



SBBA NEWS

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Fall 2018

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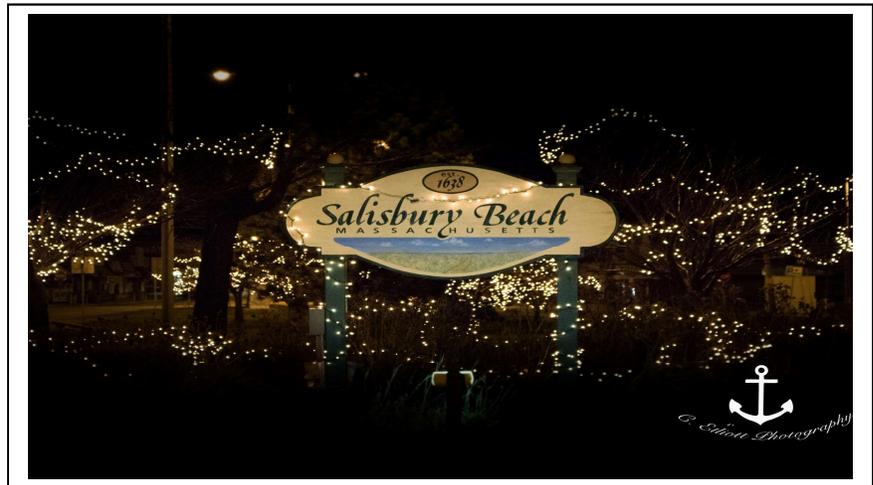


Photo Christine Lynch

Greetings from Our President

Dear Faithful Members:

2018 will likely go down as the year with only two seasons; winter and summer. Spring and fall were hijacked! Even summer may be questionable with high volume rain events that created dangerous and damaging dune conditions. So how are Salisburyites handling it? ON THEIR OWN! DCR states they have no money for sand, dune grass or fencing despite the creation of Salisbury Beach Preservation Trust Fund in 2008. Although the fund has amassed money over the years, there has never been an accounting of how it was spent. In addition, this year, after storms mauled the

beach once more, money was still a reason why DCR couldn't repair the damage. Many home and business owners, by receiving Emergency Certificates from Con-Com, are bringing in sand at their own expense to help stabilize our beach. The DCR Website states: "DCR continues to improve the vital connection between people and the environment and "DCR is responsible for the stewardship of its lands" and "Our only line of defense is sand and dune grass," Have you seen any of this protection happening? Are you aware that this agency is the largest landowner in Massachusetts?

In December of 2013 WCVB interviewed me about our "Sand Wars". I spoke about the importance of Sand Dunes.

My quote in part; "These dunes form roughly two-story hills that stand guard against powerful waves that could roll up the flat beach. Homeowners have done their part. They've put in their own money, time and sweat, and now they want the state to be a good neighbor and do theirs."..... Now five years later.....I am using the same mantra.....and frankly I am still waiting for DCR to come up with an action plan.

During an informal meeting this year, I had the opportunity to discuss the lack of involvement by DCR with Lieutenant Governor Karyn Polito. Two weeks later, sand was delivered at the damaged boardwalk as well as several accesses. The SBBA Board is committed to being a force of political and media pressure.

As beach advocates, all of us must always promote the benefits of beach management to our local and state agencies. Healthy and pristine beaches are critical not only to our homes, but also to our economy. Tourists will go elsewhere if our beaches are not maintained. How do you put a price on that?

At this festive time of year, I want to take a moment to thank you for all the many ways you make SBBA what it is. I wish you happiness and peace in 2019.

Merry Christmas!

Ray Champagne— President



Photo Christina Lynch

Salisbury Beach Preservation Trust Fund

by Michael Kobos

As you know, on behalf of the membership, the SBBA continually advocates for protection of the beach and dunes. Recently, we have noticed that there appears to be a decline in DCR's level of commitment to the installation of sand fencing and the planting of beach grass. DCR has stated that there are not enough funds to perform some of the preventive measures that they have done in the past. Since the Salisbury Beach Preservation Trust Fund was designed to fund these types of projects, we were curious as to what these funds have been used for and why there isn't any money left.

The SBBA asked DCR to provide us with an accounting of the trust fund. Our requests have been ignored. Due to DCR's lack of responsiveness to our request for an accounting, the SBBA filed a formal request under the Massachusetts Public Records Law. We also asked Senator Kathleen O'Connor-Ives to seek an accounting of the fund as well. Senator Ives' multiple requests to DCR have also been ignored. DCR's failure to provide a proper accounting of the fund is completely unacceptable and illegal.

The SBBA Board of Directors has pledged to relentlessly pursue a full

accounting of the Trust Fund. We are in the process of initiating the appropriate next steps to ensure that DCR complies with the Public Records Law and their basic civil duty to operate with transparency. We look forward to sharing the details of the trust fund's finances and management with you to further our shared goal of protecting the beach.

Annual Meeting

Another successful Annual Meeting was held at the Surfside 5 Deck with over 200 attending. It was a beautiful night with temperatures in the high 70s and our "never get tired of" breath-taking view of Atlantic Ocean. All of our local and state officials attended, spoke, and were also available for one on one discussions.

Senator Kathleen O'Connor-Ives was in attendance with her husband, Jeff, and their 16-month old son, Ronan. She spoke of leaving her position after six years and that she is proud of her accomplishments, including securing funds for beach projects and helping constituents every day. Though we will certainly miss her as a strong advocate for Salisbury, we are confident that our newly elected senator, Dianne Dizoglio, will stand up for our district.

The scholarship committee proudly awarded 10 scholarships to members' children and grandchildren. The success of their comedy night was discussed as well as generous donations received throughout the year.



Scholarship recipients, front L to R: Grace Condon, Jillian Aziz, Abigail Broadhurst, Maggie Riccio, Caroline Graham
Rear L to R: Joseph Conte, Michael Gorham, Riochai Grella, Sarah Sullivan, Jeffrey Campbell

The SBBA also presented Memorial Benches to the families of Elaine Donahue, Lynne Lynch, and Lillian "Wing Ding" Avadanian. These benches beautify our access ways while honoring an SBBA member.



The membership reelected our current board of directors, reelected Ray Champagne as president and elected a new board member, Bill Greilich. Bill replaces his wife Monique on the board. We thank Monique for her steadfast and fierce commitment to the SBBA.



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Photo taken by Mary Dow

Whales @ Salisbury Beach

Beach goers were again treated to some great sights during August and early September. Surfers and paddle boarders could be seen paddling near them as they swam very close to shore. The whales were feeding on Pogies - officially known as menhaden shad. Schools measure in acreage terms rather than numbers. Huge schools can be seen flipping their tails at the surface, moving along with the tidal currents. They are usually fairly close into the shore, sometimes right behind the breaking surf, but can be found as far as a mile or more offshore.

Advertising in the SBBA Newsletter - Anyone interested in advertising in the SBBA Newsletter should contact President Ray Champagne @ 978-771-9990 or ray@sbba.us

Beach House Tour

Thanks to all who made our Beach House Tour a wonderful success. We are glad that you enjoyed this year's homes. Because It has become one of our most popular fundraising events, we are again

looking for homeowners who are gracious enough to open their homes for our 2019 Beach House Tour. If you are interested please contact Edna Marggraf @ 978-463-3672.

P.S.

Hope you have been noticing some of our ongoing projects: Fresh and colorful flower pots along North End Blvd, memorial benches on beach access points, SBBA picnic table on the boardwalk, gardens around the Salisbury Beach welcome sign, plantings at the 1A entrance on the Salisbury/Seabrook line, plantings for the South End Triangle Park, Christmas lights on the trees at the center during Christmas season, flags on North End Blvd and at the beach center, cigarette butt receptacles throughout the beach center and many other projects.

Scholarship News

Great News!!!! The SBBA Scholarship Committee has chosen our new fundraising entertainment for spring of 2019. He is Joey Voices, comedian-singer-impressionist. He performs the voices of Frank Sinatra, Tony Bennett, Bobby Darin, Joe Pesci, Rodney Dangerfield, Cher, Neil Diamond, Elvis Presley, and Many More! So, **Save the Date: Friday, June 28th!** As always - ALL proceeds go to our scholarship fund.



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The SBBA had a great night hosting the Seafestival of Trees on Sunday, November 25th. Special thanks to our members who volunteered. Seated L to R: Susan Hanno, Ann Marie Guilmette, Monique Greilich, Edna Marggraf, Virginia Broadhurst, and Donna Champagne. Standing L to R: Pat Hanno, Janice Esile, Sandy Gibbons, Ron Guilmette, Diane Masiello, Lou Masiello, Derek DePetrillo, Ray Champagne, John Housianitis and Bill Greilich. Missing when photo was taken was Jacqui Blecziński



Photo: The Town of Salisbury dedicated its new Veterans Memorial on the Town Common this past Veterans Day.

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