

RUM RIDGE ASSOCIATION A MAINE WOODS COMMUNITY

August 1, 2014

Dear Rum Ridge Association Member:

According to the Covenants of the Rum Ridge Association, property owners are required to pay an annual assessment. We use this assessment to meet the expenses such as road maintenance, snow removal, dock repairs, taxes and insurance, administrative costs, legal fees and electricity. At the annual meeting on 26 July 2014, members voted to set the assessment for the 2014/15 fiscal year at \$350.00 per lot to meet our annual expenses and to continue planned road and dock improvements. We would appreciate your prompt payment.

Payments are due no later than September 30. If we have not received your payment by October 30 a late fee of \$10 per month will be charged. Our present records list you as the current owner(s) of Rum Ridge property. If this is incorrect, please advise us as soon as possible so that our records may be corrected. If your property is for sale, you are responsible for paying the annual dues, as our fiscal year runs from 1 August to 31 July. At closing, your lawyer should prorate the remaining amount and charge the difference to the new owners.

If you have a problem meeting the due date, or if you need to arrange budget payments, you may request an extension at the address below or email pwood615@gmail.com or Jack.Sheltmire@cortland.edu. Receiving Rum Ridge correspondence electronically helps to lower expenses, so please let us know if you have changed your email address.

Thank you,

Peg Wood, Treasurer

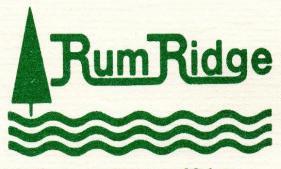
Keep up with Rum Ridge news, visit our webpage: **www.rumridge.com**

Please return this portion with your payment.

The annual assessment of \$350 per lot is due by 30 September 2014 Please make your check or money order payable to the Rum Ridge Association.

> Send to: Rum Ridge Association PO Box 654 Greenville, ME 04441

Name:	LOT #:
Mailing Address:	
Email Address:	



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Moosehead Country, Maine

Sounds of the Loon



Greetings From Rum Ridge!

President's Message

Since the last annual meeting in 2013 significant growth has taken place. This year's annual meeting and picnic was the 40th! It is hard to believe Rum Ridge has existed that long. There were actually a few of us that attended those early meetings in the 70's present for the 40th. More than 50 people attended the meeting and stayed for the picnic. Once again, we were blessed with good weather. Karen Hopkins and Dianne Harson coordinated the picnic and did an excellent job. They would like to express their appreciation to everyone who returned their picnic registration form. They said it really helps make the job much easier. Art Pasetchnik continued to serve as the "Grill Master" and did an excellent job. Thanks to everyone who took the time to attend and participate.

Three existing Rum Ridge Board members were elected to 3 year terms. Those individuals are D.J. Salmon, Vice President; Terry Haines, Secretary; and Russ Gagnon, Member at Large. They are all thankful for your continued support. From my perspective as President, we have an excellent Board who truly cares about Rum Ridge, its ecosystem and its membership's needs. We are all well served by their insight and dedication.

Perhaps, the most evident improvement has been in the road system. As many of you know, the road system in Rum Ridge was constructed by Scott Paper Company and Skylark in 1971 and 1972. Mike Bushman, Chair of the Road Committee continues to seek improvement of all the roads within the road system. For the first time in more than 40 years some of the less traveled roads were graded and received an application of calcium chloride. Mike's plan for next year is to continue what is working but expand the road maintenance to all roads. A hearty thanks to Mike and his road committee.

In addition to the roads, other improvements have been realized. A new bridge has been constructed over Grenell Brook and the bench at Loon Landing has been replaced.

These were not easy projects due to their location. Conditions on the hiking trail system throughout Rum Ridge continue to improve. Cheryl Brown, Trail Coordinator has posted a listing of trails that could use a little attention. If you are hiking the trails take your clippers and clip as needed. If you are a lot owner which abuts the trail and a tree has fallen over the trail in your area please take a minute to cut it and open the trail. This is only to clear the trail. All of the Rum Ridge memberships own the common land and no one is permitted to cut healthy standing trees of any size in the common area. This also pertains to those trees located within the 100 foot Shore Land Zoning area. If you have a question, contact Jack Hart, Code Enforcement Office, Greenville Town Office.

Last fall, on the Saturday over Columbus weekend a large group of volunteers cut a significant amount of small trees and brush along the sides of the Rum Ridge Road and the Loon Landing Road. Another workday is scheduled to continue this process on Saturday, October 11, 2014. The volunteers will meet at the Loon Landing parking lot "RAIN or SHINE" at 8 in the morning. If you are available on that day please plan to join your neighbors and help. Participation is not limited to only the male species; all are welcome. Be sure to bring your gloves, loppers and chain saw. A hot lunch or afternoon meal will be provided. Thanks in advance for your help and support.

In summary, we are making progress. As noted at the annual meeting, much of what we are doing now is playing catchup for years of neglect. We do have some major projects ahead, like replacing the Rum Ridge Barrel sign and the cutting of the higher tree canopy along the road system. It is one step at a time.

Sincerely,

Jack C. Sheltmire, President Rum Ridge Association

Highlights Of The Annual Meeting

*Forty one lots were represented at the meeting, many by proxy. We need a minimum of 32 lots to constitute a quorum for an official meeting. The Board appreciates the many members who took the time to assign a proxy for their vote. We wouldn't have had a quorum without you.

*In order to continue with the improvements to the Rum Ridge infrastructure and to make up for years of minimal maintenance, dues were again increased this year, to \$350. The Board makes every effort to keep costs as low as possible and use volunteer labor whenever possible to complete projects, such as brushing out the roads last October, and building a new bridge over Grenell Brook on the Lakeshore Trail, but many of our costs are fixed. The increase amounts to less than 5%, and Rum Ridge has the lowest dues of any Association in the area.

*The five year plan to improve roads is in the third year and slightly ahead of schedule. The application of calcium chloride has greatly reduced the formation of dust and potholes. There was some concern about icy roads last winter, which was a good oldfashioned Maine winter, and the Board will work with the plowing contractor to improve conditions next winter.

*The annual Sunday Work Day was cancelled this year to allow seasonal and short-term residents more time to enjoy the amenities of Rum Ridge. Work days for specific projects will be scheduled as needed. The next scheduled work day is Saturday October 11, to brush out Rum Ridge Road from the KI Road to Loon Landing.

*In one of the few contested elections in recent years, current Board members Russ Gagnon, Terry Haines, and DJ Salmon were returned to the Board for three year terms.

*The good weather held out for the picnic. Art Pasetchnik again manned the grill, producing burgers, hot dogs, and his special sausage. Picnic coordinators Dianne Harson and Karen Hopkins made sure the clubhouse and bathrooms were clean, organized drinks, and coordinated the potluck dishes provided by members.

A Word About Lot Numbers

When you sign in for the annual meeting, and when you pay your dues, we ask for your lot number. Why do we do that? When Rum Ridge was created, 95 lots were surveyed and numbered sequentially. These numbers were the basis for all ownership records since day one, and are the numbers we use today. You may notice a different number on your property tax bill from the Town of Greenville. There are two tax maps that cover Rum Ridge, so there is some repetition of lot numbers between maps. In the early 1990s, the advent of the 9-1-1 emergency system mandated that all properties have a street address. The original wooden Rum Ridge street name signs were removed and replaced by Greenville standard signs. These addresses are not ideal for record-keeping as some members own more than one lot but only have one address. So for our purposes the original Rum Ridge lot numbers are still the best way for the Association to keep records organized.

Work Day

The next work day will be Saturday, October 11, to trim back brush along Rum Ridge Road. Meet at the clubhouse at 8 am. If you have any tools for trimming brush (saw, lopper, etc.) please bring them. Safety goggles and a hard hat are also a good idea. A hot lunch will be provided. The work day last October was one of the most successful ever and we hope this one will be even better.

Board Meeting

The next scheduled Board of Directors meeting will be Sunday October 12 at 1 pm, at the clubhouse on Loon Landing. The meeting is open to all members.

Rum Ridge Association Board of Directors Contact Information

Jack Sheltmire, President (jack.sheltmire@cortland.edu; 207-631-4115) DJ Salmon, Vice President (dj@djsalmon.com; 508-245-2357) Peg Wood, Treasurer (pwood615@gmail.com; 302-559-9891) Terry Haines, Secretary (tahaines1@gmail.com; 207-852-0245)