

# Friends of Greenwich Point



P.O BOX 711 • OLD GREENWICH, CT 06870 • January – March 2016

## First Sunday Bird Walks

**Feb. 7, Mar 6, & Apr 3**

**9:00 am – 11:30 am**

Enjoy a leisurely outdoor walk to learn about migrating and resident wild birds. Bring binoculars and meet on the beach near the southern concession stand. Free. No reservation required. Co-sponsored by Wild Wings, Bruce Museum, Audubon Greenwich.

## Safe Road Sundays Return

Friends of Greenwich Point are pleased to once again sponsor Safe Roads, Sunday mornings from 9:00 am – 12:30 through March.



## Dog Days of Winter Return

**From December 1 – March 31** dogs will be permitted at Greenwich Point. Please remember that dogs must be on a leash at all times and owners are required to clean up after their dogs. Disposable Mutt Mitts are available at the gatehouse and on the beach near the second concession area.

## Greenwich Point Entry Gets a Clean Sweep

The entry way to Greenwich Point has become even more welcoming than before. That's because the stretch of dune that runs between the beach card checkpoint and the Innis Arden Cottage was cleared of weeds, invasive plants and poison ivy, allowing for a transformation of beach grass, sand and *rosa rugosa*. Now the road side of the dune matches the natural beauty on the beach side of the dune.



The Friends of Greenwich Point partnered with Peter Grunow of Gro Pro Landscaping, who coordinated the project. Gro Pro added a meandering grass walking path along the road to provide a safe pedestrian alternative to walking alongside traffic on the road. The cove side of the roadway was cleared as well of weeds, invasive plants and dead vegetation.

# Winter Calendar

Photos from Paige Davis, Old Greenwich Photographer

## Fred Elser

**First Sunday Science at the Seaside Center** Fun, family activities and marine touch tank throughout the afternoon. Lectures at 2:00 pm. Free

## February 7th

### Where did the Scallops Go?

Learn about a project to help restore the once abundant mollusk to its former prominence in the Long Island Sound.

## March 6<sup>th</sup>

### Connecticut Coastal Resilience

with Adam Whelcel of The Nature Conservancy. Learn about solutions and explore the impact of rising sea levels and storm surges in coastal communities.

## April 3<sup>rd</sup>

### Earth Day Month Celebration

Earth-friendly family activities to celebrate spring. Citizen science, marine tank, gardening with compost tips and more.

## FoGP's Barefoot on the Beach

A picture perfect evening greeted a sell-out gathering for the Friends of Greenwich Point, *Barefoot on the Beach* fundraiser. The attendees enjoyed a sea inspired evening including a lobster dinner, raw bar, wine and live music, lit by tiki torches on the beach in front of the Innis Arden Cottage.

While the evening was a wonderful way to say farewell to summer, the hope to raise funds to continue the fight to remove invasive plants at Greenwich Point was surpassed by the generosity of all those who attended.

Over the next month we will be working with the Department of Parks & Recreation and the Conservation Commission to identify an area to bring back to its natural state by removing invasive plants and weeds and supplanting native plants. The plan is to begin work this coming Spring.



The **Holly Grove Pavilion** received a much needed sprucing up. Years of accumulated dust, dirt and cobwebs were cleaned away. The display cabinet doors received new plexiglass, the cabinet back boards were each recovered in dark green sunbrella fabric and the displays themselves were either replaced, added to or renovated. The bird log book was replaced and several bird sightings have already been noted. The plexiglass covering the map of Greenwich Point is to be replaced assuming the tightly embedded moulding screws can be removed. Special thanks to **Phil Brous** Friends of GP board member and **Patricio Andaur** Friends of GP volunteer for spearheading this project.

# Winter Calendar

Photos from Paige Davis, Old Greenwich Photographer

## Friends of Greenwich Point Takes Top Prize

Kudos to the creative talents of FoGP board members **Nicole Spayde** and **Mona Tvass** who designed and decorated a festive Christmas tree for the Junior League's Annual Enchanted Forest fundraising event. The tree, which was decorated with the theme, "Christmas by the Coast" earned the *Best Community Tree Award*.



## Friends of Greenwich Point Host Employee Luncheon

On December 18th, the FoGP hosted the third annual holiday luncheon for the Greenwich Point park employees at the Innis Arden Cottage. Thank s to **Geri Smeriglio**, Friends of GP board member, for again decorating the cottage and making it festive and for coordinating such a wonderfully tasty spread. We do this luncheon to thank the employees for all the support they give us throughout the year.



## Celebrate St. Patrick's Day with Song!



**Saturday, March 12**

**1:00 – 2:00 pm**

**Innis Arden Cottage**

Join **Sean** and **Deirdre Murtha** for an hour of traditional Irish folk music and dance. The Murtha's accompany themselves on a variety of instruments including fiddle, bouzouki, guitar, piano, harmonica, tin whistle, and bodhan. From lively rhythms and plaintive melodies to touching ballads and infectious sing-alongs, this is a program that is sure to please (and involve!) the whole family.

Presented by the Friends of Greenwich Point. For more information please email [info@friendsofgreenwichpoint.org](mailto:info@friendsofgreenwichpoint.org)



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## STAY IN TOUCH!

For updates and more, go to [friendsofgreenwichpoint.org](http://friendsofgreenwichpoint.org) AND join our Constant Contact list for up-to-date information on events by sending a message to FoGP at [info@friendsofgreenwichpoint.org](mailto:info@friendsofgreenwichpoint.org)

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PO Box 711  
Old Greenwich, CT 06870



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[www.FriendsofGreenwichPoint.org](http://www.FriendsofGreenwichPoint.org)

## Join the Friends of Greenwich Point!

### Your contributions support:

Habitat Restoration  
Invasive Plant Removal  
Traffic-free Sundays  
Nature Education  
Summer Concert Series  
Winter Bird Feeding  
Quarterly Newsletter  
Signage Enhancement  
Bench Replacement  
Umbrella Replacement  
Message Board Installation

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*You can help preserve and  
enhance the beauty and  
enjoyment of  
Greenwich Point !*

Check here if you prefer to receive  
your newsletter by email \_\_\_\_\_

You can also join on our website,  
[www.friendsogreenwichpoint.org](http://www.friendsogreenwichpoint.org)

## Membership Form



Become a member of The Friends of Greenwich Point and join us in preserving and protecting Greenwich Point and promoting safe recreation. Please make your tax-deductible check payable to: Friends of Greenwich Point and mail to P.O. Box 711, Old Greenwich, CT 06870. Or you can use PayPal – [www.friendsogreenwichpoint.org](http://www.friendsogreenwichpoint.org) - membership section.

### Annual Family Memberships

#### Circle Your Choice

- \$25..... FoGP Decal
- \$50..... FoGP T-shirt (size M, L, XL)
- \$100..... FoGP beach umbrella
- \$250..... FoGP canvas tote bag

\_\_\_\_\_ **Please "X" here if you do not wish to receive an incentive**

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_