



Grove Beach Point Association, Inc.

P.O. Box 754 Westbrook, CT 06498-0754

Grove Beach Point Newsletter

Helen Dyar- Editor

February 6, 2005

Hi there,
I hope your Holidays
were all you wanted them
to be and that 2005 will be good to you!

This has been quite a January, hasn't it! All parts of the country have been hit but we can only be thankful when we see what the tsunami did to so many people and places. Its hard to get your mind around the extent of such a disaster.

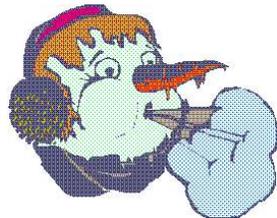
Looking out my window I see many drifts of snow sparkling in the sun and the Menunketesuck River frozen along the edges. We do have a beautiful place here in all seasons, don't we?

NOTES FROM THE CHAIR OF THE BOARD OF GOVERNORS

Jeanne Lovejoy

We had a beautiful summer, and a lovely fall which gave us some spectacular colors.

(Editor's note. Jeanne wrote this for a Fall newsletter which I was not able to get out. So I will add- "and an almost record breaking winter so far.")



Your Board of Governors has been meeting monthly and all have various "jobs" to do, despite many working full or part-time at their regular occupations.

Ken Penfield, our treasurer does a fantastic job in taking care of the books. It takes a lot of time!

Dana does the minutes at all our meetings and that is not an easy task.

Helen is the editor of this newsletter, which is a great way to keep the members informed.

Gary is our Clerk and the job has its demands at different times of the year. He is also the chair of the Beach Committee, which is a very big commitment.



Tony has been working on getting our signs back up at Riverview and Indian Trail as well as taking care of the dock at Indian Trail and being the Vice Chair.

Rick is in charge of the Beach Preservation, and we all know how it is to work with the DEP! He is busy working on the second phase of the preservation of our beach.

Joe has been looking into the possibility of having water at the patio and also updating the Electric box.

Betty has just completed her job as Clerk and will be taking on a new responsibility.

Of course, we have other members who are not on the Board of Governors who give their time and energy to GBPA such as:

Len Lombardi and his committee, who have done a great job in educating us on the importance of efficient septic tank systems.

Kris Brault, who is on the Beach Committee and a former Board of Governor member, has been looking into the possibility of having movies on the beach for our younger members.

Gerry Dyar keeps us informed, as chairman, on what the Chamber is doing and also, as president, on the Council of Beaches activities.

Petra Shearer is our Tax Collector, and is also representing the GBPA in the newly formed Beach Associations meetings that includes Associations from Branford up to Mystic.

The Tines chair our Independence Day Breakfast

Marion Zito chairs our Potluck Supper.

Barbara Peet keeps after our gardens at the Patio and Bassett Park.

The Vibberts make our Association turn-around a beautiful place to enjoy.



Now, I know I have not included everyone, and I apologize to those I have missed. But as you can see we have a great group of "doers" here at GBPA and I want to express my gratitude to all who have given of their time and talents. These people are all volunteers!

Thank you!

CHRISTMAS WAS HERE!

Jeanne Lovejoy

I chaired the Annual Tree Lighting event in Westbrook on December 5th. We had our Parade bring Santa to town where he visited his little friends in the gazebo on the Town Green. There was a craft table for making decorations for the Town tree. And also a bike decorating contest, refreshments, various performances on the "stage" and a carol sing. The weather was "with us" this year. We also did the holiday banners that adorn the Town. December 12th was the date for the Tour of Historic Inns of Westbrook which was enjoyed by many.

BEACH PRESERVATION REPORT

Rick McGinley

Last writing we were attempting to coordinate with a project that has not yet been committed in Clinton. Now we are negotiating with Shumack Construction Co of Clinton to place sand on our beach. Shumack has been selected and is presently working on a contract with the Clinton Country Club to improve their irrigation system. As part of that project they will be removing several thousands of cubic yards of sand, which appears in color and texture to be suitable for our beach.



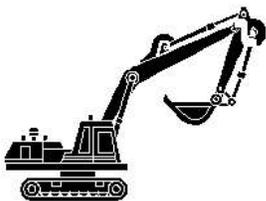
The Certificate of Permission (COP) that we have from the Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) gives us permission to place up to ten thousand cubic yards of suitable material, from the upland source, onto our beach.

Of course, our budget is limited at this time, we have only One Hundred Thousand Dollars available for this phase of our Beach Preservation Project. Shumack is asking One

Hundred and Eighty Eight Thousand Four Hundred Dollars to deliver and place ten thousand yards on our beach. Thus we have an impasse which we are attempting to negotiate around and still stay within our budget.

At this point Shumack has offered to deliver and place five thousand one hundred thirty cubic yards and then, while he is here with equipment he will spread another two thousand cubic yards from our reserve at the western end of our beach, over the top of the new material. Thus we would have a net gain to our problem area of seven thousand cubic yards and they will do this for One Hundred Thousand dollars.

The material that is suitable for our beach must be approved by the DEP, for grain size and color. If the material has too many fines it will not be acceptable, and if the color is not right, it may not look good. We have not yet received results on the acceptability of the material in question.



If one contractor can supply and place the material that we need, the logistics alone could be cost effective. It is

always more difficult to work with more than one contractor. With one contractor, the coordination is simplified and the responsibility is reduced. We, after all, do have to get the material to the site, off load and spread within the restrictions of our permit.

Hopefully we will be able to sign a contract that will give us a good stable beach at the least possible cost.

Read the News Letters to keep posted on our progress and all events at “GBP”

COUNCIL OF BEACHES REPORT
Gerry Dyar-Pres. and GBPA Rep.



The COB has been active for some time helping organize a statewide organization of like minded groups to work on problems

relating to skyrocketing assessments and taxes, wastewater treatment, security and beach access, erosion and pollution.

As you read this the incorporation papers for the CONNECTICUT COASTAL COMMUNITIES COALITION, or as we call it "C4", are in the hands of the CT Secretary of State. Petra Shearer, who jump started the process of organizing this group last fall, has continued her good work by taking on and following through with this task and also becoming a Founding Director and the Treasurer. I'm also a Founding Director and, temporarily, the Vice President. Petra and I have been actively involved in all aspects of C4 organization since the first embryonic meeting in Groton over a year ago. Jon Lovejoy, Helen Dyar and Menno Marringo participated early on along with Jeanne Lovejoy who also helped with the jump start.

The core group currently consists of about 15 people representing beach communities from Clinton to Stonington, with about twice that many more keeping informed by being on our email list. As soon as we are incorporated official membership will be opened up to all comers, including, but not limited to, all shoreline, riverside and lakefront property owners.

In the meantime we encourage you to come to the C4 meetings. Our next one will be in the Mulvey Municipal Center in Westbrook on Monday, 2/14/05, in the Multi Media Room. You'll hear full reports about our legislative agenda, and the bill we've had

filed on your behalf to provide property tax relief. Please try to attend this meeting and, even better, volunteer to become involved in one of our agendas. Unlike a lot of volunteer work you might get involved in, this group has the possibility of putting money back into your pocket in the form of reduced taxes!

At the very least you need to contact your state legislators in support of the bill, HB 5417, we've had introduced.

If you'd like more detailed information about all this please email me at <tgdyar@sbcglobal.net> and I'll send you an email with attachments and URLs to bring you up to date. If you're currently on the Council of Beaches email list you'll soon be getting this information automatically.

Even better if you want to become involved right now call me at 860-669-8115.

BEACH COMMITTEE Special Project-Joe Palmieri

We are looking into the possibility of water and a drinking fountain at the patio. Also we hope to upgrade our electric box and the wiring, which is badly deteriorating and unsafe. This project has been in the works since last summer.

SOCIAL HOUR

The next two will be Saturday March 19th @ 5 PM and Saturday April 30th @ 5 PM The March get-together will be at our house (Dyars). But we are hoping someone else might like to host the April social for a change. All it involves is opening your home to probably about 10-12 members who will bring their own drinks and an appetizer to share which is the same as we



do at the patio in the warm weather. Plastic "glasses" are fine and some napkins are all that's needed. Let me know and I'll put it in the next newsletter or post it at the patio board in case I don't get the next newsletter out in time or you can go on our website www.westbrookcouncilofbeaches.org/GBPA/COBPage.htm

BOUQUETS TO



Carol Kowalczyk for the nicely re-printed copies of Jasper J. Smith's 1920 sales brochures for our members who request one. Interesting part of our history at GBP.

Anne Lewandowski on her nomination as Rotary Student of the Month in November. Anne, Fran Forde's grand daughter and one of our beach monitors last summer, attends Saybrook High School.

Marian Zito for washing the Lost & Found items which had been left on the patio. Our shed will certainly smell much better in the Spring now.

POTPOURRI

Mildred Clements, 87 Menunketesuck Rd., a long time member of our Association asked me to extend her "Thanks" to our members for their concern and good wishes during her illness this fall. I'm happy to say Mildred is up and about, back at work and doing well.

Doris Montifiore, also a long time member of GBP, has been ill and has been at Gaylord Rehabilitation Hospital in Wallingford for several weeks. To send a card use 6 Wangum Rd. (she may be home this week) Westbrook, CT 06498 as Tom picks up the mail while they have been at Karen's.



A reminder has come in:

PLEASE be sure to secure your garbage and the cans when away from here or ask a neighbor to secure them as

some have been left to the elements and is a mess for members to view if wind, sleet or animals get into them, or if the cans get into the streets, for other members to have to remove them.

I would like to give a “*HEADS UP*” to our members, that in September I will not be doing the newsletter any more. After ten years I think its time to let someone else have the opportunity to keep our members informed on GBPA activities, if we want to continue a newsletter. I have thoroughly enjoyed doing it but am ready for a respite.. My husband, Gerry, has been a big help in getting the mailing labels to me each time, as well as being my tech support and Shirley Johnson in helping me with the folding and stamping each mailing. I also have to say that each article done by the BOG and committee members have made it an easy job for me. *Thank you all.*

If you are interested, please let me know, and I will be glad to answer any questions you might have. Also Gerry will continue to update and produce our Association Directory and make the mailing labels for the new editor.

SMILE

Eternal Truths:

I love cooking with wine. Sometimes I even put it in the food.

Dogs have owners. Cats have staff.



A balanced diet is a cookie in each hand.

Middle age is when the broadness of the mind and the narrowness of the waist change places.

Board of Governors:

Jeanne Lovejoy-Chair
Tony Zimmitti- Vice-chair
Ken Penfield-Treasurer
Clerk-Gary Bazzano
Dana Lombardi-Assistant Clerk
Rick McGinley-Beach Preservation Chair
Beach Preservation-Rick McGinley
Beach Committee-Gary and Susan Bazzano
Helen Dyar- Newsletter Editor
Betty Weber
Joe Palmieri

