

The Goldthwait Reservation 2025 Annual Report



Founder

Joel E. Goldthwait M.D.

Trustees

Jay Beebe, III,
 William Blake
 Glenn Chalek
 Christine Cudihy
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 Lynda Hare
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 David Hutchison M.D.
 Timothy Johnson M.D.
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 Susan Lavoie
 Fiona Lubbock
 Edward Principe
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 Betsy Rickards
 Gary Ritter
 Bill Sheridan

Officers

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President
 Tim Geraghty
Vice-President
 Sharon Randall
Treasurer
 Jeanne Kleene
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Directors

Walter Boldys
 Jeff Doherty
 Brigitte Fortin
 Tim Geraghty
 Fiona Lubbock
 Edward Principe
 Rick Smyers



The Goldthwait Reservation, Inc. 2025 Annual Report

Dear Friends of the Goldthwait Reservation,

As the Officers began preparing this annual report, Marblehead was experiencing one of the coldest weekends in recent memory. In addition to the bitter cold, we have also experienced several snow events that have blanketed Marblehead in a fresh coat of snow. The town has been featured in weather reports from the local TV news stations as well as on national TV's Weather Channel.

During these past few storms, I had the opportunity to witness and participate in snow clearing in my neighborhood in addition to my own house. What I realized is that as neighbors, we all help each other clear our driveways and walkways. In particular, the neighbors always help those who may be elderly or physically unable to remove the snow from their property. I have lived in this neighborhood for 30 years and it has always been this way. Neighbors helping neighbors without being asked. This is also the way the Goldthwait Reservation has been run. For the 30 plus years of my association with Goldthwait Reservation, neighbors have always been there to help. The Reservation would not be the pristine location it is without the hard work and dedication of so many of our volunteers. I am proud to live in Marblehead, and I am proud to be a member of Goldthwait.

We are all thankful for another beautiful year at Goldthwait Reservation. While preserving the natural beauty and character of the reservation for outdoor education, recreation and enjoyment for Marblehead residents, it is also equally important to preserve the ecological integrity of the salt marsh. This includes the native plant species that grow there and the fish and wildlife that use the marsh for food, shelter and nursery grounds.

As always, we are forever grateful for the many families, friends, residents, volunteers and generous donors who make the reservation such a beautiful place to treasure and enjoy. All fundraising to maintain the reservation is done by the Officers, Board of Directors and volunteers. We do not use commercial fundraising vendors for this monumental task as many non-profits do. Additional thanks to the Trustees, Directors and Officers for their support and endless work to maintain and preserve the beach, the park and salt marsh. We welcome interest regarding active support, participation on the Board of Directors, and other volunteer activities. Please do let us know of your interest.

Our biggest concern for the property is the continued proactive management of invasive plants in the marsh. This is an annual endeavor to which great financial resources and volunteer hours are dedicated.

I am thankful and appreciative of all our generous donors and of the hard work volunteers provided throughout the year. I look forward to another enjoyable season at Goldthwait Reservation and hope to see you there.

With our sincere thanks and best regards,

Ed Principe, President
 The Goldthwait Reservation, Inc.

Celebrating 78 years of Conservation and Stewardship

Goldthwait Reservation 2025 Annual Report

Operations Report

It was a busy summer for activities, permits and gatherings, some of the highlights for 2025 include:

- High School Day of Service
- Buffer Zone Plant management planting and upkeep
- Public Pop-Up Art Installation
- Goldthwait Annual Clean Up Day
- Boy and Girl Scout celebrations and campout
- Several weddings, family reunions, birthday parties and campfires
- Goldthwait Summer Concert & Party

Polar Plunge - April

The Merry Mixers Polar Plunge had a great turnout. Their very brave and lively supporters helped raise money for Salem Hospital's Pediatric Unit.



Goldthwait Annual Cleanup – May

Goldthwait had another great turnout for its annual reservation cleanup in May. With plenty of friends, neighbors, students, directors, and trustees volunteering for many hours, the garden beds were weeded and mulched, Rosa rugosa trimmed back, planters were replenished with fresh annuals and new native plants were added to the gate entrance. Thank you to all the volunteers who help maintain this unique and important marsh and beachfront area during planned workdays and throughout the year.



Goldthwait Summer Concert – June

Goldthwait Reservation sponsored a free, large-scale pop-music concert in June to welcome the new summer season. This event sought to raise community connections and awareness of Goldthwait’s unique and precious property. The event featured a live band (The Rusty Randoms) and a North Shore food truck (Bees and Thank You). It was very well attended, with residents bringing beach chairs, blankets and coolers for a great evening of music and dancing. The perfect weather was an additional bonus. A huge thank you to the host committee of Pat Boldys, Brigitte Fortin, Maeve Rice and Sharon Randall!!



Many thanks to the talented Betsy Rickards

Public Art Pop-Up Installation - July



Public art pop-up artists, Jeremy Barnett and Jason Maracani, returned to the Goldthwait Reservation in July to install another large-scale art structure made from a collection of sticks “put together on a sunny day to bring joy”. Jeremy, a Marblehead native, and partner Jason met outside Detroit a decade ago and partnered up providing public pop-up installations in the US and Europe. Goldthwait was fortunate to provide the perfect location for this pop-up art installation and sparked great conversations about encouraging more public art displays throughout Marblehead.

Gloucester Area Astronomy Club - October



Goldthwait Reservation was fortunate to reserve a Star Party viewing in October. The Gloucester Astronomy Club arrived with several star-gazing telescopes and their members providing fascinating information and unique opportunities to view the night sky. Participants were treated to viewing many interesting star patterns unseen to the naked eye, as well as rings of Saturn during this beautiful, clear night. Many thanks to Fiona for organizing such a great event.

Parties and Permits

The fire pit and picnic area has become a highly sought-after venue for parties, fund raisers, Scouts and school activities. Sixty permits were issued, of which 14 were for beach fires.

Birthdays for both adults and children were celebrated, with gatherings ranging from 10 to over 100 people. There was a beautiful wedding ceremony in June and a large festive wedding reception in September. Friends and families enjoyed many picnics and lots of beach time. Pumpkin decorating, a baby shower, Scout campouts and ceremonies were all on the calendar. Charitable fund-raising walks and awareness focusing events were also highlights.

For the coming season, we are again reviewing our policies and procedures.

Goldthwait Reservation 2025 – Area Use, Reservations, Permits, Fees and Procedures
PLEASE NOTE
THIS APPLICATION IS FOR THE FIRE PIT USE, GATHERINGS OF 12 OR MORE PEOPLE IN THE GRASSY/FIRE PIT AREA or ON THE BEACH
THERE IS A SEPARATE PERMIT FOR SMALL BEACH FIRES

The Goldthwait Reservation is a private, non-profit land trust generously created in 1947 by Dr. Joel Goldthwait for the recreation and enjoyment of all the townspeople of Marblehead.

It is maintained and supported entirely through membership contributions, donations, special fund raisers, and many volunteer hours. Quiet enjoyment of this special place by Marblehead residents and their guests is encouraged. Contributions are encouraged but are not required for general access.

To reserve an area for a gathering or party, please read and follow these instructions:

Reservation Fees and Trash Deposits

- 12 or fewer people - no fee;
- 13 – 30 people - \$50 fee and minimal \$50 trash/cleanup deposit;
- 31 – 50 people - \$100 fee and \$100 trash/cleanup deposit;
- 51 – 70 people - \$200-\$500 fee and \$200 trash/cleanup deposit;
- More than 70 people – the Board of Directors will determine fees and any special requirements depending upon the time frame and purpose of the gathering.

The Board of Directors can adjust or waive fees at their discretion.

Advance reservations are required for ANY FIRES or GATHERINGS OF 12 OR MORE

- Current Goldthwait contributors may apply for a permit; [Donate – Goldthwait Reservation](#)
- Contact permit coordinator Jeanne Klema (617-922-0656 or permits_ajw@marbl.com);
- Check to see if your date is available before applying;

Fire Pit Permits (No permit – No fee!)

- Fire permits are issued by the Goldthwait Reservation through the permit process; (Note: the Marblehead Fire Department does not issue permits);
- Permits must be requested at least 48 hours in advance;
- Applicants must be at least 21 years of age;
- Small "coking" fires only – NO bonfires;
- Fires must be completely extinguished/located before leaving;
- Instructions for contacting the proper local authorities will be provided with the permit.

Insurance for Gatherings or Events

- The coordinator will advise you about any insurance needs after reviewing your application;
- General liability insurance that names and indemnifies the Goldthwait Reservation and/or proof of liquor liability if often applied and may be required. It is easily and economically arranged through [The Event Liaison](#).

General Information

- Hours of operation are down to 10:00 PM (without exception);
- The parking lot closes at dusk and the gate will be locked unless special arrangements are made;
- Swim at your own risk; no lifeguard is on duty;
- Protect this special environment; never disturb the wildlife or damage fragile plant life;
- Do not trespass in the marsh;

For All Entering the Goldthwait Reservation

- State and town ordinances and bylaws and Goldthwait's rules and guidelines MUST be followed;
- Trash and recyclables: please take out what you bring in;
- Please NO glass, balloons, or inflatables (e.g., slides or bouncy houses);
- No smoking; Alcohol only by approval;
- Current Goldthwait Contributor stickers provide for access to the parking lot;
- No dogs on the beach or the rocks May 1 – September 30;
- All dogs must be leashed at all times and "Pooper Scooper" laws apply;
- Removal of rocks is prohibited by law.

RESERVATION DETAILS AND PERMIT APPLICATION IS ON PAGE TWO (form dated April 26, 2025)



Goldthwait Reservation 2025 Annual Report

Salt Marsh Report

Buffer Zone Planting Project – Status and potential future locations within marsh

Goldthwait Reservation is excited to report that the 2024 Buffer Zone Planting Project, established in the northwest corner of the marsh, has flourished and is responding well to its new environment. The buffer zone planting project was initiated by Betsy Rickards and CMZ (Coastal Zone Management) to create a buffer of native planting, perennials and shrubs which would benefit the ecosystem by helping to control erosion, prevent storm water pollution and enhance wildlife habitat. Goldthwait is hoping to create additional buffer zones within the marsh area to help better protect the salt marsh.



Trench Clearing – DeRosa Environmental



Original Art by Martha Quigley

The 2025 marsh trench clearing was a huge success due to the assistance of DeRosa Environmental and their dedicated staff run by Martin Cooper. Many of the trenches suffered from overgrowth of grasses and phragmites, which in turn limited to flow of salt water in and out of the marsh. DeRosa’s field engineers remain invaluable in maintaining clear trenches and reducing the growth of phragmites.

Invasive Plants



With the assistance of Lassanna Landscaping, DeRosa Environmental and Marblehead native, Hooper Goodwin, much of the marsh invasive plants (knotweed, Phragmites, marsh elder plants and purple loosestrife) were cut and removed throughout the growing season. While marsh elder plants are “native” to the area, their over-growth and proximity to the marsh trenches obstructs flow and requires the thinning out during the summer season.

Marsh management & Oversight

Several board members were fortunate enough to receive an impromptu lecture by a local author and salt marsh consultant, Russ Hopping. As an independent consultant, Russ’s visit to the marsh provided the reservation with some assurances, guidance and management suggestions for the future.



Goldthwait Reservation 2025 Annual Report

Treasurer's Report

The 2025 season at Goldthwait Reservation was enjoyed with great weather, wide and varied experiences utilizing the grounds and beach, and very importantly, the continued generous support of donors.

The fundraising letter campaign began in early April 2025. We were humbled by the generosity of the early response from known and prior donors. Thank you letters with 2025 stickers were mailed to our donors without delay. The end-of-year campaign sent in November was also quite successful. It was particularly moving to receive numerous donations from family and friends in memory of their recently departed loved ones. Goldthwait touches peoples' lives in more ways than we can imagine.

Marblehead residents, Goldthwait neighbors, and those a little farther away, remain very generous in supporting the maintenance and preservation operations of Goldthwait. The use of PayPal and Venmo continues to trend as a favored method of donating and is frequently used at the parking gate instead of cash transactions. The QR code printed on the remittance envelopes and at the gate also provides easy access for on-line payment options. We are also especially grateful for the generosity of many significant contributions made through corporate matching and charitable trust gifting.

In 2025, the total for direct donations was \$72,837.69 To compare, total donations in 2024 were \$70,860. We benefited from the generosity of 382 individual donors. Permits for large group events in 2025 generated \$2,300. Together with additional special event receipts, the gross profit for 2025 totaled \$76,479.03. In comparison, in 2024 total gross profit was \$73,399.07.

In 2025, total expenditures were \$47,042.88. This figure, while somewhat higher than in 2024, \$37,816.91, reflects additional professional services required in the salt marsh, increases in insurance costs, and expenses for the summer neighborhood event. Payroll expenditures for part-time gate attendants in 2025 totaled \$3961.13.

We are fortunate to have many volunteers and dedicated paid gate attendants, as well as our local businesses who provide reliable and professional service hours throughout the season. Special recognition is again given to Hooper Goodwin, Lassana's Landscaping, DeRosa Environmental Consulting, and other businesses who have continued to provide us with great services and fair pricing.

In 2025, funds were moved into interest bearing accounts, including CD and money market accounts. The opening balance in 2025 was \$162,464.26. As of 12/31/25, the cash balance is \$192,396.07. With sincere appreciation to our donors, supporters, volunteers, and paid seasonal staff, we remain in a healthy position as we enter the 2026 season.

2025 Reports included: Statement of Activity, Financial Position

Sharon Randall, Treasurer
Jeanne Kleene, Bookkeeper

The Goldthwait Reservation Inc.

2025 Annual Report

Revenue	Total
Non-Profit Revenue	
Donations	
Checks	55,711.39
Gate Cash	1,478.00
Paypal	15,648.30
Total for Donations	\$72,837.69
Fund Raising	
Special Events	1,329.59
Total for Fund Raising	\$1,329.59
Other	11.75
Use Permits	
Fees	2,300.00
Total for Use Permits	\$2,300.00
Total for Non-Profit Revenue	\$76,479.03
Total for Income	\$76,479.03
Gross Profit	\$76,479.03

Expenditures	
Decals-Stickers	650.00
Fund Raising	
Mailings-Solicitations	
Postage	300.75
Total for Mailings-Solicitations	\$300.75
Paypal Fee	150.55
Special Events	7,301.48
Total for Fund Raising	\$7,752.78
Operations Administrative (OA)	
Accounting Fees	892.50
Bank Fees	165.00
Comm Mass Filing Fees	35.73
Comm Payroll Fee	1,133.25
Insurance	4,540.90
Mailbox	318.00
Payroll	
Direct Deposits (net)	3,961.13
Tax Withholding (Assure Tax)	621.91
Total for Payroll	\$4,583.04
Postage	156.00
Supplies copying	800.59
Total for Operations Administrative	\$12,625.01

Property	
Fire Pit - Grassy Area	
Equipment Supplies	1,340.50
Landscaping	3,500.00
Services	113.30
Total for Fire Pit - Grassy Area	\$4,953.80

Expenditures (continued)	
Marsh	
Equipment-Supplies	34.37
Services	12,859.68
Total for Marsh	\$12,894.05
Site Overall	
Equipment Supplies	1,976.42
Security	1,678.08
Trash Removal	2,900.00
Utilities	962.74
Total for Site Overall	\$7,517.24
Wildlife Area	
Labor (hourly)	650.00
Total for Wildlife Area	\$650.00
Total for Property	\$26,015.09
Total for Expenditures	\$47,042.88
Net Operating Income	\$29,436.15
Interest Income NGB	1,037.61
Total for Other Income	\$1,037.61
Net Other Income	\$1,037.61
Net Revenue	\$30,473.76

Statement of Financial Position	
As of December 31, 2025	Total
Assets	
Current Assets	
Bank Accounts	
Certificate of Deposit	101,018.92
Checking (3664)	61,073.46
Fidelity	0.00
Petty Cash	285.00
Savings	30,018.69
Total for Bank Accounts	\$192,396.07
Other Current Assets	
Uncategorized Asset	0.00
Total for Other Current Assets	\$0.00
Total for Current Assets	\$192,396.07
Total for Assets	\$192,396.07
Liabilities	
Accounts Payable (A/P)	432.05
Total for Accounts Payable	\$432.05
Total for Current Liabilities	\$432.05
Total for Liabilities	\$432.05
Equity	
Opening Balance Equity	20,481.54
Retained Earnings	141,008.72
Net Income	30,473.76
Total for Equity	\$191,964.02
Total for Liabilities and Equity	\$192,396.07

2025 Memorial and Honor Contributions
Donors can indicate whether a contribution is made
in honor of or in memory of a loved one.
Those names are shared here.

In Memory Of:

**Alana Andonian
Edward J. Colbert and Beverly Simpson
Teddy Combs
Margaret H. Daley
Tom Hamond
Katie Hebert
Charles "Charlie" Ives
Bill and Louise Kaull
Heidi Marie Cahoon McEwen
John MacDonald
Cynthia Rockett
Deborah Santoro
Daniel "Dan" Shea
Richard St. George Sides
Nancy Smith and Kelly Smith
The Thompson and Wilkens Family
Ruth Weingartner
Cale Weston
Anna and Mark Yarovoy**

In Honor of:

**The Volunteers
Christine, "the beach cleaning Goddess"
July 4, 2015 wedding!**

The Goldthwait Reservation, Inc.

Contributor Form

Thank you very much for your generosity. All contributions are greatly appreciated.

Please return this form with your tax-deductible donation or visit www.goldthwait.org to donate online.

Please make checks payable to: The Goldthwait Reservation, Inc.

Mail checks to: Sharon Randall, Treasurer
The Goldthwait Reservation, Inc.
PO Box 1025
Marblehead MA 01945-5025

Online donations can be made through Paypal
[Goldthwait.org Donate Page](http://Goldthwait.org/Donate/DonatePage)
or



Thank you very much for your support.

Suggested donation levels:

- _____ \$50 Individual
- _____ \$75 Family
- _____ \$100 Family Plus
- _____ \$250 Friend of Goldthwait
- _____ \$500 Advocate
- _____ \$1,000 Benefactor
- _____ \$2,500+ Environmentalist

_____ \$25 Senior (age 70+ discount)

Senior or Individual \$50 contributions will receive one Goldthwait sticker. Marblehead residents who contribute \$75 or more will receive a second Goldthwait sticker.

We would like to acknowledge special donations in our annual report.

Please let us know if you have a special designation.

_____ In memory of _____

_____ In honor of _____

Please include your name, email, and mailing address:

Name: _____

Mailing address: _____

Email: _____

(we will only use this for Goldthwait communications)

WE NEED YOUR TIME AND TALENTS! If you are interested in volunteering to help with any aspect of the Goldthwait Reservation’s work please let us know. We welcome your help!

Email: goldthwait.reservation@gmail.com

Effective March 2025

Goldthwait is a 501c(3) tax-exempt charity 04-2061893 and contributions are deductible under section 170 of the IRS code.