



Dreserving, maintaining, protecting and enhancing Quissett Harbor

#### **MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT**



Late August on the Knob

#### Dear Members:

Once again the summer has come to a close all too soon, but I hope you will continue to enjoy the fall beauty of the Knob and the Harbor.

In this newsletter, you will find updates on our activities over the past few months. I will leave you to read those for yourself. I would like, however, to comment on a few issues, starting with the permitting process for the rock-armor project. The Board, and particularly Dana Rodin, have been diligent about moving forward on this project. Unfortunately, we are facing several levels of review from state and federal governmental agencies. The result is more delay, leading us to possibly having to postpone the work until winter or fall of 2020. While the delays are inconvenient, they are just a temporary setback. I am confident we will get the job done for our Quissett members, supporters and all those who enjoy the Knob. I am also so appreciative of Dana's ongoing efforts on our behalf.

Two of the articles in this newsletter describe the effort we have begun regarding invasive growth. This is critical work, and I want to express my thanks and that of the Board to Andrew and Maura Zimmerman for their generous matching gift to kick off this effort.

I also want to welcome our two new Board members, Andrew Zimmerman and Putney Cloos. They have each enthusiastically taken on new projects, described in this newsletter, and I hope you will give them your welcome and support.

Sincerely,

Randy Evans President

### MEMBERS PLEDGE \$75,000 IN MATCHING FUNDS FOR ERADICATING INVASIVES/RE-VEGETATION PLANTING

We have established a fund for Eradicating Invasives/Re-Vegetation Planting and are excited to announce that Andrew and Maura Zimmerman have pledged to match all donations made to the fund by December 31, 2019, up to \$50,000. An additional \$25,000 in matching funds has been pledged by an anonymous donor. Andrew is chairing a fundraising campaign to generate additional funds for the invasives project. Members of the committee include Martha Bennett, Laura Morse and Mark Polebaum.

"There is a constant battle to replace what Mother Nature's relentless ravaging takes away each year and an equally important effort to hold back the choking grip of invasive plants, which threaten the natural plants and trees that make these precious acres as beautiful as they originally were," said Andrew. "This fund, which has a goal of \$200,000, is a start." Additionally, all gifts of \$5,000 in either cash or stock entitle the donee or any family member not already a lifetime member to become one.

We know that many of you are asked by multiple deserving charities for your support each year. Please consider giving what you can to help make sure that the Knob continues to provide beauty and enjoyment for the next generation of your family and friends. To donate, visit our website at QHPT.org. QHPT accepts secure, online payments through PayPal. You do not need to have a PayPal account in order to make a payment with PayPal. Or you may send a check, payable to Quissett Harbor Preservation Trust, QHPT, P.O. Box 391 Falmouth, MA 02541. We also accept stock donations. Please contact our Treasurer, Dick Mannix, at rcm2164@gmail.com for details on donating stock.



#### **NEW-MEMBER DRIVE TO BE LAUNCHED IN SPRING**

Next spring we will be launching a formal campaign to broaden our membership. Chaired by Board Member Putney Cloos, the campaign is in the fact-finding stage, exploring who might be interested. "As an experienced marketing executive, Putney is an excellent choice for this role," said Randy Evans, President of the Trust.

"Building membership means building awareness and creating new opportunities for interested individuals to get involved," Putney said. "While all new members are welcome, we are particularly hoping to engage some of the younger people in the Quissett community. Often busy with families and careers, they may not think this is the right time to join an organization such as QHPT. In reality, this is a segment of the community that will benefit greatly from preserving the Knob and the Harbor, insuring it will be pristine for years to come."

Please pass the word to family and friends, letting them know how important the work of the Trust is and how much we would love to have them join us. You may also contact Putney at putneycloos@gmail.com to give her names or ask for more information.

#### WELCOME WENDY MARTYNA

We are delighted to welcome Wendy Martyna, who will be joining Nancy McDonald in providing administrative support to the Trust. Wendy will be handling gift acknowledgement, fundraising updates and membership lists. Nancy will continue to be involved in the website, newsletter and email list. Wendy grew up in Falmouth and has lived here as an adult since 2000. She is the daughter of long-time members Connie and Joe Martyna. Joe is a member of our Board of Directors. "I'm pleased to be joining the staff here," Wendy said. "QHPT is vital to the health of the Harbor and the surrounding venues."

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## UPDATE ON HABITAT CONSERVATION & MANAGEMENT

#### **Rock-Armor Project**

Our rock-armor-repairs project continues to be a high priority. As you know, we made extensive repairs in 2004. There are two wedges of the rock armor that were not rebuilt at that time and that are the focus of the current project. There are also areas on the north-facing causeway between the stone stairs and the northwest wedge that need to be repaired. The window for accomplishing the work is the off-season. However, the permitting process has grown dramatically as we have been working on getting the necessary approval. Rather than just receiving authorization from the town of Falmouth, we are looking at both state and federal processes that may delay us beyond our window until winter or fall of 2020.

#### Eradicating Invasives/Re-Vegetation Planting

At the September Board meeting, and with Quissett Harbor Land Trust approval, the board authorized QHPT to start planning for the eradication of invasives and for re-vegetation planting on parts of the Knob owned by Quissett Harbor Land Trust. We are working with Crawford Land Management to create an invasives-control plan. As the purposes of the Trust include the preservation, maintenance and enhancement of Quissett Harbor, including the Knob, this project is consistent with our mission. The work includes the gateway access areas to the Knob and will help to familiarize the public with the value of this effort.

# UNDERWATER ROBOTICS SUBJECT OF 2019 WHEELER LECTURE

On a beautiful Sunday evening in July, almost 70 members joined us for the 2019 Wheeler Lecture, The Wild, Wild Depths. Dr. James Bellingham, Director of the Center for Marine Robotics at Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution, enlightened us on the uses of underwater vehicles for both research and defense. The Center is a world leader in developing small, high-performance, Autonomous Underwater Vehicles (AUVs), resulting in a class of systems that are now widely used within the military, industry and scientific communities. "Jim's talk was both dynamic and educational," said Laura Morse, Chair of the Wheeler Lecture series. "While many of us knew about the use of underwater robots for research, it was fascinating to hear about their use for defense."

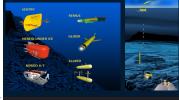
Dr. Bellingham explained that monitoring what's happening offshore, where there is opportunity for hostile players to maneuver undetected, is a huge challenge. Small, unmanned, underwater vehicles, like the cutting-edge robots he has developed, can have a huge impact in protecting our coastline and our ships.

Once again, the presentation took place at the Carriage House of

the National Academy, with a reception following in the main building. Dr. Bellingham's presentation graphics may be viewed at www.qhpt.org, Events, Wheeler Lecture, Past Wheeler lectures.



Ice floes in Buzzards Bay, which show currents that can be tracked by AUVs



AUVs, which operate at different depths, transmit data to a surface buoy, which relays to WHOI.



L-R: John Sigel, Chris Kinkade with Martha Bennett in front, Danie Kinkade, Chris Anderson, Andrea Anderson, Meredith Kinkade, Sam Ward, Geralyn Thompson-Ward. In front: Ed Jackson and Randy Evans

## MEMBERS AND FAMILIES HELP CLEAN UP THE BEACH

The weather cooperated for our Ninth Annual Harbor and Beach Cleanup in June. Members and families spent the morning cleaning up trash, cigarettes, plastic pieces, fishing line and food wrappers. "Thank you to everyone who pitched in on this important task," said Danie Kinkade, who chaired the event for the second year.

You might wonder where all this trash comes from. "Some of the trash is washed in on the waves from other places," said Danie. "Some is carried in on the wind. And some is from well-meaning people who don't realize their actions could end up creating trash." Danie gave an example of a woman on the Knob releasing balloons in memory of someone. The balloons got stuck in a tree. "She didn't realize that, at some point, those balloons would become debris, either on the land or in the Harbor."

All this is by way of saying how important it is to have the cleanup every year. "We're talking about the stewardship of the ocean and the livelihood of people and marine life," Danie said.

## WELCOME NEW BOARD MEMBERS

We are pleased to welcome two new Board members to QHPT. Andrew Zimmerman and Putney Cloos both joined the Board in 2019.

**Andrew Zimmerman** lives with his wife, Maura, in Weston, Massachusetts. Their two children, Maeve and William, are both in college, but they love spending the summer in Falmouth. In 2015, looking for a summer home with a solid sailing community, the Zimmermans



Andrew Zimmerman; his daughter, Maeve; and son, William; at their home in Quissett. Mom, Maura, is taking the photo.

bought a house on Quissett Avenue. The Zimmermans, are providing matching funds for the Invasives campaign, and Andrew is chairing the campaign. "This community has been so welcoming to our family, we wanted to do something meaningful to give back," Andrew said. Andrew has spent 30 years in the finance arena and is currently Managing Director and Portfolio Manager at Merrill Lynch in Boston.



Putney's Sons, Robinson and Eliot Fox, kayak in the Harbor.

**Putney Cloos** lives with her husband, Brian Fox, and their children, Eliot Fox, 8, and Robinson Fox, 5, in Manhattan. However, Putney is no stranger to Quissett, where she grew up and where her parents still live. The family spends time with Putney's parents during the holidays in Quissett and rent a home there during August. "The boys just love it here," she said. "They are active sailors and they also kayak and swim." Putney is chairing the campaign to attract new members to the Trust. She is a Marketing Executive for American Express.

Please give a warm welcome to our new Board members as you see them around the Harbor.

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