



Grove Beach Point Association, Inc.

Fall 2013 Newsletter

Message From the Chairman of the Board of Governors
By Gary Bazzano

Summer has long ended but the weather still seems to be cooperating with us. Let's pray we don't get any late fall storms as we need a break!

This is our fall newsletter, which is a wrap up of the summer and a look into the future of what the BOG will be working on this winter.

This last summer went very well once the 4th came. We had some added expenses early in the summer due to late spring and early summer storms. The BOG planned as it usually does to have the beach fully cleaned around the middle of June and right after it was cleaned, we had another large storm that washed major debris back onto our shores. This resulted in an additional \$1500 cleanup. I guess there is never the right time to clean the beach and that is why we typically wait as long as we can to get it done before the summer residents show up. If anyone believes that we should spend more money earlier in the season, the BOG would be interested to hear your thoughts.

Ken Penfield requested that I report that our Certificate of Permission (COP) has been granted by the CTDEEP and received pertaining to beach nourishment in conjunction with Woods Hole Group. We could replenish the beach at anytime as long as we find a source of nourishment. Ken will be researching various projects that may allow GBPA to utilize the project's spoils.

The BOG was never able to hire a security company so thanks to Nancy Waters devotion, she offered to do the job and what a great job she did. She was able to remove a few people that didn't belong at our beach and as such kept our beach safe comfortable to our members on weekends. We did however have some theft in the Association parking lot. A 25lb anchor along with chain were taken from behind the shed, which resulted in the Association having to purchase another anchor and chain. If anyone knows of what may have happened to those items, please contact me. By hiring Nancy, the BOG was able to save some money on security. The BOG will address security next spring and see if Nancy is willing again to be hired. Whatta say Nancy?? In order to address the security issue at the beach, I have a meeting with Bonnie Palermo in a couple of weeks to discuss a parking permit policy for all GBPA

members. This would allow only GBPA members to park on Menunketesuck Rd. Bonnie is the Chairman of the Westbrook Traffic Commission.

Some new additions to the Association were bike racks at the patio and gazebo and rubbish can at the gazebo in order to keep trash off the grounds. Other improvements included the reconstruction of the bulkhead at the gazebo at a cost of approximately \$2000. Our member Mike Keeler performed the work and saved the Association quite a bit of money. The past two years of storms and high water had undermined the wall in which the wall had to be back filled and stones put back in place. Hopefully the work done, will keep the bulkhead in place for many more years.

This winter, we will continue to work to improve the experience of everyone at GBPA. The BOG is looking into improving Bassett Park. You ask what's Bassett Park?? It's the little island where Menunketesuck and Indian Trail split. That's right, that little area with shrubbery in it. This park was officially named Bassett Park in 1938 after the Bassett's. That area has been maintained by the Lombardi's for many years. The BOG is thinking of a large stone or statue to depict GBPA along with some plantings adjacent to the monument. It would be a nice entranceway to the beach area. If anyone has any suggestions for that area, please contact myself or any other Board member.

Please be advised that the BOG can only enforce rules and regulations that pertain to GBPA property. Please try and get along with your neighbors. Most of us have a limited amount of time at GBPA and as such want to enjoy our time there. As I believe that most of you believe the same, please try and get along with your neighbors as the summer is way to short to stress out over trivial matters. Being a good neighbor doesn't require much. Please keep your property cleaned and well maintained, park in your designated parking areas and help your neighbor out if they may need a hand. We are all there for the same reason...to enjoy GBPA.

The BOG has also had some issues with vehicles parked in non-designated parking areas such as the turnaround or other areas. Please be advised that if you are parked in a non-designated area, your car could be towed. All Board members have been instructed that if a complaint is made, a tow company be called and the vehicle be towed at the owner's expense. Again, this will only happen if your neighbors make complaints. You all have designated parking areas that you own or there is parking allowed on some streets, so please adhere to this policy. It would be unfortunate if an emergency vehicle needs to get into the turnaround and cannot, due to unauthorized parking of vehicles. Vehicles however can be parked temporarily if the owner is dropping a canoe or other craft into the river. The whole area around the river at the turnaround is Association property and can be enjoyed by any member of the Association. Temporary means temporary and not hours at a time! Sorry to be so stern, but this has become an issue.

I'd like to thank the following volunteers who went beyond the usual call to keep GBPA the great place it is. Former Board Member, Paul Ingalls for handling the drinking fountain at the patio. Paul installs it and removes it each season. Bill and Maureen

Morris for Chairing the 4th of July breakfast again this year. Bill Schneck for Chairing the Potluck Supper and maintaining the lawn at the gazebo area. Current board member, Mark Milkie for assembling the new picnic tables and getting the boy scouts to clean up the marsh this past spring. These boy scouts saved the Association a substantial amount of money for cleanup after last fall's storm. Current Board Member, Dave Brault for taking the swim lines out for the season. Current Board Member Mike Favreau and his wife Donna for cleaning out the shed after the fall storm. Mike will tell you that there was quite a bit of damage to product inside the shed along with a fair amount of mud on the floor of the shed. The Vibbert family for maintaining the turnaround area. Lori Solomon for researching the Association owned properties through the assessors office and forwarding them to Nancy Waters in order to post on the website and to those I may have missed, I thank you all. A lot goes into making sure GBPA is the best place on the shoreline and I truly thank you all for your commitment to GBPA.

Please remember that rubbish pickup for Hometown Waste will change to a Friday pickup starting in November. This schedule will continue until the spring. If you have any questions or concerns, please call Hometown Waste and speak to John.

Are you getting the best price and service for Propane?

By David Brault

We use propane to heat our cottage and our appliances so we use a lot of propane. Propane is a clean and convenient energy source but it is difficult to determine if you are paying a fair price because most of the propane companies include the tank rental fee in the per gallon propane price. We have used several of the larger propane companies and got the run around from all of them when we tried to understand how the pricing kept going up when oil and natural gas prices were going down. Luckily Bill Scully told me that Wilcox Fuel in Westbrook now sells propane. They have a very transparent tank rental policy and I was able to cut my per gallon price by almost 50%!!! So if you use propane, give Wilcox a call and tell them Bill sent you.

<http://wilcox-energy.com/>

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If for any reason you need to contact me or any other Board member, our contacts are listed below.

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