

A joint newsletter from
The Friends of Crescent Beach,
Green Bay and Area Society &
the LaHave Islands Marine
Museum Society

CHANGING TIDES

www.crescentbeach.ca

www.lahaveislandsmarinemuseum.ca

Summer 2010 Edition:

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Got something to say?
Everyone is encouraged to
voice their opinions and share
their stories, book reviews
and observations. Simply
send your submissions to the
editor at
wordbyword@eastlink.ca.

The Shifting Sands

Friends of Crescent Beach (FOCB) will present a special event at the Petite Riviere Fire Hall on Wednesday, August 25th. Paul Illsley will offer a free public presentation on Sable Island, our newest National Park. With his fabulous slide show, and extensive, personal experience, Paul will guide us through the ongoing life-cycle of this mysterious island.



Paul Illsley

Paul Illsley specializes in digital cartography, as well as aerial photography and remote sensing. He has experience developing airborne infrared imaging systems and has served as a Senior Research Associate (Cartography, Remote Sensing and Research Imaging) with NASA, the National Geographic Society, the U.S. Geological Survey and the National Science Foundation-sponsored Juneau Icefield Research Program in Alaska. He is an award-winning graduate and an Instructor of remote sensing and digital mapping in the Cartography Department at the Centre of Geographic Sciences in Nova Scotia. He currently lives in Lawrencetown.

For more detailed information, please visit Paul's website at paulillsley.com.

This special, free event will start at 7:30 p.m. on August 25th. It will be preceded by the FOCB Annual General Meeting at 6:30 p.m. All interested members and non-member are welcome to attend and participate in that event. There will be a 30-minute break between the end of the AGM and the presentation.

The Shirt Off Your Back ...

For many years, Friends has been creating and selling T-shirts as a fundraising tool. That program has now come to an end, meaning that our remaining three T-shirts will quickly become collector's items. The last of our stock consists of:

- 1 "old style" Blue shirt, men's small
- 1 black short-sleeved "black bellied plover" shirt, men's large
- 1 black long-sleeved "black bellied plover" shirt, ladies medium

Call Nita Eisenhauer at 688-2625 to purchase any of these at the discount price of \$5.00 each.

A Clean Sweep:

Thanks to everyone who showed up to help clean Crescent Beach and Dublin Bay on Saturday, June 5th. We collected two very full trailers of refuse, plus more than 20 bags of garbage off Crescent Beach, the road and the shore of the Bay. Now all we have to do is wait for the next hurricane!

Our next clean up will be in September, date to be announced.

It's a Dog's Life:



FOCB has recently purchased new "doggie poo" bag dispensers for its canine-friendly patrons. These new, blue metal dispensers are waterproof and lockable, and should be far more rugged than the previous versions. There is one container located at each end of the beach, near the garbage bins.

Although these new dispensers were paid for by FOCB, they contain bags similar to those that are provided by the municipality in other recreational areas. Please dispose of used bags in the waste receptacles provided by FOCB at either end of the beach.

Community Announcement:

Jean McLean of Bush Island is circulating a petition calling for the development of municipal swimming pool safety bylaws, which she believes are currently insufficient. For those interested in joining her cause, you will find her petitions located at the Petite Riviere Gas Station/Corner Store, Crescent Beach Shell/Convenience Store, LaHave Bakery, LaHave Post Office, and Millie's Convenience Store near Conquerall Bank Rd.

The Voice of History



Image of Model T's on Crescent Beach road, from an old photograph, courtesy Nellie Snyder

As part of a continuing series, Jean McHarg recently interviewed local resident Gordon Whynacht. The first part of this interview ran in our fall 2009 newsletter (which is available online at the FOCB website). This is the second and final installment of the story of his early life in Green Bay.

After I finished school I went to work for Hollingsworth and Whitney, a Lumber Company with offices in Bridgewater. That company had come from Maine and bought up a lot of woodlands in New Brunswick and Nova Scotia during the 1930s. Part of those lands had belonged originally to the Davison Lumber Company. My first year I was a tallyman for a cruiser working to renew lines. The following year I had my own crew of three men. During my time with the company I worked all over mainland Nova Scotia, up around Pictou and Cumberland Counties, marking off the boundaries of particular pieces of land, getting them ready for the company to sell to Scott Paper. We had to make estimates of how big the trees were and how much would be ready to be harvested in a particular time. One of the jobs I did was surveying and marking all the boundaries around the land that today makes up Fundy National Park. Hollingsworth and Whitney was giving that land to the government, probably as a tax write-off. Following that I went to work for Acadia Construction on the road-building crew. Later I worked for Trynor Construction, maintaining machinery while the new runway at Shearwater Airbase was being completed.

In 1958, I bought the General Store from Gaius Joudrey. He and his father had started the store in the 20s. I knew that I wanted to be working closer to where I lived and so I told him that when he wanted to sell I would like to buy it. Eventually, while cutting my hair in his barber chair there in the store he offered it to me. He took his barber's chair with him across the street to the house that eventually became Bob Getson's Antique business and continued to cut hair there. For the first year we lived out in Green Bay, but it was difficult to keep store hours in the winter when the Green Bay Road was not plowed. So I built an apartment over the store where there had been a pool room and where the band had practiced. Eventually the family home was sold to Irving Hebb.

At that time there was another store, the Dagley General Store, across the street. Farther up the Petite River where Bargain Bob's is now there was the Kempton's Woodworking Shop which made folding chairs, ships' wheel-lamps and other small items. Wallace Richards ran a garage beside my store.

The first road paved around here was the road from the bridge to LaHave completed in 1953-54. The road to Broad Cove was paved in the early 60s, after I bought the store. The Italy Cross Road was built from Route 3

through Crousetown and up over the hill to meet the Broad Cove Road. The Wentzell Road is probably one of the oldest roads because the first bridge was up the road from the present bridge and crossed the river approximately where Bargain Bob's is now and where earlier there was a Grist Mill and dam on the river. It was quite a while before the River Road and the Green Bay Road were paved and they were never built properly.

You asked me about the bottle collection that ringed the interior of the store. I started that when my son was about nine. Together we would go out and rummage through old stonewalls, abandoned cellars of old houses and dumps that in early days were on people's properties. We found many bottles and had a great time searching for them. I also had the opportunity to collect milk bottles because in those days when someone bought milk they brought an empty glass bottle back to the store when they bought a full one. If I saw bottle embossed with a name of a dairy that I did not have, I would not send it back to the dairy. I kept it for my collection. It gave my son and me a good many hours of great companionship looking for bottles.

The land for Tidal Waters was acquired from my family. That was a thriving business, having a dining room plus about six cottages. Much of the produce used there came from our farm that was just behind the property.

MacLeod's Canteen and Cottages were well established before I was born. I have a photo of me as a one-year-old sitting on the beach in front of the Canteen.

The Fire Department was founded in 1957. Before that, there was a pump and a little bit of hose in a small building beside the garage. Whenever there was a fire, someone would run over, get the pump and take it to the fire, hook it up to the well or whatever source of water was available. The land that the fire hall sits on was acquired at different times, as expansion took place, from the Dagleys.

Storm's A' Comin



Hurricane Juan, just south of Nova Scotia, September 28, 2003

According to the experts, the summer and fall of 2010 could be a busy time for hurricanes in the Atlantic Ocean. It could be "one of the busiest on record," according to reporter Jennifer Levitz of *The Wall Street Journal*. She says there's a "70% chance of 14 to 23 named storms this season, with 8 – 14 growing into hurricanes." This would make the season comparable to 2005, when Hurricane Katrina pummeled the Gulf Coast.

And the news gets worse. Of those 8 – 14 hurricanes, the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) says "three to seven of those hurricanes could be major." Apparently the conditions are ideal for these weather disasters: warming ocean water and a weakening El Nino system (the warming surface waters of the Pacific). The first of the sightings may be earlier than normal, too, possibly as soon as July.

Chair Report

Summer has arrived after a relatively benign winter season. At the start of this season, our thanks go to all of those who have worked on *Friends* projects over the year, some of whom are named below.



Over this past winter, the beach suffered relatively little damage – in fact, sand has accumulated, unusual for the winter season. Sand and seaweed collecting against the “sand fence” installations along the dune demonstrate that the fences are performing as suggested. Thanks go to those who installed them. In the interests of “reinforcing” the dune, this spring another lot of roses was planted along the dune’s top. All this was arranged and carried out by Lisë Bell and assisted by a crew who looked after plant watering during the critical time as they established themselves. Most of the roses planted previously are thriving and carrying out the functions of supporting the dune and of impeding damaging pedestrian traffic.

To assist in keeping the beach as a healthy and attractive place, *Friends* has traditionally provided “doggie poo” bags in conveniently located dispensers. However, with last year’s removal of most of the cribwork, there is no longer a convenient place to hang the dispensers. Further, the wooden dispensers were regularly vandalized and mis-used. Look for the new, rugged, blue-coloured dispensers near the recycling bins at each end of the beach, and please deposit used bags in the nearby garbage drums.

The annual beach sweep on June 5, as arranged by Jean McHarg, was well attended: many bags of trash were collected. Thanks go to all who participated. Any recyclable containers retrieved will be redeemed for a cash contribution to *Friends*, all as part of Nita Eisenhower’s personal on-going “keep the beach clean” project.

Thanks also go to the Bob Fulleman, Eric Rafuse, and Don Sedgwick for other items of beach maintenance and to Shaun Bradley, Don Sedgwick, and Brenda and Tim Chance for their work on the Newsletter. And many thanks to *all* the others who help with the efforts of *Friends of Crescent Beach, Green Bay and Area Society*.

Plan to attend the Annual General Meeting on August 25th. “Routine business” will be minimized, and we look forward to our exciting guest speaker.

Bruce Raymond,
Chairman

What Shall We Do Today?

Saturday, July 3rd: Summer Solstice Party (and Dance) - IDLERS with The Zac Crouse Trio
Doors at 9pm, 19+ only, cash bar. Hosted by the Petite Riviere Fire Department. Tickets available at the Petite Corner Store & Cobbler Corner, \$14.00 each. See www.littleriverfolk.com for details.

Saturdays July 17th, August 21st and September 18th: Breakfast, Petite Riviere Fire Hall, 8:00 – 11 a.m.

Saturday, July 31st: Norma MacDonald & Krystelle Levesque -- A Wood, Wires & Wine concert at the Petite Riviere Vineyards. Time and tickets TBA. See www.littleriverfolk.com for details.

Sunday, August 8th: Jon McKiel CD Release, with Andrew Sisk -- A Wood, Wires & Wine concert at the Petite Riviere Vineyards. Time and tickets TBA. See www.littleriverfolk.com for details.

Friday, August 20th: J.P. Cormier -- A Wood, Wires & Wine concert at the Petite Riviere Vineyards. Time TBA, tickets \$20 each. See www.littleriverfolk.com for details.

Wednesday, August 25th: **Friends of Crescent Beach, Green Bay and Area Society's annual Special Event and AGM. This year's guest speaker, Paul Illsley, will appear at 7:30 p.m. For those interested in attending the FOCB AGM, those proceedings will start at 6:30 p.m. and run for 30 minutes.**

(Contact for Petite Riviere Fire Hall events: 688-2356)

If you have a community event you'd like to list, please contact the editors at: wordbyword@eastlink.ca

Re-membership

FOCB continues to do good work on behalf of the community, advocating for our coastal areas and fixing and maintaining infrastructure in order to make our beach areas safe and enjoyable for everyone. FOCB funds are primarily derived from independent fundraising ventures and from membership fees.

In addition to our annual single or family memberships, we are happy to announce a new, extended level of membership for those of you who wish to assist in preserving the beaches of this region forever. **A lifetime membership has been added to our offerings at a one-time cost of \$100.**

Become a *Friend* or renew your membership by sending us your name, email or mailing address, and phone number, along with your cheque (\$10.00 single, \$20.00 family or \$100.00 lifetime) to:
Friends of Crescent Beach, P.O. Box 148, LaHave, Nova Scotia B0R 1C0.
(Tax receipts are provided on request). A membership form is attached.

Thank you for your ongoing support!

Big Status for Little Island

In mid-May, the federal government accepted a recommendation that Sable Island be designated a national park. This small crescent-shaped sliver of sand – just 1.5 k wide and 41 k long – is located 300 k southeast of Halifax. It has always been renowned for being the “Graveyard of the Atlantic.” It’s also famous for its wild horses and the 50,000 grey seas that breed on its shores each year.

Environment Minister Jim Prentice had earlier promised to make the island either a protected wildlife area or a national park. Chris Miller, a spokesperson for the Canadian Parks and Wilderness Society, says it’s a good idea to make Sable Island a park. “It’s a special place,” he told *The Globe and Mail* back in May. “And we have to find the right balance between letting people experience that and protecting it in the long run.”

One of the special features about Sable Island is that it’s the only place in Canada where the elusive Ipswich Savannah Sparrow will nest. The island is also home to a massive tern colony. Few Canadians have ever visited this remote corner of Nova Scotia, partly because it gets an average of 127 days of fog every year. Access is by boat or by plane, the latter sometimes requiring a tricky landing on a sandy beach.

Turning Sable Island into a national park may require the building of campsites, interpretive centres and other park “attributes.” Detractors worry about the effects of increasing numbers of visitors. Others are relieved to know Sable Island finally has an official designation and will get the special protection it deserves.

Special Note: A copy of Marq de Villiers’ award-winning book, *A Dune Adrift: The Strange Origins and Curious History of Sable Island*, will be one of the special door prizes at the special event hosted by Friends in Petite Riviere in August.

Don Sedgwick

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From the LaHave Islands Marine Museum

LaHave Islands Marine Museum, 100 LaHave Islands Road



Open Daily June 1 to September 1 10:00 am - 5:00 pm

FRESH OFF THE HOOK II: On July 1st at 10:00 am we will officially open our hooked rug display. This show will run until August 28th. The hooked pieces were created by the Square Zebras, a group of rug hookers dedicated to being "Out of the Box" and experimenting with new approaches to an ancient art-form. There will also be a group of pieces measuring 16" x 16" using the theme "Through the Window." In conjunction with this special display, there will be a **weekly hook-in** at the Museum Hall (136 LaHave Island's Rd.) from 10:00am to 2:00pm beginning Monday, July 5th, and continuing each Monday thereafter until August 23rd.

YOU COULD WIN A WONDERFUL HOOKED MAT: This 2ft. x 4ft. mat titled "Island Hopping" was created by the Square Zebras and donated to the Museum for a fundraiser. Tickets can be purchased at the Museum (\$2.00 each or 3 for \$5.00) .The draw for the mat will take place on August 28th.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR FOR THESE EVENTS:

- July 7th Salad Supper, Marine Museum Hall, 4:00 p.m.- 6:00 p.m.
- July 11th Ukulele Concert by the Katz Pajamas, Anglican Church, Bell's Island, 2:00 p.m.
- Aug. 2nd Fun Day, Marine Museum Hall, 10:00a.m.-1:00 pm. (Barbeque, Cake Walks, Bake Table, and Children's Activities).
- Aug. 15th Fisherman's Memorial Service, St. John's Anglican Church, Bell's Island, 2:00 p.m.
- Sept. 11th Baked Bean/Scalloped Potato/Ham Supper at Museum Hall, 4:00 p.m.- 6:00p.m.

MAKING A CHILD'S MUSEUM VISIT FUN:

We now have a number of activities that are directed towards children. A play area with a "Tickle Trunk" of nautical items has been set up for young visitors. If you want to get a picture of a special moment such as your child sporting a Sou'wester and you forgot your camera, we will take the picture and e-mail it to you. For those children who are old enough to have interest in the artifacts, our scavenger hunt is a great way to search out interesting items.

SELF-GUIDED TOUR: Most visitors like to stroll through the museum at their own pace and do not want a Guide following along to point out various artifacts. To improve this process, we developed a handout showing an overview of our floor layout and highlighting some of the unusual items. A Guide will, of course, still be available to answer questions or provide more information as required.

A VIRTUAL TOUR of the museum showing highlights of our museum is now available from anywhere in the world by simply logging on to www.novascotiamuseums.com

*We hope you take time this summer to visit our unique museum
and enjoy the creations of the Square Zebras*

Kathy Sullivan, Curator

Douglas Berrigan, President