The company, based in Auburn, Maine, was not doing well.

In 2000, Canadian National Railway hired Jacobson away, moving him from Maine to Chicago. He worked as assistant vice-president for intermodal sales and assistant chief mechanical officer. The latter job involved keeping Canadian National’s trains moving. “The company has a yard on the south side of Chicago. I had to make sure 60 trains were running every night. I spent a lot of money with a lot of people to get a ton of broken locomotives fixed,” he laughed.

But things had changed in Jacobson’s life. Now married, he and his wife, a physician, had adopted a 4-day-old boy. “The couple was moving into a different stage of life. ‘Chicago is a great place to visit,’ Jacobson said. ‘But it is a hard place to have a child.’ One day in 2002 Jacobson’s wife turned to him and said, ‘Why don’t we go home?’ Home meant Maine.

So in 2006 the couple returned to Maine where Jacobson began work as the head of Maine & Co., a non-profit economic development company that assists firms interested in moving to Maine or expanding their business within the state. “It was great,” Jacobson said, referring to his time at Maine & Co. Large companies, such as Athenahealth and Boston Financial Data Services, chose to move to Maine during his tenure. But the job did hold its frustrations. After one company opted not to come to the state due to a specific tax issue, Jacobson vented his unhappiness to his wife one night in bed. “She said ‘Why don’t you run for Governor and fix it’ and then rolled over and went back to sleep,” he said.

In 2011 Jacobson left Maine & Co. to work as chief operating officer for a startup data center located at the former Brunswick Naval Air Station. Resilient Tier V Corporation was soon bought by Oxford Networks and after a year, Jacobson left the company. So what did he do next? Take care of his children, Jacobson became a stay-at-home dad.

The first three weeks of his new venture was a bit hard, Jacobson said. But after that transition period, “It was great! Being at home was really helpful for my son, who was just starting middle school,” Jacobson said. “I got to know all the teachers by their first names. And it was a good lesson for my daughter as well.”

He also honed his triathlon skills during his at-home time. “I’m a little competitive. I like to challenge myself and I like to win,” Jacobson admitted. He will be taking part in the U.S.A. Triathlon Age Group Nationals in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, this month.

While he acknowledges that his own drive has made a difference in his professional career, Jacobson readily acknowledges that luck has had much to do with it as well. “I have been incredibly fortunate to do what I wanted to do three or four times. I went to the Naval Academy, ran a railroad, and got to live in Maine,” he reflected. “I have worked hard but I’ve had a ton of opportunities.”

Jacobson is not wasting any time getting up to speed on the Maine lobster industry. He met with the state’s Lobster Advisory Council in July and he will begin work as MLMC executive director on August 18.

He exudes enthusiasm when he speaks about his new role as head of the MLMC. “It’s important and we’ve got to get it right. A lot of it is selling the notion of Maine and what that means. I didn’t just want a job, I wanted to do something that matters.”
GUEST COLUMN: Busy times for the Lobster Council of Canada

By Geoff Irvine

After a successful Lobster Summit at the end of March and a busy and productive spring lobster fishing, processing and shipping season, there is much to report on the many important projects and priorities of the Lobster Council of Canada (LCC).

Within the LCC much activity is underway. The newly-launched Canadian Lobster Brand is getting positive reviews from within the industry. Next steps involve promoting the brand more broadly internally and encouraging exporters to integrate the core values in their marketing materials, to begin to use the new graphic image on their packaging and to continue to fulfill the brand promise: “To consistently and sustainably deliver the highest quality and most flavourful live and processed lobster to consumers who value the best.”

A Request for Proposals to develop a generic marketing campaign will be issued by the LCC in August with the intent of creating a plan to promote Canadian lobster by late fall. This plan will help the lobster sector understand the tactics used in generic marketing strategies for Canadian lobster and help build support for a levy or fee structure to pay for eventual implementation.

The legislatures of the four Atlantic Provinces are making progress toward introducing legislation or regulations aimed at collecting a one-cent-per-pound levy which will fund the generic marketing of Canadian Lobster.

The state’s Lobster Advisory Council (LAC) has some new faces. The 13-member LAC, which was created by the Legislature in 1997, advises the Department of Marine Resources (DMR) Commissioner on issues related to the state’s lobster industry.

Each of the state’s seven lobster zone councils nominates one person to represent it on the LAC, a process which takes place each fall. In addition, there are two people on the Council who are lobster dealers, one person who does not hold any fishing license, and three people not from the lobster zone council who do hold a fishing license. Terry Savage of Holden, Marshall Spear of Yarmouth, Genevieve Kurilec McDonald of Stonington, John Jordan of Yarmouth, and Pete Daley of Hancock are new LAC members all of whom were selected by the DMR commissioner. Members Ted Hoskins, Elliott Thomas, Nick Lemieux, Dana Rice, and Pete McAleney have completed their terms.

“The Lobster Advisory Council is imperative to communicating fishermen’s needs to Augusta,” said newly appointed Genevieve Kurilec McDonald, 31. McDonald is the first woman to serve on the LAC in its history and represents the entire Downeast area. “It’s vital to the industry for fishermen to participate and have a voice in management decisions. I’m honored to be appointed to the LAC.” She noted that her role is to represent the interests of lobstermen from her region and in order to do that, she needs to hear what their concerns are.

NEW FACES ON LOBSTER ADVISORY COUNCIL

By Melissa Waterman

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Continued on page 22
JELLYFISH A COMMON SIGHT IN MAINE THIS SUMMER

By Sarah Paquette

Jellyfish have been abundant this summer along the coast of Maine, but no one seems to know why. One theory is that climate change and warmer water temperatures have caused the increase in jellies in Maine. Lower oxygen levels caused by runoff from land or overfishing may be to blame as well. 2012 was another big year for jellyfish, and a year marked by unusually high water temperatures in the Gulf of Maine. But there is no research to support or refute these theories.

A June article in the Portland Press Herald noted that there are no experts or good data on jellyfish in Maine. However, Nick Record of the Bigelow Laboratory for Ocean Sciences in East Boothbay has decided to change that. He has been documenting the reported species seen in Maine this year and hopes in the future to create a predictive model.

"There's something out there called the 'Jelly Oceans Hypothesis,'" said Record, in a recent interview on Maine Public Radio. "Some scientists have hypothesized that we're shifting toward an ocean that's dominated more by gelatinous species rather than things like fish. And there are a variety of causes, from over-fishing, to low oxygen, things related to pollution, but that hypothesis is debated." Jellyfish are not actually fish so scientists call them jellies to avoid confusion. There are two groups of jellies – ctenophores and cnidarians. Cnidarians are the true jellies; all have specialized stinging cells. This group of jellies includes Portuguese man-o-war, sea wasps, anemones, corals, and moon and lion's mane jellies. The latter are two of the three jellies found in Maine. Lion's mane jellies are a northern species, native to the Arctic, northern Atlantic and northern Pacific oceans. Moon jellies are found throughout the East coast.

Moon and lion's mane jellies have stinging cells in their tentacles, which can cause stings that are painful. The standard treatment for a sting is to flood the area with vinegar or isopropyl alcohol for ten minutes or more, then make a paste of baking soda and water and apply that to the area. Comb jellies, the third kind of jelly found in Maine, are ctenophores, so named for the hair-like structures called cilia on their bodies that beat in unison allowing the jelly to swim. There are 50 known species of ctenophores and they are found in almost all marine environments.

Jellies have no backbone, brain, heart, real digestive system, complex eyes, or respiratory system, and are 95% water, yet they are still good predators. They are considered plankton because although they can swim, they primarily drift with the currents.

They capture small zooplankton in their tentacles as they float through the water. Some bigger jellies prey upon fish, stunning them with their stinging cells. Jellies also become prey themselves as a favored food of sea turtles and other jellies.

Record has decided that after two summers of numerous jellies showing up in Maine it’s time to keep track of the gelatinous visitors. This summer he began building a library of the species spotted here and hopes to create predictive models that might tell us when to expect jelly blooms like the one that began this June.

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NEW VENTURE FOR ISLAND LOBSTER COOPERATIVE

By Melissa Waterman

The Cranberry Isles Fishermen’s Co-operative, located on Islesford, has started a new on-line business called Little Cranberry Lobster (www.littlecranberrylobster.com). “We are working with a processor down in Portland,” explained Mark Nighman, co-op member and manager. “We can now sell meat or live lobsters ourselves.”

Co-op members were troubled by the low prices they received for their catches in 2012. So they decided, as Nighman put it, “to take control of their destiny.” They worked out a name, then contacted a company in Yarmouth to design a logo and build a new Web store for the company. And they paid for it all themselves. “We decided to have a marketing fund a few years back. We put money into it each year,” Nighman said.

The new Web site tells customers about the conservation practices of Maine lobstermen. As one page notes, “Through generations of experience we have learned to fish in balance with the sea. We take our stewardship of the ocean seriously. We have participated in establishing trap limits, size limits and most importantly, protecting egg-bearing females. These measures ensure a harvest for generations to come. Today, every lobster we catch is MSC certified, sustainable and traceable. We are proud custodians of a great tradition providing a fresh product, caught right and delivered to you.”

The site also provides a link to the Cranberry Isles Fishermen’s Co-operative Web site, where customers can learn about the co-op members. The site explains the names of many of the island’s lobster boats. Mark Fernald, for example, named his 42-foot Duffy Emma Marie after his “beautiful, intelligent and kind daughter.” The site also tells visitors more about how lobsters are caught, the gear used and the size limitations on lobster in Maine. Emphasized is the company’s motto: sustainable, traceable, Maine-caught. In each shipment of lobster is a brochure about the co-op and a refrigerator magnet. The shipping box costs $4.95; shipping is $39.95 for up to 35 pounds anywhere in the world.

“Th e site has only been up a couple of weeks now,” Nighman said. “We’re still tweaking it. But it’s another way of getting our product out there.”

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**BELOVED DOWNEAST RESTAURANT BURNS**

Helen’s Restaurant in Machias was severely damaged by fire in July. The popular eatery is one of only a few restaurants in Machias. It has been a mainstay business since 1950. In 2005, Life magazine named Helen’s blueberry pie as the best in America. The restaurant was originally located in a building on Main Street in Machias. It moved to its present location in 1983. The restaurant’s owners, David and Julie Barker of Machias, said they would rebuild the restaurant and hoped to reopen next spring.

**SHRIMP SEASON LOOKS GRIM FOR NEXT WINTER**

Federal regulators may limit the number of fishermen allowed to catch northern shrimp in the Gulf of Maine once the depleted fishery reopens. The Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission closed the shrimp season for 2014 for the first time in more than 30 years because shrimp populations dipped to their lowest recorded levels. The commission will decide this fall if there will be a 2015 season based on surveys of the shrimp resource. The commission’s northern shrimp section is now also considering restrictions that could limit the number of licenses to fish for shrimp or the number of vessels allowed in the fishery. The restrictions are in development and will likely be the subject of public hearings this year, regulators said. The fishery’s estimated biomass plunged from more than 7,000 metric tons in 2011 to about 500 metric tons in 2013.

Fishermen from Maine, New Hampshire and Massachusetts fish for the shrimp. Maine dominates the fishery and caught nearly 5 million pounds of the shrimp in 2012. The catch plummeted to about 500,000 pounds in 2013, the last year the fishery was open.

**TOPSHAM FOOD COMPANY GOING STRONG**

Hancock Gourmet Lobster Company took home the top prize for the 11th time at the Fancy Food Show in New York City in July. The company received the "Sofi," which stands for Specialty Outstanding Food Innovation, for its new gluten-free lobster mac and cheese.

**NEW RESEARCH INITIATIVES AND OPPORTUNITIES**

Maine fishermen are invited to participate in a confidential interview as part of the University of Maine’s Sustainability Solutions Initiative. Emerging Opportunities research project with anthropologist Christine Beil and fisheries scientist Yong Chen. The project brings together researchers and stakeholders to collectively identify problems and solutions in Gulf of Maine fisheries.

Beil is interested in working with fishermen to explore the ways in which their knowledge can be used to fill gaps in scientific information not captured by landings data and travel surveys to gain a more complete picture of social and ecological change in the marine environment. The researchers hope one outcome of this research would be the development of an action plan that integrates the knowledge of fishermen with scientists to promote local stewardship and diversified fisheries in the Gulf of Maine.

For more information or to contribute your knowledge to this project, contact Christine Beil, UMaine Department of Anthropology, 5770 S. Stevens Hall,Orono, ME 04469-5770, 581-1893, Christine.beil@maine.edu

**BOOTHBAY HARBOR FEST PUTS THE FUN IN FISHIN’**

Boothbay Harbor will celebrate its second annual Harbor Fest from August 29 to September 7. This 10-day festival is a community collaboration that was created to offer visitors and locals the opportunity to experience a collection of unique and vibrant events that celebrate who we are. There will be a Chili Chowder Challenge, art show, road races, golf tournament and a treasure hunt. One of the highlights of the ten-day celebration is the restaurant week, during which local restaurants showcase local foods, specifically lobster. The other is the Fishin’ For Fashion fashion show, on September 6 at the Rockside Inn. The show features custom-made clothing created with fishing materials. The show is a benefit to provide scholarship funds for two local students interested in a career in fashion or marine studies.

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**Joshua Miller was elected to the LAC by the Zone D lobster council in 2013. The 37-year-old Tenants Harbor lobsterman replaced Port Clyde lobsterman Gerry Cushman. "I was willing to be on the Council," Miller explained. He has a pragmatic view of his role. "I'd rather participate in the system than not. More and more in any fishery it's about going to meetings and working with government. We're still a little sheltered in lobstering in a way but that is changing," he said. One of the items that the LAC will be involved in this year is creation of a Fishery Management Plan for lobster in the state. Components of a lobster management plan will include the biological, ecological, and social elements of the lobster industry in Maine. As advisors to the DMR Commissioner, LAC members will be deeply involved in drafting the plan.**

**I love it," Miller responded when asked about the proposed management plan. "At the zone level we keep getting pushed by the Legislature. I think this is a way to get data on how each zone can sustain [management] changes. What we want to know is what's the OK point, 'that will be different for each zone.' "**

**"I want to express my appreciation personally to those members of the LAC whose terms have expired. They have provided invaluable input and given huge amounts of their time over the years to the Council's work," said Patrick Keliher, DMR Commissioner. "I am looking forward to working with the new members of the LAC as we continue to discuss and debate the challenges and opportunities that face the industry. It's important that a full range of voices be involved in these discussions."**

**LAC continued from page 19**
August 1-2  
Deer Isle Jazz Festival, Stonington Opera House, Stonington. FMI: http://operahousearts.org or 367-2788.

August 5-7  
Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission summer meeting, Alexandria, VA.

August 9  
Winter Harbor Lobster Boat Race, 10 a.m.

August 10  
Pemaquid Lobster Boat Race, 10 a.m.

August 14  
"Maine's Green Crab Explosion," talk by Dr. Brian Beal, 7-8 p.m., Gulf of Maine Research Institute, Portland. FMI: 228-1699.

August 14-23  
The Last Ferryman, Stonington Opera House, Stonington. FMI: http://operahousearts.org or 367-2788.

August 16  
Long Island Lobster Boat Race

August 17  
Portland Lobster Boat Race, 10 a.m.

UPCOMING

September 3  
MLA Directors meeting, Darby’s in Belfast. FMI: 207-967-4555

September 11  
"The Ghost of Climate Future," talk by Dr. Jim Carlton, 7-8 p.m., Gulf of Maine Research Institute, Portland. FMI: 228-1699.

September 13  
Noel Paul Stookey concert, Stonington Opera House, Stonington. FMI: http://operahousearts.org or 367-2788.

September 23-25  

September 30-Oct. 2  
NEFMC meeting, Hyannis, MA.

Kinney continued from page 5

the largest portion of lobster in Spruce Head. We lost a few members, but I believe all the lobstermen in Spruce Head benefited from better fuel prices and better prices for lobsters.

Kinney has had three vehicles in his career, starting with a used 33-foot Novi boat that needed a ster in 1994, the third, his current vessel, is a T Jason 34 launched Kimberly, who died of leukemia at age 8. The Kinney recalled. The second was an Arnold Day vessel named Miss Kinny for their first daughter. Kimberly, who died of leukemia at age 8. The third, his current vessel, is a T Jason 34 launched in November 1994, the Miss Hanna, named for a stillborn granddaughter born to his oldest daughter.

Thirty years ago, Kinney joined the Maine Lobstermen’s Association (MLA). “Once I got into the co-op, I realized one single individual can’t accomplish as much as someone who speaks for a group. Now we have zones and meetings, so we need the MLA or DELA [Down East Lobstermen’s Association] to speak for us, to go to meetings or to Augusta. I hate regulations, but I know we need them,” Kinney said.

For instance, he believes the sea urchin industry should have been regulated sooner. Two or three years ago, Kinney noticed that the water around Criehaven harbor was bluish gray and smelled like methane. “I found out it was from overharvesting of sea urchins. The Irish moss and kelp lies on the bottom and rots [because there are not enough urchins to eat it],” Kinney said.

All the changes in fishing he’s seen over the years aren’t entirely positive in Kinney’s view. Technology is great, he said, “but it’s allowed us to work the resource harder. When I first went to Criehaven, there was herring everywhere. There’d be 25 boats all lit up working on the herring. There was herring here, herring there, herring everywhere. Purse seining was the technology then—you didn’t have to wait for the fish onshore. I see very few herring around the island at all anymore.

“We used to see three or four humpbacks out by the Wooden Ball, watch them right up in 6 or 7 fathoms of water after the herring,” he said. “Herring spawn would be like froth on the traps.” When he first fished off Criehaven, Kinney recalled seeing perhaps 25 seals. Now he sees thousands.

Kinney has no patience for the approach taken by the National Marine Fisheries Service toward protecting right whales from entanglement in fishing gear. “I totally disagree with the approach to right whale entanglements [the use of sinking rope],” he said. “They say settlement is down now, but I never saw so many short lobsters with eggs. In 200 traps, I recently punched 97 females. I saved the V-notchies.”

“I hate regulations, but I know we need them.”

Lobster Facts

Did you know lobsters come in many colors? The most common color is a green/brown, but some lobsters are blue, yellow, or orange. And some are a combination of colors — half and half, or spotted.
VOICES: NORMIE BURNS, SWAN’S ISLAND

The Swan’s Island Memory Project started as a collaborative effort to rebuild the island’s historical collection after a fire destroyed the library and archives in 2008. Swan’s Island Historical Society volunteers led by Island Institute fellow Meghan Vigeant built a digital collection of oral histories and photographs. Vigeant then produced 30 short audio and multimedia documentaries, each piece focusing on a different aspect of the island’s history and character. This is an interview with Normie Burns by Meghan Vigeant from March, 2010.

NR: My name’s Norman Burns. I live on Swan’s Island. I’m sixty-three years old. I’ve lived here all my life. I guess I started when I was twelve years old in a skiff and outfield to go lobstering.

MV: What’s the fishing year like?

NR: You get 40. And then, I guess when they started the co-ops in the state of Maine the price started up. You get 60 cents when I first started. Then when the lobsters pick up price was down to 40, 50, 60 cents. 60 cents when I first started. Back then you could get lobsters like nothing right in this cove. Price was down 12, only three horse but I had 10, 12 traps in the cove in the summer time.

MV: And what was Levi? What did he do?

NR: We had an old fellow, that’s Levi Moulden, always teasing us kids, always wrasseling when he see it. He said he used to nail a lath, nail it on the bow of the boat and watch that lath. I asked him one day, I said, “How do you do it?” When you leave Brimstone, Marshall [islands] how do you come home? How do you know what the course is?”

He said, “If there’s any sea on, dear, if the sea is coming from the southeast or sou’west so then you know what direction it’s in. Then you just let her come for home. Cause if it’s sou’east you’re gonna run northeast to come in the harbor.” He did it, for years and years. We’d look around to see if he had a compass hidden, or had the boat in the wharf ground out. The last of it he’d just go anywhere.

MV: Who do you remember from when you were young?

NR: We had an old fellow, that’s Levi Moulden, always teasing us kids, always wrasseling when he see it. But he’d go out in the fog, with no compass. And we could never understand it. He said he used to nail a lath, nail it on the bow of the boat and watch that lath. I asked him one day, I said, “How do you do it?” When you leave Brimstone, Marshall [islands] how do you come home? How do you know what the course is?”

MV: Who do you remember from when you were young?

NR: Well, he was just a lobster fisherman, short fella, big beer belly. In the old days I guess he was quite a drinker. Him and Carl Batcheler, uncle, went to Stonington one night in a thick of fog. There’s a girl in the library and they wanted to impress her. And he said, “We’re looking for the book of Levi Moulden written by Carl Batcheler.” Well, they had her looking for half an hour and he just made the story up. I guess he never did get her out (laughs).

MV: What’s the best thing about living out here?

NR: Well, I guess you can say it’s very quiet. After nine o’clock there aren’t hardly anybody on the roads except one or two teenagers. I should say eight o’clock in the winter. Summertime it’s probably ten. It’s very quiet. Everybody’s very friendly. If somebody is sick or been sick and hurt, they’ll have a supper for you. They’ll raise money for you.

MV: Do you remember from when you were young?

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He said, “If there’s any sea on, dear, if the sea is coming from the southeast or sou’east so then you know what direction it’s in. Then you just let her come for home. Cause if it’s sou’east you’re gonna run northeast to come in the harbor.” He did it, for years and years. We’d look around to see if he had a compass hidden, or had the boat in the wharf ground out. The last of it he’d just go anywhere.

MV: And what was Levi? What did he do?

NR: Well, he was just a lobster fisherman, short fella, big beer belly. In the old days I guess he was quite a drinker. Him and Carl Batcheler, uncle, went to Stonington one night in a thick of fog. There’s a girl in the library and they wanted to impress her. And he said, “We’re looking for the book of Levi Moulden written by Carl Batcheler.” Well, they had her looking for half an hour and he just made the story up. I guess he never did get her out (laughs).

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"...The heart of our business relies on the dedication and hard work of independent lobstermen harvesting and delivering the highest quality Stonington Maine lobsters directly to our docks..."

-Hugh Reynolds, Owner

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