

Greenwich Point News

Friends of Greenwich Point – P.O. Box 711 - Old Greenwich, CT 06870

AUTUMN 2010



Happenings at the Point

Safe Roads

Begins November 21

In cooperation with the Town of Greenwich Parks Department, the Friends of Greenwich Point again is sponsoring the SAFE ROADS Program during the off-season months at the Point. Joggers, cyclists, bladers and walkers can enjoy the open roads every Sunday morning, from 9 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Most traffic is restricted from driving past the main parking area, but some vehicles have special permits to pass so please be alert. The program runs from November 21, 2010 through April 10, 2011.

Shellfish Demonstration

Saturday, October 30, at noon.

Sponsored by the Greenwich Shellfish Commission

Meet opposite the Chimes Building (near the OG Yacht Club)

Bring boots and a wide-tined garden fork or potato rake.

(Rain date is

Sunday, October 31, at 1 p.m.)

First Sunday Bird Walks

**Oct. 3, Nov. 7, Dec. 5, Jan. 2,
9 -11 a.m.**

Co-sponsored by Wild Wings, Audubon Greenwich, and Bruce Museum. Free. Meet by the main (southern) concession stand. Learn about the birds of the Point.

Bring binoculars.

Winter Dog Days

Dogs are permitted in Greenwich Point Park beginning December 1. Please remember to keep your pet on a leash and under control at all times. Mutt mitts will be available; please help keep our Park clean.



Monarch Butterfly at Greenwich Point. September 19, 2010. Photo by Cynthia Ehlinger

Fall Means Migration at the Point

By Cynthia Ehlinger

Hawks, shorebirds, warblers, flycatchers and vireos. The skies over Greenwich Point are speckled each fall with thousands of migrants passing overhead. Some may stop temporarily to rest or replenish their energy stores, but not all of the winged migrants are feathered.

The amazing travels of the migratory monarch butterfly cover as many as 3,000 miles for an individual going from the eastern provinces of Canada to the mountains of Mexico and may take about 2 to 2 1/2 months.

Fall migrating monarchs will not reproduce until spring and may live to the ripe old age (for a butterfly) of 8 to 9 months. Monarchs breeding during the summer months, in contrast, only live 3 to 5 weeks from egg to adult.

If weather conditions and the timing are just right, as they were in the middle of September this year, you can see spectacular displays of hundreds of these striking orange-and-black-winged insects either clustered together while resting or making their way along the Connecticut coast –flapping and gliding in the wind. No individual monarch makes a full round-trip migration. Most of the monarchs joining the migration each fall are 3 to 4 generations removed from those that made the journey the previous year.

The wildflowers and cultivated gardens of Greenwich Point are important habitats for migrating adult butterflies, which stop briefly to sip the flower nectars that provide amino acids and carbohydrates essential for bodily functions and energy.



New Friends of Greenwich Point board members are (from left) Andrew Smith, Britta Calkosz, Mike Pollard, and Lesley Quattrone. Not pictured is Barbara O'Neill.
Photo by Britta Calkosz / Amy Yu

New FoGP Board Members Tapped

The Friends of Greenwich Point welcomed five new board members during its 2010 Annual Meeting held in September.

Britta Calkosz attended Greenwich public schools and has a finance degree from the University of Connecticut. She lives with her husband and 2 children in Old Greenwich and enjoys biking, walking and taking photos at Greenwich Point. Her photographs can be found on her greeting cards and the "Images of Greenwich Calendar" that she produced from 2003 through 2008.

Barbara O'Neill retired from the Greenwich school system in 2008 after a distinguished 35-year career there, teaching science and math and coordinating the program for Advanced Learners (ALP). She and her husband have been residents of Old Greenwich for the past 28 years and support many local organizations.

Lesley Quattrone has been a Greenwich resident twice, from 1965-1991 and again from 2006 until present. She was an English teacher and Language Arts Coordinator for grades K - 12. She

loves Greenwich Point and is interested in preserving this town treasure for future generations.

Michael ("Mike") Pollard's roots span five generations in town. Mike attended the University of Connecticut where he earned degrees in Economics and Communications and, following a brief career in business, went back to school to earn his law degree. An outdoor enthusiast, Mike enjoys running and biking at the Point. Outside of his professional career, Mike volunteers on numerous town committees and on the boards of the Greenwich Point Conservancy and the Children's Day School. He resides in Old Greenwich with his wife Lisa and their 2-year-old son Drew.

Andrew Smith grew up in Vermont and has lived in Greenwich for the past eight years. He has spent his career working in the hedge fund industry. In his free time, he enjoys running, biking, boating, and skiing. Andrew, his wife Ashley, and 2-year-old son Nate live in Riverside and spend as much time as possible enjoying all the Point has to offer.

FoGP Financial Statements

FoGP Balance Sheet (As of August 2010)

	2010	2009
Assets		
Cash & equivalents	\$189,694	\$54,016
Short term investments	109,006	289,552
Other assets	0	1,083
Total assets	\$298,700	\$344,651
Liabilities		
Other current liabilities	\$200	\$1,186
Total liabilities	200	1,186
Equity		
Donor restricted funds	223,617	223,617
Board designated funds	20,000	20,000
Unrestricted funds	54,883	99,848
Total Equity	298,500	343,465
Total Liability & Equity	\$298,700	\$344,651

Excess of Income over Expense September through August

	2010	2009
Revenue		
Member contributions	\$22,642	\$21,995
Investment income	4,569	7,654
Total Revenue	27,211	29,649
Expenses		
Program Expenses		
Innis Arden Cottage plantings	21,326	153
Litter barrel replacement	9,988	0
Replacement benches	9,035	0
Signage	5,873	255
Snack bar umbrellas	5,393	0
Safe Roads program	5,007	3,505
Music series	2,854	2,154
GHS Scholarship Fund	2,000	2,000
Newsletter	2,031	1,433
Message Center board	1,480	0
Bird feeding program	1,036	1,150
Other program expenses	450	944
	66,473	40,433
Fund Raising Expenses	2,032	1,099
Administrative Expenses	3,671	2,474
Total Expenses	72,176	15,168
Excess of income over expense	(\$44,965)	\$14,481

President's Update

By Amy Burke

On a recent walk around Greenwich Point, I saw that the lifeguard stands were off the beach and now sitting on the lawn near the Maintenance Area awaiting repainting, repair and then storage until next summer – a sure sign that winter cannot be far off. After this exceptionally long, hot and busy summer it seems right to pack things up, so to speak, and slow down for a while.

However, take a walk or drive around the Point for yourself and you will see that things are hardly slowing down for the Friends of Greenwich Point – replacement signs are being installed, new benches are appearing and the planted areas around the cottage are still being weeded, pruned and watered. And these are just the obvious, visible efforts of the Friends of Greenwich Point. During the fall and winter months, FoGP board members will continue to meet and plan Traffic Free Sundays, feed the birds that “winter” at Greenwich Point, and make plans for spring horticultural maintenance and new installations.

At our September Annual Meeting, we welcomed five new board members who will help plan upcoming projects including taking a close look at the parking lot traffic



The FoGP Annual Meeting also included the election of new Friends of Greenwich Point officers: pictured above (left to right) are Wendy Yu, Vice President; Amy Burke, President; Roger Simpson, Treasurer; and Nancy Caplan, Secretary.

Photo by Britta Calkosz

patterns and signs, continuing to update the website and our membership communications, and planning for next summer's concert and educational series.

As the new President of the Friends, I feel extremely fortunate to be leading a group that is cohesive and focused upon preserving and beautifying Greenwich Point. The twenty board members are varied in backgrounds, but uniformly committed to our remarkable park – for that I am grateful. I am also thankful to be part of an organization that has strong,

working partnerships with other organizations, allowing us to follow our mission statement, initiate new projects and actually see them put into action. In particular, we would like to thank the Town's Department of Parks and Recreation and Department of Public Works.

So, while the lifeguard stands may have been put to rest for the next few months, feel confident about the future of Greenwich Point, knowing that the Friends are still hard at work. Please pass along any suggestions via our e-mail address or phone number.

VOLUNTEERS WANTED

You are invited to contribute your time and expertise to help the Board of the Friends of Greenwich Point in their continuing effort to fulfill the mission of the Friends. Please join our activities as we support naturally beautiful Greenwich Point.

Please CIRCLE all volunteer opportunities that interest you:

- Concert Series
- Environmental Issues
- Safe Roads
- Serve on the Board of Directors
- Educational Programs
- Publicity
- Invasive Plants
- Other _____
- Membership Drive
- Newsletter
- Website

NAME _____

CONTACT ME BY:

E-Mail _____

Phone _____

E-mail: info@friendsofgreenwichpoint.org *Subject:* Volunteer or
send this form to: Volunteer, P.O. Box 711, Old Greenwich, CT 06870

Join the Friends of Greenwich Point

Your contributions support:

- Habitat restoration
- Traffic-free Sundays
- Nature education
- Summer Concert series
- The preservation of this very special place

Visit the *new* FoGP website at
www.friendsofgreenwichpoint.org

Friends of Greenwich Point now has
a phone number. Call for information
or to leave a message:
203.987.6712

***Interested in joining
Friends of Greenwich Point?
Send in your membership
information in the box at right.***

Editors:
Cynthia Ehlinger, Lesley Quattrone

Friends of Greenwich Point Membership Form



The Friends of Greenwich Point work hard to carry out our mission to preserve and protect Greenwich Point and promote safe recreation. Please make your tax-deductible check payable to: *Friends of Greenwich Point* and mail to
PO Box 711, Old Greenwich, CT 06870.

Annual Family memberships

- Egret \$15
- Tern \$25
- Goldeneye \$50*
- Osprey \$100**
- Eagle \$250 and up**

*** Available for a contribution of
\$50: FoGP T-shirts (circle size)**

Youth 2-4 6-8 10-12
Adult M L XL

**** Available for a contribution of
\$100 or more:
FoGP baseball cap (Khaki)**

*For membership information, please contact the Membership Chairman at
info@friendsofgreenwichpoint.org or
by mail at P.O. Box 711, Old Greenwich, CT 06870*

Name _____

Address _____

Phone _____

Email _____

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Friends of Greenwich Point
PO Box 711
Old Greenwich, CT 06870



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