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Friends of the Boston Harbor Islands TIDINGS NEWSLETTER

Issue: March 16, 2012



*This edition of Tidings is dedicated to John Forbes,
John passed away after a long illness on March 6th, 2012.*

*John and his family requested that donations
in lieu of flowers be donated to the Friends.*

*John's family requested that a memorial resting bench be placed in his honor.
A resting bench costs \$2000. As of this writing, we have raised \$515.00.*

Please consider sending a check to:

*FBHI, 30 Shipyard Drive #202, Hingham, MA 02043
or visit our web page specifically setup for this effort at:*

<http://fbhi.org/in-memoriam.html>

Web donations may be made via Paypal using your credit card. Donations may be one-time lump-sum, or via subscription at monthly rates starting at \$10/month.

Dear Roma,

Hello and welcome to a special issue of TIDINGS. As you can see above, we are dedicating this issue to past member, board member and volunteer John Forbes.

Up & Coming Harbor Events:

March 24, [Cupid Splash](#) by Save the Harbor Save the Bay.

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! As of this writing we have sold oaver 25% of the tickets, buy your tickets NOW!

www.fbhi.org is our web page

Boat Trips:

Tickets may also be purchased for our other boat trips coming up this season, our web page is the easiest way to purchase tickets, renew your membership, or learn about the most up-to-date events. Our page changes weekly, so visit it often! A special feature of our web page includes information on every island in the harbor, including islands that are no longer. Our information is being added to monthly.

Georges, Spectacle and Island Moorings Update:

At the Annual Meeting of the Boston Harbor Islands National Park Advisory Committee several weeks ago, it was learned that the Hingham Harbor Marina will no longer be managing the moorings or Spectacle Island Marina. The Island Alliance has issued a Request for Proposals (RFP) for a new entity to take this over. The pier at Georges Island is in the midst of a major repair project costing over \$1.5 million. This is a temporary repair, and will not re-open the recreational boating dockage at the island. The Friends recently wrote a letter supporting the most recent plan by the NPS to completly rebuild the pier system at the island. The closest estimate for beginning this project is 10 years out, funding (estimated at \$10 million) has not been identified.

Thank you again for reading Tidings

Sincerely,



Walter Hope
Chairman,
Friends of the Boston Harbor Islands

Rainsford Island

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 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.

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 Interpreters" 1:00 pm 3:00 pm. Coast Guard Base - Function Hall 427 Commercial Street, Boston.

Sat. May 19: Ashore training for "New Interpreters" 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.

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