

Star Island

Summer 2015 • Volume XXXX, Issue 2

Ribbon Cutting Celebrates 100 yrs, Solar Array

by Kyle M. Belmont, Program & Outreach Coordinator

Star Island's centennial celebrations kicked off on Saturday, June 27 with a festive day welcoming guests to learn more about our sustainability efforts and history.

Arriving to the island, guests were treated to live music reminiscent of the early days of Star's history while picnicking on the front lawn. CEO Joe Watts and Board President Sharon Kennedy later gathered folks on the front porch to welcome everyone and speak about Star Island's work. Before everyone sang happy birthday and grabbed some cake, Portsmouth Poet Laureate Kate Leigh shared a poem she wrote about Star.

read it inside

Moving towards the back of the island, people took their first up-close look at the newly installed solar array. Speaking about Star's sustainable initiatives, Island Manager & Facilities Director Jack Farrell said, "This is one way that we are living our vision, and we hope to be a role model for others."

New Hampshire State Representative David Borden, frequent visitor to the Isles of Shoals, spoke about the importance of renewable resources. "Clear heads on Star Island realized that the future of energy consumed here is in the sun, the wind and the tides," Borden said in his remarks to the crowd.

Farrell later gave a detailed presentation of Star's recent improvements beyond the solar array installation. He described the efforts taken to reduce energy consumption on island which was helped by replacing

equipment with more efficient models, and educating the entire island community – guests, staff, day visitors – to have everyone help reach our goals.

Before heading back to Portsmouth aboard the M/V Thomas Loughton, people were treated to tours provided by docents from the Isles of Shoals Historic & Research Association. These tours gave details about Star Island's history as well as a look behind the scenes to areas like our water making facilities.

This successful day, which brought a full boat of people to the island, was made possible through the help of volunteers and staff, and Insource Services, Inc. who sponsored the event. ⚡



Guests gather near the new solar array on Saturday, June 27 to kick off Star Island's centennial celebrations. *Barbara McLeod photo.*

Our Mission

Our mission since 1915 is to hold and maintain Star Island and such other property as the Corporation may hold or acquire, as a center for religious, education, and kindred purposes consistent with the principles of the Unitarian Universalist Association and the United Church of Christ.

Our Vision

Our vision is to create on Star Island an environment that frees all who come to renew spiritually, explore matters of consequence, and gain knowledge about the world as it might ideally be.

Over a Century of Dining at the Oceanic Hotel

by Lois Williams, All Star 1 Conferee

There's more to Star Island's Dining Room upgrade than effective sound-proofing measures! It's now an elegant, summery room with crisp white curtains, pale yellow walls and bright white woodwork. New are black-framed-and-white-matted photocopies of items of Shoals memorabilia related to food and drink at the Oceanic a century ago.

Two photographs of the Oceanic Dining Hall show white tablecloths on the same tables-for-ten still in use today. In one, waitresses are in white dresses and there are centrally-hung light fixtures; in the other, waitresses are in black and the fixtures are similar to today's lighting.

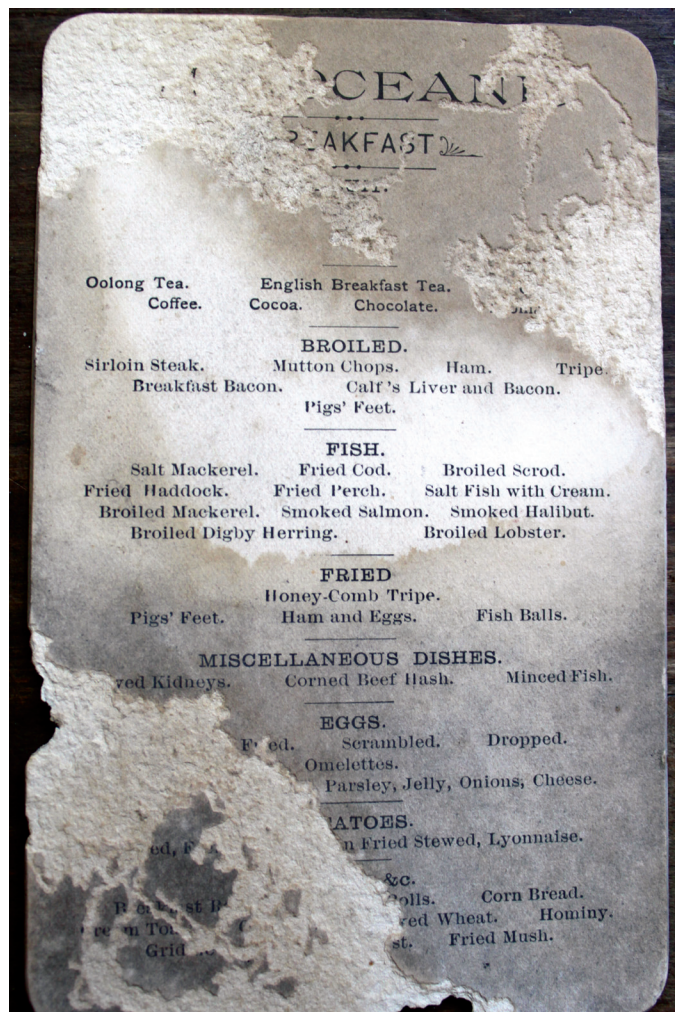
An Hours of Meals poster shows Breakfast served from 7:30 to 10:00 A.M., with early breakfast at 6:30 A.M. for "Parties Leaving on the Morning Boat", and a breakfast menu lists 11 kinds of fish. Dinner was served from 1:00 to 2:30 P.M. An 1883 dinner menu shows a dozen dessert choices and an 1880's dinner menu includes a wine list.

Supper was served from 6:00 to 8:00 P.M., and there is an August 11, 1936 supper menu, showing that guests were offered a different choice of entries each day. Guest room wine cards from the 1890s tell us that a bottle of wine could be delivered to a hotel room!

Purveyor invoices show sources of food served in the Oceanic Dining Hall. The Poultry and Wild Game Stall in Boston's Faneuil Hall sold fowl, broilers, geese, roasters and squabs to the Loughton brothers in 1895 and again in 1896. Locally, a fruit, produce and butter purveyor on Market Street in Portsmouth billed the Oceanic Hotel for potatoes, bananas and maple syrup.

In 1896 the Loughton brothers patronized a Portsmouth establishment on Market Street describing itself as Copper Distillers of Pure Molasses Rum. Another Portsmouth firm, Importers and Manufacturers of Fine Segars, sold the Loughton Brothers 700 cigars and 2,400 cigarettes, abbreviated as "Cigitt."

Finally, there are photographs of the covers of two editions of the Appledore Cook Book and the cover of Miss Parloa's New Cook Book with Marketing Guide. Maria Parloa's Appledore Cook Book, published in 1873 and 1880 and subtitled "Containing practical receipts for plain and rich cooking," was intended for "new brides and housekeepers," but "inspired by her time spent cooking at the Appledore House hotel on the Isles of Shoals." 🦋



Photographs of historic ephemera, like those above and below from the Oceanic Hotel, hang with images showing the scenes from the hotel's Dining Hall through the years. The display was organized by Conference Center Director Justina Maji with assistance from 2014 Vaughn Curator Caitlin Selby. *Tryst Chagnon photos.*



100 Years of the Star Island Corporation

by Sarah Mills, Vaughn Cottage Curator 2015

- In 1915, the Star Island Corporation is incorporated in Massachusetts as a non-profit organization.
- In 1916, Star Island is dedicated with a two day ceremony starting July 22.
- During World War I, conferences are held at the Wentworth-by-the-Sea Hotel in New Castle, NH.
- In 1927, Lyman Rutledge and a team of builders reconstruct the Parsonage.
- During World War II, Star Island is closed due to ocean travel safety concerns.
- Starting in the 1950's Star Island sees a building boom that includes Newton Center, the Motel Units, and the Power House.
- In 1954, Ginny McGill initiates the use of homing pigeons to communicate with the mainland.
- In 1970, the Lyman V. Rutledge Marine Laboratory and Brookfield Youth Center are built.
- In 1997, 100 years of summer conferences on Star Island is celebrated.
- In 2000, Louise's Barn is constructed -- the newest building on island.
- In 2015, the Star Island Corporation celebrates its centennial and the installment of the solar panel array.

New Star

by Kate Leigh, Portsmouth Poet Laureate

New day, new season, new Star, new start
The time for celebration is here!
All eyes on islands lost to time, yet
Protected, improved, and held dear.

New solar panels embrace sun's rays,
Share energy, and power this pace,
By lessening footprints on fossil fuels
We forge a deep friendship with space.

Held as a fragment of universe,
Long known as our spirits' true home,
Bless Star Island with gifts from above,
Step by step, destined, to move on.

So celebrate a long stewardship
And promise to continue in kind,
Our love for this rock all that matters
Connecting the earth with the divine.

Volunteers Sought

The Committee on Appointments makes recommendations to the Board of Directors for shoalers to serve on the thirteen volunteer committees that guide the policy and operation of the Island. We are particularly interested in volunteers with the following professional experience:

- Corporate Human Resources or General Management for the Personnel Committee
- MD's or DO's for the Health Committee

If you are interested in serving, in these positions, or other committee positions, please fill out the survey found on the Writing Desk on the Island, or contact Laird Kelly, co-chair of the committee, at lairdkelly@gmail.com.



Correction

In our last issue we mistakenly credited the photographer of the photo to the left. We are very thankful for Jim Cerny for sharing this photo with us.

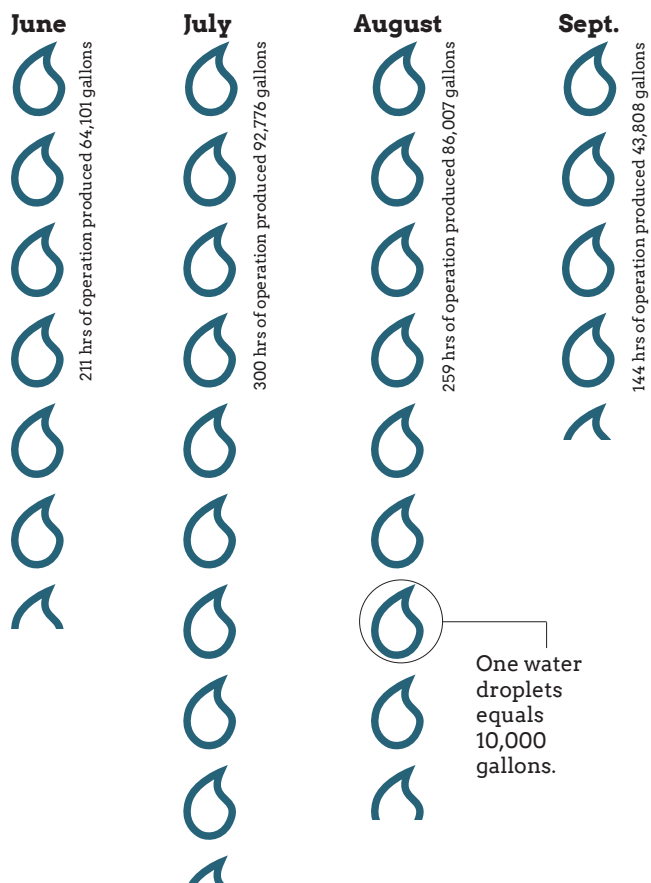
Drinking Water Consumed in 2014



How Our Water Flows

Water on Star Island comes from one of several sources: collected from the rain in a 90,000 gallon cistern, produced from ocean water through reverse osmosis machines, or delivered by boat. Each method is a vital part in ensuring adequate amounts of water for drinking, cleaning, and safety.

Water Created in 2014



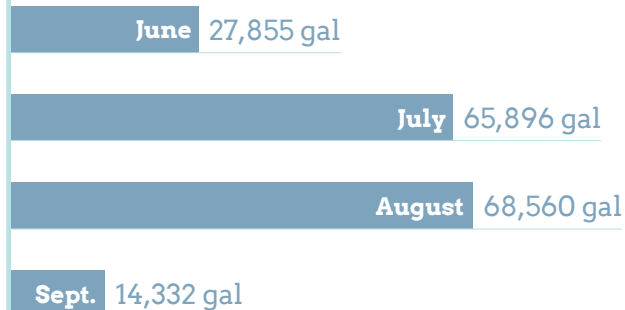
Star Island uses a method called reverse osmosis to create drinking water on island. We take salt water from the ocean and remove the natural salt and sediment under high pressure.

Energy Used for Water in 2014

Star Island not only creates its own drinking water, but also generates its own electricity. And our water systems uses a lot of energy. In 2014, our reverse osmosis machines used 85 kWh on average per day, and our waste water treatment facility used 245 kWh on average per day.

Water Delivered in 2014

When the *M/V Thomas Loughton* stops at Star Island, it not only drops off passengers, it also delivers fresh water. This neighborly service allows Star to run our reverse osmosis machines less, saving energy. Last summer the *Loughton* delivered over 125,000 gallons of water.



Green Competition Educates Guests, Staff

by Kyle M. Belmont, Program & Outreach Coordinator

On a recent sunny afternoon on Star Island, a group of youth from the International Affairs Conference gathered on the lawn in front of Brookfield to look on as a group of Pelicans – our summer staff – sorted through two large garbage bags.

Out of the bags, staff pulled such things as plastic cups, apple cores and tinfoil all in the name of education. The two bags – one from a staff location, the other from a guest area – were picked to see which group is better at separating out recycling and compost from trash. With a goal of reducing the amount of waste sent off island, and to limit our impact on landfills, Star Island tries to educate the entire island community about sustainability.

Organized by Sustainability and Environmental Education Intern Lily Hahn and Sustainability Liaison to Pelicans Kevin Brown, the afternoon provided a friendly, competitive way to visualize the impact of disposing items in the correct bins.

Free ice cream stood on the line for the group with the least amount of recycling and compost in the trash. Several Pelicans looked on behind the youth as more and more items came out of the bags and were placed in labeled piles. Conference youth often shouted out which pile a non-trash item should go. In the end, the conference bag contained fewer rogue items, and the Pelicans headed to dinner. However, with about 2/3 of each bag consisting of items other than trash, there is room for improvement on both sides. 🦋



Passages

Life on a Star Conferee Valerie Schoman married Nicholas Nielsen on July 3, 2014.

Brendan Adams Case was born on November 29, 2014 to Pel Reunion conferees Hillary Adams Case and Greg Case.

Alison Makovec was born on June 4, 2014 to Star Gathering conferees Tammy Prull and Mark Makovec.

Nick Mahoney passed away on December 6, 2014. Nick volunteered often in the Rutledge Marine Lab, was an avid softball player, and attended Life on a Star and Pel Reunion Conferences.

Evelyn "Evie" Dahab passed away on December 10, 2014. Evelyn attended Life on a Star with her parents and brother. She also worked as a Pelican tending to the dock.

Merritt Garland passed away on Janu-

ary 16, 2015. Merritt worked as a Pelican starting in the 1960's.

Allison Brayton passed away on January 19, 2015. Allison was a corporation member since 1962 and attended the International Affairs Conference.

Roberta "Bobbie" Nelson passed away on January 2, 2015. Bobbie attended the Lifespan Religious Education Conference and was a corporation member.

Logan Piefer passed away on March 15, 2015. He was the son of former Pelicans Robin and Andy Piefer.

Dick Soule passed on March 24, 2015. Dick was instrumental in reopening Star Island after its closure during World War II. He helped build Newton Center, Vaughn Cottage, motel units, and the power house. His legend lives on through many heroic acts that saved the island. Dick attended All Star 1 with his family.

Former Pelican Nate Schoman and Yoga Conference Leader Carrie Tyler wed on

March 30, 2015.

Phoebe Rose Duyser was born on January 2, 2015 to former Pelican Bethany Soule Duyser and Mitch Duyser.

August Kennedy Adam was born on May 7, 2014 to former Pelican Julia Kennedy and Karl Adam.

John Kennedy Dickenson was born on April 15, 2015 to former Pelican Liz Kennedy and David Dickenson.

Bert Miller passed away on May 2, 2015. Bert was an International Affairs conferee.

Former Pelican Ben Kunz married Anna Mueller on June 12, 2015 on Star Island.

International Affairs conferees Maria Getoff and John Cook wed on June 27, 2015.

Scotia Olive Towne was born on June 7, 2015. Scotia is the daughter of Star Gathering conferees Jessie Duval Towne and Greg Towne.

The Gosport Regatta: September 26 - 27

Enjoy one last breath of summer on Star Island with our annual sailing race. View this spectacular event arrive in Gosport Harbor. Spend the afternoon on our front porch with other guests as live music flows out over the crowd. A perfect September trip for the entire family with kid-friendly activities. Overnight option includes bbq on Sunday.



thank you to our sponsors:

SAMUEL ADAMS



PETER PAUL
WINES

Good things
come from
Sysco

tugboat alley
PORTSMOUTH, NH
APPAREL, NAUTICAL GIFTS & JEWELRY

OPTIMA
BANK & TRUST

RICCI
LUMBER
Building Materials - Handmade

SHOPS ON STAR

Lamprey  energy

McLane

Gobbi
Plumbing
& Heating


SEASCAPE
CAPITAL MANAGEMENT

IBH
INDEPENDENT BOAT HAULERS

SHIPYARD WASTE SOLUTIONS


M/V Utopia


RIVERSIDE & PICKERING
MARINE CONTRACTORS

AMBIT ENGINEERING, INC.
Civil Engineers & Land Surveyors

Infinite Imaging
Creative Design. Expert Printing.

Purchase tickets online @ StarIsland.org/Regatta



 [/starislandcorp](https://www.facebook.com/starislandcorp)
PORTSMOUTH, NH 03801
STARISLAND.ORG

Star Island
MORTON-BENEDICT HOUSE • 30 MIDDLE STREET

