

Discovery

2023 Successes

By Cathy Stackpole

"I love to listen to waves roll by,
 And love –watching the seagulls fly,
 And, friends, are gathering on the sand.
 It takes me back to Ferry Beach again."

More than 4000 people came to Ferry Beach last year! We had a great year in our September through May conferences, bringing in revenue of \$367,800 as compared to 2022 of \$140,344. We also had a great summer, with more than 2000 people coming to an event or conference and revenue of \$813,000 as compared to 2022 of \$780,134.

We were so very grateful for our donors, who contributed \$297,737 last year. These gifts included funds for the Underwood roof, the generator in DeWolfe Dining Room, the Metz cabins maintenance funds, and the renovation of bathrooms in the Grove (the latter is still way short of our goal, so we will begin fundraising again when the weather warms and people are using the Grove.)

Our biggest challenge of the year started at the very tail end of 2022 when a big storm knocked out power and the Dining Room was flooded by frozen pipes. We spent the better part of the winter of 2023 drying out and renovating!

With the challenge of the dining room the Winter of 2023 was quieter than we would like around here, but several small groups enjoyed convening their events here at Ferry Beach. This activity kicked into high gear at the end of March with a music retreat and a wonderful quilting retreat. Many of our weekend retreats also found their way back to Ferry Beach.

Overall, the year shows we are rebounding from the pandemic, but like many not for profits, and businesses, we are struggling with higher costs for utilities, food and labor. One wonderful change that has been growing for several years now is our Labor Day Weekend, which continues to be popular with our summer conference goers and locals.

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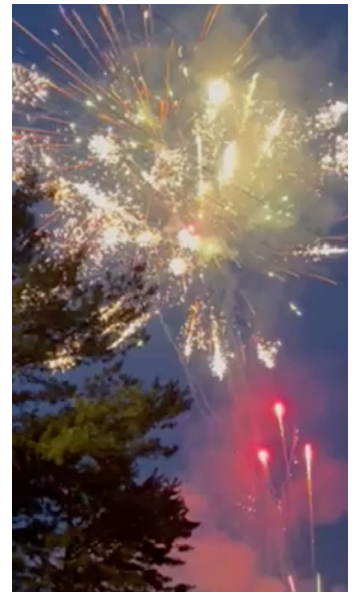
AND MORE!



A Time for Fun- Sands and Stars Week at Ferry Beach!

Coming to the beach for the week of July 4th with family and friends just got more fun!

Ferry Beach is known for its multigenerational family conferences which have been offered for more than 50 years, bringing workshops, intergenerational games, and activities for the whole family. Mornings are often spent in workshops which offer great content, joy, and in the case of the new Sand and Stars conference, multigenerational activities. You and your family can stay at Ferry Beach if you like, or if you already reside in the area or are visiting you can join the conference as a commuter during the day! During this conference we host our first cookout of the summer season with lots of amazing, barbecued food (all-you-can-eat), games & activities, live music and dancing. Registration for the cookout is now open on our website, so be sure to sign up for this evening of fun! On the 4th of July, from Ferry Beach you have a ring side seat to fireworks from across the Bay! A fun getaway for everyone of all ages!



Here's a look at some of the great leaders and workshops you can choose from.



Theatre Arts at Ferry Beach with Jesica Garrou

Calling both experienced performers and novices who want to perform! Actors, singers, dancers, gymnasts, acrobats, musicians, mimes, clowns.... however, you like to perform, bring your talents. Also calling visual artists and crafters- want to help make props, costumes, and set pieces? Bring your talents to this project too! Once we know what talents are in the room- both obvious and hidden- our director, Jesica Garrou, will help us craft a theatrical performance unique to Ferry Beach. Jesica Garrou produces and directs in NYC, Maine and beyond.

She belongs to the League of Professional Theatre Women whose mission is to create parity for women theatre-makers. She produces and directs the On Her Shoulders series at New Perspectives Theatre Company in NYC, bringing plays by female playwrights historically overlooked to the light of the stage. Back in her home state of Maine, she is the founder and former president of Royal River Players where she also directs a plethora of shows for audiences of all ages by actors of all ages.

Join the Band with Rudy, Chuck, and John

Channel your inner rock star. All levels. Learn how to jam & play with others. Song arranging & playing from charts, with over 40 charts provided. There's plenty of opportunities to practice and perform later in the week (Wednesday, Thursday, Friday nights). "Join the band" is a three-day workshop with Rudy, drummer Chuck, bass John - from Onward and the Ferry Beach monthly Jam. This workshop is geared for ages 14+ (younger for youth with musical experience). Rudy Gabrielson has been a leader in music for over three decades and a Ferry Beacher for over twenty years, facilitating workshops, monthly jam sessions and more. He plays a variety of genres on piano, harmonica, mountain dulcimer, penny, whistle, melodica and djembe.



Ecojustice with Dan Harper

In this relaxing workshop, we'll explore the natural world around Ferry Beach, from the beach to the woods. We'll play some fun games based on ecological principles and practice some outdoors skills. We'll talk about a few Ecojustice Elders, people who furthered the principles of both economic justice and ecological justice. We might even dissect some flowers. Dan Harper holds the Field Naturalist Certificate from Mass Audubon and has been teaching ecojustice for over a decade.

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Spiritual Arts with Robi Altamari

Join Robi as we play with some of the most popular artistic mediums that Ferry Beach has to offer. From Fashion Art and Recycled Treasures to Nature Photography and Beach Sculptures, artists of all talents and levels are invited to come discover that the joy of art is in the process and that art at Ferry Beach is always judgement free. Robi Altamari has been a leader for our youth camps and religious education week since 2005. She is a registered yoga teacher and works professionally supporting adults with disabilities. One of her joys is escaping to the art cabin at Ferry Beach and getting into that wonder-filled imagination zone.



Ferry Beach has created special pricing for this conference so that more families and individuals of all ages can take advantage of all it has to offer. Come join us!

Transformations at Ferry Beach!

Over the last few months, we've been busy making many improvements throughout our campus buildings. Morris Cottage was the first to be renovated with new flooring in the kitchen.

Rowland has received many transformations all throughout! Ziegler Room now has a whole new refreshing look and feel to correlate with the rest of the Rowland meeting rooms. Can you spot all the changes in this room below? We'll tell you in case you can't; Dave painted the original brown wooden panels blue and the brown window trim a bright white.



It's amazing how a little bit of paint can drastically change and add character to a room. We love Ziegler's new look and are so excited for groups to utilize and make new memories in this space! Moving to the next room, Gayla Theater is now much brighter with the installation of new lighting. Spring Quilting by the Bay was the first group to use this brightened space and expressed their love for how much easier it was to work in and see what they were sewing! Bathroom stalls throughout Rowland and Quillen also are newly painted. Also, Underwood now has a new roof, it was installed this week! Thank you to everyone who donated during our roof fundraiser, your donations make it possible for us to upgrade our facilities. If you'd like to support the continued improvements on our campus, you can submit a donation at ferrybeach.org/giving. The Dolphin room is next on the list to be upgraded with some new cabinetry.

Support the Longevity of Ferry Beach!

Give the gift of Ferry Beach to future generations. It is easy to include us in your Will. If you believe strongly in our mission and work. To talk more, contact us at 207-282-4489.

We are Hiring for Summer!

We are looking to add to our team! We're hiring a full-time individual in our dining hall and part-time personnel in maintenance. You can apply or learn more at:

ferrybeach.org/jobs

Do you Have a Drone?

We'd love to have drone footage of our campus this summer! If you own a drone and are interested in taking footage of Ferry Beach, send us an email: ferrybeach@ferrybeach.org.

A Challenge: Who do you know?

This month we challenge you to think about groups that you know who would be interested in having a gathering at Ferry Beach. Talk to them about Ferry Beach and your experience with us. Referrals are so important to our organization! We'd be happy to give them a tour and speak further about their gathering needs.

Discovery

MAY 2024



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Something New... An Open House!

Join us on Saturday, June 22nd from 10am-12pm

Tell everyone you know; Ferry Beach is having an Open House this June, right before the Annual Meeting! There's no better way to experience and learn all about Ferry Beach, what we do, our programming, retreats and events, than at this event! Come join us for some hours of fun! This Open House event is open to the public, so anyone can attend.

What to expect? All these fun activities will be at our Open House!

- Campus Tours
- Browse Local Craft Vendors
- Live Music
- A Taste of our Food with Samplings
- Cookout
- New Products & More

After this event, we'll have our Annual Meeting (note-the annual meeting is only for Ferry Beach members during 2023). Town Hall begins at 11am, followed with lunch and the meeting at 1:15pm.



Learn more at: ferrybeach.org/open-house

