## **QUISSETT HARBOR** PRESERVATION TRUST NEWSLET

Preserving, maintaining, protecting and enhancing Quissett Harbor

### Message from the Chairman

Dear Friends,

ne day more than six years ago, my former law partner, Henry Wheeler, called me to say, "Congratulations, you're the new president!" Since I was reasonably sure the outcome of the United States presidential election had finally been determined, I asked the obvious question: president of what? His answer, The Quissett Harbor Preservation Trust, did little to clarify, since I had never heard of the organization.

I've had six years to learn, and it has been a wonderful six years. Working in partnership with the Salt Pond Areas Bird Sanctuaries, Inc., we have preserved a local treasure, the Knob. We raised more than \$1.5 million to rebuild the rock armor that protects the Knob, preventing the possible disappearance of this gift of nature.

It has been my honor to serve this organization as president in its early years. However, I believe change is healthy, both for organizations and individuals, and it is time for change. I made the decision earlier this year to step aside as president. I will be taking on the new role of chairman, and will continue to be involved in the Trust, but I am turning over the reins of the day-to-day

operation to the new president, Craig Gibson. Craig is devoted to the environment. He brings an almost inexhaustible energy to everything he



Chairman Chip Morse

does. The Trust will be in good hands.

I will not be going far. As many of you know, I serve on the board of directors for the Coalition for Buzzards Bay, which focuses on water quality for the entire bay. Now that we have preserved the Knob, QHPT will be focusing more attention on water quality. The Coalition for Buzzards Bay has opened a Woods Hole Office, where I plan to spend a great deal of time. In my duel role as chairman of QHPT and board member for the Coalition, I will have the opportunity to keep all of you up-to-date on water-quality issues.

Thank you for all the support you have given me over the past six years, and thank you for your commitment to Ouissett Harbor.

Chip Morse

### Qur Mission Statement

The Quissett Harbor Preservation Trust is a not-for-profit environmental organization created to preserve, maintain, protect and enhance the natural environment and related ecosystems of the Quissett Harbor area and to take action to recognize and minimize threats to the overall health of the area.

## Message from the President

Greetings:

There are, in life, those happy moments when the right person for the job comes along at the right time. We were fortunate to experience one of those moments when Chip Morse accepted the mantle of leadership of Quissett Harbor Preservation Trust. Chip took on the task of preserving the Knob, led the effort to get the project funded and left all of us in a position to carry that work forward. I am honored to be his successor and excited about the work ahead.

With vital improvements completed and baseline maintenance of the Knob in place, we turn our attention to the broader mission of preserving, maintaining, protecting and enhancing the entire Quissett Harbor area. In 2006, we joined The Compact of Cape Cod Conservation Trusts, Inc., an umbrella organization focused on preservation and conservation Cape-wide. The Compact will work with us to update the management plan put in place in 1998. They will provide land-management and planning capabilities and help us move forward to deal with the issues of trail management, signage and brush clearing, as well as erosion caused by nature and people. This collaborative dialog with a group dealing with many of the same issues we face, will be of great benefit moving forward.

We will keep you informed in the coming months. Look for increased communications,

including additional newsletters and our annual report. I look forward to working with all of you.

Craig B. Gibson

## QUISSETT HARBOR PRESERVATION TRUST

# Update on Habitat Conservation & Management

## New plantings and repairs welcome spring

**Storm Damage:** Since we completed substantial work on the Knob in 2005, we have had to contend with storms damaging the

grasses before they have had a chance to establish their root structure. The April 2007 storm damaged our not-yet-established plantings. But the

the soil."



Board Member Dana Rodin

setback was minor. "We have planted additional American Beach Grass and other native grasses," said Dana Rodin, a board member who has been instrumental in putting the erosion plan in place. "Once the plants have had a chance to establish their root structure, they will help to stabilize

**Signage:** Signage has been installed to supplement the trail map available at the kiosk. This is part of our ongoing educational activities to inform people about the fragile character of the banks and the importance of staying on the trails.

Fencing: We have restored the fencing along the toe of the coastal bank on Buzzards Bay Beach. This bank has been heavily damaged in the past, so it requires particular care.

**Stairs:** After the December 2006, storm it was clear the wooden stairs to the Buzzards Bay Beach required attention. Salt Pond partnered with us to make the repairs.

### **LATEST NEWS**

#### **Board changes take effect**

As of April 28, we have a new chairman, president and clerk.

The officers now are:

- Chairman: Chip Morse
- President: Craig B. Gibson
- Clerk: Michelle Lord
- Treasurer: Mike Garfield (unchanged)
- New board member:
  Dana Doe

Our endless thanks to
Chip Morse for his service as president, Weatherly Dorris for her service as clerk, and former board members Josh Bernstein, Peg Brandon and Carroll C.D. Pierce.

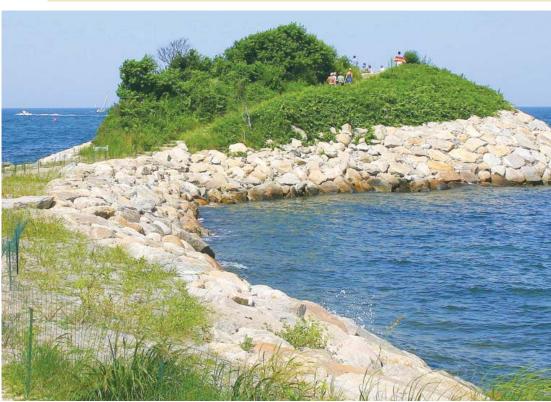
Lecture Series to honor Founder Henry Wheeler

The Wheeler Lecture Series will begin this summer. Henry Wheeler was a

driving force in organizing Quissett
Harbor Preservation Trust. He died in
August of 2006, and this series has
been created as a fitting tribute. The
goal of the series is to inform and
educate the local community about
the environment in and around
Quissett Harbor. Dates and presenters will be announced shortly.

## Annual Meeting scheduled for June 29

Mark your calendars for our annual meeting, June 29 at the Quissett Harbor House Land Trust building. Mark Rasmussen, Executive Director of the Coalition for Buzzards Bay, will talk about the state of the bay.



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