

# Friends of Eagle Island, Inc.

Working to save Eagle Island Camp for future generations

Issue 1

February 2011



## Friends of Eagle Island, Inc. organizes to save the island

The Girl Scouts Heart of NJ voted to divest itself of Camp Eagle Island at the October Board Meeting. Since then, the Friends of Eagle Island, Inc. has increased its efforts to save Eagle Island by acquiring it from the Girl Scouts. Here is a quick list to bring you up to date on where the Friends of Eagle Island group currently stands:

On January 16<sup>th</sup>, 2011, at an expanded Steering Committee meeting of about 25 people, the group came to a unanimous agreement on its mission:

*“Donated by the Graves family in 1937 to provide outdoor opportunities and experiences for girls and young women, Eagle Island Camp has developed generations of women leaders. The mission of Friends of Eagle Island, Incorporated, is to perpetuate this legacy by providing an environmentally responsible Adirondack island camping experience for diverse youth, with an emphasis on girls and young women, while preserving Eagle Island’s natural and historic character.”*

Temporary Officers were elected:

Dorcas Hardy, *President*  
Mimi Harrington, *Vice President*  
Paula McGovern, *Treasurer*

Carole Mackenzie, *Assistant Treasurer*  
Lauren Parmington, *Secretary*

**How you can help:** Friends of Eagle Island, Inc. is accepting memberships and donations. We are signing up members and raising money to help us acquire the island. You can sign up online or through regular mail.

[www.friendsofeagleisland.org](http://www.friendsofeagleisland.org)

P.O. Box 245  
Livingston, NJ 07039

**Come to the first meeting!** Let us know your interests and expertise and the Board may find the perfect way for you to help.

*Saturday, April 2nd, 1-4 p.m.*

*Morrow Church  
600 Ridgewood Road  
Maplewood, NJ 07040*

## Update on the Graves Family

The man who originally donated the camp to the Girl Scouts, Henry Graves Jr., and his wife, Florence, had four children. Two of them, Henry Graves, III and George C. Graves, (whose names are on a plaque in the lodge), were killed in separate car accidents— contrary to Eagle Island legend. Henry III had three

children. George had none. The other two siblings were Duncan, who had three children, and Gwendolyn, who had two. Some of you may remember the boat Gwen, given with the Island when it was donated, which is named after Henry Jr.'s daughter.

George C. Graves was an adventurer and is probably responsible for most of the animal heads on the Island. His nickname was Toot or Tooty. Newspaper articles report that he was involved in expeditions in Asia and Alaska, resulting in animal specimen contributions to the American Museum of Natural History and the Field Museum in Chicago. So who knows where all the animal heads in the lodge came from?!

Professor Jill Martin, a representative from Friends of Eagle Island, has spoken with Gwen's daughter, Nan Fullerton Sharpe, who is about 80. She remembers summers on Eagle Island with her grandparents. Mr. Graves donated the camp when she was nine. She has fond memories of walking the Lakeside path with her grandmother and playing in a rowboat in the cove. She remembers her Uncle George landing a sea plane in the sailing cove. Jill also spoke with Henry D. Graves, Jr. (also known as Buz), the grandson of Henry Graves III, but the island was donated to the Girls Scouts before he was born. Both are concerned about Eagle Island's future.

## **Upper Saranac Cookbook wins 2nd place!**

The Upper Saranac COOKBOOK has taken second prize in the Morris Press's annual *Best Benefit Cookbook Contest*. The prize was \$2,000 towards the invasive milfoil control program. The Eagle Island alumnae purchased an ad in the cookbook and is a sponsor. Several of you donated recipes. Marsha Stanley, organizer of the cookbook said: "I think we won our own personal first prize in new friendships created on the lake and the old friendships strengthened. Most importantly we rekindled strong support for the lake's milfoil control program."

USLA cookbook had the biggest sales, \$46,400, of any of the cookbooks in the contest. The cookbooks are totally sold out. Thank you to all who contributed recipes, contributed to the ad, and purchased cookbooks. Milfoil control is an important campaign that the Friends of Eagle Island should remain part of. To see the awards, go to [www.cookbookawards.com/finalists10.asp](http://www.cookbookawards.com/finalists10.asp) and to read news of our lake and its residents and supporters on [www.uppersaranac.com](http://www.uppersaranac.com).

***"You can't control the wind-- you can only adjust your sails"***

***...well we have adjusted ours...please help by becoming a member today!***

