



# FRIENDS NEWS

December 2024



## December

### President's Corner

~ By Marilyn Dearborn

*On behalf of the Board of the Friends of Brewster Seniors, I wish you and yours a holiday season that is "merry & bright!" Try to enjoy the pleasures this time of year brings...family get togethers...Christmas cards from near and far... Christmas carols...cookies that only seem to appear during the holidays. Whatever you do or wherever you go, have a wonderful holiday season.*

*I hope many of you will be joining us for the Cape Cod Symphony's Holiday Show on December 8th and/or our Holiday/Christmas Luncheon December 11th. It's a wonderful way to get in the spirit of the season!!*

*During this season, random acts of kindness take on a new meaning and never go unnoticed. You might ask "what can I do?" Here are a few ideas: when doing your holiday baking, make some extra to share with a friend or neighbor; check with an elderly neighbor when you are heading to the grocery store to see if they might need something; when making a casserole for your family, make an extra one for that neighbor next door; invite a senior who doesn't get out much to take a ride to see Christmas lights around town; offer to help someone decorate; pay for coffee for the person behind at the coffee shop. The look of joy on their faces will truly "light up your life," spread holiday cheer, and really put you "in the holiday spirit."*



*As to plans for next year, we hope to offer many interesting trips and/or events. Is there somewhere you'd like us to go (legitimate destinations only)? Let us know what you think would be fun! Keep your eye out for all the information in our monthly newsletter and on our website ([www.friendsofbrewsterseniors.org](http://www.friendsofbrewsterseniors.org)). Hopefully you will join us for one or more of these fun times. See you in 2025!*

**Happy Holidays - Merry Christmas - Happy New Year Everyone!**

### FEELING THE PINCH OF HIGHER PRICES

Did you know that since 1979, when the Friends were formed, we haven't raised our dues? We have, however, grown in membership and in events/activities provided, including having a monthly newsletter and a functioning website. Like everything else, the cost of mailing the newsletter has risen. In fact, the cost of a first class stamp is now 73¢! While much of our work is done at the volunteer level, there remains a cost -- postage alone is \$8.76/year/postal member address. That doesn't leave much for programming! We hope you'll understand and continue to support the Friends annually with your \$15 annual membership and your generous donations for the benefit of Brewster Seniors.

### WEBSITE TRANSACTIONS

If you're signing up for an event, membership, or just making a donation, you need to eventually PROCEED TO CHECKOUT in order to enter your name, etc. Please be patient.

Want to help more? There is a modest charge for handling payments online. Simply making a donation of \$1.50 per transaction helps to even things out. Please consider doing so. Thank you!



## REMEMBER WHEN A PERFECT STRANGER HELD THE DOOR FOR YOU?

By Steven V. Dubin as re-printed from the South Shore Senior News

Or when someone RSVPed for your party and even showed up? Heck, sometimes they called ahead and asked if you need anything.

Somewhere in our "Me Now" society, we've lost much of the common etiquette that held us together. Common etiquette that made for a kinder society. Somehow we are so immersed in our own cell phone, cars, and cubicles, that we've forgotten the niceties of those around us. With that in mind, I'd like to steer us back to some of the most basics of etiquette to make this a better world.

Music: I'm delighted that you enjoy your music. Please don't make it mine. Reduce the volume on your car speakers and mobile Bluetooth speaker.

Cannabis: I don't discourage you from using cannabis for medical or recreational reasons. Please don't give me a second-hand high. Smoke in your space, not my public space.

Mobile phone usage: Talk all you want on your cell phone. I don't need to hear your conversation. Additionally, when you are with someone, focus on that person. Put the phone down for a moment. It will be there later.

Gifts: Be appreciative. Send a thank-you note. Respond in a reasonable time frame – a month or so. Include a photo of you enjoying the gift.

Personal space: At an empty beach, movie theater, or general-seating restaurant, you don't need to sit right next to me. Give us both a bit of privacy.

Punctuality: The only thing God gives both of us is time. An undetermined amount of time. Don't violate it. Noon means noon. I'll be there. I'm counting on you to be as well.

Conversation: Look me in the eye, listen, and avoid interrupting. I'll respond in kind.

Your etiquette concerns and suggestions? Please share them with me and our readers. Make this a better place. Please email me at [SDubin@PRWorkZone.com](mailto:SDubin@PRWorkZone.com)

*Steven V. Dubin is the founder of PR Works, a lightly used public relations firm based in Plymouth which helps small to mid-sized nonprofit organizations and for-profit companies navigate the overwhelming options of advertising. Steve lives in Plymouth with his wife, Wendy. He is a contributing author to "Get Slightly Famous" and "Tricks of the Trade," the complete guide to succeeding in the advice business. He recently authored "PR 101," an E-book.*

## It isn't too late to join us for our annual Holiday Luncheon!

December 5th is the deadline to sign up and submit your reservation and check so that you can enjoy a delicious buffet which includes, beef, chicken and fish and all the fixings, including cheesecake for dessert! What are you waiting for? The food is delicious and plentiful, the decorations perfect for the season, and the other guests are always very welcoming!

-----PLEASE PRINT VERY CLEARLY and SAVE THE TOP PORTION FOR YOUR RECEIPT-----

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_ Day of event Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

# tickets @ \$35/each (member) = \$ \_\_\_\_\_ # tickets @ \$45 (non-member) = \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Additional Donation = \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Total Enclosed for Holiday Lunch \_\_\_\_\_ \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Drop off your registration & payment (check payable to FOBS) at Sea Captains' Thrift Shop (66 Harwich Road) or mail to FOBS, PO Box 2310, Brewster MA 02631. You may also register online at [www.friendsofbrewsterseniors.org](http://www.friendsofbrewsterseniors.org). All registrations must include payment first come, first served basis!



# SEA CAPTAINS' THRIFT SHOP

66 Harwich Road ~ (508) 896-8180

*Donna Bowie, Manager*

If in doubt about purchasing or donating, please call first.  
**HOURS: MON - SAT, 10-4 til 12/21/24**  
Donations Accepted Daily: 11 - 2pm  
We Don't Accept Credit Cards...Sorry!

If it's DECEMBER, it's Holiday Boutique time at Sea Captains' Thrift. Our annual celebration of the season is in full swing. The ANNEX has been transformed into a spectacular display of holiday decorations, table top items, greeting cards, wrappings and more. Don't forget to check out our "GIFTABLES" display: brand new items, ready for gift giving. Just wrap, tag & give.

In the main shop, women's & men's festive clothing can be found artfully displayed for your choosing. Holiday jewelry and accessories to compliment abound.

The highly anticipated "Glitz & Glam" section of ladies' holiday attire awaits partygoers, whether the event is at home or The Ritz. Gorgeous dresses, slacks, pashminas & wraps, purses and shoes (many with original tags) are good-to-go at unbeatable prices. The gentlemen will find top brand, dress shirts, fabulous sweaters and fashionable silk ties.

Don't forget to prepare for the long Cape Cod winter with our huge selection of corduroys, wools, fleeces, turtle-necks and "puffies." We have a large display of gloves, scarves, hats and boots, too. Many of the scarves and hats are hand knits. There's something for everyone. Come in and treat yourself or a loved one to a stylish addition to this year's winter wardrobe.

Christmas/Holiday Boutique 1/2 price sale: December 16 through 21, including all winter clothing and accessories.

**\*\*\* Change is coming in the New Year!!! \*\*\***

Sea Captains' will close on Saturday, December 21 at 4 PM for the holidays and reopen on Monday, March 3, 2025. We will be completely closed during January and February. During our extended, annual hiatus, Sea Captains' Thrift will be rearranged, refurbished and refreshed. We'll welcome all back to our 6 day (Mon.-Sat.) regular schedule on March 3rd: same hours, same quality and same wonderful staff.

**Wishing everyone a happy, healthy New Year!**



## Want to Know What a Good Holiday Gift Would Be?

Besides Peace on Earth and Goodwill to All, the Friends would love to have the input of a few good men and women who golf to guide us as we set up our 2025 Golf Tournament...we know you're out there and we want to make this the best Golf Tourney of 2025 on Cape Cod. But...we really need your input!

Your advice will make the difference and you can offer as much or as little time as you have.

**Give the gift of involvement with your community!** A few hours, whether weekly, monthly or yearly can be the greatest gift to a nonprofit. New ideas, experiences, talents can lead to more successful programming.





## 2025 Memberships are due January 2025

The Friends operates on a calendar year basis, so if you're interested in the many discounts available for the full year, you'll need to sign up again in January 2025 to get them! Membership forms will be available at Sea Captains' Thrift Shop and on the website at [www.friendsofbrewsterseniors.org](http://www.friendsofbrewsterseniors.org). It's a small (\$15.00) but great investment, benefitting you and other Brewster Seniors, too. Membership questions? Contact Kathy at [khelenmack@comcast.net](mailto:khelenmack@comcast.net)

## Calendar of Friends' Events

Help shape what we'll offer in the New Year!

Share your ideas for events or trips!



## You Can Give as Much or as Little of your Time to Help Brewster Seniors!

General questions? Please contact President Marilyn Dearborn @ 508-385-2881 (home #) or any Board Member to learn more about the Friends.

### 2024 Friends Board of Directors

Donna Bowie, Thrift Shop ♦ Suzanne Dean ♦ Marilyn Dearborn, President ♦ Ronnie Dickens  
Elizabeth "Sam" Gardiner, Secretary ♦ Jane Hester, Treasurer ♦  
Kathy Macdonald, Membership ♦ Jeanne Morcone, Events ♦ Meg Morris, Newsletter

**Open meetings are held monthly on the 2nd Wednesday at 9:30 AM at the  
Brewster Bible Alliance Church, Rte. 6A. You're encouraged to attend!**

**Email: [brewsterfriends@gmail.com](mailto:brewsterfriends@gmail.com) ♦ visit Facebook pages ♦ [www.friendsofbrewsterseniors.org](http://www.friendsofbrewsterseniors.org)**

*The Friends of Brewster Seniors is a 501c3 nonprofit organization whose mission is to support, promote & enrich Brewster's senior residents and the Brewster COA through annual participant support, donations & fund-raising. The Friends welcome you to become involved with our many activities and events.*

December



Friends of Brewster Seniors  
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Brewster, MA