



2022 Annual Report of the Friends of Sandbanks Provincial Park



Message from the Chairman

Welcome to all our new members, as well as those of you who have supported the Friends of Sandbanks for many years. Now that we are emerging from Covid shut-downs, and with new Park Management, we are eager to once again continue our good works of “Working with the Park to make it an even better place to visit.”

The past years of closures have meant that we have had a lesser role to play, but with County events returning to a more normal state, I am encouraged that we will continue to benefit our Park, with volunteer activities and events for all ages and abilities going forward into 2023 and beyond. Our organization is always looking to help our Park and educate and assist its users.

We strongly believe in our Park as a learning destination, not just for its great beaches and natural beauty, but also as a vital tool in educating the public on nature conservation, invasive species management and historical context with both the first European settlers and the Indigenous peoples that lived here over a thousand years ago.

John Brebner. Chairman



Friends of Sandbanks Board 2022

Left to right: Liz Lattner, Don Metcalf, Daniel Patel, Park Superintendent Curt Morris, John Drechsler Penny Sipkes, Matt Young and Janet Mooney.

Absent: John Brebner (behind camera!), Mark Despault



2022 Events... Image Albums

[Beach Cleanups](#)

[Discovery Store](#)

[SandFest](#)

[Lakeshore Lodge Day](#)

[Sandbanks Music Festival](#)

[Buckthorn Blitz](#)

(Hi-res versions of all images available above)

SandFest 2022

The Friends thank Don Metcalf and Dan Patel for making this the best SandFest ever!

A happy crowd of campers and their families were welcomed back to this long-standing and popular event.

Sand Sculptor Rod Watson from Kingston was on hand to demonstrate the art of sand sculpting, and help the participants with hints and ideas, and [CreateACastle](#) contributed a Sand Castle kit as a one of the prizes.

[Images from the event...](#)

Beach Cleanups

This year the Park was noticeably cleaner than in the past, with more garbage containers visible at key locations on the beaches.

Our thanks go out to the hard working Park staff who certainly have their hands full after a long weekend!

Consequently, our two clean-up events did not result in the full bags of trash that we had accumulated in previous years.

Nonetheless, our dedicated team of volunteers managed to tidy up a large part of the Lakeshore Beach and foredunes.



Sandbanks Discovery Store

Our store opened this year in July and August at the West Lake Campground Office. Covid continued to affect our ordering; supplier issues caused some backorders and late deliveries. but sales went well and several popular items had to be reordered.

Sales were expanded last winter by partnering with [Books and Company](#) to sell hoodies; sales at their Picton store were over \$1500.

With help from various Friends' members, we were also able to have a presence at the [Local Store's](#) Christmas sale, the first annual [West Lake Community Association Artisan Sale](#) and [Lakeshore Lodge days](#) with receipts totaling over \$1100.

Sales were also helped this year by employing [Square technology](#) for the first time, allowing us to accept credit cards at locations outside of the Discovery Store.

We are looking forward to our opening again in 2023!

Liz Lattner, *Discovery Store Manager*

Lakeshore Lodge Day

This 1890's style picnic held on the grounds of the former Lakeshore Lodge on West Point in the Park is a perennial favorite event with both local residents and Park visitors. Old style picnic games, a corn roast with lemonade, and fun for all; the Friends have been active in this Park event for decades, and look forward to this annual celebration.

[Image collections...](#)

Sandbanks Music Festival

After a Covid hiatus, this popular event resumed at the Outlet Beach Amphitheatre in 2022. A great line-up of musicians, a sell-out crowd of family (and Sandbanks camping) enthusiasts from seven to seventy made this annual event its usual success.

For many years, County musician and impresario Dave Ulrich has donated a percentage of ticket sales to the Friends of Sandbanks. This event is a perfect example of the successful collaboration of a Prince Edward County entrepreneur, musical talent from across Canada, Ontario Parks, and local entrepreneurs and should be encouraged to continue to bring more people into our Parks in our quieter fall season.

The addition of local vendors preparing foods from around the world, local wines, beers and spirits, as well as the always popular face-painting and “super-hero” costume preparation for the younger participants, all added to the “County Fair” atmosphere of this delightful and sold-out community event.



Membership

We are pleased to add more than fifty new members to the Friends this year, and to receive a record number of individual donations. And a big thank-you to all the Board Sailors who showed their support for us this year!

We thank everyone who became a member, who donated to our cause, or who volunteered at our events during 2022. You are why we exist! If we can help, please let us know!

Tax receipts will be sent to all donors in the new year.

Thank-You, Janet Mooney

After over fifteen years of supporting our Friends' Shop, as well as her many other volunteer contributions to the Friends, Board Member **Janet Mooney** has retired from the Board of our organization.

We wish her well in her future activities.



Janet and Charles in 2015

Charles Lacey 1925 – 2022

Charles, with his late wife Molly, was one of our founding members over 25 years ago, and was active in so many of our Friends' projects well into his 90s.

He was a regular volunteer with the Park's Annual Fall Fun Run since its inception.

He will be missed.

Buckthorn Blitz 2022

Many thanks to John Lowry, for his tireless work in obtaining the County Grant, and coordinating the necessary equipment purchases with our partners at the Park, as well as the volunteers and staff who made this all possible.

What a great example and a success story of collaborations with the Friends, the Park and the County!

This promises to be a multi-year project, but after the success of this year's effort, you can count on the Friends of Sandbanks for 2023!



Ongoing Park Projects:

- New and updated Interpretive signage for Lakeshore and Lakeland Lodge sites was purchased and will be installed in the spring of 2023.
- Completion of Phase One, Dunes Beach Boardwalk; [planning in progress for Phase Two and Dunes Trail Rehabilitation in 2023 - 2025]. *(image at right)*
- Tree planting will resume in 2023.
- Second Annual Buckthorn Blitz, October 2023



[Want to attend our AGM?](#)

(All 2022 Members present may vote at the AGM)

Become a Member or make a donation? [Easy sign up and donation page...](#)

[Facebook](#)

[Webpage](#)

[Have a question; need more information?](#)

2022 Financial Statements are available on request

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