



# Anemone

The Children's School of Science Newsletter

Summer 2015

## CSS SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

### SUMMER 2015

Sessions A & AB Begin  
Monday – June 29

Back-to-School Night  
Tuesday- June 30  
6 p.m.

School Closed  
Friday, July 3

4<sup>th</sup> of July Parade  
Saturday, July 4

Open Board Meeting  
Wednesday - July 15  
7 p.m.

Open House – End of Session A  
Friday - July 17  
Last 15 minutes of each class

Session B Begins  
Monday - July 20

Back-to-School Night  
Tuesday - July 21  
6 p.m.

CSS Annual Picnic  
Thursday - July 23  
Woods Hole Ball Park  
5 p.m.

CSS Annual Meeting  
Monday - August 3  
7:30 p.m.

Open House  
Wednesday - August 5  
5 p.m.

End of Sessions  
B & AB  
Thursday - August 6

To keep up with current events throughout the summer and reminisce with others about CSS over the winter, be sure to like us on Facebook



## President's Letter

After an historic New England winter that saw record snowfall amounts and ice skating on Eel Pond, we are eagerly anticipating summer and a treasured six weeks of Science School! It won't be long before the schoolhouse is teeming with families ready for the bell to ring, signaling the start of another season of fun and friendship.

At a recent gathering of CSS volunteers, some long-time and some newer, a comment was made that the beauty of Science School is that it seemingly remains the same year after year -- a true compliment to those who work to keep the focus of Science School on children and scientific discovery. It is a credit to the founding mothers that the simplicity and sustainability of their design helped carry the program into a second century. And what happens behind the scenes year round is the careful underpinning of a classic production, managed by a superb team. When the curtain goes up -- or in this case, when the bell is rung -- the nets are stacked on the side of the schoolhouse and the show opens to a thrilled audience. Bravo to all who make it happen!

It has been my pleasure to work alongside a dedicated group of volunteer board members, committee members, the teaching and assistant staffs, and the patient guidance of Doug Jones and Aaron Sloboda. CSS truly is a collaborative effort and a joy to be part of.

See you soon,

Diane Smith  
Board President



## Meet Some of This Year's CSS Teachers

As we enter the summer of 2015 at Children's School of Science, we welcome new and returning teachers alike. Collectively, this year's CSS teachers bring 124 years of experience to our classrooms. Here we take a look back at last year's three newbies as they reflect on their first year's experience at Science School. All three will return to the schoolhouse in 2015.



**Athena Aicher** says she "had a blast" teaching Invertebrates and Marine Biology at CSS. After majoring in biology at Dartmouth, Athena followed an internship at WHOI with a position as an oceanographic research assistant. She studies phytoplankton blooms and cyanobacteria and their impact on atmospheric methane levels. Athena found the CSS students "awesome," filled with energy, and "shockingly knowledgeable." What she found most engaging as a teacher was the idea that class explorations are unlimited. Every question leads to more questions. Among her favorite questions asked by a student was "Do squid sleep?" She just loved exploring with the kids: "They open your eyes."

Woods Hole native **Grace Foster** taught Seashore Life for the first time last summer. A graduate of Mount Holyoke, where she studied history and earned her teaching credential, Grace enjoyed the challenge of reaching all her students. She found every day exciting. Grace valued the "loose" school setting, and the ability to promote inquiry in a way that students wouldn't get elsewhere. She pointed out that CSS teachers are good

at engaging those who are otherwise reluctant. Among her favorite moments was squid dissection. The students were "really into it, participating." At CSS "everyone learns something new, and the kids taught *me* so much."

**Betty Lentell** is a biologist with extensive experience working with marine mammals and sea turtles. An outdoor enthusiast, Betty is "passionate about science and learning." She has worked at WHOI, NOAA, with the Cape Cod Stranding Network, and for the International Fund for Animal Welfare. She also volunteers at the National Marine Life Center with seals and turtles, and the Cape Wildlife Center. About her first summer at CSS, she says "I relished my time this past summer teaching at CSS."

The opportunity to interact with such children in a learning environment that is so dynamic and flexible was enlivening... I love the on the spot changes sometimes necessary to your daily plan, and the challenges that teaching in the outdoor environment bring."

For summer 2015 we welcome two new faculty members -- Bonny Clarke and Scottie Mobley.

**Bonny Clarke** will teach Seashore Life in Session B. Bonny graduated from the University of Massachusetts, Amherst in 2014 and is now pursuing a career in the sciences in Falmouth, MA. A Falmouth native, she comes from a long line of Woods Hole fishermen; her grandfather and great grandfather both attended grade school in the very building where the Children's School of Science resides. She enjoys running, traveling, and any activity that involves the ocean.

**Scottie Mobley** will teach Oceanography and Advanced Oceanography. Scottie has been involved in science outreach education for 4 years. She is currently an Education Associate for the Hoxie Center, teaching STEAM education in Bourne public elementary schools. With a B.S. in Marine Biology from the College of Charleston, Scottie is excited to share her passion for the ocean with students.

Each summer the teachers at Children's School of Science bring with them a wealth of knowledge and experience to share with their students. See all of our teacher profiles on the CSS website:

<http://childrensschoolofscience.org/about-css/faculty/>

### STANDING COMMITTEE CHAIRS

#### Archives

Dorothea Mautner  
Charlotte Emans Moore

#### Entrance Desk

Ellie Armstrong

#### Extension Classes

Karen Dell  
Charity Gray

#### Health & Safety

Karen L. Humphreys  
Kristina Micheva

#### Hospitality

*Chairs Needed*

#### Newsletter

Elizabeth Forbes Armstrong  
(photos)

Mary Jo Benjamin  
Stacy Leff Cummings  
David Epstein  
Diane Smith

#### Scholarships

Deb Coulombe

#### Sustaining Fund

Tara Bennett  
Joan Finkelstein  
Ruth Gainer  
Debra Laster  
Jennifer Sheetz  
Diane Smith  
Ethan Treistman

#### Transportation

Debra Laster

#### Trip Sites

Susan Laster

#### Ways and Means

Becky Connors  
Ann Wilde





## CSS ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICERS 2015

**Administrative Director**  
Doug Jones

**Assistant Administrator**  
Aaron Sloboda

**Curriculum Co-Chairs**  
Karen Dell  
Christine Field

**Registrar**  
Crickett Warner

**Teaching Assistants Chair**  
Jane Kulesza

**Website and Facebook Administrator**  
Aaron Sloboda

## OFFICERS OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

**President**  
Diane Smith

**Co-Vice Presidents**  
Ronnie Cooperstein  
Debra Laster

**Treasurer**  
Kitty Brown

**Clerk of the Corporation**  
Chris Kinkade

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

**2015**  
Kitty Brown  
John Cummings  
Amy Gladfelter  
Debra Laster  
Rachel Pearson

**2016**  
Ronnie Cooperstein  
Chris Kinkade  
Jennifer Sheetz  
Diane Smith

**2017**  
Jackie Brunelli  
Susan Burke  
Roger Sloboda  
Denis Toner

## Donor Spotlight

Each fall, the Children's School of Science's sustaining fund letter is mailed out to everyone in its extended family. This appeal offers current families, alums, teachers, and friends the opportunity to contribute financial support for the School's programs. Tuition and fees do not cover the School's needs. Supporters come from many sectors of the CSS community. Some donors are like hardy perennials that delight us from year to year with their steady presence. Others are newer to the landscape and equally welcome. One such donor is Isabel Friedman, a recent college graduate and former CSS lifer and teaching assistant (2007-2008). Isabel used her company's matching program to double her CSS gift.

"Hopefully it will turn into paint for dead fish T-shirt printing, robot parts, and Model Magic soon enough," says Isabel of her donation. She goes on to tell about life post-CSS and college. "I'm working at Dropbox in San Francisco. Learning a ton, exploring different areas of the business, and enjoying my time in the great Bay Area. I've been swimming open water in the bay as often as I can, mostly because it reminds me of my swims from Stony Beach to Penzance. Needless to say, it's bringing me lots of happiness."

We thank Isabel and all of our donors who annually help bridge the gap between income and operating expenses. Every gift to the School is meaningful, and CSS would love to hear your story too!



Isabel Friedman, 2007

## CSS Road Race



The Children's School of Science is participating for the fifth summer in the New Balance Falmouth Road Race on Sunday, August 16th.

In order to join Team CSS, runners must have their own road race number and agree to raise a minimum of \$75 for Science School. Consider asking friends, family, and colleagues to support you and Team CSS by using the online fundraising partner of the race, [FirstGiving.com](http://FirstGiving.com). So many members of the CSS community in Woods Hole and Falmouth have a long-standing tradition of running in the Falmouth Road Race and will already have a 2015 race number. We hope you will join our team! Runners who donate or fundraise the minimum of \$75 will receive a Team CSS

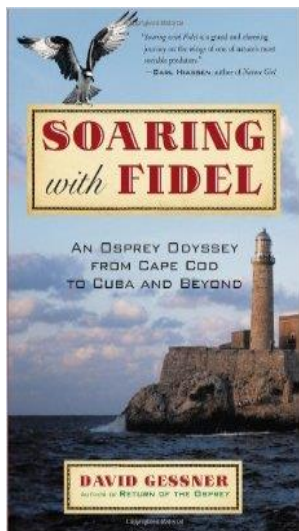


## Help Wanted CSS Assistants - 2016

Candidates apply this summer for 2016 position and must be 16 years old by summer of hiring. Keep an eye on kiosk for details and interview sign up times. Applications must be filed with Jane Kulesza along with letters of recommendation by December 1, 2015 for consideration. Assistants work all six weeks of Science School and are assigned to two classes per session.

running shirt. Last year runners raised nearly \$3,000 for CSS. Help us continue this great tradition and support Team CSS! For more information and to register, please email [roadrace@childrensschoolofscience.org](mailto:roadrace@childrensschoolofscience.org)

## CSS Book Club 2015



Please join us for a discussion of *Soaring with Fidel: An Osprey Odyssey from Cape Cod to Cuba and Beyond* by David Gessner, at 4pm on July 22nd on the porch at the schoolhouse.

Publisher Beacon Press describes the book as an irreverent, absorbing, and insightful tale of one man's adventures following the great 7,000-mile osprey migration across two continents.

In 2004, Gessner went along for the ride, traveling illegally into the mountains of Cuba and deep into Venezuela as he competed with the crew of a BBC documentary to be the first to follow the full migration, trailing the birds by car, boat, foot, and plane. He called his favorite osprey Fidel. *Soaring with Fidel* is about the exhilaration of migration, but it is also a deeper meditation on the nature of human happiness.

In describing the thrill of travel, the antics of these swashbuckling birds, and the cast of characters he meets (and drinks with) along the way including scientists, students, tour guides, and an online group of birders Gessner gives us a profound lesson in the importance of following what you love.

"Since many of us, like the osprey, migrate to Cape Cod for an interval in the summer, we feel that this is a most appropriate

selection," says Jane Kulesza book club organizer.

The CSS Book Club has been a summer tradition since 2009 welcoming all participants. Look for copies of *Soaring with Fidel* available to check out at the Woods Hole Library.

**On the porch of the historic schoolhouse  
Wednesday, July 22nd at 4 p.m.**