



May 2015

TIDINGS

FBHI - 35 Years on Mainland, Island and Sea

Welcome to Summer with Our Upcoming Boat Trips

Join us for our **Rainsford Island Trip** on May 30 and **Little Brewster/Boston Light - Island Sunset Adventure** on July 1. For information go to our [website](#). To buy tickets for May 30 Rainsford Island Trip go to [FBHI.ORG](#). To buy tickets for Little Brewster/Boston Light - Island Sunset Adventure go to [FBHI.ORG](#) as well.



Thompson Island Trip for Memorial Service for Karen O'Donnell



Join us in tribute to Karen on May 17 on Thompson Island. The MV Outward Bound leaves from South Boston at 12 noon and returns at 4:00 pm. Bring a picnic lunch and a musical instrument as we join together to honor Karen's remarkable life, including her 35 years of service to FBHI. For directions to the dock please go to [Thompson Island website](#). To contribute to the Karen O'Donnell Memorial Fund go to our [homepage](#).

Regular Boat Service to Georges Island began May 9.

REMEMBER - FBHI members receive a 20% discount on all Boston Harbor Cruises trips. Enjoy a Spring day on Georges Island. May 9 was Free Ferry Day.

Renew your membership online [HERE](#)



Chairman, FBHI at the Tug Luna

A message from Walter Hope:

In 2014 over 7,000 hours were provided in service to the Friends and the Boston Harbor Islands!

Seventeen of our "Century Club" Volunteers provided 69% of the hours served, and 57 of our other hard working Volunteers provided 31% of the hours - congratulations to all!

Attendees at the Annual Meeting were asked to take the "Volunteer Challenge" and to select from a list of volunteer opportunities - from sharing photos (old & new), writing a story for Tidings, becoming a tour guide or photographer, working an information booth, to being a Board Member. You can still take the challenge by going online to our web page FBHI.org - pick an item and we'll be in contact with you.

We're hoping to announce a number of collaborations with other organizations this year, and the first will be:

Fundraising Tour with the Nantucket Lightship on Sunday, June 7, from 3-6pm.

The event will help to raise funds for both the Lightship and the Friends of the Boston Harbor Islands. The Lightship has an incredible history and will be a treat for many to be able to board and take a tour.

Tickets and information are available at FBHI.org.

FBHI Volunteers will be needed for this event to assist with guests and a merchandise sales table. As this fundraiser is a joint affair, tickets are required.

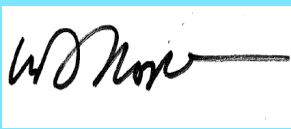


On August 7 and 8 we'll celebrate National Lighthouse Day in East Boston - see the article in this edition of Tidings.

I'm also working on a collaboration with Boston Boat Works for a tour of their new boat building facility in Charlestown in September, and perhaps a collaboration with Constitution Marina this summer on Rainsford Island for a tour and BBQ for boaters.

Stay tuned for details that are still to be worked out with Save the Harbor, Save the Bay and the New England Lighthouse Lovers (NELLS).

Welcome new Board Member Richard Armenia and returning Board Member Pat Leary. A vote was held at the Annual Meeting confirming the continued terms of our Board Members and bringing on our new and returning members - thank you for your service.



Walter Hope,
Chairman FBHI

2015 Annual Meeting

The Massachusetts Water Resources Authority graciously hosted our Annual Meeting on April 26 on Deer Island at the Historic Pump Station. Members and guests were welcomed by Michel Hornbrook, Chief Operating Officer of MWRA, who gave a brief history of the MWRA program and thanked the Friends for their long involvement with making the Boston Harbor Islands the valuable natural, cultural and recreational resources they are today. Walter Hope, Chairman, FBHI, and Suzanne Gall Marsh, Founder, FBHI, also welcomed everyone to the meeting and gave updates of FBHI accomplishments and plans for the coming season. Additionally Carol Fithian reported on the volunteer program and Kevin Rogers gave an update on the library outreach program. Guest speakers included Giles Parker, NPS Superintendent and Janice Stratford, FBHI Boston Light Volunteer. Thanks to Nadia Caines and MWRA staff with their assistance.



A Message from the FBHI Coordinator of Volunteers

Carol Fithian welcomes Spring back to the harbor

The joyful and exciting days of May have finally arrived. As the horses race for the roses on Derby Day park staff and FBHI volunteers make ready for a race back to the islands.

The boats started running to Georges Island on May 9th and volunteers were ready to welcome and assist visitors taking advantage of the free ferry service that day.



Over the winter volunteers have worked on our library outreach program, special exhibits about the islands and participated in committee work preparing for the 2016 300th anniversary of Boston Light.

Now that Spring is finally here we are all ready for training and island service. Our FBHI volunteer training day will be on May 16. This is an all day event and this year will be held on the mainland. We will be presenting new information with a completely new format for those volunteers who

have joined us for training in the past. We will have a boat trip volunteer training for Visitor Service Volunteers on June 6th. If you would like to attend the training on May 16 please contact the Friends Volunteer office no later than Wednesday May 13. A detailed outline for the day will be emailed out to all volunteers and put on our website under volunteer training as soon as all staff schedules for the day are finalized.

Volunteer Office phone: 978- 356-4406

Volunteer Office e-mail: fithiancj@comcast.net

Century Club Volunteers - 2014

C. Boyer, E. Brockman, S. Crotty, W. Hope, B. Gorman, M. Krupp, T. Loring, S. Marsh, L. McDonough,, S. Meglio, K. Rogers, W. Scenna, T. Schindler, A. Siegel and R. Sherman.

Thank you all for your time and dedication.

Celebrate National Lighthouse Day at the re-lighting of the Nantucket Lightship beacon August 7 - 8

August 7 & 8 - The Nantucket/LV-112, a former commissioned U.S. Coast Guard floating lighthouse (1936-75), National Historic Landmark and National Treasure will be celebrating the restoration of its historic 500,000 candlepower lightbeacon and fog horn at its homeport berth in Boston Harbor. At dusk, on August 7th, Nantucket/LV-112's once bright and guiding lightbeacon will be turned on once again and activate its bellowing fog horn, for the first time since it was decommissioned in Boston and extinguished in 1975.

The celebration will be on the waterfront pier, adjacent to Nantucket/LV-112, at the Boston Harbor Shipyard and Marina (<http://www.bhsmarina.com>) in historic East Boston. Also, there will be oceanographic and maritime history displays that will include notable historic lighthouse exhibits, period U.S. Lifesaving Service lifesaving demonstrations, shipwreck artifacts, maritime art and antiques, historic New England pirate artifacts, activities for children, fresh and prepared local seafood, beverages and live music. This will surely be a day for everyone to enjoy, celebrate and have fun learning about our nation's maritime heritage and contemporary nautical and oceanographic sciences.

The Maritime Festival will also present an opportunity to create additional awareness with the general public about your museum, organization or company's services, products, demonstrations and exhibits. In addition, our event will be well suited for special interest maritime organizations that want to gain more exposure with the general public. Our target audience is anyone interested in maritime history and anyone who likes to experience the gifts and lure of the sea.

FBHI Volunteers will be needed on this day to assist with a merchandise sales table. Thank you to

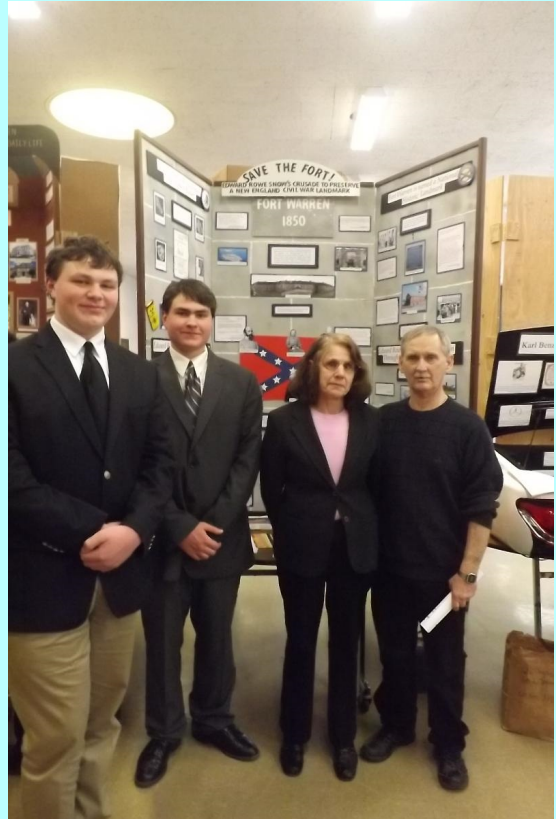
Saving Our Cultural Heritage - Congratulations to the O'Brien Brothers

Patrick and Brendan O'Brien are teenaged homeschoolers from Ware, Massachusetts, who regularly participate in the National History Day competition. The boys visit Fort Warren every summer and this year they decided to do their History Day project on Edward Rowe Snow and the campaign to save the fort and George's Island from becoming a waste dump. The subject fit perfectly the competition's theme of "Leadership and Legacy in History."

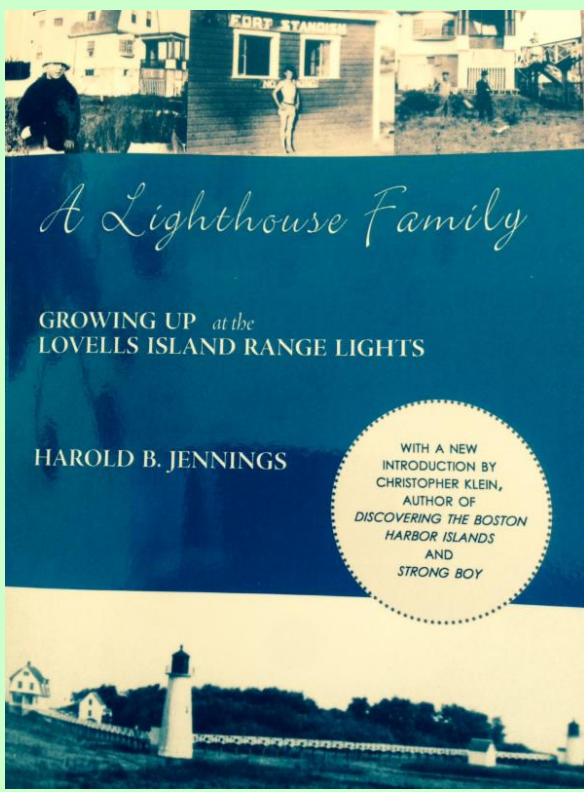
They started by reading a few of Snow's books about the harbor islands, and then contacted Carol Fithian, who put them in touch with historian Jack Zeletsky and Dolly Snow Bicknell who offered the boys invaluable help by providing documents, illustrations and even personal photographs, which all enhanced the project immensely. Sean Fisher from the Department of Conservation and Recreation also provided them with excellent sources.

The idea was to communicate to the contest judges and viewers the message that saving historical sites like Fort Warren takes a determined leader and people willing to work hard to prevent America's material history from being eradicated. This is Edward Rowe Snow's great legacy.

The boys won third place in the senior group exhibit category at the regional competition which allowed them to compete at the state competition. At the state competition held at Stoneham High school on April 11th they won the 1st place senior award from the National Maritime Historical Society for best project on a maritime topic. They plan to display their project on George's Island at Edward Rowe Snow Day this summer.



Patrick and Brendan O'Brien with Carol Fithian and Tom Loring.



35th Anniversary Edition "A Lighthouse Family"

As a 35th Anniversary Island Voices Project the Friends have reprinted "A Lighthouse Family" by Harold Jennings. Copies are available for sale, and will be made available via the Library Legacy Program. Self-published by FBHI with Union Park Press. Check FBHI.ORG in the coming weeks for ordering information.



Do you purchase "stuff" online using Amazon.com?

Log onto your Amazon account and search for "SMILE" - then indicate that you'd like to support the Volunteers and Friends of the Boston Harbor Islands Inc

The FBHI will receive 0.5% of your eligible purchase dollar amounts - quickly and easily!

2015 New England Boat Show

During the cold snowy month of February, the Friends staffed a booth at the New England Boat Show in South Boston at the Boston Convention and Expo Center (BCEC). For the first time ever the show was closed due to snow on the 2nd day of the show!

We sold merchandise and spoke to 100's of people who were interested in the park and islands, many of which travel past the islands frequently, but who have little idea of the beauty and history of the islands.

Thank you to the show producers for the generous space, to our volunteers (including Rab

Sherman who worked every hour of every day at the show), and to our raffle sponsors and donors:

- [Admirals Hill Marina](#),
- [Beantown Bedding](#),
- [Boat US](#),
- [Birch Mobil Marine](#),
- [Fireplace Restaurant](#),
- Boating Magazines,
- [Eldridge Tide Guide](#),
- [Grafton Restaurant Group](#),
- Constitution Marina/ [Bed & Breakfast Afloat](#),
- Home Depot (via Charlotte Knox),
- [Newfane's Fieldstone Lodge B&B](#),
- [Sam Adams](#), and
- Author [Stephanie Schorrow](#).

Rab Sherman at the Boat Show



FBHI Member Benefits

FBHI membership has benefits including eTidings, discounts on boat trips with FBHI, Boston Harbor Cruises, and more. For Membership benefits - click [BENEFITS](#)

FBHI Members get a discount on Boat US Membership!



Boat Owners Association of The United States

Boat Spring Checklist By Beth Leonard

It's almost time for summer fun! Working your way through [this checklist](#) will help make sure your boat's ready to go when you are.

A few of the items include:

- Open and close seacocks; handles should move freely. Hoses should be double-clamped with stainless-steel hose clamps. Replace any that look rusted.
- Inspect the raw-water intake strainer to be sure it has not cracked, and is clean and free of corrosion. Make sure the strainer's top fits snugly.
- Check running lights. Clean/tighten connections or replace bulbs to assure that all are operating properly.
- Check VHF and GPS antenna connections by disconnecting and spraying with moisture-displacing lubricant, then reconnect and test.
- Click on the [this checklist](#) for the entire exhaustive list!

Members of the FBHI board are:

Chris Ahearn, Richard Armenia, Johanna Beers, David Dingley, Walter Hope, Charlotte Knox, Pat Leary, Steven Marcus, Stephanie Schorow, Rab Sherman, Ken Stein, and Suzanne Gall Marsh (Emerita).

Thank you for reading TIDINGS! | Donate to the FBHI Easily via a monthly donation CLICK on [DONATE](#) & Thank you!

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