

Join us on DEER Island and celebrate!



Your Spring News & Updates

Thank you for reading Tidings & Join us this summer on YOUR Boston Harbor Islands!

FBHI Chairman, Walter Hope

Visit Our Website



Join us on Deer Island on Sunday, April 24th

Annual Meeting on Deer Island with special tour before the meeting.

Tour starts at noon. See details below:

The Friends annual meeting will take place at the MWRA Deer Island Treatment Plant in the Historic Pump Station. There will be social time, a brief business meeting with an election of Board members. Remarks by guest speakers from the MWRA and Boston Harbor Islands National and State Park. Light refreshments will be served and there will be a books and FBHI merchandise table.

Pre-registration is required.

[CLICK HERE To register.](#)

Your name must be on the registration list at the MWRA Security Gate in order to gain access to the annual meeting. RSVP by Thursday, April 21st at midnight.

Please register EVERY NAME in your party when doing the Brown Paper Ticket reservation. The MWRA needs everyone in your party's name for the check-in list.

Come early and explore the perimeter park; and stay after the meeting to explore some more. The perimeter park has 5 miles of trails. Parking for the perimeter park has a separate parking lot than where the meeting will be held. You may explore the park first and then drive in through the Security Gate to the Historic Pump Station and park again there for the meeting and digester tour.

Public transportation is available via the MBTA Blue Line to Orient Heights. Change to bus #712/713 to Point Shirley which is the last stop. This stop is the entrance to the perimeter public access trail. It is approximately 2/3 of a mile walk to the Security Gate from the bus stop. Bus 712/713 is operated by Paul Revere Transportation for the MBTA. Call them at 617-889-5899 or go to www.mbta.com to see and print out a schedule.

VOLUNTEER COORDINATOR's Column

Spring Greetings to all:

Hard to believe that the season is upon us again. Georges and Spectacle open in just a little over a month from now and park staff is getting ready for the new season. I hope many of you who have not already given it a try will consider volunteering on the islands this year. For those who are returning there are lots of updates and new staff to meet.

Training this year is scheduled to start in May.

Boston Light training for both Newbees and Returnees is on Sunday May 1st. We have only 4 spots left for Newbees this year.

Island Orientation for FBHI Welcome Center, Spectacle and Georges Island volunteers is on Saturday May 14th.

General Island Orientation training, being held on the mainland is on May 21st at the Park offices second floor conference room at 45 Devonshire Street Boston MA.

If you are interested in attending any of these please pre register by e-mailing the FBHI Volunteer office at: fithiancj@comcast.net or call the volunteer office at 978 356 4406.

We will have final times and an outline of the training day activities to send out soon.

It is a great opportunity to meet some wonderful people and make a meaningful connection with the Harbor.

Carol Fithian, Coordinator of Volunteers

2016 FBHI Boat Trips Announced!

On May 14th we'll have a trip to **Rainsford Island** departing from Rowes Wharf. [CLICK HERE](#) for information & tickets

On June 22nd visit the Oldest Light Station in the USA - **Boston Light** on year of her 300th Anniversary [CLICK HERE](#) for tickets and information.

On July 27th join us on historic **Thompsons Island** for a Sunset Tour, [CLICK HERE](#) for tickets and information.



Ferry Service

beings on May 7th and remember - FBHI Members receive discounts on ALL Boston Harbor Cruises Trips (including the Provincetown High Speed Ferry). (*discounts do NOT include MBTA funded ferries)

[SCHEDULE CLICK HERE](#)

JOIN FBHI [CLICK HERE](#)

2nd installment in our writing series - thank you Intern Mary Therese Mucci!

Mary has written an article about Island Life on Boston Harbor - the first 2 paragraphs of the article is below. The remainder of the article is on our web page and can be found by clicking on [Writing Series](#)

Island Life by Mary Theres Mucci - February 2016
FBHI Intern & Suffolk University Student

"Methinks an island would be the most desirable of landed property, for it seems like a little world by itself," wrote Nathaniel Hawthorne after a visit to Thompson Island in 1837. Many people have lived on the "little worlds" in Boston Harbor - fishermen, lighthouse keepers, members of the military, island industry workers, caretakers, and their families. The stories of island inhabitants, both lifelong residents and seasonal visitors, contribute to the diverse history of the Boston Harbor Islands.

"Quaint Village on Peddocks Island," proclaimed an August 22, 1909 Boston Globe headline, "Its Inhabitants Are American and Portuguese Fishermen and Their Families. Primitive Domestic Conditions Are Conducive to Health and Happiness." [i] In the late nineteenth century, a community of Portuguese fishermen, mostly from the Azores, lived on Long Island in Boston Harbor, travelling into the city to sell their catch. In 1887, the city government established an almshouse on Long Island and evicted the fishermen. Some of the displaced fishermen moved house to Peddocks Island - literally. They floated their homes across the harbor, settling on East Head, one of the drumlins of Peddocks Island. They repeated the procedure a little over ten years later, when the U.S. government began constructing Fort Andrews on East Head, this time relocating to Middle Head on Peddocks. [ii] Over the next century, the cluster of cottages on Middle Head, known as "Crab Alley," would be occupied by the

fishermen, their descendants, and summer residents. A 1941 Boston Sunday Post article described the cottages:

[i] Sweeney, Emily. "Fun Facts About Peddocks Island," Boston Globe, August 15, 2013 https://www.bostonglobe.com/metro/regionals/south/2013/08/14/fun-facts-about-peddocks-island/TJJQZ2AuB9YoxYFP5PIYFM/story.html?p1=Article_Related_Box_Article_More

[ii] Schorow, Stephanie. "Treasured Island," Boston Globe Sunday Magazine, May 25, 2008. http://www.boston.com/bostonglobe/magazine/articles/2008/05/25/treasured_island/?page=full



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