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History of Post-Morrow

The Post-Morrow Foundation, Inc. is located in the Hamlet of Brookhaven, Suffolk County, New York. Its principal office is at 16 Bay Road, Brookhaven, NY 11719.

Conceived by Thomas and Elisabeth Post Morrow and established in 1969, the Foundation is dedicated to the preservation of the rural countryside character of the Hamlet and the surrounding areas. Through the acquisition of properties, either by gift or purchase, the Foundation seeks to establish a nature preserve and sanctuary for the benefit and enjoyment of the immediate community. The preservation of Beaver Dam Creek, where the Foundation owns over 100 acres, is a priority.

The Post and Morrow families have had a long tradition of philanthropy in the community. James H. Post purchased the land along Carmans River, now known as Squassux Landing, which was later donated to the Brookhaven Village Association for use as a marina. The land upon which the Brookhaven Free Library is situated was another gift. Elisabeth Post Morrow continued the tradition of her father by donating various gifts to community groups, mostly anonymously. It was the hope of the Morrows that this legacy be continued through the establishment of the Post-Morrow Foundation, Inc.

Post-Morrow Foundation NEWSLETTER

volume 6, number 2

Fall 2002

— BROOKHAVEN TOWN ENVIRONMENTAL BOND ACT

The Post-Morrow Foundation

urges Brookhaven Town residents to support the Town's efforts to increase funding to preserve open space in Brookhaven. Identified as "Town Proposition One", the bond resolution proposes to enable Brookhaven Town to spend 20 million dollars over the next four years for land preservation. The approximate cost to the average taxpayer would be \$34 per year. The Foundation has joined with many other groups to form the Coalition for Brookhaven's Future.

Through the efforts of the Brookhaven Town Open Space Committee and the Town's original Bond act, passed in 2000, almost 400 acres of precious land has been preserved. From wetlands in the tributaries leading to the Great South Bay, to protecting Artists Lake in Middle Island, to land along the Carmans River Corridor, to land adjacent to the Long Island Sound, the Town has been able to protect environmentally sensitive parcels of undeveloped land in all areas of the Town.

The Town has been able to use bond act money to leverage additional County and State money to protect land in Brookhaven. It has been able to partner with community organizations to preserve land identified by local community groups and has added to lands preserved by the County, State and Federal governments thereby increasing their environmental and ecological significance.

"If you've ever experienced a sunrise on Long Island, you know the wonder of early morning light, the scent of cool air before it is warmed by the sun, and dew glistening on the grass. And, without the intrusion of daytime sounds – passing cars, buzzing landscapers, and hammering from new construction – you can hear nothing less than a symphony, as the birds welcome another day.

(continued on back cover)

Photo by Martin Van Lih



OCEAN PLACE

Dr. and Mrs. Henry Gans of Palm City, Florida formerly of Brookhaven Hamlet, have generously donated two parcels of land to the Post-Morrow Foundation. Located directly on the Great South Bay, these two properties represent a valuable addition to the long stretch of protected shoreline from the Carmans River to the mouth of Beaver Dam Creek and will prevent further development along this sensitive beachfront.

Dr. Gans and his wife Mary purchased a house on Ocean Place in 1971 adjacent to the two empty parcels. Built in 1932, the house was owned in 1971 by the Schultz family who made their living fishing and clamming in the Bay. When they left to establish a fish market in upstate New York, the Gans family moved into the cottage and held on to the two parcels next door.

The shoreline along the Great South Bay from Carmans River and the Wertheim Refuge to the mouth of Beaver Dam Creek is completely undeveloped except for the three houses on Ocean Place. This gift to the Foundation will help to maintain the natural beauty of this extended piece of undeveloped shore. In addition to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, the



New York State Department of Environmental Conservation, and the Town of Brookhaven, the Post-Morrow Foundation is now in partnership to preserve this special land along the Great South Bay.

We wish to thank the Gans family for their thoughtful and generous gift to the Foundation.

THE DENNIS PULESTON OSPREY FUND

The Dennis Puleston Osprey Fund web site is now up and running. On the site you can find information about Dennis Puleston and his vision, and ways you can help protect the osprey. There is also a database of osprey nest site observations, and a message board on which to post sightings or questions. Come and check out the new DPOF site, and help keep the majestic osprey flying over Long Island. Also, keep an eye on the site — the Osprey nest Web cam is coming soon!
www.postmorrow.org/OspreyFund



Bill Starke, engineering equipment operator, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, erects an osprey nesting platform on the banks of the Carmans River, Brookhaven. Photo taken 7/24/02 (Newsday photo/Bill Davis)

DEER RUN FARMS

Deer Run Farms formerly known as Lohmann's Farm, on South Country Road in Brookhaven, (see PMF newsletter, Fall 2000) was recognized by State Agriculture Commissioner Nathan L. Rudgers and State Environmental Conservation Commissioner Erin M. Crotty this summer as a fine example of Long Island's participation in the AEM (Agricultural Environmental Management) program.



AEM operates at the State and local levels to provide financial, educational and technical assistance to farmers developing and implementing AEM plans. The planning approach begins with an assessment of farm activities, which documents good stewardship practices and identifies areas of environmental concern. AEM provides the framework for local conservation partners to customize the program for specific farm operations and watersheds (AEM Annual Report, New York State).

The Long Island Stewardship Committee includes representatives from the Suffolk County Soil and Water conservation District, Cornell Cooperative Extension of Suffolk County, USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service and local farmers.

In addition to Bob Nolan's good stewardship of Deer Run Farms, he and his wife Janet reopened the farmstand on South Country Road. Long a stopping place to buy fresh vegetables between Bellport and Brookhaven, the farmstand flourished this year. The stand will be open until the end of October and will reopen in June of 2003.



Bob Nolan briefs Commissioner Rudgers on how he utilized AEM worksheets to document his farm's 55-year legacy of stewardship, and to identify and prioritize environmental concerns.



"It was a cold, rainy day in January when we went through the worksheets which were very helpful in pointing out what I am doing well and what I could do better," recalled Nolan. "I am happy to be involved with AEM and I think that it could be of benefit to every farmer."

Nolan is currently in the process of developing an AEM plan that involves the installation of a grassed waterway, a buffer strip, and a pesticide-mixing pad. He also has plans for a no-till cabbage demonstration project.

THE SCOOTER PROJECT



Photo: Pictured are the 26 trophies donated over the last 72 years to the Scooter Club. (The one missing trophy is the Carl Devito cup, whereabouts unknown) Pictured in the foreground is the "Patchogue Scooter Club Trophy". This trophy was put in competition and first competed for in 1905 as a three-time win. The first winner of the cup was the "Leader" with Captain William Still and William Vincent at the helm. In 1912 it was won for the third time by Captain Henry Hoyer sailing the "Alert".

The Post-Morrow Foundation along with the South Bay Scooter Club, hosted a special celebration of "100 years of Scootering" on the Great South Bay on June 2, 2002.

Approximately 100 residents gathered at the end of Bellport Lane to view much of the history of the Scooter. On display were the many silver trophies that have been given over the years to winners of races on ice.

As most residents of Brookhaven and Bellport know, the South Bay Scooter is an iceboat that is indigenous to the Great South Bay. During the 1800's the United States Life Saving Stations were located every five miles along Fire Island and these iceboats were used in the winter to re-supply those stations. In 1900, the Federal Government decided to close all the stations, and since then these crafts have been used for racing and cruising. On any given weekend when Bellport Bay is frozen, you can see many of these boats on the ice. The South Bay Scooter Club, founded in 1924, is the last of many Scooter clubs that dotted the shore of the Bay.

It is with this in mind that we decided to preserve the history of these crafts in an archive of photos, documents and artifacts. If you have any information, stories or photographs please contact us at the Foundation at 286-0686.

A special poster commemorating the event is available for sale at the Foundation. Lapel pins with the logo of the Scooter Club, are also available.





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SOMETHING OLD, SOMETHING NEW

Something Old/Something New will be open at the Brook Store, 378 South Country Road in Brookhaven, for the holiday shopping season. All members specialties – bags, baskets, knitted hats, scarves and mittens, children’s clothes, hand-woven linens, jewelry and more - are available along with a few surprises. Refreshments are served on weekends to our shoppers. Your purchase, of course, helps support the nonprofit cooperative. Hours are Wednesday through Sunday, 10 am to 5 pm, with extended hours one evening a week, starting in mid-November. Please stop by on the first anniversary weekend, November 16-17 to help celebrate one year at the Brook Store.



BROOKHAVEN TOWN ENVIRONMENTAL BOND ACT

(continued from front cover)

The value of these experiences cannot be calculated for they build an intimate connection between our surroundings and us. We absorb the fiery beauty of a winter sunset, or the determination of a box turtle crossing Montauk Highway. We are awed by the sky’s ever-changing display of clouds against a bright blue backdrop, or its dark side as a storm rolls through.

Our environment is a powerful force in our lives. It can lift our mood, heal, inspire, and maintain balance in a hectic and troubled

world. It is an irreplaceable, natural hallmark of our community and it makes Long Island a cherished home and destination for many.”

Peconic Land Trust, [Campaign to Protect Our Heritage 2002](#).

The fate of open space in Brookhaven will be determined in the next ten years. It is critical for all of us to support the Town in preserving what little open space is left for future generations. Please support Town Proposition One.