Our Annual Meeting will be...

Held at the Historic Pump Station on Winthrop's Deer Island. We'll be hosted by the Massachusetts Water Resource Authority (MWRA).

Speakers will include Kathy Abbot from Boston Harbor NOW as well as other Harbor Agency Staff, with a "keynote speaker" Thomas Martorelli, author of the book "An Island In The Family" - about the McDevitt Family and their life on Peddocks Island. As an added attraction, several of the McDevitts will be on-hand to tell some of their story. While the book is not yet commercially available, we hope to have copies available for sale at the meeting.

Registration for the meeting is mandatory via FBHI.org - see the link on our home page for tickets. For security purposes all attendees MUST be registered by Thursday, April 20th.

Yours,

Walter Hope, FBHI Chairman

Thank you to our auction donors:

Birch Mobile Marine, Constitution Marina and Bed & Breakfast Afloat, Green Turtle Bed & Breakfast, the sailing vessel Kayla, The Point Restaurant.
Upcoming FBHI activities (more boat trips to be added as the season)

Rainsford Island Trip - May 20th  CLICK HERE for INFO & TICKETS (FBHI)

National Park Service
Island Stewardship Volunteer Opportunities

Upcoming Stewardship Events

See the park calendar at bostonharborislands.org for all our events, click on the links below for information & registration (required).

3/25/2017 Grape Island [FULL]
4/1/2017 Grape Island
4/8/2017 Grape Island
4/15/2017 Lovells Island + City Nature Challenge
4/22/2017 Thompson Island
4/29/2017 Grape Island
5/6/2017 Thompson Island
5/13/2017 Grape Island
5/20/2017 Thompson Island
5/27/2017 Lovells Island
6/3/2017 Thompson Island
6/10/2017 Grape Island
6/17/2017 Thompson Island
6/24/2017 Grape Island
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>April 29</td>
<td>Park Serve Day &amp; Junior Ranger Day</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>May 13</td>
<td>Spectacle &amp; Georges Islands Open - Free Ferry Day</td>
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<tr>
<td>June 10</td>
<td>Spectacle Island 5k</td>
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<tr>
<td>June 16</td>
<td>Boston Harbor NOW Gala, Spectacle Island</td>
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<tr>
<td>June 17-21</td>
<td>Tall Ships Festival</td>
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<tr>
<td>June 23</td>
<td>Peddocks, Bumpkin, Grape &amp; Lovells Islands Open</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sept 2</td>
<td>Labor day Fireworks</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sept 4</td>
<td>Peddocks, Bumpkin, Grape &amp; Lovells Close</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sept 10</td>
<td>Peddocks Island 5k</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sept 16</td>
<td>Boston Harbor NOW Regatta</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oct 9</td>
<td>Last day of ferry service to Georges &amp; Spectacle Islands</td>
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[2017 Park Calendar & Update](#) Click for more information & a presentation that was provided on March 21st for the Boston Harbor Islands Partnership.
Spring has arrived and preparations have started to make ready for volunteer activity on the waterfront and on the islands. New training sessions and meetings with returning and new staff are in the planning stages. This is an ideal time to think about visiting the islands and consider spending some time volunteering on the harbor.

During the spring and summer months it is wonderful to hop on a boat and enjoy the salt sea breezes and the turquoise sparkle of the water: but now is the time to learn more about this fabulous resource by participating in some of the activities listed in this newsletter. You will meet people who are passionate about a wide variety of topics from climate change to boating, and camping to lighthouse construction! You can learn about harbor history, geology, coastal navigation or native plant life!
We will have volunteer intake forms at our annual meeting and I will be available to answer any questions you may have. You may also e-mail either our main office or our volunteer office and I will provide you with all of the information you need to get started as a volunteer. Boat schedules and harbor cruise information are always available on our website: www.fbhi.org and on our Facebook pages. (search either Friends of the Boston Harbor Islands or FBHI).

Boston as a city and its harbor offer so much to discover. The 2017 season is a new chance to explore both!

Carol Fithian
Coordinator of Volunteers

Join us! Become a member or Renew!

While some of the other non-profits working in the harbor have much deeper pockets than us, we are a dedicated non-profit that for over 35 years has worked to provide service to the Boston Harbor Islands.

Consider this season helping us continue our work.

CLICK HERE

You will note there are 2 types of membership, "lump sum" or a set amount paid in one payment. The other option is a "subscription" membership. A subscription membership provides a donation from $20 & up a month to the Friends and helps the group tremendously, and does so in an easy to budget way for you.

With the SUBSCRIPTION Feature, you can budget your increased membership level over 12 months - tremendously and affordably assisting the FRIENDS and receiving a wonderful new book at the same time!

A Subscription Membership can affordably provide:
$20 a month = $240 a year!
$30 a month = $360 a year!
$40 a month = $480 a year!
$50 a month = $600 a year!

Did you know that our boat trips are run as a "public service"? With the cost of the charter, we often run the trips at break even. Members like YOU are our major source of income. Thank you for being a Member of the Friends of the Boston Harbor Islands! JOIN US! Thank you for your support.

Boat US Boating Safety Online Course

Knowing a few simple rules will help you stay safe on the water. Since there are so many different types of boats, boating activities and styles of boating, it is important to know what to expect when you come upon another vessel and what your obligations are. The term "vessel" includes anything that floats on the water that is used, or is capable of being used as a means of transportation on water. Therefore practically everything you encounter on the water is considered a vessel and as such, must know, understand and abide by the
Navigation Rules.

The Navigation Rules cover steering rules akin to rules of the road, sound signaling equipment and requirements, and a section on navigation lights. Proper and safe on-water navigation has many facets. Entire books and courses are offered on this very topic. Only the basics are presented here. To learn more take the free, online BoatUS Boating Safety Course. The most basic scenario when meeting another boat is usually going to be one of the following: a crossing situation, a head-on situation, or an overtaking situation.

Boating in the Park 2017

DCR & Boston Harbor NOW have plans to increase the number of boat moorings and to open Spectacle Island Marina by Memorial Day. The Plan is for 50 moorings on the Western side of Spectacle Island; 25 on the Northwestern side of Georges and 11 on the Southeastern side of Gallops (Gallops remains closed). Moorings managed by the DCR/Boston Harbor Now Online Reservation System.

See the 2017 Park Calendar link (above) for further information & diagrams of the mooring fields.

Tall Ships visit Boston June 17-22

What is a Tall Ship?
As defined by Sail Training International, a Tall Ship is a traditionally-rigged sailing vessel. Modern tall ship rigs include topsail schooners, brigantines, brigs and barques. Tall ships can be categorized by the number of masts/shape of the ship or by class (size).

Boston is an official port of the Rendez-Vous 2017 Tall Ships Regatta. The trans-Atlantic regatta will start in Royal Greenwich, UK. From there the fleet will race to Sines, Portugal, followed by Bermuda. The fleet will then race to Boston, for Sail Boston 2017®. From Boston, the fleet will cruise in company north to Quebec City, Canada.

Saturday, June 17, 2017
9:00 AM - 3:00 PM
The Grand Parade of Sail will highlight the day's activities as vessels parade in flotillas from Broad Sound into the main channel of Boston Harbor turning at Charlestown, before proceeding to their assigned berthing areas. Public viewing of the parade will be spectacular from Castle Island, the Seaport District, the Boston Waterfront, East Boston, the North End and Charlestown.

To learn more about the Tall Ships, the Parade of Sail and on-board visiting locations and times [click HERE](#).

Note: FBHI Members receive a 20% discount on ALL Boston Harbor Cruises tours - tickets are on sale NOW for the Tall Ships Parade of Sail and additional tours! [BHC Tickets](#).

[Visit the Massachusetts Bay Harbor Safety Committee web page to learn more about boating & shipping in MassBay](#).

New England Boat Show February 11-19
FBHI Was There!

For 9 long and busy days the FBHI manned a booth at the New England Boat Show. We spoke to thousands of boaters, and boat dreamers. Raffle tickets were sold (Rab Sherman managed and solicited the Raffle Donations - thank you Rab!) Rab not only managed the Raffle, but coordinated the Volunteers at the show. Pat Leary assisted with move-in and out, and was a frequent volunteer, and Walter Hope managed the online auction which was promoted at the show and overall show coordination. Shirts, books & maps were sold for the Friends. Thank you all who Volunteered and to all who attended! Volunteers during the show were: Pat, Walter, David, Paul, Ann, Lenny, Bob, Pei Pei & Rab - Thank you all!

Photos from the February 25th trip to Peddocks Island (sponsored by Boston Harbor NOW & NPS)
our volunteer board of directors

Walter Hope, Chairman; Suzanne Gall Marsh, Founder, Steve Marcus
Chairman Emeritus; Robert "Rab" Sherman, Clerk;
Richard Armenia,
Membership; David Dingley,
Board Minutes; Johanna Beers, Charlotte Knox, Marguerite Krupp, Pat Leary, Kevin Rogers -
Library Outreach & Ken Stein.

Interested in Volunteering to be on the Board, write an article for Tidings, assist with Membership Renewals, Marketing (online), or Bookkeeping and have the skills? Contact us!