

Discovery

Conference Pricing Reduced for 2021

What a year! 2020 has altered our world in so many ways! As we begin to move out of lockdown caused by COVID-19, we are facing new realities. We are beginning to see what a “new normal” will be like. One lesson COVID-19 has taught us is to expect the unexpected and learn to be flexible and dynamic.

Last summer we were faced with challenge after challenge. With ever changing guidelines and travel restrictions we made the decision to move to a hybrid model for the summer. Many of you took part in our “Summer Reimagined,” whether from the campus of Ferry Beach following all COVID-19 protocols or from your homes connecting with those in your conference communities online. We won’t soon forget our reimagined summer together.

Those who did come to Ferry Beach in 2020 noticed some big changes. It wasn’t like it was before. Masks, physical distancing, and enhanced cleaning practices were all the norms. Other things were different too. Check-in was contactless. Food was served cafeteria style. Cash was not used. There were no a-la-carte meals. Bathrooms were assigned. The Art Room was closed. We had very little summer staff. Instead, all operational tasks were handled by our year-round crew and our wonderful, committed board members and local volunteers.

In preparation for another unknown summer, Ferry Beach has adjusted our fee structure. We know that the pandemic hurt many Ferry Beach members too. We expect a more normal experience this year, and we want you to come! Conference fees with meal plans for adults have been reduced by 33% and by 22% for youth. Lodging rates will remain the same. You may see less staff on campus this year. We hope you will join us!

COVID 19 changed how many organizations operate. Ferry Beach is no different. Look for some of the ways this summer that might make it easier for you to participate in our programming, register for a conference and check into your room. We are thrilled to be on our way to a return to a new normal and look forward to safely sharing this summer with each of our guests!

IN THIS DISCOVERY

- ① Conference Pricing is Reduced
- ② BoardWalk: Spring Greeting & Financial Update
- ③ Annual Meeting, Work Week and Labor Day
- ④ Ferry Beach App

ALSO INCLUDED IN THIS DISCOVERY:

Nominating Committee Report

H E A L T H Y



A safe and effective vaccine to protect against COVID-19 is now available. www.cdc.gov



Check our website for up-to-date information on COVID-19 and current guidance for traveling to Maine. We will update with information relevant to our operations and state rules about inbound travel. As always, our number one goal is to make sure our guests arrive and leave H-E-A-L-T-H-Y!

ferrybeach.org/COVID19



BoardWalk: Spring greetings from your Board of Directors!

As we all begin to emerge from the winter months, and hopefully the pandemic, in our personal lives, the same is going on at Ferry Beach. With the vaccines becoming more readily available, we are seeing some states begin to relax restrictions on travel. Cathy Stackpole does a great job of monitoring developments on this front, and keeping the Board aware of the changes affecting businesses in Maine such as Ferry Beach. We are cautiously encouraged by what we hear, and are anticipating the return of a more active season this summer.

Financially, 2020 was a difficult year for Ferry Beach. Most all of the programming that had been planned to take place at the Beach did not happen. While a number of the summer conferences that occur each year did provide some virtual activities, these activities were offered at little or no cost, and produced minimal revenue. The staff was incredibly creative in coming up with ideas for additional online offerings, but these too were not effective in the development of an income stream.

Fortunately, Ferry Beach was able to receive two loans from the Paycheck Protection Program. The Beach successfully met the criteria for forgiveness of repayment for both of these loans, and both became grants. In addition, the Board of Directors approved obtaining a low interest loan through the Economic Injury Disaster Loan program offered by the Small Business Administration. Ferry Beach also was the recipient of a Maine Economic Recovery grant from the State of Maine. These sources of funding, combined with the generous support of Ferry Beach members and friends made it possible for Ferry Beach to remain in operation, albeit at a reduced level.

It cannot be emphasized enough how important the staff role has been through this difficult year. The Beach has some very talented people on its staff who come to work each day determined to do the best job possible while maintaining a forward looking and positive attitude. Their work can be characterized as willing, flexible and responsive to the ever-changing environment we have all experienced this year. Please say thank you when you have a chance!

The biggest challenge in the months ahead is to build momentum once again in on site programming. Not only is a stronger summer season needed, but we also need more robust fall, winter and spring activity to generate the cash needed to take us into the summer of 2022. Venues such as ours, will not be able to rely on additional government programs of assistance being available.

Finally, every member of the Board joins me in extending our thanks to our donors. Many of you have reached deeper and made Ferry Beach a higher priority in terms of your philanthropy. It is through the support provided by our Sustaining Donors that Ferry Beach is able to offset part of its fixed expenses. It would be our privilege to welcome more Sustaining Donors in the coming months!

Remain safe as the weather warms, and I look forward to seeing you at the Beach this summer!

Sincerely,
Doug Atkins
Treasurer, Ferry Beach Board of Directors



Plan to Join us in June!

The Ferry Beach Annual Meeting will be held on Saturday, June 19th, 2021. There will be a Board Meeting at 10:00am, a Town Hall Meeting at 1:00pm and the Annual Meeting will be at 2:45pm. Plan to stay after the Annual Meeting to help Ferry Beach open up our campus for the 2021 summer season at our Work Week conference. Help with projects around campus each morning, and enjoy all Ferry Beach has to offer each afternoon! Learn more at ferrybeach.org/annualmeeting or ferrybeach.org/workweek. Call our registration office at 207-282-4489 to sign up for either (or both) of these events.



Spring Raffle Fundraiser

Please help support Ferry Beach this spring by purchasing entries for the Ferry Beach Spring 50/50 Raffle. The winner will be randomly selected and announced at the Ferry Beach Annual Meeting on June 19th!

Tickets are 1 for \$5, 5 for \$20 and 15 for \$50. Get yours at ferrybeach.org/raffle

Sturken Music Conference Joins us for Labor Day!

We know it seems early to be thinking about Labor Day, but we wanted to let our guests know that our friends from the Sturken Music conference have booked at Ferry Beach during Labor Day weekend this year.

Not to worry! Our plans will continue as they normally have, just with new friends! The Sturken Music conference band (Known as the Shoal Survivors) have even agreed to be musical entertainment for the cookout! Learn about the Shoal Survivors at ferrybeach.org/ldw

If you are thinking of coming to Labor Day this year, it is a good idea to book your room early! You can book by calling registration at 207-282-4489 or by going to ferrybeach.org/ldw and clicking the registration button. Be sure to call soon because space is filling up fast!





MAY 2021

JOIN US EVERY FRIDAY IN JUNE FOR A CONCERT IN THE GROVE



Tickets \$15 each. Food will be available for purchase. Check our website at www.ferrybeach.org/groveconcerts for more information.

Friday, June 11th (6-8pm):
VIVA and The Reinforcements

Friday, June 18th (6-8pm):
The Lied To's

Friday, June 25th (7-9pm):
Onward

Rain dates are the following day. Maximum of 85 People. Face Coverings Required.

Get the Ferry Beach App Today

In 2015, Ferry Beach introduced our app to help us reach our goals of becoming a more sustainable organization. Initially the app was used to help relay information quickly to guests across campus, post daily schedules and connect users to our social media networks. The app has grown over time to allow guests to report maintenance issues on campus, share photos and more. The app has become a great tool for our guests. This year, for COVID precautions and to further reduce our paper waste, we will be moving our in-room booklet, song books, tidings news letters and sunday chapel programs to the app. We will have posters with QR codes around campus to access these documents or you can access them directly through the app. We will have a very limited quantity of paper versions of these items available upon request for those without a mobile device.

To download the app, go to app.ferrybeach.org or download from your devices app store.



Nominating Committee Report to the Board March 29, 2021

PLEASE NOTE: THE BELOW REPORT SHOULD HAVE BEEN PRESENTED LAST YEAR (I have italicized it to make this less confusing)

Nominating Committee Report to Board

March 18, 2020

From Nominating Committee Chair, Claudia Sienko

To the Board of Directors of Ferry Beach.

The Nominating Committee has determined the following: three members have terms which end at the Annual Meeting in May 2020. They are Jessie Washington (served 1 three-year term) Cyd Melcher (served the remainder of a term and has had a long history on the board) and Ron Willet (served 1 three-year term as Secretary). Our by-laws state that we allow two, 3-year terms by election as a director or two-3-year terms as an officer.

The Nominating Committee does not need to put forth three of the four-officer positions as they are within their three-year term. We put forth in Nomination for the Secretary of the Board of Directors:

Ron Willet, Secretary

Ron grew up in central Texas and moved to Washington, DC as a young man after law school. He says the general practice of law and life as a Gay man in a homophobic culture were two things that did not suit him. Ron held various positions in the US Dept. of Labor during his 30-year career in the Federal government in DC. He retired in 2010 and moved to Lowell, MA where he now lives with his spouse, Bill. Ron and Bill are both Ferry Beach Life Members and active participants in GAYLA.

Ron is a facilitator/teacher of Sacred Circle Dance (which he learned about at FB), and has been active in 12-step recovery for 25 years. He was among the founders of the Triangle Club in Washington, a non-profit meeting space for Gay/Lesbian groups of 12-step fellowships, and served on the Club's initial Board of Directors for a few years, acting as Secretary during part of that time. Ron has also served on the Board of the Dept. of Labor Fitness Assn., including time as Secretary, and on the Session (governing body) of a Presbyterian church in Washington.

Pamela Emery (Pam), a resident of Old Orchard Beach, Maine where she and her husband have built their retirement home. She has spent the last 3 summers at Ferry Beach with her grandchildren. She has been a member of a number of UU churches most recently at the Unitarian Church of Barnstable MA. She loves coming to Ferry Beach, is enthusiastic and wants to participate in the future of Ferry Beach. She also knows a lot of local people and is willing to connect them to Ferry Beach.

We nominate the following candidates for director positions on the board:

Meghan Chan: Meghan Chan works in technology managing software development and project implementations. She has been attending The Family & Friends week since she was 5 and stepped into leading children's workshops and as a program coordinator in her early 20s.

Meghan graduated from Cornell University in 1998 and received her MBA from Babson College in 2004. She has 2 young daughters who are lifelong Ferry Beachers and hopes we can help the Beach continue to be a spiritual retreat that they can join through their lives.

Alan Shepard: Alan Shepard has been a resident of Maine for most of his life, but recently moved to Camp Ellis three years ago. He is a real estate attorney with a practice in Kennebunk for over 35 years. He has been on many Boards in the area, and is currently on the board for the Ogunquit Museum of American Art. He is also a member of the Town of Saco river committee. He loves to fly fish and Kayak which brought him to the Saco river.

Respectfully Submitted:

Claudia Sienko, Chair, Nominating Committee

As of today (3/29/2021), all the above-mentioned individuals have been actively participating in FBPA and would like to continue in the capacities listed above.

Present board members up for renewal in 2021 are Deanna Wilbur for her second term on the board and Doug Atkins for his second term as Treasurer.

Deanna Wilbur: Deanna Wilbur is nominated for her second term on the board. Dee was born and raised in Bangor, ME. She first attended Ferry Beach as a Different Drummers camper, and shortly thereafter began attending Family and Friends week with her family. She has held several leadership roles in the conference, and has been on Ferry Beach's Board of Directors since 2018. Dee currently lives in Bangor, and works for a progressive new internet service provider called Starry. She is their Knowledge & Content Manager.

Doug Atkins: Doug Atkins has agreed to continue as treasurer. Doug Atkins retired from a career, which spanned forty years at Colby-Sawyer College, a comprehensive liberal arts and sciences college in New London, N.H. At the time of his retirement, Doug served as Senior Vice President and Treasurer, having held numerous roles at the College during his tenure.

Doug has also been employed as the business manager and assistant treasurer for Historic Deerfield (Mass.), and as the business and employment manager and assistant general manager for King Ridge, Inc., a ski resort formerly located in Central New Hampshire.

For many years, Doug has been involved in his community in the New London-Lake Sunapee area of New Hampshire. He has served as a selectman in New London, and as president of the New London Historical Society, in addition to having served as treasurer for St. Andrew's Church and Tracy Memorial Library. In recognition of his involvement in the community, he was awarded the Town-Gown Award by Colby-Sawyer College. Currently, he serves as treasurer of the Unitarian Universalist Church of Manchester, NH.

Doug first came to Ferry Beach in 2012 to attend GAYLA. In 2015 and 2016, he was one of the Coordinators for GAYLA. He lives in North Sutton, N.H., and has two grown children, Bryan and Suzanne. Doug enjoys spending as much time as he can with his partner, Paul Belyea, of Dunbarton, NH.

New nominations for FBPA Board of Directors are Kristal Kallenberg and Doug Edwards. Here are brief bios on both of these individuals.

Kristal Kallenberg: Kristal Kallenberg lives in West Hartford, CT with her 12-year-old daughter. She is a native New Yorker, born in The Bronx but mostly raised in Long Island. She returned to New York City as a young adult working odd jobs, finishing college and travelling the world. Finally, she returned to Long Island to go to Stony Brook University for graduate school.

Kristal possesses bachelor degrees in Creative Writing, Geology as well as a Masters in Marine and Atmospheric Science. Her professional employment is in the field of Coastal Management with the State of Connecticut.

Personally, Kristal is interested in the fine and performing arts, writing, social justice, good food and the natural world! She will be a wonderful addition to FBPA.

Doug Edwards: Doug has lived in Maine since 2007 after living in Southern Connecticut for 23 years. He attended Nasson College in Springvale, Maine from 1979 to 1983. Previous to that, he grew up in Central New Jersey.

Doug currently works for IDEXX Laboratories in the Human Resources Technology department. He and his wife Joline are Saco residents since December 2016. They attended a Valentine's Day dinner at Ferry Beach and found they really enjoyed the community.

Doug's expertise in the Human Resource field will be a welcomed and valuable addition to the board.

Doug has also been newly appointed as an Advisory Board Member to the City of Saco Parks and Recreation.