

# Maine Fishermen's Forum

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January 1, 2012

Dear Friends of the Forum:

## Happy New Year from the Board of Directors!

It is time once again to make plans for the 2012 Maine Fishermen's Forum. This is the 37th year for the Maine Fishermen's Forum! The Forum Board of Directors joins me in inviting you and your family to attend the Maine Fishermen's Forum to be held March 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> at the Samoset Resort in Rockport, Maine.

For those of you who come to stay with us every year, I want to thank you for your support; without you we would not be able to put on this annual event that so many look forward to attending. Since the Forum is a free event to day traffic, we depend on our overnight guests to help fund our program. So, with empty rooms at the Samoset, we struggle to stay above water. We try as best we can to keep the costs down because, as members of the fishing industry ourselves, we understand the increasing cost of **everything**. I invite anyone who comes to visit us for one day every year to consider staying with us for the entire weekend. The evening events, excellent new restaurant and new day spa at the resort provide a great way to sit back, relax, and enjoy a late winter getaway with your entire family!

The Forum is and always has been a traditional gathering spot in Maine for fishermen, processors, dealers, aquaculturists, scientists and fisheries officials from both State and Federal governments, and their families as well. We have been working hard to organize seminars that will give you up to date information for the upcoming fishing season. As you may know, the Forum has a strong history of supporting students with our scholarship awards. Last year we gave away \$21,000.00 in scholarships as a result of a very successful Friday night auction. Please plan to attend, and who knows; when you bid - you may get a good deal yourself!

Enclosed is the form for making lodging and meal reservations at the Samoset. Also included is an information sheet about this year's Forum that includes a section that must be returned if you are unable to attend and wish to remain on the mailing list. Chilloa Young is the Forum Coordinator. Please feel free to call her at (207) 442-7700 or send email to her at [chilloa@taxbracket.com](mailto:chilloa@taxbracket.com).

I hope to see you at the Forum. It promises to be a very special event!

Sincerely,

Kristan Porter  
President

[www.mainefishermensforum.org](http://www.mainefishermensforum.org)