Dear 'Sconset friends:

We have enjoyed a sunny, warm summer in 'Sconset and on the Island. We now look to a busy off-season for the Trust as we position ourselves on key conservation and preservation issues for the Village. Again, we thank you for your support in the past and look forward to your continued support as we work on conservation of open land in the green belt and the preservation of Sankaty Head Lighthouse and other historic structures in 'Sconset.

We talk and write a great deal about conservation and preservation as these concepts are core to our mission – see our mission statement below. What do we mean when we talk about conservation and preservation?

We all know that conservation and preservation of open land in the green belt support as we work on conservation of open land no matter the size or location in 'Sconset has been a cornerstone of the Trust’s work over the past 21 years. We are closing in on hitting the 75 acre mark in conserved land throughout the Village thanks to very generous contributors in the past. By the way there are still over 300 acres of open land subject to conservation in the Village. The federally owned lands on Low Beach at the Loran tower make up 192 acres. Most other parcels of undeveloped land are privately owned.

The land conservation process has changed greatly over the years as tax laws have been modified. Donation incentives and benefits are not as evident as in the past. It is now common for the Trust and other land conservation groups to be asked to purchase open land by holders to meet the owner’s conservation interests and/or help with estate planning and estate settlement needs. In addition we are asked from time to time to compete with and against development proposals that carry rather steep “retail” pricing based on anticipated post development house sales. The changing world of land conservation has caused us to add new alternatives to the way in which we operate and respond to opportunities.

It is likely in the future that the Trust will take steps to create conservation-friendly development plans to effectively compete with sprawl and cluster oriented development of large parcels of open land. This is the reality of a highly sought after and valued real estate market. We see the need to protect against the possibility of, for example, the addition of 50 houses and the related infrastructure implications for the Village vs. a more conservation-friendly 10-house controlled development under the sponsorship of the Trust or like organizations. We must keep an open mind about this type of creative solution in order to continue to achieve our mission of conserving open lands, particularly in the greenbelt area to the south and west of the inner Village.

“Preservation” has many meanings and is core to our sense of conservation and preservation. It means to save; to keep; to maintain in a pristine state. It means to value, to protect, and to enhance what is best about a place. It means to appreciate and to enjoy the past and the present. It means to provide opportunities for the future. It means to be stewards of the past and present, and to engage others in making the future a better place than the past.

In anticipation of the fall, the Trust will step up its conservation efforts and aggressively pursue opportunities to secure more open land, particularly in the green belt. We want to hear from you! Whether you would like to talk about what’s happening in the Village, or want to update the Trust on an issue, please contact us by telephone, fax, email, or post.

Erika Moore, Executive Director
The 'Sconset Trust
PO Box 821
Siasconset, MA 02564
Phone: (508) 228-9917
Fax: (508) 228-8810
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Do you know...
That you can make a memorial donation to the Trust?
That gift memberships can be made?
That you can give junior memberships to your younger children or encourage them to become members on their own?

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continued from page 1

of community and of keeping ‘Sconset as true to the ideal that we cherish. It is embedded in our mind’s eye view of the Village particularly when we are away from ‘Sconset. Preservation has a slightly different meaning for each of us.

In general when we address preservation, we are talking about preserving the look and feel of the Village. We wish to preserve the quaint historic charm in the core Village of the lanes, classic hedges and gardens, fences and historic homes. In addition we aim to preserve the glory of Sankaty Head Lighthouse, historic homes. In addition we aim to pre-

We aim to preserve not only the feel of the Village but very specifically many of the historic structures – privately-owned homes as well as public and commercial sites. Beyond preserving the national landmark at Sankaty Head, we encourage home owners, business owners and community entities to preserve their buildings and properties for the benefit of all now and in the future.

We are delighted that the Siasconset Union Chapel has decided to work on a preservation agreement that will preserve the Chapel building along with the surrounding gardens and columbarium in perpetuity. We are hopeful the members of the Chapel will create an historic preservation restriction (easement) that will protect and preserve the property now and for future generations. We are hopeful the members of the Chapel for setting the tone and leading the way.

What kind of family do you want to be? This probing question was asked by Charles W. Collier, senior philanthropic adviser at Harvard University at the ‘Sconset Trust Patrons’ Party in August. Collier was invited to ‘Sconset to share his observations and experiences surrounding families and wealth.

He stressed the idea that true family wealth is comprised of four components: human, intellectual, social, and financial capital. The human capital of your family is who your family members are, what their character is, what their values and spirituality are, and what their passions, dreams and aspirations are. "I think that a family’s human capital is the most important form of capital," said Collier, "and needs to be invested in over a lifetime. Are you investing in the individual pursuits of happiness of each family member? Ask yourself: What is my contribution to my family?"

During his interactive talk, he also discussed how a family might invest in the intellectual and social capital, as well as the financial capital, of their family. Collier also suggested that family philanthropy provides a way to teach children the skills and competencies necessary to lead a fulfilling life.

Anyone who would like a copy of Collier’s book, Wealth in Families, can call the ‘Sconset Trust at 508-228-9917.

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Marketing, Education, and Membership (MEM) Report

As we’ve mentioned time and again, now is a critical time to support the Sconset Trust. Development pressures threaten the very qualities that attract people to our unique Village – the easy, relaxed way of life; the abundant and rejuvenating natural beauty; the leisurely bike rides and walks to the post office or market; and the central-Village scale of the neighborhood.

Many ‘Sconseters have asked how they can help the Trust accomplish its mission of preserving and protecting our Village. First and foremost we request that you consider increasing your donation to the Trust this year. Another way to help is to share the Trust mission with friends and family members. The broader our membership, the broader our outreach abilities when significant properties become available for purchase.

Membership on the Rise

The MEM committee is happy to report that 2005 is tracking to be a record year for Trust membership (please see accompanying box). We’ve added a junior membership category and have had a number of junior members join (some as young as two years old)! It’s been encouraging seeing the next generation step forward to support the Trust’s work.

New Brochure

In order to reach out to more ‘Sconseters we’re in the planning stages for a new brochure. The brochure will provide a history and context for how Sconset became the special place it is, and the Trust’s role in preserving and protecting our Village. We intend to have a perforated membership card as part of the brochure and distribute it through Trust events, realtors and the Civic Association.

New York City Scenic

I’m happy to say that our New York City Winter Scenic will return by popular demand! The event committee has just formed, and a save-the-date card will be forthcoming. We’re planning a February date again, and will coordinate it with the Casino and Trust winter board meetings.

One of the exciting events for the evening will be the unveiling of a new Forrest Rood’s print to benefit the Trust. Forrest has most generously offered to paint a Sconset scene and donate all proceeds to our work. After the unveiling in New York, prints will be on sale.

If there are any Trust members interested in helping the New York City scenic committee or stepping forward as sponsors for the event, please contact Erika Moekey at SconsetTrust@comcast.net or me at dkinsley@kinsleypower.com.

Nature Walks

The Sconset Trust sponsored our first-ever ‘Sconset nature walks this summer. Dr. Bob Kennedy, a naturalist from the Maria Mitchell Association, led the walks through the Village in both July and August. The walks were extremely well attended and received. The Trust plans to make these walks a regular summer event.

New Sconset Trust Shirts

The Trust will also be coming out with white, collared (Casino & Sankaty friendly!) Sconset Trust shirts for sale. We hope to be able to offer them at the New York City event, on-line at www.sconsettrust.org and around the Village. Though we’re selling them in part for fundraising, our primary goal is to create more visibility for the Trust around the Island. We hope the shirts inspire conversations about the special work we’re doing!

David Kinsley
MEM Chairman

Membership Statistics As of 9/19/05

Total Members: 463
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Donors at the Patron level or higher:
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Summer Faces

Photo courtesy of Kris Kinley Hancock

Sankaty Head Golf Club will provide the land for the alternative site which will be northwest of the Lighthouse’s present location and a substantial distance from the edge of the bluff.

In the meantime, the Siasconset Beach Preservation Fund (SBPF) is installing substantial toe protection in front of Sankaty Lighthouse to minimize further bluff losses. Let’s hope that these efforts by SBPF are successful.

Dave St. Clair
Sankaty Lighthouse Committee Chair
NOTES FROM THE LAND COMMITTEE

In past newsletters we have addressed the implications of the current real estate environment on the Trust’s ability to preserve the important greenbelt around the village of Sconset and we have described our efforts on several parcels of land whose development could significantly change the nature of our community. As we reported in June, this is a slow and complicated process and, as of this date, there are no new developments to report.

During the summer the Committee focused its efforts on developing the Trust’s ability to respond to the various alternative scenarios which might evolve for these properties. While it is difficult to work in the abstract, we have been able to identify several strategic courses of action and have formed a team of professionals to work with us to flesh them out. Critical to all of these are the financial resources which the Trust can bring to bear when the time comes. The increased support of our membership in 2005 is critical to building those resources.

The Land Committee also spent considerable time working with several families who own smaller parcels throughout the Village and who have a strong commitment to the conservation/preservation of their historic environment. In some cases these families have been faced with the immediate need to satisfy estate taxes where greatly increased property value has substantially offsetting the gain. After this fact the planning is a hard task indeed since the clock is running on taxes due and the options are limited. In other cases families have begun to sit down and work together to define how they want to see their Sconset property preserved for the future and have asked the Trust to participate in creating an estate tax effective means of accomplishing their objectives. In both situations the Trust has helped in defining alternatives and introducing qualified professionals to help implement them.

Without question the experience of this summer has reinforced the lessons of recent years. If families want to conserve/preserve their properties in Sconset, they need to sit down together, establish priorities, recognize the different sensitivities/needs of each family member and generation and develop a plan together. No amount of conservation/tax expertise can cure the impact of poor estate tax planning after the fact. In this regard the Trust, while an advocate of maximum conservation, stands ready to help implement whatever decisions a family makes which accomplish the mutual objective of preserving some or all of the environment we all treasure so much. Please feel free to contact a member of the Board of the Land Committee if you are interested in discussing the Trust’s capabilities in this area.

J. Perry Riddick
Land Committee Chairman

PRESERVATION: WHAT’S MISSING?

Thirty miles off the shore of Massachusetts there is an island with a long and fascinating history, an extraordinary range of historic architecture from the simple to the grand, and a unique natural environment—elements that are so significant that they led the federal government to designate the entire island as a National Historic Landmark in 1966. This designation cites Nantucket’s rare surviving seventeenth-century buildings as representatives of the nation’s early settlement, Eighteenth-century center as a balance between commerce, fine state of preservation and craftsmanship, and nineteenth-century buildings as the lasting symbols of the great whaling era.

So far, are we missing anything?

In the nearly forty years since Nantucket was designated a National Historic Landmark much has changed. The twentieth century has ended and become a part of history; buildings that were built within living memory in 1966 are in integral part of the unique environment of Nantucket. Over the next year, you will hear more from the Sconset Trust as it works with the Nantucket Preservation Trust and other partners to accomplish this task. This work will require extensive historical research, a time-consuming building-by-building evaluation of remaining structures, and financial support. We will keep you posted as our plans develop. We also hope you will support the project generously to help us accomplish our shared goal of protecting this wonderful place.

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Sconset Trust Historic Preservation consultant

BILL CHARLTON

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—William J. Charlton

DONNA LOCKHART

After spending childhood summers on Nantucket, I now live on the outskirts of Sconset for half the year. Always involved in community endeavors, I am back to being a committed volunteer. I hope, as one of the newest members of the Sconset Trust Board, to help preserve the history of Sconset and participate with others in managing the growth of this very special community.

—Donna Lockhart

MICHAEL ROBERTS

I am pleased to have been asked to serve on the Board of the Sconset Trust again after an absence of a number of years. I have always felt that the Trust is a key aspect of maintaining the charm of our community. Although nothing stands the same it is important the Trust take a proactive role in leading what ever change is necessary for the benefit of all to whom Sconset is a special place. This is an exciting time for the Trust with a lot of challenges but with it comes opportunity. I am appreciative and excited by the chance to help.

—Michael A.F. Roberts

AMY TERCZ

I have been coming to Nantucket for thirty years and have been a Sconset resident since 2001. My mother, Allie Wilson, a Sconset resident now deceased, was an active member of the "Sconset Trust for many years and introduced me and my husband Mark to the charm of Sconset. I am particularly interested in preserving Sconset's village atmosphere and stunning surroundings for future generations to enjoy.

TRUST HAPPENINGS

A management group operating under the name Sconset Hydrangeas LLC is poised to start the build-out of 14 homes on a 6.5 acre parcel of land on the former property of Robert "Skinner" Coffin abutting Milestone Road. This project was approved by the Planning Board on June 27th of this year and the 'Sconset Trust has agreed to take ownership of approximately 1.5 acres of open land at the north end of the property, abutting the Henry Coffin Jr estate property. In addition the Trust will hold a deed restriction on an additional 2+ acres of land that will remain open in perpetuity.

Thanks to Bob and Marianne Felch for once again organizing the Sconset Trust’s 4th of July Fun Days activities, held after the bike parade. There were games and refreshments in the Chapel garden and a wonderful turnout of the community.

Our 21st Annual Meeting at the Casino was held on one of the last rainy days of summer (July 8). Gary Hazlidge started off the evening, with a special photography exhibit. Bob Felch then engaged the membership in a Q & A session to find out what the Trust can do for our membership and our community and to see what our membership can do for the Trust. We hosted two nature walks in July and August, led by Dr. Bob Kennedy of the Maria Mitchell Association. Some beautiful birds, were sighted and we hope to hold these walks annually.

This year’s Patrons’ Party was hosted by Elisabeth Bittner Joung and Charno Joung. Special guest Charles W. Coller, senior philanthropic advisor at Harvard University, gave a lively presentation on “The Practices of Successful Families”.

The Nantucket Historical Association is holding a special membership meeting on October 14th to vote on being a pass-through for Bankruptcy’s Lighthouse fund. If you are a member of the NHAA please attend this meeting and vote your approval. Please see David St. Clair’s Lighthouse update in this issue for more information.

Executive Director Erika Mooney will be heading to Wisconsin October 13-18 for the Land Trust Alliance’s National Land Conservation Conference. For more information please visit the LTA’s website.

The Trust will again be participating in the Nantucket Historical Association’s Festival of Trees in December. This year marks the NHAA’s return to the Whaling Museum. If you have ideas for our tree or would like to volunteer to help decorate the Trust’s tree, please contact Erika at 508-228-9917 or email us at SconsetTrust@comcast.net.

Look for our save-the-date cards for our Second Annual Winter Soiree. If you would like to be a sponsor for this special event or would like to serve on the committee, please contact Erika (SconsetTrust@comcast.net) or David Kinskey (dkinskey@kinskeypow-er.com).
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So, what is missing? The 20th century.

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Sconset Hydrangeas LLC property. Photo courtesy of Bob Bendle

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**MEM Chairman**

David Kinsley

Sankaty Lighthouse Committee Member

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of community and of keeping ‘Sconset as true to the ideal that we cherish. It is embedded in our mind’s eye view of the Village particularly when we are away from ‘Sconset. Preservation has a slightly different meaning when we are away from ‘Sconset.

In general when we address preservation, we are talking about preserving the look and feel of the Village. We wish to preserve the quaint historic charm in the core Village of the lanes, classic hedges and gardens, fences and historic homes. In addition we aim to preserve the glory of Sankaty Head Lighthouse, historic homes. In addition we aim to preserve the glory of Sankaty Head Lighthouse, an image we encounter every time (except on foggy days) we travel over Bean Hill on Milestone Road and see in the distance - Sankaty, the mariner’s friend.

We aim to preserve not only the feel of the Village but very specifically many of the historic structures – privately-owned homes as well as public and commercial sites. Beyond preserving the national landmark at Sankaty Head, we encourage home owners, business owners and community entities to preserve their buildings and properties for the benefit of all now and in the future.

We are delighted that the Siasconset Union Chapel has decided to work on a preservation agreement that will preserve the Chapel building along with the surrounding gardens and columbarium in perpetuity in much the way it appears today. Through working with the ‘Sconset Trust and our experts, the Board of the Chapel will create an historic preservation restriction easement that will protect and preserve the property now and for future generations. We are hopeful the members of the Chapel will create an historic preservation restriction easement that will protect and preserve the property now and for future generations. We are hopeful the members of the Chapel will create an historic preservation restriction easement that will protect and preserve the property now and for future generations. We are hopeful the members of the Chapel will create an historic preservation restriction easement that will protect and preserve the property now and for future generations. We are hopeful the members of the Chapel will create an historic preservation restriction easement that will protect and preserve the property now and for future generations. We are hopeful the members of the Chapel will create an historic preservation restriction easement that will protect and preserve the property now and for future generations. We are hopeful the members of the Chapel will create an historic preservation restriction easement that will protect and preserve the property now and for future generations. We are hopeful the members of the Chapel will create an historic preservation restriction easement that will protect and preserve the property now and for future generations. We are hopeful the members of the Chapel will create an historic preservation restriction easement that will protect and preserve the property now and for future generations. We are hopeful the members of the Chapel will create an historic preservation restriction easement that will protect and preserve the property now and for future generations. We are hopeful the members of the Chapel will create an historic preservation restriction easement that will protect and preserve the property now and for future generations.

We'll keep an eye on things while you're away. With questions, comments and suggestions, please feel free to contact me, Erika Mooney, our Executive Director, or any Board member with questions, comments and suggestions. We'll keep an eye on things while you're away.

Robert Dean Felch, President
rffelch@aol.com

Above: Charles W. Collier with host and Board member Elisabeth Bittner Joung and West and Arthur Reade. Lower right: Guests at the Patrons’ Party listening to Charles Collier’s presentation. Photos courtesy of Erika Mooney.

This year’s 4th of July Bike Parade. Photo courtesy of Rob Benchley.

Voices of the Village, An oral history of ‘Sconset, interviews by Nancy Bizouhse with photographs by Bob Benchley, will make the perfect gift. Get a copy for friends, family, or yourself!

29 interviews take the reader back to a simpler time in our lives. This wonderful book of ‘Sconset oral history is truly a keepsake and is a must have for your Nantucket book collection. Voices of the Village can be purchased directly through the ‘Sconset Trust for $23 plus shipping and handling. To order, please call us at (508) 228-9917 or email SconsetTrust@comcast.net. MasterCard & Visa accepted.
Dear 'Sconset friends:

We have enjoyed a sunny, warm summer in 'Sconset and on the Island. We now look to a busy off-season for the Trust as we position ourselves on key conservation and preservation issues for the Village. Again, we thank you for your support in the past and look forward to your continued support as we work on conservation of open land in the green belt and the preservation of Sankaty Head Lighthouse and other historic structures in 'Sconset.

We talk and write a great deal about conservation and preservation as these concepts are core to our mission – see our mission statement below. What do we mean when we talk about conservation and preservation?

We all know that conservation of open land no matter the size or location in 'Sconset has been a cornerstone of the Trust’s work over the past 21 years. We are closing in on hitting the 75 acre mark in conserved land throughout the Village thanks to very generous contributors in the past. By the way there are still well over 300 acres of open land subject to conservation in the Village. The federally owned lands on Low Beach at the Loran tower make up 192 acres. Most other parcels of undeveloped land are privately owned.

The land conservation process has changed greatly over the years as tax laws have been modified. Donation incentives and benefits are not as evident as in the past. It is now common for the Trust and other land conservation groups to be asked to purchase open land by holders to meet the owner’s conservation interests and/or help with estate planning and estate settlement needs. In addition we are asked from time to time to compete with and against development proposals that carry rather steep “retail” pricing based on anticipated post development house sales. The changing world of land conservation has caused us to add new alternatives to the way in which we operate and respond to opportunities.

It is likely in the future that the Trust will take steps to create conservation-friendly development plans to effectively compete with sprawl and cluster oriented development of large parcels of open land. This is the reality of a highly sought after and valued real estate market. We see the need to protect against the possibility of, for example, the addition of 50 houses and the related infrastructure implications for the Village vs. a more conservation-friendly 10-house controlled development under the sponsorship of the Trust or like organizations. We must keep an open mind about this type of creative solution in order to continue to achieve our mission of conserving open lands, particularly in the greenbelt area to the south and west of the inner Village.

"Preservation" has many meanings and is core to our sense of mission. The Trust’s primary mission is to assist in the preservation of the Village’s unique character through conservation and preservation of areas of open land and its structures of historic significance.