



DECEMBER 2013 NEWSLETTER

A Letter from the President

Dear Islanders and Friends of Russell Island,

I was just thinking about this past season ... did I imagine it or did it really appear to go by fast? Maybe those who don't have a summer residence might think summer progressed slowly but it seems like I just put the water on and before I knew it I was closing it down! I never am able to finish all the projects I plan on getting done - must be just a little too much watching the boats going by. It certainly can't be that I am slowing down, or procrastinating! Perhaps I have been hanging on to the summer and Russell Island because I hate to see the time spent there come to an end.

Speaking of projects, as you know the Russell Island Foundation usually has one underway. When people comment that the year should be less stressful for the RIF Board, I always hope they are correct! However, they seldom are as Russell Island always has a priority that our membership can work on to make it a better place. At RIF's annual meeting this year, the Membership gave our Board direction (by way of a motion) to establish a restricted fund for use exclusively on the purchase of the Krajenke Property for overflow parking meant for friends and family of Russell Islanders. The Foundation membership was notified via a separate letter explaining the timetable and process. As a result, we have been receiving donations and YOUR support is greatly needed.

As the year comes to an end, it affords us the perfect opportunity to look back and reflect on the many good things that we have achieved this year. Our RIF membership has grown. The Memorial Day ceremony honoring Family, Friends, and Military was again largely attended. The RIF Auction was a huge success. The construction of the new "Gathering Bench" celebrating the achievement of our recent parking lot was completed at the Island Ferry Landing. What a wonderful welcoming sight it is to Islanders and guests as they debark the Ferry. The Gathering Bench is something for us all to be proud of since we all contributed in one way or another to make it happen.

Each year our membership comes up with new fundraising ideas which benefit RIF and our Island. This year, Ginger Harrington has volunteered to make a Russell Island Calendar utilizing photos from years past. She is particularly looking for photographs of Island scenery which reflect our past, i.e. the old ferry dock, cottages that don't exist anymore, winter-scapes, etc. Please send them to her at: Ginger Harrington, 2005 Fox Hollow Ct, Wixom, MI 48393. She is planning to have the 12 month calendar start in June 2014 so we can view and use it for the entire year. Please support and help her out. All the proceeds will go to Russell Island Foundation Future Parking which will benefit all of us.

A reminder for those of you who are looking for a Christmas gift that will be remembered all year long, Diane Stock has just the thing! Of course it is The "Island Delights" Cook Book! Just the thing for someone who has everything... but needs a good recipe. You can contact Diane or Kathy Engelhart to purchase your cookbook, still a bargain at \$20.

And lastly, we have just received a check from the Kroger Rewards program in the amount of \$612.43 with only 56 households currently enrolled. Kroger has contributed approximately \$2000.00 each year to the RIF general fund through our participation in the rewards program. That number could easily be doubled if we had a 100% participation of Islanders and friends in the rewards program. Support it and get those gas rewards for yourself. If you are not signed up contact Karen Moosekian for help. Little in life is free but this is one that is; and the rewards benefit the Island just by you shopping there and being enrolled.

On behalf of your Russell Island Foundation Board, I would like to say it has been a pleasure to serve this year and wish you and your family a Happy Holiday and a healthy and prosperous New Year.

Russell Island Foundation President,
Joe Moosekian

Board Members

Jeremy Schroeder – Vice President

Beverly Lesia – Secretary

Mark Warner - Treasurer

Trustees: Barbara Bierbusse, Kathy Engelhart, Karen Ridgeway, Dan Hickey, Anne Steel, Dan Stock (RIPOA President)



Kroger Community Rewards Program

To get enrolled in the program, all you need to do is register online at www.krogercommunityrewards.com Be sure to have your Kroger Plus Card handy and register your card with the Russell Island Foundation after you sign up. If you do not yet have a Kroger Plus Card, they are available at the customer service desk at any Kroger store. Here is a step by step explanation of what to do to get enrolled in this beneficial program:

1. Go to www.krogercommunityrewards.com and click on MICHIGAN, scroll down the page and click on the ENROLL box.
2. Click on SIGN UP TODAY in the "New Customer?" box.
3. Sign up for a Kroger Rewards Account by entering your zip code, clicking on favorite store, entering your email address and creating a password. You will need to agree to the terms and conditions.
4. You will then get a message to check in your email inbox and click on the link within the body of the email. Follow the instructions in your email.
5. Click on MY ACCOUNT and use your email address and password to proceed to the next step.
6. Click on EDIT KROGER COMMUNITY REWARDS INFORMATION and input your Kroger Plus Card number. Update or confirm you information.
7. Find Russell Island Foundation which can be selected from the drop down list (or enter the NPO number – 90286) click SELECT in the next section and Click SAVE CHANGES in the third section

To verify that you are enrolled correctly, you should see Russell Island Foundation on the bottom left portion of your information page. It will take 7-10 days before your purchases will begin earning rewards for he Russell Island Foundation after you have registered your Kroger Plus Card online. You will know that you have successfully registered your Kroger Plus Card because at the bottom of your Kroger receipt you will see: ***"At your request, Kroger is donating to The Russell Island Foundation"***.

REMEMBER that purchases will not count for the Russell Island Foundation until after you register your card – so please take the time to do that now! You will need to swipe your registered Kroger Plus Card or use the phone number that is related to your registered Kroger Plus Card when shopping for each purchase in order for it to count towards the quarterly rewards check sent to the Russell Island Foundation. For those of us who regularly shop at Kroger – this is an easy way to help the Foundation accrue monies.

Membership Dues

Annual dues of \$100.00 are tax-deductible and qualify you to be a voting member at the annual meeting of the Russell Island Foundation held on Labor Day Weekend. You do not have to be a cottage owner to be a member. Please consider membership.

Please send annual dues made payable to: The Russell Island Foundation

Mail to: Kathy Engelhart
1011 Satterlee Road
Bloomfield Hills, MI 48304

My gift is in: Dues A contribution (\$100, \$150, etc.)
 Memory of Honor of _____

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____