



# January - February 2013

# **TIDINGS**

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### Stewardship Saturdays - Volunteer Opportunity

Throughout the year volunteers work side-by-side with Park Rangers and Ecologists to protect the flora, fauna, and habitats found on the islands. Pulling invasive non-native weeds, protecting bird nesting habitat, monitoring seasonal changes in plants, and preserving the natural processes on the islands are

# Welcome

### **Quick Links**

January 25, 2013

#### Dear Roma,

Welcome to our January-February Edition of Tidings. You'll notice an entirely new format, as well as stories of the past, and current events. Click on the "In this issue links" to go directly to the item, or just read the entire issue. *[to print* this, set your printer to portrait]

While many think the "off season" means there isn't much going on in the harbor or the islands, you'll see that couldn't be further from the truth.

And, while there are many things happening this winter, please enjoy the stories of cold winters past!

Thank you for reading, and thank you most of all for your support. The Friends are primarily supported by your membership.

Join Online JOIN or F with FBHI Stewardship Saturda **Bostons Best Cruises** 

**Back Issues of** 

Did you know, we Tidings published back issues click

### Boston's Bes

http://bostonsbes /specialty-cruises Specialty Cruises members with a member per ticke for the trip dates you're not alread HERE to join onli

only some of our goals. We strive to be good stewards of the land and waters that lap the shores within the park. With the help of you and other loyal volunteers we exceed these goals and make bonds and friendships that help to spread the word about the special and important places hidden just off Boston's coast on the harbor islands.



Please join us: 2/2/2013 at World's End 2/16/2013 at Thompson Island 3/16/2013 at World's End 3/30/2013 at Lovells Island (back-up Webb Memorial)

Please register and keep up to date at <u>http://www.nps.gov/boha/supportyourpark</u> /stewardship-saturdays.htm

Follow the instructions to register for each program. Thanks!

### Volunteer On-Island Training Save the Dates

Greetings to FBHI Volunteers

Looking back over the years it is usually either very cold or a snowy day when I am writing to volunteers about the planning for summer on the islands. It amazes me how much change each season brings to the park: new programs, new boat schedules and new training sessions are all being planned now. I hope many of you will join us in our volunteer efforts on the mainland and on the islands. There are so many ways that volunteers can help visitors explore the harbor and understand how it works.

Carol Fithian, Volunteer Coordinator

### Training dates:

May 11 Boston Light ashore training May 18 Training out on the islands June 15 On Island Boston Light training June 29 Campground Host training Our office Coordinator sends Membership Renewal Letters approximately 4 weeks before your membership expires. You can respond by mail/check, or you can renew easily on our web page - it's instant!

If you were on the harbor and/or visited one or more of the islands this summer and would like to write an account of your experience, please send it to me for an issue of Tidings. We may print your story for all to see! Email your story to: ChairmanFBHI@gmail.com

Thank you!

Wonor

Walter Hope, Chairman PO Box 121020, Boston MA 02112 for personal notes, and stories...

# New England Boat Show



(February 15-25) at the Boston Convention and Expo Center ("BCEC"). We've got wonderful Raffle donations from: Admirals Hill Marina, Cabelas, Ben's Boat Works, Constitution Marina - Bed & Breakfast Afloat, Vineyard Vines, Eldridge Tide Guide, Green Mountain Coffee, and several hotel nights and restaurant gift certificates have been received so far, with more expected for the raffle.



Working Port of Saturdays, Feb 9

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- Adults 13
- Children (
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The workings of are fascinating. H 1,000 foot ships t aid of modern po Container ships, cruise ships ply t and dropping off from deep sea da lobster boats are protect all of this and the city itself major Coast Gua State and local la and rescue vess will never look at same way. Buy tickets now f Boston Cruise!

### Seal Watch Saturdays Feb 2

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Harbor seals are marine mammals More details to come check our website and Facebook pages for more information.



### Volunteering on Georges Island

Volunteering on Georges Island 2012

My wife, Doreen, and I volunteered on Georges Island last summer. To compliment the Civil War history of Fort Warren, we were able to bring out some displays of Civil War artifacts to share with the visitors.

We set up a table on the parade grounds with a case of items and a couple of larger relics that the visitors could actually touch. With each display we included dropped and "mushroomed" (hit a tree or rock) Civil War lead bullets which visitors could hold. They were amazed at the size and weight of the bullets.

One display of relics ("If Only They Could Talk...") included a bayonet that has been bent into an "S" shape to be used probably as a hook for a cooking pot over a camp fire, a sword blade found in the walls of a smoke house in Gettysburg (did some little boy hide it there, or did his parents hide it there...from him?), and a section of body armor. The body armor is uncommon, but could be privately bought (2 sections that covered the chest area, like a vest), but often was discarded as being too heavy, too uncomfortable, or too hot. Plus, most of the time it would not work!

Another display theme was Civil War era medical items. Visitors seemed to really enjoy this, with nurses and even a doctor telling us some information on certain items. In addition to the expected scalpels, and saws, we had an opium bottle, cocoaine bottle (this was a trick as it was not for the drug, but for hair oil made from cocoanuts. It tended to be a bit "aromatic" in warm weather.) We also had a bullet with apparent human teeth marks, probably used during surgery. This has had a dental mold made from the impressions and it does look like human teeth! (hence the expression "Bite the Bullet").

Larger items included a Civil War dated crutch and also a wooden leg, which is very heavy. For "Snow in

Total goods worth over **\$3500** as of this writing! Raffle tickets will be sold at the show.

The lucky folks that joined us on New Years Day will be entered into a special raffle drawn at the show. Thank you to the raffle donors, a full list will be posted on our web page in the coming weeks.

# Brrr it's cold outside



Fitz Hugh Lane, Ten Pound Island, Gloucester 1950's

### This 'day' in history on Boston Harbor

February 22, 1904 (Taken from the NY Times)

Boston, February 21, - Not since the Winter of 1855 have citizens of East Boston been afforded the novel pleasure of walking or sailing across the ice between Jeffry's Point and Governor's Island, a distance of nearly a mile. All day people took advantage of the opportunity, hundreds of men and boys walking and skating across the vast field of ice.

In the afternoon two East Boston Boys made the trip in an improvised iceboat. It consisted of a sled, a fishbox filled with ice for balast, and a large sail, much the worse for wear. The boat raced over the ice without difficulty to and from its destination.

### 35 years ago...

New England coa During the winter December throug seals come to Bo days feeding and in the harbor. We to go and we will the seals and the that can be obse months, including birds. Buy tickets now f Cruise!

Hands-On Fami Monday-Friday, F

Departs Boston 2

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With loads of ins to spread out, gu participate as the of oceanography experiments.

- Use a Sec clarity
- Measure t temperatu
- Take a sai bottom an microscop
- Assist with retrieving examine the collection
- Check out System ar contours c harbor, the navigation features.
- Tour the p with the ca the Voyag

There is a full se heated cabin and

Summer" the theme was "Things Every Pirate Should Have". I included the same wooden peg-leg, a cutlass, treasure coin and a mid-1850's telescope. "Old Ironsides" was making a trip under sail that day, and I was able to watch her thru the antique telescope, which was special to me.

Doreen and I both enjoyed displaying these items and sharing them with the visitors, and look forward to doing similar displays in 2013!

### Bob & Doreen Hearsey





Scan this image to find our web page

## FBHI Membership Benefits

FBHI membership has it's benefits including eTidings, discounts on boat trips with FBHI, Boston's Best Cruises, Boston Harbor Cruises, and more. For Membership Benefits - click <u>BENEFITS</u>

### JOIN the FBHI Join the Friends ONLINE "Instantly" Click on <u>JOIN</u>

2013 Boat Trip Schedule

The 2013 Boat Schedule can be found on our web



The Great Blizzard of 1978

S.S. PeterStuyvesant, a former Hudson River cruise ship, had been purchased byAnthony's Pier Four restaurant, for the purpose of converting it to a cocktail lounge and function area for the restaurant.

A foundation and mooring system had been built and designed for the ship. The concept of the design was that a foundation, consisting of wood piles sunk into the ocean floor, would support a timber cradle, and the cradle, in turn, would support the ship. Concrete ballast was to hold the ship down in the cradle against normal tidal forces, Two vertical pipes were connected by mooring attachments to the boat so that when it floated during severe tides, the mooring attachments would secure the boat and then guide it properly back into place on the cradle as the tide receded. The ship was floated into place in October, 1968.

During the Great Blizzard of 1978, extraordinarily high tides caused the Stuyvesant to float off its cradle. The mooring apparatus allegedly failed, and the ship capsized and sank.

# Upcoming

The Harbor Islands-Boston's Unique Neighborhood: One of Boston's most noted archaeologists, Ellen Berkland, presents the history of this very Buy tickets now f Family Harbor Cı

### Winter Fortress Saturday, Feb 16

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This trip to Fort V Island is truly one fort during the wi very few living pe experienced. Par of the fort, but yo your own. Visit th Visitors Center to more about the is history. Rememb remain docked s snacks, warm up restrooms.

# Find FBHI on th

### CLICK on

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island lovers, tell harbor islands

And you can alway information on our page <u>www.fbhi.org</u>. To learn about the individual islands we'll be visiting click on <u>ISLANDS</u>. In 2013 we'll travel to Long, Rainsford, Lovells, Little Brewster Islands, as well as the Northern & Southern Lighthouse Tours. We're also working on some additional island tours as well.



unique neighborhood. Central Library, Orientation Room: Wednesday, March 13, 2013 6:00pm

Being a Genealogy Detective for

Harbor Islands Stories: Suzanne Gall Marsh will share stories of the Boston Harbor Islands including Portuguese fishermen who floated their homes from Long Island to Peddocks Island and other little known stories about the Harbor Islands. Central Library, Orientation Room: Wednesday, March 27, 2013, 6:00pm



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Boston Lig



Rainsford

Friends of the Boston Harbor Islands | | <u>chairmanfbhi@gmail.com</u> | 30 Shipyard Drive #202 Hingham, MA 02043-1601

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