

# Long Wharf Update

The BRA and DEM have been planning the Long Wharf restoration project for several years. This summer there will be a pilot program to provide visitor services at Long Wharf.

The rangers that will staff a newly built information kiosk will come from four park agencies: National Park Service, Boston Park Rangers, DEM, and MDC Summer Youth programs.

The kiosk will be open from late June until Labor Day, seven days a week. Suzanne Gall Marsh will be the Coordinator of Visitor Services at Long Wharf, and will develop this pilot program.



# Additional Boston Light Cruises

Due to popular demand, we have added more trips to Boston Light on Little Brewster Island; Sunday July 12, and Sunday Leave Long Wharf on Boston August 23. Harbor Cruises at 10AM, return to Long Wharf at 4PM. \$8 for adults, \$7 for FBHI members, seniors, groups of 12 or more, \$5 for children under 12, children under 3 Send a self addressed free. envelope with your check to Boston Light, PO Box 9025, Boston MA 02114. Reservations are suggested as the boat holds only 150 people. You will have a chance to climb the oldest lighthouse in North America. Wear comfortable shoes and bring a picnic lunch, beverages and snacks available on the boat. These trips run rain or shine.

# Lighthouse Alert!

H.R.2061 An Act For Lighthouse Preservation needs your help. This bill is being proposed as an addition to the Governor's 1987 Open Space Acquisition Program. It calls for, "...a sum not exceeding \$2 million for planning and a program of grants to municipalities for the purpose of design, construction, engineering, site improvements, and associated costs in connection with the rehabilitation and restoration of lighthouse structures and adjacent land...". Copies of this bill are available at the Friend's office.

You can help by sending a letter of support for the bill to Chairman of the Ways and Means Committee. House Rep. Richard Voke, State House, Room 238. Boston, MA 02133 or to any other Committee member and your own state representative. Contact the Lighthouse Preservation Society, 281-6336 for more info: address is PO Box 236, Rockport, MA 01966.

The Friends have sponsored several trips to Boston Light on Little Brewster Island (see calendar). The future status of the oldest light in the country is uncertain; although it is scheduled to become automated in 1989.

--Suzanne Gall Marsh

#### Tugboat Muster & Parade

Tugboats from up and down the East Coast will churn into Boston Harbor, flags flying, for the Third Annual Boston Tugboat Muster & Parade on Saturday, July 25, 10AM - 4PM at Pier 4, Charlestown Navy Yard. For more information call 666-8530.



Below is what the boat companies are offering FBHI members upon presentation of your gold 1987 membership card. Discounts apply to those over 12 years of age. Family cards entitle you to one discount per card unless otherwise stated.

Bay State and Provincetown Cruises: \$1 discount on harbor cruises, whale watches, cruises to Georges Island, Peddocks Island, Provincetown and to Nantasket beach. \$1 discount per person for a family membership for those over 12.

Thompson Island: \$1 discount per evening trail walk.

A.C. Cruise Lines: \$2 discounts on whale watches and trips to Gloucester.

Boston Harbor Cruises: \$1.25 off 90 min. cruises. \$1 off the cruises through the Inner Harbor, Georges Island, Constitution, or the sunset cocktail cruise.

<u>Massachusetts Bay Lines</u>: Has not replied as of this writing.

# Commuting Around Boston Harbor

Charlestown! Hingham! Squantum! Hull! Gloucester! Provincetown! Airport Bound! World Trade Center! Do you need to get to any of these places for work or fun? Then take a boat ride. Contact the following boat companies for schedules and fares, some offer commuter-discount passes. CHARLESTOWN - Boston (Long Wharf) Boston Harbor Cruises, 227-4321.

<u>HINGHAM - Boston</u> (Rowe's Wharf) Mass. Bay Lines, 749-4500; Boston Harbor Commuter Service, 740-1253.

SQUANTUM - Boston (Rowe's Wharf) Marina Bay Commuter Company, 328-0600.

<u>HULL - Boston</u> (Long Wharf) Two Hull locations: Permberton Pier and Spinnaker Island; Bay State Provincetown Cruises, 723-7800.

<u>GLOUCESTER - Boston</u> (Northern Avenue) A.C. Cruise Lines, 426-8419.

AIRPORT WATER SHUTTLE starts June 29th. Logan to Rowe's Wharf 1-800-23-LOGAN (Tape recording); Boston Harbor Commuter Service, 740-1253.

<u>PROVINCETOWN - Boston</u> (Long Wharf) Bay State Provincetown Cruises, 723-7800.

WORLD TRADE CENTER SHUTTLE (Long Wharf) Service by Bay State Cruises, 723-7800.

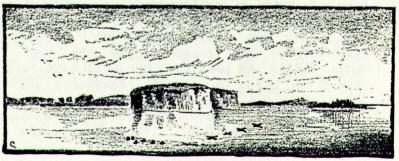
-- Suzanne Gall Marsh

Have you ever wondered how Nix's Mate became the logo for the Friends of the Boston Harbor Islands? The search for a distinctive logo began in the spring of 1982 when the Friends became incorporated. Then-president Suzanne Gall Marsh and artist Olga K. Pastuchiv wanted a prominent harbor landmark for the logo which would capture the outreach philosophy of the group. Many variations of island flora and views of Boston were considered, but it was Nix's Mate, a well known channel marker between Gallop's and Long Island, which became the final choice. In the spring of 1983 Lynne George refined Olga's drawings for the logo we see today on the Friends' T-shirts, volunteer patches, newsletters and publications. Once an eleven acre island known as Nixes Island, Nix's Mate represents a vanishing heritage. Bird, Wood, Apple and Governor's Islands, Nixes Island virtually disappeared. Edward Rowe Snow includes an entire chapter on Nix's Mate in his book, The Islands of Boston Harbor, and some of the folklore of the island is recorded in The King's Handbook of the Boston Harbor Islands which has been reprinted by the Friends.

John Gallop, who became the owner of the island in 1636, fed his sheep on Nixes Island. The island also was a place of execution for many of the pirates who once terrorized the harbor. Exactly how Nixes Island became known as Nix's Mate is a matter of debate. Yet, the only monument to Nixes Island is Nix's Mate. The black and white striped pyramid shaped beacon which sits upon granite blocks was erected between 1805 and 1806. All that is left of the island is a pile of rocks which can be seen at low tide on a curving gravelly shoal.

The logo of the Friends of the Boston Harbor Islands is a beacon too. It represents the energy and commitment of the many volunteers who strive to preserve the heritage of the harbor islands.

--Wendy Hawkes



Nix's Mate Island, in 1700.

Summer is here! During April and May we had three successful open houses, two at our headquarters on Beacon Hill and one at DEM headquarters in Hingham, to recruit volunteers. Georges Island opened on a sunny but cold day. Riding out on the boat, I think the volunteers outnumbered the visitors.

During May, training for the volunteers began in earnest. We had three interesting sessions learning about tidepool animals found on the harbor islands. the Aquarium, volunteers learned how hold a rock crab, and what happens when you hum to a periwinkle. Bill Perkins shared facts and folklore about wildflowers in training sessions both on island and in the classroom. Three general training sessions have been held to train new and experienced These sesions included our volunteers. slide show with special emphasis on the volunteer duties for both day, overnight, and Thompson Island volunteers; recapping of the rules and regulations set forth by the Park Department; brief description of how to understand the Water Taxi schedule; and Save the Harbor Save the Bay lent us their VCR and monitor so that we could show the Sierra Club video, "Boston Harbor: Regional Resource at Risk". We ended the session with some role playing, teaching volunteers the right way to informal interpretation. Serena Rinker, an experienced volunteer, developed the skit. One more training session will be held in June. I would like to extend a special thanks to my new office volunteer Olive who assembled all the Silva training packets, and has been giving me office support in the last three weeks. Thanks. also, to all of you who have been helping me with the training sessions, I never could have done them alone. Once again Paul Nyren has updated and arranged for printing of the guidebook we distribute to volunteers. Copies will be on sale on the summer boat cruises.

Marian MacLennan is now working for the Friends for four hours a week. She is helping me by processing memberships, phone calls, mailing of information packets, and other office details. It is great to have the extra help.



Spring Cruises! We had a delightful sunny day to explore Great Brewster. Connell, Fred Johnsen, and I led a combined history and nature tour. Visitors had plenty of time to picnic, explore, and snap pictures. The female gulls were very protective of their eggs, and did not encourage visitors to come too close. Light on Little Brewster was sold out the Wednesday before the trip. One family chose this cruise to celebrate their son's We had about 20 nine year old birthday. boys checking out the island and the light-What a great way to spend your house. birthday. Thanks to those volunteers who helped facilitate the visitors going up and down the lighthouse, George Marsh, Smith, Wynelle and Robert Scenna, Gertrude Lutz, Serena Rinker, and Fred Johnsen.

As a Christian I have strong feelings about my responsibility to conserve this wonderful universe God gave us. I feel that the Friends are working toward conserving the islands and the clean up of the harbor, and I am pleased to be a part of this organization. I would like to share with you a prayer, "For the Conservation of Natural Resources", found in "The Book of Common Prayer" for the Episcopal Church.

"Almighty God, in giving us dominion over things on earth, you made us fellow workers in your creation: Give us wisdom and reverence so to use the resources of nature, that no one may suffer from our abuse of them, and that generations yet to come may continue to praise you for your bounty; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen."

I hope you all have a wonderful summer, and I look forward to meeting you on one of our Sunset Cruises, or out on the islands.

--Nancy Martin Coordinator of Volunteers

# Friends of Fort Warren

The Friends of Fort Warren is a new group whose focus is the preservation of Fort Warren and Ft. Andrews. For more information contact Vincent Bucca, 78 Cliffe Ave., Lexington, MA 02173.



# Island Bouquet

Just a small remembrance,
A thought of days gone by.

Gentling waves on island rocks
From which the seabirds fly.

Proudly stand do these green isles,
Of that, there is no doubt,
A-carpeted by colors bright
On hill and stone redoubt.

The purple shades of mallow

Merge with yellow yarrow

And milkweed' blossoms bursting

Picked from fields now fallow.

A russet red of curly-dock
Tells of passing year
As swaying stalks of cattails
Reflect in waters clear.

Trumpets pink of jimsonweed
Herald coming morn
As purple pokes a-brighten
A rocky ledge, forlorn.

Dandelions and mullen too Reflect the summer sun, Reminding us of harbor isles Where many tales are spun.

A gentle scent of tansy
A-merge with clover's glow
To mingle with the tang
Of ocean's ebb and flow.

These help us form tapestries
Of sight and sound and smell,
A blending of our memories
To hold the island's spell.

A gentle touch of queen ann's lace Completes this floral crown, Combining all the pigments Of island bog and down.

A tiny isle bouquet
On table-top in bowl.
It spreads healing, gentle, to
Our heart and mind and soul.

For "Weena" Joe F. Kolb



# Boston Light, May 30, 1987

Our first trip of this year to Boston Light was made even more pleasurable by the presence of Willie Emerson, author of <u>First Light</u> and newly enrolled member of the Friends. Willie hadn't been out to Boston Light, the setting for his book, since he was about six years old. Like the rest of us, he thought it was beautiful.

On the return trip to Boston, Willie was kept busy signing copies of his book for the Friends that he had met either on board or on the Lighthouse platform. If he can, Willie wants to make some more trips with us this summer. He had a good time, and he shared his pleasure with the rest of us.

Willie's family still includes a couple of lighthouse keepers, an uncle and A whole lot of family are Then there's Willie, who set to fishermen. work on his book as soon as he got out of high school. When he couldn't get it published any other way, he did that himself, Now he's marketing it himself. Altogether, he's put in a whole lot of hard work on it, but that's nothing new in Willie's family. He's also had a lot of good experiences from it. When he goes out with us again, be sure to have a talk with him; you'll be glad you did.

Copies of Willie's book are on sale in the Friend's office, and will be along on all our trips. We think you'll find it good summertime reading.

--Olive Silva



#### Lecture Summary

Our lecture series, cosponsored with the Bostonian Society, was a wonderful success. Dr. William Fowler, Mr. Don Swann, and Ms. Lorraine Downey were both very entertaining and educational. The speakers painted a very complete picture of Boston Harbor, the islands, and how they fit into the world from a hundred or more years ago and through the year 2000.

--Wynelle Scenna

# MASSACHUSETTS AUDUBON: BOSTON SUMMER ON THE COAST

#### ON THE SHORE

WEEKLY TALKS AT CHRISTOPHER COLUMBUS WATERFRONT PARK IN BOSTON

- EVERY TUESDAY EVENING
- FROM 6 P.M. TO 7 P.M.
- FREE OF CHARGE

- FROM JULY 7 TO AUGUST 25, 1987
- ATLANTIC AVENUE BY LONG WHARF

#### July 7

Overview of the Boston Harbor Clean up Betsy Johnson, Director, MA Audubon: Boston Chair, Deer Island Citizen Advisory Committee July 14

How an Individual Affects the Harbor Steve Hunt, Director, Save the Harbor Ben Davis, Mass. Water Resources Authority Tom Wellnitz, Energy Education, Mass. Audubon

#### July 21

**Island Adventures** 

Nancy Martin, Friends of the Boston Harbor Islands

July 28

The Last City Salt Marsh

Chris Rodstrom, MetroParks, Belle Isle Marsh

August 4

Fish Need Oxygen Too!

Tom Hruby, Senior Scientist, Mass. Audubon

August 11

Scaup, Sandpipers, and Seagulls

David Clapp, Director, South Shore Region Center

Massachusetts Audubon Society

August 18

**Docked in Boston** 

Arthur Lane, President, Boston Shipping Assoc.

August 25 Lobster Lore

# ON THOMPSON'S ISLAND

- FOUR WEDNESDAY EVENINGS
- Boat leaves from Long Wharf
- 5:30 P.M. TO 9 P.M.
- Pre-registration required

July 8

**Ancient Tribal Culture in Boston Harbor** 

John Cross, anthropologist

July 15

**Ecology of Inter-Tidal Life** 

Bill Perkins, naturalist

July 29

Island Transitions: butterflies to

caterpillars, sea to land, fields to woods

Bill Perkins, naturalist

August 5

The Island Plant Community: edible, medicinal, and otherwise useful plants

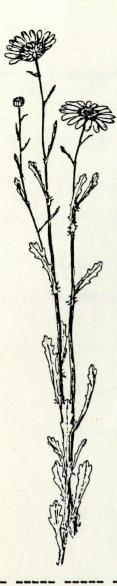
Bill Perkins, naturalist

- FOUR TRIP SERIES: \$28.00 FOR MAS MEMBERS, \$36.00 FOR NON-MEMBERS - SINGLE TRIP COST: \$8.00 FOR MAS MEMBERS, \$10.00 FOR NON-MEMBERS

FOR MORE INFORMATION ON CALL THE BOSTON OFFICE AT 367-1026

		REGISTRA	TION FOR T	HOMPSON	ISLAND
Name					
Address					
Please check.	4 trip series	_ July 8	July 15	_ July 29	_ August 5
Enclose payme	ent of \$28. series	/MAS mem		\$36. series/n	on-mem
	\$8. sing	le trip/MAS m	em	\$10. single t	rip/non-mem
Make checks p	ayable to the Ma	ss. Audubon	Society, 3	Joy Street, B	oston, MA 02108

#### FRIENDS OF THE BOSTON HARBOR ISLANDS, INC. MEMBERSHIP FORM



Goal: to encourage public use, balanced with an awareness of the need to protect this fragile ecosystem and historic environment.

The Volunteers and Friends of the Boston Harbor Islands Inc. was created because the Boston Harbor Islands are an unique natural and historic resource. We believe that our members belong to the Friends because they wish to protect the Boston Harbor Islands while also promoting the enjoyment that is felt by being involved with this unique environment. We are following an old American custom of banding together to magnify our individual efforts to better our way of life. Our diverse membership provides assistance to the Greater Boston community and the Boston Harbor Islands State Park through volunteers, interpretative services, and public education.

Benefits:

- boat ticket discounts
- FBHI newsletters Tidings
- island volunteering
- act in a Living History performance
- learn more about the islands
- opportunities to make new friends
- special activities
- discounts on items sold by FBHI

The Friends is a nonprofit membership organization. It is only through your support and active presence that we will succeed in reaching its goals in this, our ninth year. Send your check made out to the **Friends of the Boston Harbor Islands, Inc.**, today—we'll send you your 1987 membership card by return mail.

"Bring a friend to the Friends"

Name	Telephone				
Address	City	Zip			
TYPES OF ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP AVAILABLE	VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNIT	IES			
Note: Memberships and donations are tax deductible	(please check)				
Economy \$6	Island Overnight we	ekends (June-September)			
Individual \$15	Island Daytime (Jun	e-September)			
Family \$28	Living History prog	rams			
Sustaining \$50	Newsletter/Writing	skills			
Patron \$100	Membership Activite	s/Clerical			
We will send you a membership card.	Finance				
New Renewal	Fund Raising/Cruises				
Nellewal	Exhibit preparation/Art skills				
	Other:				
Additional Tax Deductible Gift \$					
	Please mail application wi Friends of the Boston Hart PO Box 9025 Boston. MA 02114				

#### CALENDAR

- \* June 22 Little Brewster, Sunset Series. 6PM Long Wharf Boston Harbor Cruises.
- July 2 Thompson Island Evening Walk series begins, Thursdays & Fridays.
- July 1-5 Harborfest '87.
- \* July 6 Great Brewster, Sunset Series.
- \* July 12 Boston Light, Little Brewster. 10 - 4 from Long Wharf, BHC.
- July 18 & 19 Harbor Defense Days on all islands.
- \* July 20 Bumpkin, Sunset Series.
- July 25 Tugboat Muster & Parade
- July 25 Natural Dyes Workshop on Lovells.

- \* August 1 Newsletter deadline. Send articles to Robert Scenna, 24 Piedmont St., Arlington, MA 02174 (643-8279 eves.).
- August 1 & 2 Civil War Encampment on George's Island.
- \* August 3 Peddocks, Sunset Series.
- August 8 & 9 The French at the Fort on Georges Island.
- \* August 17 Lovells, Sunset Series.
- \* August 23 Boston Light, Little Brewster.
- August 28 Thompson Island evening sessions end.
- \* August 31 Gallops, Sunset Series.

Friends of the Boston Harbor Islands, Inc. P.O. Box 9025
Boston, MA 02114
(617)-523-8386



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