



DOWNEAST  
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## **Downeast Coastal Conservancy Board of Director Biographies**

*Updated December 2017*

### **Julia Arnold, MD**

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After being born in Wisconsin, Julie was raised in various places throughout Illinois and Wisconsin, including a cranberry marsh on a lake in the North Woods. She also spent a short time in central New Jersey north of the Pine Barrens. She returned to the Midwest to pursue her education. She completed a BA in molecular biology at the University of Wisconsin-Madison, took her medical degree at the University of Wisconsin Medical School and completed her residency in Family Medicine at the Cleveland Metropolitan General Hospital. She has practiced since completing her training in 1990 in Downeast Maine with her focus on maintaining good working relationships with her patients and continuity of care. Her medical practice encompasses the entire life cycle, including pregnancy, birth, and childhood through the geriatric time-frame. Her introduction to land conservation as a Board member of the Quoddy Regional Land Trust since 2007 was preceded by her outdoor pursuits including canoeing, Nordic skiing, hiking, and bicycle touring. She and her partner, Pat, have raised two girls in Trescott where they cut and split wood to heat their home and desultorily garden both food and flowers.

### **Anne Baker**

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Anne was born in St. Louis, Missouri, where she spent her childhood exploring the woods and fields near her family's home, catching tadpoles and watching them metamorphose into frogs, and raising the occasional orphaned baby rabbit. Her love of animals led to a B.A in Zoology from Indiana University, and an M.S. in Ecology and Ph.D. in Sociobiology from the University of Maryland. She spent seven years in Sri Lanka studying the behavior of wild primates before returning to the United States to complete a Smithsonian pre-doctoral fellowship at the National Zoo in Washington, D.C. Upon completion of her fellowship she became Curator of Primates at the Brookfield Zoo in Chicago, subsequently becoming Director of the Rosamond Gifford Zoo in Syracuse, New York and then Executive Director of the Toledo Zoo in Ohio. After retiring in 2012 she, her husband, Bob, a conservation



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geneticist, and their three dogs moved permanently to their vacation home in Jonesboro, Maine. In addition to serving on the DCC Board, she volunteers her time as the Executive Director of the Amphibian Ark, an international 501c-3 devoted to amphibian conservation, and as the North American Regional Convener for the IUCN SSC's Conservation Planning Specialist Group (CPSG). She has served as president of the American Zoo Association's Board of Directors, on the boards of the Toledo Boys and Girls Club and Toledo Children's Hospital, and locally on the board of Sunrise Senior College. She enjoys hiking, snow shoeing, cross country skiing, gardening and opera.

**Cat Cannon**

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Cat was born and raised in North Carolina and attended the University of NC at Asheville. She left NC in 2010 to travel the United States, and has volunteered on an off-grid farmstead in New Mexico, lived for two years in Portland, Oregon, and worked on small organic farms in New Hampshire, North Carolina, Montana, and Maine.

Since settling in Machias in 2014, Cat has been a freelance reporter for the Machias Valley News Observer, worked at the Machias Marketplace, and coordinated DCC's application for Land Trust Alliance accreditation. She has been a member of DCC's Stewardship Committee since 2016, and currently works full-time in produce at Hannaford, is a volunteer firefighter for the town of Machias, and is advising Downeast Salmon Federation in their own journey toward accreditation. Cat is committed to and invested in preserving the Bold Coast region's natural beauty, having recently purchased an historic home in town on the Machias River, but is also enthusiastic about revitalizing the town of Machias and its people, businesses and resources.

**Roger S. Clapp**

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Roger grew up in Montclair, New Jersey. He graduated from Phillips Exeter Academy, attended Princeton University, transferred to and graduated from Yale University and earned his law degree from the Harvard Law School. He was in private practice for 39 years in Newark and then Summit, New Jersey, served as managing partner for two law firms and specialized in municipal law, municipal bonds and planning and zoning law. He was a municipal court judge for three years, taught at Rutgers Law School and Drew University and served on the Board of the New Jersey Land Conservancy. Roger serves on several local and regional civic



committees and is a member of the governing boards and committees of several non-profit organizations besides Downeast Coastal Conservancy. Before retiring and moving full-time to Addison, Roger and his wife, Judy, had their home on a farm in northwestern New Jersey for 25 years. They have a son, two daughters and eight grandchildren.

**Lester L. Coleman**

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Les grew up in Michigan. He earned a BA degree from Kalamazoo College and a JD degree from the University of Michigan Law School. After 10 years of private law practice Les went into industry where he held a variety of finance, operations, and legal positions. He finished his career as Executive Vice President and General Counsel of Halliburton Company. Les is a member of the governing board and committees of several non-profit organizations beside Downeast Coastal Conservancy. Les and his wife, Joyce, have had a vacation home in Addison since the 1970s. Since retirement they spend much of the summer and early fall in Maine where they enjoy sailing and other outdoor activities. Joyce is active with The Nature Conservancy in several international projects. When not in Maine they live in Dallas, Texas. They have three sons and seven grandchildren who visit Maine each summer.

**Thad Dolley**

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Thad is a long time resident of the Machias area and currently resides in Machias. His home on the north side of the village nearly abuts DCC's Middle River Park. He has two children (ages 21 & 18) and a stepchild (17). He is a graduate of John Bapst Memorial High School in Bangor, has a BS in Accounting from University of Maine at Machias, an MS in Business from Husson University in Bangor and graduated from ACB's (America's Community Bankers) National School of Banking.

Thad has been employed at Machias Savings Bank for 20 years where he is currently Vice President, Credit Risk. Thad has served on several non-profit Boards in the past in various capacities including President, Treasurer and Finance Committees. He enjoys golfing, walking and spending time with family. While Thad is new to conservation, he has expressed interest in learning more and becoming involved in DCC's community oriented conservation activities.



**David Dowley**

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David grew up in Syracuse, NY. He attended Deerfield Academy and graduated from Knox College, Illinois with a BA in history in 1968. David entered the Peace Corps after graduation and completed an extended tour in Colombia, S.A. in 1971. Following the Peace Corps David enrolled and graduated from the University of Massachusetts with a Master's in Education. David moved to Maine in 1973 using the family summer cottage at Holmes Cove, Cutler as his base.

David built his house in Roque Bluffs after attending The Shelter Institute in the summer of 1975. He started his building career with the Middle River Mill construction company in Marshfield and in 1984 started his own construction business.. Heathside Builders continues to work in residential light construction mostly building and remodeling homes.

David has been involved in civic activities in both Machias and Roque Bluffs and has been a director of the Downeast Coastal Conservancy from its inception in 2009. David lives, gardens and travels with his wife Carol. David has two daughters and two grandsons. He enjoys wood lot management, hiking, cross country skiing, sailing and playing his ukulele.

**Ellen E. Hostert, Ph. D**

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Ellen Hostert grew up on a farm in Iowa, where she began learning about nature and conservation from her parents. She earned a B.A. in Biology from Cornell College, a M.A. in Biology from the University of Northern Iowa, and the Ph.D. in Biology from The University of California at Santa Cruz. Her research interests are in the field of population genetics. Ellen is a Professor of Biology at the University of Maine at Machias. Ellen has participated in conservation through the land trust in a number of capacities for sixteen years. She and her husband have lived in Machias since 1999 and have two children.



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**Becky Lee**

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Becky was born and raised in Wisconsin where she spent many hours outside. While in high school she participated in the founding of the Friends of High Cliff State Park group and became a volunteer. Becky graduated from University of Wisconsin Green Bay with a BA in Studio Art with an emphasis in small metal sculpture and jewelry. She spent 5 years living in Albuquerque, New Mexico where she worked closely with the department chair and administrator to run Department of Pediatrics at the University of New Mexico. In 2011 Becky moved to Machias, she worked for Downeast Coastal Conservancy from 2011-2015 as the Membership Coordinator and later the Assistant Director. She completed her teaching certificate at the University of Maine at Machias in 2016. Becky found her calling in the art classroom and in the fall of 2015 took a job teaching art to students in grades PreK-12 at Rose M. Gaffney Elementary School and Machias Memorial High School. Becky loves winter and yetis, and enjoys running, snowshoeing, sledding, kayaking, backpacking, and creating art. She is a member of the Machias Fire Department and lives in Machias with her husband Garret and their dog Butters.

**Kara McCrimmon**

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Kara has made Washington County, Maine home since 2004, when she was introduced to this dynamic place while working on an MS in Environmental Education through the (then) Audubon Expedition Institute at Lesley University. Kara was an active member of the Quoddy Regional Land Trust, and played an important role in the Mowry Beach Project. Kara brings her knowledge of working in a non-profit organization, her passion for education, and her commitment to protecting wild places to DCC.

Professionally, Kara is the lead teacher for the Cobscook Experiential Program for high school students, an interdisciplinary, experiential, and place-based program at the Cobscook Community Learning Center. In her free time, Kara enjoys gardening, hiking, and canoeing. Kara is also a performing musician, and can be often found around Washington County making music on her accordion, Irish whistle, guitar, or



bagpipes.

**Leslie D. Page**

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Born in New York City, Leslie attended The Wood School. After school, she volunteered in local political contests where she met her husband, John. She worked for the City of New York, Department of Marine and Aviation, as part of a team responsible for unraveling the ownerships and conditions of the piers on the west side of New York. She lived outside of Chicago for thirty years, raising a family and then working for a regional hardware company, Handy Andy, and later for the mid-west division of Home Depot. At Home Depot she was the Import Merchant, importing private label products such as Hampton Bay for 87 stores. She retired in 2009. Leslie has been a part time resident of Maine since 2001. In addition to the Downeast Coastal Conservancy, Leslie is active in CHild, Children with Interstitial Lung Disease, a rare disease her oldest grand-daughter was diagnosed with at birth. Leslie and John have two children and six grandchildren who share their love of the Maine waters and its coastline.

**Carleton Davis Pike**

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Davis is from a Lubec family, but received his education in Massachusetts, where he studied at Groton School, Harvard College and Harvard Business School. He has had a career in international business, joining Pfizer International upon gaining his MBA. During his years with Pfizer he worked in Vietnam, Australia, and Thailand. He later joined Gillette, becoming their manager in Thailand. In 1980 he became Area Manager for Revlon Health Care, based in Singapore and then joined Berli Jucker Co. (a publicly listed Thai manufacturing and distribution conglomerate) in Bangkok where he worked as Senior Vice President until his retirement in 2001. Since then, Davis has been based in Lubec, traveling to Thailand annually.

He is an elected member of the Lubec Harbor Board and serves on the board of the Conservation Law Foundation in Maine, having retired from the board of the Maine Community Foundation in 2009. Davis is the father of two grown children.





**William H. Schlesinger**

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Bill is President Emeritus of the Cary Institute of Ecosystem Studies, a private ecological research institute on the grounds of the Cary Arboretum in Millbrook, NY. Completing his A.B. at Dartmouth (1972), and Ph.D. at Cornell (1976), he moved to Duke University in 1980, where he was Dean of the Nicholas School of the Environment and Earth Sciences and James B. Duke Professor of Biogeochemistry. He moved to the Cary Institute in 2007.

Schlesinger is the author or coauthor of over 200 scientific papers on subjects of environmental chemistry and global change and the widely-adopted textbook *Biogeochemistry: An analysis of global change* (3<sup>rd</sup> edition with Emily S. Bernhardt, Elsevier, 2013). He was among the first to quantify the amount of carbon held in soil organic matter globally, providing subsequent estimates of the role of soils and human impacts on forests and soils in global climate change. He was elected a member of The National Academy of Sciences in 2003, and was President of the Ecological Society of America for 2003-2004. He is also a fellow in the American Geophysical Union, the Soil Science Society of America, the Ecological Society of America and the American Association for the Advancement of Science.

His past work has taken him to diverse habitats, ranging from Okefenokee Swamp in southern Georgia to the Mojave Desert of California, and three times as a Duke alumni tour guide to Antarctica. His research has been featured on NOVA, CNN, NPR, and on the pages of Discover, National Geographic, the New York Times, and Scientific American. Schlesinger has testified before U.S. House and Senate Committees on a variety of environmental issues, including preservation of desert habitats, global climate change and carbon sequestration. He blogs on environmental issues at: [www.nicholas.duke.edu/citizenscientist](http://www.nicholas.duke.edu/citizenscientist).

Schlesinger currently serves on the Board of Trustees for the Doris Duke Charitable Foundation (New York), the Natural Resources Defense Council (NRDC; New York), and the Southern Environmental Law Center (Charlottesville).

He and his wife, Lisa, live in Lubec, Maine, where they enjoy birdwatching, gourmet cooking, and coastal life.

**Sherrie Sprangers**

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Born into an Air Force family, Sherrie moved several times before her father settled the family back in his home state of Wisconsin when she was four. The rural Wisconsin life shaped her perspective of the human and natural world. Sherrie graduated from University of Wisconsin – River Falls with a B.S. in Chemistry, followed by a Ph.D. in Reproductive Endocrinology from Marquette University. With the future full of options Sherrie, her husband Don and their young son moved to Oregon for a three year post-doctoral position at the Oregon Regional Primate Research Center in Beaverton. The last move was to Maine in 1990 to begin a career as part of the biology faculty at the University of Maine at Machias. As is typical at a small university Sherrie teaches a wide array of courses in the Biology, Marine Biology, and Environmental Studies programs.

Sherrie was recruited to the Quoddy Regional Land Trust board in 1992 and has had a close relationship with land conservation in Maine ever since. Sherrie also dedicates a great deal of personal and professional time to Atlantic salmon habitat restoration. Sherrie enjoys gardening, driving her classic Mustang, camping, fishing, and soaking up the view and quiet from the porch of her camp. Her family includes her husband Don, two sons, a daughter, and two Labrador retrievers.

### **Dick Sturgeon**

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Born in Bangor, Maine, grew up and attended high school in Old Town, Maine. Met wife in high school and have been with her for 64 years. Two daughters and five grandchildren. Graduated from U Maine in 1960 with BS in education and later an MED in Educational Administration. Taught high school math and science for two years at Madison and Cony high schools. Coached basketball, track, and football during that time. Moved to the University of Southern Maine as basketball, baseball and sailing coach and assoc. prof.. Taught algebra for 40+ years while at USM. Served as Assoc. Director of Off-campus programs, then Director of Academic Advising and Information, followed by Director of Alumni and Development, and later as Vice President of University Advancement before retiring with emeritus status in 2010.

While at USM Dick was elected regional President and then National President of Academic Affairs Administrators and served as chair of a number of college and university accreditation visits for the New England Assoc. of Schools and Colleges. Non-university involvement has been as Vice President of the Greater Portland Chamber of Commerce. Board member and chair of the auction gifts committee for the Boys and Girls Clubs of Southern Maine(12 years), Chair of the Osher Lifelong Learning Institute Advisory Board, member of the Community Television Network





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Board, member of the Maine Basketball Hall of Fame Board, member of the DCC Board( chair of fund-raising committee). Dick is an avid tennis and bridge player and, with wife Barbara, enjoys hiking and biking locally and with travel groups throughout the US and abroad. His relaxing time is spent on reading, music, crossword and jig saw puzzle solving.

**Helen Waite**

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Helen's early childhood was spent in Washington D.C. where her father was one of the founding curators of the Smithsonian Institute, creating early memories of exploring the halls of "The Castle" with free range to dinosaur bones. Later school years were spent in Highlands, North Carolina collecting beetles with her father and practicing the piano with her mother. After 3 years at Rollins College she then graduated from Duke University with a BS in Botany and a minor in music. Helen went on for Teacher's Accreditation at Salem College and further to North Western to work in Creative Drama. She taught kindergarten for 3 years and then became the Executive Director of Eagle's Foundation, "Experiential education for young people promoting the natural world and the betterment of human character" for 34 years. She is the curator of "The Outdoor Academy of the Southern Appalachians" semester program for 10<sup>th</sup> grade students, the "Hante Wilderness School", and the "Paleo Man Experiment" national award winning program. In addition to serving on the Board of Directors of Downeast Coastal Conservancy Helen serves on the Board of Trustees of the Eagle's Nest Foundation. Helen and Mo have 3 children and 5 grandchildren all of whom are explorers and love the natural world. "A person protects what he/she has learned to love" "Leave no child inside".