
BAYWATCH

Volume 8 Issue 2

June 2005

CITIZENS FOR THE PROTECTION OF WAQUOIT BAY CPWB

Come to CPWB Annual Meeting!

Monday, July 11th at 7:00pm, Waquoit Bay Reserve Boathouse

There will be a presentation of the film produced by Maxine Wolfset, “*Save Cape Cod Waterways Part III – Mashpee River*”. As a former member of the CPWB, Maxine has a natural way of providing the history of our waterways and mixing the local culture while showing us the impact of growth on Cape Cod. The filming of the Mashpee River was done while canoeing in the fall season. Come hear the story of this local waterway and meet the members CPWB. An award will be given to a special member of CPWB.

What is Waquoit Bay Reserve?

By Pat Harcourt, Outreach Educator for WBNERR

The Citizens for the Protection of Waquoit Bay works closely with Waquoit Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve, but many people wonder just what we do here. One good way to understand what we do is to look at the components of our long name.

Waquoit Bay: The Reserve is responsible for managing about 300 acres of land and water including Waquoit Bay itself, Washburn Island, South Cape Beach, woodlands along the Quashnet River, and several smaller areas within the Waquoit watershed. The name “Waquoit” is thought to refer to the sound of a quail or bobwhite.

National: Waquoit Bay Reserve is one of a network of 26 National Estuarine Research Reserves around the coasts of the United States. These Reserves are charged with protecting estuarine systems, carrying out scientific research on the systems, and communicating the results of the research to coastal decision-makers, students, teachers, and the public.

Estuarine: This unfamiliar word means, “having to do with estuaries”. Estuaries are partially enclosed bodies of water where saltwater from the sea mixes with freshwater from groundwater, rivers, and streams. Because of their protection from high-energy waves and the influx of

nutrients from both fresh and salt water, estuaries are full of plant and animal life. Salt marsh grasses, plankton, crabs, shrimp, shellfish, and fish are all abundant in estuaries. Cape Cod has many estuaries; Falmouth and Mashpee have some of the most extensive estuary systems on the Cape.

Research: An important part of the mission of Waquoit Bay Reserve is to learn how the complex estuary systems function. We carry out research projects including studies of endangered sand plain gerardia, surveys of salt marsh plants, invertebrates, and fish, and long-term monitoring of water quality and meteorological factors. We also host dozens of research projects by investigators from Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution, Marine Biological Laboratory, the Cooperative Institute for Coastal and Estuarine Environmental Technology, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, University of Massachusetts, and many other groups.

Reserve: We are charged with protecting and maintaining the land under our jurisdiction and finding ways to restore and sustain the health of the natural systems here. We must balance the need for public access to these public lands with control of the harmful impacts of heavy use. We maintain and supervise wilderness camping sites on Washburn Island and keep many miles of trails safe and well marked. Our Endangered Bird Monitor works with a corps of volunteers to ensure piping plovers the best possible opportunities to breed and raise their chicks on our ocean beaches.

You can visit Waquoit Bay Reserve at our headquarters on Route 28 or at one of the many sites we manage. Our visitor center, with educational displays and detailed information, is open Monday through Friday from 9:00am – 4:00pm, and Saturdays in July and August. We would like you to join us as a member of the Citizens for the Protection of Waquoit Bay or as a volunteer for Waquoit Bay National Estuary Research Reserve. Please explore our website to find out more about our programs at www.waquoitbayreserve.org.

Help Us Make a Difference

Join CPWB in Raising Funds for Educational Programs at WBNERR!

The Citizens for the Protection of Waquoit Bay, CPWB, is the Friends Group for the Waquoit Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve. We need help from our members and interested persons to achieve a successful raffle in 2005. Proceeds from this raffle will support educational programs at the Reserve. This is a productive way for those who care about our Bay and Estuaries to aid in preserving them.

Please volunteer in one or more of the following ways:

1. Volunteers are needed to sell raffle tickets at Mahoney's Garden Center and Kenyon's Market, on Route 28, East Falmouth, for several hours on a weekend of your choice in June or July 2005.
2. Please buy one or more books of tickets. The cost is \$5.00 per book of six tickets. Individual tickets can be purchased for \$1.00 each.
3. We need individuals, companies or organizations to supply raffle prizes or services.
4. Ask your neighbor to become a member of CPWB. We are sending you CPWB's new brochure. Please help us build our membership. Recycle your newsletter or brochure to a neighbor.

Please contact Toni Grady at 508-548-9457 to volunteer your time, purchase your tickets, and contribute prizes or services.

The CPWB Steering Committee has meetings every other month, on the first Monday at 7:00pm. Our next meeting is July 11th. General information on CPWB can be found at the WBNERR website: www.waquoitbayreserve.org.

Annual 3rd Grade Poster Contest

By Mark Kennedy

For the second year in a row all East Falmouth 3rd grade students participated in the poster contest. This year's theme was "*Help keep our estuary neighborhoods healthy!*" The program is a great way for students to learn about our local coastal bays and what we can do to keep them healthy.

As always every student was a winner, but judging for the posters by CPWB volunteers was difficult and the winners for each class were as follows:

Mrs. Morris

- 1) DeLancy Driscoll
- 2) Brianna Feldott

Mrs. Botelho

- 1) Zackary Handy
- 2) Anna Lee Lavoie

Mrs. Leaf

- 1) Kyle Hampton
- 2) Amanda Staulo

Mrs. Scholes

- 1) Cody Bailey
- 2) Spencer Enos

A reception at WBNERR on May 3rd from 1:30 to 3:00 had many of the poster contest 3rd graders and friends attending. Jackson Gilman volunteered his time to entertain the students attending the reception. CPWB thanks Pat Harcourt, Outreach Educator for WBNERR and Jackson Gilman for making this event a huge success.

Recognizing CPWB's members

In response to the dues notice in our winter newsletter, CPWB received payments from 50 members. In addition to dues these checks include donations amounting to more than \$1,100. We thank you all but special appreciation goes to Nancy Barnum and Bob Peterson who have provided generous support for many years.

The article in the newsletter about the summer science school prompted Joe and Joan Staples of Rosemont, PA and an anonymous member from Chestnut Hill, MA to provide five additional scholarships for those who might not otherwise be able to attend the school. We certainly welcome their unexpected contributions.

We also wish to thank the family of Ruth Stewart who suggested CPWB be the beneficiary for memorial donations in her memory and those who honored her in this way.

CPWB Dues Notice

Our membership year runs from July 1st through June 30th. Please check to see if your membership is current. CPWB dues notice is included to assist members.

CPWB is a non-profit organization concerned with the health of the area's waters. CPWB serves as the Friends Group for the Waquoit Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve, supporting their educational programs and seminars. We are committed to providing critical support through our membership base to support WBNERR.

CPWB Membership Annual Dues and Contribution

I want to be a member of Citizens for the Protection of Waquoit Bay CPWB, to protect our Coastal Ponds.

Please make checks payable to CPWB

Enclosed is my contribution:

- \$ 10.00 Membership
- \$ _____ Contribution
- I would like to volunteer for special projects, please contact me.

Name: _____

Summer Address: _____

Summer Phone: _____

Winter Address: _____

Winter Phone: _____

Your contribution to "Citizens for the Protection of Waquoit Bay" CPWB is Tax Deductible.

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JUNE 2005 NEWSLETTER

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Monday, July 11th**

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CPWB Brochure

**Citizens for the Protection of Waquoit Bay CPWB
P.O. BOX 3021
WAQUOIT, MA 02536**

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