



# *Environmental Newsletter*

PORTSMOUTH NAVAL SHIPYARD

ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS

JUNE 1996

## Public Inputs into Shipyard Environmental Cleanup Action

### Background

The Shipyard's Installation Restoration Program, established in 1987, works to identify and clean up chemical contamination from past waste management practices. The IRP was given ideas and input from a Technical Review Committee, which included representatives from federal, state and local regulatory agencies. These TRC members met quarterly to ensure that their respective laws, regulations and policies were considered during the project planning and cleanup. The TRC also included a few members representing community interests.

To ensure the public's involvement in these cleanup decisions, the Department of Defense and the Environmental Protection Agency issued joint guidelines calling for the establishment of a Restoration Advisory board. Accordingly, the Shipyard expanded the TRC into a RAB and increased its membership to include six additional community members who represent a wide variety of public interests in the Kittery-Portsmouth area. The public is encouraged to contact these representatives about IRP issues and is invited to attend RAB meetings. The day, time and location of the RAB meetings will be publicized in local newspapers, and minutes from all meetings will be available in the Shipyard information repositories in both the Kittery and Portsmouth libraries.

### Meet the RAB Community Members

**Juanita Bell**, state legislator, a 35-year Portsmouth resident, has served in the House of Representatives. She formerly taught in the Portsmouth school system and served as president of the Portsmouth Chapter of the NAACP.

Juanita attended Wilberforce University in Ohio where she studied sociology. She has two grown children, a daughter in Berwick and a son in the armed services.

She is interested in IRP activities at the Shipyard and feels that she can contribute to the RAB, particularly through her experience as a legislator. Juanita can be reached at (603) 436-6773.

**Doug Bogen**, Maine Clean Water Action coordinator, currently a Portsmouth resident, has lived in the Seacoast area for nine years. Since 1992, Doug has coordinated the group's research, news media, public education and fundraising activities. Doug was elected the RAB community member co-chairman by the other RAB community members.

Doug earned a degree in biology at Colorado College and a master's degree in science and environmental education at Cornell. He has been following environmental issues at the Shipyard and has wanted to become more involved in an official capacity. Doug can be reached at (207) 430-9565 during the day and at (603) 430-9183 at home.

**Jeffrey K. Clifford, P.E.**, an engineer who works for G & Underwood Engineers, was an original community member of the Shipyard TRC.

Jeff earned a B.S. in civil engineering from the University of Maine. He is a member of the Kittery Conservation Commission and co-chaired the Kittery Wetlands Task Force. Jeff can be reached at (603) 436-6192.

**Michelle Dionne**, a research coordinator, has worked at the Wells National Estuarine Research Reserve since 1991.

She received her degree in biology from Bates, a master's degree from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, and a doctorate in aquatic ecology from Dartmouth. She and her husband live on a Berwick farm with their daughter, Matty.

Michelle feels a strong professional commitment to encouraging and participating in coastal restoration efforts in southern Maine and has had positive experiences working as a member of their advocacy groups. She can be reached at work at (207) 646-1555 and at home at (207) 698-7627.

**Mayor Eileen Foley** was born in Portsmouth in 1923 within minutes of the Shipyard to a family whose notion of public service was already legendary.

"I got my involvement in the community and government from my mother," says Eileen. "She was mayor, and she brought her kids up to believe in public service. I can remember people would stop me and ask me to do something and I'd just do it because that was the way it was in my home, with my mother. Most of my jobs have been doing service."

Her first remembrance of participating in a community event was when she was five years old. Up until that time the only way to "commute" to Maine from the Portsmouth side of the Piscataqua was by ferry or private boat. The states of Maine and New Hampshire had joined forces to build the

first span from Portsmouth to Kittery, dedicated to those who served in both the Army and Navy in World War I. To five-year-old Eileen, the highlight of the bridge's opening, celebrated by people and dignitaries from across both states, was having the exhilarating honor of cutting the ribbon during the ceremony.

A graduate of the Portsmouth school system, Eileen worked at the Paint Shop at the Shipyard, then went into the Army in World War II. Once the war was over, she continued her education at Syracuse College, then returned to Portsmouth to become involved in public service.

Her first job upon return was with the city's Welfare Department--the first job in a lifetime of serving Portsmouth on numerous boards and committees, both elected and volunteer.

"I've always been up and out," Eileen says. "That's what I like to do--not being stuck behind a desk. I agreed to be a member of the RAB because dedicated leadership is important, and I'm on it to share the information with the public."

Mayor Foley can be reached at (603) 431-2000.

**Mary Marshall**, a materials engineer, lives in York with her husband and two young children, a son and a daughter.

Mary attended Rensselaer Polytech Institute in Troy, NY, and graduated in 1982 with a B.S. in materials engineering. She now works at Textron Automotive Technical Center in Dover, NH.

Outside of work, her interests are gardening, sewing and participating in sports with her children.

Mary says the Shipyard is important to the community because of its common history, its loyalty to this location, and, of course, because of its economic contribution. She feels that with her technical background she can contribute to the community and the Shipyard and do her part to help.

Mary can be reached during the day at (603) 743-2575 and evenings/weekends at (207) 363-1572.

**Philip McCarthy**, Kittery Town Manager, was an original community member of the Shipyard Technical Review Committee.

Phil has a B.S. in math/science for the University of Maine and a master's degree in guidance and counseling.

To contact Phil, call (207) 439-1633.

**Jack McKenna**, an environmental consultant from Dover, opened his firm, Hydro-Terra-Environmental Services, after having worked for the engineering firm of Metcalf and Eddy. Jack is registered with the State of Maine as a geologist and as a hydrogeologist with the American Institute of Hydrology.

He received a degree in geology from the University of Rhode Island and a mater's degree from Boston University.

Jack feels his professional experience in dealing with environmental cleanup activities has increased his appreciation for public involvement in the cleanup process. He looks forward to contributing to the community by serving on the RAB.

He can be reached at work at (617) 246-5200 or at home, (603) 743-5728.

**Guy Petty**, UNH professor, has taught building science in the civil technology program since 1978. He served on the Kittery Zoning Board for six years.

Guy obtained a degree in architecture from Penn State and is a registered architect specializing in Building Science. He and his wife, Ellen Hirshberg, live in Kittery Point with their two sons.

His deep concern for the wonder of the Seacoast's natural surroundings drives his desire to participate in its protection. Guy can be reached during the day at (603) 862-1192 and at home at (207) 439-5225.

**Onil Roy**, a teacher at Traip Academy, is a long-time Kittery resident. Onil teaches science, biology and environmental science to the high school freshmen. Onil was an original community member of the Shipyard Technical Review Committee.

Onil holds a degree from the University of Maine-Presque Isle.

He can be reached at (207) 439-9488.

**Cathy Wolff**, writer and editor, moved to New Hampshire from Chicago in 1974 to work for the Associated Press. She has lived in the Seacoast area since 1977. Cathy lives across from the yard's dry docks with her son.

She received a degree in journalism from the University of Missouri. Cathy enjoys gardening, reading and performing in generic theater.

Living on the Back Channel, Cathy has a long-standing interest in the environment and wants to learn more about her neighbor, the Shipyard. Cathy can be reached at home at (207) 439-9542.

*Anyone interested in becoming involved in RAB activities should contact any of the RAB community members or can call Ken Plaisted, the Shipyard's co-chair, at (207) 438-3830.*

*The Shipyard would like to ensure that its mailing list contains the names of people who are interested in following its Installation Restoration activities. If you wish to remain on our mailing list, please remove the mailing label from this newsletter and tape it below. Use a pen to make any changes that are appropriate, then follow the directions on the other side of this page to create an envelope that will return this information to us. If we do not hear from you by July 31, WHETHER OR NOT THERE IS A CHANGE IN YOUR NAME OR ADDRESS, you will no longer receive information on our IR program. Many thanks for your cooperation.*

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