



Photo: Rob Benchley

at home under

Conservation
& Preservation
since 1984

the Light

THE SUMMER of 2020 has been unlike any we have experienced. This newsletter celebrates the resilience of our treasured village and island during this challenging time.

Our essential workers are our heroes and have kept the village vibrant, often in new and creative ways. The village center is our touchstone now more than ever, as we attempt to recognize masked friends while getting mail and provisions.

We have been deeply touched by the ongoing and generous support of the Trust. It has been a hard year for us

financially without a major fundraiser. In this newsletter we profile a few of our young entrepreneurs who have helped to fill the financial gap while earning the title of 'Sconset philanthropists. Thanks also to each of you who supported the online auction and/or have renewed your membership, often with a significant additional gift.

Our work continues. We will share highlights of our first Zoom Annual Meeting and introduce our new board members. Our library of house profiles is growing as is the interest in protecting historic houses and continuing to

maintain open land around the village.

This community has been truly amazing. We have tried to stay in touch with small nature walks, the wildly popular Barnaby hunt, and even a drive-in movie in September! We can meet with you via phone or small socially distanced gatherings to discuss ways you can support all our efforts. Stay well and enjoy those fall breezes and morning fogs if you are lucky enough to remain on island.

Clement Durkes, Board President
Betsy Grubbs, Executive Director





Annual Meeting 2020

The Trust's 36th Annual Meeting was held via Zoom on July 23 at 4:30 pm. Close to 100 members attended our first (and hopefully last!) virtual meeting.

Highlights of the meeting included the election of new board members Ashley Ghiskey, Siobhan O'Mahoney Moore, Doug Brown, Chip Cruise, and John Carter. Their bios are on page 3.

Retiring board members were gratefully thanked for their many contributions and presented with a copy of Rob Benchley's extraordinary *Star and Stripe* print of the lighthouse.

Retiring Board Members

Elizabeth Churchill has been a leader in our preservation efforts, spearheading the preservation awards process, organizing house tours and conducting the annual preservation inspections.

Lynn Wilson organized Gala volunteers, served on the Events Committee, and was a generous donor to our auctions with her stunning jewelry.

Emma Ward chaired the Lighthouse Committee and donated one of a kind needlework as a centerpiece to our auctions.

Paul Sheridan chaired the Land Committee and led the efforts to acquire the Milestone Road property, oversee the land transfers from the Town of Nantucket and monitor the future of the Loran Station. He and his wife Rachel co-chaired the 2020 Gala.

Matt Fremont-Smith is a passionate and articulate preservationist. He has been instrumental in defining the easement process and encouraging focus on our House Profiles. He and his wife Samantha hosted the 2019 Patrons Party at Atlantic House which is protected by a preservation easement.



Preservation Award

The Lourie Preservation Award was presented to Greg and Heather Rodts Garland for their careful renovations of their New Street house.

Photo: Rob Benchley

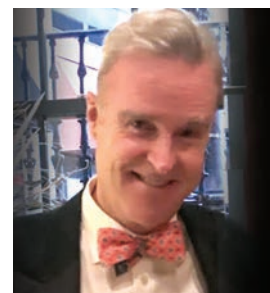
Doug Brown

Our family has been coming to the island since 1986 and we have lived in 'Sconset for 25 years. My wife Patti and I decided to settle in Sconset because we wanted our four children to enjoy a multigenerational experience, while being able to walk or bike to friends and activities. We look forward to many more years in 'Sconset with our children and grandchildren, which is why I am focused on maintaining the character and feel of 'Sconset through working with the Trust. I currently run a venture capital firm and serve on various public and private boards. Prior to my venture firm I was Vice Chairman-Investment Banking at Morgan Stanley. A fun fact is that I was the originator and designer of both 'Sconset Trust needlepoint belts.



John Carter

I have spent summers in 'Sconset ever since I was a young boy, and am here now with my wife Annie, and children, Lulu, Jack, Daisy, James, and Lizzie. We are tucked in at "Bedlam" and looking forward to the next generations making 'Sconset their summer home. I was a partner at Fragomen Worldwide where I practiced corporate and immigration law for 30 years. I retired in 2018, and for the past year have been teaching English at a New York City public school and the Millbrook School in NY.



Charles S. "Chip" Cruice

BA, University of Denver 1973, Friess Associates; Brandywine Fund Board; Greenville Capital Management, President and Chairman; Rockland Fund, Chairman

Board experience (current and past): John's Island Club, Chair of Racquet and Mallets Committee, Finance Committee, Facilities Committee, Membership Committee, Humane Society of Vero Beach and Indian River County, Secretary of the Foundation Board of Humane Society of Vero Beach and Indian River County; Stroud Water Research, Finance Committee; Siasconset Union Chapel, Treasurer, Sconset Civic Association, SPCA of Delaware, Treasurer; The Tatnall School, Finance Committee, Chair of Investment Committee; The Hun School of Princeton; Westminster Presbyterian Church, Chair of Investment Committee; Delaware Community Foundation, Investment Committee

Club membership/experience (current and past): John's Island Club, Racquets & Mallets Committee; The Siasconset Casino Association, President; The Vicmead Hunt Club and Biedermann Golf Club, Vice President; Pohoqualine Fish Association; Wilmington Country Club; Nantucket Anglers Club; The Wilmington Club; The Aurora Gun Club, Treasurer; Chevaliers du Tastevin



New Board Members



Photo: Rob Benchley

Ashley Ghriskey

I became fascinated by the historic village of 'Sconset while spending the summers at my family's home on Broadway. Growing up in an antique summer cottage was magical. I was taught to appreciate the character of the old homes in our village and to try and learn from those who took great care in their preservation. After graduation from college I worked at *House and Garden* magazine in New York. I married Benjy Ghriskey whom I grew up playing tennis with in 'Sconset. Several years ago we purchased our own home on Plainfield Road that we share with our three children. I love everything about Nantucket. I am a board member of The Darien Historical Society, a supporter of the Nantucket Conservation Foundation and excited to be a part of the 'Sconset Trust. Nothing makes me happier than packing up for our summer and joining the special community out in 'Sconset.



Siobhán O'Mahony

Siobhán is the Feld Family Professor in Innovation and Entrepreneurship at the Boston University Questrom School of Business and previously was a professor at Harvard Business School and UC Davis. She also serves as the Academic Director of Research and Curriculum for Innovate@BU. Her research is published in management and organization science journals and she serves as a senior editor for *Organization Science*. Siobhán received her Ph.D. in Management Science and Engineering from Stanford University, an M.P.A from the Cornell Institute of Public Affairs, and a B.S. in Industrial Labor Relations from Cornell University. She has been a 'Sconset summer resident for 13 years and is married to Bill Moore. She is the mother of 10 year old twins George and Finnbar, cofounders of the 'Sconset Errand Boys delivery service. Siobhán served as a founding member of the 'Sconset Playground Committee for 5 years and as a board member for Sustainable Nantucket for 5 years. She is also the author of the children's book: *Who Will Eat All These Tomatoes? A Young Nantucket Farmers' Adventure* (coauthored with Michelle Whelan).



Claudette's

'Sconset Café



*Skip Vollans
'Sconset Woodman*



*Georgia Fowler
U.S. Postal Service*

'Sconset's Essential Workers: A Tribute

Many thanks to our essential workers who have kept us safe, incredibly well fed and happy. We are so grateful for the care with which the village has handled the challenges of Covid : Georgia distributed mountains of packages; take out and food trucks abounded; and we learned to recognize masked neighbors without 'Sconset hugs. It has been a remarkable summer of community.

PHOTOGRAPHS BY ROB BENCHLEY



The Chanticleer



Sanitation Workers

'Sconset Bookstore



Santos Rubbish



*David Winking
Bartlett's Farm*



'Sconset Market

FINDING BARNABY



Thanks to island author Wendy Rouillard and the incomparable Barnaby Bear, scores of children hunted for Barnaby Bears around 'Sconset. In the course of the hunt they learned some 'Sconset history (compiled by Lilo Cummingham) and ate a few gummy bears! Each successful hunter received a goody bag that included a Barnaby book donated by Wendy.

HOORAY!



JACK GAILLIOT
RESCUER OF FALLEN BARNABY



ROMY KIM
WINNER OF BARNABY RAFFLE



'Sconset Needs You!

ANNUAL APPEAL

As I commented in our last newsletter, fundraising for the 'Sconset Trust this year will be challenging, and the Board of Trustees wants to be sensitive about that. Although the Trust was not able to hold its annual gala this July, traditionally attended by nearly 350 people, the online auction proved to be extremely successful.

I am sure that every organization is strategizing to the best of its abilities how to weather this pandemic nightmare, and of course we are endeavoring to do our best. Until we feel safe and secure and can return

to a life of normalcy, I honestly believe that there is no substitute to appealing to the generosity of the community and our membership to support our mission.

The 'Sconset Trust, celebrating its 36th year, is a dedicated organization doing important work. Thank you, nearly one-thousand members, for your past donations, and hopefully when considering charitable giving, you will continue to hold us dear to your hearts. Thank you!



Danny Korengold



Make your gift online at SconsetTrust.org

Photo: Rob Benchley



BEACON SOCIETY

Q&A



Marcella Zimmerman

Q. How can I keep control of my assets during my lifetime while making a gift that provides an estate tax deduction?

A. Include a charitable organization such as the 'Sconset Trust in your will or trust.

Q. How can I receive a current income tax charitable deduction, while creating an income stream for life? A few years?

A. Create a charitable gift annuity or a charitable remainder trust.

Q. How can I eliminate a tax on my capital gains and receive an immediate deduction of full market value?

A. Give long-term appreciated stock/securities.

Q. How can I create more value for my family while making a gift, avoid income tax and reduce my estate tax?

A. Name a charitable organization such as the 'Sconset Trust as a beneficiary of your retirement plan.

Please consider a planned/estate gift to the 'Sconset Trust by becoming member of the Beacon Society. Consult with your advisor and feel free to contact the 'Sconset Trust office for more information. Please direct inquires to Elizabeth Grubbs, Executive Director, (508) 257-4100.

Drive-in Movie

The first drive-in movie night on September 12 was planned by Doug Brown and Kathy Cheek who watched dozens of flicks before choosing *Indiana Jones: Raiders of the Lost Ark*. Special thanks to the Bispham family who underwrote the movie in celebration of Tom's birthday. Also thanks to Kathy and David Cheek for contributing the amazing goody bags and the 'Sconset Errand Boys for their work in assembling and distributing the treats.



Historic House Profiles

Our library of Historic and Architectural House Profiles continues to grow. They are available to read in the office or on our website. Please call if you are interested in having a profile done of your house.



Nature Walks

Thanks to the Linda Loring Nature Foundation and Nantucket Land Council for leading several socially distanced walks through Ruddick Commons and around the village. Our Land Committee continues to explore ways to extend our trail system and to educate our members on the natural wonders around us.





Our first online auction was a tremendous success

due to the hard work of auction chairs Lynn and Mark Filipiski and Gala co-chairs Kathy and David Cheek and Rachel and Paul Sheridan. The auction raised \$33,000 and received additional donations of \$33,800 for a total of \$66,800!

Auction Sponsors

Mahlon and Anne Apgar
David and Delia Biddison
Kathy and David Cheek
Clement and Richard Durkes
Lynn and Mark Filipiski
Robert A. Franklin and Charles Mappin
Matthew and Samantha Fremont-Smith
Barbara and Elliot Gewirtz
Rodney and Keith Goldstein
Philip and Nicole Hadley
Richard and Eleanor Hale
Amos and Barbara Hostetter
Kit Murphy
Robert and Susan Ried
Michael and Cynthia Roberts
John and Diane Samuels

Item Contributors

Allison Levy and ACKWoven
Rob Benchley
Rick Blair
Susan Handy and the Chanticleer
Kathy and David Cheek
Reed and Ronnie Chisholm
Cisco Brewers
Lilo and Tom Cunningham
Cynthia and John Gallagher
Heather Garland
Cary Hazlegrove
Mark Heartfield
Ann and Johnny Johnson
Island Kitchen
Linda and George Kelly
Martha Dippell and Danny Korengold
Sarah Michler
William and Siobhan O'Mahony Moore
Nantucket Culinary/The Corner Table
Cindy and Rolf Nelson
James Ogilvy
Kate Heller O'Reilly
Holly Pagon
Martha Polachi
Susan Ried
Sankaty Head Golf Club
The 'Sconset Bookstore
The 'Sconset Market
Emma Ward
Lynn Wilson
Marcella and Rhoads Zimmerman

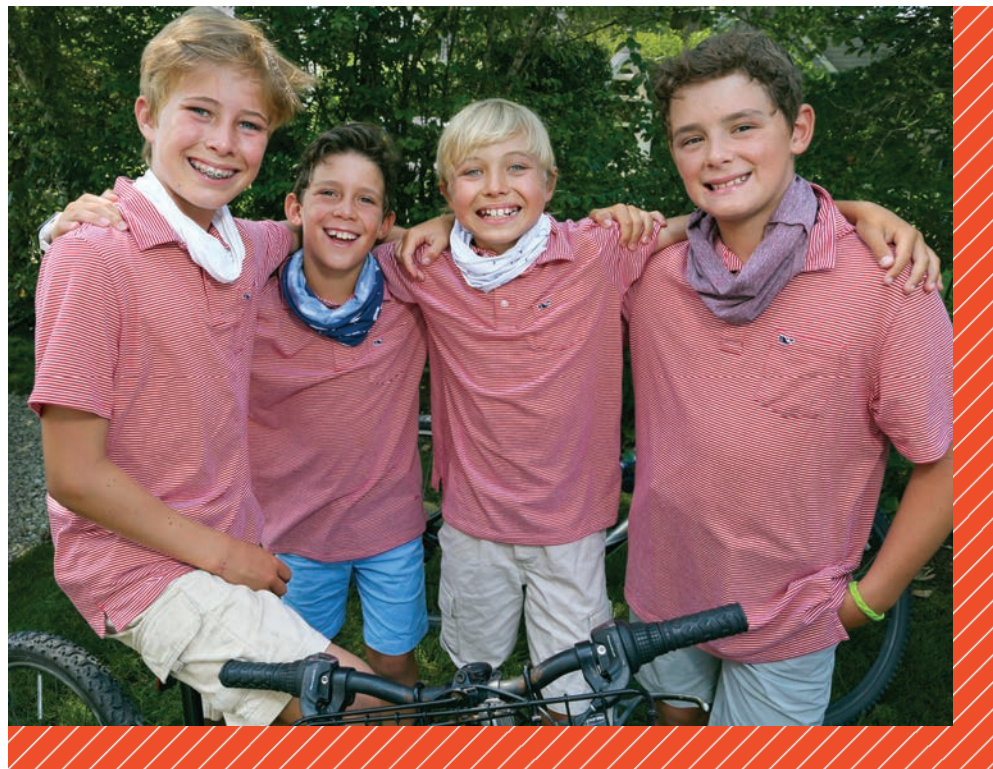
Top Bidders

Norman and Jeanne Asher
Barbara Bispham
Madeline Callahan
Kathy and David Cheek
Chrissi and Chris Crampton
Kathy and Charles Cruice
Lynn and Mark Filipiski
Karel and Frank Greenberg
Susan Handy
Augustus and Nancy Larson
Paula and Arthur Levy
Josephine Martin and Melissa Meyers
Carolyn Capstick Meehan
Ellen Mitchell and Charles Byrne
Vicky and Peter Tulloch
Bob and Missy Veghte

THANK YOU!

*Thank you to everyone for making
this fundraiser a success for the Trust.*





'SCONSET ERRAND BOYS

Four young 'Sconseters, C.J. and Mitch Byrne (ages 12 and 10), and Finn and George Moore (both age 10), have been generous donors to the Trust since their 2017 lemonade stand venture. This year the boys formed the **'Sconset Errand Boys** and have picked up mail and village provisions, watered gardens and run a variety of needed errands within the village. They have donated \$150 to the Trust and also volunteered their valuable time to help with our September Movie Night. Watch for their business again in 2021!

DOING, MAKING & GIVING

PHOTOS BY ROB BENCHLEY

'SCONSET MASKIES

Isabelle Kadakia (7), started producing beaded mask holders this summer and has woven and strung over 100 **'Sconset Maskies**. She and her sister/assistant Olivia (5), donated \$200 to the Trust and have even designed a 'Sconset Trust Maskie.

The Trust is deeply grateful for the generous support we have received from Isabelle Kadakia through the sale of her Maskies and the 'Sconset Errand Boys with their work around the village.





Lighthouse Keeper's Report

By Rob Benchley

“Mr. F. B. Murphy, assistant keeper of Sankaty Lighthouse, informs us that 1,000 persons visited the light from June 1st to August 1st.”

This tidbit appeared in the *Inquirer & Mirror* in 1875, so it appears again that some things don't change too much; this past summer, and right into September, the foot traffic at Sankaty has been noteworthy. Perhaps this apparent surge of visitors is occurring because of (or in spite of!) the pandemic— whatever the reason, it has been a busy time up on the grounds.

The only visitors to the very top have been the crews of the U.S. Coast Guard, who installed a new beacon in June. The old unit, which in various incarnations lit up Sankaty for more than 50 years, gave up the ghost last winter after a healthy Nor'easter. The new light, known as a Vega VRB-25, has become the recent standard for lighthouses across the Coast Guard's domain. It is lightweight, very energy-efficient, requires

little maintenance, and suits the Coast Guard's criteria as a coastal Aid to Navigation. In the last lies the rub, however, in that many 'Sconseters sorely miss the “characteristic” of the former beacon with its once-brawny flash.

The 'Sconset Trust is, and has been, working with the folks at the USCG all summer to find a fitting resolution to restoring our light to the beacon we all know and love.

With more and more visitors to Sankaty it is proper here to offer gratitude to Kate O'Reilly and the volunteers she organized to keep the grounds tidy and presentable.



The new light, known as a Vega VRB-25, has become the recent standard for lighthouses across the Coast Guard's domain.

Photo: Rob Benchley



Land Report

Eric Baurmeister

We continue to investigate acquiring available land in 'Sconset that may have conservation significance. We also continue to focus on maintaining and improving our current land holdings, potentially adding walking trails for the benefit of our community.

Low Beach photo: Rob Benchley



The Trust's mission is to protect the unique character of the 'Sconset community through conservation of open land and preservation of historically and/or architecturally significant structures in and around the village.

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