



Discovery

Newsletter of the Ferry Beach Park Association Spring 2009



More Photos on Page 4!

Dune Restoration Nears Completion

Phase One of the 2nd Century Fund Capital Campaign Projects is nearly complete. In only two days during the first week in January and before the first big snow storm, workers from Shaw Brothers Construction restored 800 linear feet of Ferry Beach dunes from Eagle Avenue to Morris Avenue. The dunes in front of Rowland, the last 200 feet of beach owned by FBPA (Ferry Beach Park Association) are in good shape and are not in need of restoration. All that remains to finish the dune restoration is planting dune grass, new fencing, and a new boardwalk.

Ferry Beach Maintenance Director Claude Nadeau, serving as clerk of the works, put the job out for bids in the fall. The high bid was \$42,000. The job was awarded to Shaw Brothers whose bid was lowest at \$29,000.

"The timing was perfect," Claude said, "Shaw Brothers was here completing dune work in Camp Ellis so that we didn't have to pay to have heavy equipment moved in. The graders and excavators were already here."

The Ferry Beach dune restoration project

is connected to the Camp Ellis project funded by the City of Saco and FEMA (Federal Emergency Management Agency). At Camp Ellis three 50+ foot geotubes (see photos) were installed to replace rock retaining walls. The geotubes were then covered with sand to create more natural looking dunes. Geotubes have been used in Texas and other southern states and prevent storm erosion better than rock retaining walls.

The restored dunes along the beach owned by FBPA are 4 feet high in the center and taper out 12 feet on each side. To create this secondary dune it took 1800 cubic yards of sand which translates into 90 truck loads. For two days five trucks traveled back and forth between Ferry Beach and the Shaw Brothers sand pit in Dayton delivering nine loads of sand each per day.

In November, to prepare for the project, engineer and Ferry Beach Board member Rick DeWolfe, donating his time and expertise, surveyed the site with Claude's and son Reid DeWolfe's assistance. With the

site surveyed and staked out, and with DEP (Department of Environmental Protection) project approval obtained by Executive Director Craig Lentz, everything was ready for Shaw Brothers in January.

"The project was done at the right time. Frost on the dune prevented the trucks from sinking into the sand. And, with the campus closed for winter there were no traffic or children's safety issues," said Claude.

Saco, as a municipality, received FEMA funding after the April 2007 storm damaged the Camp Ellis shoreline. Ferry Beach did not qualify for FEMA funding but, like the Little Red Hen, we did the project ourselves. Through the generosity of all of the Ferry Beachers and our neighbors who donated money to the 2nd Century Fund Capital Campaign, our dunes are restored and the Ferry Beach campus and surrounding cottages will be protected for decades to come.

A Message from the President

Now More Than Ever ~

Friends ~ As I write this I'm aware of the many forces swirling about and through our collective lives. I can feel excitement about a new future. I can also sense uncertainty about personal financial security. And embedded in both of those strands, a call to be attentive, get engaged and be part of shaping solutions.

I can report to you that each of these strands, operating in the larger world, play out in the Ferry Beach Board room as well. Your board is excited about the future. We currently ride the wave of the most successful capital campaign in the history of Ferry Beach Park Association. With almost 400 Ferry Beachers participating to date, we've raised approximately \$1.1 million. Trucks have arrived to replenish our dunes and we are well into the permitting process in preparation for the building project. With your help, Ferry Beach continues to prosper ensuring this special spiritual community will serve us well and welcome all for generations to come. But, your board has also been making difficult decisions to help ensure that Ferry Beach's operations are running at optimum levels for lifelong health of the organization. In line with that, changes in summer staffing and a reduction of a full-time position have been made. Working closely with our Executive Director, Craig Lentz, staff responsibilities have been realigned to accommodate this change. It was

with regret and appreciation we said goodbye to Matt McKay as a full-time employee and wish him well in his continued journey. Our organization has reaped many benefits from his contributions over the years and we remain grateful. We are also clear on the need to realign staffing levels with our ability to fund without creating debt. These changes, along with several others move us toward that model.

Part of our excitement as we look toward the future comes in looking at ways to increase member involvement. Now, more than ever, will we be looking to each of you for support. That support may come in time, talent and/or treasure. Certainly we rely upon each of you to keep FB contributions high on your list of priorities. We need your treasure! But we also want to deepen our connections to gifts of time and talent. Your board met in February for the sole purpose of finalizing charges for each of the new committees: Stewardship, Personnel, Facilities, Marketing and Finance. Each committee will be charged with specific tasks and be chaired or co-chaired by one or two board members. Following this meeting, we began recruiting and hope to involve many of you in this committee structure. Now more than ever are we appreciative of the gifts of time, talent and treasure to our beloved Ferry Beach.

Yes, we're excited and hope you are as well! Ferry Beach is in our hands and using all of our gifts, this spiritual home we love will continue to feed our spirits and the spirits of those who we have yet to meet for many years to come.

Remember, here at Ferry Beach, we change lives ~

Rev. Wendy von Zirpolo



Capital Campaign Reaches Out

Almost 400 Ferry Beachers have already pledged support to the Ferry Beach 2nd Century Fund Capital Campaign, raising approximately \$1.1 million dollars to date. The Campaign's companion goals are to raise \$1.2 million and inspire broad participation from the Ferry Beach community. A special Spring outreach initiative will bring this opportunity to everyone on the Ferry Beach mailing list. If you've been waiting for your chance to be part of this once-in-a-lifetime Campaign, please watch for this mailing and return the pledge form with your commitment. In the final sprint of our inclusive Capital Campaign, there is a place for everyone at Ferry Beach.

There's more good news to share. Thanks to continued on-time fulfillment of pledges, with more than \$500,000 gratefully received so far, Capital Campaign-funded projects have already commenced (See related articles on dune restoration.) Additionally, the permitting processes for construction of the DeWolfe Family Dining Facility are well underway. Our shared dreams to preserve, protect and improve Ferry Beach are coming true. Watch for changes to our Ferry Beach home when you next visit our beautiful campus this season.

The Capital Campaign Core Leadership Team continues to pursue all leads for additional support. These Campaign

volunteers have reached out to Ferry Beach's neighbors, congregations across New England, foundations, and local businesses connected with Ferry Beach. It's clear that the 2nd Century Fund's success is truly a community success. If you have ideas for businesses, foundations or individuals who should be approached, please contact Craig Lentz.

All funds collected for the 2nd Century Fund are maintained in secure accounts. Paul Provencher, FBPA Treasurer, continually monitors the funds and maintains contact with Key Bank and MML Investors, which operates Prime Fund Capital Reserves in which our funds are invested. Our goal is to protect the precious investments of our donors for immediate use on Capital Campaign projects.

To keep you informed about all the latest 2nd Century Fund news, co-chairs Rev. Pat Hoertdoerfer and Brad Cohen will be posting bi-monthly Questions and Answers on the Ferry Beach website. Send your questions to FB2ndCentury@yahoo.com, and visit www.ferrybeach.org for updates.

Everyone who participates in the 2nd Century Fund is declaring his or her love for Ferry Beach in a very special and lasting way. Their legacy will be apparent – from the dunes to the dining facility to the Chapel – for many years to come. Please join us. Ferry Beach changes people's lives. Your commitment can also change your own and that of your family and loved ones this year and beyond. Thank you!



Join us in June for a 6-day Retreat at Ferry Beach in Saco Maine! You will learn contemporary and traditional techniques as you discover the vast world of quilting—for the bed or the wall. A seaside learning experience especially for Beginners!

JUNE 20-June 26 2009

For registration or more information: call 207 282-4489 or email fbregs@maine.rr.com www.Ferrybeach.org



Each morning enjoy the camaraderie of working side by side with friends, new and old, to get Ferry Beach buildings and grounds in shape for the summer season.

Work and Play Week
June 20 - June 27

Our most affordable week!

Register now at fbregs@maine.rr.com or 207-282-4489

Afternoons and evenings are free for fun on the beach, environmental tours, naps, good books, exploring the Maine Coast - whatever you choose!



FBI: Ferry Beach Imagination

... harness the transformative power of imagination!

**Ferry Beach Religious Education Week:
July 11 - July 17**



Workshops:

- ◆ Multicultural Renaissance Module with Laura Spencer and Cindy Beal
- ◆ Building and Reinvigorating Small RE Programs with Rev. Dan Harper
- ◆ Spiritual, Meditative and Creative Practices (including yoga)
- ◆ Young Adult Fellowship and Programming
- ◆ Daily Programming for Children & Youth

Intergenerational Worship:

Joyfully led by Rev. Nate Walker

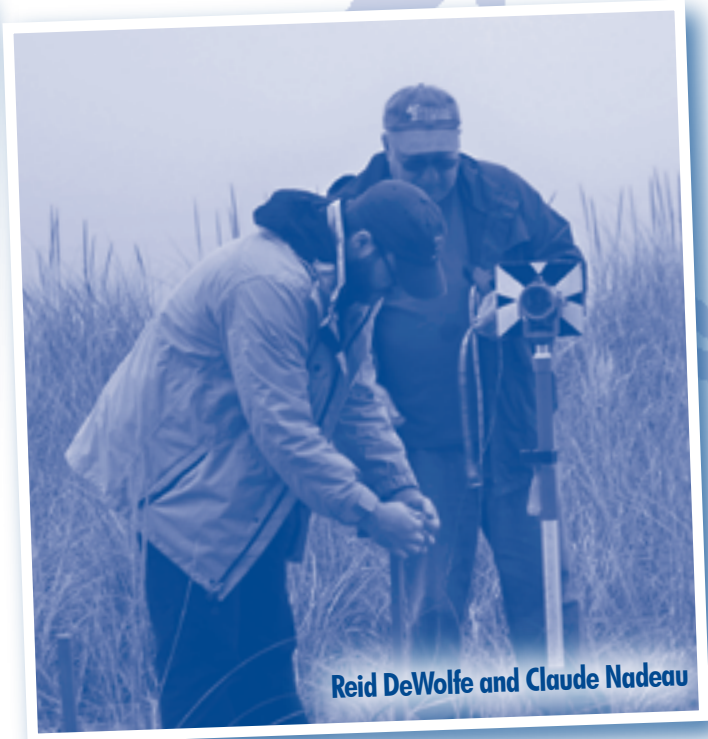
Visit www.FerryBeach.org for more Dunes Restoration Photos!



Shaw Brothers installing Geo Tubes at Camp Ellis



Rick DeWolfe Surveying the Dunes



Reid DeWolfe and Claude Nadeau



ATTENTION UU YOUTH GROUPS & LEADERS

BE TRANSFORMED ! CHANGE YOUR LIVES!

**BRING YOUR GROUP TO TEEN SERVICE
WITH HABITAT FOR HUMANITY AT
FERRY BEACH!**

JUNE 20 - JUNE 27

SIGN UP NOW!

ONLY 12 SLOTS ARE AVAILABLE FOR TEENS 16 AND OLDER.

REGISTER AT FBREGS@MAINE.BR.COM OR AT 207-782-4499 OR AT WWW.FERRYBEACH.ORG

In Memoriam

REV. RICHARD F. DRINON (1932 - 2008)

It was with a sense of loss and sadness that we learned of the death of the Reverend Richard F. Drinon, Ferry Beach Executive Director from 1989 - 1993. Last summer Dick returned to Ferry Beach after a long hiatus to attend the UU Heritage conference. As photos of Dick that week attest, he had a wonderful time. Dick died on October 12, 2008, at UMASS Medical Center in Worcester, MA. He was 76.

Dick was born on April 28, 1932 in Lynn, MA to the late George and Doris (Wilson) Drinon. He graduated from Lynn English High in 1951. He attended St. Lawrence University, where he studied philosophy and psychology, graduating in 1956. He earned his divinity degree in 1959 from Crane Theological School of Tufts University. He engaged in post-graduate study at Tufts in anthropology and social theory and continued studying anthropology at the Maxwell School of Syracuse University while serving as an academic and personal counselor for the Dean of Men's Office.

Throughout his early years of ministry, Dick spent summers working with young people. He served for four years as counselor to high school students at Leedalab at Ferry Beach. He was Director of Leadership Training for the YMCA summer counseling program at Camp Rotary in Lynn, MA for ten years.

In 1963, Dick was appointed by the UUSC to serve as director of the Mugobansongo Village Development Project near Masaka, Uganda. He was to establish the first non-missionary, non-racial secondary school in the country. While there, he continued his anthropological studies, focusing on the youth culture of the Bantu-Boganda peoples. Dick's other international work took him to Germany where he worked with youth and to Saudi Arabia where he served as summer minister to the Unitarian Fellowship of Dhahran.

Ordained at the Universalist Church in Lynn, MA, in 1961, Dick served many congregations during his 47 years of ministry, including: First Unitarian Church of Toronto, Ontario; Channing Unitarian Universalist Church of Rockland, MA; First Religious Society of Carlisle, MA; North Universalist Chapel Society of Woodstock, VT; First Universalist Unitarian Church of Wausau, WI and St. Paul's Universalist Church of Palmer, MA. He also served as Executive Secretary of the Unitarian Council of Metropolitan Toronto and Executive Director of the Ferry Beach Park Association. For the past 10 years, Dick served the Hopedale Unitarian Parish

in Hopedale, MA.

Dick is survived by his loving daughter, Sarah Drinon, of Somerville, MA, who shares these words that guided Rev. Drinon throughout his life,

"I expect to pass through this world but once. Any good thing, therefore, that I can do or any kindness I can show to any fellow human being let me do it now. Let me not defer nor neglect it, for I shall not pass this way again."

- Stephen Grellet, 1773-1855 (French-born Quaker Minister)

A service of remembrance took place on October 19, 2008 in the Hopedale Unitarian Parish with Rev. Frank Hall officiating. Memorial contributions may be made in Rev. Drinon's name to the Hopedale Unitarian Parish, PO Box 367, Hopedale, MA 01747.

Please send messages of condolence to Ms. Sarah Drinon, 49 Temple St. Apt 2, Somerville, MA 02145-2400.



FAMILY & FRIENDS I
"A MELLOW FAMILY WEEK"
JULY 25 - AUGUST 1

FOR PEOPLE OF ALL AGES & FAMILIES OF EVERY DESCRIPTION
Tai chi, Writing, Radical Body Acceptance, Work Around the Beach
Register at fbregs@maine.uu.com or at 207-262-4489 or at www.ferrybeach.org

Be a Ferry Beach Booster!

If you love Ferry Beach and wish more people from your church would join you for a vacation or a conference, you are the right kind of person to be a Ferry Beach Booster. Boosters receive packets of the Ferry Beach conference books, posters, and trifold pamphlets, and find ways to get these materials into the hands of potential Ferry Beachers. Some Boosters even host mid-winter "Beach parties." Others set up card tables at their church coffee hours with the Ferry Beach informational materials prominently displayed. All of the Boosters make sure a supply of the Ferry Beach printed materials is stocked in their church pamphlet racks.

You can make the Ferry Beach Booster position your own. Contact Ferry Beach Booster Coordinator Carol Hayden at 20 Lisa Harmon Drive #22, Westbrook, ME 04092 or at cdhayhall@maine.rr.com and become a Booster today!

Conference Dates Corrections

I have joked that the Ferry Beach conference book is like the Persian carpets woven with intentional errors because only a divine creator can create perfection. But, if truth were told, I was horrified and utterly embarrassed when I learned that not one but two sets of conference dates were incorrect in this year's conference book. For reasons I cannot explain (but take full responsibility) the dates printed for In the Company of Women and for UU Heritage Week were last year's dates – not this year's! Of all the errors one could make in a book of this kind, this was the worst! For the record, the dates for In the Company of Women are August 15 – August 21 and the dates for UU Heritage Week are August 22 – August 28.

We did not catch the error in time to make corrections in the conference books sent to the Ferry Beach mailing list. We did correct the books sent to the 1042 UU congregations. I am deeply grateful to the FB mailing mavens, Ellie Lockwood, Ruby McKay-Nadeau, and Nancy Knights, for helping me affix more than 4000 stickers imprinted with the correct dates into more than 2000 conference books. Thank you!

In all humility,
Rev. Fayre Stephenson, Program Director



Register for all Conferences at www.FerryBeach.org, by calling 207.282.4489, or email fbregs@maine.rr.com.

Weekends Available for Church Retreats

Do you cherish your memories of conferences and vacations at Ferry Beach? Do you treasure the times you have spent at Ferry Beach? Have you ever wished you could share that special sense of community created at Ferry Beach gatherings with your friends at church? There is a way to fulfill that wish. Bring your congregation to Ferry Beach in the spring or fall for a weekend retreat. Ferry Beach church weekend retreats are times for building community and deepening friendships in the place so many call a spiritual home.

Most retreat weekends begin on Fridays at 4:00 p.m. and end on Sunday at 2:00 p.m. Meals are provided in our 2000 square ft. dining hall by Chef Richard O'Brien of Pangea Food Service. Pangea is in its second decade of providing high quality, delicious, and reasonably priced meals to Ferry Beach guests.

Ferry Beach provides the basic framework for the planning of your weekend, such as site rules and guidelines, cleaning guidelines, and rooming charts; but the actual running of your weekend is in your hands. You do the rooming assignments, check your people in, collect the money, assign tasks, decide the agenda, and so forth. Ferry Beach can certainly advise in this process, but it seems to work best when the group creates a weekend that is uniquely theirs.

Some churches may not be large enough to have a retreat on their own so there is an option to double up for the weekend with another church. This actually brings many pluses including the opportunity to meet compatible people from other UU churches and do some joint activities. In such cases, dining will be communal and the use of meeting space will be agreed to by all renting parties beforehand in conjunction with a first come, first served philosophy.

Bring your congregation to Ferry Beach! For more details see the Ferry Beach website at www.ferrybeach.org. Then contact Operations Director Ed Mann at fbed@maine.rr.com or at 207-282-4489 for more information.

Below are the dates and spaces available:

SPRING

Friday April 3 - Sunday April 5

Rowland Hall and Underwood dorms available

Friday April 10 - Sunday April 12

All 3 dorms are available!

Friday April 17 - Sunday April 19

Rowland Hall dorm available

Friday April 24 - Sunday April 26

Rowland Hall dorm available

Friday May 1 - Sunday May 3

Rowland Hall dorm available

FALL

Friday October 2 - Sunday October 4

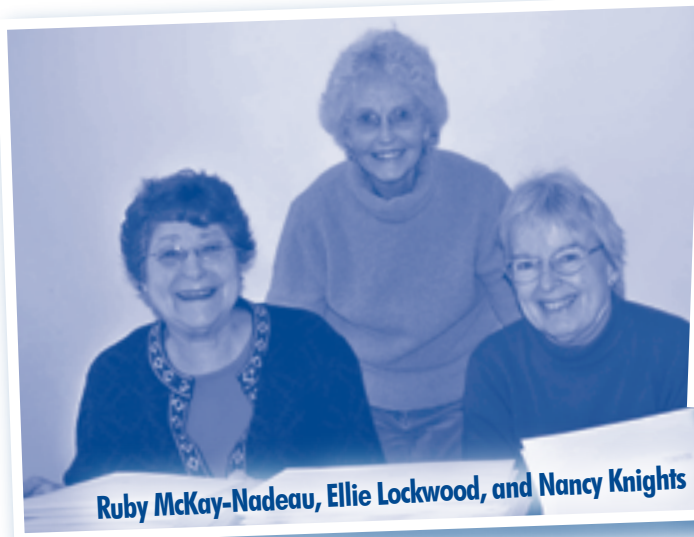
Rowland Hall dorm available

Friday October 30 - Sunday November 1

All 3 dorms are available!

Friday November 6 - Sunday November 8

All 3 dorms are available!



Ruby McKay-Nadeau, Ellie Lockwood, and Nancy Knights



February Church Mailings

Ferry Beach volunteer mailing mavens, Ellie Lockwood, Ruby McKay-Nadeau, and Nancy Knights set up their bulk mailing operation in the well heated Minister of the Week cabin last month. They labeled, stuffed, and bagged Ferry Beach informational packets for all 1042 UU congregations across the country and for the Ferry Beach Boosters. The packets contained an introductory letter, conference booklets, copies of our six trifold pamphlets, and a poster. Please check your church pamphlet racks and bulletin board to see if the Ferry Beach printed materials are on display and then show a friend! Thank you!

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

Maintenance Director:

Claude Nadeau
mcned@maine.rr.com

Office Manager & Registrar:

Hilary Green
fbregs@maine.rr.com

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