



Discovery

Newsletter of the Ferry Beach Park Association

June 2009

Dune Grass is Planted!



Ferry Beachers of all ages from near and far came to the Beach on the weekend of March 28 to help plant beach grass on our recently constructed back dune. More than 40 volunteers worked together on Saturday under the direction of Charlie Boothby, Bob Kelley and Dick Hall. Preparations for the planting event began on Friday afternoon with beach grass arriving just before dinner. Dune grass farmer Greg Bunting and his wife drove up from their farm, Cape Farms of Delaware, and delivered 25,000 dune grass seedlings – a whole truck load! The Buntings had dinner and spent the night. They told us they make many deliveries but had never had such a warm welcome as they got at Ferry Beach!

At 9:00am on Saturday, a hearty crew assembled on the dunes and after instruction, began the planting. It was a foggy day but nothing could dampen the planters' spirits! By 4:00 pm, almost all of the seedlings had been planted and fertilized. Proud planters joined our conference coordinators in Quillen for a joyous social hour and dinner. The conference coordinators, here to plan for their summer conferences and meet with

Ferry Beach staff, also participated in the planting during program breaks.

Special thanks go to all who came to help - we could not have done this without your selfless dedication. We also want to thank everyone who volunteered to help on April 4 and/or April 11. We had no idea how long this project would take us, and we are grateful for your offer to help should we need you. We apologize for changing your weekend plans at the last minute.

With the planting of the beach grass, the first stage of our Capital Campaign projects is complete. See you this summer!



Welcome Home!

For many of us in Unitarian Universalism, 'coming home' is associated with the start of the church year in September. Congregational newsletters announce 'Homecoming' or 'Ingathering' Sunday services and many include a water ceremony, mingling waters that people of all ages have collected from their summer journeys – even those right at home. For some of us, homecoming comes twice a year. Once at the start of our congregational year and once again, with the start of the Ferry Beach season!

It is with this image in mind that I welcome you once again to a summer full of opportunities to soothe your body, stretch your mind and feed your spirit. Your board and staff have been hard at work making sure that this special spiritual home is ready and waiting for your arrival. The board met throughout the year, opting out of our annual retreat to save costs and substituting that with additional monthly meetings and calls. The board's focus has been on the establishment of a committee structure that will expand the number of volunteers participating in leadership roles and also help compensate for a necessary staff restructure. Our Capital Campaign leadership team has been busy as well, making plans to complete the fund raising portion of our campaign while we move ahead with the actual building plans. Excitement is certainly building and the arrival of 1800 cubic yards of sand

coupled with a volunteer crew of more than 40 volunteers dotting the new sand with row upon row of dune grass signaled the start of a promising new landscape.

The beach is ready! The only thing missing is you! So, friends, welcome home, welcome home, welcome home. May this summer find you pulling into Ferry Beach ready to relax your body, renew your spirit and reconnect to the ever expanding community we share in calling 'home.'

In our fabulous faith,
Rev. Wendy von Zirpolo, President



Coordinators Weekend

On the weekend of March 28 with the buildings reopened and the water turned back on, the coordinators of Ferry Beach's 30 conferences kicked off the 2009 season at Coordinators Weekend. This year, in addition to members of the Board of Directors, the coordinators were joined by workshop leaders, musicians, and more than 40 volunteer dune grass planters.

This is the weekend when coordinators put the final touches on conference planning and have the opportunity to share ideas with coordinators from other weeks. Each year the conference coordinators also consider steps that could be taken across the board to improve the Ferry Beach experience all summer. At this year's break-out sessions, coordinators were asked to share their ideas on: 1) presentation of announcements, 2) welcoming new conferees, 3) criteria for workshops, and 4) grooming new conference leaders. They came up with some great ideas which you will see put into practice this summer.

Ferry Beach could not operate without our volunteer conference coordinators and workshop leaders. People often marvel at the high quality of our conferences – all done by volunteers. How grateful we are for this gift!



Coordinators at play

UU Psi Symposium to Celebrate a Double Anniversary

UU Psi symposium was founded 40 years ago...and began holding summer conferences at Ferry Beach 30 years ago! On August 22 and 23, this double anniversary will be celebrated at the Beach by the Psi Symposium Board, conferees, and alumnae. Returning to speak on Saturday night will be Psi's founder, UU minister, Rev. Robert Slater.

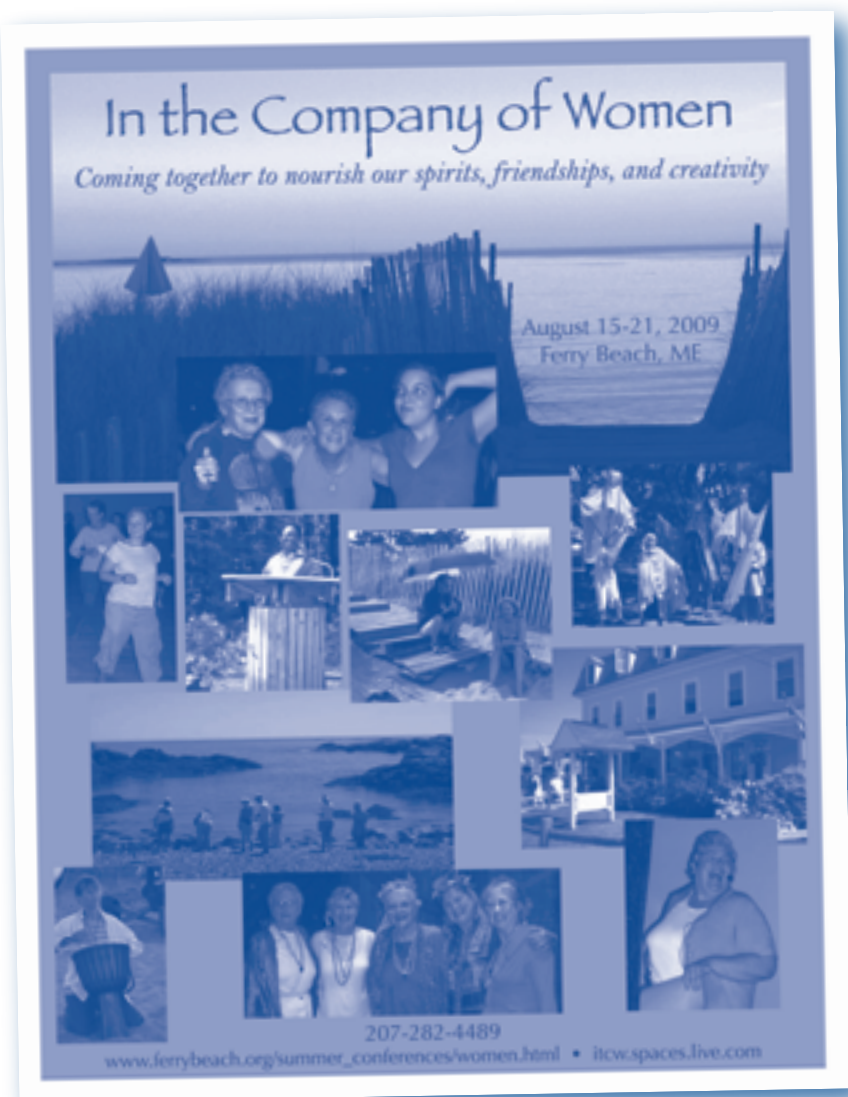
What is Psi Symposium, you ask? Psi, the Greek letter, is a shorthand term for "psychic phenomena". The organization was started by Rev. Slater at the Boston General Assembly in 1969 when he scheduled an ESP lecture-demonstration, and more than 300 UUs showed up to hear it. The people at this meeting were interested in continuing to explore ESP, and Psi Symposium was born. Since that time, Psi Symposium has formed chapters across the country – currently six in number – and its interests have broadened to include mysticism, metaphysics and spirituality; parapsychology and psychic skills; holistic health and healing; life after death; and unexplained phenomena such as crop circles, earth energy, and extraterrestrial intelligence.



Psi Symposium began holding summer conferences at Ferry Beach in 1979, and at one time was the sole conference during its week, with its own store selling New Age books and materials. Over the years Psi workshops have featured psychics and scientists, energy healers and clairvoyants, mask makers and astrologers, shamans and ministers (both UU ministers and those from other churches.) We have listened to channelers of spirit guides; gone on shamanic journeys; explored past lives; learned about Native American spirituality and ceremonies; were instructed in Sufi dancing; practiced dowsing; strengthened our intuition; participated in healing with energy; and traveled afar through guided imagery and music.

Through being open to new experiences having to do with consciousness and spirit... through our Psi explorations... we have come to appreciate the mysteries of the human spirit and our connection to each other and to the world. But more than that, our spiritual discoveries help us to heal ourselves, each other, and the Earth itself.

For more information about Psi Symposium please contact Rev. Richard Fewkes, President, at: dick_ellie@comcast.net or Mrs. Peg Smith, Vice president and Coordinator of the Psi Symposium summer conference, at Ferry Beach at: rs11191052@aol.com.



2009 Capital Campaign Mantra: THANK YOU! Your \$\$ at work! Full participation!

Over 108 years ago Quillen Shinn and his fourteen pioneers created a special place by the sea and an inspiring spiritual legacy called Ferry Beach. And today we are continuing to honor our past and build our future by conducting a successful capital campaign, the Ferry Beach 2nd Century Fund.

In the first year – 2008 - of the Ferry Beach 2nd Century Fund initiative, we talked about our capital campaign to “preserve, protect and improve Ferry Beach.” Since our leaders had articulated the problems/needs and researched sources of giving (Financial Feasibility Study), we defined our Capital Campaign projects to meet these needs within a realistic financial goal.

Gifts of over one million dollars have been contributed by over 400 donors to address the Capital Campaign projects – dune preservation, new dining and kitchen facility, renovations in Rowland and Quillen, new maintenance facility, and further development of our chapel and memorial garden. These gifts are expressions of love for our Ferry Beach home and spiritual community. We recognize that by preserving the Ferry Beach legacy we are ensuring the future of Ferry Beach for our youngsters and their children’s children.

In the second year – 2009 - of the Ferry Beach 2nd Century Fund, we are aware of a blossoming spirit of generosity and a deeper relationship to Ferry Beach. In this coming year our Ferry Beach home will be changing as we embark on various building projects and

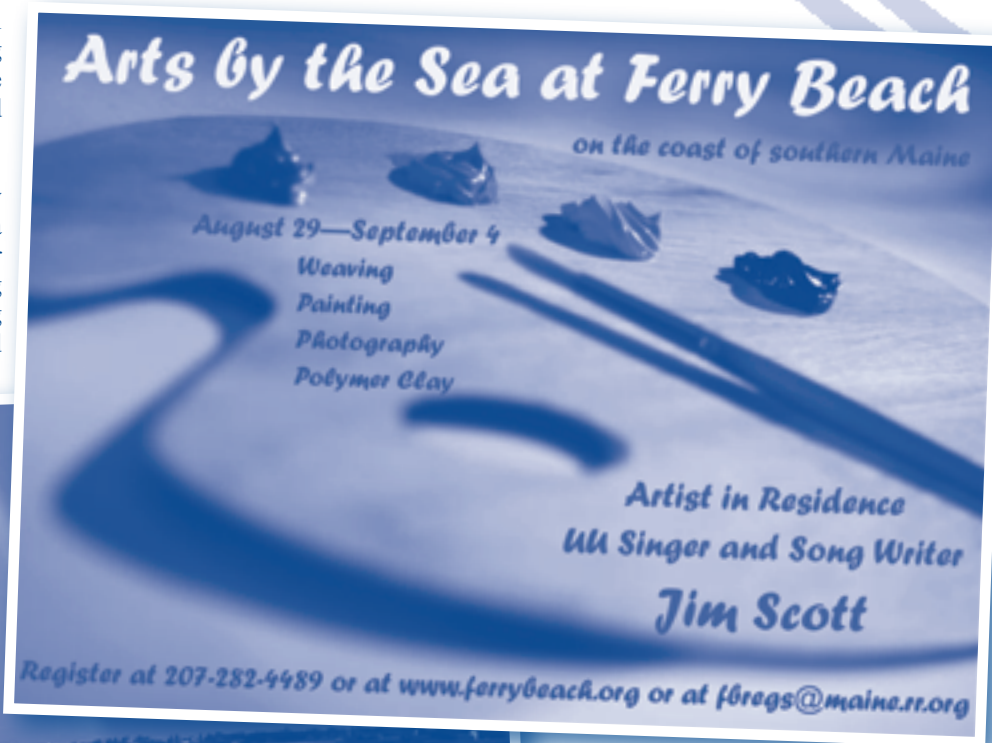
a dune preservation program. Even in these economic times there is a spirit of generosity blowing around every corner of Ferry Beach. Leaders and campers are sharing it; Life Members and staff are spreading it; people of all ages are catching it.

There was evidence last summer when children convinced parents to double their contribution, when guests gave substantial amounts, when adults sacrificed more than they thought they could, And there have been more signs of generosity recently when youth leaders have invited their peers to pledge and to participate in Capital Campaign projects and when leaders from many generations have sacrificed their time and labor to meet current financial challenges.

As we planned to transform Ferry Beach, we have been transformed by our generosity and our trust! There is a same-but-different spirit in our Ferry Beach community. It’s a spirit of appreciation to the people of Ferry Beach, a

spirit of pride and joy in the progress of the capital campaign projects and a spirit of trust in community leadership. This is a once-in-a-lifetime Campaign. And we want everyone to be on this winning team. That’s our 2009 mantra: THANK YOU! Your \$\$ at work! Full participation!

Rev. Pat Hoertdoerfer and Brad Cohen
FB2ndCentury@yahoo.com




Arts by the Sea at Ferry Beach
on the coast of southern Maine

August 29—September 4

Weaving
Painting
Photography
Polymer Clay

Artist in Residence
USA Singer and Song Writer
Jim Scott

Register at 207-282-4489 or at www.ferrybeach.org or at fbregs@maine.rr.org



Yoga
Poetry
Photography
World Dance
Spirit in Practice

August 22—August 28

Body, Mind, & Spirit
at Ferry Beach

Register at fbregs@maine.rr.org or 207-282-4489 or www.ferrybeach.org
Ferry Beach Double Rainbow Photo by Chuck Schifano

JAMMIN' WITH JOHN - THE JAZZ BLUES CONNECTION!

At Circle of Music

If you own an instrument and can produce a sound on it, you're welcome - vocalists too - to join the new jamming workshop at the Circle of Music - August 22 - August 28. Of course Circle of Music will continue to offer a wide array of folk instrument workshops and the popular vocal workshop with Elaine Bomford. But, now Circle of Music folk musicians and singers can invite their jazz loving friends to join them at the Beach for the week!

Participants in the new jazz workshop will learn how to listen and play together as they set the whole beach rockin'. Family and Friends conference jazz musicians and all who have heard their music can attest to workshop leader John Pearson's outstanding skills as a teacher and leader. John studied

trumpet with Victor Salvo and the great Jimmy Maxwell of the NYC Tonight Show Band. He has studied at the Berklee College of Music in Boston and holds an M.S. in Music Education from the University of Bridgeport. He recently retired after teaching music for 35 years in the Bridgeport Public Schools.

John has performed with jazz greats Clark Terry, Jimmy Heath, Billy Taylor, and vocalist Giacomo Gates. He is a member and frequent performer with several Connecticut-based musical groups, leads the quartet "Jazz Plus" and is a member of "The New Haven Jazz Orchestra" (www.thedranken.com), which features many current and former members of the big bands of Count Basie, Duke Ellington, Maynard Ferguson, and Tommy Dorsey.



Circle of Music at Ferry Beach
August 22-August 28

Jammin' with John Pearson
The Jazz Blues Connection
If you own an instrument and can produce a sound on it, you're welcome - vocalists too - to join John's jamming workshop.

Sound a Joyful Note!
Elaine Bomford returns as vocal workshop leader with single sessions devoted to Choral Conducting, Singing by the Numbers, Chant, and A Cappella Singing.

Folk Music of All Kinds
Workshops may include voice, guitar, harmonica, keyboard, banjo, autoharp, recorder, concertina, tin whistle, and more depending on interests.

Ferry Beach is a UU Camp and Conference Center on the coast of southern Maine

Register at fbregs@maine.rr.com or 207-282-4489 or www.ferrybeach.org

Spirit in Practice
A UU Workshop at the Body, Mind & Spirit Conference
at Ferry Beach
August 22—28

Join workshop leader Rev. Dr. Jodi Cohen Hayashida to rediscover the blessings of spiritual practice in its various forms using an adapted version of Rev. Erik Wikstrom's *Spirit in Practice* UU curriculum.

Ferry Beach Sunset Photo by Harriet Severson
Register at fbregs@maine.rr.com or 207-282-4489 or www.ferrybeach.org

A Great Relationship!

In 2004, the Unitarian Universalist Society of Bangor, through the Hersey Bequest Task Force, chaired by Cathy Elliott, and the Hersey Bequest Trustees, chaired by Stan Marshall, formalized a relationship with Ferry Beach to send both youth and families to many of our summer conferences. It is a relationship that continues to grow and blossom, bringing over 75 members, both youth and families, in the summer of 2008. We are thrilled that Ferry Beach is firmly in the hearts of UUSB!

To demonstrate the importance of this relationship, the Hersey Bequest pledged a \$20,000 contribution to the Ferry Beach Capital Campaign! We are deeply grateful for the generosity of the Hersey Bequest Trustees and the entire UUSB congregation, and look forward to serving the needs of the Bangor community for many years to come.



New Workshops at Body, Mind & Spirit

Body, Mind & Spirit conference coordinators Ursula Jones and Henry Morlock have added three exciting new workshops to this summer's conference. In addition to Body, Mind & Spirit mainstays World Dance (Folk, Belly, and Paneurythmy) and Yoga (to practice yoga is to feel fully alive!), they have added Poetry, Photography, and the UU spirituality curriculum Spirit in Practice. Here are the workshop descriptions:

POETRY

Extend your imagination and sharpen your writing. The goals for this track are for each participant to have one well-crafted poem by the end of the week and to be able to present it in a comfortable way so that others can really share in the poet's work. This can happen in a light-hearted, fun way, watching the poem unfold as you go through the week. Hopefully each poet will take home something they want to print, frame, and hang in their home, so that all who see it will smile and feel their spirit has been touched. Please bring pencils or pen, notebook or paper. A Thesaurus can be very helpful.

Workshop Leader:

Clemens Schoenebeck has written and published poems in a number of small press journals since his retirement. He wrote a letter to his first grand-daughter at her birth... "My daughter and my wife told me I had written poetry, which I did not believe. 'Pay attention' they both said." Now, 15 years and several poetry prizes later, he sums up: "All of this and \$2.00 would get me a cup of Starbucks. My day job, until my retirement, was dentistry. Thank goodness I didn't quit it. Having said all that, poetry has made me a rich man."

PHOTOGRAPHY

with KEVIN FOX

Capture the moods and spirits of your subjects in your photos. Attend Kevin Fox's two-session, afternoon mini-workshop on portrait photography. Kevin is a successful New York City photographer specializing in "head shots" of actors. He will demonstrate how he captures meaningful expressions and help you to do the same. No experience is needed. Bring a digital camera if you can.

SPIRIT IN PRACTICE

As people who have committed ourselves to living faithfully, we are familiar with the importance of intentionally developing a healthy inner life. In our rush and exhaustion, we are also susceptible to considering spiritual practice not food for a hungry spirit but rather one more item on an already too long "to do" list. This week we will dedicate time to rediscovering the blessings of spiritual practice in its various forms as well as the notion that every moment offers the opportunity to put spirit into practice. We will be using an adapted version of Erik Wikstrom's Spirit in Practice UU Curriculum.

Workshop Leader:

The Rev. Dr. Jodi Cohen Hayashida has served the First Universalist Church in Auburn, ME since 2000. She has experienced the blessings of a strong spiritual discipline as well as the ease with which that discipline can slip away.

Maintenance Director Claude Nadeau Retires

Ferry Beach Maintenance Director Claude Nadeau jokes that he never did the job he was hired to do. As Claude tells the story, back in February of 1997, former Executive Director Brad Bradway hired Claude to “change light bulbs and light camp fires” – a piece of cake for Claude.

What actually happened that spring was a far cry from changing light bulbs and lighting camp fires. Plumbers had turned the water on in all of the buildings so that the Ferry Beach Ecology School’s predecessor (another ecology school) could open by April 1. The week that the ecology school naturalists arrived was unseasonably cold. Pipes – many pipes - froze and burst in the kitchen, Gardiner Cottage, and the cabins.

There were 27 breaks in the pipes and Claude, working from 8:00 in the morning until 7:30 that night, fixed them all. This was when Brad knew what a treasure he had found. Claude saved Ferry Beach thousands of dollars and, after that, Claude took charge of turning the water on to open the Beach.

In 1997 Claude had recently retired after 22 years as an “industrial equipment mechanic in hydraulics and pneumatics for production support on submarines.” He worked at shipyards in Kittery, in Scotland and wherever else the U.S. government sent him. Before his government career, Claude had attended night school to study carpentry, plumbing and electrical work and then had worked painting and repairing houses. Little did he know that all of his experience and more would be needed at Ferry Beach.

Having survived the spring 1997 plumbing crisis, Claude moved on to the Ferry Beach summer season and Work Week. One of the major projects – maybe the biggest - was installing the vinyl siding on Rowland Hall and Claude was in charge. In recounting that long ago Work Week, Claude says, “Fourteen ladies and one gentleman signed up to be on my crew and I had a sinking feeling.” How was he ever going to get the job done with this motley crew? As it turned out, Claude says, his fears were unfounded. “Those women were great! They were the best crew I ever had!” he says.

According to Claude the women were fearless climbing ladders – stripping the molding off the whole building (necessary prep work) and then installing siding on more than half the building before the week was done. It is great to hear Claude laugh as he tells this



story and how lasting friendships were made during the project.

During the years that have followed, drawing on his experience and ingenuity, Claude has transformed a good portion of Ferry Beach. Each winter he has had new projects. He replaced all of the windows in Rowland, Underwood and part of Quillen – more than 100 windows. He rebuilt the bathrooms in Underwood including the accessible bathroom. Claude was the clerk of the works for the massive Quillen renovation in 2002. Later he rebuilt and installed tile in the Quillen men’s room. In the Grove Claude sandblasted and painted the floors in the old wash house. And, two years ago year he completely renovated the back wash house – a vast improvement! During his tenure Claude completely renovated the basement level of 5 Morris Ave. creating two office rooms and a bedroom. Over the years Claude also rescued people who inadvertently locked themselves in various bathrooms.

And so it would seem that Claude is right, he never really did the job he was hired to do – he did far more. This spring Claude decided that it was time to retire. He and his wife, long time Ferry Beacher Ruby McKay-Nadeau, plan to do some traveling and he is building a “garden complex” for Ruby in their back yard. Claude will be sorely missed – not just for his expertise but for the great spirit he brought to the Beach. Luckily, this is not “goodbye.” Claude has promised to come back to visit and even to take on some small projects.

New Committee Appointments Announced

The first members of the Committees announced by the Board of Directors at the Annual Meeting have been approved.

- The Marketing Committee chaired by Board Member Gary Adams will include Sandy Hopkins, Troy Liston, Suzanne Adams and Greg Robinson.
- The Stewardship Committee Co-chaired by Board Members Joy McNaughton and Mark Koenig will include Rebecca Scott.
- The other Committees are Finance chaired by Board Treasurer Paul Provencher, Personnel chaired by Board Vice President Ruth Gitchell Shepard and Facilities chaired by Board Secretary Steve Onacki.

Anyone interested in being a member of any of these committees should contact Executive Director Craig Lentz, or contact the Chair directly. This is a great opportunity to assist the Board of Directors in addressing the hard issues and creating a roadmap to Ferry Beach’s future.

Ferry Beach Park Association Officers, Directors, and Staff

(As of March 15, 2009)

President:

Rev. Wendy von Zirpolo (2007-2009)

Vice President:

Ruth Gitchell Shepard (2007-2009)

Secretary:

Steve Onacki (2008-2009)

Treasurer:

Paul Provencher (2008-2010)

Directors:

Gary Adams (2008-2011)
Charles Boothby (2006-2009)
Brad Cohen (2007-2010)
Rick DeWolfe (2007-2010)
Mark Koenig (2008-2009)
Joy McNaughton (2008-2011)

Ferry Beach Full-Time Staff

Executive Director:

Craig Lentz
fbcraig@maine.rr.com

Operations Director:

Ed Mann
fbed@maine.rr.com

Program Director:

Rev. Fayre Stephenson
fbfayre@maine.rr.com

Office Manager & Registrar:

Hilary Green
fbregs@maine.rr.com

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