

## **LAND TRUST RECEIVES AWARD FOR BEECH NUT FROM LOCAL CHAMBER OF COMMERCE**

(CAMDEN)--Coastal Mountains Land Trust was presented with an award for its recent restoration of Beech Nut, the historic hut atop Beech Hill in Rockport, at the Camden-Rockport-Lincolnvile Chamber of Commerce's 68th Annual Awards & Recognition Dinner on December 3. The Public Recreation Award is given to "a person, organization, or public or private corporation which creates or improves areas of recreation for the public."

Accepting the award on behalf of the Land Trust were Doug Sensenig, the Land Trust's board president, and Meg Barclay of Scholz & Barclay Architecture, who designed and oversaw the restoration work. The work itself was completed by Landmark Construction in Warren.

The Land Trust completed the exterior reconstruction of the sod-roofed, stone building late in 2007, and has continued efforts to maintain the Beech Nut Historic District, which includes the surrounding open fields. The Beech Nut Historic District is on the National Register of Historic Places in Maine. Open houses were held throughout 2008 so that visitors could enjoy views of the Camden Hills and Penobscot Bay from the hut's interior much as they would have when the hut was first completed in 1915.

The hut crowns the 295-acre Beech Hill Preserve and serves as a distinct landmark visible from the Bay and the broader Midcoast area. The top of Beech Hill is also a popular local destination for walkers and picnickers, accessible by two trails on the Preserve. Open houses at the hut will resume in May 2009.

The Beech Hill Campaign, which has made possible the restoration work and maintenance of the surrounding fields, has been supported by 219 community donors and foundations--including the 1772 Foundation, the Cascade Foundation and the Otter Island Foundation. The Campaign is nearing completion, with about \$45,000 remaining to be raised. For more information please call the Land Trust at (207) 236-7091.