June, 2014

TIDINGS
FBHI - 35 Years on Mainland, Island and Sea

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A Very Special Annual Meeting

Last year a couple purchased Graves Light, a remarkable lighthouse in the Harbor Islands. David and Lynn Waller, the new owners of Graves Light were the special guests of the Friends at our annual meeting on May 18.

A message from Walter Hope:

On Monday, May 26, I had the pleasure of exploring Lovells Island with friends. We saw the Memorial Picnic Table for Pearl Lang and Memorial Bench for John Forbes on our tour.

We were also saddened to see the state of the brick oil building on the North End of the island; a wall has collapsed and roof has fallen in. One of my photos shows the building in 2006 with the roof in disrepair and a hole in the wall. Could we - the FBHI work with the NPS and DCR to bring this small reminder of the islands past back - before it is gone?

The Lovells oil shed is slowly falling into pieces.

The oil shed as it used to be

In this edition of Tidings you’ll see that the boat trip schedule is complete. Thank you Suzanne for your hard work scheduling the trips and boat contractors (not an easy task), and for arranging a trip to Thompsons Island this year! All of the trips tickets can be purchased online at Brown Paper Tickets by going to the

Summer is here! Time to get out to the islands

Visit Great Brewster Island June 22 and Sept. 20

The best way to visit the Boston Harbor Islands is with Friends

See the Harbor at sunset or enjoy a historic lighthouse tour. Or visit an island, where you can walk historic trails, wade along sweeping beaches, and picnic on the shore. All Friends boat trips are led by top experts and narrators. We go places in Boston Harbor that few visit. Laura Thibodeau Jones, author of "Generations: 1891-1940 Living on the Islands of Boston Harbor" will join us on the two Great Brewster and the Calf Island trips.

Here’s the schedule:

June 22 Great Brewster, noon-5:00p.m. Leave from Rowes Wharf Water Transport, Boston.

Take a sunset boat ride on June 25, July 9, July 23 and Aug. 20 and see the harbor islands in a new light.
FBHI.org web page and selecting the trip you’d like to go on. I’d encourage you to purchase using Brown Paper Tickets as many of our trips in the last years have sold out - electronic purchases happen much faster than using the U.S. Mail and paper checks.

Carol Fithian has been very busy with planning Volunteer Training. She has experienced continual changes in the programming of the islands, and has adapted to meet the needs.

And thank you all for the wonderful attendance at the Annual Meeting. The Wallers were wonderful speakers. The Silent Auction was wonderful and every item received a bid and was taken home. Thank you to Rah, Charlotte and their crew of helpers - and to everyone who bid and purchased an item!

And finally, thank you to Tom and Kevin, Suzanne and the crew who went out the day before the meeting to clean, organize and arrange food and set up chairs for the meeting.

We appreciate the Long Island hospitality of Camp Harbor View and the Boston Public Health Commission.

Enjoy the summer, book your tickets on a trip, and enjoy YOUR Boston Harbor Islands!

Yours,

Walter Hope,
Chairman FBHI

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June 25 Lovell sunset, 6 to 9 p.m. Leave from Rowes Wharf Water Transport, Boston.

July 9 Long Island sunset, 6 to 9 p.m. Leave from Rowes Wharf Water Transport, Boston.

The view from Calf Island toward Great Brewster.

July 18 Lighthouse Tour 11:00a.m. to 1:30p.m. with UMass Boston Marine Operations, depart from UMass Harbor Campus, Fox Point Pavilion. View Boston Light, Graves Light and Fog Station, Long Island Light and Nixes Mate from on board the MV Columbia Point.

July 23 Thompson sunset. 6 p.m. to 9 p.m. Leave from Rowes Wharf Water Transport, Boston.

August 6 Mystery Island sunset: Details to come

See Graves Light on July 18, Aug. 8 and Sept. 12 with a lighthouse tour.

August 8 Lighthouse Tour, 11:00a.m. to 1:30p.m. with UMass Boston Marine Operations. depart from UMass Harbor Campus, Fox Point Pavilion. View Boston Light, Graves Light and Fog Station, Long Island Light and Nixes Mate from on board the MV Columbia Point.

August 16 Calf, 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. Leave from Rowes Wharf Water Transport, Boston.

August 20 Long Island sunset. 6 p.m. to 9 p.m. Leave from Rowes Wharf Water Transport, Boston.

September 12 Lighthouse Tour 11:00a.m. to 1:30p.m. with UMass Boston Marine Operations, depart from UMass Harbor Campus, Fox Point Pavilion. View Boston Light, Graves Light and Fog Station, Long Island Light and Nixes Mate from on board the MV Columbia Point.

In Loving Memory

The Pearl Lang table and inscription.
"Picnic on the Porch"
Photos provided by Ken Stein and Paul Treseler.
For more on Graves Light, listen to Dave Skill's 95.9 FM WATD feature at this address.
See the Boston Globe story on the Wallers.

Members of the FBHI board are:
Chris Ahearn, Johanna Beers, David Dingley, Charlotte Knox, Walter Hope, Steven Marcus, Stephanie Schorow, Ken Stein, Rab Sherman, Suzanne Gall Marsh (Emerita).

Back Issues of Tidings
To see back issues click on TIDINGS

A New "Voice"
As part of the Friends Island Voices Program and as a 35th anniversary project, the FBHI is reprinting "A Lighthouse Family" by Harold Jennings, who grew up on Lovells Island. Copies will be donated to local libraries in Greater Boston.

FBHI Member Benefits
FBHI membership has its benefits including eTidings, discounts on boat trips with FBHI, Boston Harbor Cruises, and more. For Membership Benefits - click BENEFITS

This month's Tiding was edited and designed by Stephanie Schorow with copy editing, newsgathering, production, and moral support by Suzanne Gall Marsh, Carol Fihan, Kevin Rogers, Walter Hope and many others.

Volunteers and Friends of the Boston Harbor Islands
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Ticket prices:
Sunset: Adults $25.00; FBHI member, Senior (65+) and Student with current ID $23.00; Child (under 12) $21.00.
Lighthouse Tours: Adults $30.00; FBHI member, Senior (65+) $27.00; UMass Student with current ID $20.00.
Island Expedition: Adult $30.00; FBHI member, Senior (65+) and Student with current ID $27.00; Child (under 12) $22.00; FBHI child member $20.00.

To book a cruise, go to www.FBHI.org or www.BrownPaperTickets.com

A Message from Carol Fithian, Coordinator of Volunteers
Greetings to all returning and potential new FBHI volunteers
Greetings to all returning and potential new FBHI volunteers.

June is here and Boston Harbor has come alive. Friends volunteers have started training and working on the islands.

On May 31, we took a boat trip to Bumpkin and Peddocks. The sun was bright and the ride down was wonderful. Thank you to the Boston Harbor Islands National Park staff for helping us arrange this trip! Our captain, Joe, was so accommodating. I think he enjoyed the enthusiasm of all of his passengers. He said his favorite island is Lovells. We shared many brochures and smiles with him.

Bumpkin Island was delightfully warm. The loop tour was a bit fast but volunteers were able to get a real "feel" for the island.

Next we headed off to Peddocks. The military chapel on the island is being so nicely restored and looks fabulous! Goats were roaming about the area eating the low brush. The road near the chapel will be paved before the island opens in a couple of weeks. It was great to share lunch and a bit of island history. Some volunteers went up the hill to the campsites and yurts. Volunteers were able to get a taste of some of what Peddocks has to offer.

We pulled in close to Lovells Island on our ride back to Boston. Volunteers were able to see the completely different environment from both Bumpkin and Peddocks and get a glimpse of Boston Light as well. The water was so blue and air so clear it brought out the beauty and detail that makes Boston Harbor so special.

Training will continue over the next few weeks. We were on Georges, June 7; Spectacle, June 14; Lovells on June 21.

On June 28, campground training will be held on Bumpkin and possibly Grape.

If you would like to join us or learn more about volunteering opportunities please contact me.

Summer is here! Enjoy the islands!

Carol Fithian,
Coordinator of Volunteers

More details will be sent out via e-mail and will be on our website. Call the volunteer office (978-356-4406) or e-mail me at fithiancj@comcast.net for additional information or questions.

Library Outreach Program

Community Outreach: A Report by Kevin Rogers, Community Outreach Coordinator

There have been 10 talks given by myself so far this year. They have been in communities from Duxbury to Stoneham to Holliston to Chatham and between. Tom Schindler has helped with many of these and I have had several FBHI volunteers help with others as well.

Upcoming talks are scheduled for:

- **Foxboro 6/19 at 6:30 pm - "Home on the Harbor"
- **Plympton 6/21 at 10:30 am - coffee talk version of "Home on the Harbor"
- **Lucius Beebe Memorial Library in Wakefield at 7 pm - "Discover the Boston Harbor Islands"
- **East Bridgewater 6/30 at 6pm - "Home on the Harbor"
- **Attleboro 7/10 at 6:30pm - "Home on the Harbor"
- **Thomas Crane Library in Quincy August Date TBD - " Home on the Harbor"

Library Community Outreach Displays have done up in 19 communities including for the first time in Melrose and Wakefield. Many of these displays will be up all Summer and we have plans to visit close to 30 more libraries this summer. The LCO volunteers have been great through the years and I very much appreciate all their help with this important program. Some of the volunteers needed to step-back from their library outreach due to various reasons and we have had a couple of FBHI members step-up to help out in their hometown and surrounding area. We are currently in great need of VOLUNTEERS to deliver established poster board/tri-fold displays along with brochures and Legacy Books to libraries in different parts of Boston. There is especially a need in communities to the West, North, and North-West of Boston. FBHI members willing to help out with this great program will not be asked to travel farther than they are comfortable.

I will arrange to get material to volunteers and contact libraries to receive such displays. These displays are not appropriate for libraries with elaborate display cases, but we have other LCO volunteers that work more with these types of displays. What we are primarily in need of right now is FBHI members willing to deliver portable displays/brochures to cities and towns in their immediate area.
Park News and Notes

"The Boston Harbor Times" is the new official newspaper of the Boston Harbor Islands National Park Area. Pick up a copy at locations around the harbor, at libraries and on the islands. Congratulations to FBHI member Paul Treseler's award winning photo on the front page!

Ferry service to Spectacle and Georges Islands is operating daily with Boston Harbor Cruises. Boat service to Grape, Bumpkin, Lovells and Peddocks begins on June 20th. There are new ferry routes and service from Hingham and Hull, as well as, Boston.

Complete schedules are in the Park newspaper and online; or call the Park ranger line 617-223-8666.

Friends members receive a 20% discount on ALL Boston Harbor Cruises trips including the Harbor Islands, Whale Watch, Provincetown, Salem and more. Buy your ticket either online with the FBHI discount code or at the ticket window with your 2014 FBHI membership card. NOTE: on the Hingham MBTA ferry to Georges Island there is no FBHI discount.

Check the Park Calendar for ongoing and upcoming events.

There will be no tours to Little Brewster/Boston Light this season has due to major rehabilitation work. For a description of all the work projects see here.

The island will re-open for public visits in 2015. FBHI is sponsoring the ONLY Lighthouse Tours in Boston Harbor this year. There will be three "drive by and view" trips with UMass Boston Marine Operations onboard MV Columbia Point. They are July 18, August 8, and September 12. All trips depart from the UMass Boston Harbor Campus Fox Point Pavilion. See www.umb.edu/marineops

Thompson Island has public access on weekends only. MV Outward Bound departs the EDIC Pier in South Boston to the island. The boat schedule is in the Park newspaper and online. Boat cost the same as the harbor island ferries. Please no pets and no alcohol.

Buy One Get One!

Here's a way to get reduced rate tickets to visit the Boston Harbor Islands by way of the park's ferry service. The following libraries will have available a "buy one, get one" coupon for each weekday of the season (with several block-out days, including the holidays and Free Ferry Days). The coupons are good for up to four people (or two free people). This is modeled after the Museum Pass Programs at other museums and parks. Funded by Boston Harbor Islands Alliance and Boston Harbor Cruises.
Scan this image to find our web page

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

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