



In 'Sconset

NEWS FROM THE 'SCONSET TRUST SUMMER 2019



An active winter and summer for the Trust

ELLIOT GEWIRTZ,
CHAIR & PRESIDENT

The Trust has been active over the winter on a number of fronts and I'd like to take this opportunity to bring you up to date. We held two winter gatherings this year: one in February hosted by Kathy and David Cheek in Delray Beach, Florida, and the other in April hosted by Bunny Bispham in New York City. Thanks to the Cheeks and Bunny for hosting these events at their wonderful clubs.

This year marks the 35th anniversary of the founding of the 'Sconset Trust. We will celebrate the occasion at our annual gala this summer at Sankaty Head Golf Club on Sunday July 21 so mark your calendars now. We are also working on a commemorative brochure noting highlights of the work of the Trust over the years and honoring all those who have made that work possible through their generous support of the Trust.

As you may recall, we have been talking with Town officials for more than a year now about the possibility of the

Town transferring three properties to the Trust: a large beach parcel east of Tom Nevers Pond, the triangle property as you enter the village on Milestone Road, and a public beach access off Ocean Avenue at Linden Street. Subject to some formalities, it now seems like all three transfers will occur in the foreseeable future. The ocean parcel fronts Tom Nevers Pond on one side and is a beautiful piece of land filled with natural dunes and grasses. Our intent is to keep the property forever wild for all to enjoy. The triangle property has been maintained by the Trust for years and no changes are planned. The Trust would hope in time to construct a set of stairs at Linden Street to allow foot access to the beach but otherwise preserve the property in its natural state. We will keep you abreast of developments.

You will find enclosed with this newsletter our planned giving brochure and the announcement of the formation of

the Beacon Society. Also please read about our landmark bequest from the Marta Greene estate which exemplifies all that planned giving can accomplish.



Finally, we will be continuing our recent emphasis on preservation of historic structures in the village. We received a generous grant from an anonymous donor to undertake an effort to research and recount the histories of some of the more historic homes in the village and to work with the owners of these properties to help them preserve them as such. To learn more about this program, please contact Matthew Fremont-Smith or Elizabeth Churchill who are leading the effort.

Enjoy the spring and we at the Trust look forward to seeing everyone back in 'Sconset this summer.



Don't forget to renew your Trust membership! Visit sconsettrust.org

FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



Celebrating 35 years of Conservation & Preservation

ELIZABETH G. GRUBBS
Executive Director

The Trust is celebrating our 35th year with continued work on land conservation and the preservation of historically and architecturally significant structures in the village. This newsletter shares the work of our various committees to further this mission and also exciting new initiatives including informational and educational programs as well as the acquisition of possible new parcels of land.

We are also proud to have been a lead sponsor of the NPT publication, *'Sconset House by House* by Michael May.



Copies may be purchased in the office at One New Street.

Thank you for your support to make our work possible. Your annual membership and support of the Gala are essential to our operations. Thank you also for sharing nominations for our annual Preservation Awards and your wonderful volunteer efforts.

We will have some moments this year to celebrate the past 35 years and all of you who have been instrumental in making the Trust a cornerstone of our village. In the meantime, if you are not there already, hurry home to 'Sconset.

GIVING

The Trust receives a significant bequest

The Trust is the beneficiary of a bequest from the Marta Greene estate. This generous planned gift, which was made at Marta's death 19 years ago and totals almost \$1,000,000, was just this year realized by the Trust.

This is a landmark gift for the Trust and will be put to good use as we continue to practice thoughtful and strategic conservation and preservation in our village and its confines.

Many of you will remember Marta and her husband, Thurston. They were a colorful and charming part of the village for decades whether playing croquet, swimming at Gin Gulch or presiding over their famous dinner parties. We will reflect on them and this legacy at our Annual Meeting July 5.



Marta Greene in her 'Sconset home



'Sconset Trust

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A Night Under the Light

THE ANNUAL BENEFIT FOR THE 'SCONSET TRUST

35th Anniversary



PHOTO: ROB BENCHLEY



Hosted by
Barbara and Elliot Gewirtz, chairs
&
the 'Sconset Trust Board of Directors



Sunday, July 21, 2019

6-8 P.M.

Sankaty Head Golf Club

Cocktails • Raw Bar • Music • Silent Auction



Gala Sponsorships

1984 Founder \$1984

4 GALA TICKETS

'Sconset Light \$1000

4 GALA TICKETS

'Sconset Rose

\$500

2 GALA TICKETS

A Sampling of Silent Auction Items

Elizabeth Locke &
Lynn Wilson jewelry

Handcrafted
Sailor's Valentine

Susan Ried
painting

Emma Ward
needlepoint footstool

Set of 10 collectible
Chanticleer menus

...and treasures
and travel galore

NEW EVENT!

LET'S EXPLORE! OCEAN CLASS FOR KIDS

**Week of August 5-7
1 to 3 p.m.**

**Week of August 12-14
1 to 3 p.m.**

**Week of August 19-21
1 to 3 p.m.**

\$60 per 5-day session



In partnership with the 'Sconset Trust, Sarah Michler will be teaching ocean education classes for kids ages 5–10 during the first three weeks of August. Sarah is a 'Sconset resident and is currently finishing her Master's degree in Environmental Conservation Education at New York University. Sarah is a filmmaker and environmentalist; in 2018 she sailed with a group of women to the Pacific Ocean to study the plastics problem in our seas. Through games, films, art projects, and beach walks, the classes will inspire children to care about the ocean as well as to teach them the importance of the ocean.

To sign up and for any questions, please email Sarah: michler1@gmail.com. Classes will meet at the 'Sconset Trust office at One New Street.

SANKATY LIGHT TRUST MEMBER OPEN DAYS



JULY 14 & AUGUST 11, 2–4 P.M.

As a thank you to our members, the Events Committee is delighted to announce two members-only Sankaty Lighthouse open days. In celebration of our 35th anniversary, we are hosting 35 climbers each day!

Please put your name in a hat at the Annual Meeting (for July 14) and at the Gala (for August 11) for a drawing of lucky winners.

KATHY CHEEK, Events Committee Chair

'Sconset Trust

CONSERVATION & PRESERVATION SINCE 1984

P.O. Box 821, Siasconset, Massachusetts 02564 508 257 4100

Fax: 508 257 6200 info@sconsettrust.org sconsettrust.org



Lighthouse Committee Report

KATE HELLER O'REILLY

On June 15 the Trust will host its 23rd Lighthouse Open Day. Each year approximately 150 visitors hike up and down the spiral staircase of Sankaty Head Lighthouse, escorted by one of our dedicated volunteers. Up top, where the view is spectacular, another knowledgeable volunteer braves the elements to talk about Sankaty's construction, history and The Move. Back on the ground, more volunteers help alleviate the wait in line by sharing information, answering questions and giving out candy and snacks. This year, we are adding some children's games to entertain the youth while waiting. Most people say the wait is well worth it - especially on a sunny summer day! The Lighthouse Committee welcomes anyone who'd like to volunteer for a two-hour shift either in June or for our October Open Day.

As part of an effort to make visiting Sankaty Lighthouse a more lively and interactive experience, this summer we are starting an internship program. Charlie Price has been selected as our first Lighthouse intern. He will be stationed at the Lighthouse from 10 am to noon, every Saturday from June 15 through August 11, and will also help with Open Days.

As a step toward our goal of opening the Lighthouse to the public more often, and in honor of the Trust's 35th anniversary, this summer we will host two more Open Days for Trust members: July 14 and August 11. On these Member Open Days volunteers will welcome 35 guests at the Lighthouse to climb to the top. Member names will be drawn from a hat for these visits at the Annual Meeting on July 5 and at the Gala on July 21.



Meet our 2019 Lighthouse Intern: **CHARLIE PRICE**

Charlie Price, a resident of Rye, New York, grew up in Manhattan attending Saint David's School from kindergarten through eighth grade. He currently is a rising senior at The Brunswick School where he has spent this past year studying marine biology and environmental science. Charlie enjoys playing lacrosse and is an avid fisherman, having honed his skills on Nantucket where his family has been in 'Sconset for almost 20 years.

Preservation Committee Update

MATTHEW FREMONT-SMITH
Preservation Committee

The 'Sconset Trust's mission to protect the unique character of the 'Sconset community is two-pronged: through conservation of open land, and through preservation of historically and/or architecturally significant structures in and around the village. The Preservation Committee focuses on the preservation side of this equation.

Preservation

Last year, we refocused our preservation efforts in 3 primary areas: (i) preserving the commercial center of 'Sconset; (ii) development of updated education initiatives, and (iii) outreach to build engagement. Having completed the extension of the Village Neighborhood zoning last year, this year we have turned our full efforts to education and outreach.

Our pamphlet describing the use of preservation easements and the information we presented at last summer's Annual Meeting are available on our website and at the Trust office. We encourage all our members to read them, and be aware of the utility of these important tools. This summer, we will hold a brief refresher session on easements at the Annual Meeting, and we plan to schedule a seminar over coffee to engage in deeper discussion with those interested.

Working with homeowners

We have also developed a new effort to work with owners of targeted homes in the village, bringing in expert historians to develop details of historical and architectural interest about the building, with the goal of uncovering and highlighting features that are unique and worth preserving. Using this approach, we hope to engage current and prospective owners in a dialogue about preservation and potential use of easements. We piloted this approach initially this spring with Villa Jerome on Main Street and the fire station on West Sankaty Road, and have entered a dialogue with the owners and the Town, respectively, on important historical notes and physical characteristics of these buildings. The hope is the report resulting from this process serves as a catalyst and foundation to initiate a dialogue, and creates a record to spark future discussion. We plan to build and maintain a library of these studies in the Trust office and to make them available to all. We are delighted to note that this initiative has been underwritten by an engaged and insightful member of the Trust!

Preservation and Craftsman Awards

Finally, we will also present our annual Preservation and Craftsman Awards at the Annual Meeting. The response to our request for nominations has been terrific, reflecting the substantial and ongoing engagement and good work in the preservation area by members of our community. Our Committee has had a difficult time deciding which of the many worthy entries to highlight more broadly. We thank you for your continuing support of the important work of Preservation in the village.

We look forward to continuing an active discussion on preservation topics this year and invite interested members to speak to any member of the Committee, or the Executive Director, for more information. Please let us know if you would like to discuss preservation of your home!



BEACON SOCIETY

NEW TRUST GIVING SOCIETY

MARCELLA ZIMMERMAN
Development Committee

The 'Sconset Trust is pleased to announce the creation of the **Beacon Society**. This giving society recognizes, honors and thanks those who have made provisions for the 'Sconset Trust in their estate planning.

Planned giving is an important initiative for the Trust and the transformative gifts that you consider will enable the Trust to continue its mission of conservation and preservation in perpetuity.

Our new brochure is enclosed. Additional brochures are available at the Trust office and all inquiries should be made by contacting: Elizabeth Grubbs, Executive Director, at (508) 257-4100



We are including our annual appeal envelope with this newsletter. Please support our efforts as generously as possible.

THANK YOU!

Night Under the Light Sponsors LIST AS OF APRIL 29, 2019

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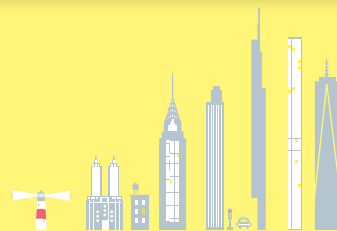
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nyc
A benefit for the
'Sconset Trust
Soirée
april 12



Bunny Bispham hosted a spectacular NYC Soirée

Thanks also to the following sponsors:

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FLORIDA
SOIRÉE

THE OCEANVIEW GOLF CLUB
FEBRUARY 22
2019
DELRAY BEACH FLORIDA



**Deepest thanks to Kathy and David Cheek
for hosting an amazing gathering in
Delray Beach on February 22**