

Mussel Ridge News

*A Free Publication of the Mussel Ridge Historical Society
Owls Head, Maine*

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Benefit Salvage/Yard/Rummage Sale

Own a Piece of Owls Head History

The Town of Owls Head has authorized the Mussel Ridge Historical Society (MRHS) to remove all the items from the Local Grange Hall N^o. 563 (located at 4 Ash Point Dr. on the corner of North Shore and Ash Point) prior to a decision on final disposition of the building and lot. All items inside the building are to be sold including vintage wood and cast iron folding theater chairs, wooden folding chairs, bureau, upright piano, tables, straight back chairs, lots of china, glass and flatware, podiums, 1935 Universal electric stove and oven, and many more vintage items from the early to mid 1900's. Everything must go! Including the furnace, aluminum duct-work, electric panels, doors and the cast iron kitchen sink.

All proceeds from this sale will benefit construction of the proposed Mussel Ridge Learning Center to be located behind and adjacent to the Owls Head Community building at 224 Ash Point Dr.

Who should attend this sale? Antique dealers, contractors, building salvage companies, bargain seekers, amateur historians or anyone interested in a good deal.

Sale will be one day only: Saturday, September 4th, 2021 from 9am to 2pm. All sales will be final. We will accept cash or local checks. For more information email: history@musselridge.org or call Carolyn at 207-593-2667.

SEE YOU THERE!

MUSSEL RIDGE LEARNING CENTER CAMPAIGN LAUNCH!

*Proposed
Mussel Ridge Learning Center will be
located next to the Owls Head Community
Building*



Join us in helping to make the Mussel Ridge Learning Center a reality! Our goal is to raise \$200,000 by September 2023, which will enable us to build the new Learning Center, which will serve as a home for preserving the Historical Society's collection and Owls Head history, as well as be a center for learning and education for people of all generations.

While our kickoff will not be the festive affair we had planned due to renewed COVID concerns, our excitement is great! We invite you to be part of this exciting project for our community. You can view our campaign brochure here at musselridge.org. To learn more about our plans as well as ways to support the project please contact Carolyn, by phone (207-593-2667) or Marty via email at campaign@musselridge.org.



We look forward to connecting with you in the coming months. Watch for updates on our website musselridge.org, Facebook ([owlsheadhistory](https://www.facebook.com/owlsheadhistory)) and Instagram ([@musselridgehistorical](https://www.instagram.com/musselridgehistorical)).

Thank you.



Monique Bearce
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Fall Hours : Sat: 10 - 5

166 South Main St
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542-2201

Rockland, Maine *Courier Gazette*

A WHALE OF A TALE OF A NAME . . .

A Mussel Is A Muscle, Is A Moscule, Is A Muskyll

Correct spelling of proper names has been a headache of the newspaper business since the first papers were lifted from the hand press. Mrs. Clemice Pease of Owls Head can offer a bit of sympathy in view of her experience on behalf of the new historical society in the Owls Head-South Thomaston area.

In the formation stages, it was decided to name the society for the channel which runs up by Owls Head and South Thomaston.

The charts said MUSCLE RIDGE but the dictionary said MUSSEL. So it was up to Historian Clemice to find the correct spelling.

Off went letters in all directions but the only answer came from the Bangor Public Library and Librarian L. Felix Randlett.

The reply said:

"All of the maps and charts to which we have direct access spell it MUSCLE RIDGE. An article on the Spite House in Down East magazine for September 1960 spelled it MUSSEL RIDGE. In the 'Letters to the Editor' column of Down East for November 1960, a correspondent reports a map where the spelling is MUSSEL RIDGES. Everybody seems to agree that 'muscle' would make better sense than 'mussel.'

"As we have studied this here, particularly referring to the Great Oxford Dictionary whose full title is A NEW ENGLISH DICTIONARY ON HISTORICAL PRINCIPLES and which really interprets the development of spelling of English words from the very earliest time, we find the bivalve to have been spelled in a great many different ways, all of them synonymous. They include all of the spellings mentioned in your letter, in the first paragraph of this letter, and many others. There is a reference for 1697 and another for 1740 in which the bivalve was spelled "muscle." The Old English spelling for the bivalve was "muscle." Some of the English spellings for the bivalve have been muscelle, muscle, musle, muxe, muscule, muske, moscle, moscolle, moskyll, muschyl, muskele, muskyl mussell, mussell, mustul, (pl. muskollz) muscul, muskyll, muskel, muskil, mussil, mistle, mustell, muscel, muxe and mussel (a total of 25 spellings not counting the plural).

"Our conclusion, which we cannot prove, is that "muscle" started in some period when this spelling was the common one for the bivalve and has simply been carried along to the present time."

Where it was a matter of elimination or just resignation, the society decided on the last spelling on the list, MUSSEL.

Still to be heard from are other libraries and the U. S. Information Bureau in Washington, D. C.

A follow-up letter from Bangor Librarian Randlett seems to sum up the whole situation.

"When your historical society decides how to spell its name, I shall be interested if you will let me know. The problem seems a difficult one."

Courier Gazette Article 1960

Why we are called the "Mussel"

Ridge Historical Society

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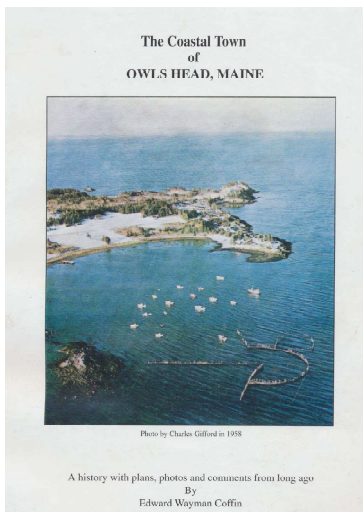
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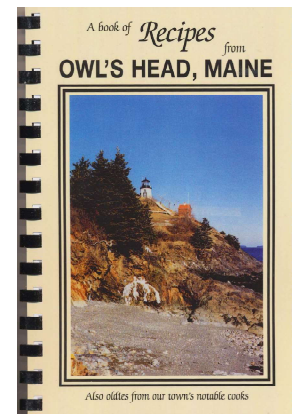
**\$32 - The Coastal Town of Owls Head, ME
by Edward Coffin**



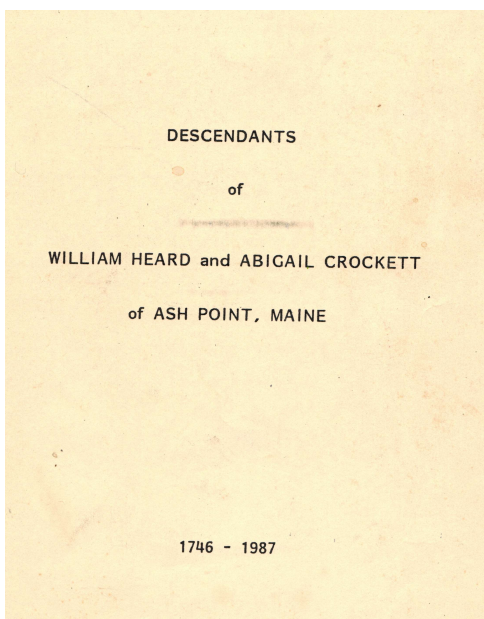
\$56- 1873 of Owls Head canvas chart 16" x 20"



\$100 - 1800s photo of Owls Head Light professionally printed 18" x 38"



**\$15 - Recipes
of Owls Head, Maine**



NEW Item!!

Reprint with over 300 pages \$41

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Our Paypal link is: https://paypal.me/MRHS1921?locale.x=en_US

Interesting People in Evergreen Cemetery



Walking through the cemetery placing flags for Memorial Day one comes upon a stone with the name

Brig. Maude M. Staples
8/17/1915 – 10/11/2008

Odd thought, female Brigadier General (?), should she get a flag for Memorial Day? – nope. She was a very active member in the Salvation Army and they used the term Brigadier as one of the official title terms in their offices.

Maude age 93 died at the Homestead in Owls Head. Born in Rockland, she was educated in local schools and trained with the Salvation Army. She served with them in Ohio, Boston and New York. At one time traveled with them to Jerusalem. She retired from the Salvation Army in 1977. However, she continued her service to the Army being commissioned as Home League Chaplin in 1990 and that year was also honored for 10 years' service with the Army's League of Mercy and five years later honored again for 15 years' service. A celebration of her life was held at the Rockland Corp Salvation Army.

She appears to have been quite an active lady for the time.

How many other interesting people are resting peacefully in the 13 Owls Head Cemeteries. Perhaps from time to time we will run a short story on others.

Bill Gay – Owls Head Cemetery Committee

JAKE BARBOUR
PRESIDENT

GOT DIRTY?

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**Mussel Ridge Historical Society
Volunteer – Membership - Donation Form**

Date _____
Name _____ Phone _____
Mailing Address _____ Town _____ Zip _____
Email Address _____

Our newsletter is sent to everyone on our email list and we don't share addresses with anyone.

____ I Would Like TO HELP Preserve the History of Owl's Head in the Following Ways

____ Develop programs ____ Help with fundraising ____ Help on restoring the Homestead

____ Bring food for events or sales ____ Help with events

____ Staff the Homestead ____ I have pictures that could be scanned

____ Research. I am particularly interested in the following areas _____

Have talent/service I could donate _____

____ I would like to help in another way. (Please tell us how) _____

____ I have historical items I might like to donate or loan

____ I am joining the MRHS at the Following Level & My Check is Attached

____ 1 Year Regular (\$10) ____ One Year Family (\$30) ____ 1 Year Sustainer (\$100) ____ 1 Year Benefactor (\$500)

____ 1 Year Business Sustainer (\$250) ____ 1 Year Business Benefactor (\$750)

____ I am making a Tax Deductible Donation to the MRHS for _____ & My Check is Attached

I Would Like the Funds to go to the Following Area

____ General Operations ____ Mussel Ridge Learning Center

____ Old Homestead ____ As the MRHS thinks is best

Signature of Person Accepting the Form _____

Mussel Ridge Historical Society, PO Box 133, Owl's Head, ME 04854 history@musselridge.org

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Recollections of a Summer Kid growing up on Ash Point in the 1950s and 1960s

Veteran's Picture Project

This past Memorial Day I wrote an article for the Newsletter about how I hope that once the Mussel Ridge Historical Society's Local History Building is built that we can have a permanent display to honor all of our friends and neighbors who have served our country in the time of war and peace. To date, I am happy to say that a number of you have responded favorably to my request and I thought I would share some of the photos with you **to encourage all of you to send me your picture as well.**

Guess who?

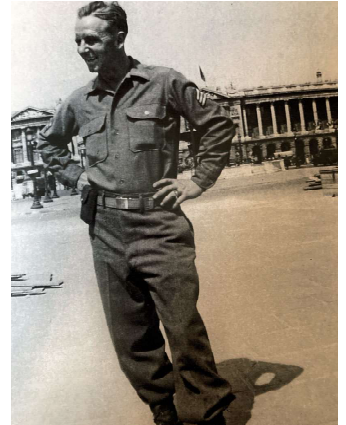
1



2



3



4



5



6



Answers on page 8.

*Rodney B. Weeks
ledgemere1@gmail.com
Thank you.*



Recipe from The Owls Head Cookbook

LOBSTER STEW

2 (1 lb.) Maine lobsters
1/2 c. butter (not margarine)

1 qt. rich milk
1 small can evaporated milk

Boil lobster. Remove meat immediately. Use very heavy kettle or fry pan; put in butter and coarsely chopped lobster. Saute for about 20 minutes or so. Cool slightly. Add very slowly evaporated milk; let come to just under a boil. Add remainder of milk which has been heated, also pouring slowly. Add salt and pepper (white) to taste.

According to expert Maine cooks, the important steps to creating the perfect stew are first, partial cooling of lobster before adding milk, stirring constantly while adding milks (a mere trickle at a time), and the aging 2 days for master stew, but 5 to 6 hours is usually as long as one can wait to eat it. Will serve 4 people.

Same method may be used with shrimp, mussel, oysters, etc.

KAMP Committee

Key to Veteran's pictures:

1. Donald O. Lewis - US Air Force
2. Richard W. Lewis – Seaman 1st Class – U.S. Coast Guard – Vietnam
3. Donald L. Lewis – Sergeant – U.S. Army (Combat Engineers) - WWII
4. James H. Weeks – Lt (jg.) – U.S. Merchant Marines/U.S. Navy – WWII
5. Otis "Ote" Lewis - US Navy - WWII
6. Arnold McConchie - US Navy - WWII



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