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Friends of the Boston Harbor Islands TIDINGS NEWSLETTER

Issue No.Feb 2012



Dear Roma,

Hello and welcome to a jam-packed TIDINGS! We had a very exciting and well attended booth at the New England Boat Show earlier this month, read below for more on the show.

Up & Coming Harbor Events:

March 7th, 2012 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM [Annual Meeting of the Boston Harbor Islands Advisory Council](#)

Social Hour from 5-6 PM. Annual meeting starts at 6PM. Agenda includes elections of officers, introduction of new candidates for membership, and park update. Peter Rosen (Associate Professor of Geology at Northeastern University) will present a talk: "Boston Harbor - Rising Sea Level and

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Featured Article

Learn about our time at the New England Boat Show, article by Board Member Rab Sherman.



Drowned Drumlins." Directions:

<http://www.nps.gov/boha/parkmgmt/upload/directions-NU-Shillman-Hall.pdf>

March 8th 7pm (1 hour lecture) Bathhouse Lectures " The Magic of Migration with Talkin' Birds" Mary Jeanette Bathhouse, 204 Nantasket Avenue, Hull.

Ray Brown's The Magic of Migration explores the extraordinary exploits of birds as they travel between seasonal habitats. We will see some of the migration "champions" whose long-distance journeys seem implausible, even though new research has confirmed the facts--birds, for example, like the Godwit species, fly non-stop from Alaska to New Zealand. We will also be discussing the threats to birds--both during migration, and on their breeding and wintering grounds. Join us as we learn about some of the things that we can do in our daily lives to help the birds--and our planet--survive.

On **March 28th** author Chris Klein will conduct a talk on the islands at Old South Meeting House at 5:30pm. \$10 per person to attend with booksigning and sales afterwards. www.osmh.org for more information.

We'll be having our Annual Meeting on Sunday, May 6th at Long Island, and plans are in the works for a tour of the island. As you may know, Long Island is normally closed to the public, so this will be a treat and privilege. Kevin Rogers and Tom Shindler are hard at work to make this day a success.

Our 2nd boat trip of the season has been scheduled, we're hoping for a full boat on Saturday May 12th for our trip to Rainsford Island. Buy your tickets now online so you don't miss out!

We're happy to announce several new benefits and opportunities for our members. Please see below for this information.

Sincerely,



Walter Hope
Chairman,
Friends of the Boston Harbor Islands

FBHI at the New England Boat Show

Raffle, merchandise sales & memberships



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.

At the FBHI board meeting in December, the board realized that our coffers were nearly depleted and that it was too cold to search the water of Lovells Island for the Magnifique Treasure. So, in the spirit of Micky and Judy, we decided to do a show "The New England Boat Show".

Three members of the board volunteered to spearhead the effort. Our goal was threefold 1) Increase our membership 2) promote the Harbor Islands 3) to replenish our coffers. The board decided to do a raffle. We sold raffle tickets for \$2.00 each and had 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.

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.

We picked up and moved in everything in on Friday February 10, 2012. It was a very busy moving day at the Boston Convention Center. Pat Leary and Rab Sherman spent 45 minutes looking for booth #1019 which was assigned to the Friends Of The Boston Harbor Islands. Unbeknownst to them, the Friends were moved to booth #359, which turned out to be the "BEST" booth in the hall. When Walter arrived we hung banners, covered tables, set up our display and we were set to go.

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 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.

Rainsford Island

Boat trip on May 12th



Join us on Saturday, May 12th to visit an island you just can't get to without your own boat! Rainsford was once the home of a immigration and quarantine

or a immigration and quarantine facility and is now one of the few islands that is not seriously regulated by the state or it's owner the City of Boston.

Depart Boston at 10:00am and return to the dock at 2:00.
Photo historian Elizabeth Carella is doing a walking tour.

A guided tour will be provided, bring your own lunch and good shoes or climbing boots as there is plenty to explore and discover on Rainsford. Visit our web page for [ticket information](#), and [for more information about Rainsford!](#) or call the office at 781-740-4290.

New Member Benefits!

Join the Friends and SAVE! Friends members now receive:

- 20% discount from Boston Harbor Cruises (including the Ptown High Speed Ferry
- 15% discount from Mass Bay Lines
- 25% discount on NPS Boston Light Tours
- 50% discount off Boat U.S. basic membership
- 20% discount off boat hauls at Admirals Hill Marina, Chelsea
- 10% discount off sailing lessons at Black Rock Sailing at Fan Pier, Boston

with more benefits coming!

We also have new joining options, Join at the fixed rates of single/family/dual or now you can join using [PayPal Subscription](#) options and **give more** to the Friends easily!

Member giving and dues make up most of our annual budget, the Friends are the 'true grass roots organization' in the harbor.

2012 Volunteers

Schedule information from Carol Fithian, Volunteer Coordinator

Greetings FBHI Volunteers:

Planning is actively underway for the 2012 season.



If you are impatient to get out to the islands please visit the Bostonharborislands.com website and check out the park calendar. You will have opportunities in March and April to get to the islands if you sign up for the 'Stewardship Saturdays'. Your volunteer hours will be counted as part of the 2012 hours.

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Please watch your e-mail for a few projects coming up in the spring.

Below are the training dates scheduled so far. The National Park Service staff will provide a mainland Pavilion training in either late April or early May. These dates will be set soon so please check your e-mail, our [Facebook fan page](#) and [FBHI.org](#) for this information. Other training dates are listed below.

Volunteer Training Dates:

Sat. May 12 Visitor Service Training Georges Island 9:30 am-3:30 pm. Specific times will be listed for boat departure and outline for the day once the final boat schedule is set for the season.

Boston Light: Interpreter Training schedule for FBHI Volunteers

Sat. May 19: Ashore Update for "Returning Interps" 1:00 pm-3:00 pm. Coast Guard Base - Function Hall 427 Commercial Street, Boston.

Sat. May 19: Ashore training for "New Interps" 9:00a.m.-1:00p.m. Coast Guard Base - Function Hall 427 Commercial Street, Boston.

Sat. June 16: On Island Orientation and Training for "Newbees"

Sat. June 16 Campground Host Training Specific times and location for this training will be published as soon as possible.

Training for Citizen Science and Stewardship projects is offered for specific projects as they are scheduled.

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Thank you for being a Friend of the Boston Harbor Islands. Visit our web page <http://www.fbhi.org> to find out about new books for sale, new member benefits and news of upcoming trips. The web page is changing almost weekly.

Win
a
prize!

Provide a friends email (with their ok of course, and not an email we already have) and win a prize! The winning entry will be selected March 23rd and announced in the next Tidings, and on our web page.

[CLICK HERE TO ENTER](#)

Offer Expires: 3/27/12

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