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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

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Autumn 2013

NORM NELSON OCTOBER 13, 1935 – AUGUST 28, 2013



*Norm sailing in the annual "Whitebread race" around Shelter Island
Photo by Tom Ludlam*

The Post-Morrow Foundation mourns the death on August 28, 2013 of Norman Nelson of Portland, Maine. Norm served as a board member of the Foundation from 1997 through 2010. His guidance and leadership was exceptional and he will be sorely missed. He also served as a member of the Carmans River Maritime Center here in Brookhaven, which is dedicated to maintaining the traditional trade of wooden boat building on the south shore of Long Island.

continued on next page

NORM NELSON *continued*

Norman Fairlie Nelson II was born in Bronxville, NY on October 13, 1935, the eldest child of Alice Andrews and Alfred Nelson. He spent his childhood sailing and trapping muskrats along the Great South Bay of Long Island. He commanded his first boat at age 6 and went on to serve as an officer in the U.S. Navy following his graduation from the New York State College of Forestry at Syracuse.

He worked for thirty-six years with Union Camp Corporation, retiring as Vice President of the International Packaging Division.

He and Sally shared fifty-four years of marriage. As their three children, Pete, Fraser and Molly noted, “love of family was their greatest joy”.

The Foundation together with the Brookhaven Free Library of which he and his family were long-time supporters, and the Carmans River Maritime Center, held a Gathering of Friends on October 27th to celebrate Norm’s life and his extensive contribution to the Brookhaven and Bellport area.

The solar/electric boat being built by the Carmans River Maritime Center was dedicated to Norm. The boat will be christened the *Earl of Squassux* in his honor because of Norm’s love of the sea and boats. (Norm always told the story of his Uncle Norman calling himself the Earl of Squassux. When his Uncle died, Norman assumed the title. The *Earl of Squassux* will ply the waters of the Carmans River and Great South Bay taking passengers through this beautiful area of Brookhaven.)

POST-MORROW TRAIL SYSTEM

You may have noticed two new kiosks on the Post-Morrow properties this past summer. One is at the trail head on Foundation property on Bay Road. The other kiosk is at the Edgar Avenue Preserve center gate entrance. These kiosks will display our trail maps as well as other information about our trails.

We are grateful to Aodhan Browning for his donation of time and materials to build these kiosks. The project was part of his effort to achieve his Eagle Scout badge from the Boy Scouts. Aodhan held a fundraiser to collect the funds to buy the materials and organized a group of friends to assist him in building the kiosks. These kiosks provide a professional look to our trails. Thanks Aodhan.



Kiosk at Edgar Avenue – Center Gate

WETLAND AND MEADOW RESTORATION EFFORTS



Wetland restoration area along Beaver Dam Creek. The red glow is the wetland species *Salicornia bigelovii* known as glasswort.

The Post-Morrow Foundation has several projects to restore lands that have been disturbed by development and invasive plants. The tidal area along Beaver Dam Creek was disturbed by the dredging of the Creek in the 1950s. The dredging piled the dredge spoil along the edge of the Creek and therefore prevented the natural tidal flow. This disturbance in turn allowed the incursion of *Phragmites australis*, a very vigorous and invasive plant that slowly raises the level of the marshland and out-competes the native *Spartina* grasses. This creates a monoculture that is not friendly to the ecosystem.

The above photo shows the results of our efforts to control the *Phragmites australis* along the area of the Creek just behind and south of the Post-Morrow Foundation office on Bay Road. We hope that this remediation will continue to improve the tidal marsh along the creek and create a more diverse and therefore healthier ecosystem.

We have also been working on the Edgar Avenue Preserve in consultation with Dava Stravinsky of the Long Island Native Plant Initiative, to restore a diverse meadow that will attract birds, bees, butterflies and other species native to this area.

As they note on the LINPI website (<http://www.linpi.org/>), “Long Island is a diverse mosaic of maritime grasslands, pitch pine, oak and beech forests, rivers, streams, tidal marshes, bluffs and beaches that are fragmented by human development. A decline in local biodiversity continues as natural habitats are further encroached upon by more development, agriculture and invasive species.” We are delighted to be working with LINPI to foster biodiversity. LINPI is a coalition of organizations, governmental agencies, nursery professionals, and citizens whose mission is to protect the genetic integrity and heritage of Long Island native plant populations.

Herb Kouts

We are grateful for the generous contribution from the Kouts family in honor of Herbert Kouts of Brookhaven. In his memory, a quiet corner for contemplation was set aside at the Edgar Avenue Preserve.



Dr. Herbert J. C. Kouts (1919 – January 7, 2008) was a nuclear physicist and engineer, a pioneer in nuclear safety, and director of Nuclear Reactor Safety Research at the Atomic Energy Commission. Dr. Kouts was elected to the National Academy of Engineering in 1978 “for contributions in nuclear engineering, especially physical principles and safety of nuclear power reactors and nuclear materials safeguards”. Kouts received the Atomic Energy Commission’s Ernest Orlando Lawrence Award in 1963.



Dr. Kouts served in England during World War II, organizing a school to teach maintenance of airborne radar. He left the armed forces as a Major in 1945. He turned to nuclear physics soon after, established the Reactor Shielding Group at the Brookhaven National Laboratory, in Upton, N.Y. He was later the head of the reactor physics division there. Dr. Kouts lived in Brookhaven and was an enthusiastic sailor.



The following individuals were also remembered through a gift to the Foundation in 2012:



Malcolm Fleming
Bob Starke
Richard Fuka
Phil Munson



During 2013 we also were saddened by the loss of two members of our Brookhaven community. Karen Rowley was a longtime supporter of the Foundation. She was a member of the Herb Society of America-Long Island Unit and was instrumental in establishing the herb garden behind the Post-Morrow house at 16 Bay Road. Charlie Setlow was also a friend of the Foundation and his family donated in his honor. He was an active member of the Hamlet Organic Garden and contributed to Brookhaven Hamlet in many ways. He was often seen riding his bicycle around the Hamlet with a cheery greeting for everyone.



Girls in the Garden generously donated their time to maintain the herb garden in honor of Karen Rowley and Malcolm Fleming.

The Herb Garden was a setting for the Arts-4-Kids program



THANKS TO OUR DONORS

We are very grateful to the following donors who have given to the Foundation in 2012. Their assistance helps the Foundation maintain its effort to keep Brookhaven Hamlet and the surrounding area in its natural state and to protect the environment as our legacy to future generations.

Dominick & Janet Amato
Paul Bartilucci
Jane Belzak
Herbert & Frances Bernstein
Nelson & Johanna Briggs
Peter & Jean Brown
Robert & Gloria Brown
Jonathan Brown
Betty Budny

Wallace & Mildred Brown
Benjamin & Frances Burr
Ronald & Nancy Bush
Dr. Robert & Judith Cherniak
Elizabeth Coffin
Thomas & Rosemary Cornell
Roberta Crater
Anthony & Elaine Cromeyn
Gloria Cummings



Mist at Longmeadow Farm

Farrell Decker & Joanne Laface
Nicholas & Annette Delihias
Lillian & Nicholas DePaolo
Joe & Kathy Despres
Joseph & Margaret Doran
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John & Orell Dunn
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Mrs. Dorothy Jones
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Ed & Barbara Knowles
Rudi & Carol Konnerth
William & Joan Koob
Cynthia Korte
Barbara Kouts
Linda Link
Harvey & Mildred Lotko
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Ocean Blue Marine Transport
Recorder Society of L.I.
Yaphank Historical Society



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— GIFTS TO THE POST-MORROW FOUNDATION —

*Once a year the Foundation asks for your support.
A gift of any amount is most welcome and will assist us
in our stewardship of lands and resources in the
Brookhaven community.*

We have included an envelope for your convenience or you can go to our website, www.postmorrow.org and contribute via the “donate now” pay-pal button.



Goldenrod along Beaver Dam Creek

We are grateful to the many individuals who have contributed to the efforts of the Foundation to preserve the unique beauty of our community. Gifts to the Foundation are tax deductible.

Ways to help the Foundation include;

Matching gifts If your employer has a matching gifts program, your gift to the Foundation can be doubled or tripled. Please check with your employee benefits office.

Memorial gifts A gift in memory of a loved one or friend is a special tribute to someone who loves the area. We would be happy to notify the family of your charitable gift.

Gifts of land and/or historic material
We welcome gifts that reflect the heritage of our community.

Bequests
If you would like to extend your support of the work of the Foundation to preserve our heritage you may include in your will a bequest of cash, securities or property to the Foundation. If you would like to discuss a potential bequest please call Bruce Wallace, President at 286-0686.