

Half Staff – Roberta “Bobbie” Paine

September 23, 2008



ROCKPORT — Roberta “Bobbie” Paine, 82, of Rockport, formerly of New York, died on Tuesday, Sept. 23, 2008 at the Addison Gilbert Hospital. Born in Los Angeles on Oct. 2, 1925, she was the daughter of the late Edward H. and Josephine (Speakman) Paine.

She grew up Larchmont, N.Y. and Hartford, Conn.. Bobbie was a graduate of Principia Junior College, Illinois, Class of 1945 and later earned degrees from Barnard College, New York and Bryn Mawr College, Pennsylvania. For many years, Bobbie was the curator for the Junior Museum for Children, a division of the Metropolitan Museum in New York, until her retirement in 1990. Bobbie had authored two books, “Looking at

Sculpture” and “Looking at Architecture.” She had also served in the Paintings Department at the New York Historical Society.

Bobbie spent most of her summers in Rockport until she made her residence there permanent after retiring. She was a long time member of the Rockport Art Association where she initially served on the Museum Committee and was their Curator for several years and was instrumental in cataloging the collection, acquiring new pieces, putting exhibitions together and helping to curate a cross-country tour of pieces for their collection to other museums. She was an active member of their Annual Auction Committee for 15 years (their major fund-raising initiative of the year) and helped it grow with great success. She was recently serving on the Museum Committee as Co-Curator, putting together another traveling exhibition, a retrospective exhibition of Marguerite Pearson’s work, and cataloging their holdings.

Bobbie was also a member of the Sandy Bay Yacht Club for 50 years. She was a Turnabout Sailor, winning several races including the Bobbette Simpson and later joined the Bullseye fleet. She had worked on the Race Committee and was invaluable to the Club in keeping scores, managing the club trophies and officiated on the Race Committee Boat, which she continued to do up to this past July 4th.

She had served on the Rockport Historical Commission and was a past Treasurer of the Rockport Garden Club and had served on the Board for many years.

She is survived by her cousins, Anita Paine Vance of Newton, Margaret Hasselman of Blacksburg, Va., Frank Paine of Stamford, Conn., and Francis Conant of New York.

ARRANGEMENTS: At her request, there are no funeral services. Memorial contributions may be made in her name to the Rockport Art Association, 12 Main St., Rockport, MA 01966 or to the Sandy Bay Yacht Club, Dock Square, Rockport, MA 01966. Arrangements by the Burgess & Mackey Funeral Home, 201 Main St., Rockport.