

# Star Island 2005 Conferences



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For more information about Star Island, please feel free to contact the Star Island Corporation at:

*Mailing Address:* 10 Vaughan Mall, Suite 8, Worth Plaza, Portsmouth, NH 03801  
*Island Phone:* (603) 601-0832      *Island E-Mail:* [message@starisland.org](mailto:message@starisland.org)  
*Island Emergency Phone:* (603) 964-7252      *Office E-mail:* [office@starisland.org](mailto:office@starisland.org)  
*Portsmouth Office Phone:* (603) 430-6272      *Web Site:* [www.starisland.org](http://www.starisland.org)  
*Portsmouth Office Fax:* (603) 430-6270

For more information about specific conferences and conference openings, please contact the conference chairperson(s) or registrar(s) listed in the conference pages of this brochure (pages 16-20 and 25-43).

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# *About Star Island...*

## **Geography, Geology, and Nature**

Life on Star Island, second largest of the group of nine rocky islands lying nearly ten miles southeast of the mouth of the Piscataqua River, is much like living on a boat. On every side one sees and hears the sea. The shores of New England are visible to the west and north, but to the east and south are only sky and sea. The boundary line between Maine and New Hampshire passes through the islands and ledges so that five of the islands, Appledore, Cedar, Duck, Malaga, and Smuttynose, lie within the State of Maine while four of the islands, Lunging, Seavey, Star, and White, lie within New Hampshire. Star Island is in the Town of Rye Historic District and on the National and State of New Hampshire Historic Registers.

Fisherman are believed to have stopped here from before the time John Smith arrived in 1614 and mapped the seacoast, naming these island, now known as the Isles of Shoals, “Smyth’s Isles” and opening up New England to settlement. Probably named for the “shoaling” or schooling of fish, the Isles of Shoals became the busiest commercial port on this side of the ocean and dominated the fish market, indeed setting the price, for a century and a half.

The islands are primarily composed of igneous rocks, especially granite and pegmatite. Traces remain of older metamorphic rocks, which were uplifted by the intruding granite and were largely eroded away. The Isles of Shoals reveal numerous traces of the great ice age, which ended some 10,000 years ago and marked the islands with erratic boulders and a rounding off of the rock masses and souring of the soil.

Life – aquatic and terrestrial – is abundant. While essentially all the soil for the islands is post glacial, and the thin earth and cold winter winds have kept trees and woody plants to a small number, more than 250 land plant species have been identified on the islands. A checklist of the marine flora and fauna of the Isles of Shoals, compiled by the staff of the Cornell University Shoals Marine Lab on Appledore, included 256 species of invertebrates, 139 species of algae, 49 species of fish and 145 species of birds.

The natural world is unavoidable on Star Island. Early risers enjoy the sunrise from East Rock, and everyone enjoys the beautiful view from the lobby porch as the sun sets behind the summer house, site of the old Fort Star. Astronomer and poet alike find inspiration in the unbroken skies. During the light of day, interesting geological formations (trap dikes, a glacial pothole, and “erratics”) become apparent. Well over 100 native plants have been identified. Numerous species of birds have been sighted, including bald eagles on Appledore and Smuttynose Islands, snowy owls, and nesting colonies of cormorants, snowy egrets, and black guillemots (the southernmost on record). Whales and dolphins can be seen in the Shoals area, and harbor seals have been sighted swimming in Gosport Harbor and sunbathing on Star’s rocky shoreline.

*Sailors gave the name Star Island, first referenced in 1651, because the Island’s “points stretch out in all directions like flashes of a distant star”.*

## Summer Conferences and Events

The Star Island Corporation has owned and operated Star Island since 1916. As a not-for-profit organization, our room and board fees are structured to provide affordable individual and family retreat. While Star Island is founded on the liberal spiritual ideals of Unitarian-Universalism and the United Church of Christ, people representing a variety of beliefs attend conferences regularly. Each of the Star Island conferences or events is self-administered, arranging for speakers, workshops, and childcare as well as registering participants. Art, music, natural history, world affairs, science, and spirituality are common threads. Most of the weeklong conferences have some scholarship assistance for those with clear need. The amounts vary, as do the application processes. Please refer to the individual conference descriptions (pages 16-20 and 25-43) for information about availability.



## Buildings and Amenities

Over one hundred-years-old, the Oceanic House is the largest structure on Star Island and its main lobby, writing room, Pink Parlor, and dining hall provide a glimpse into the life of the Grand Hotel Era when Star Island attracted such notable artists and writers as Childe Hassam and Nathaniel Hawthorne. Star Island prides itself on its unique, family style food service in the Oceanic Hotel's historic dining room. Ample, fresh, and healthy food is provided at each meal, and second and third helpings are available. Low-sodium, supplemental-protein, and vegetarian meals are available for those who request them in advance (see the 2005 Registration Form at the center of this brochure). Individual dietary requests such as salt-free, dairy-free, or wheat-free diets cannot be accommodated.

Modern amenities inside the Oceanic House include a snack bar providing bagels, fruit, lobster and crab rolls, ice cream, pretzels, soda, hot dogs, candy, and other snacks for sale every day. The lobby store stocks items such as toiletries, film, and batteries and a messenger service to Portsmouth is available for a modest fee. The bookstore offers a variety of reading material including popular fiction and nonfiction, those written or recommended by conference speakers, and histories of Star Island and the Isles of Shoals. Postcards, note cards, and prints are also available. A gift shop sponsored by the Isles of Shoals Association (Unitarian-Universalist), Inc. offers clothing, jewelry, cards, toys, and novelties. Income from the store enables the ISA (U-U), Inc. to provide valuable support to the island.



In addition to the hotel's guest rooms, a number of small cottages and stone buildings provide accommodations and conference meeting rooms. Life is comfortable but not modern. While living quarters are equipped with shared toilet facilities for each floor, there are no baths. Showers are normally available twice a week.

Special accommodations consist of limited facilities for mobility-impaired individuals. Cottage A has a wheelchair accessible room, with private toilet and basin. This room can accommodate two adult individuals. The main lobby, dining room, and pathways to several cottages and decks are wheelchair accessible. Adjacent to the lobby, there is a specially equipped restroom, including a shower stall. The rugged yet comfortable "Vic's Vehicle" is available to transport guests unable to make it on foot from the dock to the hotel and back, as needed. Although we have these limited facilities, most sleeping quarters and a few conference meeting rooms are reached by walking up at least one flight of stairs or over a rocky path. If you have accessibility concerns, we suggest that you check with the conference chairperson or registrar to see if our facilities will accommodate your personal needs.

One of Star Island's most prominent features is the chapel, a simple stone meetinghouse built in 1800 on the highest point of land. Candlelight chapel services are a cherished Star Island tradition. At the close of each day, Shoalers gather at the foot of the hill and form a procession, carrying candle lanterns as the villagers of long ago carried their whale-oil lamps up the same winding path to the meeting house. Inside the chapel, the candle lanterns are hung on brackets from the walls, providing the only source of light.



Vaughn-Thaxter Memorial Cottage houses a library and reading room, as well as the Thaxter Collection of art and artifacts from the days of island poet and artist Celia Thaxter and her family, and early records of Gosport Village history. A curator is on duty during regularly scheduled hours to answer questions and share island lore and legend.

The Rutledge Marine Laboratory overlooks Gosport Harbor, and serves as the focal point for those who wish to see the island habitat through the eyes of science. Inside, salt water tanks and sea tables provide near-natural habitats for a variety of aquatic creatures collected from the harbor and surrounding waters by the island's naturalists. Terrariums allow visitors to observe and identify island flora and fauna. The marine lab staff is available during regularly scheduled hours to share information and answer questions. They also conduct narrated walks focusing on birds, flowers, geology, and inter-tidal biology.

## Island E-mail and Phone System

We strongly encourage that incoming messages directed to conferees should be sent by e-mail to [message@starisland.org](mailto:message@starisland.org) whenever possible instead of tying up the island's phone system. Though we are unable to respond directly to your e-mails, our staff will print out your message and post it on the conferee message board. When sending an e-mail to this address, please enter "CONFEREE: [first and last name]" in the subject line. Sorry, sending e-mails and faxes from the island is not an option except when extenuating circumstances arise.

Phone access is limited on Star, and phone calls are restricted to six minutes. There is a service charge for outgoing calls to offset call costs and equipment expenses. The primary island phone line is (603) 601-0832, and all calls directed to guests on Star should be made to this number. If the main line is unavailable for use, emergencies or urgent incoming messages can be directed to the back-up island phone line of (603) 964-7252.

## Important Island Regulations and Policies

We try very hard to be as unrestrictive as possible and allow individuals and groups to pursue their enjoyment of Star Island unhampered by "shoulds" and "shouldn'ts". However, we must – for the safety and comfort of all – strictly enforce the following island regulations:

- **Smoking/Open Flame:** Smoking and open flame is prohibited inside all Star Island buildings (with the exception of a few designated areas). Further restrictions may apply (resulting from, for example, extremely dry weather conditions) and will be announced during the mandatory orientation session at the beginning of your stay on Star. Anyone who does not respect this policy will be required to leave on the next boat and will be charged for the full conference period. Tobacco products and alcohol are not available for sale on the island, nor may they be ordered through the messenger service.
- **Electrical:** Due to the limitations of the island's electrical system (we generate our own electricity on Star Island) and for safety reasons, conferees are asked not to bring appliances with heating elements, e.g. heating pads, hair dryers, and hot water immersion heaters. Conferees with medical equipment electrical needs (i.e. three pronged receptacle), please specify these needs on your registration form.
- **Firearms/Fireworks:** No firearms or fireworks are permitted on Star Island. Violators will be required to leave on the next boat and will be charged for the full conference period.
- **Drugs/Alcohol:** Compliance is expected of all federal and New Hampshire State laws governing the possession and use of illegal drugs and the use of alcoholic beverages by persons under 21 years of age. Consumption of alcoholic beverages is not permitted in public areas (except if specifically included as part of a conference function).
- **Syringe Disposal:** All used syringes or "sharps" must be taken to the first aid station for disposal. Do not dispose of sharps in guest rooms or in public trash containers. If someone is "stuck" as a result of careless disposal, the individual



responsible will be required to undergo a series of blood tests locally at his or her own expense.

- ***Pets:*** Conferees and guests are not permitted to have pets on Star Island. Dogs for the legally blind and hearing-impaired individuals are permitted with advanced notice.
- ***Breakwater:*** The breakwater is off limits at all times. Stay back from the water's edge elsewhere on the island as well, since the surf and tides are unpredictable.
- ***Flora/Fauna:*** Do not pick flowers or collect specimens of any kind. Island ecology is delicate—please do not collect any animal, plant, or soil samples.
- ***Minor Children:*** Parents retain full responsibility for their minor children (under age 18) at all times.
- ***Outstanding Charges:*** All outstanding charges must be paid in full or permission to return to the island in a subsequent season may be denied.

Star Island is private property and all conferees, guests and day visitors come to the island under license from the Star Island Corporation. This license may be revoked at any time if, in the sole discretion of those in charge of island operations, such action is deemed necessary because of behavior that causes disruption of a meeting, program, or activity; creates a threat to the health and safety of others; or causes damage to island property.

## Island Ecology

Star Island is a fragile ecosystem, and we take our obligation as stewards of the island seriously. We work hard to create a balance through which thousands of Shoalers each summer can enjoy the island while protecting its wild and natural environment. As an island environment ten miles out to sea, Star Island must provide its own utilities including electricity, water, waste treatment, and garbage disposal. We handle the largest amount of compost in the State of New Hampshire. We grow our own flowers in a perennial garden and display them throughout the hotel and dining hall. We treat all of our wastewater at our permitted wastewater treatment facility, to comply with all pertinent state and federal guidelines and regulations. Maintaining and preserving our historic buildings is at the forefront of our operation.

## Leisure Activities

A lifeguard is on duty at the dock for those who enjoy swimming, boating, and snorkeling. Other outdoor conference-sponsored recreation includes hikes on the rocks, fishing, tennis, basketball, volleyball, softball, and whiffleball (for small children). We have some athletic equipment, but you may want to bring your own tennis racquet and softball glove. For safety reasons, all softball participants are required to use the bats and “low flight” softballs provided by the island. Star Island's music director is available for conference chapel services, choral groups, and other musical activities. In addition, the director conducts a chorus of staff members who perform in the “Pelican Show” each week for the conferees.

## The People Who Work for Star Island

Every job on the island including docking boats and handling freight; cooking and serving food; maintaining the grounds, buildings, power plant, and wastewater treatment facility; and providing all hospitality services is staffed by a “Pelican”, the affectionate term for the nearly 100 young people who work here and often return year after year to what *Yankee Magazine* called “one of the top ten summer jobs in New England”. Star Island Corporation is a membership organization comprised of about 400 members and governed by a board of directors under the direction of Irene Bush, President. Paul Jennings is Executive Director of Star Island. There are nine full-time staff members who work in the Portsmouth office and on Star Island and four seasonal staff members who work on island.

One of the most valuable crew of people who work for Star Island is our volunteers whose jobs during volunteer weekends include carpentry, housekeeping, painting, gardening, chair-caning, and all kinds of maintenance and repair work. Year-round volunteers provide valuable expertise from an array of professions.

## Mandatory Orientation Session

**All conferees are required to attend a welcoming orientation session shortly after arrival in order to receive current/updated information from the staff on safety and island living, as well as information on their conference. As safety regulations change from year to year, and for insurance purposes, even conferees who have attended orientation sessions in previous years are required to attend.**

## Boat and Parking Information

For the 2005 season, conferees will be traveling to and from Star aboard the 149 passenger “Captain’s Lady.” The “Captain’s Lady” has been used primarily for off-shore whale watches. She is well suited for the weather and sea conditions around the Shoals and should be able to make the trip in less than an hour. Use of a vessel this size will mean reverting to the tradition of many years ago when two round trips were necessary to bring the conferences to the island. For many long-time Shoalers, this will be a taste of nostalgia but for others, this will become a “new” tradition. Captain’s Fishing Charters, owner of the “Captain’s Lady,” is based in Newburyport, Massachusetts, but will operate from the dock adjacent to where the Thomas Loughton is berthed. Conferees will park in the same lot we have used for the last several years. There are a few logistical issues yet to be worked out and we will send detailed information to conference leaders well in time for planning your summer trip to the island.

The change in transportation to and from Star Island came about this fall when the Isles of Shoals Steamship Company (ISSCo.) notified us they would be unable to continue their contract with us, in part because of the complications presented by Homeland Security. Since then, we have been in contact with a number of boat companies along the New Hampshire coast and as far south as Boston. After meeting with five boat owners, we selected Captain’s Fishing Charters to provide conference transportation services for next year.

We are confident that the change will have very little impact on most conferences and will do our best to make the transition to a new ferry service as easy as possible for everyone. A long term agreement with Captain's Fishing Charters is being discussed this winter and by the summer, we will be able to apprise you of the nature of ferry services for the next several years.

If you have a private boat, you are welcome to visit the island for a meal, or just to walk around. Please note that the island's dock is very busy, and only dinghies are permitted to tie up. Meals are served family style at 12:30 and 6:30, and include beverages and dessert. There is no lunch on Saturdays. You may call ahead for reservations or inquire at the front desk upon arrival.

## Directions to Portsmouth, New Hampshire

From Interstate Route 95 (North or South), take Portsmouth Exit 7. Follow signs to downtown Portsmouth. The dock is about a half mile from the exit, on the left and across the street from the Sheraton. The entrance gate is no longer the ISSCo. main gate but rather one gate closer to Route 95 (last year's exit gate)—complete driving directions, parking, and boat schedules will be sent to conference leaders well in time for planning your summer trip to the island.

Shuttle Service to Portsmouth from Logan (Boston) and Manchester (NH) Airports: Hampton Shuttle, (800) 22-LOGAN, [www.hamptonshuttle.com](http://www.hamptonshuttle.com), OR Flight Line Inc., (800) 245-2525, [www.flightlineinc.com](http://www.flightlineinc.com). Both services require advanced reservations and drop off at the Sheraton Hotel, across the street from the dock.

C & J Trailways Bus Service: 800-258-7111, [www.cjtrailways.com](http://www.cjtrailways.com), 185 Grafton Road in Portsmouth, is a short cab ride from the dock. Greyhound Bus Lines: 800-231-2222, [www.greyhound.com](http://www.greyhound.com), the terminal in downtown Portsmouth is only a few blocks from the dock.

## Portsmouth Area Accommodations

For a listing of overnight accommodations in the Portsmouth area, contact the Greater Portsmouth Chamber of Commerce, PO Box 239, Portsmouth, NH 03802, (603) 436-3988, [info@portsmouthchamber.org](mailto:info@portsmouthchamber.org), [www.portsmouthchamber.org](http://www.portsmouthchamber.org). For bed and breakfast service provided by local Unitarian Universalists and to benefit South Church in Portsmouth, please contact the church at (603) 436-4762 or [uuchurch@ttlc.net](mailto:uuchurch@ttlc.net). A week's notice would be appreciated.

## Medical Information

The Star Island Corporation assumes no liability for accidents, illnesses, or their treatment. Our first aid station is equipped only for basic treatment in an emergency. In an emergency, the United States Coast Guard provides transportation to the mainland, but the duration from the moment the emergency is reported to the moment the patient is on an ambulance is at least an hour, and may take much longer in poor weather or rough seas.

Individuals with medical conditions should consult their physicians before planning a week on this remote, rocky island. If you have medical equipment electrical needs (i.e. three pronged receptacle), please specify these needs on your registration form. If you have accessibility concerns, please check with the conference

chairperson or registrar to see if our facilities will accommodate your personal needs. For information on prescription medication availability, please see the 2005 Registration Form in the center of this brochure.

If, between submission of your application and arrival on Star Island, your medical status changes so as to require outpatient treatment or physical therapy due to surgery, injury, or illness, the island registrar must be notified immediately. Failure to provide such notification before arrival could result in your being asked to leave Star Island if the island's medical staff, after making its own evaluation, deems such action necessary and in your best interest.

Pregnant women should note that Star Island has no facilities for delivery and is ten long miles by boat from the nearest hospital. If you will be in your last trimester during your conference, seek your doctor's advice. If you will be in the final three weeks of your pregnancy, please delay your visit to Star until next year, when you both can come.

## **How Can I Support Star Island?**

### **The Star Island Annual Fund**

The Star Island Annual Fund provides essential support needed to meet the demands of maintaining and preserving these historic facilities, and we encourage the participation of all in supporting the fund. Tax-deductible contributions, made payable to "The Star Island Annual Fund," are gratefully appreciated and can be sent to the Portsmouth office, included in your island bill, or presented separately on island during the season.

Star Island welcomes your support in passing on the Star experience to future generations through a bequest. If you would like more information about supporting Star Island, please contact Deborah Tombleson, Director of Development & Community Relations, at [dtombleson@starisland.org](mailto:dtombleson@starisland.org) or through the Portsmouth office.

### **Friends of Star Island**

Two organizations, descended from the original Isles of Shoals Summer Meetings Association organized by Thomas H. Elliott, provide ongoing contributions that enrich the equipment, facilities, and visibility of Star Island. The Isles of Shoals Association (Unitarian-Universalist), Inc. supports conferences and special projects and operates the Star Island Gift Shop. The Star Island United Church of Christ, Inc. administers the UCC conference weeks, distributes scholarship funds, and promotes the island among UCC constituencies. Anyone is welcome to join these organizations; denominational affiliation is not necessary. For more information, contact:

Arlyn Weeks, President  
Isles of Shoals Association (U-U), Inc.  
P.O. Box 1409  
Portsmouth, NH 03802

Lisa Duncanson, President  
Star Island UCC, Inc.  
39 Deerfield Street  
Worcester, MA 01602

### **Plan Now for the Summer of 2006**

If you have attended a conference at Star Island or made a contribution within the past two years, your name remains on the mailing list. Others may contact the Star Island Corporation. This brochure is mailed out the first week in February.

# Registration Information...

## How to Register & Registration Deadlines

Remove and carefully complete *both sides* of the 2005 Registration Form found in the center of this brochure. Mail your completed 2005 Registration Form, *one check* (for both the SIC room and board deposit(s) and the conference registration fee(s)), and a self-addressed stamped envelope (postage amount listed in conference pages) to the address designated in the conference section of this brochure (pages 16-20 and 25-43).

Each conference sets its own registration policy and acceptance criteria, though it is generally true that registration acceptance process begins March 10. Registrations postmarked before then will be treated as if postmarked on March 10. Registrations postmarked after March 10 will be accepted, space available, according to postmark date. Check the island's website at [www.starisland.org](http://www.starisland.org) to see if space is available. We recommend that you have your envelope hand-canceled at the post office to ensure that the postmark is legible.

## Housing Preferences

While every attempt will be made to accommodate room type preferences, no room request can be guaranteed. When requesting a room type, please keep the following in mind:

- Conferees are billed according to the accommodations assigned and occupied, regardless of housing requested.  
*Exceptions:* Persons who requested not to be housed in motel units but had to be assigned to them anyway; persons who requested double occupancy but were assigned single occupancy; and minors assigned to motel units at the conference center's discretion.
- If you do not wish to be housed in a motel unit (due to expense), remember to select #5, "Double room (not motel unit)," under housing choices. Persons selecting #2, "Double room," may be assigned to ordinary double rooms or motel units at the convenience of the conference center, and will be billed as assigned.
- Families with children under eight years of age will be housed together, most likely on the second floor of the main building, to facilitate our childcare service.
- If you need accommodations on the first floor or near a rest room, you should indicate this in the Housing Needs column.
- It is important for parents to designate which children/adolescents may or may not share the same room with each other or with their parents. Also, they should state when adjacent or connecting rooms are desired. Attach an extra sheet to your registration form, if necessary.



## Conference Registration Fee

The conference registration fee covers the cost of conference programs (such as conference staff and food for social events); each conference determines the amount and approves expenditures. Unless otherwise noted, conference program and registration fees are in addition to room and board charges. Fees and payment information are listed under each conference's description in the conference pages of this brochure (pages 16-20 and 25-43).

## Child Care

During the regular season, the island staff provides babysitters who are on duty every evening from 8 to 11. To facilitate the sitter service, families with children under eight will be housed together, most likely in the main building. All families with one or more children under the age of eight are charged; the cost for the childcare service—\$38/family (\$13 for Laity Weekend)—is added to the room and board bills.

During scheduled adult activities, most conferences plan a full children's program, including childcare for those under three. Details of each conference's children's program may be found in the conference section of this booklet (pages 16-20 and 25-43) or by calling the conference registrar.

## Minor Medical Release Form

Any person under eighteen years of age attending a conference without a parent or legal guardian is **required** to have a Minor Medical Release Form **completed, signed by a parent or legal guardian, and returned to the conference registrar before the application can be accepted.** This form is available from your conference registrar and on the official Star Island web site at [www.starisland.org](http://www.starisland.org).

## Room Classifications

- Single rooms are limited in number.
- Double, full-sized beds are limited in number. Double rooms have twin beds.
- Motel units are limited to double occupancy by adults only. They have private toilets and wash basins and two twin beds.
- Rooms accommodating four persons are charged at the triple room rate.

## Room and Board Deposit Policy

The Star Island Corporation requires a deposit towards room and board for each person age two and over. The amount of this deposit is \$100 for conferences five days or more in length and \$50 for conferences four days or less in length. The deposit is due at the time of registration and is refundable up to six weeks prior to the conference start date, at which time it becomes non-refundable. Deposit refunds requested within six weeks of the conference start date resulting from exceptional circumstances are made at the sole discretion of the Star Island Corporation; inquiries should be made directly to the Island Registrar, contact information above or by e-mail to [landerle@starisland.org](mailto:landerle@starisland.org) (note that all other registration inquiries should be directed to the conference registrar). Most conference's registration fees are refundable up to the same date as the room and board deposit, but there are some exceptions, which are specified in the conference pages of this brochure (pages 16-20 and 25-43).



## 2005 Cash/Check\*\* Room and Board Rates

				Motel Double	Motel Single
<b>Adults (18+ years)</b>	<b>Triple</b>	<b>Double</b>	<b>Single</b>		
<b>7 day Conference</b>	\$515	\$551	\$667	\$587	\$975
<b>6 day Conference</b>	\$459	\$492	\$602	\$522	\$844
<b>Youths (age by conference date)</b>		<b>0-1 Yrs.</b>	<b>2-5 Yrs.</b>	<b>6-11 Yrs.</b>	<b>12-17 Yrs.</b>
<b>7 day Conference</b>		\$112	\$260	\$341	\$438
<b>6 day Conference</b>		\$104	\$224	\$303	\$387

### Notes Pertaining to Room and Board Rates

- \*\* We are in the process of implementing a credit card payment system for the 2005 season; credit card rates will not reflect the cash/check discount included in the above rate chart.
- The balance of room and board bills and parking fees are to be paid in full on island during your conference week. Personal and travelers checks are welcome. We cannot accept foreign currency, though Canadian checks payable in U.S. funds are accepted. There is a \$25 service charge for returned checks.
- The above rates do not include conference program and registration fees, which are specified in the conference pages of this brochure (pages 16-20 and 25-43). Staff members are paid as salaried employees and gratuity is no longer requested.
- Rates listed are per person and apply to ages as of conference date.
- Occupancy refers to the number of adults occupying a room; children's rates are determined by age. When children and adults are housed in the same room, adults are charged for double occupancy and children are charged by age.
- Children living in motel units at parent's request will be charged adult rates.
- Please review all charges on your bill before payment. We strongly encourage that any issues be resolved before you leave.
- Persons attending for less than the full conference period will be charged at the daily guest rate, not to exceed the full conference rate.

Although the Star Island Corporation makes every effort to limit the cost of attending a conference on Star Island, room and board rates increase each year in an attempt to keep pace with increased costs associated with operating and maintaining the conference center. The Corporation does not want anyone to hesitate to apply for the conference of their choice. If paying at the above rate would preclude you and your family from attending a conference, please inform your conference registrar. Although aid cannot be promised, many conferences have established scholarship programs to help in cases of hardship. If you would like additional information about a specific conference's scholarship program, please contact the Star Island Corporation, and we will put you in touch with the appropriate conference representative.



## 2005 Conference Pages...

In addition to the 2005 Registration Form in the center of this brochure, the remaining pages provide specific information about the 2005 conferences on Star Island. If you would like additional information about a specific conference, please contact the corresponding conference representatives listed in these pages.

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### Young Adults Conference

*Saturday, June 18 to Tuesday, June 21*

Get your body back on Star Island! We welcome you to join us at the Young Adults Conference, a fabulous way to start your summer in a beautiful place with some spectacular people. This year we will again welcome the Liberal Religious Adults Conference as we reconnect with old friends and meet some new ones.

We'll be doing all the stuff we love to do on Star Island...rock hopping, porch dancing, rocking chair aerobics, the Annual Softball Massacre (this year has got to be our year, right?), and our Fabulous Royal Fancy Dress Banquet. We'll have workshops, an auction, and yes, a social hour or two. There will be plenty of time for the quieter joys, candlelit chapel services, catching up with old friends, and reflective moments lit by those beautiful Star Island sunsets.

The Young Adults Conference offers a unique opportunity to continue your Star Island experience or begin a new one at an age when you're a little too old for youth conferences but not yet ready to join a family conference. Don't let the joy and the importance of Star Island fade into a remote memory. Join us.

**Minister of the Week:** We welcome back the Rev. Shana Goodwin. Shana currently serves as Associate Minister of All Souls Church, Unitarian in Washington, DC. She spent five summers attending YRUU week and two summers as a Pelican. She looks forward to returning to Star to create rich and meaningful worship experiences.

**Chairperson:** Stacy Farr, 2033 Haste Street #210, Berkeley, CA 94704, 510-548-9044, [bigyacattack@yahoo.com](mailto:bigyacattack@yahoo.com).

**Registration Information:** The SIC room and board deposit of \$50/person and a YAC registration fee of \$40/person are due at the time of registration. To register, please make *one check* for \$90/person payable to "Brooke Bradicich, YAC Registrar" and mail with completed 2005 Registration Form and a self-addressed stamped envelope (\$.60 postage) to Brooke Bradicich, 17A Horseshoe Pond Lane, Concord, NH 03301, 603-229-0775, [imakirschgirl@yahoo.com](mailto:imakirschgirl@yahoo.com). Scholarship money is available—please inquire with your registration. Sorry, neither the room and board deposit nor the conference registration fee is refundable after May 7.

**Room and Board:** Cash/check rates are \$249 (triple), \$269 (double), \$324 (single), \$278 (motel double), \$465 (motel single)/person. Rates include the room and board deposit and dinner on day of arrival through lunch on day of departure, but do not include the conference registration fee. The balance of room and board charges is payable on the island during your stay.

**Boat Schedule:** See page 10 for information about boats and parking.

## Conference on the Arts

*Saturday, June 18 to Saturday June 25*

The Star Island Conference on the Arts is a unique adult conference. It is dedicated to the growth and the enjoyment of creative energies and artistic abilities in all persons.

Our visual arts workshops invite both beginning and professional watercolorists to explore their connection to this beautiful art form. If that does not tempt you, there is also a rice paper collage workshop that promises to be intriguing and inspirational to either experienced or undiscovered talents. Our dance workshop invites persons of all ages and all abilities to participate in the creation of the spiritual dance movement tradition that inspired Isadora Duncan and Ruth St. Denis. You might choose to learn the skills of writing poetry and how to get published. Our music and drama workshops are under construction – come and be pleasantly surprised! Photographers will learn more about taking pictures of people, and there is always someone around who is ready to discuss technique and the latest digital cameras.

Whether you choose to join one of these workshops, work on your own, or ‘major’ in front porch sitting, the beauty of the island will motivate your creative talents. Be thrilled by evening performances presented by professional artists and get to know them at afternoon lectures or tea.

Rise before dawn to take photographs or to paint the sunrise. Enjoy magnificent island sunsets, or stay up late and watch the stars wheel through the sky. Enjoy the sea air, watch the birds, sing, play, get busy or take a nap. Walk around the island or sit on a rock and watch the sea. Do everything – or do nothing. Have a glass of wine and enjoy the company and the conversation of shoal-mates old and new.

Come for a week – come back for a lifetime.

**Web Site:** For up-to-date details of the conference and our workshops, visit our web site at [www.stararts.org](http://www.stararts.org).

**Minister of the Week:** Maggie Rebman

**Chairperson:** Ron Cox, 725 Chelsea Drive, Winchester, VA, 22601 (540) 678-4011 [chair@stararts.org](mailto:chair@stararts.org).

**Registration Information:** A SIC room/board deposit of \$100/person plus an Arts registration fee of \$75/person are due with the registration. Please mail *one check* for \$175/person to “Star Island Conference on the Arts”, a completed 2005 Registration Form and a self-addressed (\$.60) stamped business-sized envelope to Bob Flanagan, Arts Registrar, 1821 St. Mary’s Street, Raleigh, NC 27608-2222, 919-833-3724, [registrar@stararts.org](mailto:registrar@stararts.org). Registration begins March 10. Registrations postmarked before then will be treated as if postmarked on March 10. Registrations postmarked after March 10 will be accepted, space available, according to postmark date. Check the island’s website at [www.starisland.org](http://www.starisland.org) to see if space is available. Sorry, the room and board deposit and the conference registration fee are not refundable after May 7. Scholarship applications, available from the Registrar, must be postmarked by April 15.

**Room and Board:** See seven-day conference information, page 15.

**Boat Schedule:** See page 10 for information about boats and parking.

# Isles of Shoals Historical and Research Association (ISHRA) June Conference

*Tuesday, June 21 to Saturday, June 25*

ISHRA's June Conference is all about embracing and exploring some specific facet of the history, lore and legend of the Isles of Shoals. In keeping with ISHRA's mission, this adult conference focuses on the preservation and sharing of knowledge of the human and natural history of the Isles as it pertains to the chosen theme for the week. Creative workshops in areas such as art, photography, and music that are related to the conference theme enhance and expand opportunities for fun and learning...truly there is something for everyone!

This year's historically-themed conference will focus on "**Gosport's Graven Images**" – the gravestones dotting Star Island's landscape – and the lives of the citizens that lay buried beneath them. Listen to talented and knowledgeable speakers tell of the stories the "stones" tell about early American art and symbolism, stonecutting, genealogy, and long-ago "Life on a Star". Take a tour of the island with the Rev. John Tucke (come back to life!...his monument is the largest gravestone in NH). Attend an 1800s Town Meeting. Attend a 1700s worship service in the Chapel. Share ghost stories around a bonfire. Enjoy painting, photography, flower "pounding" and "rubbing" (sorry, gravestone rubbing is illegal in NH, but you'll be learning the same techniques). Or just relax...listen to the surf crashing on the rocks, enjoy the June roses, read a book, and whilst away the hours rocking on the Oceanic's porch. Take advantage of being on Star Island for "the longest day of the year". Whatever you do (or don't do), you will be rejuvenated and enlightened!

**Chairpersons:** *Chair* – Laurence Bussey, 2456 Lafayette Road, Portsmouth, NH 03801; (603) 433-3222; [skipper@neyachts.com](mailto:skipper@neyachts.com). *Vice-Chair* – Janet Saunders, PO Box 360, Kingston, NH 03848; (603) 234-0682; [jsaunders@jmacofnh.com](mailto:jsaunders@jmacofnh.com).

**Registration Information:** The SIC room and board deposit of \$50/person is due at the time of registration. The ISHRA registration fee is \$55/person for members and \$65/person for non-members (the additional \$10 will be applied to the dues for a one-year membership). To register, please make *one check* for \$105/person (or \$115/person) payable to "ISHRA Conference" and mail with completed 2005 Registration Form and a self-addressed stamped envelope (\$.60 postage) to Amy Cook, ISHRA Conference Registrar, 78 Bedford Street, Apt 5, Manchester, NH 03101, (603) 440-8010, [ptilota@yahoo.com](mailto:ptilota@yahoo.com). Registration begins March 10. Registrations postmarked before then will be treated as if postmarked on March 10. Registrations postmarked after March 10 will be accepted, space available, according to postmark date. Neither the room and board deposit, nor the registration fee is refundable after May 10.

**Room and Board:** Cash/check rates are \$302 (triple), \$325 (double), \$394 (single)/person, \$338 (motel double), \$564 (motel single)/person. Rates include room and board deposit and dinner on day of arrival through breakfast on day of departure, but do not include the conference registration fee. The balance of room and board charges is payable on the island during your stay.

**Boat Schedule:** See page 10 for information about boats and parking.

# Natural History Conference

*Saturday, June 25 to Saturday, July 2*

The Natural History Conference (NHC) is for adults who have an interest in expanding their knowledge and appreciation of our world and their place in it.

**Theme: *Backyard Astronomy—How to Enjoy the Night Sky***

Laquetta Karch, an Amateur Astronomer, will be joining us to explain how to enjoy the night sky from your backyard without spending hours in a classroom or having anything more than binoculars. Topics will include introduction to the night sky and star hopping, observing with binoculars, solar observing, lunar observing, deep sky objects (galaxies, nebulas, and clusters), as well as equipment selection. While logistics will probably preclude getting her 18 inch scope on the island, many telescopes will be on hand and conferees are not required to bring equipment. Two sessions per day are planned, the normal formal morning lecture with a practical session after evening chapel (weather permitting). Laquetta's husband, Ed, will be giving side talks on his work in Africa on the setup of National Parks, sustainable development, and his work with Wangari Maathai, 2004 Nobel Peace Prize recipient.

**General Information:** NHC is a casually structured conference in a welcoming atmosphere with voluntary participation in all activities. There are guided walks exploring flowers, birds, geology, and tidal pools, plus evening astronomical observing sessions. Group activities include sports (softball, tennis, rowing, and hikes around the island), journaling, morning meditations, Renaissance music "on the rocks," bridge, Scrabble, team Trivial Pursuit, intergenerational discussions, a trip to Appledore Island, and traditional New England dancing. A regular highlight is the lay-led candlelight service every evening. A full-time art workshop offers instruction and art materials for beginners and more experienced artists. Joint activities with the YRUU Conference provide some of the most stimulating and rewarding aspects of the week.

**Minister of the Week:** Fred Campbell, Unitarian Universalist Minister (Ret.)

**Chairpersons:** Curt and Angela Holmer, 22250 Great Trail Terrace, Sterling, VA, 20164, (703) 421-7850, [NHCChairs@ciholmer.com](mailto:NHCChairs@ciholmer.com).

**Registration Information:** The SIC room and board deposit of \$100/person and an NHC registration fee of \$70/person are due at the time of registration. To register, please make **one check** for \$170/person payable to "Natural History Conference" and mail with completed 2005 Registration Form and a self-addressed stamped envelope (\$.60 postage) to Russ Peterson, NHC Registrar, 7 Hemlock Ridge Lane, York, ME 03909, (207) 363-0985, [rpeters9@maine.rr.com](mailto:rpeters9@maine.rr.com). Registration begins March 10. Registrations postmarked before then will be treated as if postmarked on March 10. Registrations postmarked after March 10 will be accepted, space available, according to postmark date. Sorry, neither the room and board deposit nor the conference registration fee is refundable after May 14. A scholarship fund is available to give partial grants to those who otherwise could not attend the Natural History Conference. You may request an application from the registrar. The completed form must be returned to the registrar by March 10.

**Room and Board:** See seven-day conference information, page 15.

**Boat Schedule:** See page 10 for information about boats and parking.

# Young Religious Unitarian Universalists

Saturday, June 25 to Saturday, July 2

**Theme:** *Mind Your Heart*

YRUU is a conference for youths run by youths (ages fifteen to twenty-two). “Mind Your Heart” is about making the connection between the logical brain and the emotional heart.

You may come to this conference as a new Shoaler or old, but we will all leave together as one. This week will make you laugh and cry, find new friends, and find yourself. Along the way, you’ll participate in activities ranging from bonfires, s’mores, and candlelight services to swimming, strolling, and lying in the sun; everyone and everything here is welcomed with open arms. Around the clock, our conference interconnects as a strong community.

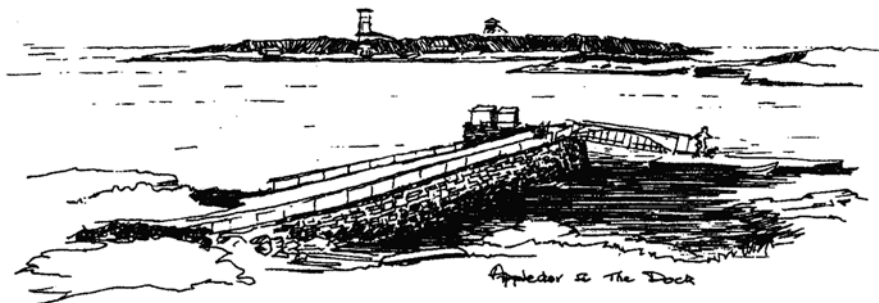
**Minister of the Week:** To be announced.

**Chairperson:** Payton Crawford, 46 Park Vale Avenue, Apt. #4, Allston, MA 02135, (781) 249-6368, [pillbug67@yahoo.com](mailto:pillbug67@yahoo.com).

**Registration Information:** The SIC room and board deposit of \$100/person and the YRUU registration fee of \$70/person are due at the time of registration. The YRUU registration fee includes an optional \$10 donation to the scholarship fund, so the conference may be available to everyone. We use our own registration form, which can be obtained through our registrar, Celia Reef (contact information below). Registration begins April 1. Registrations postmarked before then will be treated as if postmarked on April 1. Registrations postmarked after April 1 will be accepted, space available, according to postmark date. To register, please make a check for \$170/person payable to “Lucille Reef, YRUU Registrar” and mail with completed registration form and a self-addressed stamped envelope (\$.60 postage) to Celia Reef, YRUU Registrar, 71 Oak Street, N. Billerica, MA 01862, 978-362-1149, [Poetrypuppy@yahoo.com](mailto:Poetrypuppy@yahoo.com). For scholarship information, contact Celia Reef. Sorry, neither the room and board deposit nor the conference registration fee is refundable after May 14.

**Room and Board:** See seven-day conference information, page 15.

**Boat Schedule:** See page 10 for information about boats and parking.





**Registration Policies and Procedures**

Our aim is to make the Star Island conference experience as widely available as possible. For this reason, we ask that you note any other conferences to which you are applying:

**Also Applying For:**

Attendance at more than one conference is discouraged if it could result in a conferee being denied admission to the only conference to which he/she has applied.

If you need additional copies of this form for yourself or others please feel free to copy it. The form may also be downloaded from the Star Island web site, [www.starisland.org](http://www.starisland.org).

Each conference establishes its own registration policy and acceptance criteria. Weeklong conferences have a written policy available upon request from the conference registrar or chairperson. Because assuring fairness in the registration process takes time, applicants are advised that they may not receive a response regarding acceptance until late April.

**Special Information Requested**

Some conferences ask for information beyond what's requested in other areas of this form. Please review each section below to make sure you provide all of the information requested by the particular conference to which you're applying.

**Religious Education Conference:**

Acceptance to this conference is based on consideration of answers to the following (please respond on a separate sheet of paper):

- Describe your RE involvement last year.
- What is your commitment for the coming year?
- How will this conference help you fulfill that commitment?

Check box to request financial assistance.

**Pelican Reunion Conference:**

Name:

Name When You  
Were a Pelican:

Years/Crews Worked:

**YAC (LRA), Laity, and ALL September Conferences:**

If you would like a lobster for lobster night (market price), you must order in advance. Please indicate the number of lobsters for each person in your party:

Name _____	# of lobsters ____	Name _____	# of lobsters ____
Name _____	# of lobsters ____	Name _____	# of lobsters ____
Name _____	# of lobsters ____	Name _____	# of lobsters ____

**Other:**

Check box if you are willing to help a new Shoaler get acquainted with Star Island. If you have additional questions, please contact your registrar or chairperson.

**Medical Information**

The Star Island Corporation assumes no liability for accidents, illnesses, or their treatment. Our first aid station is equipped only for basic treatment in an emergency.

**Special Health Conditions:**

On a separate sheet of paper, please supply information concerning any health condition which might affect your participation in conference programs and/or which would help us to provide proper care in case of an emergency. Include names, specific medical conditions, allergies, continuing medication, electrical needs for medical equipment, etc.

**Chronic Medical Conditions:**

Individuals with chronic medical conditions should consult their physicians since no special equipment or facilities are available on island. We will accept registrations from mobility-impaired individuals providing they are self-sufficient. If you have a condition that affects walking ability, inform the conference registrar or chairperson so they may assist you in planning your stay, or contact them with other questions/concerns you may have about our ability to accommodate your needs.

**Medications:**

We keep a very small supply of prescription and over the counter medicines on the island and, therefore, cannot guarantee that we will have a particular type or dose available when needed. Please bring enough of any medicine you need to cover the length of your stay plus an extra two days. If we have to send a prescription to the mainland for you, we must ask you to pay the full retail price and our messenger fee. We can give you the pharmacy's receipt, but we cannot submit insurance reimbursement paperwork on your behalf.

**Pregnant Women:**

If you are pregnant, you should seek your doctor's advice. If you are in the final three weeks of pregnancy, we ask that you delay your visit to Star Island until next year.

**Minors:**

Any person under eighteen years of age attending without a parent or legal guardian is required to obtain a **Minor Medical Release Form** which must be completed and signed by a parent or legal guardian, and returned to the conference registrar before your application can be accepted. This form may be downloaded from our web site at [www.starisland.org](http://www.starisland.org) or:

Check box if you need a **Minor Medical Release Form**

**In case of emergency:**

In order for your registration to be complete, please list the name and phone number of someone (not on Star Island) whom we can contact in an emergency:

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Relationship to You \_\_\_\_\_

Day Phone (      ) \_\_\_\_\_ Night Phone (      ) \_\_\_\_\_

<p><b>Key Information for Applicants</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Use a separate application form for each conference.</li> <li>• Use a separate application form for anyone with a different address.</li> <li>• This form may be reproduced. <i>Copy both sides.</i></li> <li>• Please make <i>one check</i> for all room and board deposits and registration fees and include with this form; the balance of room and board fees are payable on the island.</li> <li>• Room and board deposit is required to validate your registration.</li> <li>• See conference description for the appropriate mailing address.</li> </ul>	<p><b>Applicant's Checklist for VALID Registrations</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> <b>Both sides</b> of this form must be completed.</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Enclose <b>one check</b> for the correct amount (including all room and board deposits and registration fees), payable as directed in the conference description.</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Address the envelope to the conference registrar.</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> A self-addressed stamped envelope must accompany this form (see conference description for postage amount).</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Sign and date this form.</li> </ul>	<p><b>For Registrar's Use Only:</b></p> <p>Date Received: _____</p> <p>Date Accepted: _____</p> <p>Date Cancelled: _____</p> <p>Waiting List: _____</p>
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Names: Last, First, Middle Initial (Please Print)	Relationship	New to this Conference? (circle one)	* Date of Birth (MM/DD/YY)	Sex	Adult's Profession and/or Avocation or Child's Grade (Next Fall)	Name Tag Should Read:	Room Type (See #s 1-6, Below); REQUIRED	1 <sup>st</sup> Floor Room Needed?	Roommate Preference (First and Last Name) & Additional Housing Needs	Menu Choice (See Letters A-E, Below)
	Self	Y or N								
		Y or N								
		Y or N								
		Y or N								
		Y or N								
		Y or N								

<p><b>Payment Information</b></p> <p>Enclosed find <b>one check</b> for \$ _____, which totals the room and board deposit(s) and registration fee(s) needed for <b>every person</b> registering on this form (see conference descriptions for specific amounts). Balance of room and board payable on island.</p> <p><b>Contact Information</b></p> <p>Street, Apartment _____</p> <p>City, State, Zip Code _____</p> <p>Home Phone _____</p> <p>Work Phone (&amp; fax, if applicable) _____</p> <p>E-mail _____</p>	<p><b>Menu Selection</b></p> <p>Our kitchen cannot handle individual dietary needs (including allergies). We are not able to offer salt-free, dairy-free, or wheat-free diets. Make only one selection from the following list for each conferee listed above.</p> <p>A. Regular—Includes meat, fish, and poultry.          B. Veggie—Includes fish and poultry when available.          C. Veggie—Includes fish when available.          D. Veggie—Includes poultry when available.          E. Veggie—Veggie only.</p>	<p><b>Room Types**</b></p> <p>Room requests are honored when possible. In box above, indicate roommate preference and additional housing needs you have (e.g. crib, cot, electric, bathroom). You may indicate a 2<sup>nd</sup> room type choice. Single and double refer to occupancy, not the bed configuration of the room.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Single room</li> <li>2. Double room</li> <li>3. Double room with double bed (few available)</li> <li>4. Motel unit (twin beds, private toilet, double occupancy only)</li> <li>5. Double room (not motel unit)</li> <li>6. Triple</li> </ol> <p>If departing Portsmouth at other than the date and/or time specified for your conference, indicate date/time (a.m. or p.m.) of Portsmouth departure: _____</p> <p>Is anyone above applying to another conference? Y or N _____</p> <p>If space is available in only one conference, indicate first choice: _____</p> <p>* <b>Listing date of birth is required for those under 18 and is requested of ALL applicants.</b></p> <p>** <b>All residential space is strictly non-smoking.</b></p>
<p><b>Signature</b> _____</p>	<p><b>Date</b> (MM/DD/YY) _____</p>	<p>Which Star Island conference(s) have you attended before? (Give dates) _____</p> <p>New to Star (yes or no)? _____</p> <p>How did you learn about Star? Please be specific... _____</p>

# All Star I Family Conference

*Saturday, July 2 to Saturday, July 9*

We invite you and your family to join us as we share moments together during a variety of daily community activities and personal reflection amidst the beauty of the Isles of Shoals. Children interact together in a morning and afternoon program under the supervision of our talented children's staff. Organized options for adults include the morning practicum by our speaker and activities such as talks on the rocks, guided walks, music, tennis, yoga, exercise, swimming, rowing, writing, painting, chapel services, book group, games, and exploring the natural island environment. Evening entertainment includes the Pelican Show, Musicale, and Stunt Night. You are welcome to participate in as much or as little as you wish. Only the island orientation and the fire drill are mandatory.

## **Theme:** *In the Moment*

Our morning practicum speaker will be Ed Hardy, a UU Minister from Chatham, MA. He will be joining us having just completed a four month silent retreat. Our practicum on mindfulness will focus on your own experience, and use those experiences to increase attention in our daily lives. With practicing mindfulness and increasing our awareness, we may live more hours of our life. Ed has practiced Theravada Buddhism for eighteen years and has said that his "teacher taught him nothing."

**Minister of the Week:** Rev. Ed Lane, Minister Emeritus, First Parish of Waltham.

**Chairpersons:** Hal and Valerie Basdekis, 49 Jersey Street, Dedham, MA 02026 (781) 326-5725, [halbas@aol.com](mailto:halbas@aol.com)

**Registration Information:** The SIC room and board deposit of \$100/person over the age of two (no family maximum) is due at the time of registration. The All Star I registration fee is \$85 for adults (18 and over) and \$65 per child (up to a family maximum of \$365 for parents and their children). To register, please mail *one check* (for both the room and board deposit(s) and the All Star I registration fee(s)) payable to "All Star I Conference" and mail with completed 2005 Registration Form and a self-addressed stamped envelope (\$.60 postage) to Bill Tibbs, All Star I Registrar, 79 Pearl Street, Cambridge, MA 02139, (617) 876-1492, [tibassoc@aol.com](mailto:tibassoc@aol.com). Registration begins March 10. Completed registrations postmarked before then will be treated as if postmarked on March 10. Registrations postmarked after March 10 will be accepted, space available, according to postmark date. Neither the room and board deposit nor the conference registration fee is refundable after May 21. For information on a limited number of available scholarships and our admission policies, contact the registrar. Note that all scholarship requests are due by April 15.

**Room and Board:** See seven-day conference information, page 15.

**Boat Schedule:** See page 10 for information about boats and parking.



## All Star II Family Conference

*Saturday, July 9 to Saturday, July 16*

Surrounded by vistas of natural beauty, conferees expand their sense of wonder and connectedness in a safe and peaceful harbor of renewal. An affirming intergenerational community is coupled with an outstanding Children's Program. Mind, body, and spirit are replenished through a balance of activities chosen to stimulate thought through morning lecture and afternoon talks. Celebrate creativity and fun through events such as Musicale, talent show, art, Quadrathlon, tennis, softball, yoga, and polar bear swimming. Spiritual rejuvenation is enhanced through the beauty of candlelight services and exploration of the natural world.

**Theme: *Effective Communication Enhancement for Partnering and Parenting***

"Relationships are fundamental to our lives and our well-being. Effective communication is the glue that holds and builds our relationships. Learn how we can enhance our ability to talk with people we love, we work with and with whom we interact daily." Theme speaker, Dr. Lisa L. Lahey, received her doctorate from Harvard Graduate School of Education. She has consulted across the educational spectrum from K-12, colleges, universities and their boards, and numerous corporations and non-profits. She is Associate Director of Harvard's Change Leadership Group, a national project funded by the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation dedicated to the development of leadership capacity toward the improvement of public school districts. She is Founder and Senior Consultant of Minds at Work, an organization dedicated to working with leaders to enhance mental complexity within individuals and teams within their organizations.

**Minister of the Week:** Rev. Roberta Nelson is minister emerita of the Cedar Lane UU Church, Bethesda, MD. She and her husband Chris are trainers for the sexuality education program, OWL, and co-authors of the parent programs *Parents as Resident Theologians*, *Parents as Social Justice Educators*, and *Parents as Spiritual Guides*.

**Chairpersons:** Bonnie L. Sylvester and Jonas R. Gavelis, 1238 Washington Street, Gloucester, MA 01930, (978) 281-0594, [as2chairs2005@yahoo.com](mailto:as2chairs2005@yahoo.com).

**Registration:** The SIC room and board deposit of \$100/person over the age of two is due at the time of registration. The conference registration fee is \$55/adult (18 and over) and \$45/child (up to a family maximum of \$190). Checks are payable to "All Star II Conference". Donations of \$10 or more may be made to the Ginny Levine Scholarship Fund. Access [www.allstar2.gurus.com](http://www.allstar2.gurus.com) for pre-registration instructions or use the 2005 Registration Form in this brochure. Each adult child out of high school must register separately. Send completed 2005 Registration Forms and *one check* (for both the room and board deposit(s) and the registration fee(s)) to Rodney Lowe, 22 Hayes Lane, Lexington, MA 02420, (781) 863-5930, [as2reg2005@yahoo.com](mailto:as2reg2005@yahoo.com). Registration begins March 10. Completed registrations postmarked before then will be treated as if postmarked on March 10. Registrations postmarked after March 10 will be accepted, space available, according to postmark date. Neither the room and board deposit nor the conference registration fee is refundable after May 28.

**Financial Aid:** Apply to Bernie May, 500 East 83<sup>rd</sup> Street, New York, NY 10028, (211) 734-8695, [sbmay@aol.com](mailto:sbmay@aol.com). Awards and inquiries kept confidential.

**Room and Board:** See seven-day conference information, page 15.

**Boat Schedule:** See page 10 for information about boats and parking.

# Religious Education Conference

Saturday, July 16 to Saturday, July 23

## Theme: *Transforming Communities*

Richard Gilbert, longtime UU minister and writer, will be our theme speaker. He will share many ideas that can transform communities, addressing such areas as expanding faith development, the commitment of shared ministry, the language of reverence, social justice and more. Special guest, Denny Davidoff, former UUA moderator, will be with us on Sunday!

We will offer the UU Identity Renaissance module and a credentialing workshop that will give practical guidance on the process, including tips on creating your own portfolio.

**General Information:** Our program is a working conference for new and longtime professional religious educators and volunteers in our programs. We believe that seminary students will benefit from this program. Experiencing the joys and challenges of religious community on beautiful Star Island can be transforming. Workshops stimulate and chapel services inspire. Special events are fun, and moments of solitude are restoring. There is programming planned for all family members from kindergarten to older adults with limited space for three and four year olds who are out of diapers. Complete programming information will be mailed separately and can be obtained from the registrar (see below) after February 1.

**Minister of the Week:** Rev. Dr. Nancy Jay Crumbine, writer, actor, public speaker and professor, again shares her many talents with us (262 Hopson Road, Norwich, VT, 05055, (802) 649-2430, [nancy.crumbine@dartmouth.edu](mailto:nancy.crumbine@dartmouth.edu) ).

**Chairpersons:** Merry Stockwell, 405 Middletown Road, Roxbury, NH 03431, (603) 352-6383, [merry@stockwell.mv.com](mailto:merry@stockwell.mv.com) and Anne Bancroft, 7 Concolor Avenue, Newton, MA 02458, (617) 332-3438, [fusnre@fusun.org](mailto:fusnre@fusun.org).

**Registration Information:** Acceptance process begins March 1. The Star Island Corporation room and board deposit of \$100 per person and an RE conference registration fee are *both* due when you register. The RE Conference “early bird” (before April 1) registration fee is \$110. Please make *one check* for \$210 per person (before April 1) or \$220 per person (after April 1) payable to “Star Island RE Conference” and mail with completed 2005 Registration Form and a self addressed stamped envelope (\$.60 postage) to Mike D’Attilio, 97 Manning Boulevard, Albany, NY 12203-1707, [Dattilim@strose.edu](mailto:Dattilim@strose.edu), (518) 489-6442 (H), (518) 454-5115 (W). E-mail inquiries preferred. Please note that your registration is not complete unless both sides of the registration form are filled in, a description of your RE involvement is included, and payment of both the room and board deposit and the RE Conference registration fee is made. Scholarship aid is available; inquiries should be made at the time of your registration. Sorry, neither the room and board deposit nor the conference registration fee is refundable after June 4.



**Room and Board:** See seven-day conference information, page 15.

**Boat Schedule:** See page 10 for information about boats and parking.

# International Affairs Conference

*Saturday, July 23 to Saturday, July 30*

IA Week continues its long history presenting morning theme talks focused on complex global issues, a variety of afternoon and evening activities, and a caring young people's program. Become part of this diverse, inviting community!

**Theme: Food Security: Global Challenge to People, Cultures and Nations**

"Food Security" exists when all people, at all times, have physical and economic access to sufficient safe and nutritious food for an active and healthy lifestyle. How does Food Security affect government stability and the safety of citizens? What role does it play in the economic and political success of developing nations? Almost one billion are chronically hungry worldwide - what inroads are being made? How are genetic modifications impacting the food we eat and the people who provide it? Each morning a different expert speaker will explore a variety of perspectives followed by spirited Q&A sessions. Creative afternoon workshops include art, writing, yoga, and music. "Timely Topic" talks and discussions cover a range of subjects including "State of the Nation". Traditions including morning chapel, guided walks, good-natured gaming, softball, a sunset campfire, an art show/auction and candlelit evening services intermingle with quiet time for reading, relaxation and connecting with new and old friends.

**Web Site:** [www.star-ia.org](http://www.star-ia.org)

**Minister of the Week:** The Rev. Bob Thayer.

**Conference Committee:** *Chairperson:* Lloyd Yanis, 1660 Linden Avenue, Highland Park, IL 60035, (847) 266-1618, [Lloydyanis@aol.com](mailto:Lloydyanis@aol.com); *Members:* Robin Barraza; Kristin Laverty; Linda Linton; Joann O'Hara, *Chair Emerita*; Rosemarie Smurzynski; Josh Spero; Greg Trerotola.

**Young People's Program:** This enriching program, directed by Robin Barraza, engages young people from 3½ to 18. Supervised care is available for younger children in the morning; afternoon care can often be arranged with other parents.

**Registration Information:** The SIC room and board deposit of \$100/person over the age of two is due at the time of registration. The IA registration fee is \$125/adult (18 and over), \$75/youth (3-17), and \$50/child (under 3). A suggested \$35 donation will enhance the IA Fund for scholarships and conference programs. Limited scholarships are available—a scholarship application will be attached to acceptance letters. Registration begins March 10. Completed registrations postmarked before then will be treated as if postmarked on March 10. Registrations postmarked after March 10 will be accepted, space available, according to postmark date. The registration fee less \$20 and the full room and board deposit are refundable up to June 11, after which both become non-refundable. To register, please make *one check* (for the SIC room and board deposit(s), IA registration fee(s), and IA Fund donation) payable to "International Affairs Conference" and mail with completed 2005 Registration Form and a self-addressed stamped envelope (\$.37 postage) to Kristin Laverty, IA Registrar, 38 Freeman Drive, Plymouth, MA 02360, (508) 759-8095, [kristin@laverty.org](mailto:kristin@laverty.org).

**Registration Policy:** Visit the IA web site at [www.star-ia.org](http://www.star-ia.org) or contact Kristin Laverty. At least 15% of available spaces are reserved for new participants.

**Room and Board:** See seven-day conference information, page 15.

**Boat Schedule:** See page 10 for information about boats and parking.



# Institute on Religion in an Age of Science

*Saturday, July 30 to Saturday, August 6*

## *Varieties of Spiritual Transformation: Scientific and Religious Perspectives*

Spiritually transformative experiences are among the most powerful experiences human beings can have. Many scientists have recently begun to engage in groundbreaking studies of spiritual transformation from biological, psychological, and socio-cultural perspectives. This conference will address a series of integrative questions on the findings of contemporary sciences along with the understandings of world religions and the reflections of contemporary religious and philosophical thought.

What is spiritual transformation? How is it different from other kinds of human transformation, from other forms of religious experience, and from biological, psychological, and sociological parameters?

What are the neurological correlates of spiritual transformation? Under what conditions and with what practices do transformative changes in the brain occur?

How are spiritual transformation, its conditions, and its outcomes understood from the perspectives of various religious traditions compared to scientific understandings?

How do events beyond a person's conscious control, such as loss of loved ones, near-death experiences, and sleep paralysis, shed light on spiritual transformation?

What physiological, cognitive, affective, and behavioral changes result from spiritual transformation? How do transformative processes contribute to health?

What are individual, group, and social benefits and/or costs of spiritual transformation experiences?

What are the theological meanings of experiences of spiritual transformation?

**Speakers:** Andrew Newberg, brain imaging and medicine; Solomon Katz, biological anthropology; Ashok Gangadean, philosophy; Yudit Greenberg, Jewish studies; Joan Koss-Chiomo, anthropology; Bruce Greyson, psychiatry; David Hufford, medical humanities; Richard C. Schwartz, psychotherapy; Jean Kristeller, psychology; Philip Hefner, theology. Chapel Speaker: Karl E. Peters, philosophy of religion.

**Chairpersons:** Andrew Newberg and Karl E. Peters, 30 Barn Door Hills Road, Granby, CT 06035, (860) 653-3754, [kpeters909@aol.com](mailto:kpeters909@aol.com).

**Minister of the Week:** Rev. William Falla

**Program for Youth:** Professionally designed and led program for ages 3-17.

**Web Site:** [www.iras.org](http://www.iras.org) for further information.

**Registration Information:** The SIC room and board deposit of \$100/person over the age of two (no family maximum) is due at the time of registration. The IRAS registration fee is \$125/adult (\$100 for IRAS members who register by the deadline of March 10 and non-members who apply for membership by March 10) and \$100/youth (3-17) up to the family maximum of \$500. There is no registration fee for children under 3, but parents are responsible for their care at all times. To register, please make *one check* payable to "IRAS" and mail with completed 2005 Registration Form and a self-addressed stamped envelope (\$.60 postage) to Bonnie Falla, IRAS Registrar, 810½ North 9<sup>th</sup> Street, Allentown, PA 18102, (610) 432-8711, [fallab@moravian.edu](mailto:fallab@moravian.edu). The registration fee (less 20%) and the SIC room and board deposit are refundable up to June 18, after which they are non-refundable.

**Room and Board:** See seven-day conference information, page 15.

**Boat Schedule:** See page 10 for information about boats and parking.

# United Church of Christ Family Conference I

*Sunday, August 7 to Saturday, August 13*

**Theme: Preaching that Changes the World**

In a world where power seems to win out over truth, in a country deeply divided over the meaning of liberty, democracy, security, and equality, we need the truths of prophetic religion more than ever. By looking at the life and work of five great preachers—Harry Emerson Fosdick, Martin Luther King, Jr., William Sloane Coffin, Jr., Barbara Brown Taylor, and Abraham Joshua Heschel—you will see how they engaged Scripture and battled the “powers and principalities” of the world. Few of us are prophets; all of us can learn from the prophetic tradition these men and women embraced about how to speak and act the great truths of our faith.

Please join Warren Goldstein, chair of the History Department at the University of Hartford, as he shows us how the secular and religious strands of American culture come together through prophetic preaching. Warren, his wife Donna Schaper, and his children have been UCC I Shoalers for the past dozen years. Warren’s *William Sloane Coffin, Jr.: A Holy Impatience* was recently published by Yale University Press.

**General Information:** Come discover and explore the traditions and beauty of Star Island, a place of community, sharing, growth, and enrichment for people of all ages. For the indulgent Shoaler, activities available include arts and crafts, hand bell ringing, worship services, family games, swimming, tennis, softball, walking, and jogging. On the lighter side, we offer chair rocking on the porch, reading, napping, laughing, chatting, snacking, knitting, and high tea. The food is plentiful, the sea breezes are soothing, and the Chapel worship is inspiring. In the morning, an experienced, loving, and devoted staff cares for all children from infancy to Junior High. Afternoon and evening activities are open to all ages.

**Web Sites:** [www.warrengoldstein.com](http://www.warrengoldstein.com) and [www.donnaschaper.org](http://www.donnaschaper.org)

**Minister of the Week:** The Rev. Dr. Donna Schaper, until recently Senior Minister of the Coral Gables (FL) Congregational Church, is one of the most widely published women ministers in the country and one of the UCC’s best-known prophetic preachers. She will reflect on the place and practice of prophecy: its joys, its promises, and its tribulations—guaranteeing a spiritual and thought-provoking week for all.

**Chairpersons:** Jane E. Francis, 378 Lincoln Street, Franklin, MA 02038, (508) 528-3260, [capecod27@aol.com](mailto:capecod27@aol.com); Michael Schiavo, 277 Pleasant Street #2L, Northampton, MA 01060, (413) 586-1065, [quinnibuck@aol.com](mailto:quinnibuck@aol.com).

**Registration Information:** The SIC room and board deposit of \$100/person over the age of two (no family max.) is due at the time of registration. Before April 10, the UCC I registration fee is \$80/adult (18 and over), \$75/youth (14-17), and \$50/child (13 and under), up to the family max. of \$250. After April 10, the registration fee becomes \$85/\$80/\$55, respectively, up to the family max. of \$275. The youth conference is separate from the family conference, thus fees for high school youth cannot be included toward the family max. To register, please make *one check* (for both the room and board deposit(s) and the registration fee(s)) payable to “Star Island UCC” and mail with completed 2005 Registration Form and a self-addressed stamped envelope (\$.60 postage) to Crista Woolley, 20139 Laurel Hill Way, Germantown, MD 20874, (301) 540-0408, [StarRegUCC1@aol.com](mailto:StarRegUCC1@aol.com). Registration begins March 10. Registrations postmarked before then will be treated as if

postmarked on March 10. Registrations postmarked after March 10 will be accepted, space available, according to postmark date. Sorry, the room and board deposit and the registration fee are not refundable after June 26. Scholarship funds are available for those who need assistance; inquiries should be made to the registrar at the time of your registration, as scholarship applications are due back no later than June 1.

**Room and Board:** See six-day conference information, page 15.

**Boat Schedule:** See page 10 for information about boats and parking.

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## United Church of Christ Youth Conference I

**Sunday, August 7 to Saturday, August 13**

At this year's UCC I Youth Conference, we will encounter the experiential side of faith as we explore various aspects of trust, faithfulness, and a way of seeing the whole in God through Christ. Join us for a raucously good time as we engage these themes in worship, play, fellowship, play, topical discussions, and, oh yes...don't forget play! Renew old friendships and discover new ones. Play ball with the Pels, compete in the Lobstratholon, dress as you aren't, hang around the campfire, and strut your stuff in the 'talent' show. It all happens at UCC I. See you 'on the rawk'. Aloha!

**Chairpersons:** Shayna Appel, 846 Upper Dummerston Road, Brattleboro, VT 05301, (802) 257-7764, [Shaytheo@hotmail.com](mailto:Shaytheo@hotmail.com); Annie Hall, 55 Lanark Road, Apt. 3, Brighton, MA 02135, (774) 571-0434, [ahall2@babson.edu](mailto:ahall2@babson.edu); Robin Junker, 2156 Riford Brook Road, Braintree, VT 05060, (802) 728-9393.

**Registration Information:** See "Registration Information" for UCC I, page 30.

**Room and Board:** Cash/check rate is \$387/person (includes the room and board deposit but not the registration fee), the balance of which is payable on the island.

**Boat Schedule:** See page 10 for information about boats and parking.

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## United Church of Christ Family Conference II

**Saturday, August 13 to Friday, August 19**

**Adult Program and Worship Theme:** *Jesus in the Lost Gospels*

Elaine Pagels writes that "Christianity had survived brutal persecution and flourished for generations – even centuries – *before* Christians formulated what they believed into creeds. The origins of this transition from scattered groups to a unified community have left few traces." It was in the fourth century that Christian bishops gathered to "agree upon a common statement of beliefs – the so-called Nicene Creed." It is believed that there were more than thirty known gospels in existence at the time the four we know today were written. Most of these "lost" gospels, rejected by the church fathers, contain fascinating insights into Jesus' life.

Join with our dynamic program leader, Rev. Curtis Johnson, and our minister, Rev. Molly Phinney Baskette, as we learn about the so-called "Lost Gospels." Curtis, who is currently minister of adult education at First Congregational Church of Anoka, MN, will lead presentations designed to stimulate in-depth discussion. His past careers include ministering in local churches and working in the media department at the Mayo Clinic. He and his wife, Claire, look forward to their first visit to Star.

**Minister of the Week:** Rev. Molly Phinney Baskette, her husband Peter, and their son Rafe first came to Star a few years ago. Molly is currently minister of First Congregational Church of Somerville, MA. Her experiences in church work include

roles as youth volunteer, conferee, and leader at Silver Lake Conference Center in Connecticut, and coordinator of Casa San Jose Orphanage in Colima, Mexico.

**General Information:** Open to people of all faiths, this conference allows you to do as much or as little as you wish during your stay on Star. You may decide to create artwork, nap, knit, sing, play handbells, make baskets, make new friends, explore the island, laugh, reflect, attend morning communion, evening vespers, and programs of music, comedy and drama, or simply sit on a rocker on the Oceanic Hotel porch. There will be plenty of time for intergenerational activities. Whatever you decide to do, we hope you will feel the presence of God around you.

**Chairpersons:** Debbie-Redding Sampson, 36 Storer St, Kennebunk, ME 04043, (207) 985-1441, [dsampson36@adelphia.net](mailto:dsampson36@adelphia.net); Bruce Murray, 401 East 4<sup>th</sup> St, Newport, KY 41071, (859) 261-4940, [BruceMurray@fuse.net](mailto:BruceMurray@fuse.net); Carolyn Kerr, 169 Portsmouth St, #95, Concord, NH 03301, (603) 223-2312, [CKerr@upton-hatfield.com](mailto:CKerr@upton-hatfield.com).

**Registration Information:** The SIC room and board deposit of \$100/person over the age of two (no family max.) is due at the time of registration. Before April 10, the UCC I registration fee is \$80/adult (18 and over), \$75/youth (14-17), and \$50/child (13 and under), up to the family max. of \$250. After April 10, the registration fee becomes \$85/\$80/\$55, respectively, up to the family max. of \$275. The youth conference is separate from the family conference, thus fees for high school youth cannot be included toward the family max. To register, please make *one check* (for both the room and board deposit(s) and the registration fee(s)) payable to “Star Island UCC” and mail with completed 2005 Registration Form and a self-addressed stamped envelope (\$.60 postage) to Lori Benson, UCC II Registrar, 81 Union Street, Bridgewater, MA 02324, 508-807-0273, [starucc2@comcast.net](mailto:starucc2@comcast.net). Registration begins March 10. Registrations postmarked before then will be treated as if postmarked on March 10. Registrations postmarked after March 10 will be accepted, space available, according to postmark date. Sorry, the room and board deposit and the registration fee are not refundable after June 26. Scholarship funds are available for those who need assistance; inquiries should be made to the registrar at the time of your registration, as scholarship applications are due back no later than June 1.

**Room and Board:** See six-day conference information, page 15.

**Boat Schedule:** See page 10 for information about boats and parking.

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## United Church of Christ Youth Conference II

*Saturday, August 13 to Friday, August 19*

Join us this summer as we “Celebrate a Year of Our Faith!” Explore the important times of the year and the holidays that help define our faith. Meet new people and strengthen relationships with old friends as we build a community participating in team sports, games, planned activities, discussion groups, and regular worship. Learn about our faith and ourselves as we share stories and experiences that define who we are.

**Chairperson:** A. J. Dickerman, 6 Grant Street, Natick, MA 01760, (508) 653-3083, [ajdickerman@yahoo.com](mailto:ajdickerman@yahoo.com).

**Registration Information:** See “Registration Information” for UCC II, page 32.

**Room and Board:** Cash/check rate is \$387/person (includes the room and board deposit but not the registration fee), the balance of which is payable on the island.

**Boat Schedule:** See page 10 for information about boats and parking.

# Weekend Conference of the Laity

Friday, August 19 to Sunday, August 21

**Theme:** *Praying the Psalms: Living Life Fully*

The Psalms reflect every emotion we feel as we go about all aspects of our lives. With the guidance of Sister Judy Fortune, our guest speaker, we will explore the Psalms and how they can be used in our everyday lives. Our weekend will be a combination of music and solitude, as well as communal prayer using specific psalms as they might apply to our personal spiritual journey. Please bring a personal, favorite psalm.

Sister Judy Fortune is a Sister of Mercy of the Regional Congregation of Vermont. She received her Masters of Divinity degree from Weston School of Theology in 1980. She served as Retreat and Spiritual Director on staff at Mercy Center in Madison, CT, until returning to Vermont in 1982, where she founded the Institute for Spiritual Development, a sponsored ministry of the Sisters of Mercy. She has served as retreat/spiritual director in many New England areas for the past 25 years.

**General Information:** There is plenty of time for recreation, crafts, and wonderful fellowship, as well as for personal reflection, relaxing and ‘rocker hopping’ on the porch. Sunrise and candlelight chapel services are highlights of our conference. Laity Weekend is a family conference and people of all ages are invited to attend. In addition to the conference theme program, there are arts and activity programs available for older children and babysitting is available during the conference.

**Chairpersons:** Sharon Flaherty, 568 Westford Road, Milton, VT 05468, (802) 893-1808, [SFlaherty@globalnetisp.net](mailto:SFlaherty@globalnetisp.net) and Alan Chandler, 70 Red Barn Hill Road, Milton, VT, 05468, (802) 893-7565, [Tr95mus@aol.com](mailto:Tr95mus@aol.com).

**Registration Information:** The SIC room and board deposit of \$50/person over the age of two is due at the time of registration. The Laity registration fee is \$15/adult or teen (over 15), \$6/youth (11-15), and free for children under 11. To register, please make *one check* (for both the SIC room and board deposit(s) and the conference registration fee(s)) payable to “Jane Coyne, Laity Conference Registrar” and mail with completed 2005 Registration Form and a self-addressed stamped envelope (\$.60 postage) to Jane Coyne, Laity Registrar, PO Box 1408, Center Harbor, NH 03226, 603-253-6338, [JBCNH@aol.com](mailto:JBCNH@aol.com). Registration begins March 10. Registrations postmarked before then will be treated as if postmarked on March 10. Registrations postmarked after March 10 will be accepted, space available, according to postmark date. Sorry, the room and board deposit and the conference registration fee are not refundable after July 8. *Scholarship funds* are available for those who need assistance; inquiries should be made to the registrar at the time of your registration. If you would like to have lobster for dinner, you must place your order on the 2005 Registration Form.

**Room and Board:** Cash/check rates are \$211 (triple), \$227 (double), \$275 (single), \$236 (motel double), \$394 (motel single)/adult (18 and over), \$193/youth (12-17), \$175/youth (6-11), \$132/youth (2-5), and \$78/youth (under 2). Rates include the room and board deposit but not the conference registration fee. The balance of room and board charges is payable on the island during your stay.

**Boat Schedule:** See page 10 for information about boats and parking.

# Life On A Star Family Conference I

*Sunday, August 21 to Saturday, August 27*

**Theme:** *Let it be a Dance!* Come to Star this summer to be nourished, challenged and inspired; to make art and play instruments; to nurture old friendships and forge new connections; to sing, knit, read, cook and practice yoga; to commune with nature and explore your dreams. Come to Star and let it be a dance!

Our theme speaker is Ric Masten, nationally known poet, folk singer, songwriter, storyteller, performance artist and UU minister. Masten has been described as a “serious humorist,” a “motivational lyricist,” and “a modern-day minstrel who thrives on live, personal exchange” in the tradition of Will Rogers and Ogden Nash. He confronts the big issues—race, war, religion, the battle of the sexes, substance abuse and mortality—as they affect our most intimate personal relationships.

This year we also welcome a distinguished special guest, Ron Suskind, winner of the 1995 Pulitzer Prize for feature writing with the Wall Street Journal. Suskind is the author of two best-selling nonfiction books (most recently, *The Price of Loyalty: George W. Bush, the White House, and the Education of Paul O’Neill*) and many influential magazine stories, including last fall’s *New York Times Magazine* cover story, “Faith, Certainty and the Presidency of George W. Bush.” He is a passionate, affecting, inspiring speaker.

**Minister of the Week:** The Rev. Carlton Elliott Smith, Assistant Minister, First Parish Unitarian Universalist Church of Arlington, Massachusetts.

**Chairpersons:** David and Sara Whitford, 23 Water Street, Arlington, MA 02474, (781) 646-3440, [2005loas1chairs@yahoo.com](mailto:2005loas1chairs@yahoo.com).

**Registration and Scholarship Information for Both LOAS Conferences:** The SIC room and board deposit of \$100/person over the age of two is due at the time of registration. The LOAS registration fee is \$80/adult (18 and over) and \$60/child (17 and under); age at time of conference. To register, please make *one check or money order* (for both the SIC room and board deposit(s) and the conference registration fee(s)) payable to “Life On A Star Conference” and mail with completed 2005 Registration Form and a self-addressed stamped envelope (\$.37 postage) to Patti Emmons, LOAS Registrar, 1149 Saint Finegan Drive, West Chester, PA 19382, phone: (610) 793-0503, fax: (610) 793-0624, [patti@emmons.org](mailto:patti@emmons.org). Registration begins March 10. Registrations postmarked before then will be treated as if postmarked on March 10 and will be included in the lottery, should the conference be oversubscribed at that date. Registrations postmarked after March 10 will be accepted, space available, according to postmark date. Sorry, the SIC room and board deposit and the conference registration fee are non-refundable for cancellations made after July 10.

A scholarship fund is available to give partial grants to those in need of financial aid to attend a LOAS conference. Registration forms submitted to the registrar that include a scholarship request instead of the room and board deposit and the registration fee will not hinder acceptance so long as they are postmarked by March 10. The registrar will send a scholarship form to applicants. Information is confidential and awards are granted before the July 10 cancellation deadline.

**Room and Board:** See six-day conference information, page 15.

**Boat Schedule:** See page 10 for information about boats and parking.



# Life On A Star Family Conference II

*Saturday, August 27 to Saturday September 3*

If you've never been to Star Island, come and find out why people return to the island again and again and again! LOAS II offers you many opportunities to nurture the mind, rejuvenate the body, uplift the spirit, and HAVE FUN! Revel in longstanding island traditions and perhaps start a new one of your own.

Activities include something for everyone. Youth Groups meet morning and afternoon, from Baby Barn through Senior High. Adult workshops include soapstone carving, swing dancing, the writing circle, digital photography, yoga, and song-writing. A variety of intergenerational activities are also planned. If you'd prefer a more laid back vacation, spend the day in a porch rocker with your book or knitting, chatting with neighbors and savoring snack bar cuisine. Enjoy the Talent Show and Musicale and be inspired by morning and evening chapel services. Learn about island ecology or island lore and legends. Join other late-nighters in the dark warmth of the Starlite Café, an open-mike coffeehouse where performances of all types are welcome.

**Theme: *The Wonder of Creation:*** Our theme for the week is “The Wonder of Creation,” in celebration of life on this Planet. To enrich our understanding of the natural world around us, our theme speakers are naturalists Bernd Heinrich and his wife Rachel Smolker. Over the past decades, they have had deeply intimate experiences with nature, particularly with members of the animal kingdom, and have the gift of storytelling – a wonderful combination! Arguably today's finest naturalist author, Bernd Heinrich is best known for his books *The Mind of the Raven*, *The Trees in My Forest*, *The Geese of Beaver Bog*, *Winter World*, and *Why We Run*. An ultrarunner, Bernd is also a former U.S. 100-mile record holder. Rachel Smolker sold her possessions in the early 1980s to live among wild dolphins in Australia for 15 years. Her stories, observations, and research are recounted in her book, *To Touch a Wild Dolphin*. Bernd and Rachel will choose from among their most popular topics and discuss a new subject each morning.

**Minister of the Week:** Rev. Richard M. Fewkes, Minister Emeritus of First Parish Church, Norwell, MA, and Vice President of the Unitarian Universalist PSI Symposium, an independent affiliate organization of the UUA which studies the psychic and mystical aspects of human consciousness as well as providing a forum for the exploration of holistic health, healing, and parapsychology.



**Chairpersons:** June and David House, 53 Pleasant Street, Rehoboth, MA 02769, (508) 252-3621, [junebhouse@aol.com](mailto:junebhouse@aol.com).

**Registration and Scholarship Information:** See “Registration and Scholarship Information for Both LOAS Conferences” on page 34.

**Room and Board:** LOAS II is a seven-day conference this year; see seven-day conference information, page 15.

**Boat Schedule:** See page 10 for information about boats and parking.

# Pelican Reunion Conference

*Saturday, September 3 to Monday, September 5*

**Theme:** *Twenty-Fifth Anniversary*

This is the 25<sup>th</sup> Pel Reunion Conference and we mean to celebrate it and other anniversaries as well. The first hotel had staff in 1872. Some of our offspring may be working on Star in 2072. Anniversaries abound. We each have anniversaries to remember. Doing so will offer entertainment, insight and connections.

Special programs will include a singing workshop, anniversary party and a group work project. Familiar events will be there, too: nightly social hour, Yankee exchange, book swap, game night, crafts, and intergenerational activities.

AND there's a signing bonus: we'll have a newly designed anniversary tee shirt as a souvenir for everyone who gets a 2005 Registration Form in by May 1. (If yours is late, you will be able to purchase shirts before you come to the island.) Give us sizes on your registration form.

**General Information:** At this limited services conference we make our own beds and eat buffet style. Special diets are not possible. For lobster or vegetarian options, please mark the appropriate spaces on the 2005 Registration Form. Although PIT and babysitting are provided on a limited basis, please understand that parents are responsible for their children at all times.

**Web Site:** For information and updates: [www.pelicansarepelicans.com/reunion](http://www.pelicansarepelicans.com/reunion).

**Minister of the Week:** Rev. Dr. Helen Cohen.

**Chairpersons:** Catherine and Brad Greeley, Box 810, New Castle, NH 03854, 603-430-0969, [uubrad@aol.com](mailto:uubrad@aol.com) or [ccgreeley@aol.com](mailto:ccgreeley@aol.com).

**Registration Information:** A SIC room and board deposit of \$50/person over the age of two is due at the time of registration. The Pelican Reunion registration fee is \$20/person (\$15/person for registrations postmarked by May 1). To register by mail, please make one check (for both the SIC room and board deposit(s) and the Pelican Reunion registration fee(s)) payable to "Pelican Reunion Conference" and mail with completed 2005 Registration Form and a self-addressed stamped envelope (\$.60 postage) to Marc and Jane Soule, Pelican Reunion Registrars, 180 Stow Road, Boxboro, MA 01719, 978-263-1240, [registrar@pelicansarepelicans.com](mailto:registrar@pelicansarepelicans.com). You can register and pay online at [www.pelicansarepelicans.com/reunion](http://www.pelicansarepelicans.com/reunion). Neither the room and board deposit nor the conference registration fee is refundable for cancellations made after July 23. After July 23 the conference and island will be open to all.

**Eligibility:** Pelican Reunion is open to anyone who worked on Star and their immediate families. On the 2005 Registration Form, please list the full-season jobs you held and the years you worked on Star. If your name has changed, please list the name you had when you were a Pelican.

**Scholarships:** Pels who became eligible in the last 10 years, ask the Chairs about our 50% room and board scholarship. Old Pels: recruit two "not-been-to-ReUnion-for-5-years" Pels (+ families) and your registration is free!

**Room and Board:** Cash/check rates are \$160 (triple), \$172 (double), \$209 (single)/adult (18 and over); \$135 (12-17); \$118 (6-11); \$83 (2-5); \$39 (under 2). Rates include the room and board deposit but not the conference registration fee. The balance of room and board charges are payable on the island during your stay.

**Boat Schedule:** See page 10 for information about boats and parking.

## Midweek Retreats

Relax, reflect, and enjoy the eternal beauty of this small island as fall begins in this part of the world. There are no planned activities at these adult conferences except morning chapel and the traditional candlelight chapel service each evening. Conferees may be as sociable or as solitary as they wish.

Island staff is limited at this time of year. Meals are served buffet style and participants are responsible for making their own beds. Special diets cannot be accommodated, but vegetarian alternatives will be available if requested in advance.

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## Midweek I

*Monday, September 5 to Friday, September 9*

If taking uninterrupted time for reading, talking with old friends, making new friends, basking in late summer sun, or sitting alone in peace and quiet with the ocean all around sounds wonderful, Midweek I may be just what you need.

No cars, appointments, or schedules are necessary. Leave your watch in your suitcase, and let the church bell and porch bell tell you the time for all you need to know. Imagine yourself walking in silence up the chapel hill each evening in a candle light procession. You can step back in time for five wonderful days to a slower pace for rest, relaxation, and renewal.

Rev. Mary Edes will be the Minister of the Week. She is presently the minister of the UU Fellowship of the Eastern Slopes in Chocorua, NH. She has also been the choir director for Jim MacDougall and the Funky Divas of Gospel for about the past decade. Mary enjoys the opportunity to weave scholarship, singing, humor, and heart into her worship services. "I am honored," Mary says, "to be invited back to Midweek I for a third season!"

**Chairperson:** Jean Dominguez, 21 High Rock Road, York, Maine,  
[joenjean27@aol.com](mailto:joenjean27@aol.com)

**Registration Information:** The SIC room and board deposit of \$50/person and a Midweek I registration fee of \$25/person is due at the time of registration. To register, please make *one check* for \$75/person payable to "Midweek Retreat I" and mail with completed 2005 Registration Form and a self-addressed stamped envelope (\$.60 postage) to Gillian Carter, Registrar, 26 Williams Avenue, Kittery, ME 03904, 207-439-6866, [gillian.carter@nyu.edu](mailto:gillian.carter@nyu.edu). The registration deadline is August 1; forms postmarked after August 1 are accepted on a space-available basis. Sorry, neither the room and board deposit nor the conference registration fee is refundable for cancellations made after July 25.

**Room and Board:** Cash/check rates are \$300 (triple), \$321 (double), \$393 (single), \$334 (motel double), \$557 (motel single)/person. Rates include the room and board deposit but do not include the conference registration fee. The balance of room and board charges is payable on the island during your stay.

**Boat Schedule:** See page 10 for information about boats and parking.

## Midweek II—Retreat to a Star

*Monday, September 12 to Friday, September 16*

Midweek II—Retreat to a Star is an adult conference for people who want to experience island living without the bells and whistles. Simplicity is our aim. We fly kites, sit on rocks, listen to music, and doze in the rockers. We might even be found wearing silly balloon hats. Consider us if you have a meditation group or any other small gathering of friends. You will find privacy and quiet since there are usually fewer than eighty guests on the island.

We have both a morning and an evening chapel. An ordained minister celebrates the morning chapel and conferees produce the evening candlelight service. Join us and experience the mystery that is Star.

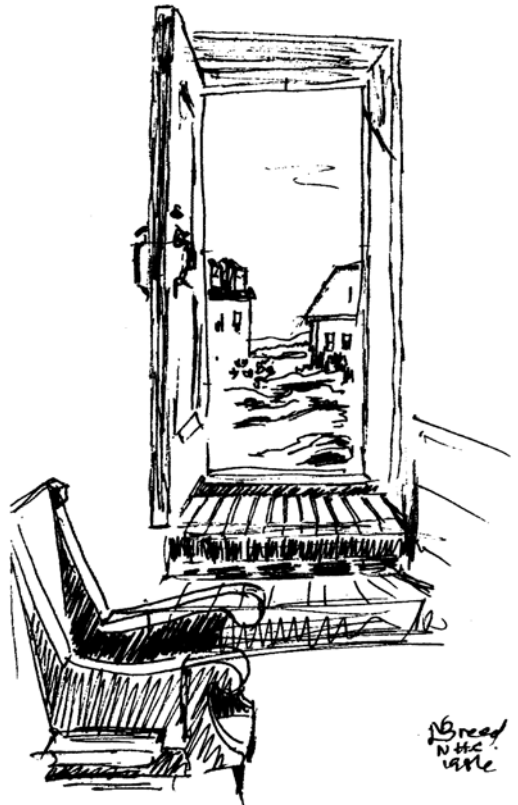
**Minister of the Week:** The Reverends Peter Lee Scott and Faith Grover Scott

**Chairpersons and Registrars:** Leigh-Ann and Howard Bennett, 11508 Ann's Choice Way, Warminster, PA 18934, (215) 672-6129, [howard.bennett@ericksonresident.com](mailto:howard.bennett@ericksonresident.com).

**Registration Information:** The SIC room and board deposit of \$50/person and a Midweek II registration fee of \$15/person is due at the time of registration. To register, please make *one check* for \$65/person payable to "Midweek II Retreat" and mail with completed 2005 Registration Form and a self-addressed stamped envelope (\$.37 postage) to Leigh-Ann and Howard Bennett (address above). Sorry, the room and board deposit is not refundable after August 1.

**Room and Board:** Cash/check rates are \$300 (triple), \$321 (double), \$393 (single), \$334 (motel double), \$557 (motel single)/person. Rates include the room and board deposit but do not include the conference registration fee. The balance of room and board charges is payable on the island during your stay.

**Boat Schedule:** See page 10 for information about boats and parking.



## Elderhostel on Star

Learn, grow, explore, and relax in a unique island setting. We are again offering two weeks of Elderhostel and are pleased to have Joan and Ken Cummiskey continue as Conference Coordinators. You may contact the Cummiskeys through the Star Island Corporation Office (contact information above).

### Elderhostel I

*Sunday, September 4 to Friday, September 9*

*Birding on the Historic Isles of Shoals (# 11716)*

We are located on the Atlantic Flyway and are near a bird banding station. Study birds as they fly south and learn to separate them by size, shape, and flight patterns. Emphasis will be placed on shore and migratory birds around the Isles of Shoals. Binoculars and a field guide of birds of North America are recommended. Suitable for beginners and intermediate birders.

*Watercolor Painting on the Historic Isles of Shoals (# 11879)*

Enjoy painting where Childe Hassam painted. Focus on rugged landscapes, the lighthouse, and crashing surf in a unique atmosphere full of historical associations. Create your own mix of class instruction, painting on location, and daily critique to suit your interests. Beginners through advanced painters are welcome.

### Elderhostel II

*Sunday, September 11 to Friday, September 16*

*The History and Ecology of the Isles of Shoals (# 12720)*

Four centuries of natural and human history – from early colonial fishing and trading center to Victorian Era resort to Marine Teaching Lab and Conference Center. Buried treasure, ghosts, shipwrecks and moonlight murders.

Stroll between earth and sky while discovering the natural wonders of this small historic island several miles off the New Hampshire coast. Learn about our history and the environmental issues and challenges facing fragile island ecosystems. Lectures and group discussions prepare us for field studies – brief walking tours to tidal pools, tiny sea creatures, and mineral outcroppings.

### *General Information for Both Elderhostel Conferences:*

Elderhostels are educational programs for adults age fifty-five and older. To register, call Elderhostel (toll free) at (877) 426-8056. Be ready to provide the program number(s) for the conference you wish to attend, # 11716 OR # 11879 for Elderhostel I (choose only one program for Elderhostel I) and # 12720 for Elderhostel II.

Island staff is limited at this time of year. Meals are served buffet style and participants are responsible for making their own beds. Special diets cannot be accommodated, but vegetarian alternatives will be available if requested in advance.

**Room and Board:** Cash/check room and board rates (including the SIC room and board deposit) and Elderhostel program fees are \$546 (triple), \$576 (double), \$671 (single), \$597 (motel double), \$948 (motel single)/person.

**Boat Schedule:** See page 10 for information about boats and parking.

## Star Women

*Wednesday, September 14 to Friday, September 16 OR*

*Friday, September 16 to Sunday, September 18 OR*

*Wednesday, September 14 to Sunday, September 18*

*Star Women* is the new name of the fall conference formerly known as *The Women's Gathering of Renewal*. Women of all ages, often related, come to experience nature on an island, out in the wind and the wild sea, where in September, the weather can be mercurial. Star Island is a soulful place to be by yourself or along side other women talking about their lives, a great book, or sharing hand crafts. Walking over rocks and rough terrain is part of the fun, so warm, sturdy clothes ensure a good time. Please join our circle, in this beautiful place, and share yourself.

**General Information:** Island staff is limited at this time of year. Meals are served buffet-style and participants are responsible for making their own beds. Special diets cannot be accommodated, but a vegetarian alternative is available.

**Chairperson:** Anne Lenox, 1457 Centre Street, Newton Centre, MA 02459, 617-969-0866, [aslenox@comcast.net](mailto:aslenox@comcast.net).

**Registration Information:** The SIC room and board deposit of \$50/person is due at the time of registration (in addition to the conference registration fee). You may register for the full conference (September 14 to 18) or a partial conference (September 14 to 16 OR September 16 to 18). The remaining midweek/weekend spaces are filled on a first come, first served basis, contingent on earliest postmark date and completeness of registration packages. The conference registration fee is \$50 for all session preferences. The conference registration cost is \$100 (\$50 room and board deposit + \$50 registration fee). Please make *one check* (for both the deposit and the registration fee) payable to "Imke Littman, Star Women Registrar" and mail with completed 2005 Registration Form and a business size, self-addressed stamped envelope (\$.60 postage) to Imke Littman, Registrar, 1074 Springs Fireplace Road, East Hampton, NY 11937, 631-324-3116, [ilittman@optonline.com](mailto:ilittman@optonline.com). Be sure to include your e-mail address, as we issue the bulk of our communications electronically. You must be twenty-one years of age or older to participate. Applicants who register for the full conference (September 14 to 18) are given first preference through June 1. In order to promote diversity, group attendance is limited to five people. Sorry, the conference registration fee is not refundable after July 31. The SIC room and board deposit is not refundable after August 3 (for September 14 arrivals) or August 5 (for September 16 arrivals). Limited scholarships are available; please contact the registrar.

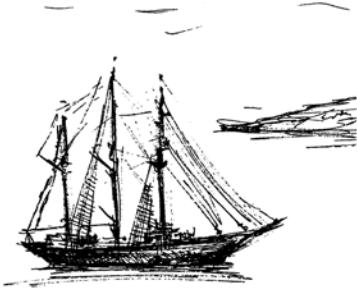
**Room and Board:** For September 14 to 16 OR September 16 to 18: \$150 (triple), \$161 (double), \$197 (single), \$167 (motel double), \$279 (motel single)/person. For September 14 to 18: \$300 (triple), \$321 (double), \$393 (single), \$334 (motel double), \$558 (motel single)/person. All rates include the SIC room and board deposit but not the conference registration fee. The balance of room and board charges are payable on the island during your stay.

**Boat Schedule:** See page 10 for information about boats and parking.



## Other September Conferences on Star

The Star Island Corporation also offers its conference facilities and services to a variety of local and regional groups. Some of these have included College for Lifelong Learning (University System of New Hampshire), Dover Yoga Studio and Gallery, Isles of Shoals Historical and Research Association, New Hampshire Photographic Society, and Star Hampshire Traditional Music and Dance. If your group is interested in holding a conference or retreat on Star Island, please e-mail us at [office@starisland.org](mailto:office@starisland.org) or call us at (603) 430-6272.



### *General Information for All September Conferences:*

Island staff is limited at this time of year. Meals are served buffet-style and participants are responsible for making their own beds. Special diets cannot be accommodated, but a vegetarian alternative is available.

*The following September conferences will be offered in 2004...*

### **College for Lifelong Learning: Courses on Star Island**

*Tuesday, September 6 to Friday, September 9*

Interested in learning how to watercolor? Want to know more about the science of the ocean? Looking for new strategies in business? The College for Lifelong Learning hosts courses on Star Island in an accelerated format. Courses are open to both non-degree and degree seeking individuals. One preparatory class meeting is required; held in Portsmouth approximately three weeks prior to the Star Island trip. For more information or to register, please call the College in Portsmouth at (603) 334-6060.



## Isles of Shoals Historical and Research Association (ISHRA) September Weekend

*Friday, September 9 to Sunday, September 11*

This ISHRA fall gathering brings together new and old Shoalers for a weekend of loosely structured activities, including a trip to Appledore, a campfire on the rocks, rowboat trips to Smuttynose, social events, a traditional candlelight chapel service, and more. There's plenty of time for simply relaxing on the front porch too!

To attend, membership in ISHRA is required along with your registration and room and board deposit. For more information, please contact David MacEachran, 75 Tenney Road, Goffstown, NH 03045, (603) 497-4674, [davidmaceachran@aol.com](mailto:davidmaceachran@aol.com).

**Web Site:** Information about the Isles of Shoals Historical and Research Association can be found at [www.seacoastnh.com/shoals/ishra.html](http://www.seacoastnh.com/shoals/ishra.html).

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## The Dover Yoga Studio & Gallery, LLC Weekend

*Friday, September 16 to Sunday, September 18*

Every September, the Dover Yoga Studio hosts its much anticipated annual retreat to Star Island. This three day excursion will give you the opportunity to escape from reality, and find some quiet personal time to either simply sit back and relax, or to develop your yoga practice in the company of others. Building upon previous years, this tradition has continued to grow and develop and has become a welcome escape to the attendants who return year after year.

From Friday to Sunday afternoon, Dover Yoga will sponsor various styles of yoga and meditation classes. Classes will be offered for all levels of practitioners from beginner to advanced. Attendance in classes is not required, so you can move through the weekend at your own pace.

This retreat fills very fast and we encourage you to sign up quickly. Single, double, and triple occupancy rooms are available.

For any questions, including rate and registration information please contact The Dover Yoga Studio at (603) 740-9700 or browse the web at [www.doveryoga.com](http://www.doveryoga.com).

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## Star Hampshire Traditional Music and Dance Weekend

*Friday, September 16 to Sunday, September 18*

Star Hampshire is a small and friendly music and dance weekend, with no more than 80 participants. The main focus is American contra dances, with square dances and couple dances included as well. Each year, there is a secondary dance theme; past years have seen workshops in English country dance, Balkan dance, vintage ballroom dance, tango, and waltz.

On the dance floor, you'll find experienced dancers and those who are newer enthusiasts. You need not come with a partner. You'll learn that many folks return year after year, drawn by the magic of dancing in this special place.

The fun starts on the ferry ride over from Portsmouth. As you travel down the Piscataqua River and out to sea, you'll meet fellow dancers, make new friends and greet old ones. The ride passes quickly, the crisp lines of the building on Star grow larger, and soon we're on the tip of the pier, ready to eat supper and start dancing.

Highlights of the weekend include evening dance parties, morning workshops, singing sessions, and an afternoon concert by staff members. There's an early morning wake-up waltz session in the lobby of the historic Oceanic Hotel. Top-notch callers and musicians will keep your feet moving and your face smiling. Versatile leaders will provide opportunities to join in the singing.

Past staff callers have included Mary DeRosier, David Millstone, Steve Zakon Anderson, David Kaynor, Susan Kevra, Dudley Laufman, and Lisa Greenleaf. Dance bands have included The Rodney Miller Band, Nat Hewitt and Larry Unger, Fresh Fish, Three Good Reasons, Mosaic, Two Fiddles, Scrod Pudding and Old New England with National Heritage Fellow Bob McQuillen. Group singing leaders have included Andy Davis, The Amidons, Mary Cay Brass, Tony Barrand and John Roberts.

And yes, there's more. The relaxed schedule gives you time to wander on the rocks and watch the waves crashing. You can sit in the rocking chairs on the wide front porch, chatting with a friend or engrossed in a book. Participate in a camper-organized non-denominational chapel service, always a high point in the weekend. Climb in silence to the historic stone meeting house and sit in candle lantern light as dancers and musicians share tunes and songs, stories and poems.

Sunday afternoon, the fun concludes with the annual dance on the deck. Other conference's participants frequently join in this informal session, a great opportunity to share the joy of dance with others who have yet to discover it.

Good food, simple living, beautiful sunrises and sunsets, a panoramic view of the natural world—dancing on Star Island is like no other dance experience. Join us!

**Conference Personnel:** There will be one New England dance caller plus occasional guest callers, a quartet/quintet of musicians or a duo and a trio, a group singing leader, and folk singer(s) or group singing lead by the campers.

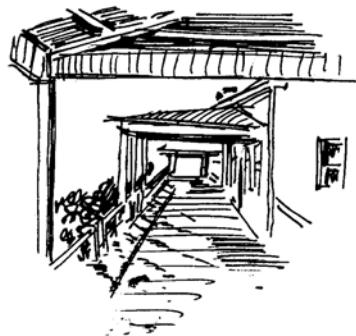
**Conference Chairperson and Registrar:** Patrick Stevens, 21 Prospect Street, Portsmouth, NH 03801, (603) 436-8372 (H), (603) 431-4849 (W), 603-431-1870 (Fax), [pstevens@oakpoint.com](mailto:pstevens@oakpoint.com).

**Registration Information:** For registration information send a self-addressed stamped envelope to the Conference Chairperson.

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## Other Conferences...

Some September conferences will be available that are not included in this brochure. Information about additional September conference availability can be obtained after June 1, 2005 by contacting the Star Island Corporation's Portsmouth office at [office@starisland.org](mailto:office@starisland.org) or (603) 430-6272.





**Star Island Corporation**  
**10 Vaughan Mall**  
**Suite 8, Worth Plaza**  
**Portsmouth, NH 03801**

photo by B. Parsons

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