



**A message from the Chairman of the Board
of Governors.**

By Gary Bazzano

The leaves are off the trees and winter is coming but you wouldn't have known it on the day of November 15th. I was down at GBPA and it was a nice day with warm temps and no wind. I guess the sooner we get through winter the sooner summer comes. Let's all look forward to that. This past summer an American Flag was donated by Marion Maruca mother of Lauren McCall. Marion is always at the patio area with her family and enjoys GBPA very much. The BOG wishes to thank Marion for her generous donation and we will fly her husband's flag proudly next summer. Thank you, Marion!

The BOG met in October with the Woods Hole Group to listen to an informal presentation WHG had prepared on GBPA. It included a history of the area and listed recommendations moving forward. The BOG had sent out an invitation to come to this meeting and a few of our members did attend. It was a very informative meeting and well represented by WHG. The BOG's next step is to notify the Army Corp and other various agencies of our desire to have any dredging projects involving the Town Westbrook, include GBPA in the process of disposal.

The GBPA did receive the reimbursement check from the Town of Westbrook and it was deposited in a timely fashion. I would like to thank all Association members for their patience in this dredging project. I did speak to the Town's First

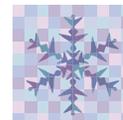
Selectman and thanked him for getting GBPA our reimbursement and advised him that GBPA looks forward to a continued relationship between the Town and GBPA. By the way Mr. Bishop was elected First Selectman for another term in Westbrook. It is in the best interest of GBPA to have consistency at Town Hall and it seems we have that for another two years.

Other items the BOG will be working on this winter are as follows; signs for the Association property advising residents and others of the rules of GBPA. The BOG is also looking at a project for the patio in which the BOG will be looking at different alternatives for security during the day and night at the patio. The BOG will be assessing different methods, which may include a wall near the street and/or fencing to complement the area. The BOG is also going to look into Web Cameras to be used in the off hours.

One of the most important things that a resident of GBPA desires is a secure place to enjoy the summer. Unfortunately, the roads that are in GBPA property boundaries belong to the Town so they are considered public roads of which anyone can travel on them. As an Association we have to do our best to police the area and report anything that may look suspicious. As your BOG is working on this high priority item, the BOG is considering the patio area as a top priority.

The BOG will keep you posted on efforts being made for the items proposed and as always, if you would like to know the latest about the things going on, please be sure we have your email address. There are so many things that the BOG can send out on a quick notice that it is important for the BOG to have your email address. The meeting with the WHG was a perfect example. If you would like to contact me, I may be reached at 860-604-0500 or by email at gbazz@cox.net.

Enjoy your holiday season and I look forward to hearing from you soon.



Beach Preservation

By Ken Penfield

As you may recall, we contracted with the Woods Hole Group in May 2009 to provide a letter report and evaluation of existing conditions at GBPA. This report was to summarize results of a recent site visit and meeting with myself and Dan Carter, and to provide details on potential future phases intended to evaluate coastal engineering solutions to assist our association in preserving the beach. The report is substantial, well done and quite informative.

Within this report the goals of GBPA are as follows:

1. To protect the coastal infrastructure (homes, cottages, recreational assets) along the association beach
2. Maintain or improve the beach for recreational use
3. Reduce overall maintenance of the beach and existing roadway
4. Maximize the performance (service life) of any potential solution
5. Determine the most cost – effective solution over a minimum of a 50-year time frame
6. Determine the relative effectiveness of the existing coastal structures along the association beach

Given the complex nature of the coastal processes, and our site in particular, the Board, along with Noel Bishop, Town Councilman from Westbrook, and other GBPA association members met with Kirk Bosma, the Coastal Engineer from Woods Hole at the Westbrook Town Hall on October 20, 2009. He provided us with a detailed presentation of the information presented in the letter report. In addition, this meeting helped to provide a summary of proposed tasks for Phase II

I'm confident that the GBPA Board and everyone else in attendance at this meeting now have a better understanding of why these phases and tasks are proposed and how they will help GBPA reach the goals for preservation of the Association beachfront. Obviously, the

next step (a coastal study) represents a significant investment that warrants a better understanding of what is being done. However, it is also a needed step to get through the regulatory process and arrive at a long-term solution.

As a result of this report, we have learned there will be upcoming dredging projects in the vicinity of GBPA. Based on these upcoming dredging efforts by the USACE, we have requested Woods Hole to prepare a letter for GBPA. With this letter, we will make a formal request to the USACE expressing our interest in beneficially reusing the sand for beach nourishment purposes. The letter will indicate the commitment of GBPA to pay for the incremental cost, if there is any, of placing beach-compatible sand on the beach that becomes available via a dredging project. At this early stage, the USACE would be able to plan for future dredging projects with the knowledge that GBPA has a viable disposal site available.

The complete Woods Hole Report will soon be available on our website, however if anyone would like to receive a hard copy now or has any questions, please email me at kpenfield@bcifinancial.com or call me at 860-384-1842.



Council of Beaches

By Nancy Waters

www.westbrookcouncilofbeaches.org

As you may or may not know, Gerry and Helen Dyer are moving to Florida. Gerry has served as the President of the COB for past 6 years as well as the GBPA Representative at all COB meetings since 1994.

Since the summer, I have stepped in as the GBPA COB representative and have been attending the monthly meetings. We have touched upon a variety of topics including Safety, Beach Cleaning, Road Improvements and the Dredging project.

On October 1, a Neighborhood Watch informational meeting was held at the town hall. Many of the COB representatives were on hand to discuss safety and how to develop a Neighborhood watch program. Some key suggestions to ensure safety are:

- Put your house number on your house in a visible, well lit location
- Keep your outside porch light on
- Keep your hedges trimmed
- Keep your doors locked

Other suggestions from the State Trooper are to place "Watch Dog" and/or Security stickers on your windows; those are good deterrents that are inexpensive yet effective.

The most important item to remember about security though – use Common Sense and Be aware of your neighbors and surroundings!

In the meantime, if anyone would like more information on setting up a Block Watch in your area of GBP, Please contact me at nancy240@comcast.net and I will be happy to share additional details with you for your own Neighborhood Watch!

A replacement was needed as the COB President and Barb Scala has stepped up to the plate to assume that role. COB meetings have ended for this year and will resume again in the Spring.



GBPA Website

By Nancy Waters

www.grovebeachpoint.org

The GBPA Website has been developed and maintained by Gerry Dyar for years. With Web Design as a sideline hobby of mine, I am taking over updating and maintaining the GBPA website. The BOG has asked me to revamp the entire website so that all GBPA members

can find information easily. The website houses a vast amount of GBPA information including Newsletters, BOG, History, Beach Rules, Schedule of Events, Recycling, the Charter, etc. I will be working on this task over the next few months and hope to have an improved website available by early Spring!

By the way – I have also inherited the Council of Beaches website.

Please contact me at nancy240@comcast.net if you have any thoughts or ideas you may have for the website!



Neighborhood Notices

Elizabeth (Betty) M. Glass, 87, of Hartford, died Tuesday, (November 24, 2009). Betty served on the Board of Governors of the Grove Beach Point Association and spent her summers at Grove Beach Point in Westbrook for over 50 years. She will be greatly missed, and our thoughts are with her family.

Ed Carter who resided on Menunketesuck Rd. (present home of the Zimmitti family) died after a long illness. Ed will be remembered by all of us as a volunteer of his time for GBPA. May we all remember Ed in our thoughts. There was a service at Rose Hill Cemetery in Rocky Hill on 11/21/09 at 10 am for those who wish to attend.

Christopher Vincent, son of Margaret & Peter Vincent (64 Old Mail Trail) is deployed to Afghanistan (his second tour of Afghanistan). Please keep Christopher, his wife Tovah and daughter Grace as well as his brothers, sister and parents in your thoughts and prayers.

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