

QUABBIN

Voices

The Friends of Quabbin Newsletter

We must hear and listen to all of Quabbin's many Voices; Voices of the Past, as well as Voices of the Present and of the Future; Voices of the Trees, the Sky, the Rain that falls, and all the Wild Things; Voices of the People who depend on this valuable resource for their daily needs of clean water, and Voices of those who draw upon it for deeper needs of the Soul.

TAKE A TOUR OF BEAUTIFUL QUABBIN PARK CEMETERY WITH WALTER KING AND TERRY CAMPBELL

To get better acquainted with Quabbin Park Cemetery before the **Sunday, May 21 Memorial Day Services**, the self-guided walking tour developed several years ago by Terry Campbell and Walter King is the perfect answer. For those who love Quabbin history, just going through the pictures and text at the Visitor Center is a treat.

Terry and her husband Les cofounded Friends of Quabbin in 1985. She was the only MDC staff member assigned to the Visitor Center until its funding in 1988, running it virtually single-handedly, with help from a core group of FOQ volunteers.

Walter King spent his retirement years researching and documenting the little-known history of the four discontinued Valley towns, especially Greenwich where he was born. Walter died in 1990.

Terry's foresight in gathering and recording this tour with Walter's wonderful anecdotes about people buried in Quabbin Cemetery is truly a remarkable gift to us. Her tour deserves to be used more than it is.

Terry is now on an extended leave of absence from the Visitor Center and is not available to answer questions, but here, in her own words, is the introduction to the tour, an explanation of how it works, and a sample stop.

Introduction to the Quabbin Park Cemetery Tour by Terry Campbell

When Quabbin Reservoir was built in the 1930's, there were approximately 2,500 people still residing in the Swift River Valley. In addition to those persons living, there were over 7,500 deceased scattered throughout the valley. The exhumation and reinterment of these deceased was an awesome, unsettling task.

Land for Quabbin Park Cemetery was acquired in 1931. Much of the cemetery had been completed by 1933 and during that year it was formally dedicated. Of the 104 acres of land, thirteen were used for burial plots. Cemeteries in eight towns had to be relocated. 6,551 bodies were reinterred at Quabbin Park Cemetery while another 1,101 were buried in other communities.

The new graves were not placed with consideration of their original location. Although family groups are pretty much together, the towns and individual cemeteries are not. Most will agree that in spite of this oversight, Quabbin Park Cemetery is beautifully laid out and landscaped.

There are many people buried here who are worthy of mention. It was not possible to include all of them here. The purpose of this walk is to show a cross-section consisting of some of the interesting people as well as a few of the more unusual gravestones. The length of time and amount of ground to be covered also had to be considered.

Walter King, who died in 1990, was formerly of Greenwich Village, and was instrumental in organizing this walk. It was he who compiled the original list of names he felt should be included.

Mr. King left Greenwich Village in 1934 and moved to North Brookfield. He

had many relatives in the valley, most of whom are buried here.

Walter King had a vast store of knowledge of both the Swift River Valley—its citizens and legends—as well as the construction project itself. He worked on several areas of the Quabbin project; Winsor Dam, Goodnough Dike, Route 202, Administration Road, and the Administration Building itself.

Most of the initial information about those included in this walk was obtained from Walter King. Additional facts were obtained from books by Joseph Wm. Russell, J. R. Greene, Thomas Conuel, and other individuals. However, the bulk of information was gleaned from Don Howe's book "Quabbin, The Lost Valley." Copies of all these books are in local libraries as well as the office of the Visitor Center.

How to Use the Tour Guide

This walk was put together with the idea that it could be used without an interpretive staff person along. A map at the beginning connects the sites with numbered dots which are accurately located on the lot sites. This would be all that would be needed if there were above-the-ground markers which correspond with the lot numbers - which, of course, there are not.

To assist in following the trail, a photograph was taken of each site. Each site is numbered. The numbers correspond with those on the map as well as the accompanying written text. The large numbered yellow dot on each picture indicates the site you are currently at. Wherever it was

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Terry Campbell, far right, takes visitors on a tour of the Quabbin Park Cemetery

QUABBIN VOICES

is the periodic newsletter of the
Friends of Quabbin, Inc.

Edited by Lois Barnes
Design & production by Lisa Yeisley

*The views and opinions expressed in this
newsletter do not necessarily reflect the
views of Friends of Quabbin, Inc.*

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possible, a smaller numbered yellow dot indicates THE NEXT STOP. This should help orient you as to where to go next. Some pictures have more than one stop on them. That is indicated by more than one large numbered yellow dot.

To find your way through this walk, use the map in conjunction with the numbered photographs.

Sample: Stop #1

Monument Identification

The Civil War Soldier, canon to the right, and canon balls were once on the Town Common in Enfield. The accompanying photograph shows how the soldier was situated next to the Congregational Church. The statue is dramatically silhouetted against the steeple as the church burned in 1936.

The canon to the left and the memorial to all veterans from the Revolution through World War I to the left rear was on Dana Common. Also from Dana Common is the Hosea Ballou monument which is located in the rear to the right. Rev. Ballou was generally credited with being the father of Universalism in his latter days. You can read more about the remarkable life of Rev. Ballou at the Visitor Center or in local libraries.

The pinnacle monument (obelisk) was erected by John Atkinson, a Revolutionary War veteran, in honor of General George Washington. Atkinson was a member of General Washington's Personal Guard during the Revolution. This monument was once in the Prescott cemetery.

The maple tree was taken from the Walker farm in Hardwick. It is dedicated to Stephen Hillman Walker who was the only man from Greenwich who died in World War I.

There is a World War I memorial plaque on the outside of the caretaker's building which includes the names from all four disincorporated Swift River Valley towns. ❁

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Along with continued support for the Quabbin Visitor Center and the MDC Interpretive Services Program, the past year was marked by a number of special events. Friends' volunteers were a great help with the Envirothon as well as at the Visitor Center. I joined Ruth Jazab and Mary Boronski at the last Memorial Day observance at Quabbin Park Cemetery. Although Ruth and Mary did all the work, I assisted in carrying our new banner. It was a special and moving tribute to the veterans from the former towns as well as an opportunity to share thoughts and experiences with former residents and others.

In October, Lois Barnes, Ruth Jazab, Julie Pluta, Celia Slozak, Rich Sinkoski and myself had a booth at the Belchertown Fair in an effort to reach out to others and build membership. It was a good learning experience all around.

We had a great Holiday Party! There were many shared experiences concerning the theme of “ice” with Elwyn Doubleday giving us a first hand detailed account of ice harvesting in the Valley. Could we have anticipated the long cold winter to follow, a great winter like they used to be? I wonder how many ice harvests Greenwich Lake would have produced if it existed today.

The Friends of Quabbin joined with the Nashua River Watershed Association, Massachusetts Audubon Society, Water Supply Citizens Advisory Committee, and Rutherford H. Platt as Friends of the Court in the case of the United States of America (plaintiff) v. the Massachusetts Water Resources Authority and Metropolitan District Commission (defendants). Alexandra Dawson represented the Amici and filed a Brief Amicus with the United States Court of Appeals.

Our Annual Meeting was one of the

by

Bob Clark



best and a great success. We had a great turnout for the superb presentation by Julie Collier and Jim Parks with live Birds of Prey. All the birds were species that could be seen at Quabbin. It was an exciting, interesting, and fun presentation enjoyed by children and adults.

A very special part of the Annual Meeting was honoring Ida Adams and Mary Boronski for over fifteen years of service as Friend's volunteers for the Visitor Center. Their enthusiasm, energy, and dedication are remarkable and an incredible contribution. Thank you from all your Friends.

The Tuesday Teas have been well attended and are an invaluable forum to share experiences and stories of the Swift River Valley. The invaluable work of Lois Barnes and Lisa Yeisley with the Oral History Project collects and preserves information and stories that would otherwise be lost. Equipment has been purchased to transfer the tapes to compact disks that will be much more permanent and of higher quality.

The Friends purchased new archival display binders for the Visitor Center, and the long task of transferring material from the old worn out binders to the new is well under way. There are display binders for the “Quabbin Aqueduct”, the “History of Wachusett Reservoir”, the “Quabbin Re-generation Issue”, the “Quabbin Reservoir Spillway”, and the “Construction of Winsor Dam”.

I hope to see you at the Memorial Day observance on May 27th, and wishing you an especially beautiful spring.

“HERE WAS HOME” BUS TOUR

Reserve a seat on our tour of the Quabbin Park area on **Sunday, May 27th following the Quabbin Memorial Day Services**. The bus will leave at 1:00 PM from in front of the Visitor Center at the west end of Winsor Dam. The tour, accompanied by our oral history tape “Here Was Home”, will take about three hours. There will be stops along the way and there will be additional interpretive narrative as we go.

Reservations are required. To make them, call the Visitor Center at (413) 323-7221. The cost for the tour is \$4.00 for Friends members and \$6.00 for non-members.



INTERPRETIVE SERVICES REPORT

by
Clif Read

Now that the evidence of winter is finally disappearing, we will be talking about these past few months for years to come. Even with the official arrival of spring on March 20th, it looked as though winter still had a strong grip on our area. The incredible snow pack, the length of the season, below average temperatures, and the duration of ice on the reservoir will all remain as images of Winter 2001.

Persistent ice conditions caused a two-week delay in the Boat Launch Area opening this year, as the stubborn ice retreated and finally vanished by the April 28th opening day. Never has an opening date been so late, so this year was truly record setting. When the reservoir was first opened to boat fishing in 1952, the opening date was established as the third weekend in April. In the early 1990's, the date was moved a week earlier to the second Saturday in the month to accommodate the school vacation week and since the reservoir was almost always open by that time. Of course everything was always

weather permitting, but we never encountered a year like this before.

The extraordinary snow cover has also been late in disappearing this year. Cool temperatures, coupled with the great depth of snow, have resulted in a slow melt during March and April. From a reservoir management standpoint, this sustained thaw is much preferred when compared to a fast melt that carries more sediment to the reservoir and results in more flooding along tributaries. Since mid-March when the reservoir was five feet below capacity, the elevation has risen rapidly, making it likely that it will reach capacity sometime in May. If this does happen, it will mark the 22nd time since 1946 that this event has occurred.

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Thanks to support from the Friends, the exhibit books in the Visitor Center are receiving a facelift. One of the most popular sources of information for visitors, these books are used to display exhibit materials once they have been removed from the Center's walls. Over the years the books have been well used, as evidenced by their worn and tattered appearance. Often visitors will come to the Center, sit down at the tables and read through each of the books in order, gaining a better perspective and appreciation of Quabbin in the pro-

cess. Using archival quality materials, the books on the Quabbin Aqueduct, Winsor Dam, Spillway, Wachusett Reservoir and Regeneration Issues have all been replaced, making them much more aesthetically pleasing and professional in appearance, and hopefully they will last another 10 years.

Memorial Day will be here before we know it and plans are under way for the traditional ceremonies at Quabbin Park Cemetery on Sunday, April 27th. Over the years the event has continued to grow and the participation of the historical societies, Friends of Quabbin, veterans groups and local merchants has expanded. We look forward to another successful event this spring and the opportunity to offer another "Here Was Home" Bus Trip that afternoon.

MEMORIAL DAY
SERVICES AT QUABBIN
PARK CEMETERY
SUNDAY
APRIL 27, 2001
PARADE BEGINS AT 11:00 AM



FOQ ANNUAL MEETING 2001



Jim Parks, with a red-tailed hawk. In addition, all members nominated to the board of directors were elected, and current officers have retained their positions for another term. We welcome Susan Essig as a new reserve board member and bid farewell and thank you to Betty Bousquet, who has decided to retire.

FOQ NEWS, LETTERS & COMMENTARY

We are still receiving positive feedback about our December “ice” party. It has inspired your editor to dig through her files and find the following poem by a favorite poet, **Joseph Langland**. He was a member of the first FOQ board of directors and remained on the board for a number of years. I found the poem typed on a piece of green construction paper and I clearly remember its being read at a Friends’ gathering. Evidently this was not the first time Joe had read extemporaneously to the Friends, according to the “Voices” 1985 summer issue; “A few lucky people who happened to be at the Visitor Center at the right moment on the day we had a reception for (artist) Frank Bly were treated to an impromptu poetry recitation by our own Joe Langland.”

Upon Seeing an Ice-Floe Going Past Me in Late March in Quabbin Reservoir by Joe Langland

*Winter is breaking up.
This is that time of year.
One ice floe slowly passes
along the shore, as near
as pole can push it out
beyond the rocky snags,
or wind can catch it up.
This eye-of-the-surface drags
one-eighth above the waves:
what the old survivors mean
by that ageless formula
of more than is ever seen.*

**Enfield a watery valley
Dana drowned and still
Prescott lost in a forest,
Greenwich a watery hill**

*Are these the floods they saw
rise up and settle down
decade by decade, until
they tombed each local town?*

*Or silenced, for all time,
their lined and mortared faces?
Under this glassy stare
they winter in their places.*

**Greenwich and Dana's day
with Prescott and Enfield gone,
the old folk blown away
the young folk moving on.**

*And here, now, in late March,
these wandering ragged floes
blow southward with the wind
in the Swift Valley of snows.
And they tell the watchful eye
that even those neighborhoods
must warm to another year
among these streams and woods.*

**Enfield a watery valley,
Greenwich a watery hill,
Prescott lost in a forest,
and Dana drowned and still.**

Speaking of ice . . .

Traditionally the breaking up of ice on the Quabbin Reservoir happens in March but sometimes not until April. Then there’s always a bet on as to whether it will go before fishing season starts.

Besides a lot of comments and queries about ice, we have received a six-page manuscript from FOQ member **Pete Tandy** entitled, “*Cutting the Ice*,” half of which is reprinted on page 6.

And on page 5 is a letter from FOQ member and first-time contributor **Brenda Cummings** about her own recent experiences with ice cutting. . .

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A note from North Brookfield member, **Norma Cernauskas**, raises a serious question a lot of members are asking:

“When is the visitor center going to have enough room for public meetings?” Norma says, “Have been waiting and hoping for you to resume having winter slide shows at the Friends of Quabbin. It gave us retired people something to look forward to during the snow and cold weather. We miss them very much.”

Is it time to think about building a new, larger Visitor Center?

At our April meeting the FOQ board of directors discussed this very issue. Since the programs at the Administration Building were halted several years ago due to the lack of handicapped accessibility and the difficulty of retrofitting the existing structure, the board and Interpretive Services staff have been looking into other options, including renovating one of the MDC garages – a possibility that, unfortunately, has run into some bureaucratic problems. At the April meeting, a committee was formed to examine the feasibility of building a brand new education center. We’ll keep you posted! [– L.Y.]

TUESDAY TEA NEWS

The new schedule for Tuesday Tea, the first and third Tuesdays of the month, from 1:00 to 3:00, seems to be working out well, with many people dropping by to ask questions, get information, or just wanting to chat with former residents.

Susana Lee of local public radio station **WFCR (88.5 FM)** has been interviewing former residents about their memories of the Farewell Ball for a program to be aired on **April 27th at 7:30 AM** during Morning Edition. The 27th is the anniversary of the Enfield Firemen’s Ball in 1938. The valley towns were officially disincorporated at midnight. Ms. Lee will have a tape of the segment for us if you missed it.

FOQ NEWS, LETTERS & COMMENTARY

“**R**emarks about the subject of ice cutting in Clif Read’s Interpretive Services Report in the February 2001 issue prompted me to write my first letter to *Quabbin Voices*.

My earliest recollection of delivered ice goes back to when I was a young girl growing up in Ludlow. I would watch Harold White unload a block of ice from his truck, hoist it with large tongs over his shoulder and put it in the wooden icebox on our back porch. I remember he had a piece of leather material on his back for protection from the cold and dripping ice.

Since hearing about ice harvesting over the years, I became interested in the process and was happy one day this year when I spotted, in the daily newspaper, an invitation from the Rondeau Ice Company at 358 Shearer St. in Palmer to come and watch and even take part in ice harvesting.

My sister-in-law and I got there early, and we went down to the edge of the 3-acre pond [near the plant] and watched. In less than two minutes, Phil Whitney grabbed my arm and took me out onto the ice, saying “You look like you’d like to cut some ice!” How he knew that I’ll never know. Phil is a well-known ice harvesting demonstrator and lecturer from Fitchburg and he was, of course, right.

The area for harvesting had been marked into block size with an ice plow. Then Phil, along with Dennis Picard who was helping close by, handed me a breaker bar to chip ice out of the premarked lines. Before I knew it, I had an ice saw in my hands and was told to work it in an up and down fashion, and soon the block of ice was floating free. Last step was to use the pike pole to push and guide the ice block out of the pond and up a wooden ramp to a stack of other blocks on the edge of the pond.

Later, Michael Rondeau, plant manager, gave an hour-long ice sculpting demonstration. With an electric chain saw and a chisel, he fashioned a heart

Not All the News is Good. . .

According to a report in the MOSES Monitor, newsletter of the Massachusetts Organization of State Engineers and Scientists, MDC and MWRA are under attack. Among other things, they may face severe budget cuts in the near future.



MDC AND MWRA UNDER ATTACK

Recent legislation and budget items have been particularly harsh to the MWRA and MDC. MOSES represents approximately 550 workers combined at these two agencies. The governor’s proposed budget reduces funds to the MWRA by some \$12 million dollars. This is an attempt to force the authority to privatize its facilities. The MWRA Labor Coalition, consisting of members from AFSCME, NAGE, MOSES AND US STEELWORKER LOCALS, are working to prevent this reduction in funds to the authority.

In addition, longtime MWRA Director, Doug MacDonald, who opposed [former governor] Cellucci’s attempts to privatize, has resigned and will have left for a job in Seattle by the time you read this article. This leaves the door open for the governor to appoint a privatization-friendly director - a move that could be devastating to our members.

We are actively working to influence the choice for MacDonald’s replacement in order to get a more labor-friendly director, but ultimately the MWRA Board of Directors will have the final say. Although the governor controls four seats out of eleven, three come from the city of Boston and are under

the control of Mayor Menino, and the others represent the MWRA member communities.

The MDC is again under pressure on two fronts. Both the governor, through a bill and his proposed budget, and Senator Michael Morrissey through the filing of two bills (H-628 and H-629) would take the transportation function from the MDC and transfer it to Mass Highway. The bill would also consolidate all forest and park activities under the purview of the Department of Environmental Management.

This attempt, which has been orchestrated on a perennial basis by the governor, has always been rejected by the legislature. However, the Morrissey bills add a new dimension and seriousness to this attempt. Approximately 150 MOSES positions may be impacted. Morrissey, although complimentary toward the workers at the MDC, is furious because the MDC management failed to use monies that were earmarked for projects in his district for their intended use. Apparently these funds were earmarked three times and, according to Morrissey, three times they were not properly utilized. MOSES has contacted the senator to express our opposition. ✧

and a boat. When Michael has more time, he can sculpt swans or a rocking horse and even a motorcycle!

This event is held annually, usually around the last weekend in January. Our whole time there was lots of fun, and I thank Michael for taking the time to answer all my questions, so I could bring this report to you.”

**Brenda Cummings,
Granby, MA**

Besides a very successful Annual Meeting program featuring **Julie Collier, Jim Parks** and their Birds of Prey (see photos on page 3), Friends were invited to attend a meeting at Mount Holyoke College where **Dale Monette**, of the Visitor Center staff, gave a very informative “Then and Now” talk on the history of Quabbin Reservoir. The audience was large and quite interested in the Friends’ exhibit of historic pictures from the discontinued towns and the building of the reservoir in the 1930’s.

CUTTING THE ICE (PART 1)

by Norman "Pete" Tandy

Things are always changing. Sometimes for the better, sometimes not. One of our nagging human problems is that, often, we can't tell which - at least not at the time. A couple of minutes ago, just before I sat down here at the keyboard, I went into the kitchen for a couple of ice cubes to put in my glass. The ice is doing OK. It just quietly sits there, changing from solid to liquid, absorbing heat from the surrounding fluid. It's made of good New Hampshire well-water, from 350 feet down through solid ledge. No giardia cysts in these ice cubes.

How easy it is to take our common miracles for granted. As I sip my drink I don't often think about how the energy it took to freeze the ice cubes may have, just an instant ago, come roaring out of sundering uranium atoms. Or that a sun hundreds of millions of years younger may have given this power to a plant, the energy transformed and sleeping in the form of coal or petroleum until turned back to fire again, this time to boil water to spin a turbine to whirl magnetic fields . . . all to freeze my cubes to cool my drink. It has become a long and tenuous trip from source to service. Sadly, such long threads foster our arrogant assumption that we're somehow no longer dependent upon the natural world.

Not too long ago we came by our ice in much different fashion. I'd be tempted to say the old way was "better," but I'm not entirely sure. There are always trade-offs. At least the costs in-

volved back then were immediate and visible. The harvesting of pond ice was achingly labor-intensive, but the bill was simple to total up, with all the payments made within a span of days. The ice cubes in my glass are only cheap if reckoning their cost is limited to the pennies on my electric bill. Their true cost would have to include the price - both monetary and environmental - of decommissioning atomic power plants, and disposing of radioactive material; or the costs of fossil fuel's emissions into our atmosphere, the consequent global warming, the degradation of the very air we breathe. It seems the fine print in our inadvertent contracts almost always conceal a Faustian bargain.

Although commercial refrigeration processes had been around for decades, it wasn't until after World War I, and particularly during the 1920's, that home refrigerators began to take hold. Even then rural New Englanders resisted, seeing little sense in paying good money for a service that, with just a "little" work, Mother Nature would provide free.

My great-grandfather had the system licked. He didn't even own an ice-box, much less a refrigerator. Under the pines on the knell behind the house was a never-failing spring of the coldest sweet, soft water. This gift was piped into the big soapstone cistern in the back

pantry, running twenty-four hours a day. The overflow ran through the kitchen sink and on out to a dry well. Watertight milk cans and glass jars in the cistern held whatever food needed cooling. The temperature of the water varied only a few degrees from winter to summer, hovering in the low forties. A little high as reckoned by today's refrigerator standards, but it seemed to do well enough, and you couldn't beat the price.

Most folks, though, had to rely on pond-cut ice and those fine old zinc-lined oaken ice boxes to keep the chicken salad fresh, and the Moxie nice and cold. Even back then, I suspect the city dwellers didn't think much more than we today as to where the ice originated. It was just something the iceman brought, just as our more modern anonymous sources are animated by a switch. The iceman provided a cardboard sign which the householder would prop up in

the window on ice day, with the uppermost number signifying the number of pounds of ice they

How easy it is to take our common miracles for granted. . .

wanted. Old habits die hard, and I still mostly think of my electric refrigerator as "the ice-box."

In the little village where I grew up, though, there wasn't any doubt as to where the ice came from. It came from the west branch of Fever Brook, and spent most of the remainder of its dwindling life in a rude and roofless crib of slabs, filled with layers of sawdust and the great cakes of winter's cooling bounty.

—Look for Part 2 in our next issue—



Left, Greenwich Cemetery stones, before they were moved to Quabbin Park Cemetery. Right, the Flagg Monument in its original location in the Dana Center Cemetery. Both are in Terry Campbell's "Quabbin Park Cemetery Walking Guide." (See pages 1-2)

Photos by Les Campbell



SMALL PRIVATE PLANE LANDS ON OUR PUBLIC RESERVOIR

by John Gregoire, reprinted from the March 1st issue of "This Week", the MWRA Employees' newsletter



MDC and Mass Environmental Police prepare to use snowmobiles to tow a plane that had illegally landed on Quabbin.

Maybe the pilot was looking for the Dana Regional Airfield. However, if an airport ever existed, it, and the town of Dana, are now under 41 billion gallons of water, along with the former towns of Prescott, Greenwich and Enfield. At about 10:30 a.m. on Friday, January 26, a plane flying over the Quabbin radioed to Logan Air Traffic Control that there was a small plane on the reservoir's ice-covered surface.

The Logan controller alerted the State police, who had a chopper in the air and confirmed the incident within ten minutes. By 11:30 a.m., a trooper was on the ground to prevent the pilot from taking off. Take-off would have been difficult, however; the plane's wheels were stuck in 18 inches of slushy snow piled up on the Quabbin's ice, making the pilot's earlier attempts at escape futile.

So began the day for pilot Bernard Paradis, 51, of Fitchburg. And so began a long weekend for MDC Division of Watershed Management (DWM) staff, Mass. State Police and the Mass. Environmental Police as the Incident Response System kicked in. The plane landed in the northeast portion of the reservoir, in what was formerly the town of Dana. Because of the remote location, DWM crews had to plow their way through 15 miles of interior forest roads to locate the aircraft and a staging area where the plane could be taken out.

Efforts to tow the aircraft, a PA28 Piper Cherokee, 1-1/2 miles across the ice required a combination of equipment - a hovercraft from the Wachusett Reservoir, Environmental Police snowmobiles, and the plane's own power. But the most important equipment may well have been the children's sleds that were placed under the wheels to reduce friction. By nightfall on Saturday, the plane was secured for the

night on shallow ice near the Quabbin's shoreline.

On Saturday, the DWM and police recovery crews returned, along with the pilot and a private recovery crew. In deciding where to take the plane out, Dave Smalls, DWM's Incident Commander, said, "We had to take into consideration the risk of crossing slush-covered ice of undetermined thickness, and decided on an alternative safe route."

They ended up towing the plane an additional 1/2 mile to where the old, pre-reservoir route of the Monson Turnpike enters the reservoir. While this was happening, chain saw and tree equipment crews were busy at the shoreline staging area that was set up at the old road. A 20-foot wide, 250-foot long strip of red maple saplings had to be cleared from both sides of the old road in order to get the plane up onto the driest area. DWM road crews continued work, plowing and sanding the access they created. Once the plane was secured on land, and after explicit instructions by DWM staff on the use of spill containment equipment, the private recovery crew secured the plane until a Federal Aviation Administration (FAA)-certified aircraft mechanic could be brought on site.

On Sunday, with the FAA mechanic on site, crews went to work draining all fluids from the aircraft. The mechanic then began the process of removing the plane's wings so

it could be loaded on a truck and transported through the heavily forested Quabbin watershed. DWM Rangers remained on hand with spill containment equipment, provided communications and controlled access to the site. These activities continued through Monday.

By 3:30 p.m. on Tuesday, January 30, the plane was physically off the watershed, and Pilot Paradis was officially in hot water. Mr. Paradis will face charges in Ware District Court for violating air space restrictions and landing his plane on Quabbin Reservoir, violations of the MDC's rules and regulations. The maximum penalty he could face from the court is a \$50,000 fine and a year in jail. The FAA could also impose a penalty for his actions. The DWM has submitted a \$6,000 bill to Mr. Paradis for the reimbursement of personnel and materials over the four-day recovery operation. The Mass. State Police and Environmental Police will probably do likewise.

The successful recovery was a result of the application of Incident Response Training in addition to the excellent cooperation and communication of many individuals in different fields, representing MWRA, the MDC, the Mass. State Police and the Environmental Police. Thanks and congratulations to everyone who helped to protect our reservoir!

Telling Our Stories: the 4th Annual Community Forum on Historical Records May 11, 2001 9:00-4:00 at UMass Amherst Campus Center

The Friends of Quabbin is cosponsoring the event, which will explore, through workshops and demonstrations, different ways of presenting and preserving the collective memory of the Commonwealth of Mass. and its people.

For more information, or to register, please visit the website

<http://www.sec.state.ma.us/sec/arc/arcaac/aacintro.htm>

or call Bill Millhomme at (617)727-2816