



FRIENDS OF SCUSSET BEACH

Volume 7, Issue 2

Spring 2015

Scusset Beach Friends

President: Elise Smith

Vice-President: Charlie Colson

Treasurer: Linda Porazzo

Assistant Treasurer: Edna Faria

Secretary: David Harris

What's New?

What's New

The next Friends Meeting is scheduled for Saturday, August 22nd, 2015, 10 a.m., Nature center, Scusset Beach Campground. Hope to see you there!

The 4th Annual Scusset 5K Race/Walk is already planned for September 12th, 2015, 9 a.m.

Interested in participating in the race – scussetfriends@live.com.

Interested in sponsorship or donations, please contact Edna at edna-faria@hotmail.com



John's Corner

The Friends are planning three more Safari Campouts in 2015. All with self-contained units are welcome to sign up. It's lots of fun!!
July 11 – 14 August 1 – 4 September 26 – 29 Space available for July, August, & September.

News & Events

Helping Hands

It Has Been Busy At The Cape Cod Canal This Spring

First it was the right whales feeding off the entrance to the canal. They even closed down the canal for a short period when they entered the east end. Then we had dolphins swim through the canal. And recently the Mayflower transited it (towed by a tug) as it returned to Plymouth after having undergone renovations in Connecticut.



John's Corner

Happy Summer everyone,

As I write this column, work continues on the electric system replacement. Powerlines Inc, our contractor has been doing an excellent job and everything is on schedule to open July 1st. The new system is a huge boost to our park and I think everyone will be pleased with it.

I want to acknowledge Dave Harris for taking the time to visit periodically and keep people updated via our Face book page.

Long term seasonal staff has started work and have been very busy painting, cleaning, mowing etc. to get the non camping areas of the park ready to open for day use on Memorial Day

Out With The Old, In With The New

Early last September the inevitable happened at Scusset campground. After years of intermittent power failures due to overtaxing a system installed in the 1970's; it finally quit for good. The remaining weeks of the 2014 season went on without electric power at the sites. Weekend winter camping was canceled. DCR was quick to act in providing emergency funding for the engineering design work and getting contractors for a new upgraded electrical system; an approximately 1.2 million dollar expenditure. This has resulted in a system capable of handling the electrical demands of 21st Century recreation vehicles.

The harsh winter we experienced left many with doubts that work could begin in early Spring, but this proved wrong. Excavation began in late March and has proceeded on schedule with few, if any, setbacks. Conduit has been installed, back-filling completed and wires pulled. Many of the 50-30-20 amp pedestals are in place. Transformer installation, finish grading and soil stabilization will complete the project.

DCR has announced that half the campground sites will be available July 1st and the rest of the campground sites will open on August 1st. Safari field campouts dates have been announced. One electrical pedestal has been run to the safari field (located near the water spigot) . We thank the DCR for their quick action in bringing the campground back on line (short term it was frustrating for the campers, but long term it will mean a continuous and ample supply of electric power resulting in happy campers).

weekend. We had good size crowds all 3 days of the holiday weekend so the day use season opened with a bang.

In closing I want to say that I am looking forward to reopening the camping area and seeing all of you again this summer.



John DeCosta, Park Supervisor Scusset Beach State Reservation

John



President's Corner:

Happy Spring with summer soon behind. There is light at the end of the tunnel. They are working on finishing up the pedestals at the individual sites and doing the landscaping to make the campground look a little better after all of the digging. There are a couple of different activities going on this summer. We have a campout in the field Aug 20-23 with the possibility of a

chicken barbecue (working on that) and the 5k on September 12th at 9:30 (start, registration at 8). There will be a DJ, a 50/50 and food for sale as well at the race this year. We will be doing a campout in the field that weekend as well. Thank you to all who came down on the 25th of April to help with Park Serve. The park is really looking good. Have a great summer.



The day was sunny and chilly, but a good size crowd came to Scusset to help beautify the reservation. Though the campground was closed for electrical renovations, other areas of the reservation were available for some "tender loving care". Trash was picked up, bark mulch spread, flowers planted and painting done. Members of the Friends, interested users of the reservation and Boy Scouts from Troop 1620 in Plymouth worked together to make the project a success. The Friends of Scusset served lunch upon the completion of the cleanup.



New Bathroom Renovations

When you go and use the bathrooms at the campground you will see the new screen doors that have been installed. But it will be when you step into the shower that you see a needed improvement has been made. No more black mold or soap scum, for the walls and floor of each shower stall has been refinished. They should be easier to maintain.



The Friends of Scusset Beach offer several items for sale as a means of fund raising. These items are available at the park and at Friends events for purchase.



Friends baseball cap\$15.00



Scusset Beach Stickers.....\$2.00



Post Cards.....\$1.00

Scusset in February 2015



What is a Friends Group?

Friends groups are organizations dedicated to supporting specific DCR properties through volunteer work, fundraising, providing programs & events, and advocacy.

What does a Friends Group do?

Friends groups undertake a variety of activities, which can include workdays at the park to help with a project, organizing fund raisers to help purchase much needed equipment or supplies, or serving as an advocate for the park when needed. Friends groups are essential partners in protecting and enhancing DCR's parks. More than 70 groups are working across the state to enhance our forests and parks system.

Why Now?

Given the fiscal climate and the current economy, now is the perfect time for a Friends group to aid in making improvements to Scusset Beach possible. The Friends Group can help us leverage funds from the Department of Conservation and Recreation's Matching Partnership grants to improve the park. As well as assisting with the projects and their fund raising.

What can I do?

It's up to you! Some people are very active in their Friends groups; serving on the Board of Directors, attending all meetings, working on a specific committee. Other people are content to pay their membership dues knowing that they will support the park...or somewhere in between. The level of involvement is up to each individual member. Stop in at the next meeting - get to know us and what we do.

I'm interested - So what's the plan?

Want to join the Friends of Scusset? Print and fill out the membership form printed from the website and mail it with your yearly dues to:

Friends of Scusset Beach
 Scusset Beach State Reservation
 20 Scusset Beach Rd.
 Sagamore Beach, MA 02562-2815

Telephone: 500-888-0859

Website: www.friendsofscussetbeach.org

email: scussetfriends@live.com

Look for Friends of Scusset Beach on Facebook, too.

Scusset Friends Projects

- Scusset Beach Boardwalk to the Canal Access Road.
- Scusset Beach Walk in the Park – campground walkway
- 2012 – Beautification of the beach building exteriors
- 2013 – Fundraising for Phase 1 of the Playground
- 2014 – Phase 2 of the Playground