



With the Tide

Friends of Lynn & Nahant Beach



Volume 6, Issue 2

DCR Commissioner Attends Annual Meeting

You're not re-reading last June's newsletter. That's right- DCR Commissioner Edward Lambert again attended our Annual Meeting in April to update us on DCR staff changes and on-going projects. Friends President Bob Tucker congratulated the Commissioner on a successful first year and reminded him of the excellent relationship and partnership the Friends has with the DCR.

Commissioner Lambert announced that Steve Cyr, the Lynn Shore and Nahant Beach reservations beach manager had been promoted to be Acting District Manager of the Charles River region. The new beach manager is Peter Luongo. In addition, the new North Region Regional Director is Susan Hamilton. She fills the void left when former District Manager Nick Gove left DCR. Steve and Nick were both great managers and the area has noticeably improved under their tutelage. We look forward to forging new relationships with Steve and Susan and continue the resurgence of the beaches.

Commissioner Lambert committed to removing algae from the beaches, as in the past. This elicited great applause from the members. He announced that a new landscaping firm had won the contract for the Lynn Shores grass areas and would be starting soon.

He affirmed that the Nahant Causeway reconstruction was on-target for completion in November 2013. Six hundred parking spots would open starting Memorial Day weekend. The Commissioner discussed proposed legislation that would allow DCR to retain some of the revenue that is brought in from the parking fees. Presently, that money goes to the state general fund where it can be used for any purpose.

We thank Commissioner Lambert for attending our meeting and look forward to another productive year together.

Also, at the Annual Meeting, elections were held for four seats on the Board of Directors. Robert Tucker was re-elected as President, Becky Suciu was re-elected as Secretary, Jane Cahill was re-elected as Treasurer, and Anne Goldstein was re-elected as member. A good team for another great year!



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Kings Beach Water Quality Update

The history and ongoing issues with water quality at Kings Beach was discussed at length in the October 2011 newsletter. Recently, the poor water quality results from the 2011 beach season made headlines again as part of a report on Boston area beaches by Save the Harbor Save the Bay. The headlines were not positive.

DCR tests the water at three locations along its portion of Kings Beach (Swampscott tests the portion that it owns and manages). Up until early August of last summer, one of the three locations was at the outlet of Stacey's Brook. In many instances, the water being collected was freshwater running across the sand as opposed to the marine bathing water. This wasn't appropriate because bathing water is supposed to be sampled in 3 feet of water. This summer will be the first season where they will be consistently sampling marine bathing water at three locations— where Stacey's Brook meets the ocean, at Pierce Street, and at Kimball Road.

This does not minimize the water quality issues related to Stacey's Brook. Signage has been installed (with more to come) advising people to not recreate in the brook water. Further testing of Stacey's Brook to identify the source of the bacteria is ongoing and is being undertaken by the Lynn Water & Sewer Commission and the Swampscott DPW. We will keep you posted.

Lynn & Nahant Beach Splashers Raise 2nd Most At Cupid Splash

Members of the Friends and other supporters of Lynn and Nahant beaches raised almost \$3,000 for Save The Harbor/Save The Bay's beach grant program by taking part or supporting their 2nd Annual Cupid Splash. This was the second highest total of any Boston area beach. Congratulations to those who braved the chilly water to take a dunk, and to those who supported the splashers. The money SHSB raises from this event is re-distributed as grants for organizations like the Friends.



DCR Park Serve Day

On Saturday, April 21st, members of the Friends and other volunteers weeded and cleaned out some of the overgrown shrubbery between Red Rock Park and Woodbury Point along Lynn Shore Drive. We pulled many weeds and picked up debris that had accumulated for years underneath the shrubs. We were not able to finish the entire area, so stay tuned for a future opportunity to finish the job. A thank you to Christopher's Café & Bakery for donating delicious baked goods and for all those who came out to help.



WITH THE TIDE NEWSLETTER

Please let us know what you think of the newsletter. Also, would you like to receive future issues via email? Please send comments to Michael at LynnNahantVicePresident@gmail.com or 978 835 7724.



Friends of Lynn & Nahant Beach



2012 RED ROCK PARK SUMMER CONCERT SCHEDULE

- July 3*: Lois Lane & The Daily Planets
- July 12: Brian Maes
- July 19: The Classmates
- July 26: Lexington Street Band
- July 28**: Toe Jam Puppet Band (*Kid's Concert*)
- Aug 2: Shuffle Mode
- Aug 9: White Lightnin'
- Aug 16: 12:01 Blues Band
- Aug 23: Mary Beth Maes

All concerts are from 6:00 pm to 8:00pm

* July 3rd concert is 7:00pm to 9:00pm *

followed by Lynn Fireworks that are co-sponsored by the
Friends of Lynn & Nahant Beach and the City of Lynn

** Activities from 12-2, Toe Jam Puppet Band will play from 2-3 **

Admission is FREE. Bring your own chairs and blankets.
Refreshments, coffee, and Friends' attire will be available for purchase.

Call 781-346-9123 for concert information and updates

A special thanks to all of our sponsors:



Eastern Bank

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The Daily Item



Friends of Lynn & Nahant Beach

www.lynn-nahantbeach.org

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WIN TWO ROUNDTRIP AIRLINE TICKETS

Why such big font? Because the Friends is having its biggest fundraiser ever! The Friends are raffling two round-trip non-stop JetBlue Airline tickets valid for travel between 8/15/12-8/15/13. Only 300 tickets are being sold, at \$20 a ticket. The raffle drawing will be held on Thursday, August 16th.



The airline tickets are good for any non-stop destination JetBlue flies from, including the Caribbean and Mexico.

Please consider purchasing one or more tickets. Contact a board member if you are interested in purchasing tickets.

A huge Thank-You to member Joe Taurus, who donated these tickets to the Friends for them to be auctioned. He was awarded the tickets by JetBlue because of the amount of hours he volunteered for the Friends last year. Kudos!

Kids Day and Concert Scheduled for Saturday, July 28th

The 3rd Annual Children's Concert and Day at the Park is scheduled for Saturday, July 28th from 12-3PM at Red Rock Park. From 12-2PM, there will be face painters, balloons, a hula hoop artist, marine animal touch tanks, arts and crafts, as well as educational information from the Lynn Police and Fire departments. From 2-3PM, the Toe Jam Puppet Band will be playing. This year, they will feature 4 musicians and an environmentally-themed performance. Please see the separate flyer for additional info.

Friends Support 'Families By the Seaside' Event

On June 8th, local non-profit Girls, Inc and the Northeastern University's Marine Science Center jointly ran a program for over 100 young girls from Lynn to help educate them about the ocean and marine life. The Friends co-sponsored the event, and members Robert Tucker, Anne Goldstein, Michael Celona, and Joe Taurus volunteered to teach the children about seashells. It was a great event for both the children and the adults. Thanks to Girls, Inc. and Northeastern University's Marine Science Center for helping to educate children about marine life and the importance of protecting it and our beaches.



Scope Project Update

We reported in the last newsletter on our efforts to purchase and install two scopes near Woodbury Point at Lynn Shores reservation to allow people to have better views of ships passing by, seabirds, and Egg Rock. The two scopes would likely cost between \$10-12,000. We applied for grants from the Massachusetts Environmental Trust (MET) and the DCR Parks Partnership Grant. Unfortunately, we did not receive funding from either entity. The Board still believes this is a worthy project and is continuing to look at potential other funding opportunities to help off-set some of the cost.



All about Starfish



Common Starfish, *Asterias forbesi*.

This specimen was trawled up off the coast of Woods Hole, MA.

Photo courtesy of Wikipedia

Dear Friends,

If you ever had to suffer through an episode of the popular children's show, "Sponge Bob Square Pants" with the kids or grandkids, then you are well acquainted with Sponge Bob's rather dense friend Patrick the Starfish. Believe it or not, Patrick's character is rather true to life. Starfish don't have brains or blood. They're not even fish.

Starfish are echinoderms, or spiny skinned animals. They are related to sand dollars. A more accurate name for these invertebrates is sea star. You can occasionally find them in the tide pools around Red Rock Park but they are more common in deeper water. They are most plentiful south of Cape Cod where the specimen pictured above was found.

Starfish use their arms to pry apart mussels, clams, and scallops. Once the valves of their prey are open, the starfish turns its stomach inside out and inserts it into the interior of the mollusk. It then excretes special enzymes which turn the victim's body parts into a gooey mush which is absorbed by the starfish's stomach.

Not everything always goes the starfish's way however. Surf Clams have a large "foot" which permits them to jump about 15 inches away when they feel a starfish's tube feet come in contact with their shell. Deep Sea Scallops, a summer time favorite for area diners, have over 100 eyes that can detect movement. When they sense a starfish coming their way, they propel themselves from danger by rapidly opening and closing their two valves. The large adductor muscle which opens and closes the shells are what we eat when we sit down to a scallop dinner. Starfish will also scavenge dead fish, to include lobster bait.

Due to their tough skin, not many sea creatures prey upon starfish. One exception is sea gulls. Of course, there aren't many smelly and disgusting things a sea gull will turn away from. When confronted by a predator however, starfish have a secret weapon. They can regenerate their arms if they are ripped off by a gull or other predators and can even voluntarily detach their arms to get away from trouble. As long as the dot or *madreporite* near the center of the starfish's body stays intact, the animal can regenerate its limbs. In one apocryphal story, a group of enraged shell fishermen chopped in half every starfish they pulled off the oyster beds they were tending. Little did they know that all they were really doing was doubling the amount of starfish feeding on their precious oyster beds!

Got a Nature Note to share? Contact T.J. Cullinane at tjandteresac@hotmail.com

Tides Fundraiser A Success

The Fall Fundraiser at the Tides Restaurant and Pub had great results. The Friends raised \$365. Thank you to those who came out to support the Friends and to the Tides for supporting local nonprofits. We are presently scheduling our Fall Fundraiser at the Tides. Stay tuned!



In Memoriam: Pat Dalferro, Long-time Member

Pat Dalferro, a long-time member of the Friends, passed away on June 11th after a long battle with cancer. Pat was a long serving active member of the Friends of Lynn & Nahant Beach. Pat volunteered for a number of Friends activities and was an avid attendee at the Summer Concert at Red Rock. Pat assisted her husband Bob in selecting the bands for the concerts along with DCR coordination. Pat supported the Friends by her regular attendance and participation at our membership meetings. We offer our condolences to the Dalferro family.

Membership Renewal

The Friends rely on the generous support of its members for the financial support of the organization. Our membership continues to grow as the Friends become more involved with other community groups, and we continue to be vocal advocates for the Lynn and Nahant Beaches.

Membership dues help pay for the Summer Concert Series, publication and printing of the newsletter, Friends T-shirts, sweatshirts and hats, postage, refreshments for volunteers at the beach clean-ups and the Friends contribution towards matching grants for special projects.

We want to thank all members for returning their 2012 membership forms (which were mailed in January) and welcome all of our new members. The Friends need your continued financial and volunteer support so our organization can continue to be a strong advocate for our beaches.

Membership in the Friends of Lynn & Nahant Beach

Yes, I would like to join or renew my membership in the Friends of Lynn & Nahant Beach.

Membership entitles you to:

- An invitation to programs and events
- Periodic updates on our progress and the condition of the Beaches
- The satisfaction of knowing that you are acting locally to impact the environment in a positive way.

Membership

Student/Senior: \$15 Individual: \$25

Family: \$50 Corporate: \$100

Sponsor: \$200

I am already a member. Please accept my gift of \$_____.

Name: _____

Address: _____

Email: _____

Mail To: Membership

Friends of Lynn & Nahant Beach

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