


The Friends of **Crescent Beach**

Green Bay and Area *Society*

Membership Newsletter
Special Community Edition

Winter, 2002

Chairman's Corner

All local residents need to know of the work of the Friends of Crescent Beach at the beach. This Open Newsletter is addressed to you, the community, to tell you what progress is being made and get your comments. Please get in touch with us with any questions, comments or concerns. Our mission is to protect our natural environs and to do this in a manner that represents the community's values and interests.

Recently, we had reason to be very concerned about what we understood to be the intentions of the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) regarding our Beach. A meeting was therefore held on November 22 with Brian Gilbert, Executive Director of DNR Regional Services, based in Halifax, and local DNR staff.

It was good meeting. Mr. Gilbert advised us that the Department had "no hidden agenda". To emphasize this, he has written a follow-up letter to us, in which he states:
"I'm confident that with your help we can find a mutually acceptable solution that not only addresses the safety issue but recognizes the historic and cultural practice of vehicle access."

The positive attitude of Mr. Gilbert and the co-operative tone of the meeting with the local representatives of DNR, indicates that they sincerely wish to work in full co-operation with the community.

We are also grateful to Don Downe, our MLA, for discussing the concerns of the community with the Minister of Natural Resources, the Honourable Tim Olive. The Minister expressed his continuing interest and support in the work of the Friends of Crescent Beach.

Friends volunteers are working hard to ensure the Beach we know and love is properly maintained and preserved for the future use of our children and grandchildren and the visitors to the nicest Beach in Nova Scotia. Our project to get funding for the crib work (revetment) and necessary fencing to preserve the dunes is receiving favourable consideration. We are moving ahead with the detailed plans for work in Spring 2003, as outlined below in the Action Plan.

Bowater Mersey Paper Co. Ltd. Times are tough at Bowater, but we had an excellent meeting in Liverpool. Bowater indicated to our committee the possible co-operation and

interest by Bowater in supplying the logs necessary to repair the crib work. We were most pleased by the enthusiasm and attention given to us by Jon Porter, the General Manager of Mersey Woodlands Operations and Robin Anthony, the PR Director. We are optimistic about the assistance we may receive from Bowater.

DNR. We have been holding regular meetings with local Department of Natural Resources representatives, with a view to establishing a working relationship. Up until last Friday these meetings were not as productive as we hoped for. After the Friday meeting we are more hopeful of success. In addition, Premier Hamm was kind enough to write to us of his interest in our efforts.

Note that we will not take any action that could negatively impact the use and enjoyment of the Beach by you, the Community.



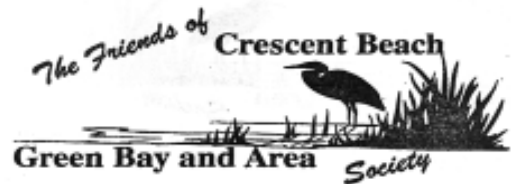
On behalf of the Board Members may I wish you all a Happy and Healthy Holiday Season.

*John Nichols,
 Chairman*



Board Members for 2002-2003:

Douglas R. Bell	902-688-2046
Peter Bell	902-688-1694
Chris Gill ccgill@bwr.eastlink.ca	902-688-2066
Anne Greer greerwhite@ns.sympatico.ca	902-688-1857
Linda MacDonald neil.m@ns.sympatico.ca	902-688-2176
Jean McHarg jmcharg@bwr.eastlink.ca	902-543-2140
Burpee Meisner	902-688-2211
Judge John Nichols Summer: 688-2516 nicholjr@ns.sympatico.ca	902-245-2208
Gordon Prince gordon@crescentbeach.ca	902-688-2362
Eric Rafuse erafuse@hotmail.com	902-688-1674
Bruce Raymond bgraymond@auracom.com	902-677-2768
Jim Sewell jim.sewell@ns.sympatico.ca	902-688-1739
Pete West peterw@bwr.eastlink.ca	902-688-1067



Crescent Beach Action Plan

'To respect is to protect'

The Board of Directors of Friends took a decision at its meeting in September 2001 to take action to repair and protect Crescent Beach from further deterioration resulting from the collapse of the crib work (revetment) and the inadequacy of fencing along the road. Our resulting Action Plan identified five work areas, all deemed non-controversial, as follows:

- get the **crib work** (revetment) repaired
- **fencing** is needed to improve the protection of the dunes on the roadside but a few pull over areas will be retained
- update the **scientific assessment** of the state of the Beach and dunes
- install **recycling units** at both ends of the Beach
- place **interpretive information panels** at the Beach, respecting bird migrations, the natural cycles of beach and dune renewal, and points of interest and history on the Green Bay side

At the time of writing, the Board is pleased to report that the recycling units have been installed and is confident the Action Plan can be fully implemented. By next summer, visitors will see a spruced up Beach. Most noticeable will be the repair of the 1183 metres of crib. It needs approximately 760 new boards right now.

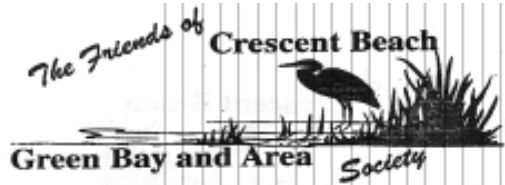
The recycling units have been well received

by the users of the Beach - for whom they were intended. Unfortunately, some residents or visitors are treating these units as household garbage sites - a problem that is being addressed.

The fund-raising for the Action Plan is progressing well. Local residents are already contributing to our 'Buy a Log' campaign, and the program has not even moved into full swing. The Atlantic Canada Opportunities Agency has been approached, along with Bowater, Michelin, the Municipality of the County of Lunenburg, and Sport and Recreation Nova Scotia. \$50,000 has been committed. We are getting there!

In summary, we want to preserve historic patterns of use, the right to take your vehicles on the Beach, the right to collect seaweed, the practice of pulling over along the road - for bird watching, clamming, windsurfing and other activities. It goes without saying that we defend these historic rights and practices, while at the same time taking action to preserve and protect our treasured natural resource. "To respect is to protect" is our mission. We are not trying to increase the number of visitors. We simply want those who use the Beach to better understand its ecology and the natural life-cycles and to help protect it.

*Contact: Chris Gill 688-2066
ccgill@bwr.eastlink.ca*



Membership

The good news.

We had a good turnout at our Annual Meeting held in August at the LaHave Islands Community Hall, and our membership is larger than ever - over 430 individuals, who come from:

- 59% - Lunenburg County
- 12% - Halifax County
- 6% - other parts of Nova Scotia
- 12% - the rest of Canada
- 11% - USA, Europe and Japan

Do you realise how important your membership is to our Society? Three big reasons:

1. Through your support you are making it known that you value our beautiful surroundings and wish to see them maintained and preserved for future generations.
2. The more members we have, the stronger our voice when we approach Government and Business for funds to carry out our mandate.
3. The funds cover expenses such as copying and postage.

Some persons think that, as members, they must become active and work on a committee. This is not so. If you want to serve, great, if not, fine, we can usually round up all the volunteers we need. Your membership is the support Friends needs!

The not-so-good news.

Some members have not renewed recently. Their dues (\$3.00 single, \$5.00 family) are 'overdues'. If this applies to you, please complete the form below and update your membership soon.

Membership Renewal

Name _____ **Phone #** _____

Address _____

Dues Enclosed: Family to May/03 \$5.00
 Family to May/04 \$10.00
 Single to May/03 \$3.00
 Single to May/03 \$6.00

Return to: Friends of Crescent Beach, Box 1A1, Petite Riviere, N.S. B0J 2P0
Attention Burpee Meisner



BUY A LOG CAMPAIGN

In our spring newsletter a 'Buy a Log' campaign was announced to members. The purpose of this initiative is to raise monies needed to match the ACOA grant received for the restoration and preservation of cribwork and dunes at Crescent Beach.

The goal is to raise \$10,000 through the sale of 500 logs at \$20.00 each. To date we have sold over 100 logs. Those in whose names the logs have been purchased appear below.

We encourage you to buy a 'symbolic' log in your name or in the name of other family members and friends who may have (or will have) wonderful memories of Crescent Beach. This will create a legacy that future generations will understand - to protect and preserve this beautiful piece of nature.

Friends hope that local residents and other users of the beach will join members and support this fund raising effort.

Why not celebrate the coming yuletide season with the purchase of one or more symbolic logs? Tax receipts will be issued and names will be recorded to be displayed in the beach area.

Please, fill in the form below and mail it to our address in Petite Riviere.

Buy a Log Campaign

Name _____ phone # _____

Address _____

I wish to purchase () logs in the names of the following (please print)

Enclosed is _____ (\$20.00 per log)

Do you wish an Income Tax Receipt? Y ___ N ___

Return to:

Friends of Crescent Beach, Box 1A1, Petite Riviere, N.S. B0J 2P0

Attention Linda MacDonald, 688-2176



Champlain 2004

The Board is following proposals that are now circulating for recognizing, in 2004, the 400th anniversary of Champlain's arrival in what is now Green Bay, and his mapping of the area.

We have agreed to co-sponsor a lecture series to be presented within our community in August 2004 on Champlain and his accomplishments.

The Board has taken the firm position that it does not wish to see any proposals implemented that directly involve Cape LaHave, such as designating the Cape as a National Historic Site. We will fight to see the present state of Cape LaHave is protected, as well as its status in the future.

We believe this position represents the wishes of our community.

*Contact: Chris Gill 688-2066
ccgill@bwr.eastlink.ca*

Fund-raising

“月” *'Tis the Season* “月”

1. T-Shirts. Our beautiful Teal-blue T-shirts are now tax-free! With our famous Heron logo on them, they cost \$15.00 and are available in all sizes from Child's Small to Adult XL.

2. SALTSCAPES, Canada's East Coast Magazine. We receive \$10.00 for every new subscription to this excellent magazine that is sold or donated by a Society member, under their Community Spirit Program. See Linda for the special order form.

3. Hasty Notes. These feature a beautiful pen and ink drawing of Crescent Beach (see opposite), on the front and our society logo on the back. Packaged in fives with envelopes, they cost only \$5.00. Your friendly neighbourhood store (e.g. LaHave Bakery) probably sells them, or order direct from contact:

*Contact: Linda MacDonald 688-2176
neil.m@ns.sympatico.ca*

Friends on the Web!

Internet Newsletter Distribution

Want to save some trees as well as help preserve Crescent Beach? How about signing up for electronic distribution of the Friends' newsletter. You'll receive a notification that the newsletter is available for viewing on our web site www.crescentbeach.ca on the day it's published. All you need is a web browser to view the newsletter (no E-mail attachments to worry about opening). Then print a page or two if there's something you'd like to have a hard copy of. To get on the list, send an E-mail to gordon@crescentbeach.ca with your membership name (it's on the label of the newsletter you're reading) and say "send me the electronic newsletter". That's all there is to it.

*Contact: Gordon Prince at:
gordon@crescentbeach.ca*

FOCB Officers for 2002-2003

Chair	John Nichols
Joint Vice-Chair	Burpee Meisner
Joint Vice-Chair	Jim Sewell
Treasurer	Jean McHarg
Secretary	Chris Gill
Past Chair	Karen Dempsey