

2012 The Year in Review and upcoming for 2013

Contents

All NEW FBHI Web Page.....	1
Twitter & Facebook.....	1
FBHI at the New England Boat Show	2
New Merchandise!.....	3
Join the Friends and SAVE.....	3
FBHI Annual Meeting, celebrating our 33rd Season (2012)!	3
Carol spoke and thanked the Volunteers	3
We've partnered with NURIDE	4
Boat Haul Discount at Admiral's Hill Marina.....	4
Library Outreach Project.....	4
Remembering... ..	5
Mass Memories Boston Harbor Islands Road Show VIDEOS.....	6
Thank You Friends Boat Trip Volunteers!	6
Volunteer Report 2012	7
Volunteers wanted:	8
2012 – a list of just some of our activities:	8
2013 Up & Coming in Brief:	9
Brown Paper Tickets	9
Job Well Done!.....	10
From the Chairman:	11

All NEW FBHI Web Page

In January 2012 we updated our web page and have continuously revised and updated the material or content. Our web address is still <http://www.fbhi.org> and our email has remained at info@fbhi.org

Take a moment to check out our new web page, it will change and be updated frequently.

For history buffs, check out the island information - this includes some 'islands' that are no longer (including Governors, Apple & more).



Twitter & Facebook - We have also re-started our Twitter account ([chairmanfbhi](https://twitter.com/FBHI_Boston)) and have just about 100 'followers', and our Facebook page (FBHI) is going strong as well.



Twitter @ http://twitter.com/FBHI_Boston

Facebook @ <http://facebook.com/FBHI.Fan.Page#!/FBHI.Fan.Page>

FBHI at the New England Boat Show



Progressive New England Boat Show

February 11-19, 2012
 by Rab Sherman

For the past several years the Friends of The Boston Harbor Islands has had a presence at the New England Boat Show. Members have sporadically volunteered to man a booth giving out information about our organization, the islands and future harbor trips. We displayed a sampling of our merchandise, books, shirts, bags etc. and encouraged people to go to our website to order what they wanted. Three members of the board volunteered to spearhead the effort.

Raffle tickets were sold for \$2.00 each and drawings every evening for a mini prize and one for a "wow" prize. The final drawing was pulled at the end of the show on February 19 and was for a \$3,500 grand prize – Winner **Mr O'Kerby**.

Walter Hope did a yeoman job of soliciting varied businesses for our raffle prizes they included an overnight stay at the Liberty Hotel, moorings, docking, insurance discounts to discounts for new and existing members and much much more. Walter spent many hours at the boat show promoting the FBHI and forging a working relationship with other area organizations.

Pat Leary traveled the highway and byways collecting and inventorying all of our books, clothes, cards, brochures and other merchandise stored in all over Boston and the South Shore. Pat and her husband Paul were most generous with their time and vehicles transporting everything needed for our booth and helping to set up and tear down our display at the end of the show.

Opening day found the Friends booth very busy. Our main draw proved to be the National Geographic Boston Harbor Island map. Sitting on the corner of our table it was to draw 100's of people who looked at it and started reminiscing about their youth and days on the Islands. Many people thanked us for doing what we do to promote the islands. People who have taken tours with Friends wanted information about our upcoming season. Nearly everyone who passed by the booth was given information about the FBHI, children were given postcards of Nixes Mate and told about its history. Merchandise and raffle tickets were sold, new friends were made, old friendships renewed and a good "dent" was made in replenishing our coffers.

All in all, the Friends who worked the boat show were warmly receive and left knowing that what we do is welcomed and appreciated by the thousands of visitors to the Boston Harbor Islands.

2013 Update: This past February 16-24 We had a much improved booth this year, with a new product – a FBHI baseball cap with the logo above – available for \$12. Our raffle was a success and we were well received. Our booth space was again provided by the New England Boat Show production company. Our location was not as 'perfect' as 2012 and a result was dramatically lower sales and raffle ticket sales. Thank you again to Rab, Walter, Charlotte, Jackie, David, Pat and others who manned the booth – and especially to Rab who was

there every second of every day for the 9 day long show. Raffle sponsors included: Cabela's, Constitution Marina/Bed & Breakfast Afloat, Admirals Hill Marina, Ben's Boat Works (Wash & Wax), a host of restaurants and more.

New Merchandise!



FBHI Hat's are available for \$12, Khaki in base color with a Velcro adjustment strap. Available on our web page soon & at events!

Join the Friends and SAVE

Friends members now receive:

- **20% discount** from Boston Harbor Cruises (on all cruises, including the Provincetown High Speed Ferry)
- **25% discount** on National Park Service Boston Light Tours
- **50% discount** off Boat U.S. basic membership
- **20% discount** off boat hauls (just the haul) at Admirals Hill Marina, Chelsea
- **10% discount** off sailing lessons at Black Rock Sailing at Fan Pier, Boston
- **Discounts** on FBHI Cruises and Tours
- **Discounts** on FBHI Merchandise

Check our web page often as we're always adding additional member benefits!

FBHI Annual Meeting, celebrating our 33rd Season (2012)!

On Sunday, May 6th the Friends held our Annual Meeting, celebrating the events of 2011 and looking forward to 2012.

Walter welcomed everyone to the meeting promptly at 1pm, and thanked our hosts. Walter also thanked the Board, Volunteers and Members who assisted preparing for the meeting.

Kevin & Tom were instrumental in obtaining tables and chairs for the event as the camp had varnished the picnic tables just the day before!

Suzanne then spoke regarding programs that we had in 2011 and mentioned up and coming plans for 2012 including the boat trips.

Walter also thanked Steve Marcus for his work as Past Chair (& current Board Member emeritus), and Carol her work as Volunteer Coordinator.

Carol spoke and thanked the Volunteers

for all of their work and support in 2011, and mentioned that training for 2012 is already underway. With assistance from Kevin and Tom, the "Century Club" volunteers and volunteers who have worked for ... years were recognized and presented with a certificate and thank you card with a free admission to the Franklin Park Zoo.

Just a few moments earlier than scheduled, Ellen Berkland provided a wonderful presentation about Long Island ranging from pre-historic to modern times. Upon the conclusion, a wonderful tour of Long Island East Head was provided. We learned about the Nike Missile site, and about contamination of the ground by mercury and lead.



Ellen Berkland &
Radio Interviewer David Skill WATD Radio

Next was a quick hike to see the Long Island Light built in 1817. The light is now the property of the National Park Service, and is currently off-limits to visitors.

A wonderful day was held by all, some new members joined, current members renewed their memberships, and a good number of books and clothing were sold.

We've partnered with NURIDE

NURIDE is a web-based service that encourages people to commute to work with others, or to use public transportation (bus, boat, train), or by bike and walking. Our members can now take advantage of this service and earn points. The points are redeemable for discounts at restaurants, museums and on merchandise.

<http://www.nuride.com/nurideregistration/?isNew=true>



Participating rewards include: Fuller Crafts Museum, Wadsworth Atheneum, Franklin Park and Stone Zoos, Ecotarium, Cambridge Brewery, Green Mountain Coffee, Dicks Sporting Goods, Finale

Restaurant, Fahitias and Ritas, and many more!

Boat Haul Discount at Admiral's Hill Marina



Our member discount for a boat haul at Admiral's Hill Marina has been very popular with boaters. Please be aware that the discount is **ONLY** on the haul, and does not include other services (storage, repairs) while at the marina. **JOIN** the Friends to take advantage of the **20% discount for your boat haul!**



Admirals Hill Marina's Travel Lift

Library Outreach Project

This successful program has promoted the islands and FBHI at many cities and towns over the past several years.

In 2012 the Library Outreach Volunteers exhibited at **18** new communities! This year, we had displays-up in **28** libraries including spots like Marshfield, Dover, Woburn,

Ipswich, Peabody, Swampscott, and East Boston.

The team consists of Kevin Rogers, Elaine Brockman, Lynn Hildenbrand, & Jackie Ladd. We could still use a few more people to help spread the word.

For an impressive list of the libraries that we've had displays at in the past see **LIBRARIES** on our web page (click on the 'about us' tab to find the **Library Legacy** tab).

Many thanks to Kevin, Paula, Jackie and Alyce for getting the word out!



Elaine at the Lynn Library



Alyce at the Swampscott Library

Remembering...

John Forbes long time member & volunteer passed away on March 6th, 2012.

Funds were raised and in cooperation with NPS & DCR two benches will be installed in 2013, one on Lovells Island and one on Georges Island.

Pearl Lang On August 9, 2012 longtime Friends Member and Volunteer passed away.

A successful effort was made and a picnic table will be installed late this Spring (2013) with a memorial plaque in Pearl's memory on Lovells Island.

Kevin Regal Member and boat trip participant passed away on July 10, 2012, plans are underway to request placement of a memorial bench for Kevin.

Ann M. "Nancy" Carroll, Member and Volunteer, passed away on Oct. 24, 2012.

Dorothy Mixer Member & Volunteer passed away on April 13, 2013.

Krystle Campbell Friend and Summer Shack – Spectacle Island past employee died as a result of the Boston Marathon explosion on April 15, 2013.



War Relic*

An island fort that played a role in war
 is now a scenic ruin where kids play,
 instilling hope the same fate lies in store
 for conflict installations of today.
 Time swallowed history. Now swallows nest
 in rooms encrusted with a haunting mood.
 Periodic squeals of swallow chicks attest
 to begging for and being given food.
 Discovering a nest, thrilled children seek
 for others, finding more to their delight:
 the fort has been inherited by the meek
 though formerly it showed a nation's might.
 The guns and cannons gone, we're left with fun
 of finding nesting birds. Wars ended. They won.

By Mario A. Pita

* Fort Warren, Boston Harbor, July 2011

Mass Memories Boston Harbor Islands Road Show VIDEOS



Videos are now ONLINE

We are very excited to announce that the VIDEOS recorded at the Mass Memories Boston Harbor Islands Road Show in 2011 are now on the FBHI web page. Visit the Go to: <http://fbhi.org/mass-memories.html> to see the videos as well as find a link to photographs.

Thank You Friends Boat Trip Volunteers!

Starting on January 1, 2012 with the annual Seafarers' Island Holiday to Spectacle Island Friends boat trips volunteers have been ambassadors, tour leaders, and logistical wizards with tickets and merchandise sales on all of the Friends boat trips.

These trips included specialty tours to the islands without docks: Calf, Rainsford and Great Brewster Islands; sunset trips to the three "Ls": Long, Little Brewster, and Lovells with a special Tall Ships Tour narrated by David Skill; and the ever popular five hour Northern and Southern Lighthouse Tours with Boston Harbor Cruises.

Hats off to the 2012 FBHI boat trips volunteer team: Rab Sherman, David Dingley, Elizabeth (Liz) Carella Nancy Martin, Stephanie Schorow & Suzanne Gall Marsh.

Volunteer Report 2012

Carol Fithian, Volunteer Coordinator

Our volunteer program has had many changes over the years: starting out as a volunteer corps initiating projects on each island served. We assisted the Metropolitan District Commission and the Department of Environmental Management with interpretive programming, tours and trail maintenance. Ferries were larger and a bit slower, and with the exception of Georges Island, there was a "laid back" feel to the harbor island experience. Now the islands are much busier with new projects and programming. The need for interpreting the many changes to visitors is greater than ever. With this in mind we plan for the season each year.

Although the service portion of our volunteer program is primarily active during the summer and early fall, the work of the program fills the year with projects, meetings and events. The visible part of the program is on island during the bright summer months: but the behind the scenes preparation continues throughout the year. The winter season can often be the most important time because volunteers share new ideas leading to planning new programs and new ways to assist the public in making a connection to the harbor and the islands.

Volunteer recruitment begins in earnest in February each year. New training dates are set and the process of matching new volunteer to island begins. In 2012 volunteers upgraded our website and worked as a team to build a new source for the public to connect with FBHI.



Marguerite Krupp, Boston Light Volunteer

May and June is volunteer training time in the FBHI year. In 2012 Boston Light training took place in May, Interpreter training for Spectacle, Georges Island, and Campground Host training occurred in June. Due to the later opening of Peddocks, training was offered the second week in July. Training is always a wonderful time because new volunteers have a chance to meet and learn from members and volunteers who have a long history on the islands and can offer unique perspectives on the life and changes that have taken place over the years. Visiting in the Hale cottage on Peddocks, sharing with Kate Rivera about her time living on Spectacle Island or discovering the detailed Civil War history of Fort Warren with Jack Zeletsky trainees have the unique opportunity to delve in to the historic and cultural life of the islands.

The volunteers are fortunate to work with the National Park Service, the Department of Conservation and Recreation and the Coast Guard Auxiliary each season.

FBHI is such a great venue for individuals to meet and work with the staff that knows the islands so well and offer a professional environment in which to learn and serve. Volunteers say that even after just one season it changes their life. I hear it every season from those who join us.

Volunteers by the Numbers

Number of volunteers in 2012: **63**

Number of volunteer hours: **6299**

Islands served: **7**

Activities:

- Library Legacy Project
- Boat trips
- Boston Light Volunteers
- Island and Community Events
- Island "Voices"
- Island Interpreters
- Campground Hosts
- Children's Program
- Park Pavilion Assistants
- FBHI Board and Park meetings

Volunteers wanted:

- Coordinating and planning a **authors series** in the Fall of 2013
- Assistance with planning and staffing **Edward Rowe Snow Day** in August
- Assistance with planning and staffing **Harborfest in October**
 - Contact Carol Fithian, Volunteer Coordinator
FithianCJ@Comcast.net
 - For the **author series**, contact
ChairmanFBHI@gmail.com
- Do you like to write? The Editor of Tidings could use a hand! We try to produce an edition of Tidings frequently, and CONTENT is needed. As you've hopefully seen, some of our content is first-hand, other material is gathered from organizations that are of interest to the harbor, either current-day, or historical.

A similar volunteer could be helpful producing content for the FBHI.org web page, or - if you've the skills, an Assistant Webmaster Volunteer could be a nifty title to add to your resume! Contact ChairmanFBHI@gmail.com if you can help!

2012 – a list of just some of our activities:

- **FBHI** Sunday, January 1st Seafarers Holiday Cruise to Spectacle Island
[LINK to VIDEO of the day.](#)
- January 24 - **FBHI** - UMass Boston's Digital Archives Announced the release online of the Mass Memories Roadshow collection.
- January - **FBHI** launched an all new web page. Notices, Boat Trips, Events, Books, Merchandise and Island and Boating information is now all available online.
- Saturday, February 18 [Snow Day on Spectacle](#) - Take a boat trip out to Spectacle Island for winter fun!
- February 11-19 **FBHI** had a booth at the [New England Boat Show](#) booth #349.
- February 2012 **FBHI** added new member benefits including: discounted boat hauling at Admirals Hill Marina, Chelsea; discounted sailing lessons at Black Rock Sailing School, Boston; discounted basic membership with Boat U.S.
- March 2012 **FBHI** is now 'live' on **eBAY.COM!** Visit our page at [eBAY](#), and consider donating an auction item to the Friends!
- April 2012 **FBHI** is now 'live' on **AMAZON.COM!** Visit our page at [AMAZON!](#)
- April 2012 **FBHI** successfully raised funds for the purchase and

installation of 2 memorial benches for departed member **John Forbes**. Benches will be installed later in 2013.

- **FBHI** - On Sunday May 6th the Friends held our 34th Annual Meeting at **Long Island**, at Camp Harbor View, just over 80 members, volunteers and friends attended the presentations, awards ceremony and presentation by Ellen Berkland on Long Island and toured East Head.
- **FBHI** - May 12 - **Rainsford Island Boat Trip**
- **FBHI** - Saturday, June 9 - **Northern Lighthouse Boat Trip**
- **FBHI** - June 20 - **Little Brewster (Boston Light) Island Boat Trip**
- **FBHI** - July 2 - **OpSail Tall Ships Tour**, we saw the Tall Ships and 20+ "Grey Ladies" Navy Ships from around the world from the best vantage point - boat!
- **FBHI** We installed a display on **George's Island**, next to the Hospital Room. The display includes items describing a unique stay on **Great Brewster Island** by several women as well as a display showing some images and information about **Rainsford Island**.
- **FBHI** - July 11 - **Long Island Boat Trip**
- **FBHI** - Saturday, June 23 - **Southern Lighthouse Boat Trip**
- **FBHI** - Saturday, July 7 - **Northern Lighthouse Boat Trip**
- **FBHI** - Saturday, July 21 - **Southern Lighthouse Boat Trip**
- **FBHI** - Saturday, August 4 - **Northern Lighthouse Boat Trip**
- **FBHI** - Saturday, August 18 - **Southern Lighthouse Boat Trip**
- **FBHI** - Sunday, August 19 - **Edward Rowe Snow Day on Georges Island**
- **FBHI** - **August 22 - Long Island Boat Trip**

- **FBHI** - Saturday, September 1 - **Northern Lighthouse Boat Trip**
- **FBHI** - Rainsford Island Saturday September 15th
- **FBHI** - Saturday, September 29 - **Northern Lighthouse Boat Trip**
- **FBHI** - Sunday, September 30 - **Fall Harvest Fest at Webb State Park**
- November 11 - **Veterans Day Cruise**

2013 Up & Coming in Brief:



Brown Paper Tickets is now our ticketing agent for FBHI Boat Trips as well as BHC Northern & Southern Lighthouse Trips – go to <http://www.brownpapertickets.com> and search for **Boston Harbor**, or click on our boat trips from our web page at <http://www.fbhi.org> ! (it's really that easy).

You have 4 ways of obtaining your tickets using Brown Paper Tickets:

1. Print your own at home or office
2. Use your smart phone & your ticket will be emailed to you
3. Request a paper ticket be sent in the US Postal Mail (there is a delay in receipt vs "instant" or,
4. Have your name on the "list at the boat"

Paying by CHECK:

If you need to purchase tickets using a check, please send a note with the trip

you'd like to come on with your check to FBHI, 30 Shipyard Drive #202, Hingham, MA 02043 – 2 weeks prior to the trip. Last year many of our trips sold out – so send your check early!

- **FBHI** - May 4th will be the **Rainsford Island boat trip** with Elizabeth Carella guide
- June 14th **Boston Light Tours** begin.....they run Friday, Saturday and Sunday through September 30th. **FBHI** members get a sizeable discount. Must pay online through the Park's ticket reservation system.
- **FBHI** - **June 22nd Southern Lighthouse Tour** co-sponsored with FBHI and Boston Harbor Cruises 10:00-3:00
- **FBHI** - **June 26 First Sunset Trip** - We're going to [Boston Light on Little Brewster Island](#) 6:00-9:00
- **FBHI** - July 6th Northern Lighthouse Tour co-sponsored with FBHI and Boston Harbor Cruises 10:00-3:00
- **FBHI** - July 10th Sunset Trip to [Long Island](#) 6:00-9:00
- **FBHI** - July 20 Southern Lighthouse Tour co-sponsored with FBHI and Boston Harbor Cruises 10:00-3:00
- **FBHI** - July 31st FBHI Sunset Trip to [Lovells Island](#) 6:00-9:00
- **FBHI** - August 3 and 31 Northern Lighthouse Tours co-sponsored with FBHI and Boston Harbor Cruises 10:00-3:00
- **FBHI** - August 17th Southern Lighthouse Tour co-sponsored with FBHI and Boston Harbor Cruises 10:00-3:00
- **FBHI** - September 21st [Rainsford Island](#) boat trip (tentative date)

- **FBHI** - September 28th Fall Foliage Northern Lighthouse Tour co-sponsored with FBHI and Boston Harbor Cruises 10:00-3:00
- September 28th [Annual Boston Harbor Educators Conference](#) at UMass Boston - Public is invited (There is a registration fee).

Job Well Done!

On March 6th the Boston Harbor Islands Advisory Council presented awards to recognize several people's involvement with the harbor.



(pictured above)

Rob Moir, Chair of the BHI Advisory Council, Karen O'Donnell (FBHI), Pat Morss (U.S.S. Constitution Museum), Suzanne Gall Marsh (FBHI), Park Superintendent, Bruce Jacobson. Not in the picture but also honored was Carl Johnson (retired Boston public school teacher).

The awards were for fifteen years of service on the Boston Harbor Islands Advisory Council, Suzanne's award says *"Boston Harbor Islands Advisory Council Awards this Recognition to Suzanne Gall Marsh For steadfast participation in the work of the Advisory Council since 1998, (continued...)"*

and for her advocacy for public access and preservation of Boston Harbor Islands."



Walter Hope

From the Chairman:

2012 has been a busy year for me as a Volunteer, Board Member and Chairman with the Friends. I count a number of accomplishments, many of which are operational & technology related – it's the future!

- New **web page**
- Successful **boat show booth**
- **New partners** offering our members discounts
- We're '**Tweeting**'
- We're '**Facebooking**'
- Conversion to **Brown Paper Tickets** for boat show ticketing
- **Upgraded computers** for the office
- **Upgraded financial software** for the office
- Registered for a **QRC Code** (see the bottom right of the next page)
- Entered the world of **high-speed internet** for our office computers
- Our 2012 **Boat trips almost all sold out** (not including the North/South lighthouse trips)

- Created a sales page **on Amazon** for our books
- Attended many Harbor Advisory Council Meetings
- Submitted several **proposals** for grants, office space, and sponsorships as well as solicited dozens of items for the boat show
- Continually **updated the web page** with new events, news and information
- Issued **10 editions of Tidings**
- Lead the effort to **acquire memorial benches** and picnic tables for our deceased members.

Much of this was a team effort with many of our Board members and Volunteer Coordinator. We "do this" out of love and appreciation for the islands, and even for our group itself.

Carol's report describes the many hours of work all of our volunteers accomplished in 2012 – it's really quite impressive!

Thank you to Suzanne, Steve, Carol, Charlotte, Rab, Jackie, Karen, Kevin, Tom, Pat, Chris and Roma, as well as all of the volunteers on-island, office, and Library Team!

The Board and I hope that in 2013 the Friends can continue with our past programming, and we're **looking forward to planning:**

- a bigger effort for **Edward Rowe Snow Day**,
- 2016 will be a triple anniversary year: 300th anniversary of Lighting of Boston Light, 100th anniversary of the National Park Service and 20th anniversary creation of "our" park, the Boston Harbor Islands National Park Area
- **35th Anniversary of the FBHI**,
- **Authors Series** in the Fall of 2013.

I'll continue working to improve our web page, outreach and connections to the community, but can't do it without your help.

Consider some of the Volunteer Opportunities mentioned in this special edition of Tidings. And while we wish it wasn't true, 'interest' doesn't pay the bills...

Consider becoming a Subscription Member, at a rate of \$10 per month or more by using your credit card. Payments are processed safely and securely by PayPal, and the Friends benefit from enhanced dues. This option is available on our web page and only available via credit card.



Thank you for your support over the past years!

Yours, 

Walter Hope, Chairman

*P.s. last but not least, let me thank my Partner **Jeff**, he keeps me on my toes, and does his best to make sure I don't forget things on my schedule and has helped with Annual Meetings and the boat show.*



Lovells Island Berry Patch

photo from a FBHI Trip

Our Mission:

The Mission of Friends of the Boston Harbor Islands is to inspire use of the islands fostering a lasting connection through education and interpretive programming.



Scan the QRC code above with your cell phone
& find our web page!