

## 2015-2016 Annual Report of the Schoodic Scenic Byway Corridor Management Committee

The Corridor Management Committee of Schoodic National Scenic Byway is happy to report on our progress in 2015 and the start of 2016.

### **Visitor Facilities and Information**

- ♦ Completion of the granite exhibit at Gordon's Wharf in Sullivan. This wonderful exhibit welcomes visitors to the edge of Taunton's Bay. Special thanks to Larry Johannesman, Obadiah Buell, and Gary Edwards for their efforts with this project.
- ♦ Continued work on Gouldsboro-Prospect Harbor Kid's Quest site.
- ♦ Designs for the Kid's Quest wayfinding signs have been completed.
- ♦ Interpretive signs for Winter Harbor-Camp Moore have been manufactured.
- ♦ An interpretive sign for Sullivan-Summer Memorial Park and Long Cove has been designed and manufactured.
- ♦ An interpretive sign for Hancock-Tidal Falls has been designed.
- ♦ A new bicycle rack at the Hancock Waterfront Trail has been installed. A big thank you to Bill and Polly Ceckler for their help with this!
- ♦ Acadia National Park opened the Schoodic Woods Campground, with hiking and biking trail systems and a visitor center.
- ♦ Acadia National Park announced that they will be monitoring visitor passes in 2016.
- ♦ Downeast Transportation committed to 30-minute bus service for Winter Harbor, Schoodic Woods, and Schoodic Point.
- ♦ Frenchman Bay Conservancy completed additional hiking trails in the Byway vicinity.

### **Planning for Future Improvements and Projects**

- ♦ The manufacture and installation of signs that have completed the design phase is proposed.
- ♦ Several improvements will be made to the gateway area at Taunton Bay, including a new train exhibit for the Kid's Quest display to be made using unused MDOT equipment, and new sidewalks, landscaping, and a kiosk.
- ♦ Improvements are planned for the downtown greenspace in Winter Harbor, including, landscaping, parking, and a kiosk.
- ♦ Additional work at the Gordon's Wharf site, including interpretive signage and a flagstone surface.

### **Funding**

- ♦ A \$15,000 grant was received from the Betterment Fund for the Ped, Pedal, Paddle program.
- ♦ A grant for technical assistance was received from the National Park Service's Rivers, Trails, and Conservation program, to be used in 2016.

### **Public Participation**

- ♦ We are currently in the process of planning for involvement in Acadia National Park's year-long Centennial celebration. If you have ideas about events or ways your community could be involved, please let us know!
- ♦ The Schoodic Byway Brochure continues to promote natural, historic, cultural and recreational assets along the byway. The brochures are distributed through Maine Visitor Centers.
- ♦ Further reductions in national and state funds for byway programs places greater importance on municipal and other contributions to continue improvements along the byway. Thanks to all that have given support.

We thank the select boards, planning boards, staff, historical societies, Chamber of Commerce, Maine Coast Heritage Trust, Friends of Taunton Bay, Frenchman Bay Conservancy and other organizations for their support. We thank the Hancock County Planning Commission, the Maine Department of Transportation and Acadia National Park for their technical and financial support.

The Schoodic National Scenic Byway Corridor Committee is a collaboration of Hancock, Sullivan, Gouldsboro, Winter Harbor and Acadia National Park to protect and promote this scenic corridor. Area residents are always welcome to attend byway meetings. You can learn more at [schoodicbyway.org](http://schoodicbyway.org), or by calling the Hancock County Planning Commission at 667-7131.

Respectfully Submitted,

*Barbara Shanahan*

Barbara Shanahan, Chairperson



## Seaweed Secrets AT SAND COVE

**Flip over some seaweed and see who is hiding**  
Rockweed is the name for seaweed that holds tightly to the shoreline rocks. At high tide, sea water covers it and small gas-filled bumps on the blades help it float and spread out to create a habitat for small fish. At low tide, the flexible rockweed lies flat and makes a perfect hiding place for crabs, periwinkles and other creatures to stay cool, wet and protected. Rockweed is edible but most animals don't like it. Pieces break off, decay and become food for filter-feeders like mussels, scallops and barnacles.

**Acadian Hermit**  
Crabs find shelter under the rockweed

**Look below the surface**  
Crouch by the edge of tide pools to see tiny bug-like amphipods dart among the colorful seaweeds, hermit crabs scuttler, and maybe even a baby lobster. The crusty coating on rocks and shells are living algae and barnacles.

**Camp Moore**  
Generations of Boy Scouts have enjoyed the outdoors at Sand Cove thanks to the daughter of John G. Moore, the donor of Schoodic Point. In 1950, she donated this land to the town for use by the scouts. The original log cabin, built by volunteers, still stands nearby.

**Find the strandline**  
A dark line of drying seaweed is left behind after high tide. Watch for Least Sandpipers using their bills to forage for beach hoppers and bugs inhabiting the stranded seaweed. Come October, straggling snacks fuel these little birds on a non-stop flight to their winter homes in South America.

**Why are the rocks so slippery?**  
Thin layers of blue-green algae, a very tiny seaweed, coat the rocks at Sand Cove. Why don't periwinkle snails slip on the rocks like you do? Our sticky foot holds tight while they scrape up a lunch of algae with their tooth-covered tongue-like radula. Periwinkles keep safe inside thick round shells when ocean waves toss them about like marbles.

**Find periwinkles on the rocks**

**Look for a Sandpiper grabbing a snack in the seaweed**