

Message from Paul and Dick

Dear Friends,

Welcome to spring at Quissett Harbor! The flora and fauna have sprung to life, the Harbor is a glistening sky blue and families are walking the Knob and gathering on the beach.

Spring awakening of the Harbor and the Knob always reinforces our commitment to the mission of the Quissett Harbor Preservation Trust, and this is a particularly important year. Through a coordinated effort with Salt Pond Areas Bird Sanctuaries this past winter, we contracted the services of Woods Hole Group to create a comprehensive Updated Management Plan for the Knob.

Since 2006 when we completed the major reconstruction of the stone revetment, we have spent \$105,000 on landscaping and maintenance projects. In the next few years we will be entering a period of even more significant investment. As you know, we had already been discussing the need for an increase in our financial reserves to provide for long-term capital needs. With the resources now required to execute the Updated Management Plan, we will be seeking additional funding.

We are concerned with a significant decline in member contributions in the first four months of 2016. Despite our having a historically strong and liquid financial position and adequate funds to begin work on the recommendations, dues renewal is essential to moving forward. We ask that members send in their usual generous contributions before our next Annual Meeting of Members on June 30. An envelope is enclosed in the print version of this newsletter. If you are viewing this on our website at qhpt.org, you may download a printable membership form or pay directly online through PayPal or a credit card.

We will be presenting the Updated Management Plan and financial strategy at the Annual Meeting of Members on June 30. We hope you will attend to hear the recommendations for preserving the Knob over the coming years.

We appreciate your strong financial commitment to protecting the beauty of this area and look forward to sharing our plans with you.

Sincerely,

Paul Hogan, President

Dick DeWolfe, Chairman



UPDATE ON HABITAT CONSERVATION & MANAGEMENT

Updated Management Plan

In the 10 years since the completion of the major revetment repairs, the Knob has continued to be affected by natural forces of wind and ocean; increased human traffic; and pest infestation in the form of the gall wasp, which has killed a large number of trees.

The **Updated Management Plan** for the Knob, which was reviewed at our March and May Board of Directors meetings, addresses these concerns, specifically:

- Shoreline and bank erosion, related to the stone revetment and many other areas of the Knob;
- Trail disrepair;
- Vegetation maintenance;
- Vehicle access for long-term maintenance of the stone revetment.

The **recommendations** to deal with these areas are prioritized in four categories:

- Immediate maintenance and repair;
- Work to be done over the next 2 years;
- Projects to be considered in 2-to-10 years;
- Projects to be considered in 10-to-20-plus years.

We will present the plan at the Annual Meeting of Members June 30.

Fencing

Fencing has been renewed on the beach.

Gall Wasp Infestation

Salt Pond will be removing oaks killed by the gall wasp infestation. The Knob will be closed to visitors during the work. When we have the dates, we will post that information on our website and send an email blast to members.

ANNUAL MEETING OF MEMBERS: JUNE 30, 2016

Our Annual Meeting of Members will take place on Thursday, June 30, 2016, at the Harbor House from 5:00–7:30 p.m. We will continue the format of the past two years, a business meeting followed by a reception.

QUISSETT HARBOR PRESERVATION TRUST

BEACH CLEANUP—JUNE 25, 9:00–11:00 A.M.

It's hard to believe, but it's that time of year again. On Saturday, June 25, we'll be getting out to the beach to clean up the debris left from the winter. We hope you'll join us. It is our sixth annual beach cleanup, and we are always delighted with the response we get from all ages to keep our harbor clean.

"The dedication really shows that people care a lot about the area," said Kate Davis, who has chaired the event for many years. "I always love when grandparents come with their grandkids and when the kids who return for the summer reconnect with their friends. The cleanup works on so many levels: it keeps the harbor and beach clean, is educational and brings people together.

Usually the task requires no heavy lifting and is appropriate for people of all ages. (Although last year we had to remove a large abandoned dinghy!) We're anticipating the usual food packaging, cigarette butts and dog waste. Quissett Harbor's inner and outer beaches are rare in that dogs are allowed all year round. It's important for people to respect that privilege by being responsible for their dogs. Signage has been increased, and we're hoping that will cut down on the waste.

Coffee, lemonade and a light breakfast will be served. We provide everything, including trash bags and gloves. So just bring yourself, family and friends. Meet on the QYC sailing class deck, rain or shine, at 9:00 a.m. Any questions? Contact Kate Davis at cape.kmd@gmail.com.

Our thanks to Cavossa Disposal for donating the dumpster once again.

SAVE THE DATES!

- **Saturday, June 25, 2016:** Beach Cleanup 9:00–11:00 a.m.
- **Thursday, June 30, 2016:** Annual Meeting of Members 5:00–7:30 p.m.
- **Sunday, July 17, 2016:** Wheeler Lecture (Details to come.)

WHEELER LECTURE

This year we have scheduled the **Wheeler Lecture for July 17**, a Sunday, so that those who are travelling to Boston and elsewhere for business will find it easier to attend. Details about the speaker will be released shortly.

RENEW YOUR DUES

Have you remembered to renew your dues for 2016? It's easy if you just go to our website, qhpt.org. You may pay online through PayPal or a credit card. Or you may download a printable membership form. If you are not a member, we hope you will consider joining. It's a great way to participate in the preservation of Quissett Harbor. Individual memberships are only \$50. Family Memberships are \$100. A dues envelope is enclosed in the print edition of this newsletter.

Finances 2015 (January 1–December 31, 2015)

As you know, in 2014 we changed our fiscal year-end from May to December. The year ending December 31, 2015, was the first full year under this change. This financial summary is from our federal form 990PF, which was filed in May.

Assets as of January 1, 2015:	\$641,058
Contributions:	\$36,235
Investment Returns:	\$12,396
Expenses:	
• Program Expense (includes Knob consulting):	\$8,872
• Communications:	\$2,000
• Meetings/Wheeler/Annual	\$3,047
<i>Note \$1,800 for Annual Meeting catering was funded by a generous director.</i>	
• Administration:	\$3,335
• Accounting/Filing fee:	\$5,453
Net Income:	\$25,924
Unrealized Gain/(Loss) on Investments:	(\$5,426)
Change in Net Assets	\$20,498
Assets as of December 31, 2015:	\$661,556

Finances YTD 2016 (Four months ending April 30, 2016)

Contributions through April were \$10,000 lower than a year ago. April net assets did increase from December to \$666,000 as investment income exceeded expenses for the period.

