



Star Gathering I Gazette

News on Star Gathering UCC I Conference Volume 3: March 2013

Nineteenth Century Retreat Center joins Digital Age with Online Registration!

Though Star Island is a *summer* retreat center, a number of the corporation's employees work all year preparing for the summer season. In addition to multiple energy conservation, naturalization and building upgrades for conferees to enjoy, the staff improved the registration process by **adding online registration to the island website**. With a few clicks, conferees can register their entire family and pay conference fees and room and board deposits online. This new process will save conferees time, a check, a stamp, and hand-cramping manual application writing.

"The Star Island staff and community worked so hard to accomplish online registration for 2013," said Mike Bray, Island Registrar. "We hope the ease and convenience of online registration will allow more people to enjoy Star Gathering and Star Island...It has been really, really effective thus far and we hope that continues."

When you utilize the online registration system, you use your credit card to pay for the conference programming fee and a room and board (R/B) **deposit** (you will not pay for the entire conference online). The deposit you make online will be credited toward your conference bill, which will be available at the hotel front desk during the conference and is to be paid prior to departing Star Island. Pricing for our 7-day conference can be found in the Conference Booklet (bluebook) which was mailed to your home or by clicking [here](#).

A few notes about registration: Online registration is only for **full week** conferees. If you will plan to be on island for less than our entire 7 day conference, please contact Keri Mattaliano, our registrar, directly. Secondly, if you are applying for a scholarship (SIC or SIUCC), you must be registered for the conference prior to applying. If you are awarded a scholarship, that amount will be deducted from the bill you receive on island. Next, if you are unfamiliar with using your credit card online, we have included instructions (with pictures) to the end of this newsletter. Lastly, if you do not have a credit card or you are unable to use the online process, you may still mail in your registration materials. The paper application is in your bluebook, or one can be printed from the [Star Island website](#). A hearty THANK YOU to the Star Island Corporation Staff for enhancing our registration experience this year!

Star Island Vocab Words of the Month:

- ★ **The Summer House:** The name of the picturesque pavilion on the east side of the island (a great spot to watch the sunset!)
- ★ **The Well House:** The small pergola-looking building on the front lawn of the hotel. Originally a working well for the island, it is now a central meeting point and the support for the softball scoreboard.

Star Gathering II needs staff!

Our fellow UCC conference, Star Gathering 2, needs childrens (morning) staff. If you are interested in staying a second week (and earning a stipend towards the cost of your second week's stay), please contact Jenny Giering, SG 2 chair, at Dagnyvoice@gmail.com 646-279-5992

IMPORTANT DATES FOR STAR GATHERING I

- ★ **May 15, 2013:** Registration Deadline for GREEN DOT families to qualify for \$2000 cap / \$1600 for single parent families. Deadline for former Pelicans to receive 50% discount (click [here](#) for more details on these discounts)
- ★ **June 1, 2013:** deadline for Star Island Corporation (SIC) Scholarship. Click [here](#) to apply for the SIC Scholarship.
- ★ **June 26, 2013:** deadline for Star Island UCC Scholarship. Please email Keri Mattaliano at sg1_reg@yahoo.com for an application for the SIUCC
- ★ **July 27 – August 3, 2013:** Star Gathering I Conference

Shoaler of the Month: Keri Mattaliano



Keri on Keri: this piece was penned by our own registrar, Keri Mattaliano.

Keri first made the trip out to the Island at two weeks old with her mother, Cindy Parsons, father and brother. Cindy's ardent devotion to Star Island (as evidenced by what some would call questionable decision to haul a two week old baby ten miles off the coast of New Hampshire on a remote rustic island) has definitely been inherited by her daughter. Keri was baptized in the chapel on that fateful first trip by her god-mother, Sue Dickerman, who had also married her parents in that same spot just the previous year. Keri feels that coming out to the Island that young and having such a strong familial tie to Star made the Island her first home. She describes herself as a 'lifer' saying, "I have only missed coming out to Star two years out of my whole life – one I was too young to remember; the other I was miserable the whole week thinking about where I should have been." She vowed during that week to never allow work or life stop her from going to her island home again.

Following in a tradition of service set by her parents (you will still see Cindy out on the pier teaching Tai Chi every morning), Keri has been on staff for the conference every year for the last decade. From rock hopping with the first through third graders (some of whom are in Youth now!) to designing and making our Star Gathering buttons to being tapped as our conference registrar, she insists on having an active role in making our conference great. "I can't just come every summer and sit on the porch and do nothing (although I do plenty of that), I have to be involved", she said, "I love it too much not to give everything I have – even if all that I have is my time, energy and enthusiasm."

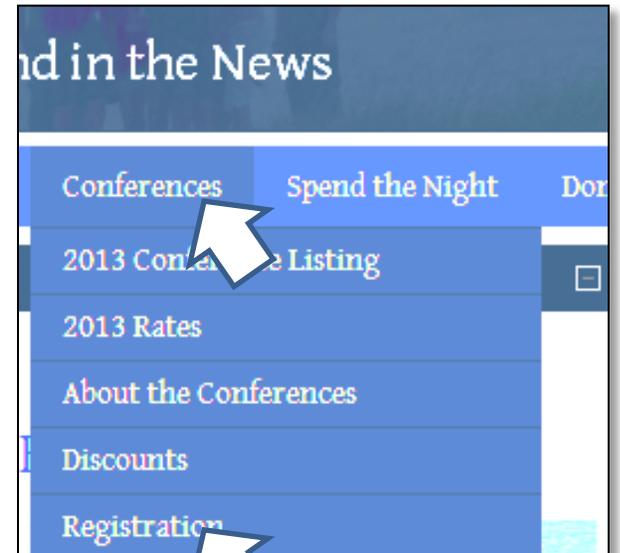
Becoming the conference registrar in 2009 was a perfect fit for Keri. Not only does she get to indulge her ridiculous need to organize information (she's a librarian the rest of the year...), she gets to spend the months leading up to Star Gathering UCC1 talking to people about Star Island. She confessed, "I never have more fun than when I'm talking to a potential Green Dot about the island...it's probably really scary to be on the receiving end of that much raw enthusiasm". When not writing about herself in the third person, Keri can be found happily answering all of your conference questions at sg1_reg@yahoo.com.

Steps to Register for the Full Star Gathering UCC 1 Conference

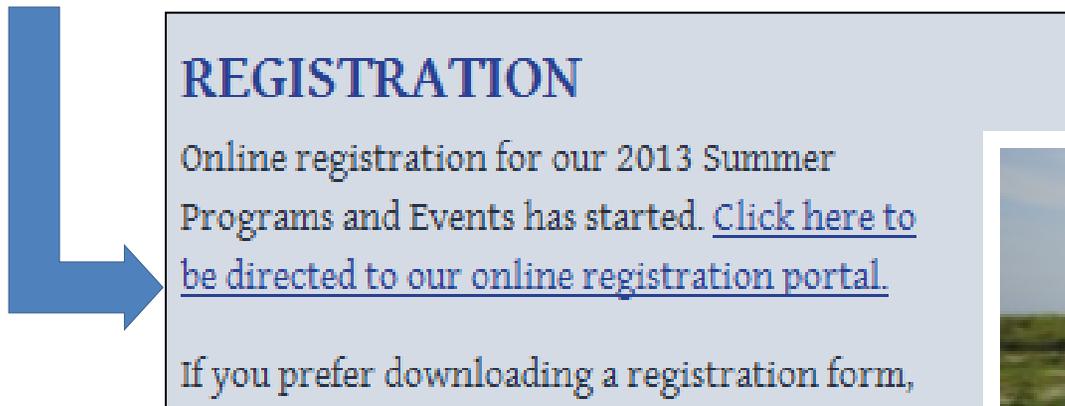
(**IMPORTANT! If you are not staying for the entire week [if you are arriving late or leaving early], please stop registering online and contact our registrar Keri Mattaliano directly at sg1_reg@yahoo.com)

A: Go to www.starisland.org

B: Under the moving photos, click Conferences and a list of options will appear. Click on Registration



C: On the left side of the Registration page, click on the blue underlined verbiage that says "Click here to be directed..."



D: Select our conference from the list (we are about halfway down the list): **Star Gathering UCC 1 Family Conference**. (NOTE: If you registering for the family conference and also need to register a high school student for Youth, please complete the registration for the family conference, then come back to this step to register the conferee for Youth Conference.)



Registration Step 1 (Start): The page will show you our conference information. Click Next

Step 1: Start Step 2: Prices Step 3: Conferee Step 4: Register Step 5: Finish

EVENT SELECTION

Star Gathering UCC 1 Family Conference 2013
 July 27 - Aug 3, 2013
 Jesus Was A Christian (And Other Myths about the Early Church)
Saturday, July 27, 2013

*** = required field**

Prices for registration consist of a conference programming fee and a room and board deposit. The room and board deposit is credited toward your room and board bill which will be available at the hotel front desk during the conference and is to be paid prior to departing Star Island. The room and board bill is based on the room and board rate chart below.

The conference program fee is: \$115/person or \$90/child (entering 8th grade and lower.)
The room and board deposit is: \$200/person (6+)

Room and Board Rates (per person)							
Single	Double	Triple	Motel Double	Motel Single	Youth(12-17)	Youth(6-11)	Youth(Under 6)
\$1080	\$850	\$805	\$1018	\$1467	\$675	\$512	Free

Next

Registration Step 2 (Prices): Select the number of adults, children age 6 – 8th grade, and children under 6 in the drop down menus. (In the example on the right, the person chose 2 adults, 1 child over 6, and 2 children under 6). When you've selected the correct number in your party, when you're finished, click NEXT.

Registration Step 3 (Conferee): Fill out this page with the name, birthdate, school grade (if applicable), dietary requests and rooming accommodation needs. You will need to fill out this information for everyone in your party. When you're finished with this page, click NEXT.

(NOTE: This is the page where you would enter any eligible discounts, such as the family cap or returning Pel Discount. Scholarship requests are not included here as you need to contact the scholarship authority directly [see Important Dates section of this newsletter on page 1 for details])

Registration Step 4 (Register): This is the page where you will fill in your billing information (credit card). When you have filled in your information, click NEXT. *(NOTE: Your credit card will be processed when you click NEXT).*

Registration Step 5 (Finish): When you have successfully entered all information and your credit card was processed on step 4 above, you will see a confirmation screen. An email confirmation will be sent to you shortly.