



# With the Tide



Friends of Lynn & Nahant Beach

Volume 5, Issue 1

## PRESIDENTS' YEAR END REPORT

2010 proved to be another successful year of accomplishments for the Friends of Lynn and Nahant Beach. Through our partnership with the Department of Conservation and Recreation (DCR) and other local organizations, we continued to make improvements to Lynn and Nahant beaches.

Through the efforts of the Friends, DCR and our state delegation, the Ward Bathhouse was renovated at a cost of over \$600,000 and re-opened last summer. The renovation and reopening was a top priority for the Friends along with the \$20 million renovation and improvement project for the Nahant Causeway and Longs Beach.

All the handrails and light fixtures along Lynn Shore Drive from the Nahant line to the Swampscott line were painted this past summer and fall. The handrails were dealed before getting painted. This was a much needed improvement to Lynn's shoreline.

The Friends purchased the supplies and parts needed to install two new drinking fountains, one at Red Rock Park and the other at Woodbury Point. The DCR installed the new fountains replacing the old decaying ones. The Friends were awarded a 2-1 matching DCR grant to purchase three new benches for the patio area of the Ward Bathhouse and for general improvements to the playground adjacent to the Bathhouse. The total grant award was \$15,000, with the Friends contributing \$5,000.

The Friends partnered with the East Lynn Community Association for the Clean Sweep to the Sea campaign, partnered with Coast Sweep for a fall beach cleanup, and participated in the City of Lynn and Lynn Arts Meet Me Downtown Festival.

We had one of our most successful concert series in 2010 including the 1<sup>st</sup> Annual Kids Concert with over 200 children participating in the activities. We are grateful for the monetary support we received from Save the Harbor Save the Bay and Kelly Honda, and the publicity from the Lynn Item, which donated space for weekly ads during the concert season and published articles on each band.

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## Friends Receive Grant for the Summer Concert Series

It may be somewhat difficult to think of summer and sunshine but trust me, it's coming. The Friends applied for a grant from the Lynn Cultural Council at Lynn Arts for the 2011 Summer Concert Series. We are happy to report that the Friends were awarded a \$2,000 grant.



Lynn Arts has a long history of supporting the Summer Concerts with grant money and they came through for the Friends again this year because of the well organized concerts that have been a hallmark of the Friends for a number of years.



The grant will enable the Friends to continue bringing well known local bands to Red Rock Park on Thursday evenings in the months of July and August. Last year saw record crowds and we expect another banner year for the 2011 season.

## Major Changes at the DCR

Earlier this year, former Department of Conservation and Recreation (DCR) Commissioner Richard Sullivan was named the Secretary of Energy and Environmental Affairs by Governor Deval Patrick. Sullivan's elevation to the Governors' Cabinet is a much deserved promotion. As DCR Commissioner, he was a strong advocate for a number of much needed improvements at Lynn and Nahant Beaches and a frequent speaker at the Friends of Lynn and Nahant Beach meetings. Rick Sullivan delivered on the promises he made to the Friends, especially his efforts to significantly reduce the algae and odor at Lynn Beach. The Friends congratulate Secretary Sullivan on his new assignment.



Secretary Sullivan

Edward M. Lambert, Jr. is the new DCR Commissioner. Commissioner Lambert is a former Mayor of Fall River and a former State Representative. Most recently, he served as Director of The Urban Initiative at University of Massachusetts Dartmouth.



Commissioner Lambert

The Friends want to welcome Commissioner Lambert and look forward to working with him in our continued partnership with the DCR.

## April Membership Meeting

The April membership meeting is the Friends annual meeting. Members of the Friends will be able nominate and vote on four board of director seats. The membership meeting will be held at the residence of Jane Cahill, 169 Lynn Shore Drive in Lynn.

## 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 [michaelcelona@yahoo.com](mailto:michaelcelona@yahoo.com) or 978 835 7724.

## Spring Calendar

Tuesday, March 22- Lecture at Northeastern University Marine Science Center at 430 Nahant Road, Nahant. 7PM. "Restoring Aquatic Habitats- From the Source to the Sea." Tim Purinton, Acting Director, Massachusetts Division of Ecological Restoration.

Saturday, April 2- Cupid Splash to benefit Save The Harbor/Save The Bay. Noon at Nahant Beach.

Wednesday, April 13- Membership meeting and Annual meeting at 169 Ocean St. Lynn, 7PM.

Saturday, April 16- Park Serve Day. 9AM. Come work on a project to help beautify the area. Details to follow.

Friday, April 29- Lecture at Northeastern University Marine Science Center at 430 Nahant Road, Nahant. 4:30PM. "Biological Diversity as the Central Organizing Concept in Marine Conservation and Management: Challenges and Opportunities." Dr. Emmett Duffy, Loretta and Lewis Glucksman Professor of Marine Science, Virginia Institute of Marine Science, The College of William and Mary.

Monday, May 23- Spring Fundraiser at the Tides Restaurant. 6-9PM. A portion of all sales goes to support the Friends.

Wednesday, June 8— Membership meeting at 169 Ocean St. Lynn, 7PM.



**Cupid Splash**  
to benefit  
**NEW DATE!** Save the Harbor / Save the Bay  
**Sat, April 2nd @ Noon**

- Harpoon Warm-Up Parties
- Win JetBlue Airways tickets
- On a beach near you from Nahant to Nantasket

[www.cupidsplash.com](http://www.cupidsplash.com)

The poster features a bright blue background with a large red heart in the center, held by two white clouds with grey outlines. The text is in white and red, and the background has a wavy pattern at the bottom representing water.

## Friends Spring Fundraiser at the Tides Restaurant & Pub

On Monday, May 23rd, the Friends will hold their Spring fundraiser at the Tides Restaurant in Nahant. A portion of all sales between 6-9PM go to support the Friends. Please come and enjoy a delicious dinner. The Red Sox play the Cleveland Indians at 7PM. Come and watch the game, mingle with friends, and enjoy a nice meal. Thanks to the Tides for continuing to provide a service to non-profit groups in the area.



## Membership Drive

In order to build upon our string of recent successes, the Friends have begun their first ever membership drive. We are hoping to increase our membership by 50% by the end of 2011. This is obviously an ambitious goal, and it is going to require assistance from all of our current members. We are asking that all members commit to talking to 5 neighbors or friends about our organization. Many of us have neighbors and friends who enjoy the beaches and parks, have benefited from the great work of our organization, but are still not members. One part of the success of the Friends is the momentum that comes from a growing membership.

To spur our members along, the Board is offering a **\$100 Tides gift certificate** to the member who recruits the highest number of new members. Please have any of your referrals include your name in the memo section of their check.

## Polly Bradley Wins Volunteer Award by Carole McCauley

On December 7, 2010, the Gulf of Maine Council on the Marine Environment, presented its annual awards at a ceremony in Portland, ME. The Longard Volunteer Award recognizes outstanding volunteers within the Gulf of Maine watershed, and is named in memory of Art Longard, a Nova Scotia resident and devoted conservationist who helped to conceive and launch the Gulf of Maine Council. The 2010 recipient is Polly Bradley, co-founder of the non-profit organization, Safer Waters in Massachusetts (SWIM), a resident of Nahant, and a member of the Friends.

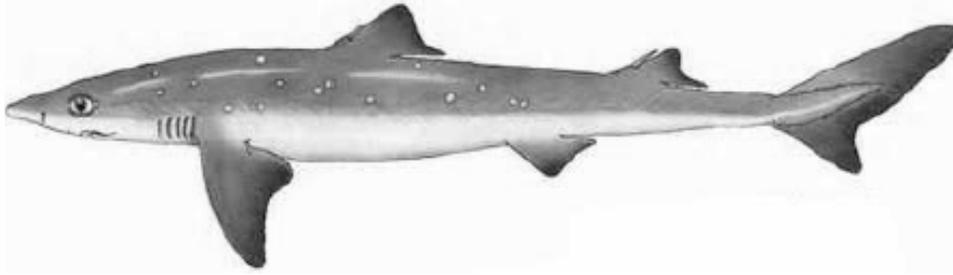
Polly Bradley, an Oklahoma Sooner, never saw the sea until she was 16 years old. As a student at Radcliffe College in Cambridge, she and her future husband looked at a map one day, saw Nahant, and decided to take a day trip to visit this unique town. She was hooked, and now, over 40 years later, she is a fond fixture in the area. For 14 years, Polly wrote a total of 709 columns about nature for state chapters of the Audubon Society. Writing remains her passion today, particularly poetry. Perhaps her greatest impacts have been felt through what she has achieved in her "spare time." Twenty-six years ago, Polly's passion for the environment led to her co-found the non-profit organization, SWIM. From its conception, Polly has functioned as a driving force within the organization. She organized lobbying trips to the Massachusetts State House and took part in countless public meetings and campaigns on topics related to offshore gas and wastewater pipelines, oil spill response, seabird migration, fisheries management and more. Through Polly's tireless work, SWIM has worked to educate the public about the resulting impacts of various human activities on the marine environment and has organized stewardship activities, such as dune-grass plantings and cleanups.

In 2009, Polly received the River Stewardship Award from the Saugus River Watershed Council, for her work to help protect the environment. Bradley was named Citizen of the Year by Nahant Town Moderator David Conlin in 2002 and in 1990, she received the Citizenship Activist Award from what is now known as the Environmental League of Massachusetts. In September 2010, Polly stepped down as leader of SWIM. Yearning to spend more time on the sea and with her four grandchildren. After resisting "retirement" for so long, Polly deserves to be lauded for her decades of service to marine conservation and education, within the Gulf of Maine watershed.

Through Polly's tireless work, SWIM has educated the public about the impacts of human activities on the marine environment and has organized numerous stewardship activities. Congratulations!

Note: This article has been edited for publication in this newsletter. The original article appeared in the February 2011 edition of the Nahant Harbor Review.

## "Mom, are there any sharks out there?"



The Spiny Dogfish, *Squalus acanthias*

Illustration courtesy of the NOAA

Walking by Nahant Bay on a fine and lovely day, have you ever looked out toward Egg Rock and wondered, "Are there sharks out there?" The answer to that question dear Friends is yes. But before panicking, ye of the *Jaws* generation, stop and think how many attacks have been recorded off Lynn and Nahant beach? The answer to that question of course, is zero. You'll have to go back to 1830 to learn about the last attack in this locale, and even if the victim was from Swampscott, the attack itself took place five miles of the coast of Scituate.

On July 12, 1830, Mr. Joseph Blaney, aged 52, embarked on the *Finback*, a small schooner out of Swampscott. The schooner sailed out of Nahant Bay and turned south, setting anchor off of Minot's Light. There, Mr. Blaney and others debarked on small row boats called dories and began fishing. Late in the morning, Blaney began screaming and waving his hat. Those on the *Finback* and other dories immediately observed that a large shark, probably a Great White or large Mako was draped over the gunwales of Blaney's dory and thrashing wildly. Within seconds the small boat was upset and after a great deal of splashing, Mr. Blaney was never seen again.

So yes, Great Whites and 13 other shark species have been recorded in local waters, but they seldom come close to shore. Also recorded are the Sand Tiger Shark, Thresher Shark, Basking Shark, Mako, Porbeagle, Blue Shark, Greenland Shark, Bonnet Head Shark, Smooth Hammerhead, Angel Shark, and the ubiquitous Spiny Dogfish.

The Spiny Dogfish, commonly called the Sand Shark, is very common in Nahant Bay during the summer months. It's not unusual for a Striped Bass fisherman to pull one in off of Red Rock or the sea wall. Kite surfers see them all the time off Nahant Beach. I've seen them cruising around Deer Cove at high tide and have caught more than I care to remember while party boat fishing. They pose no threat to swimmers, but have caught the unwary fisherman by surprise with their dorsal spines. The spines are mildly poisonous and are sometimes hard to avoid as the small shark (they seldom grow over three feet long) thrashes wildly about after being brought on board.

So while an occasional "big boy" may be cruising by far off shore, you and the kids can splash about worry free in the sparkling waters of Nahant Bay.

## Nahant Causeway Update

According to the DCR, the Nahant Causeway Rehabilitation Project continues to progress on time. The Project is divided into seven phases, and the third phase is scheduled to begin this spring and last through the fall. The third phase will consist of the demolition and removal of the existing median barrier, the construction of a new roadway drainage system, reconstruction of the northbound travel lanes, and a relocation/modification of existing utilities. The work zone will be in the median strip area. To view a presentation of the project, visit [www.mass.gov/dcr](http://www.mass.gov/dcr) or [www.nahant.org](http://www.nahant.org).

## Photo's Wanted!

We are looking for photographs of the beaches and parks for inclusion on our website and potentially in future newsletters. If you have photographs you would like to share (and are willing to allow us to use), please email them to [michaelcelona@yahoo.com](mailto:michaelcelona@yahoo.com). Thank you.

## 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 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, stationery, envelopes, 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 renewing their 2011 membership 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 exclusive programs and special 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

P.O. Box 2264

Lynn, MA 01903